

PUBLIC SECTOR - LOCAL AUTHORITIES -

W. CAPE

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AUGUST. — DEC.

Plan to find best city rating system

ARG 1/8/96

(263)

Metro Reporter

CAPE Town municipality has set up a working group to find the best rating system for properties in the municipality because of disparities which exist in the newly formed substructure

This move has been welcomed by the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry which says it is time for the city to stop piling the rates burden on to its business community

In its latest bulletin, the Chamber says that the council has always taken the easy route by taxing business rather than residential voters

This situation impeded growth and job creation by driving businesses away, it argued

The Chamber said while the council was highlighting inequities between advantaged and disadvantaged communities, it was necessary to highlight the negative impact the current rates structure had on business in the city

Among the issues the council's working group will look at are disparities between charges as well as the level of services provided in different areas of the new municipality, arising out of the amalgamation of five different local authorities

The group will also look at the cumbersome and costly procedures for

valuing property for rating purposes

It will be guided by four principles, namely achieving equity, promoting economic growth and development, keeping the rating system simple, and minimising administrative costs

In a statement, the council said the four-principles represented a significant departure from previous approaches to property rating. This was because they recognised rating not only as a means of collecting revenue, but as a broader urban management tool

The group expects to complete its work within a six-month period, with the view to making a final recommendation to the full council early next year

The Rating and Valuation Working Group's members are Saleem Mowzer (deputy chairman of exco), Leon Markovitz (urban planning committee chairman), Hanief Tiseker (property and economic development chairman), Les Rencontre (property and economic development deputy chairman) and Daniel Silke (a member of the property and economic development committee)

Mr Mowzer, Mr Rencontre and Mr Tiseker are African National Congress members, Mr Markovitz belongs to the National Party and Mr Silke to the Democratic Party

Temporary relocation of squatters approved

ARG 1/8/96

(307)

Metro Reporter

THE Cape Metropolitan Council has given its backing to a plan to establish a temporary informal settlement on rural land outside Durbanville

The settlement will house a group of people presently squatting on the road reserve of the R312 near Fisantekraal

The establishment of a settlement on a portion of the land known as the Lichtenburg Outspan site requires the land use designated in the structure plan to be changed from agricultural purposes to urban development

The one-hectare site is being viewed as an area for "temporary relocation"

of the squatters

In the council agenda, the site is described as being 40m from the R312, sufficiently away from the bank of the Mosselbank River

It was also within walking distance of the Fisantekraal Primary School

● The second draft of a South-Peninsula sub-regional plan is to be released for public comment

This is the decision of the CMC which has given permission for the plan, which includes important conservation guidelines for the southern Peninsula, to be made known to interested and affected parties

Deacon with a doctrine

TYRONE SEALE of the Political Staff speaks to ANC member of parliament Carl Niehaus on the reasons for the ANC's troubles in the Western Cape and on his candidature for the leadership of the organisation in the province.

THE four-year-old boy struggled to train the sights of the coin telescope at the top of Table Mountain on the cityscape below. When he finally got it right, the island came into view. "That's where the dreadful terrorists are kept," his father narrated. For someone who wasn't peering through the lens, Carl Niehaus senior was incredibly short-sighted in other ways as well on that day in mid-1963.

He had no idea that the forces of history and personality would consign little Carl to a life of struggle against the social attitudes that came with growing up in conservative Zeerust in the West Transvaal, now the North-West province.

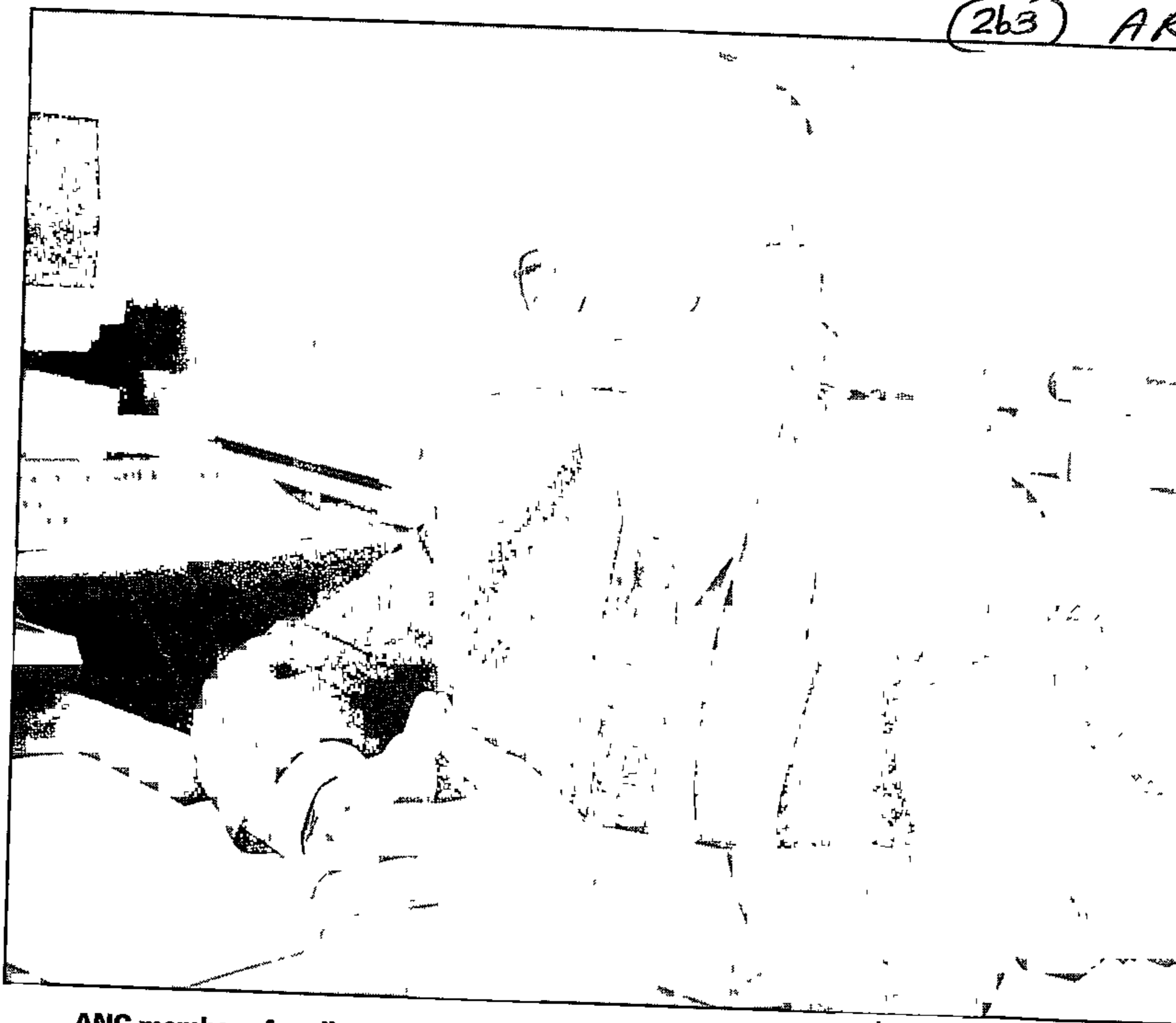
He had no idea Carl would campaign for Nelson Mandela's release while a theology student at Rand Afrikaans University, that he would leave the Ned Geref Kerk for one of its black "sister churches", that he would join the African National Congress and work in the underground until his arrest with his fiancée, now his wife, Jansie, in 1983, that this activism would lead to Carl serving half of a 15-year jail term for high treason, and Jansie would serve her full four years, also for high treason, and that Carl would occupy a seat in the first democratic parliament of the first democratic republic of South Africa, led by a "dreadful terrorist".

And so, in a sobering manifestation of the high personal toll exacted by political commitment, the prodigal son became the patriotic son.

None of this drama is lost on Carl Jun, chairperson of the parliamentary portfolio committee on correctional services and a member of the ANC national executive committee at the age of 37, not least because of the spectacular view he commands from his office of the mount on which his father delivered his first political sermon.

As a Gauteng, he abandons this view for a few months each year as the political road show leaves parliament for Pretoria. But he wants to change that, by leading the ANC in the Western Cape, where he has made his home for most of the past two years.

"It's true that I don't come from the Western Cape, but my deploy-



ANC member of parliament Carl Niehaus, who believes that as an "outsider" he may have a better sense of what ails the ANC in the Western Cape than some of the other local contenders for the organisation's provincial leadership.

ment here since coming from prison (in March 1991) has been consistent. I have a particular language and religious background which makes it possible for me to serve in the Western Cape." That's longhand for "I'm Afrikaans and a former Dutch Reform Church of Africa deacon."

Niehaus believes that as an outsider, he's perhaps better placed than contenders Tony Yengeni and Dullah Omar to suggest to the ANC that it is time it examined why it has lost much of the non-racial, unifying momentum that characterised its mid-1980s forerunner, the United Democratic Front.

"I have a very real sense that it's a tragedy that the Western Cape until now hasn't been able to fully become a part of the new South Africa."

The National Party, with its electoral legitimacy in this province, presents the first problem.

Here's a party whose membership turn out in droves and with reverence to see President Mandela in action at public events but reject him at the polls.

Then there's the one, in the past few days, of the convergence of religious fundamentalism and mob violence.

So, too, Niehaus and others are charged with the job of working out why National Party voters are quite happy to don Cosatu T-shirts during a clothing workers' strike, but could not bring themselves to vote for Cosatu's allies, the ANC and the South African Communist Party.

And why do coloured and African teachers have such profoundly dif-

ferent responses to the challenge of bringing about equity in education?

Well, the deacon has a doctrine. "How do we reach out to the majority of coloured voters in the Western Cape? The reality is that the perception at the moment is that a considerable part of coloured voters don't feel a warm association with the ANC."

"It's not simply a matter of racism, there's a tendency to describe voting patterns in the Western Cape simply as a question of blaming the coloured community for racism."

"Why do many feel that the non-racialism of the ANC is a threat? Is it because in terms of their own experiences, they feel the ANC isn't addressing their issues?"

"The time has come for us to say we must carefully listen to what

people are saying about affirmative action, what their responses are around education - not simply to take purist positions."

So, what's the difference between NP campaigner Peter Marais saying the Cape was built by "brown hands, not black" and President Mandela warning the University of the Western Cape against becoming an African institution in a predominantly coloured area?

In the case of Peter Marais, it is pure racism, says Niehaus. In the case of President Mandela, it is an affirmation of the need of all who matter in this province to come to terms with the needs of the coloured community as the majority population group here, and articulating this reality to other communities, while trying to build as many bridges as possible.

Niehaus's doctrine is designed to take his organisation back to basics.

"For example, if you're trying to organise a taxi boycott, in this area, you could quite easily drive through African areas with a bullhorn on a car, telling people what's going to happen. In the coloured community, your approach has to be house visits."

He believes the recognition of such subtleties secured the United Democratic Front's fortunes in the Western Cape at the height of political repression.

Much of this momentum has been lost because of the ANC's failure to acknowledge and plan political strategies around cultural, language and religious differences in various communities.

In the seven weeks leading up to the ANC's provincial conference, at the end of September, Niehaus wishes to see these issues being debated within the organisation's structures around the province.

He's confident there are enough members like him to sustain this debate, after all, many of them (and many of them in senior positions) have approached him to stand for the Western Cape chair.

While he is reluctant to point at the organisation's weaknesses here, he is quick to add that it is time fresh leadership led the ANC into the 1999 general election and beyond. Which again conjures up images of Carl at the telescope.

(263) ARG 7/8/96

Niehaus in running for W Cape ANC leadership

ARG 7/8/96 (263)

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff

AFRICAN National Congress national executive member and MP Carl Niehaus is in the running for leadership of the ANC in the Western Cape

Current leader and provincial Economic Affairs Minister Chris Nissen recently announced that he would not be available for re-election at the organisation's provincial conference in September.

It has since emerged that other contenders are Justice Minister and Athlone ratepayer Dullah Omar and parliamentary joint defence committee chairperson Tony Yengeni.

In an interview yesterday, Mr Niehaus was cautious in announcing his candidature, saying he would make himself available for election only at the end of a thorough political debate on the position of the ANC in the Western Cape.

But he did say he was entering the contest because he had been approached by certain people in leadership positions in the ANC in the Western Cape.

He also made it clear he considered his religious and Afrikaans background as major pluses in appealing to the coloured majority in this province.

Mr Niehaus said his relative neutrality as a Gauteng lent itself to offering fresh solutions to the problems facing the organisation in the region.

Mr Niehaus chairs the parliamentary portfolio committee on correctional services as well as the ANC national executive committee's commission on religious affairs.

His orientation in theology - he obtained two theology degrees from Unisa while serving half of a 15-year sentence for high treason in the mid-1980s - makes him the third major ANC figure in recent years vying for provincial leadership in the Western Cape to have identified religion as a major shaper of political outlook in this region.

Mr Nissen, and Allan Boesak before him, were roped in for their pulpit skills.

Mr Niehaus said his proposed debate, within ANC structures, would have to focus on how the ANC could reach out to the majority of Western Cape voters who clearly had "no warm association" with it.

This re-evaluation would also require a departure from the assumption that the coloured community was being racist in consistently voting for the National Party.

ANC structures had to consider that the coloured and African communities had distinctive cultural, linguistic and religious characters, which demanded certain adaptations to the way the ANC organised these respective constituencies.

● See page 12.

Councillors from townships ask city to give them guns

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

ARG 9/8/96

(263)

COUNCILLORS from Philippi, KTC, Guguletu and Langa have asked to be issued with guns and pagers, and transport to and from the Civic Centre in Cape Town.

The acting chief executive officer in the former Ikapa municipality, Sakkie du Toit, put the request to the Cape Town council.

In the letter, Mr Du Toit said Ikapa councillors used to be issued with pagers because the majority had no telephones and it was the only way of keeping contact.

Former Ikapa councillors had also been issued with guns "during periods of unrest in local areas and councillors retained the firearms until they vacated their offices at Fezeka".

Mr Du Toit said the provision of transport for Ikapa councillors between their homes and the Fezeka offices was also a long-standing practice.

Cape Town municipality's executive committee, which incorporates the areas in question, has yet to decide what to do about the request, as the matter is being discussed within the party caucuses.

The African National Congress's political caucus has not yet reached a decision.

The Democratic Party will make its position known when its members reach a decision.

The National Party caucus has suggested that councillors be helped to buy cell-phones, but that they pay their own accounts. The NP has rejected outright the request to carry guns.

The caucus was not in favour of the council providing transport, but said it realised there were times when it might be necessary to do so.

Council worn out by tyresome trivia

Minor matters take up time on a busy agenda

ARG 9/8/96 (263)

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

SOMETIMES being a senior city councillor is pretty tyresome

Executive committee members of the Cape Town council this week had to apply their minds to the relatively minor financial issue of whether to sell off two old ambulance tyres to a charity feeding scheme

The item illustrates how senior council officials and members of exco, who control a budget of more than R2 billion, are having to deliberate on miniscule financial matters because of outdated standing orders

The standing orders are under review, but councillors are still

having to apply their minds to the financial minutia of city business

An example of the items which sneaked on to the executive committee agenda this week included a request from the Hare Krishna Food For Life project to buy two second-hand ambulance tyres for a vehicle they bought at an auction in Worcester

The council happens to have the tyres in stock because they were bought for Chevrolet ambulances which are no longer in use. The seven remaining tyres are due to be written off

The Hare Krishna Food for Life group offered R200 a piece for the tyres, which would probably only sell for R5 each at a public

auction, because they needed them for the old Chevrolet vehicle they had bought. New tyres would have to be imported and are beyond the reach of the organisation

The item, which took up three pages of the exco's weighty agenda, was withdrawn when it came to discussion because it was decided that the sale of all council property would have to be at advertised auctions, and could not be decided piecemeal

Exco member Babette Becker, a member of the National Party, remarked that the advertisement would probably cost more than the amount of money that would be realised from the sale of the tyres

Councillors seek pay rises up to 137%

PETER DENNEHY

ET 14/8/96 (263)

CITY councillors' pay may be increased by up to 137% if a report to the central government is passed into law

Representatives of city councillors and their metropolitan counterparts have suggested that central government should take over responsibility for paying councillors — but doubts have been expressed about its agreeing to this.

The report suggests that Cape Town's mayor and executive committee chairperson should be paid R15 400 a month — 48% more than at present and the same as a member of the provincial legislature is paid.

According to the presidents of the local government associations in the nine provinces, councillors who serve on the metropolitan councils (as opposed to city councils) in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban should be regarded as being employed full-time. If they serve on the executive, they should be given medical aid and car allowances.

This was the central thrust of a presentation by councillor Mr Yacoob Makda of Johannesburg at a meeting at the Cape Town Civic Centre yesterday.

GRAPHIC
— Page 3

The meeting was attended by Minister of Local Government Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa and the nine MECs for local government.

Valli Moosa's spokesman, Mr Mpho Msimane, said later that the meeting — known as Minmec — had not yet discussed the report on councillors' allowances, although it was on the table.

The report suggests that allowances for council-related expenses should fall away and that councillors should be paid salaries competitive with those paid for comparable posts in the private sector.

Cape Town councillors' pay was increased two months ago and pushed up the council's salary bill by 29%.

In terms of the report, Cape Town executive committee members would get R12 320, an increase of 58%. Ordinary councillors would be paid R6 160 — 137% more than the present maximum of R2 601.

The report argues that as a councillor's occupation is essentially full-time, councillors should be paid accordingly. It says it is necessary to encourage the development of a national corps of "career councillors".

During the last controversy over allowances, some councillors said an ordinary councillor could get by with doing about two hours of council work a day.

The report also proposes that the pay system of 15 size categories (grades) for councils be narrowed to five. The top categories are metropolitan councils and large city councils that have a gross annual income of more than R400 million.

Mr Louwtjie Rothman, president of the Western Cape Local Government Association, said he did not think central government would agree to foot the bill for the proposed salaries. Nor could local government afford these, he said.

'Pay from Pretoria will spoil city councillors'

(263) CT 15/8/96
CHRIS BATEMAN

MOVES to have city councillors paid by Pretoria instead of from their own rates base would kill incentive, guarantee inefficiency and ensure they were less accountable to ratepayers, Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais said yesterday.

Marais said several councillors already saw their jobs as "an extension of the Unemployment Insurance Fund or a form of affirmative action simply to give them salaries".

He was reacting to suggestions made this week at a Cape Town Civic Centre meeting attended by presidents of local government associations, the nine local government MEC's and their minister, Mr Mohamed Valli Moosa.

If Pretoria pays salaries competitive with the private sector, Cape Town exco members would get R12 320, an increase of 58%.

Councillors — some of whom get by on two hours' work a day — would get R6 160, 137% more than the present maximum of R2 601.

Marais said the more efficient councillors were, the more money was generated for local coffers — and thus for their salaries.

Under the proposed system they could snub voter interests and still be paid handsomely.

He asked, for example, what the existing 74 Tygerberg and 76 Central substructure councillors did to justify existing salaries.

"If they get paid as full-time jobs there'll soon be more councillors than taxi drivers in the Metropole," he said.

Marais said he saw councillors' jobs as planning, organising and monitoring — with the real job being done by officials whom they had just awarded an 8,05% pay increase.

ANC voices were urging Valli Moosa to scrap the Town Clerk and Remuneration Act because it pegged salaries according to grades of local authorities (grades criteria include size of municipality, service levels and turnover).

Marais said he had warned Valli Moosa "not to leave salary scales in a vacuum", as this would

allow town clerks in minor municipalities to be paid the same as in large metropolises.

A new system would also make councils less dependent on inter-governmental grants, administered by MECs such as Marais.

He was given R51 million less for the province this year and wondered where Pretoria would get extra money for subsidising councils (service arrears) if they used this to pay salaries.

"It's simple — ratepayers will just have to cough up," he concluded.

Marais said the move would also sound the death knell for the Masakhane campaign.

Meanwhile, BARRY STREEK reports the claim for a 137% increase in city councillors' pay was being studied by the government. It was a complex matter Valli Moosa said.

Johannesburg's budget of R7,2 billion was larger than some of the provinces, and yet the councillors were not compensated at the same level as people in the provincial governments.

"They have a good argument, but it is a very difficult area," Valli Moosa said.

He had received a copy of the report proposing the increases and "we will have to study it".

Moosa pointed out that the commission, headed by former judge Mr Jan Steyn, was investigating the salaries paid to all political representatives, including those serving in local government and traditional leaders.

The Mayor of Cape Town Mrs Theresa Solomon and executive committee chairperson Ms Nomandla Mfeketo said yesterday they had not been aware of the contents of a report suggesting councillors should be paid up to 137% more, until it appeared in the press.

"The Cape Town Council had nothing whatsoever to do with the proposals," they said. "We were not even aware of the contents of the report."

The report had been drawn up by an "interim consultative body for local government", consisting of the presidents of local government associations in the nine provinces.

Council 'did not ask for pay rise'

STAFF WRITER

CT 16/8/96
 CAPE Town city councillors had not asked for the proposed increases to their pay, mayor Mrs Theresa Solomon and executive committee chairperson Ms Nomandla Mfeko said yesterday.

They were reacting to a Cape Times report detailing the new proposed increases. The consultative body for local government proposed that councillors should be paid up to 137% more, taking their salaries from R2 601 to R6 160, while the mayor's salary would increase from just over the present R10 000 to R15 400 a month.

"The Cape Town Council had nothing whatsoever to do with the proposals," they said.

"We were not even aware of the contents of the report."

The mayor and Exco chair, however, did not want to be drawn on whether they would support such a move.

They said the impression had been created that Cape Town had initiated the move, through the use of examples of how much would be payable to the mayor and the executive committee members of the Cape Town Council, they said.

Difficulties are still being experienced in wage negotiations.

"For the report to have taken the line it did will only draw unwarranted criticism on the Cape Town Council at a very sensitive time."

● The report in question had been drawn up by an interim consultative body for local government which consists of the presidents of local government associations in the nine provinces.

The report was submitted to a meeting consisting of the Minister of Local Government, Mr Mohamed Valli Moosa, and the nine provincial Members of the Executive Committee (MECs).

No decision has yet been made on the report.

Rasool bids for top ANC post

(263)

CT 20/8/96

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE battle for the leadership of the ANC in the Western Cape hotted up yesterday when Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool confirmed that he would stand — pitting him against Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar.

Omar has not yet committed himself, but it is likely he will be in the running

Mr Chris Nissen says his standing down is to "get a leader in place to take the organisation through to the 1998 conference and into the 1999 elections"

Rasool has been punted as the nominee with a "fresh approach" to local ANC strategy

He has a firm service delivery record as he has ensured the R10,5 million building of a health centre in Khayelitsha and



RUNNING: Mr Ebrahim Rasool

erected or improved 31 clinics Rasool has significant branch support in Khayelitsha, Blue Downs, Delft, Helderberg and the northern suburbs — and reportedly has Nissen's backing



UNDECIDED: Mr Dullah Omar

Jostling for the deputy party chairmanship has also become fierce with Sport and Recreation MEC Mr Lerumo Kalako throwing his weight behind Omar — whom sources said would be

strait-jacketed by criminal justice issues, making the deputy chairperson the de-facto party leader

Kalako is a top contender for the position

Omar shares equal branch support with Rasool in the Southern Suburbs but has strong backing in Langa, Guguletu, Nyanga and Athlone.

He narrowly lost the ANC chairmanship to Dr Allan Boesak in the 1994 contest and is known to be favoured by the ANC's national leadership, which sees him as a unifying factor able to rise above petty local squabbling

Other contenders are former MK commander and chairman of the joint parliamentary defence committee, Mr Tony Yengeni, and Mr Carl Niehaus, chairman of the parliamentary committee on correctional services

Debate over CMC's powers

Metro Reporter

(263)

ARG 20/8/96
elected on May 29 this year

MEATY issues such as the future of the troubled Maitland abattoir, and whether fire services should be provided on a metropolitan or municipal level, are likely to be decided within the next six weeks.

These topics are the subject of a draft recommendation on local government powers and duties.

The draft document will be negotiated by representatives of the Cape Metropolitan Council and the six new municipalities, with the aim of reaching agreement by the end of September.

This will set in motion the amalgamation of the 19 remaining administrations from the old political order of local government, to fall under the seven new councils,

Other items on the negotiating table include who will take responsibility for bulk water and electricity supply, who gets to plan the city's transport needs, environmental management, libraries, civil protection and the promotion of cultural activities - which includes the future of the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra

Pierre Uys, chairman of the metropolitan restructuring forum, said the debate over powers and functions of the new metro council versus the six municipalities was a vital part of the process of restructuring local government in the Cape metro.

The CMC's position was that whatever could be done at sub-structure level should be devolved

to them.

"There is no way we want to grab things," he said at a Press conference yesterday

Nomaindia Mfeketo, his deputy on the forum, said it was important to strike the correct balance between the substructures and the metro council to ensure co-operative governance instead of competition between the new councils

She said the Cape Town municipality wanted to create co-operative governance.

"It is important to say that both the metro council and the substructures are the same level of government," she said.

She added it was not a question of competing for power but of deciding where functions would be best carried out.

Nats and ANC in rumpus over city's 'Super Mayor'

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

(263)

APR 20 1996
the ANC argued that the creation of a metropolitan mayor would send out confusing signals to the people as both Cape Town's mayor and the metro mayor would be located at offices within the city centre

THE African National Congress and National Party are squaring up over moves to create a "Super Mayor" for metropolitan Cape Town

The Cape Metropolitan Council is to decide whether to create the positions of metropolitan mayor and deputy metropolitan mayor at its meeting at the end of the month

The positions would be filled by the newly elected CMC chairman William Bantom of the NP and his deputy, Roger Hulley of the DP. But the CMC's executive committee is divided over the matter, with the ANC having given notice that it intends to fight the proposal because it sees no need for a metropolitan mayor - all six municipal sub-structures have a mayor

The NP's counter charge is that the ANC's only objection is based on the presumption that a metropolitan mayor would eclipse the influence of Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon who is an ANC member

During the executive committee debate yesterday, Mzukisi Gaba of

He was supported by other ANC members David Dlal and Welcome Zenzile who both opposed the motion to create the new positions. Mr Zenzile said there would inevitably be points of conflict between the metro mayor and mayor of Cape Town. He warned that "we will make a lot of noise" if the NP decided to use its majority to decide the issue

Ken Morkel, NP member and deputy exco chairman, countered Mr Zenzile's warning saying "We will not be blackmailed"

David Erleigh of the NP, who proposed the new position, said the metro council needed to establish its identity and a ceremonial position of mayor would help

Mr Bantom, tipped to become the new Super Mayor, said the CMC was the only metropolitan council in the country which had not yet made this decision. "We're really just coming into line"

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Clean sweep for NP in Bonteheuwel poll

(263)

CHENE BLIGNAUT

Staff Reporter

ARG 22/8/96

THE National Party scored an overwhelming victory in the Bonteheuwel by-election, strengthening the party's position in the Tygerberg City Council

NP candidate Carol McKenzie, wife of former Western Cape police minister Patrick McKenzie, won 1 998 votes in the result announced today after yesterday's polling

She was followed by African National Congress candidate Abdoesalaam Isaacs with 724 votes. In third place was Independent candidate John Miranda with 605 followed by another independent candidate Gamat Ismael who scored 151 votes. The African Christian Democratic Party came last with 79 votes.

There were 27 spoilt papers while 32,8 percent of the 12 000 registered voters went to the polls. This gives the NP 36 seats - half the councillors in the 72-seat municipality, but not a working majority.

R38-million misused for councils' pay

By TOM HOOD

MORE than R38-million was siphoned from a maintenance fund by seven black local authorities in the Cape to pay salaries and wages.

This misappropriation of funds has been uncovered by the Auditor-General, Henry Kluever, in a performance audit of the establishment of infrastructure at the Cape Metropolitan Council.

The audit also found that less than R10-million, out of a total of about R200-million earmarked for a number of development projects, was spent at a time when infrastructure such as roads and drainage in some of the Peninsula's poorest areas were desperately needed.

This happened in the dying years of the Regional Services Council, which has now been replaced by the new Cape Metropolitan Council.

The investigation examined the spending of Regional Service Council levies —

ST (CM) 25) 8/96
the millions of rands collected each year from businesses based on a percentage of their turnover and payroll.

The RSC levies "have gone a long way" to help local government in the Western Cape and to improve the living conditions of thousands of people, according to the CMC.

However, the Auditor-General's report, published this week by the CMC, found inefficiency going back several years.

Referring to the R38-million misappropriated, the report said it was a total payment over three years ending June 1994 to the seven so-called black local authorities for the maintenance of infrastructure and services. But the cash was used mainly to fund operating shortfalls such as salaries.

"This contributed to the deterioration of existing infrastructure of roads, storm-water drainage, sewerage and water reticulation," said the report.

A spokesman for the CMC said it was later discovered the levy money earmarked for maintenance was pooled with other money and it was difficult to institute controls to ensure that the funds were used for the correct purpose.

Kluever also said progress made with development in the Western Cape since 1987 could not be determined in spite of a total amount of R474-million being spent on projects for infrastructure services and facilities up to April 30, 1995.

In September 1994 it was found that basic municipal services had collapsed in Ikapa, Khayelitsha, Crossroads and Mfuleni, bringing with it the threat of health problems. The CMC decided in October 1994 to underwrite R46,4-million to restore basic municipal services, but up to June 1995 no payments had been made, said Kluever.

The progress of various projects could not be monitored. Although some projects worth more than R4-million had been approved in 1992, no material expenditure had taken place since, said Kluever.

Nats and ANC on collision course in Tygerberg council

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

THE honeymoon in the delicately balanced Tygerberg council, which includes Bellville and Khayelitsha, is officially over

The fragile co-operation between the African National Congress and National Party in this municipality, where no party has an outright majority, yesterday came close to collapse after repeated confrontations, mostly over trivial matters

The meeting was characterised by a political power play, with continuous threats from the NP to resort to voting to resolve contentious issues. This would mean the NP would win most debates. It has 36 of the 72 seats, the ANC has 34, with one seat each held by the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party

From the start of yesterday's lengthy meeting, it became clear that the two main parties

were on a direct confrontation course

One of the first items on the agenda was a request by the NP that the next council meeting be rescheduled because it coincided with an NP congress. The ANC refused to accommodate the request, because a written motion had not been handed in

The NP later retaliated by refusing to include ANC members in a metropolitan committee dealing with the restructuring of municipalities

Several ANC councillors made emotional pleas for the committee to include representatives from less privileged areas

But the NP flatly refused. "The honeymoon is over," said NP councillor Louwtjie Rothman, referring to the ANC's refusal to accommodate the NP on a matter as trivial as the date of the next meeting

"Give me one good reason why we should accommodate the ANC?" said Mr Rothman

(263) AR 28/8/96
to loud applause from his fellow party members

An ANC councillor countered that if there had been a honeymoon in the Tygerberg, everyone had expected it to be shortlived

When Tygerberg mayor Lukas Olivier (NP) wanted to put the matter to the vote, the ANC objected vehemently, accusing Mr Olivier of being an "NP mayor"

At this point Mr Olivier entered the debate, reminding the ANC that co-operation was "a two-way street"

"If you carry on in a negative way and with an opposing spirit, you cannot expect goodwill and co-operation from the other side," said Mr Olivier.

"When you enter the course of confrontation, you cannot cry afterwards. Cowboys don't cry," he added

The matter was resolved when the NP decided to allow the parties to caucus about including an ANC member in the metropolitan delegation

Restructuring 'delayed by (263) political fights'

ARG 28/8/96

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
Staff Reporter

POLITICAL squabbles are delaying the much-needed restructuring of the bloated Tygerberg City Council bureaucracy

During a special executive committee meeting this week, the National Party accused its African National Congress counterparts of dragging their feet over the reorganisation of the substructure's huge administration, which was formed through the amalgamation of the six municipalities in the Tygerberg area

The ANC in turn accused fellow councillors of resisting change in the new local government democracy

A suggestion from officials for exco to consider the appointment of local government experts to help in the restructuring process, sparked the heated debate

NP councillor Louwtjie Rothman vehemently objected to the idea of outside consultants,

accusing the ANC of trying to delay the restructuring at the cost of the ratepayer

He said nothing had come of an exco resolution to ease the urgent appointment of a permanent chief executive officer for the Tygerberg

"We are still where we were on May 29," said Mr Rothman. He blamed the ANC for wasting the ratepayers' money with an expensive recount of votes after the local elections and argued that the appointment of outside consultants would only delay the process further, again at the cost of the ratepayer

"I say we must appoint a CEO (chief executive officer) immediately and embark on negotiations as to how the new substructure should look. I am pleading with the ANC not to be stubborn. Why do they want to kill the Tygerberg?" said Mr Rothman

Several ANC councillors in turn reacted to Mr Rothman's accusations by blaming the NP for not co-operating in the restructuring process

Hitting back at Mr Rothman, ANC councillor Ernest Sass said many of the NP councillors were "so set in their ways" and "used to their luxuries", that they resisted change in local government

"I am not questioning the integrity of our officials, but they too were part of the old way of local governing

"We all need to go through change and we need objective people from the outside to assist us in that process," said Mr Sass

Exco chairman John Marshall (NP) said he had extensive experience of change in local government and there were no real experts in the municipal field outside the municipalities

He said change for the sake of change alone was never worth it and that it had to involve a change for the better

Following a proposal by Mr Sass, exco decided to hold a workshop to try to resolve the issues surrounding the restructuring of the substructure

THURSDAY
AUGUST 29, 1996 ★

ANC DEFEATED IN ROWDY DEBATE

(263)

Chairperson of Metro Council renamed mayor

AMID ALLEGATIONS of bad faith on the part of the NP and claims that it was trying to create a "supermayor" to lord it over the six substructure mayors, the Metro Council yesterday renamed its chairperson a mayor. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

THE Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) voted 34 to 21 yesterday to change the title of its chairperson, the Rev William Bantom, to "Metropolitan Mayor"

ANC members of the council, who strongly opposed the move to create what they and the press have called "a supermayor", were defeated after a rowdy party-political debate

The change will not affect Bantom's earnings

Mr Pierre Uys, chairperson of the CMC exco, said that what was proposed was just a mayor, not a supermayor, who would not be higher or lower than the other mayors of the six municipalities in the metropole

People could relate to the idea of a mayor, while a distinction between chairpersons of the CMC and of the

CMC exco just confused them, he said.

Mr David Erleigh, also of the NP, said the metro mayor would be able to promote equity between the six substructures

The ANC's Mr Mzukisi Gaba accused the NP of dishonesty throughout negotiations that led to the formation of a metropolitan council, the NP had said the metro council was not a higher tier of government than the municipalities, but now it was suggesting an overall mayor

So it seemed they had been acting in bad faith earlier

Councillor Leon Markovitz asked whether it was permissible for Gaba to make such an accusation of dishonesty

CT 29/8/96
Gaba said he could substantiate it, but was unable to do so to the satisfaction of Bantom, who chaired the meeting

Bantom ruled that Gaba should withdraw his "dishonesty" remark. After much hesitation and heckling and a few "point of order" interruptions, Gaba said "In the interest of the business of this council, and under protest because there are no objective criteria for your ruling, I will say the NP has been less than candid and frank on this matter"

Dr Les Rencontre, of the ANC, tried to have the mayoralty matter referred to the Metropolitan Restructuring Forum, but his amendment to this effect was defeated

Mr Frank van der Velde, of the ANC, said invitations to the inauguration had already been sent out, even before the debate was held in the metro council as a whole.

Bantom said the invitations were for the inauguration of the new council, not the new mayor.

Services in townships collapsed — report

(267) 29/8/96
CAPE TOWN — Basic municipal services in the Cape Peninsula's black townships have collapsed, posing a threat to public health, an auditor-general's report on the Cape Metropolitan Council's infrastructure has showed.

The performance audit report was submitted to the council yesterday.

The investigation was completed in September 1994 to help form a strategic management plan for Ikapa, Khayelitsha, Crossroads and Mfuleni.

The Cape Metropolitan Council decided in October 1994 to underwrite R46,4m to restore basic services in the townships, but up to June last year no payments had been made.

The audit disclosed also that progress made with development in the Western Cape since 1987 could not be determined.

About R474,75m had been spent on projects for infrastructure services and facilities up to April last year, it said.

The report showed that R38m paid for the three financial years ending June 1994 to the seven black local authorities for maintaining infrastructure services and facilities was used mainly to fund operating shortfalls such as salaries.

"This contributed to the deterioration of existing infrastructure of roads, stormwater drainage, sewerage and water reticulation," the report said.

Auditor-general spokesman Louis van Rooyen said the shortcomings identified in the report indicated that infrastructure in the townships could be considerably improved. — Sapa.

Nats jumped gun on metro mayor, says ANC

ANDREA WEISS
Metro Reporter

(263)
ARG 29/8/96
THE National Party has been accused of sending out invitations for the inauguration of a metropolitan mayor before it had even decided whether such a position should be created

The accusation was flung across the floor during heated debate between the African National Congress and the NP as the Cape Metropolitan Council held its monthly meeting yesterday

The NP, with the support of the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party, won the day with 34 votes in favour of a metro mayor, to the ANC's 21. The NP was at pains to explain during the debate that the position was not one of "super mayor"

William Bantom, who was elected chairman of the CMC after local elections, will be the first incumbent

Immediately after the vote Mr Bantom was congratulated by fellow NP member Howard Parker, who said "Although we do not call you super mayor, you're a mayor who is a super guy"

The ANC pointedly held back, with member Les Rencontre rising only to ask that his vote against the creation of the position be recorded and that the cautions of DP councillor Brian Watkyns against additional perks and functions be minuted

Mr Watkyns said the DP supported the change of title, but the relationship between the six municipalities and the CMC would have to be sorted out

But it was Mzukisi Gaba of the ANC who turned up the temperature when he accused the NP of "dishonesty and rank opportunism"

This caused Leon Markovitz of the NP to rise and ask whether a councillor was entitled to accuse others of dishonesty

Fellow NP member David Erleigh said the accusation reflected by implication on each NP member and was defamatory

"I reserve my rights," he said "He can sue me if he likes," said Mr Gaba "Dishonesty is dishonesty"

When Mr Bantom, who was chairing the meeting, pushed him to explain himself, Mr Gaba

said he believed the NP had negotiated in bad faith at the Metropolitan

Restructuring Forum in that it had urged that the CMC should not be elevated above other councils

In this respect it had been dishonest

But his explanation was not accepted and Mr Bantom asked him to withdraw his remarks

Eventually Mr Gaba agreed to withdraw, saying he believed the NP had been "less than candid and frank in this matter"

This theme was picked up by ANC member Frank van der Velde, who said he believed "half of this council are honest", referring to his own camp

Mr Van der Velde went on to accuse the NP of snubbing the ANC by "already deciding on an inaugural ceremony"

"You've already sent out the invitations," he charged, accusing the NP of "oppressive leadership" that was characteristic of the apartheid era

Mr Bantom then explained that the invitations Mr van der Velde was referring to were for the inaugural ceremony of the CMC and not that of the mayor

Can the South make the change?

It's all in a name, they say

ARG 21/9/96

(263)

JILYAN PITMAN
STAFF REPORTER

What's in a name? Plenty, it would seem.

Premier Hernus Kriel and Minister of Local Government Peter Marais have challenged the Southern substructure to come up with a new name soon and if they don't or can't, then the two provincial government heavyweights will do it for them.

But substructure officials have issued an exciting challenge which is both transparent and workable and could finally resolve the name issue.

They say they haven't found a name yet because they have been busy and any "perceived lethargy" about the matter can be explained.

The ministers say a proper name, not a geographical loca-

tion, is needed and a coat-of-arms must be made. Inauguration of southern mayor John Oswald Jacobs could be held up unless a name is found soon.

The Southern substructure is the name that has been used since the April municipal elections when new boundaries were drawn and eight different municipalities were put under one "umbrella". Previously, Constantia, Muizenberg, Fish Hoek, Simon's Town, Hout Bay, Ottery, Grassy park and Scarborough were separate municipalities.

Acting chief executive officer of the Southern substructure Edward Thresher says the challenge would be to invite all residents in the substructure to submit a name which would feature on all council emblems and stationery.

"We receive delegations from

many countries and many important local people, and it is important we get a name and our insignia as soon as possible," said Mr Thresher.

"This matter should have been attended to months ago but we have so busy. We have produced 235 000 pieces of agenda so far, so we have not had a chance to attend to a name.

"Once we do something about our name we can get our coat-of-arms made. This would not be a competition with money as a prize. We know there are many artistic people in the substructure and we feel they should have a say in choosing the new name" said Mr Thresher.

Mr Thresher said the challenge - which still has to be approved by all the councillors in the substructure - will be made public soon.

'IT'S A FULL-TIME JOB'

Huge pay hikes on the cards ⁽²⁶³⁾ for councillors

CT 2/9/96

SOUTH AFRICA is moving towards recognising that being a town or city councillor is a full-time job. It is argued that if adequate salaries are not paid to local politicians, local politics will become the preserve of an unrepresentative group of people. Metro Writer **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

LOCAL government leaders in South Africa are pushing for huge pay increases for town and city councillors — but councillors in this country already get more than their counterparts in many foreign cities.

The proposed change is a shift away from the Western tradition that involvement in local politics is not regarded as a full-time occupation, toward a situation in which being a councillor is seen as a job and paid accordingly.

A report, backed by the majority of provincial leaders of local government organisations, suggests that South Africa's largest cities should pay their councillors R6 160 a month, executive committee members R12 320, and mayors or executive committee chairpersons R15 400.

Annually, that works out as R74 000 for councillors, R148 000 for exco members and R185 000 for mayors and exco chairpersons respectively.

For ordinary councillors on the highest-graded councils, the proposed rise amounts to 137% increase. Cape Town's City and Metro Councils both fall into the highest grade. The city council has 74 members and the metro council has 60. The new proposals are not their suggestion.

For the city council, councillors' pay will amount to over R6 million a year — up from R3m — should the new proposals be implemented. For the metro council, the cost will be over R5m a year, up from just over R2m.

Mr Christo Norton, acting director of the Interim Consultative Body (ICB) on Local Government, which made the new pay recommendations, said he would be hesitant to compare South Africa with cities in Europe or North America, because "we are going in completely different directions".

The ICB's report says: "A councillor now operates essentially in a full-time capacity in larger local government bodies and should be remunerated accordingly."

"New circumstances dictate the necessity to encourage the establishment of a national corps of career councillors."

It is argued that if salaries are not paid to local politicians, local politics will become the preserve of an unrepresentative group of people who have enough money, or leisure, or both, to be able to run the city as a hobby.

Norton said that in South Africa, the

top jobs on any council require full-time commitment, as councillors have to act as welfare officers, dealing with the problems of the unemployed and handicapped as well as their local government duties.

The ICB's argument is that ward councillors are "the only true public representatives", because provincial and national representatives do not have constituencies. They are elected on a party-list system.

But members of Parliament and the provincial legislatures have been given "constituencies" to look after, and are also paid constituency fees to set up and run constituency offices.

Norton said another argument the ICB uses is that "we have hundreds of traditional leaders still being paid by the central government".

"Why can't it support elected leaders?" he asked.

"The success of this new democracy will depend more on the local councillors than on provincial councillors or MPs," he said. "The government must decide whether it wants to pay them decent salaries and have them committed to local government."

But present and former councillors are disagreeing with the report, saying they should retain the system in which only out-of-pocket expense allowances are paid.

Mr Arthur Wienburg has said an ordinary councillor's work is not a full-time job, and that he has proved it by being a councillor and running a business at the same time.

Mr Clive Keegan has said ordinary councillors attend five meetings a month at the most. Mr Chris Joubert, who is still on the council as a member of the executive committee, has estimated that an ordinary councillor must on average put in a minimum of two hours a day on council work.

But he also says the amount of work is expandable. How much work is done depends on the councillor.

A recent study of council salaries provided by the United States Information Service in Pretoria shows that the average annual council salary in 1993 for 54 "mid-size" local governments in the US with populations of between 250 000 and 1,5m was just under \$25 000 a year (about R114 000).

COUNCILLORS' ANNUAL PAY

Major Cities

	United States Atlanta	United Kingdom Birmingham	South Africa (proposed)
250 000 (R65 825)	\$25 000 (R114 112)	£13 500 (R95 246)	R184 800
250 000 (R65 825)	\$22 000 (R100 419)	£600 (R42 331)	R73 920
12	18	117	60
(R9m)	(R1,8)	(R5m)	5,3m metro council 6,3m city council

Southern council set to call in outside help

ARG 3/9/96

(263)

PETER GOOSEN
Staff Reporter

A HIGH-POWERED facilitator and expert in local government, possibly from overseas, is likely to be brought in to get the Southern substructure up and running

The substructure council's transitional affairs committee decided yesterday to recommend to its executive the appointment of a facilitator - with the blessing of its officials

The idea of appointing a facilitator for the new council's operating structures was suggested by the committee's deputy chairman, Niki Holderness

Introducing the facilitator debate, committee chairwoman Joan Heming said it had become absolutely critical to appoint someone with new attitudes and an open mind to help the council to draw up a mission statement and new structures, even before the council appointed its first full-time chief executive officer

She said the idea was not a slap in the face for officials already working hard on the substructure organisation

Ms Holderness said the council needed more than just consultants. It needed an expert, probably from overseas, with sound ideas on local government structures, to guide council and officials without dictating to them

Cape Metropolitan Council director of town planning Chris Sullivan said officials would agree that the appointment of such a facilitator was vital. The officials who were at present helping the new substructure could not do this vital task full-time

It would also help minimise conflict between officials of the various components of the substructure

Simon's Town town clerk Kobus Marais said it was unlikely officials would agree to the secondment of senior officials from outside the substructure for the task, as it would amount to premature unbundling

Police probe 36 346 child abuse cases

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

POLICE child protection units investigated 36 346 child abuse cases in 12 months and made 11 510 arrests, Safety and Security Minister Mr Sydney Mufamadi has disclosed.

The most common offence involved was rape, but there were also a number of cases of incest, indecent assault, and sexual offences under Act 23 of 1957.

Other offences included attempted murder, assault, abduction, kidnapping, crimen injuria, indecent photographic material, public indecency and Child Care Act offences.

The units also investigated 1 897 cases of runaways or absconders and missing children, resulting in 375 arrests.

Mufamadi gave details of crimes committed against children from July last year to July this year in reply to a question tabled in the National Assembly by Ms Suzanne Vos (IFP).

The highest number of cases was in Gauteng, with 11 855 cases in which 3 578 arrests were made, followed by KwaZulu-Natal, with 7 591 cases and 1 919 arrests, Eastern Cape, with 3 420 cases and 1 677 arrests and the Western Cape where, 2 804 cases were investigated and 1 559 arrests made.

The figures for the other provinces were 3 661 cases and 972 arrests in North-West, 2 308 cases and 830 arrests in Free State, 1 329 cases and 425 cases in Mpumalanga, 1 743 cases and 274 cases in Northern Cape and 847 cases and 276 arrests in Northern Province.

Rasool apologises to Omar, may quit ANNC contest

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

THE race for the leadership of the ANC in the Western Cape has been thrown wide open by the announcement by Health MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool that he was considering withdrawing from the contest.

Rasool's surprise announcement came after he was reported to have said the ANC had been plunged into crisis in the province because its present leadership had failed dismally to deliver on its promises to overturn National Party dominance, to confront the lack of coloured support head-on and to understand the concept of openness within its own ranks.

He was also quoted as saying he was "unimpressed" with the people who had persuaded Justice Minister Dullah Omar to stand.

"Those who want to see him as

chairperson of the ANC have been ineffective in their leadership to date."

He reportedly mentioned regional secretary Mr James Ngcuku and Sport and Recreation MEC Mr Lenumo Kalako in this regard.

Shortly after the report was published, Rasool issued a statement saying politics in the Western Cape should mature, that political debate should replace personal clashes, and that an openness among ANC members should protect each member's reputation.

"I am absolutely sorry that Minister Omar, and many others, are now under the impression that he is the target of my attack. I have nothing but respect for Minister Omar, his history and his work."

However, the impression had been created that he had attacked Omar and he had to take responsibility for this impression.

"I, therefore, unreservedly apol-

ogise to Minister Omar for this sad episode. Because I have defeated the very objectives, even if inadvertently, that I have set myself for my candidature, I am now commencing consultation with colleagues and friends to consider withdrawing my candidature for chairperson of the ANC," Rasool said.

At present the chairperson of Parliament's Joint Committee on Defence, Mr Tony Yengeni, is the only official candidate in the field to take over from Economic Affairs MEC Mr Chris Nissen.

Omar is believed to be in the running, but he has yet to say if he will contest the position.

MP Mr Carl Niehaus has already pulled out of the contest.

Speculation that ANC leader President Nelson Mandela had asked Nissen to reconsider his decision to stand down have not been confirmed, but it seems Nissen is determined to quit.

CT 16/9/96

CT 16/9/96

(263)

Council to reshape KwaZulu finances

BD 16/9/96 (263)

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The KwaZulu-Natal cabinet had decided to establish a budget council to reprioritise departmental objectives for the 1997/98 financial year, provincial finance MEC Ben Ngubane said yesterday.

The council's formation comes against the backdrop of central government's decision to cut provincial budgets to reduce public debt to a manageable level. Ngubane said he understood the constraints facing central government and accepted that KwaZulu-Natal would not have a growth budget for 1997/98.

He said the council would meet in Maritzburg for a week from today to advise the treasury on adjustments to ensure that the needs of the majority of people were addressed.

A cabinet source said the decision to form the council was taken at a meeting last Wednesday after MECs ex-

pressed anger over the treasury making arbitrary cuts. MECs felt they needed to give the process "political direction".

Ngubane said he would be the council's chairman, but he wanted economic affairs and tourism MEC Jacob Zuma (ANC) as co-chairman. The legislature's finance portfolio committee would have two representatives, and the secretaries of the finance department and treasury would also serve on the council. The finance committee decided last week that its ANC chairman, Dumisani Makhaye, and the IFP's John Aulsebrook would represent it.

NP provincial finance spokesman Gordon Haygarth said all political parties should be represented on the council, as it would be responsible for making decisions. The budget could not be altered when it was presented to the legislature in May, and the views of all had to be taken into account now.

Haygarth said one way to do so was

to have two representatives from each portfolio committee represented on the council. But Ngubane ruled out all-party representation, saying the council would be "executive-directed". He and Zuma would be the "main actors".

The council might be enlarged to include economic affairs and tourism portfolio committee representatives.

Ngubane said the council would catch the tail end of the 1997/98 budget cycle, but it would play a full role in future budget cycles. Negotiations with departments on the 1998/99 budget would start in November.

Acting finance committee chairman Mike Sutcliffe (ANC) said the council was the first step towards achieving a zero-based budget.

Sutcliffe said departments which argued against cuts were being asked to produce business plans to show how they planned to use funds.

Ngubane said the "right-sizing" of the public service was a priority.

Leadership row: ANC knives out for Rasool

TYRONE SEALE
POLITICAL STAFF

Western Cape Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool is being threatened with the same disciplinary measures used to oust former Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism Bantu Holomisa from the African National Congress.

This is the latest twist in the tale of the battle for the top job in the Western Cape executive of the ANC, which is desperate to replace present chairman Chris Nissen and prepare the organisation for the 1999 general election.

ANC branches which nominated Justice Minister Dullah Omar are discussing filing disciplinary charges against Mr Rasool after his verbal attack on Mr Omar at the weekend. Mr Rasool apologised to Mr Omar soon after his initial statement, but by last night his detractors were still said to be arguing that he should be

ARG 17/9/96 (263)

charged with challenging the authority of the ANC, publicly complaining about the organisation and, as a holder of senior public office, bringing the organisation into disrepute. These were among the charges used to justify expulsion of Mr Holomisa after he criticised fellow minister Stella Sigcau at the Truth Commission.

Contenders for the ANC's top job in the Western Cape executive are Mr Rasool, Mr Omar and Tony Yengeni, head of Parliament's joint standing committee on defence. Mr Yengeni previously failed to beat Allan Boesak and Mr Nissen in the race for the provincial chair.

In an interview published by Saturday Argus at the weekend, Mr Rasool challenged Mr Omar to come up with a political vision and a plan to lift the ANC out of what he called its crisis in a National Party-governed province. Mr Rasool questioned the interests of those who had

To page 3

ANC job row - Rasool may be charged

From page 1

nominated Mr Omar and said he wondered how the Justice Minister could split his energies between his national portfolio and chairing the provincial executive.

But by Sunday, Mr Rasool had tendered an unreserved apology to Mr Omar, saying he took responsibility for creating an impression that his criticism constituted an attack on him. Mr Rasool said his challenge applied to the entire ANC leadership

in the Western Cape, which had to overturn NP dominance.

Yesterday, ANC provincial spokesman Brent Simons said the provincial secretary, James Ngculu, was trying to contain public showdowns in the run-up to the organisation's conference at the end of next week. The leadership race was an internal matter, Mr Simons said.

He confirmed last night that Mr Rasool's detractors were known to be in the process of advocating that he be charged

Helderberg wants out of wages agreement

(263) (250) ARG 17/9/96

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

The Helderberg municipality has asked the industrial council for an exemption from an agreement on wages reached between local authorities and municipal workers' unions in the Cape metro.

Helderberg mayor Leon Deacon said if his municipality implemented the agreement, it could end up with a deficit of more than R3 million on the municipal budget.

Mr Deacon said that this would place the burden on ratepayers, who would face an additional 8,22 percent increase in rates to help meet the shortfall.

Unions recently demanded a salary increase of at least R220 a month, or eight percent across the board, whichever was greater, and a minimum wage of R1 600 with effect from July 1 this year.

The South African Municipal

Workers' Union has reported Helderberg's refusal to implement the increase to the industrial council.

The municipality is offering R130 a month or 7,5 percent across the board, whichever is greater, a minimum salary of R1 235 a month with effect from July 1 and R1 600 a month from April 1 next year.

The union's Helderberg spokesman, Donovan Feris, said that wages in the Helderberg region were historically lower than in other Cape metro areas.

He said it was time workers earned equal wages.

Mr Deacon said that bringing workers' wages in line with proposed new Cape Metropolitan Council wages would mean a 30 percent increase, which the municipality could not afford.

He said the municipality's application to the industrial council was being considered and he hoped agreement would be reached as soon as possible.

Progress made on metro powers

PETER DENNEHY
METRO WRITER

(263) CT 17/9/96
AGREEMENT was reached by the Metropolitan Restructuring Forum (MRF) yesterday about the division of responsibility for certain services

The Cape Metropolitan Council and the six municipalities hope to arrive at an agreement that will allow most local government decisions to be taken at municipal rather than metropolitan level

If they reach agreement on their powers by the end of this month, this will be recognised by law

If they fail to agree, their powers will be determined by the Further Regulation of Local Government Act of 1996, which gives far more power to metropolitan councils than the Metro Council or municipalities want

Among the decisions taken yesterday was that the Metro Council may provide, regulate and manage abattoirs. This means Cape Town's municipal abattoir in Maitland, which is running at a loss, will become the responsibility of the Metro Council, which will be free to privatise it

It was agreed that the Metro

Council would ensure an adequate bulk supply of drinking water to all the municipalities. This means the municipalities will be responsible for all but the very large water pipes

Sewage services are to be pooled at metropolitan level and apportioned to the treatment plants, a system that would make it easier to equalise tariffs across the metropole. The Northern and Southern municipalities have yet to agree to this

It was also agreed that municipalities should see to the provision of fire-fighting services and libraries and associated services

Disease plagues ostrich exports

Louise Cook
SA's R31m ostrich meat export industry was under renewed threat from Newcastle disease due to failure to implement proper vaccination programmes, veterinarians said at the weekend.

The disease, a range of viruses which has killed as much as 80% of poultry and ostrich populations in previous outbreaks, flared up again six weeks ago, affecting ostrich operations in the vicinity of Oudtshoorn and poultry farms in most provinces.

Klein Karoo Co-operative veterinarian Willem Burger said ostrich meat from 60 farms at Kammanassie, Volmoed, De Rust and Olifantsrivier in the Little Karoo would not be exported this year.

"In the long run the industry is facing the loss of the EU market. We expect that EU countries will impose strict regulations in the near future," he said.

Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute director Dirk Verwoerd said prevention of the disease demanded that each bird be vaccinated twice a year. But, many farmers had failed to do so.

There were suspicions that the outbreak, which began six weeks ago, was spread by finches, sparrows, crows, ducks and swans rather than humans or ostriches. This made the situation difficult to control except through a focused vaccination programme

BD 17/9/96

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Boehringer Mannheim op

BD 17/9/96

Business Day Reporter

BOEHRINGER Mannheim, the German pharmaceutical manufacturer, confirmed its commitment to SA yesterday by opening its new R7m headquarters in Randburg, but called for renewed efforts to re-establish the confidence of investors.

Boehringer Mannheim SA CE Knut Seifert chided government on its attitude to the pharmaceutical industry, "as shown in the recent Sarafina 2 controversy", and rejected claims that prices in SA were unreasonably high.

"The average unit price of our products is far below the European price

levels," he said.

Boehringer Mannheim, which has a worldwide turnover of \$3,2bn, specialises in therapeutics, laboratory diagnostics, diabetes care, point-of-care testing and biochemicals.

Seifert said the pharmaceutical industry had always offered to co-operate with the health department, and would do so in the future.

"It seems that our efforts are not always appreciated. One should keep in mind that the industry employs a lot of people, including many who are highly skilled. Together we are investing millions of rands. If the industry is not welcome in a country, then companies

Bitter turn in ANC Cape leaders' race

BD 17/9/96 (263)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape ANC secretary-general and health and welfare MEC Ebrahim Rasool has stirred up a hornets' nest in the ranks of the ANC in the province with his public exposure of its problems, and he is expected to come under heavy flak at the party's provincial executive committee meeting on Saturday.

Sources said Rasool's weekend criticisms of the provincial leadership had fuelled divisions within the party, which had been torn apart and demoralised by the leadership battle under way in the run-up to the regional conference at the end of the month.

Factions supporting the different candidates — Justice Minister Dullah Omar, ANC MP Tony Yengen and Rasool — had emerged and were sabotaging each other's work, sources said.

Outgoing leader Chris Nissen was said to have failed to unify and lead the organisation through its current crisis and to have shifted allegiance from one candidate to another.

Rasool was criticised for discussing the party's problems and leadership conflict in the media and for contributing to the very failures he blamed on them. He was also accused of failing to attend provincial committee meetings.

"It is very bad for one provincial executive committee member to publicly attack others, including the provincial secretary," an inside source said.

"This goes completely against the principles of the organisation."

One of the critical divisive issues was the strategy the ANC should adopt towards the largely NP-supporting coloured community, and how to make coloured activists feel at home within

the organisation.

Rasool blamed the current leadership for the "dismal" failure of the party to undermine the provincial dominance of the NP in the local government elections.

He also accused the leaders of failing to address the lack of coloured support in the organisation, and its lack of openness.

In a clear challenge to Omar, who has emerged as the front-runner in the Western Cape leadership stakes, Rasool questioned the effectiveness of those supporting him.

These included party secretary James Ngulu and sport and recreation MEC Lerumo Kalako.

Rasool subsequently issued a public, unreserved apology to Omar for creating the impression that he was engaged in a personal fight for the position of provincial leader.

In a document outlining his view of the problems of the organisation, Rasool criticised the ANC's tendency to narrow the base of decision-making and power to the "inner circle" of the provincial executive committee, alienating members and branches.

In the document, called ANC: A Home for Everyone — Political Plan for the ANC in the Western Cape, Rasool emphasised the importance of discussing the notion of African leadership. He said this was a "bone of contention for many progressive coloured activists who believe there are unequal relations within the ANC and unequal treatment of coloured and African communities and comrades."

Rasool called on the party to critically assess its performance in the local government elections and to develop a vision and a plan.

Omar, Rasool embrace, slate

media reports

(263) ARG 18/9/96
 TYRONE SEALE
 POLITICAL STAFF

Justice Minister Dullah Omar and Provincial Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool, declaring there is no tension between them, publicly embraced last night - and attacked the media over its reporting of the ANC provincial leadership contest.

The two men attended the annual meeting of the 400-strong Thornhill branch of the African National Congress - Mr Omar's home branch - to declare there was no enmity in their rivalry.

New leadership will be elected at the organisation's biennial conference next week. The leaders arrived at last night's meeting within a few moments of each other, shook hands and embraced.

Mr Omar said he was "very angry" about Weekend Argus reports last weekend quoting Mr Rasool as criticising Mr Omar and subsequently apologising. Two days ago, ANC sources told the Cape Argus that branches supporting Mr Omar were considering internal disciplinary charges against Mr Rasool.

Mr Omar dismissed this information as "rubbish", saying certain media barons were devising ways to bring National Party leader F W de Klerk back to power and certain people with vested interests wanted to see the ANC destroyed.



Making amends: Justice Minister Dullah Omar, right, and Western Cape Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool embrace to show there's no bad blood

ANDREW INGRAM

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Continuation of Cape Town's reputation for racial segregation. The University of Cape Town strives to maintain a strong tradition of non-discrimination with regard to race, religion and gender in the constitution of its student body and in its administration.

ANC big guns vie to lead W Cape

Star 18/9/96 (263)

Party holds its biannual conferences next week and leadership is on agenda

BY JUSTICE MALALA
Provincial Correspondent

Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa and his Northern Cape counterpart Manne Dipico are set to continue in their positions as provincial chairmen of the ANC when the organisation holds its conferences there next week, but the race for Western Cape leader remains wide open.

The ANC holds its biannual conferences in the three provinces next weekend and the race for the leadership of the Western Cape, where current chairman Chris Nissen has indicated that he will not be standing again, is the most exciting so far.

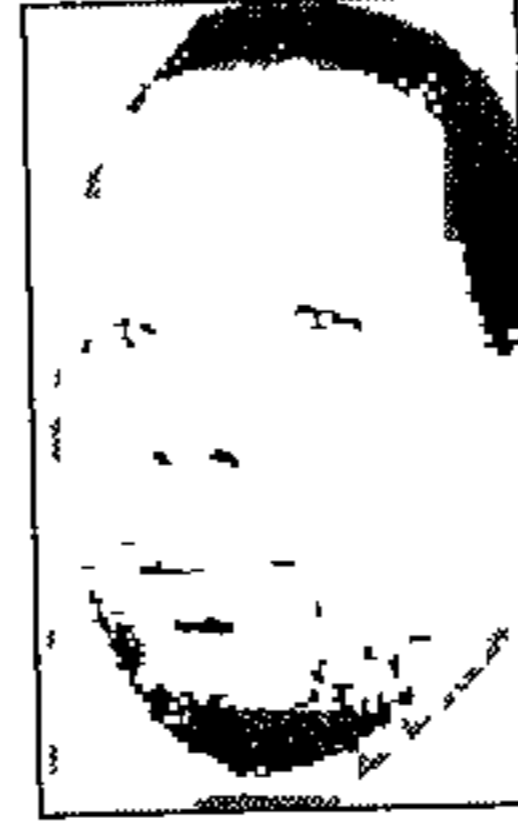
The six other provinces will hold their conferences at the end of October and November.

Frontrunners for the Western Cape position are former provin-

cial chairman and MP Tony Yengeni, Justice Minister Dullah Omar and the province's MEC for health Ebrahim Rasool, who have all indicated that they will stand

ANC correctional services parliamentary portfolio committee chairman Carl Niehaus, has withdrawn from the race

Western Cape secretary James Ngculu said yesterday the theme of the conference will be "Unity and Consolidation towards 1999". It would discuss building and financing the party, the results of the May local government elec-



Secure . Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa (left) and his Northern Cape counterpart, Manne Dipico.

In Mpumalanga, Mathews Phosa, who has been unchallenged for the position of chairman in the last four elections, seems set to continue. No one has indicated that they would stand against him.

Mpumalanga ANC spokesman Vusi Sibiya said the 600 delegates at the conference to be held in Secunda will discuss

tions in the province and the future of the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

So far there is no other nominee for Ngculu's position. He said he is standing for his position

strengthening the party, dealing with housing problems and strengthening local government structures. The Government's macro-economic policy will also be discussed, and there will be a review of the ANC's two years in Government.

In the Northern Cape, where there have been allegations that Premier Manne Dipico will be ousted, indications are that he will enter another term unchallenged.

The ANC's six regions in the province have elected their new executives and it is believed most of them support Dipico.

Spokesman Mafu Davids said yesterday nominations were open up to the first day of the conference.

The man who is being investigated for allegedly hatching the plot to oust Dipico, general secretary William Steenkamp, is standing for another term.

De Villiers to step down as W Cape leader

263
18/8/96

Former environmental affairs and tourism minister Dr Dawie de Villiers is to retire as leader of the National Party in the Western Cape, but says he will continue to serve the party as an MP

The NP said last night that De Villiers, who has held the post since 1989, had indicated he would not be available for re-election at the party's congress, which begins in George on September 23

De Villiers said his decision was not "a result of any disagreement with the National Party or its leadership" "I fully support the vision, mission and values of the party I will continue to serve as a member of Parliament and as chief spokesman on public enterprises

"It is now the time for renewal, and for a new generation of party leaders to meet the challenges of multiparty democracy and opposition politics," he said

The NP has not indicated who might succeed De Villiers, but there is speculation that Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel and his MEC for Safety and Security, Gerald Morkel, will be nominated for the post - Staff Reporter.

Provinces to have powers over local finances

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — A shift in central government thinking on provincial powers over local authorities' finances had occurred, which would be incorporated into draft legislation, Western Cape local government MEC Peter Marais said.

An agreement reached at a meeting last week of Minnec — the minister and MECs — would considerably enhance the powers of provincial

MECs, who would be able to monitor permanently the finances of local authorities. MECs would be empowered to sanction those which strayed from municipal ordinances.

Sanctions would include withholding transfer of inter-governmental grants and other administrative measures.

MECs would also be able to issue proclamations on the division of powers between metropolitan and local councils. The power to amend

existing proclamations would revert back to provincial governments from central government which would, however, have to be consulted on these changes.

Marais said the agreements reached at Minnec would be incorporated into the Further Regulation of Local Government Bill, scheduled for submission to parliament early next year.

"There is now greater awareness that central government cannot

possibly control more than 800 local authorities from Gauteng," Marais said. He believed that a "somersault" had taken place in the trend towards centralisation — and some "backpeddling".

Provincial MECs argued that they needed the power to make timely interventions in the finances of local authorities and to prevent them taking decisions which had a negative impact on ratepayers.

For instance, in the Western Cape many local authorities had run up bank overdrafts, in some cases by as much as R2m, Marais said.

This would not have been allowed if he was in a position to evaluate their assets, overdrafts, loans and their capacity to service these loans.

The Minnec meeting also agreed that local councillors should not be allowed to increase their salaries beyond stipulated maximum limits

Unified leadership to strengthen Western Cape NP'

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The combination of political and executive leadership in Western Cape by premier Hennis Kriel would add dynamic impetus to the growth of the NP in the province, local government MEC Peter Marais said at the weekend.

Kriel was expected to be elected this week as provincial leader of the party at the congress in George to replace the outgoing Dawie de Villiers, the former environment and tourism minister, who announced his departure last week.

The premier has been prevented from saying anything really decisive as he was not a political leader. His election would mean

we would have executive action with political leadership. This would create an entirely new NP," Marais said.

As a "hard-core federalist", Kriel would also place greater emphasis on issues affecting the Western Cape, and on a system of concurrent powers between provincial and central government.

While supportive of De Villiers, Marais said that having a provincial leader who was a national MP and Cabinet minister had meant that there was a greater focus on national, rather than provincial, issues.

"The party also suffered from a lack of accessibility of the leader," he said.

As the NP in the Western Cape formed the backbone of the NP nationally, Marais

believed that the overall direction the party took in future would be greatly influenced by the decisions taken by the Western Cape cabinet. He considered the congress important as it would lay the foundation for the party's contest of the 1999 general election.

Kriel said the congress would examine ways of extending the strategies which had made the NP successful provincially to the rest of the country.

The congress was expected to elect Marais as one of the three deputy chairmen in place of Kriel, the other two positions possibly being filled by MP Maretha Badenhorst and police MEC Gerald Morkel. Other candidates included NP MP Frk van Deventer and MP Patrick McKenzie.

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(263)

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WORLD
NO. 1

Poll shifts NP power in Western Cape

ARG 24/9/96

(263)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

George - Elections for leadership positions in the National Party's Western Cape region have shifted power firmly to provincial-level politicians and confirmed the ascendancy of Hernus Kriel.

At its provincial congress in George yesterday, Peter Marais, MEC for local government, beat National Assembly members Frik van Deventer and Patrick McKenzie to fill the vacancy for one of three NP Western Cape deputy leaders

Mr Kriel, the provincial premier, was elected unopposed and by acclamation as provincial leader to replace Dawie de

Villiers, who has stepped down

The entry of Mr Marais into a leadership troika falling under Mr Kriel represents a firm consolidation of power for the premier over the regional party and a decline in influence of national-level Nats, who are seen as more directly under the control of national leader F W de Klerk

After his election, Mr Marais, who is seen as being close to Mr Kriel, sent a stern message of a confrontational approach to the African National Congress. The NP, Mr Marais said to enthusiastic applause, was like a deadly virus whose relatively small size did not negate its deadliness

There was only one respect in which Mr Kriel did not win. His suggestion at a closed party head council meeting preced-

ing the election, that the deputy leadership be broadened to five - a proposal designed to prevent people voting according to race-based or other blocs - was firmly rejected. Those opposing it dismissed it as tokenism.

Before the contest for the deputy leadership, Dr De Villiers, who led the Cape party from 1989 and the Western Cape from 1990, said he left without bitterness.

The new leader would have to consolidate support and the party would have to wipe out the Group Areas mentality which persisted in some communities, he said.

He repeated his personal regret that circumstances had dictated that the NP leave the Government of National Unity. However, this had produced one big benefit in forcing the party to define its role

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 1996 ★

LAW AND ORDER TO GET PRIORITY — KRIEL

Marais clinches vote as third NP deputy

PACALTSDORP: The election of Mr Peter Marais as the third NP deputy in the province will please new chairman Mr Hernus Kriel, who backed him. The party decided against having more deputies. **CHRIS BATEMAN** writes.

THE National Party closed ranks behind new Western Cape leader Mr Hernus Kriel yesterday, re-electing local Police MEC Mr Gerald Morkel and MP Ms Maretha Badenhorst as deputies

Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais won the third most votes and is to become the third deputy, edging out Mr Frik van Deventer and former Welfare Minister Mr Patrick McKenzie. Kriel had backed Marais for the position

Outgoing chairman Dr Dawie de Villiers expressed regret at the party having left the government of national unity but said he was glad the NP had "woken up in time" (to reform)

Addressing more than 500 delegates from the province's 10 party regions, De Villiers said it would have been wiser "for us to adopt, for a period, a formula of government based on co-operation and multiparty participation"

Considering the enormity of the country's problems, a model of consensus-seeking government "would have served us better" However, the ANC had preferred to "go it alone" and it had become logical for the NP to leave the government and begin developing opposition politics

He warned delegates that the NP would have to be more dynamically pro-active in eliminating what he called the "upper town and lower town mentality". The party could make an important contribution in breaking down walls that existed between people

National leader Mr F W de Klerk said he hoped Kriel would lead a storming attack to "put the ANC on its back as soon as possible"

De Klerk said he had found it "heart-warming" that as a NP provincial leader in an executive position (Premier) Kriel wanted to show the country what a majority

(263) CT 24/9/96
NP government could do for those who elected it.

The party would close ranks around the Western Cape which had a "special mission", he said

Kriel promised to put the NP's credibility on discrimination "above all doubt", saying his party believed in values "We are finished with race and colour"

Daily he read of the ANC's "stumbling from one mess-up to another"

He would give priority to the re-establishment of law and order

At a closed door pre-congress session, the NP's head council had decided against a proposal to increase the number of deputies to five, to make it more representative in "colour and sex" It was felt that two coloured men and a woman were sufficiently capable and experienced, sources said

Party membership stood at 67 810

The results of the voting were reliably learnt last night to be Gerald Morkel 146, Maretha Badenhorst 131, Pieter Marais 112, Frikkie van Deventer 99 and Patrick McKenzie 41

Councillors probed for arrears vote

From Page 1

(263)
CT 26/9/96
the outcome of a debate. This offer of recusal was made each time the matter arose. Offenders could be sentenced to an extra 10 days' jail or fined R50 for each time they repeated the offence.

A total of 31 councillors are being probed by the attorney-general's office and the more serious cases can expect to know whether they face charges within six weeks, according to the state advocate handling the case, Mr Timothy Tomkyns. He said yesterday police would soon be asking affected councillors for affidavits.

More severe sentences, however, could await Stilbaai Town Planning Committee chairman Mr W F Botha and his deputy, Mr H de Beer, who allegedly took part in meetings which led to land rezoning and sub-division of land for townhouse developments they own.

Estate agent/developer Botha owns 50 single residential or group plots in Stilbaai East which needed sub-division. De Beer, who applied for re-zoning and sub-division in nearby Plattebosch, is controlling agent for 70 housing units in Stilbaai West.

Both allegedly took part in a January 23 planning committee meeting which resulted in the Plattebosch and Stilbaai West applications going through. At a subsequent meeting considering applications, De Beer recused himself as chairman, but Botha allegedly stayed behind to take the chair. Several controversial applications were then allegedly approved.

See Page 7

Arrears vote: Councillors face legal action

CHRIS BATEMAN

(263)
CT 26/9/96
NEARLY a third of former Cape Town transitional councillors face up to six months' jail or fines of up to R1 000 for having voted to scrap arrears or debating the sub-

ject while they themselves were in arrears. The attorney-general's office confirmed that nominated councillor Mr Riedewaan Isaacs owed R1 293 in housing, water and electricity arrears when he voted to write off arrears at a November 1995 exco meeting.

Others include Ms D Campher-Williams (R7 699 in housing and electricity), Ms F Jacobs (R6 800 in housing, water and electricity) and Mr M Qumbela (R3 519 in electricity). According to a letter sent to Local Gov-

ernment MEC Mr Peter Marais' department by Town Clerk Mr Keith Nicol, councillors were warned they would be placing themselves at risk if they stayed in the room while they had a financial interest in.

Turn to Page 3

DP only party to oppose soft loans for councillors

CT 27/9/96 (263)

PETER DENNEHY

THE Democratic Party was the only party in the Cape Town City Council which yesterday voted against a proposal to allow councillors to get loans at 8% interest to enable them to buy cars.

The DP said afterwards that it knew many councillors did not own cars, nor did they have telephones or offices. It however added that the limited resources of the council should be used "for the direct benefit of its citizens".

The public perception that councillors arranged perks for themselves, detracted from accountable, transparent and financially responsible local government, the DP said.

The ANC and the NP both supported the soft loans proposal, which cannot be implemented yet because a change to the municipal ordinance is required. The change

must be authorised by the provincial authorities.

Councillor Mr Hanief Tiseker of the ANC said the issue should be looked at in terms of the needs and responsibilities of councillors.

Mr Enoch Madywabe said taxi operators were fighting, and if there was a problem with trains and buses, then councillors without cars would not be able to attend meetings.

"With whom will you discuss matters if councillors don't arrive?" he asked.

Mr Leon Markovitz of the NP said although councillors with the same level of responsibility all got the same amount in allowances, there was still not equality.

He took 20 minutes to get to the civic centre in his car, but some councillors had to think the day before a meeting about how they would get there and how long it was likely to take.

Cape Town council spells out stand on autonomy

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Submissions to the Constitutional Assembly by the Cape Town City Council would stress the need for local autonomy to be entrenched, the council resolved at its monthly

meeting yesterday

The council said provincial powers should not be expanded at the expense of local autonomy. Furthermore, the council resolved that "the categorisation of municipalities should be kept to a minimum, so keeping the overall local government structure as simple as possible and that the distinction between urban and rural

local government not be overemphasised"

The council would argue in its submission that the appointment or election of executive committees should continue to be based on a system of proportional representation rather than by a simple majority of votes

Decisions by local authorities should be taken by a simple majority, ex-

cept when related to constitutional powers of the council. However, cases where special procedures and majorities were required should be kept to a minimum and ought not apply to operational issues. The council also adopted a proposed agreement for allocation of powers, duties and functions of the metropolitan and local councils.

BD 27/9/96 (263)

New Bill aims to reshape SA telecommunications

Robyn Chalmers

SA's telecommunications sector is in line for thorough restructuring with the unveiling yesterday of the much debated Telecommunications Bill.

The Bill, which should go before Parliament during its next session with the aim of being passed into law before the end of the year, makes provision for the regulation of telecommunication activities and the control of the radio frequency spectrum.

Two watchdog bodies are provided for in the legislation — an independent SA telecommunications regulatory authority and a universal service agency — and a host of existing laws have been repealed or amended

Unveiling the Bill yesterday, Post and Telecommunications Minister Jay Naidoo also announced that a study would be launched into the viability of a third cellular network operator.

The study would take four to six months, after which a decision would be made on the granting of a third license, he said.

Naidoo said the aim was to converge the creation of the regulatory authorities with government's decision on a strategic equity partner for Telkom.

"We expect Cabinet to make a decision on Telkom's strategic equity partner by April next year, by which

time the regulator should be set up and the transformation of the postmaster general's office completed," he said.

Naidoo said eight potential partners had been invited to submit proposals on buying a 30% stake in Telkom, which should be evaluated by mid-November with a final shortlist expected in February.

Government was committed to phasing out Telkom's monopoly on fixed voice telephony, but this was a key selling point for government in negotiations. The final liberalisation period was therefore likely to be decided during the upcoming talks with potential partners.

The exclusivity period — currently mooted at between four to six years — has been omitted from the Bill, but Naidoo said it would be spelt out in Telkom's license.

He believed an exclusivity period was vital to rebalance tariffs and address SA's development needs, particularly Telkom's Vision 2000 strategy to double the network from four to eight million lines in five years

SA's exclusivity period was, he said, also subject to discussions with the World Trade Organisation

The organisation had set a deadline of February 27 next year for submissions on liberalising telecommunications markets globally

BD 27/9/96 (263)

ANTIQUE FRENCH OIL

DR'S ITEMS

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Rasool, Yengeni quit leadership

Surprise move leaves Omar strong candidate for

(263)

ARG 28/9/96

TYRONE SEALE AND Mxolisi Mxashe

Justice Minister Dullah Omar's path to heading the African National Congress in the Western Cape has been smoothed by provincial health minister Ebrahim Rasool's and Defence Standing Committee chairperson Tony Yengeni's withdrawal from the leadership race.

Mr Rasool's move follows extensive consultation with ANC leaders, including President Nelson Mandela.

The health minister has, however, left the door open for his election to other positions that will be up for grabs at the organisation's two-day, biennial provincial conference that

begins at Peninsula Technikon this morning.

Justice Minister and Athlone ratepayer Dullah Omar is believed to carry Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's personal endorsement. Provincial Sport and Recreation Minister Lerumo Kalako is eyeing deputy chairmanship. He told Saturday Argus recently that he believed the top job in the province should go to a coloured person, representing the majority population group here.

Announcing his withdrawal yesterday, Mr Rasool said "I accepted this without hesitation because Minister Omar commands the respect of many, including my own."

A few hours after Mr Rasool had announced his withdrawal from the race

Tony Yengeni told Saturday Argus that he was also stepping down in favour of Mr Omar. "He is an experienced ANC leader and is the best person for the job."

"He has the potential of uniting all the ANC political strands in the province and is well-placed as Minister of Justice who has an important task to deal with the crime situation in the province and nationally," Mr Yengeni said. He said he was also turning down the "kind suggestion" made by the ANC Youth League this week that he should rather become Mr Omar's deputy in the province because both of them were national MPs and Mr Omar would need someone from the province to assist him. The job of deputy, in

Mr Yengeni's view, should go to Nomandya Nonfekaetho, chairperson of the Central Sub-structure's executive council.

Also yesterday, the SA Communist Party pledged its support for the new ANC provincial executive.

The party's provincial secretary Philip Dexter denied claims, made by an ANC source, that SACP criticism of Mr Mbeki's macro-economic plan would produce fireworks at this weekend's provincial conference. The source said the communist bloc was sceptical about the government's macro-economic plan and believed that this country should cut ties with Taiwan and grant official recognition only to mainland China.

The source added that this weekend would be as much about the provincial leadership question as it was about the ANC retaining effective control in a region where the SACP was making vast inroads.

Doubt over the ANC's control would also cast doubt over Mr Mbeki's eligibility to succeed Mr Mandela.

Mr Dexter said "Many of us in the SACP are very great supporters of the deputy president." The SACP was "fully behind" the ANC in the Western Cape and would support the new leadership. He added that the alliance between the ANC, the SACP, Cosatu and Sanco was intact and said it was not about to collapse.

Part of top ANC job

How the council wasted millions

(263) ST(CM) 29/9/96

By TOM HOOD

Key findings of the A-G's probe

KEY findings by the Auditor-General's team include

- The cost of the invalid 1990 general valuation roll was about R17-million
- Athlone power station, maintained in peak condition, did not generate power and needed about 250 full-time workers and cost R29,7-million in the 1993-94 financial year
- Failure to send out combined bills for water, rates and electricity. An average of 1 964 000 accounts a year need not have been sent out and R982 000 in postage and other costs could have been saved
- Electricity payments in arrears jumped by 29 percent from R39,7-million to R51,2-million in spite of a five percent drop in consumers in the 12 months to February 1994
- No completion date was specified in the tender for the Albion Springs Development. This caused the project to be delayed and the developer was not charged occupational interest

A LITANY of inefficiency and waste costing tens of millions of rands has been uncovered by Auditor-General Henri Kluever in a damning performance audit of the city of Cape Town.

His report was submitted on Thursday to the monthly meeting of the city council, which decided to refer it to the executive committee

In a letter to the mayor of Cape Town, the Auditor-General instructed that the report be made public and that it must also be discussed at a council meeting "which shall not take place behind closed doors" for decisions on "corrective steps to be taken about any unsatisfactory matter or irregularity"

The Auditor-General's report criticised the council's management and said that, after a year, less than a third of the council's branches had complied with a discussion document to formulate departmental and branch goals and objectives

Proper cash-flow projections based on contract stages were not set by the City Treasurer's Department

Singling out the Athlone power station, the report said that although it was not used to generate power, it had been maintained in a peak condition which needed considerable expenditure

During 1994, when the arrears owed to the council on electricity rocketed by 29 percent to over R51-million, about R30-million was spent employing 250 people to keep Athlone power station in peak condition

Elsewhere, duplication of work was not avoided because of inadequate co-operation between functional groups

Kluever stressed that shortcomings identified in the report indicated that overall management measures could be considerably improved

Criticising financing, the report said the council's billing system for rates and services was inefficient. Action taken against electricity consumers in arrears did not succeed in reducing the payments in arrears

The council had also implemented a number of capital projects which were under-utilised and suffered significant operating losses. Certain trading operations were managed at considerable losses

The Auditor-General was also unhappy about the council's control systems. A formal system to evaluate capital projects did not exist and there was an insufficient legal review of tender and contract documents during the tendering and approval stage.

Various weaknesses in computer information systems such as disaster recovery were reported in 1992 and 1993. But a year later these had not been addressed

"This revealed insufficient commitment by Cape Town City Council as a whole, and by senior management in particular, to corporate information systems issues"

However, council CEO Keith Nicol was unhappy with some of the report's criticism

● The Good Hope Centre, built for R14,5-million, has consistently operated at a loss. In four years to June 1994 the losses totalled R11,7-million

● The municipal abattoir had a R4,4-million operating loss in the 11 months to May 31, 1994

The number of animals being slaughtered in 1994 was about half that of the year before

● The average cost of having books bound by the libraries' binding section was R71,90 compared to R32,27 at a commercial binder. In August 1992 the executive council resolved to close it, but by May 1994 the binding section had still not been closed

● There was no structured way in which on-going training needs could be identified

● In some departments staff were not fully occupied at certain times of the year while other departments were hiring additional staff

● A R1,6-million computer network to link 39 libraries was found to be inadequate after only 16 libraries were linked. But the company had deleted from the tender document a penalty clause that would have made the contractor pay to upgrade the network if it failed to cope with the workload

● A company awarded a tender to maintain an electricity sub-station used its own tender documents which limited its liability to R500 000. When a fire broke out, damage of R1-million was caused

● The procedures for the management of contract staff did not always result in economy, efficiency and effectiveness

● There was not enough legal review of tender and contract documents during the tendering and approval stage

Athlone power station, he said, had been the subject of a viability study, resulting in the plant being taken off standby mode and reverting to generation mode. The plant had been running at about one-third capacity since January 1995, he said.

In a letter to the Auditor-General, Nicol complained that some of the criticism and suggestions for improvement had been based on skewed or incomplete information

He said attention was being given to the introduction of an executive information system which would drive the information requirements from the highest level in the organisation.

Departments were being supplied with financial management information 11 to 14 days after month-end, though this could be improved

Omar chosen as ANC's W Cape leader

(263) ST (ANC) 29/9/96

By NORMAN WEST
Political Reporter

JUSTICE Minister Dullah Omar was unanimously elected as the ANC's new Western Cape leader at the party's biennial provincial congress in Cape Town yesterday.

This followed pressure from top ANC ranks on his chief rival, Ebrahim Rasool, to stand down.

Rasool's withdrawal from the leadership contest was followed by that of Tony Yengeni, chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence.

Both men claimed they were standing down in the interests of party unity.

But, say sources, Rasool came under pressure from senior ANC ranks to withdraw because of his recent public criticism of the party in the Western Cape, particularly its failure to address coloured aspirations. He also questioned Omar's political "vision".

Criticism of Rasool included a transatlantic fax from Finance Minister Trevor Manuel, sent from his Bermuda hotel where he was staying en route to New York, warning Rasool to desist from making divisive statements.

Manuel castigated him for having "launched an attack on the strategy for



NEW LEADER ... Dullah Omar unanimously elected as Western Cape leader by ANC

Growth Deployment and Redistribution (Gear)" and suggesting that the government rethink the policy.

The fax, sent by Manuel who is overseas attending the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference, was erroneously sent

to the fax number of the NP's Local Government Minister Peter Marais.

This was confirmed by Ms Jennifer Wilson, press and public relations spokesperson for Manuel.

Rasool said he had withdrawn after consulting the

national ANC leadership, including President Nelson Mandela, and colleagues in the Western Cape.

In his fax Manuel wrote: "It cannot be good for an ANC MEC to attack what is now formally ANC policy.

"If indeed you were correctly quoted I would wish to make the comradely suggestion that you desist from practices that are deemed to be divisive — I am sure that you neither need nor deserve such a mantle."

Opening yesterday's conference, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and retiring Western Cape leader Chris Nissen both stressed the importance of the ANC obtaining the coloured vote in the 1999 general election.

"The coloured constituency in the Western Cape is an ANC constituency... we should go out and get that constituency," Mbeki said.

Nissen told the more than 500 delegates and observers that there was a sense among ordinary people that very little had changed for them in the Western Cape.

He called on the ANC top leadership to heed the existence of coloured people as a distinctive entity.

Mbeki said he firmly believed the National Party, as "the party of apartheid", could never be a party of non-racialism.

No separate solution for coloureds — Omar

(2b3)
27 30/9/96

THE FREEDOM CHARTER and constitution protect coloureds from discrimination, though there can be no separate solution for them, says Mr Dullah Omar. But nation-building does not mean identity suicide, he adds. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

NEW Western Cape ANC leader Mr Dullah Omar yesterday cautioned his party to "take on board the real fear" among coloureds that they would be marginalised and suffer "once again" as the new government dismantled apartheid and developed new policies.

Making his inaugural speech to more than 200 delegates at the close of the party's biennial conference at the Peninsula Technikon, Omar said there was a "material basis" for these fears, but that the Freedom Charter and the country's constitution offered protection.

His message to coloured people was that there was "no separate solution" for them.

Omar, who plans to resign from the ANC's national working committee to devote time to Western Cape party affairs, said that if there were separate solutions, "every single group would do this and we'd have anarchy and war without any future".

Omar assured coloured people that his provincial executive would create the space for them to live as they saw fit, and would "do nothing to marginalise them".

Coloured people were "part and parcel" of the exploited and oppressed and as things began to change, contradictions created by

apartheid came to the fore, emphasising unequal access to resources and highlighting the "divide and rule" tactics of the former regime.

"Perhaps at certain levels some coloured and Indian people received more crumbs than others, but if we look at it more than 90% of them are poor workers who've suffered like everyone else".

Nation-building did not mean "committing identity suicide," and the challenge lay in creating space for all according to culture, language and religion.

Omar emphasised that he would not allow his regional party chairmanship to undermine his national justice portfolio.

He urged party rank and file not to fear criticising the government "I need your watchful, critical eye".

The conference elected Cape Town municipality exco chairperson Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo as Omar's deputy, Mr James Ngulu as provincial secretary, Vredendal deputy mayor Mr Marus Fransman as deputy provincial secretary and provincial Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool as treasurer.

Outgoing chairman Mr Chris Nissen made it on to the list of 14 additional provincial exco members but now stands to lose party leadership in the provincial legislature to Rasool.

Nissen said that over the past two years he had managed to revitalise confidence in a party demoralised through defeats at the polls, election debits and selective rental arrears scrapping.

He lashed out at the "lily white" provincial administration and asked how many contracts Premier Mr Hennis Kriel's government had given coloured construction companies and business people.

Nissen also described the growing inflow of capital to the Western Cape, mainly in property, as "disturbing" because many people from upcountry regarded the region as the "last bastion of white rule".

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Mohamed Valli Moosa said the country was spending more on servicing its debt than on education, health or crime prevention.

"Every year we've not only had to pay very high interest on our debt but we've also had to borrow more money to pay off that interest — this is what the National Party got us into".

The other exco members are: Mr Cameron Dugmore, Mr Lulamile Xate, Mr Lerumo Kalako, Mr Mncubisi Skatshwa, Mr David Dlahi, Mr Bruce Kannemeyer, Mr Yusuf Gabru, Ms Zoe Kota, Mr Hishaam Mohamed, Ms Nosipho Ntwanambi, Mr Vuyani Nguka, Mr Ryaad Williams and Mr Nyami Boo.

Mr Tony Yengeni, who made a short-lived bid for the chairmanship, earlier pulled out of the race



PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS: (From left) The ANC's newly elected Western Cape treasurer Mr Ebrahim Rasool, the new chairperson Mr Dullah Omar and SA Communist Party member Mr Phillip Dexter during a break at the ANC provincial conference held at the Peninsula Technikon at the weekend.

PICTURE: BENNY GOOL

ANC to start anti-crime units

PROVINCIAL WRITER

THE ANC in the Western Cape will establish anti-crime units at all its branches, work with all local crime-fighting structures and support every legislative initiative aimed at more arrests and the prosecution of criminals.

These were among some of the main resolutions taken at its biennial regional conference at the Peninsula Technikon yesterday.

The conference began more than an hour late and a breakdown in photo-copying facilities

meant that many important resolutions were simply read out to delegates to discuss.

After some heated debate, delegates voted to let the new provincial executive hold a general council meeting to finally pass resolutions once all branches had studied printed versions.

An extra motion by MP Mr Willie Hofmeyr asking to "seriously consider" setting up a fund similar to the RDP so that financial boosts could be given to those sections of the criminal justice system most in need, was accepted.

The conference resolved that there be wider access to funds for prospective home-owners, that housing subsidy delivery be speeded up, that "non-ethnic" housing rental stock be created and that an integrated non-racial, non-sexist housing rental waiting-list be set up.

Controversially scrapped — in spite of chairman Mr Dullah Omar's subsequent appeal to address the "coloured question" — was a resolution to develop a "clear vision and policy on affirmative action relevant to Western Cape conditions".

Top WWF award for Asmal

ENVIRONMENT WRITER

WATER Affairs Minister Mr Kader Asmal was awarded the Gold Medal for Conservation by the South African branch of WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) at the weekend — the first politician ever to receive the medal.

WWF chairman Mr Gavin Relly, who presented the medal, said "Professor Asmal is a remarkable person. Aside from his accomplishments, he engenders hope, he instils enthusiasm and he gives one a sense that sustainable living is not just some academic fantasy,

but rather an attainable vision".

Relly said Asmal's major accomplishments were the Water Law Review, which underpinned the move to equity, efficiency and sustainability of water use, the Community Water Supply programme and the National Water Conservation Campaign, which has helped reduce water demand.

Another achievement was the Working for Water plan, in which alien vegetation, which used up vast quantities of water, was hacked out of water catchment areas.

Asmal said "Sustainable living is the only way we can succeed".

Omar plans to unify factions in ANC

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The fragile alliance between the ANC, SACP, Cosatu and the SA National Civics Organisation was a dominant feature of the Western Cape ANC congress at the weekend, with hopes being placed on newly elected leader Justice Minister Dullah Omar to unify the factions.

Omar was unanimously elected after the other candidates — provincial health MEC Ebrahim Rasool, MP Tony Yengeni and MP Carl Niehaus — withdrew from the contest during the run-up to the congress. Omar met with both ANC traditionalists and SACP mem-

bers to stress that he would not be serving either of their interests but was intent on unifying the organisation.

Conflicts centred on the future leadership of the party by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki — which the SACP in the province rejected — and the macroeconomic strategy which the party also opposed. The SACP also called for SA to cut its ties with Taiwan in favour of China.

General secretary James Ngulu, who was re-elected, called for the ANC "to boldly address the incipient anti-communism emerging within our ranks". He mentioned weaknesses in

the ANC/SACP alliance and the "go it alone" attitude of some SACP members.

Ngulu's document also noted the weaknesses in Cosatu as well as the "serious conflict" in many areas which existed between Sanco and the ANC both nationally and provincially.

Sources said Cosatu at provincial level had appealed to the national organisation to disaffiliate from the ANC, but this was rejected.

In his address Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said the ANC had to continually address the question of the alliance to ensure that its members acted as a cohesive force and did not oppose each other.

Holomisa fears expulsion will be confirmed

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Expelled ANC member Bantu Holomisa said he believed ANC executive members had already decided to confirm his expulsion and would do so when they met today despite large attendances at his rallies, held countrywide, last week.

Holomisa's fears were largely confirmed by senior ANC members, who were not im-

pressed either by Holomisa's "road show" or by the kind of people who attended the rallies.

They may have been well attended but were not supported by ANC activists. The meetings were attended either by people whose tribal allegiances Holomisa could draw on or disaffected members of the former Transkei government.

This group consisted mainly of people who had not been incorporated in the new Eastern

Cape government and who had consequently lost their jobs.

Holomisa had called on this group, taking advantage of a predicament the new government was placed in by Holomisa himself, an ANC source said.

Holomisa dismissed these comments as "sour grapes". He said at the weekend that should the ANC turn down his appeal against his expulsion, then taking the matter to court would be one option he would consider.



Members of the public, left, watch a fire fighting demonstration. A hovercraft, bottom right, used by the metropolitan council.

Palme's killer named

CONFESSED apartheid death squad leader Dirk Coetzee alleged on Saturday that the killer of Swedish prime minister Olof Palme was a man named Anthony White, reports AFP.

He said that the man, of unknown nationality, might be living in the Greek islands or Cyprus. Swedish daily Aftonbladet reported yesterday that White is hiding out in Beira, Mozambique.

Coetzee also echoed sworn testimony by apartheid-era police assassin Eugene de Kock on Thursday that South African "superspy" Craig Williamson was involved in Palme's death through a secret South African intelligence group called "Operation Longreach".

Williamson has denied involvement in Palme's death, although he has admitted to other bombings and murders during the apartheid era.

Stephen Lauffer reports that the SA authorities are expected to begin investigating De Kock's allegations in earnest only once the former Vlakplaas commander's trial is over.

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi's spokesman Maxwell Mulaudzi said yesterday De Kock's allegations of SA involvement in the murder of Palme and other related matters would be the subject of investigations by the Transvaal attorney general and the truth commission.

'CITY HAS ADDRESSED PROBLEMS'

Lost millions 'are history'

(263) CT 30/9/96

MANY of Cape Town municipality's management measures — criticised by Auditor-General Mr Henri Kluever in a report that details losses of millions of rands — have been superseded by the new dispensation. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

THE Auditor-General has found that millions of rands were "wasted" through bad management by the pre-transitional Cape Town City Council — but council officials say his report is based on the 1994 to 1995 financial years and that many of the issues have been dealt with

During the first half of the period examined by Auditor-General Mr Henri Kluever in his appraisal of management measures, the former all-white council was in power. In the second half, the nominated transitional council was in control.

● Kluever notes that the 1990 property revaluation cost R17 million and was scrapped as invalid

The Metropolitan Restructuring Forum (MRF) is to oversee changing the Valuations Ordinance so that it will be difficult to overturn new rolls if there is an outcry

The MRF has told representatives of the Greater Cape Town local authorities that it may opt for site rating, a system in which values are assigned only to land rather than to land and buildings

● Kluever complains that although the Athlone power station did not generate power in the period under review, nearly R30m had been spent in the 1993/94 financial year to keep it on standby

The power station is in use, again, mainly because Eskom wants to phase out the system of electricity tariffs that were favourable to Cape Town if it kept its generator at Athlone as spare capacity

There is talk of drawing up a new contract with Eskom for favourable tariffs for Cape Town, again with the condition that the

Athlone station be kept as "spare capacity".

● Nearly R1m was wasted by sending out separate bills for electricity, rates and water. In the past couple of months, a new billing system has been used for rates. It is expected that by the end of the year, a single bill will be used for electricity, water and rates

● The municipal abattoir ran at a loss of nearly R4m up to May 31, 1994. The abattoir is to become the responsibility of the Metropolitan Council, which will be free to sell it if it continues to run at a loss

● The Good Hope Centre lost nearly R12m in the four years up to June 1994. The council has tried to privatise the centre's management, but there is no market interest as it is unlikely to provide an "economic return". However, the centre is considered a vital facility and more than R1m is to be spent on seating

● Electricity payments jumped from R40m to more than R50m in the year up to February 1994. Kluever said the management measures did not appear to be helping

Arrears had since risen to more than R60m, but the rate of increase had slowed. Arrears are being collected gradually by charging a premium on each purchase made for a pre-payment meter by a householder who is in arrears

● Kluever noted that the council's Vision 2000 programme required departments to set their goals by the end of 1993. Six months later, fewer than a third had done so

City treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg said the restructuring of local government had overtaken Vision 2000. The labour unions and the community had not been drawn into the Vision 2000 process — and then the priorities had changed

Landsberg said the Auditor-General's next performance audit would assess the maintenance, acquisition and disposal of assets. This would be more specific than his appraisal of management measures

Kluever's report is to be discussed by Cape Town's executive committee this week

Omar replaces Nissen in W Cape

(263) *Sowetan* *30/9/96*

By Waghied Misbach
Political Reporter

JUSTICE Minister Mr Dullah Omar was elected unopposed as the African National Congress's new leader in the Western Cape at the party's biennial provincial congress in Cape Town at the weekend.

Omar became the new leader after his two main rivals, Health MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool and parliamentary standing committee on defence chairman Mr Tony Yengeni, stood down.

Last month prospective challenger Mr Carl Niehaus, who chairs the port-

folio committee on correctional services, also stood down.

Rasool and Yengeni said they stood down in the interests of party unity.

Omar replaces economic affairs MEC the Reverend Chris Nissen.

Nissen has been widely criticised for failing to make inroads into the coloured community during the May 29 local government elections.

Rasool, Omar's main challenger, came under pressure from the party after publicly criticising Omar last month. He also questioned the party's ability to address the "coloured question" in the Western Cape.

However, Rasool apologised to Omar and the party shortly after making the statements.

According to ANC sources, Omar's election is seen as a step to winning control of the Western Cape, described by Nissen as the "last bastion of white rule in South Africa".

Delivering the keynote address, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki told the 500 delegates that rampant crime was working against the ANC's promise for a better life for all people.

Mbeki also emphasised the importance of winning the "coloured" vote in the 1999 general election.

Omar's pledge to coloured people

(263)

ARG 30/9/96

The African National Congress's Western Cape leadership wants to ensure that nothing is done to marginalise coloured people in the province, says the party's new Western Cape leader, Justice Minister Dullah Omar.

Closing the party's two-day biennial conference yesterday, he said that while there were intellectuals who denied the existence of the term "coloured", hundreds of thousands of ordinary coloured people were fearful of being marginalised.

The ANC had to address these fears, but at the same time it had to impart the message that there was no separate solution for any particular group and specifically not for coloured people.

On Saturday Mr Omar was unanimously elected to replace Western Cape economic affairs MEC Chris Nissen, who earlier this year signalled his intention to relinquish the provincial leadership.

Mr Nissen was elected a member of the new 14-member provincial executive committee (PEC), with Nomaindia Mfeketo elected deputy leader.

Mr Omar committed himself to a collective leadership style and said he considered the ANC's alliance with the Communist Party, Congress of South African Trade Unions, South African National Civics Organisation and the "mass democratic movement generally" to be a key factor in the party's ability to deliver.

The ANC was committed to taking part peacefully in the political process in which everyone had the right to belong to the party of his or her choice.

Mr Omar also said the ANC supported "the struggle of the Palestinian people" and condemned action taken

against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa appealed to the more than 500 delegates to spread the message that the Masakhane campaign to pay for services should be supported.

It was not just about getting non-payers to pay for services, but also about communities helping to create better conditions for all through actions such as helping the police fight crime and providing new schools, clinics and clean drinking water to areas which had not had it before.

Mr Omar told a news conference he intended resigning from the ANC's national working committee to give himself time to devote to the provincial leadership. But he would not allow these duties to undermine his work as justice minister - Sapa

Western Cape budget cuts 'unacceptable'

(263)
Linda Ensor

DD 1/10/96

CAPE TOWN — The groundswell of opposition in the Western Cape to the time frame set by government to achieve financial equity, gathered momentum over the weekend.

A boseraad between health department representatives, university principals and health experts from the universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Western Cape resolved the budgetary cuts, especially in the short time frame proposed, were unacceptable.

And former ANC leader and economic affairs MEC Chris Nissen said an appeal would be made to central government and the ANC nationally for the allocations to be re-examined.

He emphasised that the people who were suffering from the drastic budget cuts were not responsible for the inequity of the past which resulted in the Western Cape receiving more funds from central government.

The health professionals said the cuts were likely to destroy current and future standards of health services, training and research, and warned of the possible collapse of services.

To deal with the crisis in the sector, a new joint management committee was established consisting of senior health department officials and other stakeholders. The dental faculties of the universities of Stellenbosch and the Western Cape agreed to pool their resources to achieve financial savings.

Kenya's 'dungeons of death'

CT 1/10/96

(263)

NAIROBI: Kenyan jails are "dungeons of death" where inmates are tortured, denied medical care and forced to share cells with corpses, the Kenya Human Rights Commission said in a report released yesterday.

Sick prisoners are often chained to their beds if they are admitted to hospital and starving inmates are reduced to feeding on their own excreta, says the report, titled *A Death Sentence: Prison Conditions in Kenya*.

"Prisoners suffer widespread sickness and disease due to unsanitary conditions, poor diet, lack of exercise, lack of proper clothing and bedding, and lack of sunlight. Skin diseases, diarrhoea, pneumo-

nia and malaria are rampant," the report says.

Last year Home Affairs Minister Mr Francis Lotodo admitted in parliament that 819 inmates died in prison between January and October 1995.

"A particularly revolting category of abuse occurs when dead prisoners, either through neglect or perhaps out of deliberate cruelty, are left in the company of living ones," the report says.

It details the horrors of former prisoners, which include beatings, denial of privacy and exposure to sodomy by other inmates.

High Court judge Mr Justice Immanuel O'Kubasu said going to a Kenyan prison was a "sure way of

asking for a death certificate".

There are an estimated 39 000 prisoners in Kenyan prisons, some 12 000 of them remanded in custody while waiting for trial. The official capacity of jails around the country is 18 000.

Government officials have admitted Kenyan prisons are overcrowded and cited lack of funds to build more jails as the reason for the problem.

The report also deplored the poor working conditions of prison warders, which it said were as bad as the those under which inmates were held.

'Poverty made them callous and more likely to abuse prisoners' rights, the report said — Sapa-AFP

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 1, 1996 ★

'ANC NOT ONLY LOOKING AT VOTES'

Omar promises to address coloured issue

(263) CT 1/10/96

THE COLOURED question will be addressed with integrity and good faith within the framework of nation-building, says the new provincial ANC leader, Mr Dullah Omar. Political Writer **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

A POLICY of integrity and good faith in addressing issues concerning coloured people was more important than winning opportunistic votes — and the ANC would concentrate on delivery where it controlled local government structures, Western Cape ANC chairman Mr Dullah Omar said yesterday.

Speaking on strategy after his election at the party's weekend conference, Omar said he would address the coloured issue head-on, adding, "it's not an issue that I will wash my hands of"

When it was put to him that the conference had failed to come up with a clear action plan for the fears of coloured voters, Omar said he was "not only looking at votes"

"I want to go beyond that. I don't believe we must just think in terms of winning votes. One needs a policy of integrity and good faith and a genuine approach to deal with real problems — in this case coloured problems," he said.

Omar said technical reasons were responsible for the rejection



INTEGRITY FIRST: New Western Cape ANC chief Mr Dullah Omar

of a conference motion punting an affirmative action commission whose prime objective would be to develop a vision and policy on affirmative action that was relevant to Western Cape conditions.

"I'd like to see a mechanism with coloured leaders included so a position on affirmative action is worked out involving all those in the debate."

Omar said he regarded this as a "priority area", and accepted that some people regarded the ANC response so far as inadequate.

While Omar agreed that "it's about winning power and votes", he insisted that the process involved integrity and morality.

The approach should also be "proper to adopt in the context of South Africa" with no separate solutions for people.

Within the framework of nation-building there was a place for people to organise as coloureds and to build platforms which were "not necessarily political".

Coloured people found themselves squeezed between the past and the future.

His strategy would be to ensure there was no marginalisation of coloureds in applying policies to redress the imbalances of the past while paying attention to allocating resources to rural and urban coloured communities.

Cultural and language identities would also be addressed.

Conceding that not much could be done at (NP-controlled) provincial government level for the next two years, Omar said the focus would be on local government mechanisms, where his party wielded more power.

Municipalities reach deal on division of responsibilities

CT 1/10/96 (263)

PETER DENNEHY

A LANDMARK agreement was reached yesterday between the Cape Metropolitan Council and the six municipalities in Greater Cape Town, over who will do what

Political responsibility for a range of municipal services will pass from the Cape Town City Council to the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) a month from now

Staff working on these services, such as large-scale water supplies, will be transferred to the CMC from about the end of June next year

The CMC will have to fund the services from its own budget. In turn, it will charge the municipalities fees related to how much water they use, and how much sewage they send to the wastewater works, for example.

Metro council executive committee chairman Mr Pierre Uys was unsure whether the CMC would gain or lose employees overall.

"We will take on bulk water supplies, so there we will grow," he said

"The fire services we have will go to local authorities, as will the primary health services we have been rendering on an agency basis

to Bellville, Goodwood, Parow and Milnerton

"Our health department will be cut down to about 40 employees. We will gain a few sewage plant workers, but there are not many of them"

Overall, he suspected the CMC would shed more workers to the local councils, than gain workers from these

The bulk electricity service will be left as it is, while the possibility is explored of a non-profit company managing it

No decision has yet been taken on which roads are "of metropolitan significance" and therefore the responsibility of the CMC

Tygerberg budget bites the dust

ANC thumbs-down puts key projects on hold

(263) 11/10/96

CHENÉ BILGAUT

STAFF REPORTER

The ANC in the Tygerberg council has refused to approve R70-million on the capital budget, effectively delaying several urgent projects, including those in disadvantaged areas.

This follows a motion by the finance committee that R50-million expenditure on the rates and general account and R20-million on the electricity account of the capital budget be approved.

The committee's proposal came after priorities were adjusted resulting in expenditure budgeted on both accounts

being sharply reduced

All the ANC councillors voted against the proposal which meant a two-thirds majority - needed to approve decisions on finance - could not be reached.

This has serious implications for the City of the Tygerberg because it will not be able to go ahead with urgent projects, including upliftment initiatives in disadvantaged areas.

The decision to stall loan-funded projects in this section of the budget will also have serious repercussions for next year's budget and stop some projects dependent on loans from other institutions.

But Khayelitsha will still benefit from

upliftment projects to the tune of R70-million which have been sponsored by grants from other local authorities.

The reason given for the ANC councillors' resistance was that they were not happy with the way in which items in this section of the budget had been prioritised.

Each previous transitional substructure had to draw up its own list of priority projects because the Tygerberg's budget is made up of the budgets of all the previous local authorities.

The ANC implied it did not get its fair slice of the cake and said it wanted funds allocated for projects in traditionally white areas to be spent in underprivileged areas.

Outraged, the National Party said the ANC was welcome to reprioritise its own lists in areas such as Khayelitsha and Mthleni but could not demand "special attention" for these areas.

Finance committee chairman Gerald Smut pleaded with his fellow councillors "to set the wheels of Tygerberg in motion". He accused the ANC of holding back projects "for the people you want to help".

But several ANC members suggested the decision be postponed until every councillor was "on board" and that they hold a workshop on the issue.

The matter was postponed until next month's meeting.

Prayer row almost brings council in north to its knees

CHENÉ BILGAUT

STAFF REPORTER

The question of prayer has sparked a bitter political row in the Tygerberg council, turning proceedings into a shambles with walkouts by both sides.

The African National Congress and National Party yesterday turned the question of religion into a political football and refused to accommodate each other.

At the centre of the row was whether council proceedings should be opened with a Scripture reading and a prayer.

The council's past three meetings started in this way in spite of the ANC's vehement objection to "infringement of the constitutional right to freedom of religion". The ANC made a request for a moment

of silence instead

Yesterday ANC member Oliver Ngubeni accused the NP of dividing the council on minor issues and said mayor Lukas Olivier (NP) was trying to prove a point by insisting on continuing with the Christian opening, in spite of opposition.

Louwtjie Rothman (NP) rejected the "silent prayer", saying "this forum needs to understand to whom it is praying".

Ernest Sass (ANC) launched a stinging apartheid-motivated attack.

"In the past people prayed before going on killing sprees. I want to tell my NP colleagues that this is the company they are praying with," said Mr Sass.

The NP, the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party voted that the present practice be continued.

Landmark deal on local government revamp

(263) ARG 1/10/96
ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

The Cape metro has reached a landmark agreement on local government restructuring, heralding a process in which thousands of municipal staff will be transferred by July next year.

The agreement deals with all services at local level, ranging from fire-fighting to the funding of cultural organisations, such as the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra

The only outstanding issue is the supply of electricity. Negotiators on the Metropolitan Restructuring Forum have agreed to maintain the status quo for electricity pending the resolution of a national debate on the subject.

The forum agreement gives the responsibility for most bulk services

to the Cape Metropolitan Council, including water supply and sewerage

Local councils will be responsible for service delivery to individual households. This means ratepayers and consumers will be billed for services by their own municipalities and deal directly with their local councils.

The CMC will take responsibility for the planning and co-ordination of services at metropolitan level, among them the possible establishment of a metropolitan police force.

Fire services will be delivered at local level, but with a metropolitan co-ordinating structure to ensure uniformity of equipment and co-operation among the six municipalities.

The CMC will also take responsibility for metropolitan roads and transport, take over the abattoir, facilitate housing provision and ensure co-ordination of metro-wide civil protection

Hout Bay township administration deadlock

METRO DESK

In spite of there being no agreement on who will administer Imizamo Yethu informal settlement in Hout Bay, the Southern substructure council will not be left in the lurch by the current administrators

The council has been

assured by administrators Communicare that it will continue to run the settlement

But Communicare, whose administration was to end yesterday, has made it clear it wants to be paid if it is to continue running Imizamo Yethu

Hout Bay councillor Dick Meter told yesterday's council

(263) ARG 1/10/96

meeting that a meeting between the council and the province to end the deadlock over Imizamo Yethu's administration had not occurred, "mainly for logistical reasons".

"But this council must make a firm decision one way or the other on what we are going to do," said Mr Meter,

Cape councils fail to have proclamations invalidated

20 8/10/96 (263)
CAPE TOWN — An application by seven transitional local councils to declare invalid certain parts of proclamations made by Western Cape MEC Pieter Marais was turned down with costs in the Cape Town Supreme Court yesterday.

The transitional local councils for Worcester, Paarl, the West Coast Peninsula, Ceres, De Doorns, Riversdal and Saron said the disputed parts of the proclamations created an "undemocratic imbalance" in the voting powers of local authorities. This allegedly led to the Western Cape government being, in certain areas, unreasonable, unfair and out of date with other provinces.

They alleged the proclamations were contrary to the interim constitution and had been instituted without prior consultation with local government authorities. Judges L van den Heever and JG Foxcroft turned down the application, saying the councils did not prove why the proclamations should be declared invalid. — Sapa

coloureds

CT9/10/96 (263)

THE NEWLY FORMED December 1st Movement says it has no intention of challenging for political power, but plans to unify dispirited coloured communities. Political Writer **HENRY LUDSKI** reports



A BROAD Western Cape grouping — concerned with the extent to which coloureds in the region have been politically marginalised — are to launch a new “broad social movement” to address the issue

The “December 1st Movement”, the evocative and symbolic linking of the movement to the freeing of slaves in the Cape 162 years ago, is seen as a reflection of a “deep concern” over increasing alienation of coloured people from the process of political transformation, and the ability of both the African National Congress and the National Party to deal with the coloured question

Both newly elected ANC Western Cape leader Mr Dullah Omar and National Party leader Mr Hernus Kriel have committed themselves to addressing the concerns of coloured people.

However, the group remains unconvinced that the regional conferences of both political parties have given any significant new direction, maintaining that the gravity of the issue and historical nuances, which have shaped the “essence” of the identity of coloured people since their days of slavery, are not fully recognised

The movement listed this basic “failure” as the reason for the parties’ inability to fully “comprehend the consciousness” of the coloured community and its “deep sense of alienation”.

The movement — set to go public later this month — is emphatic that it has no intention of challenging for political power and had instead positioned itself as a broad and galvanising social movement to unify dispirited coloured communities around common areas of concern

The fledgling movement, consisting of a broad range of people including priests, academics, workers, trade unionists and youth, comes into existence at a time of increased tension over the destiny of coloured people.

The movement has stressed it is not a coloured nationalist movement, but rather that it should be seen as a structure committed to drawing people into the process of nation building and transformation

In a document outlining their

vision for a movement which encapsulates the distinctive dreams and aspiration of coloured people, they make a strong case for a new home for a group of people struggling to “unlock the door of memory and knowledge of who we truly are, where we come from, and where we belong”

Yesterday, prominent figures within the movement were reluctant to be drawn out further on its founding vision before their major October 20 planning meeting

However, they reiterated their criticism of the extent to which the policies of both major political parties in the region, the NP and the ANC, have led to the increased marginalisation of coloured people

The organisation, which has set itself the task of making coloured people part of the process of transformation once more, has been especially critical of the way in which national ANC policy is adversely affecting coloured people in the Western Cape

The movement lists the poor handling of the deployment of teachers in the region, the proposed cuts in social welfare grants, and the failure to recognise the severe consequences of international trade agreements on the local garment industry, as examples of the ANC’s inability to recognise the region’s unique historical complexities

“We strongly believe that a social and political crisis has been reached and that the time has come to do something about it,” said a key figure in the movement yesterday

In a discussion document circulated to December 1st members prior to next weekend’s meeting, the movement points to a failure by Western Cape political structures to recognise the historical context within which coloured people found themselves in a post-apartheid South Africa.

Saying that the dilemma of the coloured community was its inability to “come to terms with the reality of a

changing country”, the movement points to the democratic movement’s greatest failure — its inability to fully comprehend the complexity of the consciousness of the coloured community

It also blames political parties for having failed to recognise the extent to which the course of history of coloured people — along a path of slavery, colonial rule, black consciousness in the 1970s and the spirit and politics of non-racialism in the next decade — had profoundly shaped the political identity of coloured communities.

The document states that this complex set of historical influences had resulted in a situation of coloureds having a “poorly developed sense of our place in history”, which in turn contributed to its distancing from the political arena and the heightening of a deep sense of isolation

Outlining the historical events which have “determined the essence of our identity”, the December 1st Movement states that the coloured community needed a movement which recognised that the particular slave experiences and history of coloured people had ongoing consequences in the way the coloured community perceived itself and how it responded to key moments in contemporary history

“December 1 (the day slavery was abolished in the Cape 162 years ago) is a remembrance of the worst that could be done by people to other people, and could also serve to unlock the door of memory and knowledge of who we (coloured people) truly are, where we come from and where we belong.”

The document also speaks about the development of a sense of coloured pride in their history, and a push for a reassessment of government policy as it affects the Western Cape in respect of issues such as affirmative action

The movement also sets out to become a “home” for artists, scholars, intellectuals and others who have the resources to take forward the cause of the coloured community.

R100 000 ⁽²⁶³⁾

congress flop

METRO CORRESPONDENT

AR 14/10/96

The collapse of the Western Cape Local Government Association congress in the Strand probably cost ratepayers R100 000, says the Democratic Party.

The conference was adjourned last week before delegates could discuss the agenda, because of a dispute between the National Party and African National Congress over voting rights.

DP delegate Daniel Silke said an estimated R100 000 came from local government coffers to fund the congress.



ROY WIGLEY

Blaauwberg forever: Avondale Primary School drum majorettes display the new name for the Northern Substructure to mayor Algene Ross

Name please? The answer is blaauwing in the wind

(263) AR 15/10/96

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Blaauwberg Municipality - that's the new full-blaauwn name for the area north of Cape Town that until now had to make do with the clumsy Northern Substructure

The municipality has adopted the original Dutch name for the beach with the world-famous view of Table Mountain. The area includes Milnerton, Table View, Bloubergstrand, Melkbosstrand, Mamre, Atlantis and Pella.

The new name, chosen through a public competition, was announced with great fanfare at a function at the Rietvlei Aquatic Club yesterday. The acting chief executive officer of Blaauwberg, Peter Gerber, said "We arrived at the name

through a democratic process by inviting suggestions in the press from persons resident in our area of jurisdiction." About 500 entries were short-listed and the council whittled them down to three. The majority of councillors

plumped for Blaauwberg. Five people proposed the name and, through the drawing of lots, local resident J P van der Merwe was chosen the winner of the competition. He received a cheque for R500 for his effort.

Restructuring blues blamed after crime wave hits council

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRE SPLENT

(263) (25) ARG 15/10/96

A crime wave at the Cape Metropolitan Council has been ascribed to the psychological effects of restructuring.

The CMC's executive committee has decided to start random searches and exercise stricter control over people entering and leaving the organisation's Wale Street head office because there has been "a drastic increase in the theft rate".

Acting chief executive officer Stewart Fisher said a psychologist had warned the organisation nine months ago that an

increase in petty theft was likely to accompany the restructuring process in the public service.

This was because people's jobs were insecure and their loyalty declined.

The CMC's executive committee has also endorsed random searches of private vehicles belonging to its own members and officials, on condition they are present when the search is conducted.

Exco member David Dlahi asked that a fire exit be locked on the floor where his office was because his wallet had been stolen out of his jacket. But Mr Dlahi was told by officials that this could not be done because fire escapes had to remain open.

Response to dilemma of identity

(263) CT 16/10/96

A BROAD-BASED Western Cape grouping concerned by the political marginalisation of the coloured community will go public at a planning meeting in Cape Town this weekend. This is the first of two articles, drawn from a discussion document compiled by the **REV MICHAEL WEEDER**, outlining the founding vision of the December 1 Movement.

THIS draft paper serves as a discussion document to motivate the formation of a broad social movement, the December 1 Movement.

The arguments outlined below should be seen as broad sketches in a work in progress to which many are contributing.

"I owe my being to the Khoi and the San whose desolate souls haunt the great expanses of the beautiful Cape — they fell victim to the most merciless genocide our native land has ever seen, they were the first to lose their lives in the struggle to defend our freedom and independence and who, as a people, perished in the result.

"Today, as a country, we keep an audible silence about these ancestors of the generations that live, fearful to admit the horror of a former deed, seeking to obliterate from our memories a cruel occurrence that, in the remembering, should teach us not and never to re-inhume again.

"I am formed of the migrants who left Europe to find a new home on our native land. Whatever their own actions, they

remain still part of me

"In my veins courses the blood of the Malay slaves who came from the East. Their proud dignity informs my bearing, their culture a part of my essence. The stripes they bore on their bodies from the lash of the slave master are a reminder embossed on my consciousness of what should not be done."

With these moving words Deputy President Thabo Mbeki addressed the nation on the occasion of the adoption of the Constitution Bill. He perhaps unwittingly highlighted the essence of the coloured question as an unavoidable subtext on the national agenda.

Coloured people are not an accident of history but the unsteady projection of a growing global phenomenon on to the socio-political body of contemporary South Africa.

Part of the genesis of the South African identity is located in the confluence of the indigenous, the slave and the Caucasian in the being of the community known as coloured.

It is a community that symbolises a journey from the past in the slave ships carrying our forebears from the archipelagos of the East Indies, the ships of the invading settlers, many of whom were refugees from the ghettos of Europe, on to the ancestral shores of our Khoi-San fathers and mothers.

In the post-apartheid period we are confronted with the dilemma of a coloured community seemingly unable to come to terms with the reality of a changing country.

Its choice at the ballot box has confounded pollsters and dismayed activists who have laboured under the conviction that the community would respond along with the rest of the oppressed and vote for freedom.

It is a case of the chickens coming home to roost, a consequence of our inability as activists to comprehend fully the consciousness of our community. We failed to discern that the quantitative presence of people at rallies did not necessarily translate into qualitative awareness of a community that knew its place in the Grand March of history.

With the increase in distance from the event, many are reviewing their initial responses. There is a growing understanding that the overwhelming coloured response in the 1994 national elections was the protest of a community in deep trauma.

No South African has emerged unscathed from the ravages of the past.

According to the author V in his book *Galleian Journey: colonial conquest* "imposes not only the institutions of the conqueror but a new world-view, a basic philosophy of life."

"The new world-view disrupts the world-view of the conquered to such an extent that their ways no longer make sense. The ideas, logic, art, customs, language and religion of the conqueror are forced into the life of the conquered."

"Even if they resist, the ways of the powerful begin to penetrate their minds and their lifestyle, so that even when political and economic independence are gained at a later stage, the indigenous culture can never again return to its pre-conquest patterns."

In the 1970s, the black consciousness movement recognised the danger of "the minds of the oppressed in the hands of the oppressor". It attempted to develop the consciousness of all the oppressed and coloured people were embraced in the term "Black".

In our quest for belonging and identity,

many of us adopted the concept of "black is beautiful" by emphasising the outward manifestation of black consciousness. The Afro, the dashiki and the hipness of "I'll have my coffee black like my people."

This emphasis on one part of our heritage and the neglect and even denial of the other led to the unequal development of consciousness in the coloured community. This was evident in the divide between young and old, the former often chastising their parents for not having resisted apartheid sufficiently, and the latter further alienated and frustrated by their inability effectively to counter the accusation levelled against them.

Consequent to that period we find large numbers of coloured students, activists and others who adopted the spirit and politics of the burgeoning non-racialism of the 1980s.

That development brought with it a strong sense of inclusion in the home of the majority and an understanding that the issue of being a coloured person is resolved within the popular understanding of non-racialism — that South Africa belongs to all and differences of skin colour are insignificant when measured against the demands of commitment to struggle and desire to build a new land.

Here also the selective identification with a part of one's being surfaces, for example, in the uncritical adoption of the pantheon of African National Congress heroes and martyrs.

In the songs of that period, Dora Tamana is heralded and no mention is made of Cissy Gool, there is a familiarity with the history of Alex La Guma and neglect of the contribution of Johnny Gomas.

Our commitment to emphasising ideology meant that we chose our people's leaders on that basis and not because of their contribution.

But here again we failed to meet the needs of our parents who were more familiar with the Benny Keeses and Dr Abduragmans of their day.

In the marathon run to freedom, coloured and Indian and African did not participate as equals. We brought into the process varying degrees of consciousness and experiences of oppression. We entered that struggle at different points and times.

Your experience of the fight, the different way in which you were bludgeoned and bloodied, ultimately informs your respective sense of victory and the worth of the prize.

In the fight against colonialism, Africans, even when their "world-view was disrupted", had as the bedrock of their resistance a rootedness in a culture that is as old as the peaks of the mighty Drakensberg and as vital as each infant born into it.

As coloured people we have a poorly developed sense of our place in the process of history, and without this memory we are subjects and not agents of history. Because our story is now known, Africans, generally, believe that coloured people never really suffered and coloured people in turn internalise that myth.

Here we have the consolidation of the coloured community's distance from the political arena and the heightening of our community's deep sense of alienation.

□ *Tomorrow* The salvation of the coloured community and the programme of the December 1 Movement.

Bridge is needed to a unified future

(263) CT17/10/96

IN THE SECOND article in a two-part series, the **REV MICHAEL WEEDER** outlines a possible route to salvation for the coloured community in the Western Cape and a programme for the December 1 Movement:

OUR community's salvation lies in moving from our scattered points of angst and trauma and political ghetto, held to our coming to terms with the fact that we are an African people who have emerged at this special point in our nation's history along a path uniquely ours.

The experience of slavery is not known to the rest of our nation. The essence of our identity was shaped within the crucible of history's suffering.

We need a movement that will form a bridge across which our people can move from where they are in terms of values and attitudes to where those less burdened by the shackles of history are to be found. This movement should be informed by a programme that recognises that the particular slave experience and history of the coloured people have ongoing consequences in the way the community perceives itself and how it responds at key moments in contemporary history.

The true nature of what slavery was needs to be revisited and highlighted for the nation to behold. The fullness of the impact and the ongoing consequences of slavery need to be detailed to enable our community to proceed with its journey to lay our gifts

at the nation's bosom.

We need to extract from our history a pivotal event that both locates us as a people while providing a symbol that is particular to the coloured experience and emergence as a South African community. The event must be broad enough to eliminate any temptation to elevate it to the altar of a narrow coloured nationalism.

The emancipation of the slaves on December 1, 1834 is such an event and it forms a cornerstone in the restructuring of the history and identity of the coloured community.

As Vivian Bickford-Smith observes in the book *Breaking the Chains*: "What did emerge between 1875 and 1910 were new forms of social and political identities among freed slaves and their descendants, most notably the idea of being 'coloured'." These identities were inevitably built on those that had emerged in the era of slavery.

It can be argued that adopting December 1, regardless of how noble the ideals might be, would perpetuate the jingoistic view prevalent in the Victorian period that ex-slaves and their descendants should be grateful and loyal to Britain. Many were, but it should not detract from us being guided by how our forebears responded to freedom.

Records show that December 1 was celebrated in a way that scandalised the bourgeoisie of that time. According to the Cape Times of December 2, 1885 "Yesterday was the anniversary of the emancipation of slaves in this colony in 1834. Some of their descendants expressed their appreciation of the blessings of freedom by all that was exasperating in the way of processions, accompanied with hideous noises."

Parades also marked the observance of New Year as a slave holiday in the Cape even before emancipation and became known as the Coon Carnival. The post-World War II celebration of the Coon Carnival has been described by Don Pinchuck in the book *Class, Community and Conflict* as "the annual storming of the city by the poor, an act which clearly unnerved both the city authorities and the police."

Both these events, as V Bickford-Smith observes in *Meanings of Freedom*, were "occasions of fun and excess, where the immediate experience of participants was probably not self-reflection but sheer enjoyment before the toiling and lean months ahead, similar to the carnival of Shrove Tuesday before the deprivations of Lent. But the forms that they took were forged in the era of bondage and were further shaped by post-emancipation experience."

Part of the creative act of a free person is the value we attach to and the way in which

we choose to interpret an event apart from the intention of those who had initiated it.

In Roman-occupied Palestine, the early Christians took a symbol of humiliation and excruciating torture — the cross — and transformed it into a symbol of hope, defiance and the constant reminder of what was done (the betrayal and consequent murder of the Galilean prophet) and what was to be done to build a new world.

December 1 is a remembrance of the worst that could be done by people to other people while also serving to unlock the door of memory and knowledge of who we truly are, where we come from and where we belong. It can become a symbol of transformation as we work to wrench from the chains that bind even today in the new South Africa.

Essentially, we need to respond to a deeply spiritual need to heal ourselves of the trauma besieging our community. This coming home to Africa requires bold and honest acts of political courage that are neither captive to partisan politics nor naive about the task at hand. The formation of the December 1 Movement would be such an act that would have as its founding charter the incorporation of the descendants of ex-slaves into the process of the emerging African renaissance.

While conscious of the horrors of our recent and distant past, we should not allow its residual evil to overwhelm us. The December 1 Movement should be celebratory in its anticipation of the victories to come. The programme of the December 1 Movement could include:

- The establishment of centres of memory

and healing. These would be for the young in particular. The centres could be in the rural areas where they could serve as retreats from urban life. They could be places where history is presented, and activities held that would help to imbue a sense of pride in oneself and one's immediate community.

- A research and lobbying capacity that would document oral and written traditions and evidence, aspects of the findings could be made available in easy-to-read booklets and pamphlets. Inform the content and basis of video documentaries (even form fictional alternatives to *The Bold and the Beautiful*).
- Reassess and inform government policy in relation to the Western Cape Province on matters such as affirmative action.

- In addition:
 - It would be home for artists, scholars, intellectuals and others with the resources needed to achieve the above.
 - It would develop contact with the global African diaspora and the *international la raza mestizaje* (the new race of people born from two pre-existent peoples).

- It would be a broad-based social movement that would seek to have a non-antagonist manner towards political parties and would be a space for the religious sector, labour, education etc.

It is not too late to act according to new insights and admit to outdated analysis. To fall in that regard will help to ensure that the rainbow nation remains an illusion and not the substance of hope that it is meant to be.

□ This article is affectionately dedicated to Father Cive McBride who sowed the seed.

New coloured movement in W Cape

By **MONDLI MASHAYI**
Political Reporter

(263)

Nov 18/10/96
Former members of the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) in the Western Cape are to start a new coloured movement.

The December First Movement is to be launched within the next few weeks. It is so named after the day when American slaves were freed 152 years ago.

According to spokesman Richard Martin, the aims of the movement will be to get "coloured people on board the transformation process" and make them feel part of nation-building. He said it had been formed because coloureds were being used as political pawns by all the major parties and coloured issues were being "abused for political gain".

The movement will not contest elec-

tions in the short term but will concentrate on acting as a pressure group.

Martin said the movement's activities will include conducting research into coloured history and culture, lobbying economic and political institutions and setting up "social reconstruction" projects in Western Cape communities.

Political organisations have been critical of the movement's formation because of its ethnic orientation.

ANC activists have been particularly critical because most of the people involved are former UDF and trade union members.

But Martin protested that the party was not the exclusivist body it was being perceived to be. "We are not a coloured nationalist movement like the other organisations that have sprung up."

Outcry at Kriel's appointment of ex-spy boss

(263) ARG 19/10/96

ESTELLE RANDALL
LABOUR REPORTER

Pressure is mounting on Western Cape Premier Hennis Kriel to reverse his appointment of former National Intelligence Service head Neil Barnard as new Western Cape director general.

The National Education Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu), supported by the ANC, the ANC Youth League and the SA Communist

Party (SACP), yesterday demanded that Mr Barnard's appointment, effective from November 1, be reversed and the post be readvertised

The union threatened to strike if its demand was not met, and the ANC and SACP undertook to mobilise community resistance to Mr Barnard's appointment

Phillip Dexter, ANC MP and a former general secretary of the union, praised Nehawu for taking a stand, as "no one else has had the courage to say they

don't accept this appointment" ANC provincial MP and former Cosatu education officer for the Western Cape Tasneem Essop said transformation would not be achieved with the "old boys of the previous apartheid regime"

She said the message of Mr Barnard's appointment was that the NP government in the Western Cape was opposed to change

General secretary of the SA Municipal Workers' Union Salie Manie said Mr Barnard's

appointment had been made as if the new South Africa had not reached the Western Cape

"Is this still a white homeland?" he asked

Nehawu last month objected to the early retirement of former Western Cape director general Herbert Beukes, reportedly with a severance package of almost R3-million

"Instead of granting Herbert Beukes R3-million, the money could be better spent on much-needed services," Nehawu said.

Wanted: Someone to run Cape Town

By TOM HOOD

THE job of Cape Town's Chief Executive Keith Nicol is up for grabs—and he will have to compete against some top businessmen if he wants to keep it.

The city council has advertised his job in terms of the new Local Government Transition Act, which disbanded local councils, re-employed staff in the new substructures and made town clerks acting chief executives.

Top jobs will also be advertised by the various substructures which were formed after the mergers of local authorities. Some areas may, for example, have as many as four former

town engineers on their books.

The posts of all heads of departments must eventually be advertised to all-comers, a prospect which is causing "tremendous job insecurity", according to a reliable council source.

But local authorities did not want to lose skilled staff and would try to redeploy anyone displaced from their former jobs, the source said.

Nicol, 47, the acting chief executive in Cape Town, came from Natal in 1992 and with his experience must be considered a front-runner.

"I am hopeful that he will apply," said executive council

chairperson Nonnanda Mfeketo this week.

But consultants advising the city council's executive committee have received a spate of inquiries from senior business executives, including some seeking a move to Cape Town.

"Several were from Johannesburg and inquired about bonuses and profit-sharing they enjoy, which put their current earnings well above local authority levels. So we may have to include some kind of incentive in the remuneration package," he said.

Applicants for Nicol's job will face a tougher than usual grilling when they are interviewed for the job.

"We want someone who would really drive the programme of transformation and development in the city," said Mfeketo.

"We want someone who will be acceptable to the Chamber of Commerce and to all stakeholders."

November 1 is the deadline for applications, and the executive committee hopes to announce their choice by the end of next month.

An advertisement for Cape Town's Chief Executive in last weekend's Business Times stressed that the city promotes, and applies, the principles of affirmative action and is committed to "cost-effectiveness,

democracy, transformation and development."

"As its chief executive, you will provide innovative transformational leadership to ensure that this multi-disciplinary operation focuses on meeting the enormous development challenges faced by a city in transition," said the advert.

Qualifications include "an appropriate tertiary-level qualification," outstanding skills in the areas of leadership, vision, strategic planning, influence and communication, including fluency in at least two of the city's languages and a willingness to develop competence in a third language.

STCem 20/10/96

(263)

ST(CM) 20/10/96

Nat plan to grab all power in Cape

By NORMAN WEST, Political Reporter (263)

TOTAL power in the Western Cape could be within the grasp of the NP if an amendment to the Electoral Act is passed, claim party sources.

The amendment, tabled before Parliament by Minister of Home Affairs Mangosuthu Buthelezi, would allow the region's legislature to be dissolved and early elections to be held. And, based on poll successes over the past two years, the NP believes it could then oust the ANC from the government of provincial unity.

At present four out of the 10 ministers are members of the ANC and the other six NP, as a result of the proportional representation system.

"The plan is for Premier Hennis Kriel to dissolve the existing legislature and in terms of the new amendment to the Electoral Act, call an election of new public representatives," according to an NP source.

The NP claims that, based on their success in the 1994 general election and this year's local government poll, the proposed changes to the Electoral Act could lead to the ousting of the ANC in early elections.

The proposed Electoral Amendment Bill is aimed at modifying the present Act to allow early elections in the provinces if a regional legislature is dissolved before the official five-year term.

The existing Electoral Act makes no provision for an early poll.

Attempts to get comment from the ANC on the NP's claims proved unsuccessful yesterday.

Nat sources say the amendment to the Electoral Act "could come in handy" next year after the national constitution has been ratified by the Constitutional Court.

The regional legislature is writing its own constitution which, should be ready by February.

Coloureds meet over new movement

BD 21/10/96 (263)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — About 40 members of the coloured community met yesterday to discuss the formation of a new political organisation, the December 1 Movement, to mobilise coloured people

The name, yet another in a long line of attempts to mobilise the community on ethnic grounds, harks back to the emancipation of slaves on December 1 1834.

Its founders, who include disaffected ANC members and former United Democratic Front activists, as well as teachers, church ministers, students and

academics, said a new organisation was needed because of a deep-seated sense of political marginalisation among coloureds

The December 1 Movement sees itself as an umbrella force to reassert the "coloured identity", not a mainstream political party. Its aim would be to ensure the involvement of coloured people in the transformation process

"In the post-apartheid period we are confronted with the dilemma of a coloured community seemingly unable to come to terms with the reality of a changing country," one of the movement's founders, Rev Michael Weeder, said in a doc-

ument outlining its vision

Coloured people, he said, needed to come to terms with the fact that they were an African people, with their own history, which had been uniquely scarred by the suffering of slavery

"This movement should be informed by a programme that recognises that the particular slave experience and history of the coloured people have ongoing consequences"

The goals and aspirations recall those of the Black Consciousness Movement, which urged black people to search within for their human dignity and power



French tennis star Yannick Noah signs autographs at the Champions' Tour tournament at Sandton Square on Saturday. He beat SA's Johan Kriek in yesterday's final. See Back Page. Picture: TYRONE ARTHUR

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ment outlining its vision. Coloured people, he said, needed to come to terms with the fact that they were an African people, with their own history, which had been uniquely scarred by the suffering of slavery.

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BD 21110196 (263)

Nitr inhabited 'nirhtnna'

stead of releasing only extract

Union to strike over dismissals

Kevin O'Grady

THE Paper Printers' Wood and Allied Workers' Union (Pwawu) would stage a national day of action next month in protest against the dismissal of 196 of its members by the Lion Match Company, general secretary Bengesa Mthobeli said yesterday.

The union had called off protests planned for today as a result of progress made in negotiations with Federated Timbers on the number of recognised bargaining levels, he said.

Mthobeli said Lion Match's dismissal of 196 Pwawu members, and the dismissal of 44 members by Kiley Baker in Selby, during talks on workers' participation in the Pwawu provident fund, proved management's intransigence.

BD 21110196

CONCERN AT MARGINALISATION

December 1st movement reveals plans

THE EDUCATION crisis is one area in which the December 1st movement hopes to become involved. **HENRY LUDSKI** reports.

THE December 1st Movement outlined its plans yesterday "to unify and uplift" coloured communities in the Western Cape.

The movement is concerned about the extent to which coloured people have been marginalised in the transformation process.

At its first major planning meeting yesterday, it signalled its aim to become an "independent mass social movement", concentrating on the problems of marginalised coloured communities.

The movement consists of people from a wide range of backgrounds including prominent activists, academics, trade unionists, priests, workers and youth.

The December 1st Movement — so called because of its symbolic linking to the freeing of slaves in the region 162 years ago — has set down its "symbolic launch" for December 1.

Before that, it plans to hold a series of meetings in suburbs and rural areas throughout the Western Cape to popularise the movement. It plans an official launch only towards the middle of next year.

The movement includes a number of people in the region who have been vocal on the burning coloured question and who now have emerged as central figures behind its formation. Among them are UWC academic Mr Trevor Oosterwyk, Mr David Abrahams, Anglican priest the Rev Michael Weeder and Mr Richard Martin. They have been joined by independent councillor Mr Phillip Bam and a number of others from

progressive groups

Newly-elected ANC Western Cape leader Mr Dullah Omar indicated last week he planned to meet the movement because he had an understanding and appreciation of the problems which it raised.

He said there was enough common ground between the movement and the ANC for him to hold discussions with them.

The movement believes the desire of coloured people to determine the "essence of our identity" should be seen in the context of the events and nuances which had contributed to their destiny.

In terms of a programme of action unveiled at yesterday's meeting, at which a 10-member steering committee was formed, it identified the union movement, education, religion, sports, professional bodies and cultural workers as sectors in which it planned to mobilise support.

It planned to organise throughout the province, but wanted to establish a presence in Mitchells Plain, Athlone, the Northern suburbs, Atlantis and towns in the Boland, Helderberg, Overberg and the West Coast.

Martin, a steering committee member, said the movement would concentrate on lobbying, research and social reconstruction.

It also planned to identify areas for intervention such as affirmative action, the economy of the region, the current crisis in education and proposed welfare cuts.

At the meeting it was stated that although it wanted to focus on coloured communities, it was not a coloured nationalist movement.

In its draft document, the movement lists two of its objectives as being to unite and uplift coloured people within the context of building a non-racial and democratic South Africa.

(23) 21/10/96

NP councillor waits for asset transfer before tackling problems

CT 23/10/96 (263)

THE National Party's Gerhardus Ventura, formerly from Springbok, is the councillor for Delft

Ironically, he lives less than a stone's throw from the Wendy house that serves as the ANC office in Rosendal. The "office" is secured with fencing and surrounded by blade-wire

Ventura is on the phone, but gestures through the front window for me to enter his modest home

A cat wails incessantly from a backroom

The Triad television set is stacked on top of the Tempest hi-fi. One of the speakers displays a large team photo of our soccer stars, Bafana Bafana

On the floor at the other end of the living room rests a faded, block-mounted poster of F W de Klerk delivering "feesgroete" (season's greetings).

Ventura sits in one of the chairs of his creamy-pink lounge suite. A large pink teddy bear sits on the couch, arms outstretched. Still covered in plastic. "Be My Valentine," says the inscription surrounding a bloodred velvet heart

Ventura has just come off the phone to someone he calls "Kaptein". I assume it's a police captain, Core (Community Outreach), the overhauled gangster movement, has called a public meeting for 7pm in the local civic hall. It's now nearly that time. Ventura has assured the Kaptein he'll keep him posted on develop-



DELFT COUNCILLOR: The NP's Mr Gerhardus Ventura

ments

Ventura has been accused of neglecting his responsibilities as councillor for the area. Put bluntly — of "not doing anything" for the people of Delft. They say it's the result of political rivalry

He takes these allegations and the problems of Delft in his stride, ascribing some of them to heightened expectations in the wake of the 1994 elections.

"People must understand that although we've had the elections, it will take a while. Things won't happen as quickly as people expect

"Delft's problems are still the same; they haven't been addressed in the way that they should be

"Where efforts have already been started, people won't see results immediately, only once

these things have been completed — such as the plans for a swimming pool, repairing the roads and pavements, seeing that the place is kept clean, that there's a municipal depot here to create jobs"

He says the problem is that "we still have to take over assets from the structures in the pre-interim phase when the old council system, the old system of mayors was still in place

"At this stage it's very difficult for people to understand why things are not happening and they'll say the councillors do nothing

"But they must understand that we are working according to a process to get things started and it takes time, things don't happen overnight"

He says councillors have inherited problems, "but by this time next year the whole (Tygerberg) sub-structure plans to have all the assets in its hands — and only then will you be able to start working"

On the NP/ANC rivalry in the area, he says: "That will, of course, never stop — but for me the issue is that we had a battle and I won the battle

"Those who want to continue fighting will just have to fight in the dark. The time for fighting for me is past."

He says he has "no conflict with anyone and my philosophy is that it's more desirable to work together for the benefit of the community"

Unions, ANC set to fight top job for Niel Barnard

(263) ARG 24/10/96

LABOUR REPORTER

Public sector unions and the African National Congress in the province are gearing up to oppose the appointment of new Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard.

Dr Barnard, whose appointment is effective from November 1, was a head of the National Intelligence Service under the National Party government.

The National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) last night met representatives of other public sector unions in the province to prepare for Tuesday's meeting of the provincial chamber of the

public service. It has already written to the chamber to ask for Dr Barnard's appointment to be discussed at next week's meeting.

It specifically wants the Western Cape provincial administration to respond to questions about whether affirmative action was considered in advertising and filling the post.

Nehawu has asked for copies of all application forms for the post, the names of shortlisted applicants and their CVs.

If it did not get a "positive response" from the provincial administration by today, Nehawu said, it would be "compelled" to start legal proceedings to get the information

Huge reshuffle of council workers

CT 24/10/96 (263)

PETER DENNEHY

THE Cape Town City Council is to lose 7 000 of its 18 500 employees to other councils in the next eight months in a huge local government reshuffle, consultant Mr Nico McLachlan said yesterday.

Most will probably join the Cape Metropolitan Council.

The council's executive committee yesterday approved a new slimmed-down structure of its own departments — while two of the council's unions protested in a room across the passageway.

The new structure reduces the number of departments from seven to five. One of the five new top posts, head of a transformation department, will be filled on a contract basis and fall away after three years.

The jobs of the top dozen or so council officials will be advertised. People in the jobs will be entitled to re-apply for their own posts. Appointments of the town clerk and the five heads of departments will be made on December 12.

The new departments are finance, municipal services (which include engineering, fire, traffic and ambulances), planning and

economic development, transformation, and community development (which includes housing, health, libraries, amenities and parks and forests).

Even officials in posts just below that level will have to re-apply for their jobs where the job description changes significantly with restructuring.

Mr Chris Hagen, deputy secretary of the Cape Town branch of Imatu, a 10 000-strong union branch within the council, confirmed yesterday that his union and the Professional Staff Association had objected to the way the restructuring was being done.

Six of the present seven heads of department are union members — Mr Gys Hofmeyr, Mr Ed Landsberg, Mr Arthur Clayton, Mr Fred Berwyn-Taylor, Dr Michael Popkiss and Mr David Beretti.

Hagen said agreement had been reached that "staff must follow function" — if your job is transferred to another municipality, you must go with it. He regarded the redefining of posts as new jobs as unfair and against the spirit of agreements already reached.

The dispute will now go to the full Labour Forum.

SWIM OR SINK — WE WON'T BAIL YOU OUT

CRACKDOWN ON COUNCILS

CT 24/10/96 (263) (~~267~~)



THE GOVERNMENT has warned local authorities that if they don't learn to swim they can't rely on the government for a lifeline. **CHRIS BATEMAN** writes

LOCAL authorities that collapse through mismanagement of finances or failing to collect outstanding debts will get no further financial help from Pretoria, Mr Andrew Boraine, Deputy Director-General of Constitutional Development and Local Government, warned yesterday.

Boraine said local authorities that overspent would "have to learn that it's their problem — if they have to close down, so be it".

He added: "They'll have to deal with the consequences of not being able to deliver to their voters and learn to take accountability seriously."

Boraine said the nation's annual debt in rates and tariffs in June this year was running at R5,6 billion, or 25% of the annual R22,2bn local authority rates and tariffs turnover. This was R0,4bn higher than at the same time last year.

The current debt is about double what he considers to be an "acceptable target" figure — between 11% and 15% of the nation's total municipal turnover.

His comments were welcomed by Western Cape Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais, who said he had already cut the provincial allocation to several rural towns by R500 000 to R1 million each.

His own budget had been cut by 37% (R51m) by Pretoria, "so I'm just not in a position to assist local authorities".

Marais said people would either end up with sub-standard services or "we'll just have to whip the willing horses harder" (richer municipi-

palities subsidising poorer ones).

Boraine said his department was researching how best to subsidise the poorest residents, who could genuinely not afford the average tariff of R75 a month.

"We want to ensure that we're subsidising the poor and not local authority inefficiency," he said.

Local authorities would have to shoulder their responsibilities by managing their assets and cash, employing skilled treasurers, radically improving credit control, acting against bad debtors and streamlining billing and metering systems.

Secure and safe payment points for residents and a dedicated crack-down on fraud were other priorities for local authorities.

Marais said he would give Boraine his full backing and would use his constitutional powers to monitor local authorities and take "corrective measures" if necessary.

Boraine advised MECs to develop intervention policies in consultation with municipalities. He said provinces should not rely on Pretoria to police local government.

Marais said that because the Western Cape was better geared than other provinces, some 70 municipal infrastructure projects had already been funded to the tune of R2,08m.

This came partly from Pretoria's R800m inter-governmental loan coffer — which Boraine's research may distribute through a "welfare type" system to ensure poverty-stricken communities benefit instead of its being swallowed up by local authority ineptitude.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT cuts to the Western Cape of R50 million have meant that 14 municipalities face debts of well over R10m, and in some cases face having their assets attached.

● Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais said municipalities were "queuing up for me to bail them out — but I can only give them about R50 000 each".

● He gave examples of Oudtshoorn's budget being slashed from R1,537m in the last financial year to R291 000 this year (R650 000 in debt). Dys-seldorp, from R373 000 to R50 000 (R2,2m in debt), Beaufort West from R987 000 to R292 000 (R1,625m in the red).

● Marais said some towns such as Dys-seldorp had taken loans from their district councils and not banks, which made the situation "redeemable — I can get the districts not to lean so heavily on them".

● He knew of two towns where courts had served papers to attach property to settle their bank loans.

● Towns in the red are Tulbagh (R850 000), Montagu (R971 000), Citrusdal (R1,22m), Heidelberg (R421 422) and Bot. Rivier (R795 000).

New groups to the fore

Residents lose faith in elected councils

CHENE BUGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

New and bigger community organisations are springing up throughout the Tygerberg and Blaauwberg areas because residents say they are forced to look for alternatives as they continue to lose faith in the newly elected councils.

Four months after Western Cape voters went to the polls in the first democratic local government elections, many residents in the northern areas of the Peninsula say they are becoming increasingly disillusioned with the new structures' ability to look after their interests.

Common concerns voiced include a lack of communication between councillors and ratepayers, which they say often results in a lack of under-

standing of communities' problems.

Last week saw the establishment of the new Table View Residents' Association, an amalgamation of two community groups, which will pave the way for a bigger umbrella body for residents of all areas in the newly named Blaauwberg substructure.

"Our aim will be to act as a watchdog and an intermediary between the council and local residents," said Nick Bischoff, chairman of the new residents' association.

Mr Bischoff believes ratepayers have become disillusioned with the new council because of the increasing role of party politics in local government.

"The good working relationship between previous councils and ratepayers' organisations has been ruined by politics."

Blaauwberg residents were also concerned about rumours that the National Party, which controls the local council, wanted to establish branches in all the areas to take over the role of community organisations.

Meanwhile, the Tygerberg Community Forum will have its inaugural meeting in the Bellville Civic Centre this week with the aim of giving locals a collective voice in the governing of their area.

Former Belhar mayor Desmond Poole said the group hoped to unite disgruntled ratepayers on both sides of Voortrekker Road and to include people in Khayelitsha and Mfuleni. Their ultimate goal would be to contest all local government elections.

"We don't believe the local government set-up is conducive to good government.

There is no communication with the residents. Many of them don't understand the changes that are taking place. They are being ignored and are in the dark," said Mr Poole.

He believes there is a need to inform people about the workings of local government.

In Durbanville the local development forum is organising regular meetings with local officials to discuss proposals for land use planning before these are submitted to the Tygerberg urban planning committee.

The group, which claims to have a mandate from thousands of Durbanville residents, wants to have a say in the development of the town to ensure it retains its rural character.

The community organisation is also establishing a local ward council for Durbanville.

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 25, 1996 ★

CITY'S SERVICE ARREARS NOW R1BN

Metro council keeping municipalities afloat

THE CAPE Metropolitan Council is using much of the money it gets from levies on businesses to keep the six municipalities in Greater Cape Town afloat, reports Metro Writer **PETER DENNEHY**.

CT 25/10/96

THE six municipalities in the Greater Cape Town area are swimming, not sinking, according to the experts who run their finances

But that is mainly because of the help they are getting from the Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC), which is using much of the money it gets from levies on businesses to keep the six councils buoyant, says Cape Town treasurer Mr Ed Landsberg

In this budget year the CMC is supporting Tygerberg with R70 million, Cape Town with R39m, Southern with R30m, Eastern with R14m, Northern with R4m and Helderberg with just under R2m. That comes to R159m.

Another R66m from the CMC is being spent on a plan to restore municipal services in black suburbs, bringing the CMC's total to R225m

This week, both the central and the provincial government gave municipalities a "swim or sink" warning. They could not expect to be bailed out if they landed up in financial trouble, said deputy director-general Mr Andrew Boraine and provincial minister Mr Peter Marais, because there was no money available from higher levels of government

Chief director of CMC finances Mr Philip Schenk said that in the past, municipalities had not made any significant budget provision for bad debts for service fees, but would probably have to do so

The total of outstanding arrears on the books of local authorities in Greater Cape Town is now over R1 billion, according to the report of an independent investigation team that looked into financing shortfalls in the 1996/7 budgets of the six new councils

The investigation team was made up of former Cape Town town clerk Mr Don Geyer, former Regional Services Council treasurer Mr Arthur Kleynhans, and UWC-based economist Mr Philip van Ryneveld

"Of the R1 000m, about a quarter relates to the payment for bulk services for the former black local authority areas, and three-quarters to arrears in the former white, coloured and Indian areas," says their report

Local authorities may not budget for deficits, because it is against the law for them to do so. But a look at their finances shows whether, on present trends, their expenditure is likely to exceed their income in future. As Charles Dickens' character Mr Micawber knows, that is a recipe for misery.

The six municipalities spend a combined total of just over R4 billion a year. Grants from the central, provincial and metropolitan government make up R385m of that, in this financial year (R91m from central, R69m from province, and R225m from the metro council)

South Peninsula puts itself on map

(263)

PETER GOOSEN

METRO DESK

ARG 29/10/96

It's South Peninsula - the municipality between Wynberg and Cape Point with the stopgap title of Southern substructure has a real name at last.

A shortlist of seven names chosen by the council's executive was presented to the council at its monthly meeting yesterday for a final vote.

Chairman of the executive Graham Lawrence and mayor John Jacobs thanked the Cape Argus for the role it played in persuading people to submit names.

The naming was placed on a green (confidential) paper by the National Party majority, but Democratic Party councillors Joan Heming and Demetri Qually persuaded the council to announce the name immediately rather than try to keep it quiet until Mr Jacobs's inauguration on November 19.

The final seven were Cape of Good Hope (7 votes), Constantiaberg (7), False Bay (none), Good Hope (one), Muizenberg (none), Simonsberg (none) and South Peninsula (14 votes).

MEC questions 'vast numbers' of councillors

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The necessity of having such a vast number of full-time councillors in Western Cape substructures when many municipalities were facing dire financial straits would be investigated, provincial local government MEC Peter Marais said yesterday.

Fresh from a field trip abroad, Marais noted that the six Western Cape metropolitan substructures and the Cape metropolitan council had a combined total of about 340 councillors who governed a popula-

tion about the size of Miami, which was run by five part-time councillors and a mayor.

The Cape Town council had 74 full-time councillors and Tygerberg 72. Atlanta, which had a population the size of the whole Western Cape, had 18 councillors, while San Francisco had 11 councillors and Chicago, with a population of 8-million, had 50 councillors.

Marais said he planned to instruct the Demarcation Board to investigate whether so many councillors were needed, especially as wages represented about 40% of the

budgets of some municipalities.

The second amendment to the Local Government Transition Bill, expected to be passed in Parliament on November 6, would empower MECs to decide on the size of municipalities on the recommendation of the Demarcation Board. However, changes could be made only after the 1999 general elections.

Marais said he would like to test public opinion on the possibility of directly elected executive mayors, noting that the ANC nationally was also exploring the idea. He also disclosed that no less

than 45 councillors in non-metropolitan Western Cape areas had been disqualified for being in arrears with municipal payments and announced a new "get tough" approach to non-payment.

The outstanding debt to municipalities for rents, rates and services in the province now totalled R750m. The situation was deteriorating in some areas where payers were refusing to pay until non-payers did so, Marais said. For instance, payment in George had dropped from 93% to 66% for this reason. Most of the disqualified council-

lors were ANC members, though some were NIP representatives, Marais said. They automatically lost their positions once it was discovered they were three months or more in arrears.

By-elections would have to be held where the councillors were elected on a ward basis, otherwise replacements would have to be made from the party lists.

Towns affected included Hermanus, Mossel Bay, Robertson and others. The final tally for the metropolitan areas would become known next week.

Bill to give 30 000 'struggle veterans' demobilisation payouts

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Legislation to legalise the payment of demobilisation packages to former ANC and PAC soldiers, at a still unquantified cost to the state, was tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The "demob" packages follow the approval in Parliament earlier this month of special pensions for "struggle veterans". It is understood that about 30 000 people could qualify

for the packages. The Bill provides for the payment of demobilisation gratuities to members of the so-called non-statutory forces who were integrated into the SANDF after the election and no longer wished to pursue a military career.

Those in the SANDF who do not satisfy the military's employment qualifications will also be entitled to a demobilisation gratuity if the Bill is approved in its present form. Demobilisation of the people

falling into this category has already begun but there is no legislation to govern the process. The Bill was prepared to legitimise the payment of demobilisation packages to former Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) and Apla soldiers. It validates all payments already made.

The explanatory memorandum to the Bill says gratuities will also be tax free up to a maximum of R30 000. The packages will range between R12 000 and R42 000, de-

pending on length of service with either MK or Apla.

In terms of the legislation Defence Minister Joe Modise will appoint a committee to vet applications to ensure that they are genuine and appear on the consolidated personnel registers which the parties were required to complete before the integration process began.

Last month the ANC was accused of using the delay in the approval of the final constitution to get

a further 6 000 members of the former liberation armies on its personnel register. The cut-off date was supposed to be the adoption of the constitution in May but because it was sent back this allowed a new date for finalisation of registration. DP MP James Selfe said that if demobilisation allowed trained soldiers to be disarmed and retrained rather than having them running around with their weapons "then it will be money well spent".

Marais wants to cut size of local councils

CHRIS BATEMAN

(263)
CT 29/10/96
GREATLY reduced local councils and publically-elected executive mayors with more powers could be on the way if Western Cape Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais has his way.

Speaking yesterday after a tour of local authorities in the UK and the US, he said councils in the Western Cape were cumbersome and hugely expensive compared to overseas municipalities

He cited Miami (population 2,5 million) with five councillors and one mayor, compared to Cape Town (population one million) with 73 councillors and one mayor and Tygerberg's (800 000) 71 councillors and one mayor.

Atlanta, with a population equal that of the Western Cape (just over 3 million), has only 18 councillors

On the other hand Chicago, with a population of eight million people, has 50 councillors.

Local salaries (councillors in all major sub-structures recently voted themselves the maximum allowable salaries of around R6 600 per month) appeared generous compared to what councillors earned in Miami (around R2 200 per month)

Marais, who can only introduce new legislation to match his intentions after the 1999 elections, said he wanted to hold a referendum on voting for executive mayors

In the US, executive mayors could veto council decisions and could only be over-riden by a two-thirds council majority. They also were subjected to scrutiny in the public election process and the "best man generally gets the job".

Local mayors play mainly a ceremonial role

Megacity may kill off councils

(263) ARG 30/10/96

ANC reveals plan

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The newly created Cape Town metropolitan substructures could be destroyed by a new "megacity" plan.

The possible abolition of the six substructures - Cape Town, Tygerberg, Blaauwberg, South Peninsula, Helderberg and Eastern Substructure - was disclosed today by Pravin Gordhan, head of the African National Congress study group on constitutional affairs.

He said the issue was among those to be dealt with in the future white paper on local government.

There was some backing for a "megacity" option, with substructures being abolished.

The deciding factor in the debate would be which model of metropolitan government would provide the most efficient delivery of services, he said.

Mr Gordhan pointed out that some large cities, like Chicago, had metropolitan councils but no substructures.

In contrast, Sydney had local councils but no metropolitan body.

Mr Gordhan, in his capacity as head of the National Assembly committee on constitutional affairs, is overseeing bridging legislation on the transformation of local government.

This process would be linked to the process of drawing up a white paper on local government.

"You could have a totally new concept of metropolitan government - a megacity," he said.

The existing form of metropolitan government in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg was the product of negotiations which started before 1994.

The aim now was to devise a model for metropolitan government countrywide which was a blend of uniformity and flexibility for individual cities.

Success on this issue was important because metropolitan areas were the engine-rooms of the South African economy, Mr Gordhan said.

Consideration would be given to rationalising the number of municipalities, which at 800 countrywide was too many.

Rationalisation was required for more efficient delivery of services.

Green light for R70-m Tygerberg budget

CHENE BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

(263)

The wheels of Tygerberg can finally be set in motion with the unanimous approval of a R70-million capital budget to pave the way for urgent projects.

Overcoming an earlier impasse, the full council yesterday allocated R50-million spending on the rates and general account and R20 million on the electricity account of the city's capital budget.

At last month's meeting these items were rejected because African National Congress members voted against them, saying they were unhappy with the way this section of the budget was prioritised.

The council therefore had failed to get the two-thirds majority needed for decisions on finance.

The ANC's fears appear to have been effectively allayed at a subsequent executive committee meeting from which the press and the public were barred.

Yesterday the council presented a united front, approving the budget without debate.

The initial debate on the budget, which was held soon after local government elections, was also held behind closed doors.

At yesterday's meeting, the council also agreed that any urgent item which had not been provided for on this year's budget could be submitted to the council for consideration.

Rural councils axe 45 members

(263)
CHRIS BATEMAN

ET 30/10/96

AT least 45 rural councillors have lost their jobs after a Supreme Court judgment backing legislation that automatically disqualifies them if they are more than three months in arrears on council service charges

The Supreme Court ruled that town clerks were not bound to give notice to councillors that they were about to go over three months into arrears, or to negotiate with offenders before sacking them — something ANC-controlled country municipalities had claimed they were

Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais expressed delight at the ruling, which he said vindicated his belief that it was untenable for councillors to try to uphold the Masakhane campaign when some of them were the "biggest non-payment offenders"

There will be a by-election next month in Hermanus, where seven of the 16 councillors have lost their positions

Other Western Cape towns affected include Mossel Bay (four councillors), Robertson (six councillors) and Great Brak River (the mayor)

BRIEFS

Tygerberg to get lion's share

(263) CT 31/10/96

TYGERBERG municipality will get the lion's share of the R40 million that the Cape Metropolitan Council has set aside for RDP projects in the metropolitan area in the year up to mid-1997.

Dr Les Rencontre, a metro councillor, said yesterday that Tygerberg will get R14m (34%) of the available funds, the South will get R7,4m (18%), Central and Helderberg each R5,9m (14%), Eastern R5,2m (13%) and Northern R2,4m (6%).

He said it was regrettable that the Brown's Farm and Crossroads area would not get any of the money in this budget year, because the former council for that area had not submitted a request.

Rencontre said 26 projects would go ahead with the available R40m. These included a new community centre in Strand, upgrading existing centres in Nyanga, Langa and Guguletu, upgrading flats in Ravensmead and Elsie's River, and the provision of health-care and public transport facilities.

45 TO BE FIRED

Crisis over sacking of non-paying councillors

(263) CT/11/96

MEC PETER MARAIS, at first delighted by a court ruling that councillors with payment arrears may be sacked, found it had 'snowballed into chaos'. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

EFFECTIVE government in several rural towns is being threatened as civic bodies face shrinking quorums because of Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais' court victory which allows for the sacking of councillors who are over three months in service payment arrears.

With at least 45 rural councillors now due to "walk", Marais indicated yesterday that he was having a "serious rethink" on enforcing the legislation.

The lack of quorums would mean vitally needed upliftment and development projects would be frozen until the local council could legally vote on them.

With Christmas looming, this could set the vital delivery process back by several months.

The cost of holding by-elections to replace councillors is another major factor.

Marais intends offering a morato-

rium until December.

Then any councillor over three months in service payment arrears will be automatically disqualified from holding office.

An amended proclamation is imminent. It is believed to include a two-week notice period to councillors about to go over three months in arrears.

Marais, who at first had been delighted with his court victory, said the situation had "snowballed into chaos".

Town clerks across the province were being inundated by councillors angrily waving receipt papers or handing in lists of offending political opponents.

"It's turning into a real party and town clerks can hardly operate — never mind quorums being under serious threat at several towns," Marais added.

"My intention was not to punish

people for being a couple of rands in arrears, but rather to make the point that it is unacceptable for councillors to represent the Masakhane campaign which is all about payment, when they themselves are among the worst offenders," he said.

Cape metropolitan municipalities are expected to have assessed how many of their councillors are "offenders" by next week.

The Supreme Court ruled that — contrary to what ANC-controlled country municipalities had claimed — town clerks were not bound to give notice to councillors about to go over three months in arrears or to negotiate with offenders before sacking them.

Most metropolitan municipalities tip off councillors in danger of falling foul of the law.

A by-election had been due next month in Hermanus where at least seven of the 16 councillors stood to lose their positions.

Among several other towns to be affected are Mossel Bay (four members), Robertson (six) and Great Brak River (the mayor).

Who wants to be the boss of Cape Town?

By TOM HOOD

ST(CM)3/11/96 (263)

MORE than 36 men and women who want to run Cape Town have applied for the job of chief executive officer, a new post replacing the age-old position of town clerk.

Salary is negotiable but the package could be worth about R250 000 a year

By the Friday deadline this week, 36 applications had been received by consultants acting for the executive committee — and a few more delayed in the post were expected.

"We had inquiries from overseas but no overseas applications have reached us yet," said Bill Sewell of the Renwick Group who, with Professor Ampie Muller of the University of the Western Cape, will go through the applications and prepare a provisional short list

"A few women have applied and the applications go right across the country's colour spectrum and business backgrounds. There is a cross-section of people

from the public sector as well as senior business executives in the Cape and other parts of the country"

The council's advertisement described the city's chief executive as being committed to cost-effectiveness, democracy, transformation and development.

The CEO would provide transformational leadership "to ensure that this large, multi-disciplinary operation focuses on meeting the enormous development challenges faced by a city in transition"

Qualifications include "outstanding skills in the areas of leadership, vision, strategic planning, influence and communication, including fluency in at least two of the city's languages and a willingness to develop competence in the third"

Five executive directors are also being sought to form a new top management for Cape Town

Meanwhile, a second CEO job is about to be advertised — that of head of the new Cape Metropolitan Council, which offers a salary of nearly R250 000

TAG
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ANC tries to bridge Free State rift

(263) Star 4/11/96
BY JUSTICE MALALA
Provincial Correspondent

Free State ANC leaders arrived in Johannesburg this morning to thrash out the bitter rift between the provincial leadership there and its premier, Patrick "Terror" Lekota, who has been accused of undermining the organisation.

Provincial secretary Annah Buthelezi said last night the ANC's 25-member national working committee, which summoned the 42 leaders to Shell

House, would determine the agenda of the meeting.

"They summoned us and we remain open-minded. Whatever their solution is we will accept it," she said.

The meeting comes after the uneasy peace in the province fell apart again after Lekota accused provincial chairman Pat Matosa of corruption on his weekly television programme.

The ANC there retaliated by saying it will bring disciplinary charges against him and start a

commission of inquiry into the allegations.

In the meantime, speculation in the province continues to abound that Lekota may be posted to the Far East as ambassador to allow a new leader to take over and bring unity to the province.

The party will hold its provincial congress in December, and Lekota has made it clear he will make himself available for the position of provincial chairman, which he lost to Matosa two years ago.

There were also leaders in the alliance who wanted to hold as many positions as possible but

runners-up Alina Mokoena from Johannesburg, both fruit sellers, at a ceremony in Johannesburg on Friday arranged by the trust, the largest producer of bananas in SA. The contest, for market agents and buyers at municipal fresh produce markets, was introduced last year as part of a marketing drive.

Picture: TYRONE ARTHUR

Councillors' municipal accounts in arrears

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The number of Western Cape councillors in arrears with their municipal payments totalled about 150 and included metropolitan mayor William Bantom, it emerged at the weekend.

This led local government MEC Peter Marais to introduce a two-month moratorium on dismissals, normally automatic when arrears are outstanding for three months or longer.

The moratorium was the result of an agreement between Marais and the ANC.

Bantom said he owed R1 467,99 for the period July 1 and October 24 — more than the stipulated three months — but said this was due to the misleading account he had received which did not clearly stipulate when the amount was due. Excluding metropolitan councillors, there were 45 other local authority representatives in arrears.

A spokesman for Marais said nearly all members of some councils were in arrears, while others could not achieve a quorum because members had been dismissed.

Under electoral regulations still in force, a councillor indebted to a transitional local authority for more than three months is immediately disqualified from holding office. In terms of a proclamation adopted by provincial committee members last week, councillors already disqualified or those who would re-

ceive notices shortly would have to pay within a specified period.

In the latter case they would be required to pay within two weeks of receiving the notice.

The moratorium would last until December 31 when the situation would revert to the status quo.

However, the expected promulgation of local government legislation by Parliament next week would give MECs greater powers and enable Marais to legislate a period of notice for offending councillors.

(263) RD 4/11/96

ANC

... would subpoena self-conscience
... by the ...

Police dockets handed over to attorney-general

BO 5/11/96

Stephané Bothma

PRETORIA — A "cardboard box" containing police dockets relating to human rights violations during the 1980s by a wide spectrum of individuals, including ANC members, has been handed to the office of the Transvaal attorney-general and is being studied.

"We are working through the dockets, looking at the evidence and will decide on whether or not prosecutions should take place," senior advocate Antonette de Jager said yesterday.

She confirmed that a docket relating to the Pretoria Church Street bomb was among the dockets received from the SAPS.

Police commissioner George Fivaz said the handing over of the dockets — relating to politically motivated crimes during the apartheid era — had been done at the request of Transvaal attorney-general Jan D'Oliveira.

"D'Oliveira recently requested that the SAPS give him any outstanding dockets relating to politically motivated crimes because he felt a victim of a perception that he was not even-handed in probing such atrocities across the political spectrum," Fivaz said.

D'Oliveira's special investigation team has for the past two years been

investigating, among others, crimes allegedly committed by members of the former security forces and had been responsible for the investigation which put former Vlakplaas commander Eugene de Kock behind bars for life.

Recently, another former Vlakplaas commander, Brig Jack Cronje, and a member of the Northern Transvaal security branch, Capt Jacques Hechter, were also charged by D'Oliveira with 27 apartheid crimes. The two are due to appear in the Supreme Court next year, but have applied to the truth commission for amnesty.

"D'Oliveira indicated that he and his investigation team would assess the relevant dockets, after which he would decide on any further investigations and possible prosecutions," the commissioner said.

Fivaz said it was incorrect to infer that the police had established investigation teams to reopen the dockets for further investigation.

He said the perception that the dockets in question related only to actions allegedly committed by ANC members also had to be dispelled.

"To be even-handed, these dockets should include investigations against a wide spectrum of individuals linked to the conflicts of the past," Fivaz said.

Cape council embarks on valuation

BO 5/11/96 (263)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The Cape metropolitan council and five of the six municipalities incorporated under it have agreed to embark on a valuation of properties based only on the market value of the land, without consideration being given to the value of structural improvements.

The sixth, Helderberg, still has to discuss the issue.

As properties in some parts of Cape Town were valued only as far back as 1974 and 1979, it was expected that some people could be paying substantially higher rates to reflect the escalation in the market value of their land.

It was envisaged that new rating structures on the basis of next year's valuation would be implemented from July 1998.

Former Cape Town city planner and South Peninsula municipality representative Neville Riley warned yesterday that ways would have to be found to soften the impact on those whose properties were last valued in 1979.

The council and municipalities decided that unlike Gauteng, there would not be a uniform rate imposed throughout the metropolitan area. It would be left to each municipality to decide its own rates in the light of their budgetary and social needs and individual policy on rebates.

Development council launched

CT 5/11/96

(263)

~~11/11/96~~

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE lack of a healthy "synergy" between labour, business and the Western Cape government was destroying the province's ability to promote economic growth, Premier Hennus Kriel said at Lynedoch yesterday.

Speaking at the launch of the Provincial Development Council (PDC), Kriel said that while the province compared favourably with the other provinces, it was below par by international standards.

The eight-person PDC — with two members each from labour, business, civil society and the province — will seek consensus in creating permanent jobs, promot-

ing small, medium and micro enterprises and boosting the informal sector.

The PDC was launched in spite of strenuous objections from the ANC to the appointment of two "non-official" members to represent the province.

Mr Chris Apri, acting chairman of the Provincial Housing Board, and Mr Theo Behrens, former chief executive of the Regional Development Advisory Committee, are the appointments in question.

The chairperson of the PDC is Mr Walter Scheffler, former chairman of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, and the vice-chairman is Mr John Neels, a member of the provincial committee

Agreement on (263) land-based rates

PETER DENNEHY

CT 5/11/96

All property owners in the Cape Cod metropolitan area are to pay rates based on the value assigned early next year to their land.

The councils of five of the six municipalities in the metropolitan area, as well as the Metro Council, have agreed to land-only valuations when the first updated maps are

The Hon. Helderberg has yet to reach a decision.

At present there are 10 different local authorities in the metro area. There are still tax rates based on property values as measured in different years.

It was agreed at a meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Council yesterday that valuation be carried out in Greater Cape Cod area as soon as possible. The valuations would be based on land only, as this would be the quickest and cheapest way to complete a valuation list.

Mr. Pierre Toys, chairman of the Metro Council, said that each municipality should involve its citizens in decisions on a rate in the final round of the representative government.

Mr. Leon Martorel, chief of Cape Cod and public participation, said that

Row over Barnard heats up

CT 6/11/96
(263)

CHRIS BATEMAN

A COSATU-BACKED campaign is to be launched against former intelligence chief Dr Niel Barnard's appointment as director-general of the Western Cape — but an ANC request for a snap debate on the matter has been turned down in the legislature.

Speaker of the legislature Mr Willem Doman confirmed that it was the first time he had turned down a request for a debate on a "matter of public importance".

He said union involvement and the phrasing of the ANC request yesterday had convinced him his decision was valid.

He said he had also turned down an NP request for an urgent debate on the taxi crisis. He had done so on the grounds that he had agreed before to an identically phrased request

Although the ANC request had "merit" in the light of revelations to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, opportunities for debate would come up when the legislature sat later this year. No question had been raised of irregularities in Barnard's appointment.

The National Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) was in dispute with MEC for Finance Mr Kobus Meiring over Barnard's appointment and a debate could "prejudice" Meiring, Doman said.

Mr Cameron Dugmore, an ANC member of the legislature, said Doman's ruling was "unacceptable and shows that the NP is running scared because of increasing pressure against the Barnard appointment".

Nehawu, which staged an "anti-Barnard" protest outside the province's Wale Street headquarters on October 18, vowed at the Cosatu regional congress last week-

end to use "whatever means at our disposal" to oppose the move.

The union threatened a campaign of "rolling mass action" and labelled Barnard "the direct executioner of apartheid crimes".

Nehawu spokesman Mr Wilfred Alcock said Barnard's primary function had entailed "the murder of revolutionary cadres" and the propping-up of the defunct apartheid regime.

His organisation believed that Premier Mr Hennis Kriel, a minister of police during the apartheid years, had failed to apply affirmative action in making the appointment.

Meiring — a member of the executive sub-committee that appointed Barnard — said Barnard, more than any other official during the apartheid years, had been responsible for convincing the former government to choose negotiation over conflict.

Western Cape has R358m unauthorised

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape provincial administration and 53 local governments in the province had a combined unauthorised expenditure of R358m in the 1994/95 financial year, the auditor-general has concluded in two reports released yesterday.

Provincial auditor Willie Brits said the identified shortcomings indicated that financial measures, both at provincial and local government level, could be improved.

The auditor-general's report on local governments in the province questioned the ability of some to

act as public service institutions because of their poor financial position. In 47 cases delivering services resulted in deficits of R97m in the 1994/95 financial year, with total accumulated deficits in 24 cases amounting to R37m.

The R692m in unappropriated, accumulated and reserve funds of district councils appeared "excessive", the report said, as their main aim was to improve and maintain infrastructure and facilities in disadvantaged areas.

The unauthorised expenditure of R256m incurred by the provincial administration was mainly due to the health and social welfare departments exceeding their much-diminished budgets by R191m and R53m respectively.

The auditor-general noted a number of cases of alleged fraud involving amounts ranging from R467 063 to R42 529, which included irregular payments of salaries, theft of stock and fictitious petrol claims.

An officer and accomplices at Groote Schuur Hospital allegedly fictitiously requisitioned stock to enrich themselves by R467 063. They were charged with fraud and were awaiting trial.

Another irregularity involved the expenditure of R465 690 on an educational video series without complying with tender board instructions. This had been handed over to the Office for Serious Economic Offences, which was also investigating the award of a contract to a private firm for the payment of pensions.

Other shortcomings at provincial level were inadequate controls over the collection of hospital fees and the inability to rely on the internal audit function. Outstanding fees amounted to R81m at the end of March last year.

The auditor-general expressed concern over the failure of local authorities to write up books

timely and the delay in submitting annual financial statements. Eighteen local governments' books and accounts were not ready for auditing on August 31 this year while the statements of four local governments and nine former development areas for previous years were outstanding, some as far back as 1990/91.

The report said "payment boycotts as well as deficient measures relating to the collection of outstanding service accounts are still the main causes of the poor cash flow of certain local governments". The amount owed to 122 of 160 local governments for services was

R249m as at June 30 this year.

Difficulties experienced as a result of the amalgamation of local governments meant that unqualified audit opinions could not be passed on the assets, liabilities, income and expenditure of some transitional councils.

Other deficiencies highlighted were the failure of the majority of local governments to maintain a proper record of fixed and movable assets. Housing administration was inadequate, tender procedures were sometimes not complied with, and there were shortcomings in internal checking and control measures.

expenditure

BD 6/11/96

263

IFP, DP, Natal reject amended constitution

(263) BD 7/11/96

Deborah Fine

THE DP, KwaZulu-Natal province and the IFP have criticised the Constitutional Assembly's amended text as again failing to meet the standards required for certification because the reworked text still unacceptably reduced provincial powers.

Asking the Constitutional Court not to certify the amended text adopted by the Assembly last month, the parties and the province said in papers lodged with the court this week that the amended text was still inconsistent with constitutional principle XV111.2, which governs provincial powers and functions.

The principle, along with 33 others, formed part of the interim constitution thrashed out by political parties during multiparty talks at Kempton Park in 1993.

In order to certify the new constitution, the Constitutional Court has to be satisfied that the whole text complies with the interim constitutional principles. The principle states that "the powers and functions of provinces including the competence of a provincial legislature to adopt a constitution for its province, shall not be substantially less than or substantially inferior to those provided for in this constitution".

Thus powers awarded to provinces in the new text's schedules 4 and 5 may not be cumulatively diminished compared to those enjoyed in schedule 6 of the interim constitution. In its first certification judgment in July this year, the Constitutional Court found that the Assembly's original text conflicted with principle XV111.2 because the provinces' powers had been lessened by a clause allowing national government to "override" provincial decisions in specific circumstances. Various other provincial powers and functions had also been curtailed.

The Assembly was ordered to rework the text. But the DP, the IFP and the KwaZulu-Natal Province have argued that the reworked text still diminishes provincial powers.

The DP said the Assembly had done the "minimum necessary to ensure compliance", particularly in relation to the override clause.

The IFP said the amended text still reduced provincial powers and functions in 42 areas where provinces had originally enjoyed legislative competence, either exclusively or concurrently with national government.

KwaZulu-Natal said the Assembly had approached the amendments "on the basis of a minimalistic metric", and that powers in 38 areas were still substantially curtailed.

Teeth lost as councillors come to blows

By CHARL DE VILLIERS

ST (cm) 10/11/96
A STELLENBOSCH councillor has lost four teeth after allegedly being attacked by a fellow ANC-member in the town's municipal offices.

Town Clerk Kosie Retief this week confirmed that councillors Wilson Ntunze and Alicia Mgiyuma came to blows.

The incident occurred after they got out of a lift on the second floor of the Stellenbosch municipality's Plein Street building.

"This is a very sensitive matter. We've set up an emergency committee to try and resolve this business in-house," said Retief.

Mgiyuma, who lost a tooth during the brawl and later had to have another three extracted, refused to comment.

She had allegedly been struck by Ntunze after inquiring about the frown on his face.

He, in turn, had reputedly "accused her of bad-mouthing him in public."

Their antagonism allegedly relates to a council decision to evict squatters from land which had been earmarked for 146 family housing units following exhaustive consultation with zone leaders in Kayamandi.

Stellenbosch is busy with a major development upgrade in Kayamandi, an overcrowded and chaotic remnant of apartheid planning.

Ntunze who, like Mgiyuma, lives in a shack, could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press.

By BRETT ADKINS

FAMPANT corruption in the Eastern Cape's provincial government has placed its director general, Thozamile Botha, in the firing line of a campaign to stamp out the rot.

Government insiders say they are angry at denials from Bisho that the situation is critical, despite a statement by the Minister of Public Service and Administration, Zola Skweyiya, that the region was in a "terrible crisis".

Botha's insistence that matters are under control has fuelled speculation that he is fighting for his political life and that his job is on the line. Maladministration and corruption

Showdown looms over corruption

have prompted several ANC and opposition members of the provincial legislature to agree that a lack of financial control, inexperience and incompetent bureaucrats are at the root of the region's troubles.

However, hours after Botha publicly denied that his province's administration and finances were in a mess, thieves stole R2,5-million destined for rural pensioners from a safe in the province's public welfare department.

Welfare director Namhla Dyantyi said the thieves had had the keys to the

safe. An official was later suspended.

The same day, the provincial legislature heard that a project committee member had withdrawn R11 000 from a Mount Coke community bank account and gambled it away at three casino resorts in the region.

Despite Skweyiya's comments of a province in "paralysis", Botha was prepared to concede only that there were problems with which the central government was assisting Bisho.

"They are helping us identify weaknesses," he told the Sunday Times. But the latest incidents top a list of

theft and corruption stretching back months and one which has prompted Skweyiya to send in an emergency task team — including foreign experts — in an attempt to stop the rot.

The provincial housing and local government department's report for July and August included notes on the suspension of 14 government officials for fraud or theft between April and August included claims that:

- Allowances were paid out to more than one mayor in Komgasa;
- Umtata councillors paid themselves an unauthorised R320 400 in

allowances and back payments".

- An amount of R271 000 was paid to a panel-beating company owned by Butterworth councillors.

- A Port St Johns town clerk sold himself prime property for R5 000 and paid himself almost R20 000.

Eddie Trent, who represents the Democratic Party in the Eastern Cape's provincial legislature, said a special interim report by the auditor general on the provincial administration's financial management contained damning evidence of a total lack of it.

"But we don't know yet if things are possibly starting to improve. I am sceptical, however," Trent said.

Speaking in the provincial legislature, Trent said the money stolen from the Mount Coke project had been intended for a new road in the area.

Public works MEC Thobile Mhahlo said that R219 000 from the premier's "discretionary fund" — intended for projects like Mount Coke's Ndleka road — had been deposited in the local community's bank account.

Of this, R11 000 and another undisclosed sum were unaccounted for.

The ANC's Max Madlungezi also expressed concern that the financial management of RDP projects was being carried out by incompetents.

NEWS

Cape Nats say 'no' to funds for R3-m summit

'Luxurious' waste of money

(263)

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

ARLT 13/11/96

National Party members of the Cape Metropolitan Council are refusing to contribute towards a R3-million local government "summit" because they see it as an extravagant waste of money.

President Mandela is to address the Durban summit on November 22 after the official opening by Constitutional Affairs Minister Valli Moosa the previous day. The organisers are seeking to raise some of the R3-million budget from local councils but are likely to get short shrift from the Cape Metropolitan Council.

The council's executive committee yesterday voted against donating money for the gathering of more than 3 000 delegates from councils across the country.

Because the executive committee could not achieve a two-thirds majority on the issue, the matter will have to be debated by the full council at the

end of the month - after the summit has taken place.

The purpose of the summit is to "celebrate the demarcation of local government following the finalisation of elections in Natal" and to launch the new South African Local Government Association which will deal directly with national government.

The summit also aims to create a new awareness of the newly acquired status of local government as enshrined in the new constitution.

The Cape Metropolitan Council was asked to help fund the conference by sponsoring a lunch or cocktail party at R240 000 each or by making a direct donation.

Cape NP member David Erleigh described the summit as "extremely expensive and very luxurious".

He was opposed by ANC councillors Mzukisi Gaba, David Dlali and Welcome Zenzile who said the council should contribute if it wished to play a full role in the South African Local Government Association.

CMC seeks R25m excess

PETER DENNEHY

THE Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) is to seek authority to exceed its budget by R25 million — so it can pay what is now regarded as its share of the arrears of former black local authorities

In the past seven years, the CMC and its predecessor, the Regional Services Council (RSC) provided black local authorities (BLAs) with water in bulk, and sewage disposal and refuse removal services, and some health services. BLAs were supposed to pay for these services — but many had virtually collapsed.

In January 1994 Mr F W de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela agreed that the government would

ET 14/11/96 (263)
pay debts of black local authorities up to the end of that month. Debt owed then by black local authorities to the Western Cape RSC amounted to R15m.

The state has since paid R5m via the provincial authorities. The CMC's chief director of finances, Mr Philip Schenck, has pursued the outstanding R10m for years, and has claimed unpaid township bulk services accounts since January 1994.

The further accumulations of this sort of debt, from the end of January 1994 to the middle of this year, amounted to R35m.

Last month the CMC was told that Minister of Local Government Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa had now authorised payment to it of R17m — more than wiping out the

outstanding R10m, but only reducing the remaining arrears, built up after January 1994, by a fifth.

What's more, there were conditions attached to payment by the government of the first instalment of nearly R6m, the most important being that the CMC was expected to contribute, rand-for-rand, to writing off arrears.

The total amount was R50m, made up of R15m before January 1994, and R35m since then. The central government has paid R5m, and intends to pay this R17m, and will pay the council another R2m in output VAT that the council can claim. That makes R25m which the central government will have paid. The remainder of the debt is R25m, which the CMC is expected to write off.

White paper 'to help guide local authorities'

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape provincial government would begin drafting a provincial white paper on local government next year to guide fledgling local authorities through the difficult phase of transition, local government MEC Peter Marais said at the weekend.

The white paper would attempt to delineate practically the constitution's provisions on local government

Marais hoped the document would be finalised in six months and hoped it would include an enforceable code of ethics and conduct for councillors

Speaking after his address to the regional association of executive officers, town clerks and town secretaries in Hermanus, Marais said many of the new councillors were behaving unethically.

He said he would like to appoint a new local government

commissioner to investigate their abuses against fellow councillors, town clerks and treasurers and to recommend prosecution

"There are several inexperienced new councillors who are baying for the blood of officials from the old system

"Many of them are making the lives of town clerks hell. They do not realise the difference between councillors and officials

"There have been cases of assault against officials who have also been terrorised at their homes," said Marais

The intimidation was aimed at getting officials to comply with councillors' wishes on issues such as zoning, selling of land and non-payment, he said

The white paper would focus on issues such as the devolution of powers and functions from provincial to local government, for example regarding rezoning, building regulations and the subdivision of land

(263)

BD 18/11/96

Marais would like to see his role as final arbitrator on these issues being replaced with arbitration at local level

The white paper would also concentrate on the transformation of local authorities into agencies for development rather than just the provider of services.

Other issues would be local government finances, methods to deal with the non-payment of rates and services and the monitoring role that provincial government should play

Questions of empowerment, affirmative action and training would be critical and Marais said it was untenable to have only white town clerks and treasurers

The promulgation of the new Labour Relations Act would also have far-reaching consequences for local authorities which would no longer be graded for salary purposes and would have to negotiate with trade unions on wages and working conditions.

NEWS

Province rejects South Peninsula municipality name

'Constantiaberg' now likely

PETER GOOSEN
METRO DESK

263

The new, democratically chosen name of the Wynberg-to-Simon's Town municipality, South Peninsula, will probably never be used because the Western Cape provincial administration does not approve of it.

The name was adopted after a wide-spread public participation campaign and a free vote across party lines by the Southern Substructure council's executive. This was later ratified by the full council.

The province says it would like all the Western Cape substructures to have names ending in "berg", and the only exceptions so far have been the Eastern municipality, Cape Town and the South Peninsula municipality.

John "O J" Jacobs, who was formally inducted as mayor last night, said in an interview earlier that the province had put



New team: mayor 'OJ' Jacobs and, right, mayoress Hannelia Jacobs with deputy mayor Felicity Purchase

DOUG PITHEV

formal acceptance of the new name "on hold"

"Province has not been demanding about it. They have pointed out that in our advertisements asking for suggestions for a new name we said that preference would be given to a name that did not require translation into the three official languages. South Peninsula would require translation."

Mr Jacobs said the full council would, at its next meeting on November 27, debate a review and rescind motion and might come up with a more acceptable alternative.

When the executive debated a new name for the substructure two months ago, there was a shortlist of five.

A close contender was Constantiaberg and it looks as if this could become the council's "acceptable alternative".

At the mayoral induction ceremony, Felicity Purchase was inducted as the substructure's first deputy mayor.

Unique proposals for W Cape government

CHRIS BATEMAN (263)

A SWELLING of Western Cape legislative ranks, 15 more years of a government of provincial unity and an environmental commission "with teeth" were three unique constitutional proposals to emerge from the province yesterday

The draft Western Cape constitution, if ratified by the Constitutional Court early in the second half of next year, could make it unique in South Africa

An integrated document containing submissions by the provincial legislature's political parties was presented to the Standing Committee on Constitutional Affairs yesterday by Professor Nico Steytler, director of community law at the University of the Western Cape

One of the suggestions in
ET 20/11/96

the document is that 10 "expert advisers" be designated or elected by interest groups to take part in legislative debates. The "expert extras" may, however, not vote or belong to any political party in the legislature

Other submissions are that each local government district designate one member to sit in the legislature, (limited to eight), or that there be a separate council of local government representatives (unwieldy and therefore unlikely)

Fierce debate is expected around how representatives of interest groups will be chosen or nominated when the topic hits the legislative chamber on February 18 next year.

The 15-year government of provincial unity clause, championed by Premier Mr Hernus Kriel, leaves the ANC

little option but to remain co-operative partners or emulate the NP at national level and walk out — and risk making a full frontal assault at the hustings

A proposed Environmental Commission, members of which would serve for five years, would advise the executive committee and the public, monitor development, initiate impact studies and probe complaints on environmental violations. Current debate revolves around giving this body "teeth"

January 13 is the closing date for applications for oral submissions to the province's Constitutional Committee and January 31 the closing date for written submissions

A final draft text is expected by the end of February

Bold new plan for Western Cape rule

Parties seek partnership deal

MICHAEL MORRIS
STAFF REPORTER

Support for "partnership government" in the Western Cape to defuse political conflict and nurture economic stability is mounting as negotiations on the provincial constitution intensify.

This has emerged after the first full week of all-party discussions on the refined draft of the provincial constitution

The final product will have a deep and lasting effect on the way politics and government administration are conducted in the province, and will significantly influence social and economic conditions. The partnership government clause is being seen as an important instrument in neutralising political conflict, demonstrating a unity of purpose and to instill confidence in investors

The African National Congress is still formally opposed to writing a power sharing arrangement into the provincial constitution, but there is growing consensus among all the parties that some form of partnership government be included in the blueprint

At this stage, the disagreement is about what form it should take

Negotiations are to resume on Monday

A final draft is expected to be published for public comment in December. The second round of submissions will close in mid-January, when there will be a series of pub-

lic hearings. If all goes well, the constitution bill will be tabled for debate in early February, then submitted for vetting to the Constitutional Court, and could take effect by mid-1997

The constitution-making process is being steered by 33-year-old attorney Henrie Bester, provincial leader of the Democratic Party and chairperson of the all-party standing committee on constitutional affairs in the Western Cape legislature

He said yesterday that negotiations so far "have been extremely encouraging, and I believe we will be able to reach consensus and furnish the province with a useful document"

He was determined to achieve agreement by consensus

Political tallies in the Western Cape legislature - National Party 23, ANC 14, DP 3, Freedom Front 1 and African Christian Democratic Party 1 - mean that if the NP, DP, FF and ACDP vote together they will achieve the required two-thirds majority to pass the constitution, effectively cutting the ANC out of the picture

Mr Bester rejected this as a solution to resolving differences

"It is my publicly expressed sentiment that this constitution must be a consensus document .. not just something for two thirds of the populace, if you like "

But a positive consequence of the delicate balance of power was that all parties had an effective voice in the process. The two biggest issues to be tackled next week

are the composition of the executive and of the legislature

The NP has proposed a 10-seat executive with six or seven seats going to the largest party, two to the second largest, and one seat to any other party which gets 10 per cent or more of the vote

The ANC's formal proposal is for an executive with a minimum of five and maximum of 10 seats, all filled by the majority party.

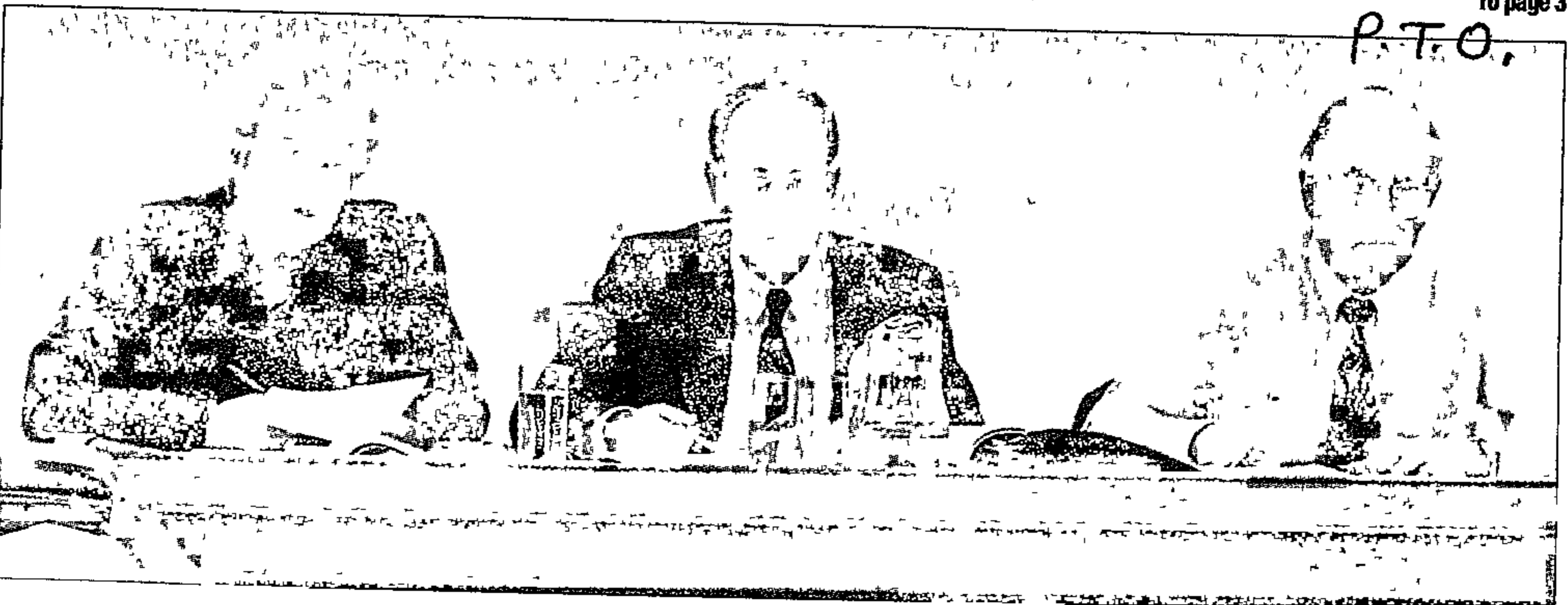
The DP suggests an executive composed on the same proportional basis as the parties' share of legislature seats

Mr Bester noted yesterday "Speaking as the leader of the DP in the province, we believe that South Africa's transition is far from complete and that in a system where the votes in the ballot box are still cast very much on ethnic grounds, it is desirable for minorities to be given a say in public decision-making - and a form of partnership government in the executive is one of the best, serious, committed ways of achieving that

"It is a question of moving away from opposition politics towards consensus-seeking, which could have a widespread impact on stability and the province's attractiveness for investment "

On the composition of the legislature, the NP wants 42 elected members, plus 10 extra-party political "representatives of interest groups", who would not have a vote or be employed full-time, but would

To page 3



In the chair: Henrie Bester flanked by Quarta Du Toit (left) and Pierre Oosthuizen at a session of the provincial standing committee on constitutional affairs

OBED ZILWA

Bold new plan for W Cape rule

(263)

From page 1

ARG 23/11/96

participate in meetings of the legislature and its committees.

The ANC wants a straightforward legislature of 42 elected members.

The DP suggests 42 elected members, plus eight non-voting, part-time members, who would represent the province's local government districts.

Other key elements of the draft include:

- A local government commission to promote and strengthen local government capacity and implement the provincial government's function of monitoring councils;

- An environmental commission to act as a development watchdog, advise the cabinet and investigate complaints; and

- A constituency electoral system for the province (suggested by the DP), which technical advisers have still to report on.

On symbols, the parties have agreed that the constitution provide for legislation to adopt, by a two-thirds majority, any provincial symbols or the conferring of provincial honours. They have also broadly agreed that English, Xhosa and Afrikaans be the languages used by the provincial government.

- The provincial constitution-makers are being advised by a technical committee comprising advocate Dirk Brand of the provincial administration, Professor Gerhard Erasmus of the University of Stellenbosch, Professor Nico Steytler of the University of the Western Cape, constitutional lawyer Andrew Breytenbach and Steve Swart of the State Attorney's office.

The group distilled three volumes of public comment and the submissions by the parties into the draft which the constitutional committee is now working through.

Resignation calls after councillor punch-up

By CHARL DE VILLIERS (263)

FISTICUFFS between two ANC-aligned Stellenbosch councillors has led to a full-scale political row with calls for the resignation of four of the town's African National Congress representatives

Squabbling over squatter rights led to a march this week in which dissatisfied ANC supporters demanded that councillors Doreen Ham, William Kalazana, Edmund Matyatya and Alicia Mgyjima resign

Mgyjima lost four teeth in a punch-up with ANC colleague Wilson Ntunze two weeks ago

Ntunze and four council colleagues have accused the four of collaborating with NP members instead of caring for the interests of squatters in Kayamandi Mgyjima, a shack-dweller, allegedly voted for the demolition of illegal shacks

ST(CM) 24/11/96

Gauteng govt boost for taxi operators

Bonlie Ngqiyaza

MORE than R200 000 had been set aside by provincial government to help taxi operators and owners acquire business skills, Gauteng transport and public works MEC Paul Mashatile said yesterday.

Speaking in Germiston, where the eastern Gauteng taxi body announced the start of its registration process, Mashatile said about 2 000 taxi operators had received training in business management. The province's transport department intended to train 5 000 people each year.

Sapa reports that Mashatile appealed to taxi operators to register their taxis — a move which could reduce taxi-related murders in Gauteng since it was understood conflict developed over routes.

He said taxi registration would make the industry a formal business, making it easy for government to assist the industry with finance.

Mashatile said that he would hold a meeting with all taxi associations in two weeks' time to launch a provincial registration campaign.

The taxi body announced its commitment to the registration process, and expressed the hope that it would help operators obtain legal permits and lead to assistance with acquiring conflict resolution skills.

Meanwhile, Eena reports from Grahamstown that a Healdtown police

sergeant has been detained in connection with taxi-related violence in the Fort Beaufort area.

Grahamstown police spokesman Capt George Green said the policeman had been taken in for questioning after a Border Alliance Taxi Association (Bata) taxi was attacked on the Fort Beaufort-Allice road last Thursday.

A woman was wounded in the attack.

No formal charges had been laid against the policeman yet, Green said.

In Port Elizabeth, peace talks between Bata and the rival Uncedo Service Taxi Association, which had been brokered by Land Claims Court president Fikile Bam, were postponed yesterday after representatives from Un-

cedo failed to show up.

The first round of peace talks to end the violence that claimed more than 20 lives in Port Elizabeth in the past two months alone started last Wednesday. About 90 people have died in the province in the conflict this year.

Uncedo spokesman Anele Bekwa said Uncedo would not attend the meeting and refused to comment further.

Archdeacon Mcebisi Xundu, one of the facilitators, said: "We are now negotiating with this association. The meeting is now likely to be held on Wednesday."

Only Uncedo taxis have been operating in Port Elizabeth since Bata suspended its operations.

Western Cape moots going its own way on elections

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape constitutional negotiators yesterday considered introducing an electoral system in the province which differed substantially from the national system.

The Democratic Party has proposed that the provincial constitution enshrine a constituency-based electoral system with elements of proportionality, a submission which the National Party indicated it would support. However, the African National Congress

expressed opposition to such a system, as did the smaller parties, the African Christian Democratic Party and the Freedom Front.

The smaller partners would not benefit from constituency-based elections, as their support is scattered.

Technical advisers to the provincial standing committee on constitutional affairs undertook to provide a full legal opinion on whether such a constitutional provision was possible.

Final party positions were held over pending receipt of the opinion.

Stellenbosch University law professor Gerhard Erasmus said he and his colleagues had concluded after thorough discussion "that there is a reasonable prospect when all the relevant clauses of the national constitution are taken together, that a province may adopt its own constitution which has different structures and procedures and its own electoral system."

He said: "There is a reasonable prospect that this may meet with the approval of the Constitutional Court." Erasmus referred to section 143 of

the constitution which states that the provincial constitution can differ from its national counterpart provided it conforms with stipulated values such as equality, human dignity, the rule of law, democracy and transparency.

The committee also debated including provisions on an electoral system in the provincial constitution or to incorporate it in legislation.

The advisers believed a broad outline of the system should be incorporated into the provincial constitution, with the detail in an electoral law.

BITTER FIGHT RAGES BETWEEN ANC AND NP

Cape's rural go

THE ANC has accused MEC for Local Government Mr Peter Marais of running his department without a clear policy and to suit the NP. Marais has replied that the ANC lacks discipline and knowledge of local government. **CHRIS BATEMAN** writes.

RURAL local government in the Western Cape is in turmoil because of bitter battles between the African National Congress and the National Party. At least eight towns are locked in bitter disputes — some of which are holding up vital budgets for local development.

The parties' campaign promises to "bury the hatchet" once the May 29 elections were over have proved to have been hollow.

The issues over which they are at loggerheads range from MEC for Local Government Mr Peter Marais' controversial rural election model, to the arrears that town councillors owe for services.

● In Worcester: Marais is backing NP moves to recover from individual ANC rural councillors about R300 000 in legal costs awarded to him by the Supreme Court.

An ANC attempt — led by Worcester — failed to overturn Marais' election model for district councils. The ANC claimed Marais had not consulted it about the model. It has since accused him of "double standards" as he paid the costs when the Strand council lost its court bid to remain outside the Cape Metropolitan substructures.

Marais' lawyers are checking if ANC-led rural towns legally voted money to pay for the court case. If they did not, they intend using the law to recover funds from each municipality's chief executive officer.

The towns affected include Worcester, Paarl, Robertson and Saron.

● In Robertson: The Robertson Civic Association is fighting the town council, which has obtained a court order preventing seven dismissed ANC councillors from taking their council seats.

The councillors were dismissed by Marais because they were in arrears with payments for services and failed to pay within the 30-day extension the MEC granted them.

They claim Marais gave them a written undertaking exempting them and that they passed this on to the town clerk, who allegedly has failed to produce it.

Marais says the seven misinterpreted his proclamation as meaning they had to clear only those debts that were older than three months.

● In Stellenbosch: There is bitterness within the ANC over perceptions that some councillors "sold out" fellow Kayamandi shack dwellers who were due to be evicted to make way for development. The bitterness is believed to have attributed to the punch-up between two ANC council-

lors in the municipal building last week.

● In McGregor: The NP has obtained a court order restraining the McGregor Civic Association and the local RDP Forum from interfering in the NP-dominated council and hampering its municipal functions.

● In Murraysburg: The NP, which dominates the council, has been granted a court order against the ANC, whose members say they will not vote for the budget until it gives more attention to disadvantaged sections of the community. A two-thirds majority is needed to pass the budget.

The in-fighting includes an attempt to fire ANC councillor Mr John Fredericks for failing to pay for using the council's photocopy machine.

Marais has sent his directors to Murraysburg twice in an attempt to achieve a truce, without success.

● In Saron: Marais is applying for a court order to make the council hand over accounting ledgers so that a commission can proceed with its investigation of fraud and corruption.

This follows a battle over the commission's terms of reference. The ANC initially called for former council chairman Mr Hannes Smith to be investigated. However, Marais alleged there had also been abuse of funds by ANC members.

The ANC is boycotting the commission and allegedly has destroyed pamphlets distributed by council to advertise it. Marais retaliated by threatening to withhold funding — but later withdrew this threat, in return for the ANC's cooperation. He claims that the ANC has reneged on its agreement to do so.

Marais expects to receive the commission's report within two weeks.

ANC spokesman Mr Cameron Dugmore said Marais' personal support for Smith had "clouded his judgment". He also alleged that Marais was "biased" against this ANC-controlled town.

● In Paarl: NP councillor Mrs Bokkie Claasen was unable to avoid being fired from the council for failing to pay her service arrears. The ward by-election had already been advertised in the local press when Marais' 30-day extension for payments was announced.

The ANC claims Marais issued proclamations selectively. As an example, it cites that which enabled Cape Town Mayor Mr William Bantam, an NP member, who was in arrears with service payments, to remain on the council.

● In Hermanus: Six councillors stand to lose their seats as they are in arrears with payments.

Dugmore accused Marais of running his department without a clear policy and on an "ad hoc basis to suit the NP". "This is why there is chaos in some areas," he said.

Marais retorted: "We are the only province functioning efficiently, delivering most on the RDP with the highest voter registration and turnout and the least election upheaval."

The province had delivered 118 of the country's 320 municipal infrastructure projects. This proved "our policy benefits people".

The ANC lacked discipline, knowledge of local government and commitment to group governance on a level "acceptable to the non-toyi-toyers", he said.

CT 26/11/96
(263)

VERMEMENT IN 'ATTERS'

W Cape record of assets a 'shambles'

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

(263) ARLT 27/11/96

The Western Cape provincial government has no proper record of the property it owns, including buildings and cars, a senior provincial Treasury official has disclosed.

This enables its property to be stolen with impunity - because nobody knows it exists

Keith Ravens of the treasury told the provincial standing committee on constitutional affairs yesterday there was no up-

to-date register of provincial government property "whether movable or immovable"

"We do not have a precise record of the number of vehicles, buildings, or furniture in possession of the provincial government, nor do we have an account of their value or worth"

Mr Ravens said the lack of an up-to-date register opened the way for property and stock to be stolen without detection

"We are aware that the provincial government needs to have a proper account of its properties and its assets and we are

addressing the issue."

He said his department was still weighing ways of doing a "cost effective" audit of all the property it owned. It was considering one of three possible accounting systems or a combination of them.

Because the provincial government had to implement the accounting procedures "basically from scratch" it would be an expensive exercise - probably costing about R1-billion

He said the provincial government was concerned about the state of affairs and knew it had to update its property register

'ALL RACES NOT REAPING FRUITS'

New movement may create more divisions

CT 27/11/96

(263)

THE DECEMBER 1 movement was not anti-African and aimed only to address the problems facing coloured people under the new dispensation, the Rev Michael Weeder told a meeting last night. **YAZEED FAKIER** reports.

THERE was a potential for a movement based on race to become not only "more divisive than under apartheid, but also potentially explosive given the backwardness that exists here", Mr Martin Jansen, education officer of the Trade Union Library and Education Centre, said last night.

He was responding during a discussion of coloured identity at a meeting held at the Eradicate Racism and Sexism centre in Salt River.

The meeting was addressed by the Rev Michael Weeder of the December 1 movement, a broad-based Western Cape grouping concerned about the coloured community's political marginalisation in South Africa's transformation.

The organisation recently outlined plans "to unify and uplift" coloured people.

It has signalled its aim to

become an "independent mass social movement"

It has scheduled its "symbolic launch" for this Sunday, December 1 — the date 162 years ago when, the organisation says, slaves in the region were freed.

"If you look at South Africa today," Jansen said, "it is absurd to claim that so-called coloured people are the ones who are not bearing the fruits of change."

"There are millions, including Africans, Indians and whites, who are not reaping the fruits of liberation."

"We need only go to Khayelitsha to see how many houses have been built."

"Working in the labour movement, you see that things have become worse for everybody — there are more retrenchments, job losses, wage increases are not above inflation, etc, etc."

"So to claim to us here tonight that it's only coloureds who are suffering, who are not reaping the fruits of liberation, is really untrue and we shouldn't accept it."

Jansen claimed the organisation was motivated by disgruntled political activists.

Weeder said he had always been a priest and had not been a member of the ANC or any other political organisation.

He had been "on the ANC list for the Western Cape" and had asked to be taken off "because it affects my ministry as a priest."

"There are others like me who are not activists in the narrow sense of the word."

"I find it offensive (for us) to be lumped (politically with others) in such an uncouth way — that is not what we are about, we are not setting ourselves up to be anti-African," Weeder said.

"We are contending very strongly that we are African."

"We would loathe to be seen to be people perpetuating ethnic identity — but we are about identity."

15 000 civil servants in Cape face the axe

By NORMAN WEST, Political
Reporter

THE Western Cape is to shed a further 15 000 civil servants this financial year because of budget cuts forced on the province by central government, according to Finance Minister Kobus Meiring.

The 15 000 amounted to nearly two-thirds of the national cut-back of 24 000 civil servants, he said, adding that this proved very little effort was being made by the other eight provinces to effect similar fiscal discipline.

Further staff cuts would be forced on Western Province by continued central government cut-backs to the province and this could force a drop in service standards, Meiring warned.

The recommendation of the Financial and Fiscal Committee meant that the Western Cape would receive an even lower allocation "in spite of the fact that the Western Cape was subsidising the budgets of other provinces".

The Western Cape contributed about 15 percent to South Africa's Gross Domestic Product of about R600-billion, he said.

Yet the province received only R3,1-billion or 5,4 percent of the state revenue of R150-billion, which worked out at R1 for every R3 contributed to the GDP.

Staff cuts resulted in only 21 officials being employed in the premier's department in the Western Cape, compared with 513 officials in the Northern Province, 128 in Northern Cape, 284 in Mpumalanga and 287 in the Free State.

"Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said recently the Eastern Cape had 22 000 unproductive staff whiling their time away by playing games on their computers," Meiring said.

Meanwhile Keith Ravens, the Director, Accounting of the Provincial Treasury Department, has pointed to another headache for the province — no proper inventory of the Western Cape's assets because of lack of staff and funds.

(250) (263) ST (ECT) 1/12/96

CEREMONY AT SLAVE MEMORIAL PLAQUE

December 1 launch draws 130 people

CT 2/12/96 (263)

CLAIMS that the coloured community was "racist" as it had not voted ANC prompted it to examine its history and identity, a December 1 member said. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

teacher Dr Isaac van der Ventel, asked why three priests were leading the meeting, but no Muslim clerics were present

Bam assured him that this "was not for the lack of trying".

COLOUREDS had become the "stepchildren of history" and it was time they reclaimed their place in the sun without oppressing or marginalising anyone, about 130 people were told at the December 1 movement's first public meeting yesterday.

The coloured community could not be called "backward and racist" for failing to vote for the ANC

Claims that the community was so had set him and others to "grappling with our identity and what makes this community tick".

"We don't have all the answers, but we want you to walk the road with us and help us find them — this community was formed in the crucible of slavery"

The Rev Michael Weeder told a sometimes-enthusiastic audience in the St George's Cathedral hall that coloured identity and its intimate links with slavery had "never been vigorously pursued or understood"

"We want to do whatever we can to unchain the minds of our people so we can be part of the new South Africa and reap the benefits of freedom," Weeder said

After the meeting, the gathering moved to Spin Street to lay flowers and for a ceremony at the slave tree memorial plaque, opposite Church Square

University of the Western Cape historian Mr Trevor Oosterwyk said the movement had been born out of the "traumatic and cathartic outcome" of the elections in the Western Cape

The movement is named for December 1, 1834, the date on which slaves were freed in the Cape, and claims to be non-party political.

However, one of Weeder's fellow founder members, Southern substructure councillor Mr Philip Bam, refused to rule out the movement's participation in the 1999 or the 2004 elections.

Loud clapping greeted Oosterwyk's statement that "we don't want to marginalise or oppress anyone — but nor do we want to be marginalised or oppressed"

Several speakers from the floor insisted that the meeting be conducted entirely in Afrikaans.

One, high school history

Professor Richard van der Ross, former vice-rector of UWC and now Western Cape education spokesman for the Democratic Party, was described as "one of the pathfinders" of the movement

The Rev Trevor Steyn, who led the commemoration — attended by several executive members of the gangster Community Outreach Forum (Core) — said coloured people were ashamed and often laid claim to Scottish or Irish lineage

"If that is so, then where do I get my complexion, my tintings from?" he demanded

Van der Ross said slave traders selectively bred their blood lines into slave women to "enhance their qualities like breeding dogs"

Steyn added. "We've been thrown around as if we were nothing. We must tell the new South Africa 'No more' — we won't let this happen any more"

A register was passed around for signing by people attending the meeting to facilitate planning for the formal launch of the movement in June or July next year.

● See Page 12

ROOTS: December 1 founders (from right) Councillor Philip Bam, Mr Trevor Oosterwyk and the Rev Michael Weeder, lay flowers at the slave tree.

PICTURE: BENNY GOOL

NEWS



Probe into Khayelitsha's 'gravy train' firefighters

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

An official investigation has been launched into "gravy train" payments of generous overtime allowances to Tygerberg firemen providing fire-fighting services in Khayelitsha.

Firemen say the inflated payments are only the tip of the iceberg

The investigation follows a report in the Cape Argus a month ago which disclosed that two senior firemen from Bellville each earned more than R10 000 a month for overtime shifts in the fire-ravaged township. They effectively trebled their salaries by doing voluntary work in the cash-strapped township.

Parow fire chief Gary Parsons, who is in charge of the investigation, said there was nothing sinister about the payments and

ARG 2/12/96 (263)
the only question was whether it was ethically correct to earn that much in overtime.

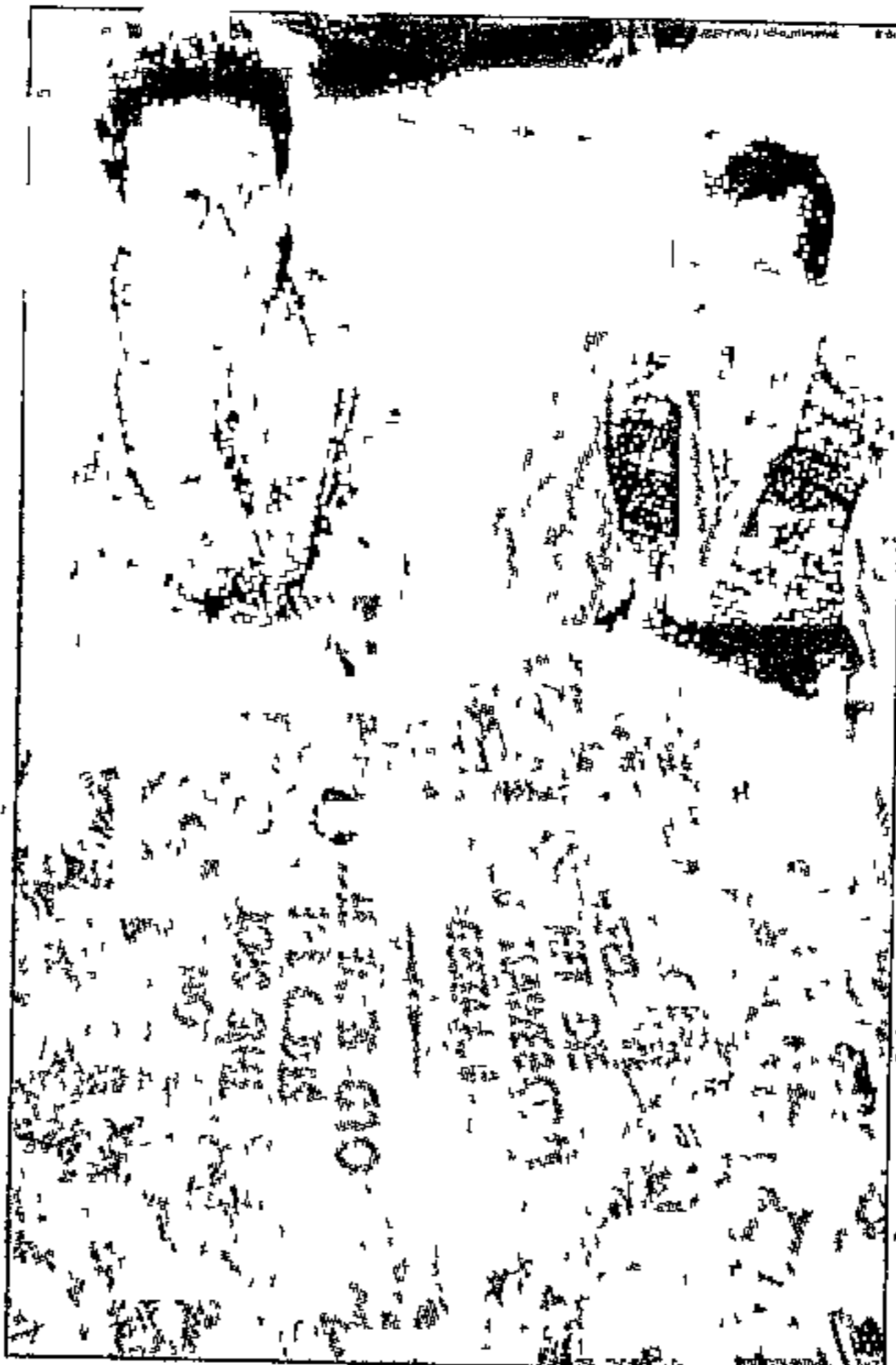
But some Tygerberg firefighters have expressed concern about the state of affairs at Bellville fire station.

They say overtime payments are only the tip of the iceberg and that corruption is rife at the station.

One fireman, who did not want to be named, said senior staff members rented the station's equipment to private businesses after hours.

He said a smoke machine used to simulate smoky conditions was regularly rented to discotheques at night, enabling some firemen to make a profit on the side.

Mr Parsons denied any knowledge of the firefighters' allegations and said he did not think it was possible to use a smoke machine in a discotheque.



Slave site: Philip Bam, left, and Trevor Oosterwyk

Gang bosses and poets turn out as new coloured group meets

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

263
ARU 2/12/96

Supported by poets and allegedly reformed gangsters alike, the December 1 Movement, formed to mobilise the coloured community, has held its first public meeting.

The gathering at Cape Town's St George's Cathedral yesterday coincided with the anniversary of the emancipation of slaves in the Cape on December 1, 1834.

Former gang boss Rashied Staggie and top brass of the Community Outreach (Core), formed by gangsters who say they have reformed, attended.

Adam Small, poet and head of social work at the University of the Western Cape, sent a message of support

After the meeting, participants marched to the "slave tree", a monument at the spot, near the South African Cultural Museum in Spin Street, where slaves were once sold under a tree.

Those attending laid flowers to commemorate the release of slaves more than a century and a half ago

Richard van der Ross, former rector of the University of the Western Cape, told the gathering human beings used to be sold under the tree like "pounds of 'tjops'".

He said coloured people should not be afraid of their history. He hoped the December 1 Movement (named after the anniversary) would awaken consciousness, understanding and awareness of "who we are, what we are and where we're going"

Trevor Oosterwyk, historian and a member of the steering committee, said the movement was not just another coloured grouping, but in search of a homeland

It sought full participation in the new democracy and had faith in the future of the country, he said.

No agreement in Western Cape on 10 more

for
Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — No final agreement was reached during last week's Western Cape constitutional talks on the perpetuation of a government of provincial unity for 10 years after the 1999 elections, as fought for by the National Party (NP).

Provincial constitutional affairs standing committee chairman Henrie Bester said at the weekend the issue would be finally negotiated in January next year after public sub-

missions had been received. Publication of the fifth draft of the provincial constitution for public comment would contain options on various unresolved issues, he said.

In the penultimate round of the talks the NP withdrew its proposal for 10 representatives of interest groups to be included as members in the legislature, agreement having been reached that this body would consist of 42 elected members.

Regarding the composition of the executive, there was disagreement

between the NP, African National Congress (ANC), Democratic Party (DP) and African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) not only on its size, but also on how its members should be chosen.

The ANC wanted the majority party to choose all the members of the executive, but the NP was adamant that the biggest minority party should be guaranteed a maximum of two seats, with other minority parties with at least 10% of the seats in the legislature getting one

member each. The NP also wanted a provision for two outside experts to be appointed by the premier.

The ACDP wanted the premier to choose all executive members from the legislature except for two outside experts, whereas the DP wanted its own version of the unity-government principle which would guarantee representation to minority parties.

The published draft would also include an option for the inclusion of an electoral system based on a mix of constituencies and proportional rep-

resentation, as proposed by the DP.

A further source of disagreement between the parties was the inclusion of a defection clause for members of the legislature wishing to cross the floor. The ANC insisted on a clause being included that defecting members would lose their membership of the legislature but all the other parties were opposed to this.

Apart from the government of provincial unity, there was also no agreement on whether the provincial government should be obliged, with-

out qualification, to introduce measures to achieve the progressive realisation of the equal status of Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa. The NP wanted the measures taken to be "reasonable" but the ANC opposed this limitation.

The ANC fought for the insertion of a clause which would limit the provincial government's advancement of indigenous languages to those "whose status and use have been historically diminished" and this was included as an option

The ANC insisted on the inclusion of an option that the provincial budget should address "imbalances, inequities and the development needs of the people of the province."

There was discord over whether the constitution should include clauses relating to provincial symbols and honours and these, too, have been included as options. There were also options relating to the establishment of cultural councils which the Freedom Front was particularly keen to have incorporated.

years of unity rule
(263) 02/12/96

INTEGRATING BUDGETS 'A PRIORITY'

Stable administration first, says new city chief ⁽²⁶³⁾

TO CAPE TOWN'S new chief executive officer, Mr Andrew Boraine, local government is where the action is. His appointment fulfils a long-held ambition. **PETER DENNEHY** writes.

WHEN Cape Town municipality's new chief executive officer takes over in February, his first priority will be to establish a stable administration

This will entail integrating the budgets of the old administrations into the new and transferring staff to ensure they are working for the most appropriate authority, says Mr Andrew Boraine.

"You can't do much until you have a stable administration"

Now deputy director-general of the Department of Constitutional Affairs, Boraine says that the national transition process is drawing towards completion. He might have remained in his post for two more years, but could not pass up the opportunity of the Cape Town post

Local government "is where the action is", he says, and his appointment has realised a long-held ambition to be part of it

He has a house in Oranjezicht and his wife is already living there. Their first child is due in February

The preparation of the next financial year's budget, to reflect the new priorities, will also be important, Boraine says

Turning to the Masakhane campaign to get people to pay for municip-



AT YOUR SERVICE: Andrew Boraine

pal services, Boraine says he wants first to determine the level and quality of the services delivered, the standard of administration and what credit control is in place.

Next he will examine the relationship between the local authority and the people it serves to see if there is trust and support or suspicion

Other questions are whether citizens — and councillors — understand their rights and responsibilities and whether councillors report back regularly to their constituencies.

All these aspects need to be han-

CT 3/12/96
dled as a package, Boraine says.

"We must try to move simultaneously on all fronts and try to improve the situation"

Boraine is enthusiastic about the prospect of Cape Town's hosting the Olympic Games. He was in Barcelona as a tourist during the 1992 Games and said they were fantastic for the Spanish city

"They mobilised 20 000 volunteers to work on the Games for a year without pay. Everyone felt passionate about what they were doing. It is important to have a united city to make the Games a success."

People would come to the city for the job opportunities, but that happened anyway.

"People come to the cities because their rates of economic growth are three times those of the rural areas. Urbanisation has been delayed artificially in South Africa. We cannot delay it any more — we must simply manage it"

Of changing the base for property rates, Boraine said the process had to be managed carefully.

"It is an alteration to the city's financial system, to bring about greater equity. You have to go about it in a such a way that you don't alienate people. Some could be hit quite hard, so the best way may be to phase it in"

Boraine believed there was sufficient time to consult those affected before the new rates were levied

Urgent call for council inquiry

'Strong evidence' of fraud

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

The provincial administration finance committee has called on Premier Hennis Kriel to urgently appoint a commission to inquire into allegations of corruption in the Clanwilliam municipality.

The committee, which says it has strong evidence, has suggested to the administration that the attorney-general's office be asked to take criminal action against the municipality.

In a strongly-worded statement, committee leader Arnold de Jager said the inquiry should investigate, report and make recommendations on possible fraud, malpractices, losses, irregularities, taxing of legal costs and improper favouring of a former town clerk.

He said the commission of inquiry should submit a report to his committee by March 31. Mr De Jager said irregularities in the municipality's grading should be referred to the police.

Frikkie Odendaal, Mr Kriel's spokesman, said he had not yet received such a request from the administration.

Faan Naude, local government chief director, said grading of municipalities had recently been scrapped.

Clanwilliam's African National

Congress councillors and a group of community leaders served a motion of no confidence in the council at a meeting last week.

The councillors claimed several irregularities involved thousands of rands. These included an allegation that a senior municipal official authorised more than R60 000 for a colleague to buy a car.

Mayor Chris de Jongh of the National Party said the council would deal with several allegations in a detailed report at the next council meeting.

Deputy mayor Jonas White of the ANC said the municipality lacked transparency and accountability to the community.

He claimed ratepayers' money was used without lawful permission and the town's people needed to know the truth.

Mr White alleged he had been silenced several times on unlawful activities in the municipality.

Mr De Jongh said he and municipal officials had to give evidence to a standing committee soon on various issues. He declined to elaborate.

He would give his full co-operation to a police investigation and could not say if there was corruption in the municipality. Any investigation had to run its course and "I support a clean administration", he said.

AAE 4/12/96

(263)

Outcry as Kriel rejects car loans

Councillors without transport

(263) ARG 4/12/96

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

Premier Hernus Kriel has turned down a request from the Cape Town municipality to give its councillors soft loans to buy cars because of transport problems in the townships.

This move has sparked an outcry from councillors who argue that they are being hampered in their ability to serve their constituencies, attend night functions and council meetings.

Hanover Park member Elizabeth Bantom complained she had had to hitch a lift to a recent function, while Crossroads councillors expressed concern about the risks of public transport in a volatile situation.

Councillors are also not willing to use a shuttle service laid on by the council because they fear that this will make them easy targets. Crossroads councillor

Depoutch Elese said it would be easy to ambush a kombi laid on by the council.

He said about 15 councillors in Crossroads, Browns Farm and KTC were being targeted by rival groups who failed to win seats in the elections.

The council had earlier decided to offer its members low-interest loans at 8 percent to buy cars to get around the problem, but it required provincial permission for this. Councillors would have paid the cars off through direct deductions off their allowances, calculated over the period of their term of office.

In a letter written at the end of November, Mr Kriel said: "I can appreciate the fact that certain councillors may not have their own transport and an accommodatory attitude may be adopted in such instances."

But he added that if council vehicles were being used, councillors should reimburse the council

for the expense.

He said the municipal ordinance of 1974 stipulated that monthly allowances were to compensate councillors for any necessary expenses incurred in the exercise of their duties.

"It is a source of concern to me and the provincial cabinet that certain councillors currently serving on transitional local authorities are under the misapprehension that the monthly allowance of councillors is to be considered as a wage or salary for services rendered. Allowances paid to councillors are for expenses incurred in the execution of their duties, not for their duties."

The city council's executive committee decided it would take the matter to the Metropolitan Restructuring Forum to look into the issue.

It would also approach financial institutions outside the council to see if they could help councillors buy cars.

that found court

IFP and ANC oppose Natal cabinet project

Farouk Chothia

BD 5/12/96 (263)

ULUNDI — In a rare display of unity, Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and African National Congress (ANC) KwaZulu-Natal MPs joined forces yesterday in opposing plans by the provincial cabinet to build an office complex in Ulundi at a cost of R177m, on the grounds that the expenditure was extravagant.

IFP chief whip Mike Tarr told public works MEC Celani Mtetwa at a special meeting yesterday that a "logical and rational" approach should apply.

There might be a need to build more offices for premier Frank Mdlalose's department, but there was no need for a chamber for the house of traditional leaders. The house could use the legislature chamber, Tarr said.

Mtetwa said the cabinet had wanted the project to start immediately, but it had been shelved until next year, when funds would be available.

MPs should raise their concerns with the premier and speaker Gideon Mdlalose, he said.

It was understood that the premier asked for the offices to be built because of repeated clashes with the speaker over office space in Ulundi.

Several opposition MPs said yesterday they were willing to give up their Ulundi offices, as they hardly used them. MPs also have offices in Maritzburg.

Wasteful

ANC MP Dumisani Makhaye said the R177m project would now be discussed in the legislature's finance portfolio committee, and with the cabinet.

The government would have to decide on its priorities. A total of R141m was needed to build roads to each clinic and school in KwaZulu-Natal, he said.

Meanwhile, Mdlalose said the media was demoralizing King Goodwill Zwelithini by portraying him as a "wasteful" monarch.

His comments were an apparent reference to reports that R6m had been spent on upgrading Zwelithini's palaces, and nearly R4m had been paid for goods ostensibly delivered to the palaces.

Mdlalose said corruption appeared to have gained "momentum" in the administration during the process of a change in government in 1994.

Some senior officials "carelessly" delegated powers to junior staff, possibly to gain from the chaos and slackening of control systems, he said. Mdlalose said he would ask provincial director-general Otty Nxumalo to spearhead a clean-up in the administration.

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Probe exposes runaway corruption in Lingelethu

Council cars wrecked in private jaunts

ART BY 6/12/19

(263)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

A commission of inquiry has revealed large-scale corruption and abuse of taxpayers' money by Lingelethu West councillors and officials who formerly administered Khayelitsha.

The in-depth probe, commissioned by Western Cape Local Government Minister Peter Marais, revealed incidents of misconduct and maladministration between January last year and May this year.

Most of the incidents related to excessive private use of official cars and damage to them on private trips.

They included holiday jaunts by councillors to Transkei and elsewhere at Christmas and Easter last year.

Petrol and repairs amounted to R40 000 for the Christmas period alone.

None of this money was repaid, because the council – which included some of the culprits – decided to write it off.

Repairs to vehicles used by councillors during the year ending in May cost more than R30 000. Officials also used official cars regularly for private excursions, often damaging them, the inquiry found.

A messenger who did not have a driver's licence took a council truck for a joyride after the Springbok victory in the Rugby World Cup last year and wrote it off in a collision with a minibus taxi.

Two cars were badly damaged in similar accidents, but no steps were taken against the culprits.

The inquiry found that councillors hired cars for official use "on an extravagant scale". Between March and June last year, the council paid R50 000 for hired vehicles, including two BMWs.

The council also forked out R24 000 a month to transport officials to and from work. Such transport assistance is not general policy in other municipalities.

According to the report, substantial quantities of petrol were acquired from the

fuel pump at the municipal depot and no records were kept.

Other findings included the regular theft of petrol and diesel from official vehicles, three stolen blank cheques and the use of municipal transport to take officials to funerals elsewhere in the country.

The inquiry recommended drastic steps by the Tygerberg council to reorganise the township's administration, including an extensive audit and criminal charges against individuals implicated during further investigations.

It recommended further investigations into council loans and allowances, including a R10 000 loan to the widow of a councillor, and loans of R3 000 to officials.

It also recommended an investigation of renovations to council chambers costing R50 000 for which no tenders were called.

The executive committee discussed the report at a closed meeting this week and decided to appoint its own committee to do another investigation.

W Cape draft constitution finally released

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMTEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

After months of haggling and bickering to stitch together a provincial constitution for the Western Cape, negotiators have released the first draft for public comment.

The draft was published in the provincial government gazette yesterday. It is the product of a constitution-writing process launched at the beginning of August.

Provincial Democratic Party leader Hennie Bester, who steered the constitutional negotiations, said the draft was a product of "compromise and consensus".

Unresolved issues were included as options for public comment.

The draft was prepared by the standing committee on constitutional affairs of the

provincial legislature after an extensive process of negotiations and public consultation.

Mr Bester said the constitution was agreed on by all the political parties.

He said the draft had some innovative features. It makes provision for participation by local government representatives – albeit occasionally – in debates at provincial level, but without voting powers.

It further includes the promotion of three official languages, Afrikaans, English and Xhosa, for government use.

It also boasts a proposal for "progressive" future tax and budget policies, a directive of principles for provincial policy and a powerful ombudsman for the environment. It also includes an option for a provincial electoral system substantially different from the national one.

What is proposed is a constituency

based electoral system with elements of proportionality.

Mr Bester said the committee received numerous written submissions from citizens, interest groups and political parties. The committee also held public sessions in all the major centres in the province to receive oral submissions, he added.

Mr Bester said the public now had a second opportunity to make an input on the contents of the provincial constitution.

After receiving public comments on the draft, the standing committee will prepare a bill for submission to the provincial legislature, which will debate the bill from February 18 next year.

Should the bill be passed by the provincial legislature with the requisite two-thirds majority, it will be submitted to the

To page 2

W Cape draft constitution out

(263)
From page 1
ARG 7/12/96
Constitutional Court for certification. All the parties expressed relief on the finalisation of the draft and lauded the "surprisingly co-operative spirit" in which the negotiations were taking place.

National Party negotiator Quanta du Toit hailed the publication of the draft constitution as an historic day for the NP and the province. The ANC's Hilda Ndude said the draft was the fruits of three months of hard labour during which all parties had compromised.

Michael Louis, from the African Christian Democratic Party, said his party was happy with the draft as it reflected the aspirations of the people on the ground. The Freedom Front said it still hoped cultural councils would be included in the final constitution.

Council staff run up R650 000 bill for overseas trips

(263) CT 10/12/96

CAPE TOWN councillors and council employees have travelled overseas for various reasons this year at ratepayers' expense. **PETER DENNEHY** and **JACKIE CAMERON** looked at where they went and how the money was spent.

GLOBE-TROTTING Cape Town city council employees and councillors have spent at least R650 000 on overseas trips this year — and 25 more local government servants are expected to ring up a bill of at least R250 000 on a trip to England next month.

Although some of the trips have been hosted by foreign governments and private organisations, ratepayers have picked up a significant portion of the tab for most of the trips.

At least 25 city council employees or councillors have attended conferences, courses and exhibitions in countries as far-flung as Japan and Denmark this year.

The Olympics has been a recurrent theme through the list of requests and reasons for the trips, and some council employees have cited the need to help Cape Town's local government keep pace with its counterparts in First World countries.

At least nine trips were paid for in full or in part by the hosts. Many of these were connected to Olympics business.

There was also some unexpected business to which city representatives attended. One council employee explored bicycle paths in Australia.

Another persuaded the council to give him pocket money and grant him "special leave" for a trip

that had "nothing" to do with council business.

The mayor, Ms Theresa Solomon, spent time hobnobbing with the powerful in Taiwan, Mexico and Atlanta.

Councillor Saleem Mowzer was one of a group of three to attend a United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation conference in Geneva. Mowzer gave a "polished" presentation on how Cape Town was grappling with political change.

He and assistant city administrator Ms Gill Bolton then shipped across to the United Kingdom, where they met local government officials. The trip for the trio cost city ratepayers about R40 000.

Mowzer was not available for comment, but Bolton said "If Cape Town wishes to take its place as an international city, you need to make contact at appropriate levels."

According to figures provided by the municipality for local and overseas trips, last year's bill for international travel was about R1,7 million.

Here's what several city representatives had to say about their most recent trips.

● Mr Ricky Brikkels, who accompanied Solomon to Mexico, said his trip — which cost more than R30 000 — was "definitely not a freebie."

He said he had had to wait hand and foot on the mayor, writing speeches and doing administrative work.

● Mr David Whitesman, who accompanied Solomon to Taiwan, said his daily allowance, which totalled about R2 500, helped pay for "a meal or two, tips and gifts for our hosts."

● Mr Mike Travaglini, computer network manager, undertook a "technology tour" of the US with a major supplier of computer products to the city council.

"I went to see whether what we had installed would see us through the next year to 18 months," Travaglini said.

"The trip has confirmed we are on the right track."

Travaglini's trip was hosted, but his bill for his daily allowance was paid by the council and was more than R6 000.

● Mr Martin Pollack, chief photographer, and Ms Sandra Huswick, an environmental planner, went to Norway to stage an exhibition highlighting the benefits the Olympics would have for the city's environment.

The air fares were sponsored and the council contributed about R14 000 to the trip.

Pollack went first to the United Kingdom, meeting relatives and calling at a broadcasting studio where, he said, "I learnt a tremendous amount in the two-hour visit."

● Mr Kevin Garrod, of the metropolitan transport planning branch, undertook a study tour to Australia, where he attended a con-

ference on bicycle use. His trip cost the city about R16 000.

Garrod said he had learned a tremendous amount about bicycle-related policies in other countries.

"About R10 million is to be spent on bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the city over the next two years. I will be responsible."

● Mr Hans Smit, a senior official in the city planners' department, said "I don't see what my trip has got to do with the Cape Times. It was paid for by the Japanese government. It didn't cost South Africa a cent. I wasn't representing the city council."

Smit said he was vice-president of the Institute for Housing and had attended the conference "because I'm well-known for my knowledge of housing."

His daily allowance during his two-week trip cost the city R3 300.

He had spent this on food and incidentals, Smit said. "R3 000 is nothing. It doesn't get you anywhere, that's why I didn't give it a thought."

Smit said that although his trip would not benefit the city council directly, it was "a feather in the cap" if a staff member gained international exposure.

Twenty or more officials, councillors and unionists from Greater Cape Town are to fly to England next month for a week-long local government study tour that is to cost more than R12 000 for each member.

This is in addition to the expenses to be met by the Warwick University Local Authority Research Consortium, which runs

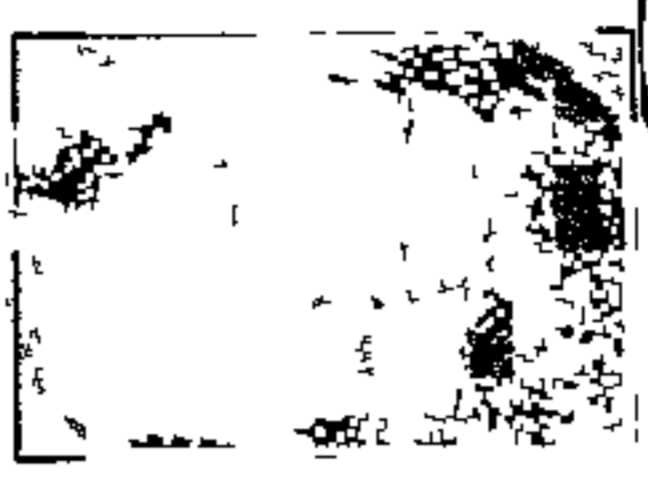
Schedule of Overseas Travel

DELEGATE	VENUE	DATE	HOTELS	DAILY ALLOW	AIR TRAVEL	OTHER	TOTAL
Ms T Solomon - Mayor	Taiwan	9-14 Oct '96	Hosted	R2 594,28	Hosted	—	R2 594,28
Mr D Whitesman - mayor's aide	Taiwan	9-14 Oct '96	Hosted	R2 594,28	Hosted	—	R2 594,28
Mr D Daniels - city planner	Mexico	11-17 Nov '96	R4 507,20	R4 206,72	R22 556,00	—	R31 269,92
Mr E Brikkels - mayoral aide	Mexico	11-17 Nov '96	R4 507,20	R4 206,72	R22 556,00	—	R31 269,92
Ms T Solomon - Mayor	Mexico	11-17 Nov '96	Hosted	R976,56	Hosted	—	R976,56
Mr G Hofmeyer - city administrator	Amsterdam	22-26 April '96	R3 283,49	R3 633,23	R4 669,05	R1 672,99	R13 258,76
Mr M Pollack - chief photographer	Norway & UK	11-14 Feb '96	R2 664,43	R2 786,61	Hosted	R1 365,54	R6 816,58
Ms S Huswick - planning professional	Norway & UK	11-14 Jan '96	R6 156,63	R1 008,37	Hosted	R798,50	R7 963,50
Mr N Lornitz - deputy treasurer	USA	Jan/Feb '96	Hosted	R775,12	Hosted	—	R775,12
Mr K Garrod - transport engineer	Australia	23 Oct - 4 Nov '96	R4 611,22	R4 445,14	R4 149,00	R3 157,99	R16 363,35
Mr JW van Rensburg - deputy medical officer of health	Norway	10-20 Sept '96	R8 573,86	R6 443,02	R7 102,80	R5 897,22	R28 016,90
Ms G Bolton - assistant administrator	Geneva	5-16 Oct '96	R3 726,45	R6 038,91	R4 941,00	R1 653,61	R16 359,97
Mr D Gough - planning professional	Geneva	5-12 Oct '96	Hosted	R4 579,73	R4 567,00	R406,95	R9 553,68
Mr S Mowzer - city councillor	Geneva	5-16 Oct '96	R3 726,45	R6 113,49	R4 941,00	—	R14 780,94
Mr M Travaglini - project manager	USA	July/Aug	Hosted	R6 632,95	Hosted	—	R6 632,95
Mr K Nicol - former town clerk	New Zealand	14-25 Sept '96	R1 796,76	R3 503,48	Hosted	est R3 404,21	R10 602,51
Mr JA Smit - director of project management services	Japan	20 July - 4 Aug '96	Hosted	R3 300,00	Hosted	R205,95	R3 505,95

Labour unions in the metropole, the SA Municipal Workers' Union and Independent and Allied Trade Union, are each to be invited to send a delegate. Cape Metropolitan Council councillors Mr Pierre Uys (National Party) and Mr Mzukisi Gaba (ANC) are among those expected to be nominated.

METRO COUNCIL'S PACKAGES FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Big Bucks for SUPER



TOP CITY COUNCIL
management salaries in thousands **PETER DENNEHY** reports

AFTER a shake-up, the new structures of the Metro and City councils have now been decided upon — and fat salaries of hundreds of thousands of rands a year have been set for new top appointees

The City of Cape Town is to decide today, at its last monthly meeting of the year, who its five "executive directors" will be. Some are likely to be existing heads of departments or top management, at least one will be new, on a three-year contract.

Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said yesterday that their salaries had not yet been finally decided upon.

But Mr Erik van Straten, regional manager of the Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (Imatu), said these had to be very similar to the ones the Metro Council has decided on, because both are on the "grade 15" level for the largest local authorities.

"Town clerks' (or chief executive officers') salaries are coupled with those of a deputy director-general in the service of the state. The other salaries follow on from that."

Van Straten explained that an executive director (one step below the town clerk) in a grade 15 local authority must get more than the town clerk of a grade 14 authority, which is the next one down.

Executive director's package

Basic salary	R 221 388
Car allowance	R 90 240
Pension fund contribution	R 39 849
Medical aid contribution	R 4 622
Group life contribution	R 5 711
13th cheque	R 18 449
Total package	R 380 259

Other benefits:

- Housing subsidy — R10 656 per annum payable to eligible officials
- Leave — 36 calendar days per annum
- Sick leave — 120 days in three-year cycle

Graphic M Jacobs

Imatu is not disputing the salary packages, because it is satisfied that they are no higher than what heads of department were getting before the restructuring.

The new chief executive officer of the Cape Metropolitan Council, Dr Stewart Fisher, is to get a total package of R415 475 a year. This includes his car allowance, what the council pays into his pension, medical aid and life cover, and his annual bonus.

There will be seven "executive directors" below him at the Metro Council, each of them at the head of a somewhat re-organised department. Each of the seven will get a package of R380 259 a year.

In total, the eight-member top management of the CMC will cost it over R3 million a year. The annual budget it controls at present is over R1 billion.

The directors' packages were approved at yesterday's monthly meeting of the CMC. Fisher said the status and pay of the directors should be related to his own pay, which in turn is in line

Annual salary packages of SA's senior civil servants

Cabinet ministers	R 423 360
A judge - about	R 400 000
Provincial commissioners of police — about	R 250 000
A member of parliament	R 221 861
A senior magistrate	R 140 000
A state doctor	R 177 000
A school principal — about	R 120 000

with what is set down by the state for the largest local authorities.

The top salaries had confidential status, until councillor Mr Frank van der Velde said they ought to be made available to the press and public. Since the executive directors had not yet been chosen, the salaries of particular individuals were not under discussion, he said. The council agreed with him and released the details.

Executive directors' salaries "were not mean, under any circumstances", Van der Velde remarked. He complained that there was no place in the new structure, yet, for electricity distribution. Councillors are waiting to see what happens to electricity, but Van der Velde thinks this is short-sighted as it virtually invites other people to make decisions for the CMC.

The City of Cape Town, which has 18 000 employees, has only five departments, while the CMC, which is now less than half its size, has seven.

Mr David Erlagh, a CMC councillor, said the reason for having seven departments "is that we want to ensure that the functions are specific."

He added that there was a lot of work in each portfolio. Transport, for example, would have the task of ensuring "that all forms of transport are disciplined" — an apparent reference to the taxi wars.

The CMC has some 7 000 people on its staff, but the number is expected to more than double by the middle of next year when employees are shifted from one local authority to another.

The seven new departments of the CMC are: finance, management services (such as computers, human resources and legal advisers); economic development, sport and culture, urban planning, the environment and housing, transport, roads and traffic, water and waste services, and safety, health and trading services.

SUPER EARNERS: The metro's "super executives" will be earning roughly the same as judges and cabinet ministers and more than double what a specialist doctor in a state hospital or the Western Cape commissioner of police earn.

Among the reasons for the "restructuring" of departments is that responsibilities have been reshuffled between metropolitan councils and municipalities.

In addition to that, there have been vast changes to local government, which is now democratically elected, and has new boundaries. Other changes are still coming. For example, local government is scheduled to take over management of day hospitals and even some provincial hospitals, though this may take a couple of years.

There has also been a shift in emphasis in local government. Councils used to be controlling bodies which laid down rules and tried to enforce them. Now they are keener on facilitating development and ensuring that the activ-

STREETS

ties of a local government administration are directed at achieving an overall strategic plan, such as ensuring that everyone within its boundaries gets at least a minimum level of municipal services.

DEBT-COLLECTION 'INEFFECTIVE'

Five councillors still in arrears

263

CT 13/12/96

CITY COUNCILLORS who are still in arrears with their municipal accounts will not lose their posts because of a moratorium on summarily dismissing councillors. Metro Writer **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

FIVE unnamed city councillors are still in arrears with payments to the council for municipal services

This emerged yesterday in replies from Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo, chairwoman of the executive committee, to questions by councillor Mr Ian Iversen

Mfeketo replied in the affirmative to a question whether any councillors had been three or more months in arrears with their rates, electricity, rent, water or other municipal accounts since June.

Legally, a councillor who is in arrears for so long with his municipal accounts can be summarily dismissed

However, a three-month moratorium is in effect, which Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais negotiated with the ANC and subsequently gazetted

Before the moratorium, several councillors — most of them ANC — from Western Cape towns, were caught off guard by this law, and some, including the mayor of Great Brak, lost their jobs

Then it turned out that some prominent figures in local government, including NP members, had also fallen foul of the three-month rule. The circumstances were never made clear, but observers say they probably failed to pay property rates by the "due date", which is legally three months after they come into effect.

Iversen wanted the names of the defaulters, a list of how much they owed and details of legal action which may have been taken against them.

Mfeketo replied that according to the Municipal Ordinance, details of personal

accounts may not be divulged "unless required for the proper discharge of your duties as a councillor" She was satisfied that this was not the case

She disclosed that 10 councillors (of 74) had been in arrears. Five of these councillors had settled their debts.

A warning letter has been sent to the sixth about the danger of being dismissed once the moratorium ends

"The other four councillors, who live in the iKapa area, are subject to debt-collection procedures which have been ineffective. The procedures are being improved"

Iversen was dissatisfied with the response, saying this was a case of a lack of transparency. "An old ordinance is being used to protect the councillors who are not playing their part in Masakhane (a campaign to promote the payment of services)," he said, adding that refusing to name the councillors "hurts us more than naming them would".

Afterwards he said he would look into the possibility of a legal challenge to that section of the Municipal Ordinance

● In a report placed before the council yesterday about money owed to it, senior officials said the total amount owed had climbed R105m in the past year to R435m

They also said arrangements were being made to expand "credit blacklisting", officially called "the credit warning letter scheme", which at the moment applies only to rates debts

The officials want to extend blacklisting to council house rental debts, water debts, and even council house purchase arrears

Dispute declared over Barnard appointment

STAFF WRITER

263
B ET 13/11/96

THE National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) has officially declared a dispute with the Western Province government over the appointment of Mr Niel Barnard as Director-General of the Public Service in the Western Cape

Mr Puddy February, the Nehawu regional secretary, alleged there had been irregularities in the procedure of Barnard's appointment, a failure to adhere to the appointment criteria as outlined in the Public Service Act, a failure to comply with the Constitution, a failure to adhere to Provincial Public Service Bargaining Chamber (PPSBC) decisions which instructs the premier (Hernus Kriel) to respond within seven days to Nehawu's queries around the appointment, and a failure to apply transparency in the making of the appointment as legislated in the Public Service Act

At a PPSBC meeting on Tuesday an agreement was reached with the provincial administration to convene a dispute

meeting in the first week of January 1997

The parties will finalise the date for this meeting soon.

Nehawu has allocated the first weeks in January to settle the dispute and to ensure the reversal of Barnard's appointment. Failing a resolution of the dispute during the period, Nehawu would ballot its 13 000 members in the province for strike action.

January had also been declared the month of mass action against the Kriel administration and the campaign would include the mobilisation of "our members for pickets, marches, go-slows and ultimately strike action" and would be extended to the 240 000 members of Cosatu in the Western Cape.

The union would further embark on a public awareness campaign among community based organisations and civil society at large focusing on Barnard's history as chief of the National Intelligence Services during the apartheid era.

Nehawu would not accept Barnard's appointment and vowed to use whatever means at its disposal to have it reversed

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Row over councillors in arrears with payments

DP to act on withholding of names

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

A row has erupted over the withholding of the names of councillors more than three months in arrears after questions were posed by the Democratic Party at provincial and local council level.

The questions follow the granting of a moratorium to councillors who have until the end of the month to make good their debts or lose their seats under an election regulation. The regulation stipulates that councillors may not be more than three months in arrears.

Yesterday the DP indicated that it would be taking legal advice on the with-

holding of 10 names in a reply given at the Cape Town council's monthly meeting.

Last week, local government minister Peter Marais was ordered to reply to a question posed by DP provincial leader Hennie Bester in the provincial legislature after he failed to produce an answer.

Mr Bester argued that it was his constitutional right to have his question answered prompting speaker Willem Doman to give Mr Marais until Tuesday next week to answer the question.

Mr Bester wanted to know which councillors had been in arrears for more than three months as of October 31 before the moratorium was imposed.

He also wanted to know how much money was owed, which political parties

they belonged to and what steps were being taken to deal with the situation.

Yesterday, at a Cape Town council meeting, DP caucus leader Ian Iversen indicated he would be taking legal advice on the issue.

Six of the councillors in question are NP members, among them metropolitan mayor William Bantom.

The remaining four are members of the ANC who live in the Ikapa area.

Mr Iversen said he believed the ratepayers of Cape Town were entitled to know the names of the 10 councillors.

"If councillors do not set the example of paying their accounts how can there be any chance of the Masakhane campaign succeeding?"

ARG 13/12/96 (263)

DEBT-COLLECTION 'INEFFECTIVE'

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(263) ~~(263)~~

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CT 13/12/96

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STAFF WRITER

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ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

**MASS IN
B MINOR**

SUPREME COURT ROLL

THIRD DIVISION
Court No. 16
Divorces

v R S Lottering, P JA v SD Mar-
nus, E L v W Marthesé, B v E
Michaels, F v A Noordien, J y S R.

INTRIGUING INNOVATIONS

⁽²⁶³⁾
The Western Cape legislature has carefully crafted its regional constitution to meet the strict legal criteria required by the Constitutional Court for certification. This comes after the ignominious repudiation of KwaZulu-Natal's submission.

Published in a special Provincial Gazette last Friday, the Western Cape's draft constitution contains some intriguing innovations. ^{fm 13/12/96}

Compiled through party negotiation and compromise since August, the draft — at the urging of the small African Christian Democratic Party — includes the phrase "In humble submission to Almighty God" in its preamble, and is available in the region's three official languages: English, Afrikaans, Xhosa.

It also makes some provision for constituency representation, though, since the regional constitution will only be voted on in February, a number of matters are simply presented as options — as happened with the central Constitution until its final stages.

The Freedom Front says that it's pleased with the inclusion of a proposal for "cultural councils" designed to serve "a community or communities in the province sharing a common cultural, linguistic or religious heritage" (Option 2).

This idea is an important concession to ethnicity, and to those who seek to preserve and protect Afrikaans in particular. At this stage, no further details are given — including the all-important one of who will fund the councils.

Rather more details are given of a proposed Environmental Commissioner — an ombudsman whose functions (in their strongest formulation) will include promoting "the protection of the environment" in national reserves, pollution control, regional planning and development, urban and rural development, and

soil conservation.

Since development is a hot issue in the Western Cape — particularly on the slopes of the Table Mountain range, where demand is encroaching on remaining areas of natural space — the real question is whether the commissioner would have the power to block projects, or merely advise. The draft constitution states that, where he has made "recommendations to an organ or provincial government, that organ must report to the commissioner on its actions in response to that recommendation within a reasonable time."

It remains uncertain what would occur in the event of a deadlock between the commissioner and a provincial structure bent on development. As the wording stands, the minimum effect would be to place developmental vs environmental issues in the spotlight of publicity. As various green lobbies in the Peninsula have found, rights to develop land are complicated by overlapping authorities and concessions that in some cases date back decades.

But what the regional constitution writers have attempted is to more clearly define their areas of authority in terms of the delegated powers of the national Constitution.

And without such closer definition, there would be a risk that provincial bodies could remain unsure about the limits of their power — which would invite the kind of anarchy that now prevails in the Eastern Cape, followed by centrist intervention.

The dominant National Party continues to express itself in favour of the continuance of a government of provincial unity beyond the next elections. It remains puzzling why it should do so when the NP leadership took the initiative by resigning from the Government of National Unity in midyear.

Officially, the Western Cape NP — under the premiership of Hernus Kriel — says it prefers consensus to majority party rule.

Unofficially, some cynics believe that entrenchment of the all-party system would ensure the NP a role in provincial governance even if it lost its majority.

But with the Western Cape ANC in some disarray, it seems doubtful that its

new regional supremo, Dullah Omar, will succeed in making significant inroads into NP strength until well after 1999. ■



Hernus Kriel

Protector probes Barnard's job

CT 16/12/96

(263)

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

Public Protector Selby Baqwa has joined the fray that has pitted former intelligence chief Neil Barnard, now Director-General of the Western Cape, against the government, the African National Congress and its allies.

Mr Barnard was director-general of the Constitutional Development Department before his new appointment

Mr Baqwa has begun a formal investigation — at the request of the Police, Prisons and Civil Rights' Union (Popcru) and the National Education, Health and Allied

Workers Union (Nehawu) — into the appointment of Mr Barnard as director-general of the province

A spokesman for Mr Baqwa at the weekend confirmed he was also investigating Mr Barnard's demand to be paid a double salary, one for his job as director general of Constitutional Development, and the other as director general of the Western Cape.

Mr Barnard has demanded the Constitutional Development Department pay his salary until 1999 and his pension and gratuity, which are worth about R4 million

He has also insisted on staying in a government house until 1999, and to be allowed to keep his car in terms of the gov-

ernment's car finance scheme

Constitutional Development Minister Mohammed Valli Moosa has refused and argued that Mr Barnard's new appointment amounted to a transfer. This meant he was entitled only to benefits accrued in his old post.

Public Service Minister Zola Skweyiya has also objected to Mr Barnard's new appointment on the grounds that a civil servant could not be appointed to another position without the approval of the minister and /or the public service commission, in terms of the Public Service Act

Nehawu has also declared a dispute with Western Cape premier Hennis Kriel.

Top W Cape officials rush for pay-off deals

Top staff quit ahead of deadline

WILLIAM-MERVYN GUMEDU
POLITICAL STAFF

(Signature)

The Western Cape provincial government is losing many of its most senior civil servants, who are rushing to quit ahead of the cut-off date for accepting severance packages.

The provincial department of Agriculture, Planning and Tourism has lost almost a third of its most senior staff.

The department's minister, Lamprie Frick, said in a reply to a Western Cape parliamentary question put by the Democratic Party that of 35 people employed in his department, 11 had applied for - and been granted - voluntary severance packages.

These included the director of planning, as well as five of 15 town and regional planners.

A similar question to Cecil Herandien, provincial Minister of Housing, revealed

that 79 of the 545 persons employed by the department had applied for voluntary severance packages. Of those, three are deputy directors and five assistant directors. Virtually the entire top management of the Department of Nature Conservation has taken packages.

Mr Frick said the granting of severance packages would adversely affect the Planning Directorate in that people with valuable knowledge and expertise would be, and had been, lost.

"In order to diminish the total impact of the loss, the granting of these packages has been staggered and new persons have been appointed," he said.

Remaining personnel would have to be promoted to fill the vacancies of those who left, Mr Frick added.

Hennie Bester, leader of the DP in the province, said the losses would be even greater from March next year - the closing

date for packages. "The loss of expertise comes at a time when planning functions at local government level are being restructured and the entire corpus of physical planning legislation is being revamped," Mr Bester said.

To attempt this without experienced managers would result in serious bottlenecks and growing inefficiencies in departments crucial to the development and economic growth of the province.

The DP warned that the Government's policy of voluntary severance packages, which left no discretion to ministers and department heads as to who should go and who should stay, was ill-advised.

"Voluntary retrenchment packages are decimating the ability of the provincial public service to render services which it should," he said. "The packages made the evaluation of the personnel needs of departments impossible."



Former spy chief lands top job

(263)

Alan 10/10/96

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town - Former director of the National Intelligence Services Dr Niel Barnard was appointed yesterday as the new director-general of the Western Cape - in the face of unanimous objections by ANC partners in the government of provincial unity.

Announcing this, Premier Hernus Kriel - for whom the appointment is a personal coup - said he was confident of contin-

ued good administration and management and that Barnard was well qualified for the task.

Barnard (47) earned a reputation as the reticent spy chief during the P W Botha reign and was instrumental in brokering the Angolan ceasefire, Namibian independence and the release of President Nelson Mandela. He will take up his post on December 1.

He took over the NIS leadership from Hendrik van den Bergh, confidant of then prime

minister John Vorster. Barnard reportedly gave only one press conference in his 11 years in the public service - when he was appointed in 1980 - saying that he would tell politicians not what they wanted to hear, but "the truth".

Former Washington ambassador and current director-general Herbert Beukes leaves his post at the end of the month with a R3-million state severance package after five years' service.



Barnard ... Former NIS boss now W Cape director-general.

PUBLIC SECTOR-Local Auth. - CAPE

1997

White rule lingers on in the Western Cape

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The National Party-dominated Western Cape provincial government is dragging its feet on redressing apartheid racial imbalances - there is only one black senior

manager in the administration, according to research

The administration lacked the will to implement affirmative action programmes, a national public administration workshop heard in Cape Town yesterday

Lusani Madzhivhandila of the public administration department at the University of the Western Cape told the workshop there were large race and gender inequalities in top management echelons of the province's public service. He said a

(263) (263)
ARLT 17/11/97

To page 3

NP drags heels on affirmative action

From page 1

(263)
ARLT 17/11/97
breakdown of the number of senior managers in the province's public service showed 49 were white, 20 coloured, one was Indian and one was black.

In middle management, only seven were women of whom two were white, two coloured, two black and one was Indian.

Figures for the Cape Town Metropolitan Council, the province's largest employer of public servants, reveal 93 percent of its top management are white and seven percent coloured. No black people are in top managerial positions.

The council's middle management is 90 percent white, nine percent coloured and one percent black.

Mr Madzhivhandila also said cutting the education budget, resulting in 6 000 teachers losing their jobs, and the health budget made life difficult for civil servants.

The workshop, developed in co-operation with the John F Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in the United States, was sponsored by the Otis Elevator Company.

Peter Franks, dean of the faculty of management sciences at the University of the North who co-ordinated the workshop, said more than 130 of the country's about 160 public administration academics had attended previous workshops and many of them had moved to senior positions in the public service.

Herman "Dutch" Leonard, academic dean for teaching programmes at Harvard, said the workshop was initiated to stimulate South African institutions of higher learning to develop programmes that could help people from widely different backgrounds move into positions of authority in the new government.

Row over W Cape funds freeze

ANDREA WEISS
STAFF REPORTER

ARG 7/1/97

(263)

A political row is brewing over funds being withheld from African National Congress-controlled towns in the Western Cape which led a failed court action against Local Government Minister Peter Marais last year.

The issue has prompted an investigation by the national Department of Constitutional Development, which allocates the money to provinces for redistribution to local authorities.

The town councils of Riversdale, Worcester, Paarl, Saron, Tulbagh and Ceres were ordered to pay the legal costs of the court case, which focused on representation on rural district councils.

It now appears that grants are being

withheld pending payment of these court costs. Although the costs have not been tallied yet, at least one council has been informed it will not get an expected R50 000 inter-governmental grant until the matter is settled.

Local government chief director Faan Naude dismissed speculation that the move was intended to discriminate against ANC-led councils.

He said he had posed the question to his staff whether the money could be withheld pending the resolution of the court costs. The costs had not yet been determined, but his responsibility was to ensure that the province collected the money.

Christian Olver, chief director of municipal finance in the Department of Constitutional Development in Pretoria, said he had asked an official to investigate.

Western Cape govt granted R37m increase to 'get its house in order'

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Government has approved a 21% (R37m) increase in the Western Cape's intergovernmental grant for local authorities in the 1997/98 financial year to assist it in building up capacity during this critical phase, provincial local government MEC Peter Meraus said yesterday.

Government's approval of the hike to R217m (R180m) was based

on Meraus' plea for the province's local authorities to be aided over the next two years so they could build capacity, install systems and conduct valuations.

After this, the Western Cape would be prepared to suffer a more radical cut in grants to bring it in line with other provincial allocations. The grant for the current year had been cut by R50m and resulted in many local councils experiencing financial difficulties,

Meraus said yesterday.

Some had received "a mere pitance of R50 000" because of the cutback, and Meraus said as a consequence they would be running up huge overdrafts.

"I would prefer to take a bigger cut later after we have had the opportunity to put our house in order. If we create an atmosphere of delivery this will make it more acceptable to people to have to pay more," Meraus said.

He felt it was preferable to get local councils functioning properly and delivering proper services before they asked for higher rates, because to reverse the process would result in a high degree of nonpayment and dissatisfaction.

The total budget for the Western Cape local government department, including grants, would rise to R234m (R195m).

Meraus said he would be introducing legislation this year to es-

tablish a local government commissioner to monitor the finances of local authorities and to act as a conflict resolution body.

Finalisation of the Western Cape provincial budget awaits a reply from government to the request for the size of its allocation to remain the same in nominal terms instead of being cut by the proposed 12%-15%, which includes the rate of inflation would represent a real cut of 20% or more.

(263) 80 21/11/97

NP hits back at Cape 'white rule' claims

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMIDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The National Party-dominated Western Cape provincial government has hit back strongly at claims that the party is dragging its feet on affirmative action.

A University of the Western Cape study reported in the Cape Argus last week showed that the provincial administration had only one black African senior manager

and that almost 70 percent of senior managers were white

But, said Kobus Meiring, the NP MEC for finance, allegations that his party was purposely excluding black Africans were unjustified. Affirmative action was part of a process, and not an immediate goal for the provincial administration.

"It will be senseless just to appoint people to fill quotas or figures, as we need to ensure that standards and efficiency are maintained," Mr Meiring said.

The Western Cape administration would not "surrender productivity and high delivery levels" and would thus implement affirmative action in a responsible way.

He admitted the administration had not made any giant strides towards implementing affirmative action, but added it was well on its way towards reaching "acceptable targets".

By saying the provincial administration was dragging its feet by "merely quot-

ing numbers" was naive. "One needs to take the history of the province into account. Two years ago the senior management in the province's civil service was exclusively white, now it is more representative," he said.

Mr Meiring said the administration did not lack the will to implement affirmative action and had appointed a special programmes officer to oversee affirmative action programmes. This officer would start next month.

ARC 20 11 99

(24/10/99)

Union steps up its bid to oust Barnard

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The campaign to overturn the appointment of former spy chief Niel Barnard as director-general of the Western Cape provincial administration is being stepped up today.

The National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) is meeting the provincial administration today to voice its objections to the appointment of Dr Barnard, one-time head of the National Intelligence Service.

Dr Barnard was appointed to the province's top job by premier and provincial National Party leader Hennis Kriel

amid fierce opposition from the ANC-controlled national government and the ANC and its alliance partners, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and SA Communist Party.

Dr Barnard was director-general of the Constitutional Development Department before his new appointment.

Public Protector Selby Bagwa has launched a formal investigation - at the request of Nehawu and the Police, Prisons and Civil Rights Union - into alleged irregularities in the appointment of Dr Barnard as director-general of the province. Dr Barnard has demanded the Constitutional Development Department pay his salary until 1999, his pension and his gratuity, which is worth about R4-million

ANC 22/11/97

(263)

Constitutional Development Minister Mohammed Valli Moosa refused this and argued that Dr Barnard's new appointment amounted to a transfer. This meant he was entitled only to benefits accrued in his old post after he left the services of the state. Paseka Ncholo, director-general of the Public Service Department said Dr Barnard's appointment would be treated as a transfer and he would not be entitled to the benefits he demanded.

Nehawu provincial chairman Wilfred Alcock said the dispute, declared under the Labour Relations Act and lodged with the provincial bargaining chamber, was based on the allegation that it was unconstitutional as it failed to meet the requirements of representivity.



Controversial: former spy chief Niel Barnard

Union threatens Kriel with 'war' over Barnard

(263)

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

ACT 23/1/97

The National Education Health and Allied Workers Union will make an urgent application in the Supreme Court for an order overturning the appointment of former spy boss Niel Barnard as director-general of the Western Cape.

The union failed to reverse the appointment of Dr Barnard at a meeting with the provincial administration yesterday when the meeting ended in deadlock.

"We will be lodging an urgent application in the Supreme Court to overturn the appointment of Barnard and believe we have enough legal grounds, in terms of the constitution and the Public Service Act," said Wilfred Alcock, Nehawu regional chairman.

He said the union would back the application with mass action.

"If, as a result of the deadlock, the public service is brought to a total standstill in the Western Cape on Monday, Kriel must take full responsibility for the non-delivery of services to the people."

He said after the meeting failed to resolve the dispute, "other measures to overturn the appointment of Barnard needed to be used. In 1996 we promised Kriel war if Barnard was appointed. We vow to keep the promise".

Mr Alcock said the dispute, declared under the Labour Relations Act and lodged with the provincial bargaining chamber, was based on an allegation that Mr Barnard's appointment was unconstitutional as it failed to meet the requirements of representivity.

taxes - Sada-AFP

R1-m salary shock over Niel Barnard

Officials give details

WILLIAM-MERVYN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

Taxpayers will fork out about R1-million a year plus perks to the newly appointed director-general of the Western Cape, former spy boss Niel Barnard, if he gets his way.

Senior sources in the Public Service Commission estimate that Dr Barnard's basic salary as head of the provincial civil service is R266 000 a year. His perks include a car allowance for R250 000 over three years and housing, medical and entertainment allowances.

But they claim Dr Barnard has demanded that in addition to this he is paid his salary for his previous job as director-general of the national Department of Constitutional Development until 1999.

Constitutional Development Minister Mohammed Valli Moosa and Public Service and Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya oppose Dr Barnard's demands.

The public service sources say Dr Barnard maintains he is entitled to this double salary in terms of the "sunset clause" in the constitution, which was agreed to between the African National Congress and the previous government.

In terms of this clause, civil servants

WHAT BARNARD COULD GET

- R266 000 a year as Western Cape director-general
- R360 000 as Constitutional Development director-general until 1999
- About R400 000 pension as former director-general of Constitutional Development

He also gets

- A lump sum gratuity of R4-million
- R145 000 from the former National Party government
- A car allowance of R250 000 over three years
- Housing, medical and entertainment allowances

who served in the previous system cannot be retrenched until 1999, but Dr Barnard is known to have been uncomfortable under Mr Moosa, an ANC minister.

In his previous job Dr Barnard earned a salary of about R360 000 a year as well as perks, the sources said. Perks included the right to live in a government house until 1999 and to keep his car financed under the government car scheme.

The two basic salaries add up to more

Barnard wants R1m double-pay deal

From page 1

than R600 000 a year. As he has left his job in the central government, he is entitled to a lump sum retirement gratuity estimated to be around R4-million.

In addition to this Dr Barnard, who was the longest serving director-general, is entitled to an annual pension that has been estimated around R400 000. With the double salary Dr Barnard wants, this amounts to about R1-million a year.

When Mr Moosa took over as Minister of Constitutional Development last June, he and Dr Barnard decided by mutual agreement that Dr Barnard would leave the department by November 30, 1996. Dr

Barnard was to get his salary until 1999 as well as his pension, but allegedly had not told the Government he was going to take the job of Western Cape director-general.

Although it was not specifically stipulated in the agreement, it was assumed that, by implication, he would not be working for the state until 1999.

In addition to the salary, pension, gratuity and perks, the previous government agreed to pay each director-general R145 000 to reward them for their service and encourage them to stay in their posts after the 1994 democratic election.

Dr Barnard is understood to have got this amount. The Cape Argus tried for several days to contact him for comment, but

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ARLT 27/1/97

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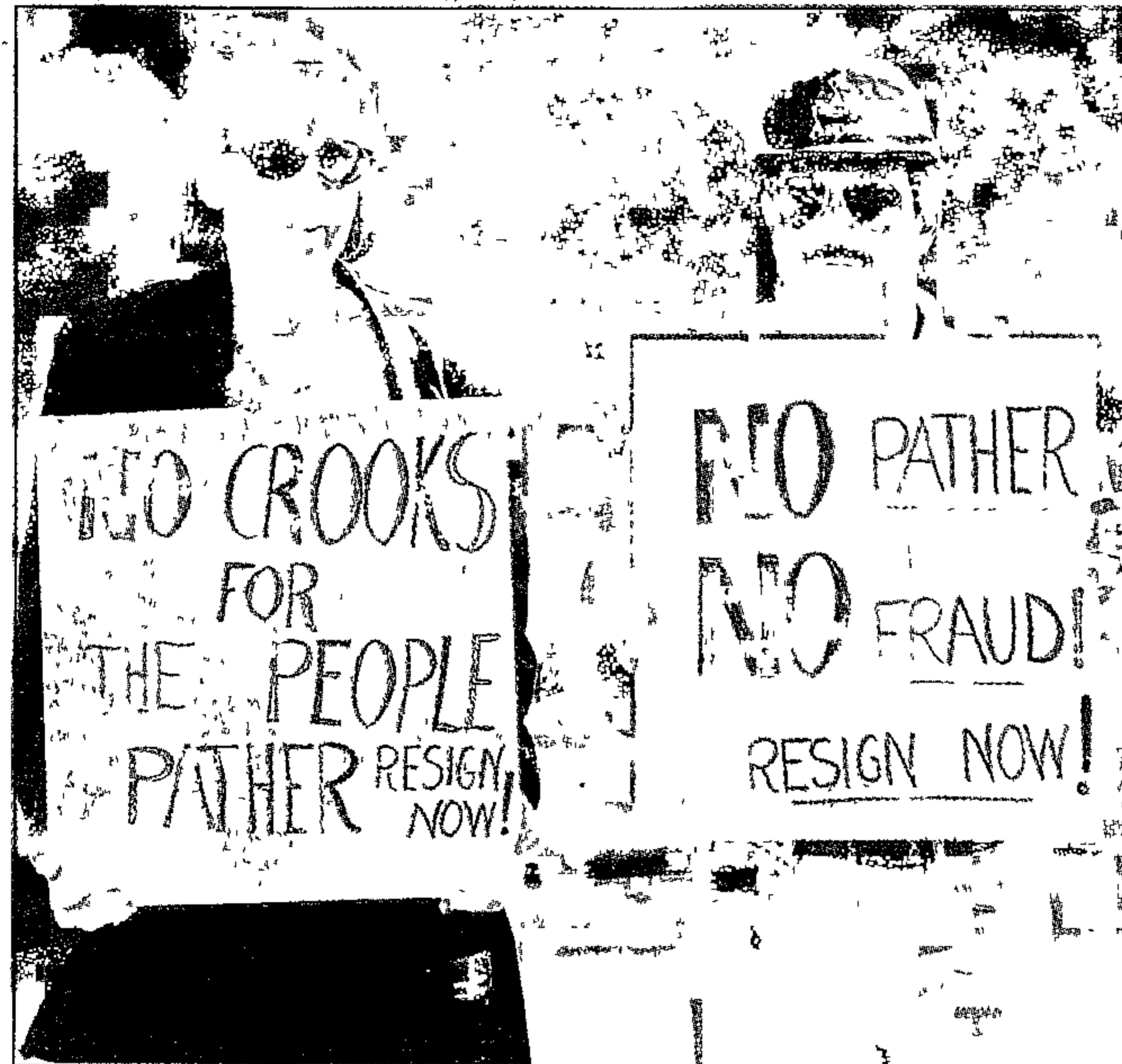
(263) (250)

his secretary said he was not available. Meanwhile, the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union has said it objects strongly to Dr Barnard's appointment to the province and will apply for a Supreme Court interdict to block it.

But provincial Minister of Finance Kobus Meuring said the union had conceded at a meeting of the Provincial Chamber that the chamber could not address issues concerning Dr Barnard and indicated that it wanted the procedure reviewed.

"The call to overturn the appointment of the director-general does not gel with their stated objective of reviewing the procedure and is therefore a classic case of goal shifting," Mr Meuring said.

To page 3



BRENTON GEACH

Showing their feelings: residents demand the resignation of South Peninsula councillor Rajan Pather

Protesters call on councillor guilty of fraud to resign

(263)

PETER GOOSEN

METRO DESK

APR 28/1997

A group of Lotus River and Pelican Park residents staged a peaceful placard demonstration outside the Alphen Centre in Constantia today to demand the resignation of South Peninsula councillor Rajan Pather.

The centre is the seat of the South Peninsula Council, which is meeting there today.

Most councillors arrived early for a last-minute meeting of the council's executive and missed the demonstration.

Mr Pather, of Grassy Park, was convicted of fraud recently for acquiring a sub-economic house in Pelican Park while owning property elsewhere.

Soon after his conviction, he was expelled from the National Party but has not resigned his council seat. The council, at its final meeting last year, said it would not take any action without Mr Pather being present to defend himself.

Senate to meet for last time on Friday

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — The final meeting of the Senate this Friday will raise the curtain on the new National Council of Provinces but will also herald the end of National Party (NP) veteran Kobie Coetsee's career.

Once the Senate has dissolved, its members will return to their provinces, where they will be sworn in as members of the regional legislatures. Once the legislatures have decided which senators will return to the council as full-time members, they will return to Cape Town for the first meeting of the new council.

Coetsee, currently president of the Senate, is guaranteed a place in the council if he wants one, as he is the only NP senator for the Free State. However, he will not chair the council. This position is certain to be taken by an African National Congress (ANC) member.

Deposed Free State premier Patrick Lekota was expected to get the job, while the deputy's position would also go to an ANC member, ANC sources said.

NP sources, who declined to be named, said Coetsee would leave politics once the Senate had been scrapped.

Coetsee, a minister of justice and of defence in FW De Klerk's administration, is widely credited with being responsible for getting negotiations going with Nelson Mandela while he was still in prison. He was elected president of the Senate in May 1994.

Amnesty committee faces huge workload

60 28/11/97

Stephen Laufer

THE truth commission is to discuss the workload its amnesty committee faces at a meeting in Cape Town on Thursday, amid growing concern that hundreds of applications may still be outstanding when the commission shuts down at the end of the year.

A failure by the committee to complete its work on time would force government to choose between extending its life beyond that of the full commission, required by law to end its work in December, or declaring a general amnesty, observers said.

Applicants are required to disclose fully the crimes for which they want amnesty. Unless government indemnifies applicants whose cases have not been adjudicated when the commission ends its work, documents could be used in prosecutions.

The five-member committee had not yet ruled on at least 2 900 applications, spokesman Christelle Terreblanche said.

Applications were still being received following the extension of the cut-off dates, and the African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress were expected to submit at least 200 more each, with the Freedom Front and the Inkatha Freedom Party expected to hand in "a sprinkling".

About 20% of applications in-

volve gross human rights violations. The committee is required to rule on these — at least 580 cases — following public hearings. More than 500 applications had been received from former security force members and many could involve human rights violations.

The committee is planning public hearings every second week and will deal with other applications in chambers in the weeks in between.

The amnesty committee has so far ruled in only 22 cases. Five applications have been granted in chambers, six after hearings and 11 have been rejected.

Acting commission chairman Alex Boraine said yesterday that the committee faced an enormous task and was in need of a realistic appraisal of whether it could cope.

The quorum required for a public hearing had been reduced from five to three commissioners, allowing two to prepare hearings and review evidence. Committee members were assessing whether they had sufficient resources to cope with the workload.

Terreblanche said the committee staff had been strengthened significantly in recent weeks. It was now in a position to deal with 10 to 15 applications a week in public hearings.

Notwithstanding, hundreds of applications would be left undecided by December.

Withholding of council funds probed

60 28/11/97

Linda Ensor

263

CAPE TOWN — Central government is investigating the Western Cape government's withholding of intergovernmental grants to six ANC-controlled local authorities in the province, an official has confirmed.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the constitutional development department was probing reasons why funds had been withheld from the Worcester, Riversdal, Ceres, Saron, Paarl and Tulbagh councils.

The provincial local government department informed one of the councils that the funds would be withheld until arrangements were made for the payment of legal costs which the courts had ordered the local authorities to pay. The costs arose from an unsuccessful application last year aimed at overturning the compo-

sition of the district councils, as stipulated by Western Cape local government MEC Peter Marais.

A member of the parliamentary standing committee on constitutional affairs, Melanie Verwoerd, said the withholding of funds meant for reconstruction and development programme projects as payment for legal costs was "completely out of order". Provincial governments were supposed to simply redistribute grants allocated to them by central government.

Verwoerd doubted whether the action was constitutional and said it raised an issue of principle — the right of one tier of government to take legal action against another without being penalised. It was especially unfair, she said, as the final cost of the legal action would take months to finalise.

Meanwhile, the ANC's Western Cape information and publicity head, Cameron Dugmore, said

the ANC would demand that the Western Cape constitution incorporate a general provision requiring the provincial legislature to pass legislation on matters crucial to the transformation process. The proposal was endorsed by the ANC's provincial executive committee at a meeting last week.

If the ANC proposal is adopted by the other parties, the provincial legislature will be obliged to pass legislation on land distribution, the abolition of the tot system, affirmative action, the appointment of an ombudsman on racism and the promotion of nonracialism.

Dugmore noted that such constitutionally enshrined mandates were necessary in the Western Cape, as the National Party-controlled regional government had been reluctant to threaten vested interests. It had been particularly tardy in implementing affirmative action in the administration.

pension 'deal'

STAFF of the Cape Metropolitan Council want the council to put up funds to guarantee lump-sum pension payments and medical aid for employees who lose their jobs through restructuring. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.



CT 28/4/97

THE Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) is to be asked this week to put R46 million of its own reserves into pension and medical aid funds that can be drawn on by staff who have retired, or will soon lose their jobs through restructuring.

This request by CMC committees and officials comes at a time when the six Cape Town municipalities need all the financial help they can get from the umbrella body.

The CMC has about 6 000 staff perhaps another 2 000 retired, retrenched or "medically-boarded" former staff who enjoy lifelong CMC-sponsored membership of their medical aid fund.

It is not known how many present employees will lose their jobs through restructuring.

Two-and-a-half years ago the Cape Joint Pension Fund, which is run separately from the CMC but to which many CMC staff belong, changed its rules to allow retiring staff to convert all their pension fund money into a lump sum that can be withdrawn.

Council employees are also wanting to lower the retirement age from 65 to 60 or even 55.

At present, employees can opt to retire at 60 but then have to sacrifice about 2,4% of their pension for every year they still have to go till the official retirement age. Negotiations are in progress to see whether the penalty can be dropped. Some employees would like to be able to retire at 55.

While the pension fund could probably support lowering the age of retirement to 55 with the penalty of 2,4% remaining in force, and supports dropping the penalty for those aged 60 to 65.

Ministerial permission is needed to authorise any changes or to transfer money to the pension fund.

Attempts have also been made to obtain a similar arrangement for the medical aid fund, in terms of which the council would pay an outside body to take over the burden of the continuing medical aid membership of retired former employees.

But none of the institutions approached had shown sufficient interest in such a deal, said Mr Philip Schenck, chief director of CMC financial services. So the CMC still had to try to ensure that its reserves were "sufficiently funded" to meet these liabilities.

Tomorrow the cash-strapped CMC will be called on to consider transferring R46m from its reserves to top up its own pension and medical aid reserve funds.

Of this, R40m should go into the medical aid reserve fund. Retired members remain "continuing members" of the medical aid fund until they die.

The remaining R6m of the R46m is meant to go into another pension fund, the General Revenue Pension, for black former Cape Divisional

Council employees who were excluded until 1970 from what is now the Cape Joint Pension Fund.

In this case, too, beneficiaries are allowed to convert their rights into lump-sum payments on retirement.

In terms of the CMC's own medical fund rules, the CMC must continue paying medical fund contributions for former employees who either retired at the prescribed age, or stopped being employed before the age of 65 due to restructuring or ill health.

Substantial sums are involved. Schenck said yesterday that a person with no dependents who earns over R4 000 a month must contribute R508, of which the council pays 60% (R305) and the employee 40% (R203). If the member receiving the same salary has, for example, a dependent wife and three children, his total monthly payments will be R729 a month, with the same 60% to 40% split.

From the time he is "medically boarded" or retrenched, however, the council's share of his social security payments increases to 70%, until he reaches retirement age.

The council was unable to provide figures yesterday on how many people are continuing members of the medical aid fund.

Deputy finance chief Mr Hennie Smit estimated that there could be between 1 000 and 2 000 former employees still on the medical fund.

Actuaries had been called in to try to put a figure to the council's future liability in respect of amounts it had to pay to the medical aid fund on behalf of former employees.

In mid-1995, this was estimated at R28,7m, by the middle of last year it had risen to an estimated R40m.

The CMC has to be clear on exactly what its assets and liabilities are, as part of the process of transformation of local government.

Schenck said the CMC had well over R40m in reserve funds, but there were many calls on those reserves. He doubted that the entire recommended R46m would be transferred into the actuarially-underfunded accounts in a single financial year, even if the required ministerial approval could be obtained.

CMC ASKED TO DIG INTO RESERVES

R46m for council

Cosatu rejects Kriel plan for enforced coalition in W Cape

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The Congress of South African Trade Unions has rejected a proposal by Western Cape Premier and National Party provincial leader Hennis Kriel that a unity government be entrenched in the provincial constitution.

In a submission to the Western Cape standing committee on constitutional affairs, which is writing a new constitution for the province, Cosatu rejected "an enforced government of provin-

cial unity beyond 1999" It proposed the provincial government take positive steps to advance the status and use of "the historically diminished indigenous languages of the province".

It said Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa had to enjoy equal treatment for the purposes of provincial government. But, because of historical differences, special measures should be taken to protect and promote isiXhosa.

The NP is opposed to elevating the status of less widely used languages, saying it is neither practicable nor affordable

Cosatu told the committee at a public hearing it would oppose a provincial electoral system differing radically from the national constitution

The Democratic Party has proposed that the provincial constitution enshrine a constituency-based electoral system with elements of proportionality

The National Party has indicated it will support it

Citizens have their last chance to propose changes to the draft Western Cape constitution at the final round of public hearings taking place this week

B. ARU 29/1/97 (263)

COUNCILLOR TARGETED

Walkout stalls council motion for resignation

SOUTH PENINSULA residents failed yesterday to have a councillor who was convicted of fraud kicked out of the council — but they may yet succeed. **NASREEN SERIA** reports.

SEVERAL South Peninsula town councillors walked out of a council meeting yesterday during which they would have voted on whether to ask a colleague to resign.

The councillor, Mr Balarajan Pather, was recently found guilty of fraud.

After the councillors left the chamber, the motion to ask for Pather's resignation could not be voted on as there was no quorum.

A handful of concerned residents, who demonstrated outside the meeting as part of their campaign to force Pather to resign, were disappointed with the councillors' actions.

"The council had a chance to help us stop this kind of corruption, but they didn't," said Pelican Park resident Mr Ishmail Davids.

Pather was found guilty of fraud last month and was suspended from the National Party, but remained a ward councillor.

He admitted the fraud, which involved two identity numbers he held. Pather used one of the numbers to acquire a council-owned house in Pelican Park while owning property elsewhere.

DP councillor Ms Joan Heming, who had placed the motion before the council, said that Pather should be asked to resign "to prevent any embarrassment to the council".

"The council is heading for embarrassment! Mr Pather should resign before this," she said.

Independent councillor for Grassy Park Mr Phillip Bam said the

motion was "silly".

"We have no right to ask Mr Pather to resign. Just because the NP suspended him doesn't mean that he should resign from the council," said Bam, who left the room to avoid voting on the motion.

Despite this setback, residents have not given up hope.

They are optimistic about a council decision to investigate whether Pather has in fact lost his seat on the council for missing three council meetings.

The council voted against giving Pather leave of absence for yesterday's meeting, which brings to

three the number of meetings he has missed. However, the expulsion is not automatic and an investigation must take place first.

"We don't want a councillor who is a convicted criminal," said Pelican Park resident Mr

Vernon Seymour. "And we won't stop our campaign till he gets the message."

Apart from the criminal conviction, Pather was also seen as "unfit for office" by the residents.

"He doesn't come to meetings in the community, he doesn't stay in our ward and doesn't attend to our needs as residents," said Mrs Sakina Hoosain from Pelican Park.

Hoosain said it was the NP's fault that the residents were now faced with a councillor they do not want.

"Mr Pather was being investigated before the local elections. He should not have stood as a candidate for election," she said.

Pather could not be reached for comment.

"We don't want a councillor who is a convicted criminal."

— Pelican Park resident

Names of councillors in arrears can't be released

(263) #1: CT 29/11/97

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE fear of civil litigation by local authorities and his lack of constitutional power prevented him from providing the Western Cape legislature with the names of all councillors in arrears with payments, Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais said yesterday.

Responding to a claim by the DP's Western Cape leader Mr Henrie Bester that he was blatantly flouting a directive by Speaker Mr Willem Doman to provide him (Bester) with the names by December 26, Marais said yesterday it had proved a virtually impossible task

He had faxed all local authorities on November 29 last year requesting names of councillors more than three months in arrears, and therefore eligible for summary dismissal.

Only nine of the 136 local authority bodies had so far responded with numbers (accounting for 21 non-paying councillors) and party affiliations — but had declined names.

This was predominantly because of fear that they would open themselves to defamation actions if a clerical error resulted in the incorrect names being published

No need for W Cape to have its own constitution, says SACP

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The South African Communist Party believes the Western Cape does not need a provincial constitution as the national constitution is sufficient.

In a submission to the committee writing the provincial constitution, the party said much of the draft provincial constitution was a repeat of the national one and the parts where it differed did little to help the promotion of democracy and development in

ART 30/1/97
the Western Cape

It objected to the use of the terms parliament, cabinet and minister for provincial office bearers and would prefer legislature, executive council and MEC. It said it had problems with the use of the word family in the preamble as this was not the only kind of household relationship.

The party said it did not see the need for cultural councils and commissioners for the environment and a children's commission. It said most of the functions of such commissioners could be carried out by institutions set out

(263)
in the national constitution. The party rejected any attempt to create different national and provincial electoral systems.

"All attempts to define a separate voters role, from the national one, for the province are unacceptable and against the national constitution," the party said. It also rejected an increase in the size of the executive council because of the cost.

The SACP also dismissed a proposal by Premier Hennis Kriel to entrench a government of provincial unity for 10 years after the 1999 election.

R444-m Cape Metro debt shock

Arrears crisis deepens

ARC 30/1/97 (263)

METRO CORRESPONDENT

The Cape Metropolitan Council is owed more than R444-million by municipal consumers, former black local authorities and the Western Cape provincial administration.

This shock figure was contained in a report to the council at its monthly meeting yesterday. A large portion of the debt is likely to be passed on to the new metropolitan local councils by July.

The figure is made up of R356-million owed for municipal services in areas supplied by the council on an agency basis until the new local authorities take over, R45-million for bulk services supplied to former black local authorities and R43-million owed by the provincial administration for a variety of services.

The report noted that the Auditor-General was taking a "very dim view

of large outstanding debtors on the balance sheet without adequate provision or reserves for irrecoverable debts and has already qualified the financial statements of a number of local authorities to this effect."

Meanwhile, the council has decided to make money available in addition to existing accumulated surpluses for Atlantis, Belhar and Melkbos-Blouberg, which together owe more than R21-million for electricity.

In Atlantis, surplus money collected from the industrial area will be kept in reserve to offset the R16,4-million debt, with an additional R2-million needed to make up the difference.

In Belhar, there is no industrial area and, although people are having pre-payment meters installed, the council has an arrears debt of R42-million on its books.

The Cape Metropolitan Council is planning to set aside an amount of R300 000 for irrecoverable debt.

Race to get hospital savings plan into gear

ARC 30/1/97 (263)

JENNY WALL
HEALTH REPORTER

With academic hospitals facing funding cuts of about 25 percent this year, British experts are racing against time to get Cape Town's leading hospitals into shape before new budgets are drawn up in March.

These consultants, funded by Britain's Overseas Development Agency, are examining the workings of Tygerberg, Groote Schuur and Red Cross Children's Hospital.

Ken Judge, who heads the team, said at a media briefing that the only constraint was urgency.

The Western Cape Health Department must cut its budget by about

R250-million. The cuts will have to take place at academic hospitals, now operating on a R900-million budget.

Provincial health department chief Tom Sutcliffe said the timeframe for cuts had not yet been fixed, but that new budgets had to be ready by the end of March and savings effected as soon as possible.

"We don't have the luxury of time. We will have to come up with other initiatives in terms of bridging the deficits," said Dr Sutcliffe.

The consultants will produce a final report by mid-March and their recommendations will go to the provincial cabinet for approval. The province has already cut spending at academic hospitals, but further cuts are needed to achieve equity among provinces.

R40m medical aid for 447 ex-staff

CT 30/1/97

(263) ~~(263)~~

METRO WRITER

THE 447 "continuing members" of the Cape Metropolitan Council's medical aid fund have rights whose present value has been estimated by actuaries to average more than R89 000 each

The CMC hopes to put a total of R40 million into a special medical aid account for the 447 existing retired or retrenched employees whose medical aid contributions the CMC still has to subsidise until

they die. If ministerial permission is obtained, it will take care of the future medical aid fund liabilities

A further R6m is to go to a reserve pension fund. Beneficiaries of this one already have the right to convert their pensions into cash at any time from when they retire

The ministerial permission may be conditional and may set a limit on how much may be put away into the fund in a given year

Actuaries have not yet completed their calculations of the present

value of the future CMC medical aid liabilities, but in mid-1995 they were said to be R29m and in the middle of last year they were estimated to be R40m.

In the case of the medical fund, beneficiaries are not able to convert their rights into lump sum benefits

They may be able to do so in future. Once the liabilities are "fully funded", the officials who administer the scheme may be able to interest an outside body in tak-

ing over the job, and thus succeed in "farming it out". Attempts have already been made to do that

The rules of the scheme could then be changed, if the fund members and managers all agreed to do this — just as was done 2½ years ago with the Cape Joint Pension Fund

● Close to 90% of private-sector companies pay for or subsidise medical benefits for their employees after retirement, according to a survey last year

Shaky start to restructuring of CMC

(2b3) CT 30/1/97

METRO WRITER

RESTRUCTURING of the Cape Metropolitan Council got off to a shaky start yesterday when the NP and ANC could not agree on which consultants should be appointed to assist with the recruitment of seven new heads-of-departments

The NP councillors clearly favoured a firm called Computer Services, which recently helped with the selection of CMC chief executive officer Dr Stuart Fisher

Computer Services quoted a price of R110 000

The ANC councillors preferred Duo Professional Links, which

recently assisted with the appointment of Mr Philip van Ryneveld, the City of Cape Town's new director of corporate finance

Duo's tender was R159 000

A vote on a suggested compromise, that the firms share the work, ended in a stalemate. This left the original recommendation — that

the executive committee decide between the best four tenders. It was defeated by 29 votes to 28.

As a result the recruitment becomes the responsibility of the exco, which may even decide to do without consultants

The final decision rests with the full council

Bureaucratic bungling stalls

Finance Ministry fails to approve Wesgro, Tourism

(263) ARG

WILLEM STEENKAMP
STAFF REPORTER

The failure by the Ministry of Finance to approve certain allocations in the 1996/97 Cape Metropolitan Council budget has been ascribed to bureaucratic bungling and the incompetence of civil servants working in the finance department.

Attie Adriaanse, chairman of the finance committee and member of the executive committee of the CMC, said the lack of official approval for certain allocations in the CMC budget had put a severe strain on the ability of the council to carry out its function.

The CMC was at one stage so concerned about the issue that it considered taking legal action against the Ministry of Finance to force through the approval of the budget, he said.

Mr Adriaanse said this step was consid-

ered because the council was forced to act illegally by spending money to keep services and other important projects going before the budget for these and other projects had been approved, as required by law.

Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel approved the budget in November last year, but did not approve certain allocations towards tourism, funding for Wesgro - the statutory investment arm of the Cape, and certain allocations needed for the Integrated Land Service Projects in the Western Cape.

Mr Manuel said he would not allow funds for infrastructure to be used for recurrent expenditure such as tourism.

Mr Adriaanse said he did not understand how a new tourism body such as the Regional Tourism Organisation could operate without paying salaries and setting up offices where tourism would be promoted.

He did not understand why Mr Manuel was not prepared to approve the tourism allocation in light of the importance of the tourism industry as a job creator and earner of foreign revenue.

Mr Adriaanse said the old Regional Services Council had approved the budget in June last year, but in the interim period before the CMC could be set up, the executive officer had the authority to approve the budget on behalf of the to-be-formed CMC.

This had been done and the budget was sent to the Ministry of Finance for approval, but the ministry had insisted that it be approved by the newly formed CMC. This was done in August and the budget was forwarded to Mr Manuel's department.

Nothing happened for months and in November the CMC approached the ministry to find out why approval was not forthcoming. The CMC was told by officials

that they had not received the relevant budget documents.

A new set of documents was sent and during follow-up phone calls the CMC was again told that the ministry needed more details. Documents were again forwarded.

"I do not want to blame Mr Manuel for the bureaucratic bungling and loss of documents, but as the responsible minister he must surely take this issue up with the officials responsible for the mess," said Mr Adriaanse.

Mr Manuel finally approved the CMC budget, with the exception of certain allocations.

The Ministry of Finance failed to approve the R4,8-million expenditure on tourism. This money was intended for the Regional Tourism Organisation, from which Captour had hoped to receive financial assistance.

Wesgro was also to receive about R2-million from the CMC budget but, accord-

ing to Mr Adriaanse, this money was not approved by the Ministry of Finance. Certain funds intended for the land programme were also not approved.

David Bridgman, chief executive of Wesgro, said he knew that Wesgro funds had not yet been approved, but remained hopeful that this would be done. He said this was an issue which had to be resolved between Mr Manuel and the CMC.

Jennifer Wilson, spokesperson for the Ministry of Finance, said the ministry was aware of the Wesgro issue and that it would be resolved within two weeks.

She said the CMC had not supplied sufficient details with regards to the allocation for the Integrated Land Service Projects.

Western Cape minister of Economic Affairs and RDP Chris Nissen said he had brought the matter to Mr Manuel's attention, and he was confident it would soon be resolved.

Council
budget

1/2/97

ANC wants truth probe of Niel Barnard

(263) AUG 31/97

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The African National Congress will ask the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate whether Niel Barnard had a role in human rights abuses during his career as head of the National Intelligence Service (NIS).

The Western Cape provincial working committee of the ANC decided at the weekend to make the request to the TRC and the Human Rights Commission. Dr Barnard was head of the NIS under former president P W Botha.

"The provincial working committee of the ANC has decided to formal-

ly request the TRC and the HRC to investigate the role of Dr Barnard as head of the NIS. The provincial executive will soon submit the request on behalf of the ANC," said Cameron Dugmore, ANC member of the Western Cape legislature.

Dr Barnard has been appointed director-general of the province by Western Cape Premier and provincial NP leader Hernus Kriel amid fierce opposition from the central government, the ANC and its alliance partners, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the Communist Party.

Constitutional Development Minister Mohammed Valli Moosa and Public Service and Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya have also

opposed the appointment.

Dr Barnard was director-general of the Constitutional Development Department before his new appointment.

The National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union, after failing to reverse Dr Barnard's appointment at a meeting with the provincial administration, said it would lodge an urgent application in the Supreme Court to overturn the appointment.

Nehawu claimed Dr Barnard was disqualified under the Public Service Act from holding the post because he was "not of good character". It also criticised the alleged lack of transparency around his appointment.

City's new manager ⁽²⁶³⁾ issues a wake-up call

AR 4/2/97

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

New city manager Andrew Boraine and his team of strategic directors have set themselves tough targets, with a call to action for councillors and staff to improve service delivery and the city's financial position.

Addressing councillors yesterday, Mr Boraine also sketched a picture of a new, more responsive and efficient municipality with beefed up powers provided through the new constitution which became operative this week.

Among the targets set for their first 100 days in office are meetings with council management and other staff, newspaper editors, trade unions and chief executive officers of other local authorities and visits to all the municipality's 44 wards accompanied by the ward councillors.

Ward visits will start in the Ikapa area this week, signalling a commitment to service restoration.

Mr Boraine also intends to hold meetings with clusters of ratepayer, civic and RDP forums and regular meetings with stakeholders including small and big business, environmental groups, educational institutions, non-governmental organisations and law enforcement agencies.

He said one of the new team's top priorities would be to update and improve communication between themselves and the outside world.

Other priorities were to meet deadlines set in the restructuring process, among them itemising of all assets and liabilities and meeting service delivery demands.

Mr Boraine said he wanted to see a change in attitudes which was that the council was capable of improving its service delivery.

He said he also wanted to see staff adopt the attitude that no problem was insoluble.

On the Olympic bid, he said that he believed the council should be more assertive in its role as the bid city.

If Cape Town made it on to the shortlist next month, there would have to be tight co-ordination in the lobbying period up until September.

Mr Boraine said while the bid company was a single purpose organisation whose task it was to win the bid, this was not the council's only function.

Even if Cape Town did not win the bid it should aim to learn through the bidding process and conduct itself in a dignified and professional way during the lobbying period.

Turning to the financial front, Mr Boraine said that he was going to take his responsibilities as the chief accounting officer very seriously.

The council had to get its finances in shape, he said.

Financial priorities included finalising the budget for July, making progress on a new valuation system and stabilising and improving the arrears situation.

The people who fall through the cracks

(263)

ST 9/7/97

RACHEL Bezuidenhout is a volunteer at the child-care centre of the Methodist Church in Reiger Park, near Boksburg on the East Rand. She and her husband have been unemployed since the company for which they worked closed down in February 1994.

FACELESS IN A 'FREE' SA: Rachel Bezuidenhout, a volunteer worker at the Methodist Church in Reiger Park, says the only thing that has changed for coloureds in South Africa is that they are being ruled by the black man, rather than the white man



South Africa's coloured people feel they have been let down by our new democracy and their frustration is starting to show, reports JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT



NO PEACE OF MIND . . . the Rev Derrick Meregele says the jobless members of his congregation in Reiger Park believe they have been marginalised

Their dream of living in a free and equal society was gradually shattered as they came to realise that although change was evident it was not for them. For Bezuidenhout, the change was a shift in power. "Just we were ruled by the white man, now the black man taken over. Things have gone from head to worse. Her four children are going to bed hungry and the monthly charity collection that she collects from the Reiger Park civic centre is not enough to see them through.

We are given a small packet of sugar, a small bottle of fish oil, a small packet of salt, a tin of pulchards and sometimes there is not even peanut butter in the parcel. The violence that broke out in coloured townships around Johannesburg this week put the spotlight on a people who have begun to believe they are outcasts in the rainbow nation. Disgruntled residents of Reiger Park, and Eldorado Park, Westbury and Noorddags near Soweto took to the streets on Thursday to protest against the non-delivery of services and to call for the scrapping of service and rent arrears.

A task team of community leaders and local government representatives was set up later that day to examine the grievances. By yesterday, police could confirm only three out of four reported deaths, but they were still investigating reports that a seven-year-old boy had been killed in Eldorado Park. For residents, including supporters of the South Western Joint Civic Association, the bloody confrontation with police was the result of a long-simmering anger. The Rev Derrick Meregele of Reiger Park said that South Africa, in its quest for reconciliation, wanted to deny that coloured people had been left behind. However, the country was failing to embrace coloureds with the same empathy that saw service arrears in black townships being scrapped, he said. "Our people are suffering too," he said. "They have no choice but to believe that they are a marginalised minority. In my congregation there are dozens who can't find jobs."

In their minds, it's because they do not qualify for jobs in terms of the government's affirmative action policy. Reality was dawning on



FIRE AND FURY . . . protesters from Johannesburg's coloured townships give vent to their anger this week as they take to the streets to protest against the non-delivery of services in their areas. Pictures: NICKY DE BLOIS

coloured people in post-election South Africa, he said. "Their lifeline has been cut off. Apartheid laws, however wrong they were, provided a supply system for them. An elderly Eldorado Park resident said "This black government is squeezing every drop out of us so that we can sub-

sidise the squatters who are slowly infiltrating our neighbourhoods." The man, who asked not to be identified, believes that he lost his job as a welder with an engineering firm to a black affirmative-action appointee last year. Now they are making murder legal in the name of abortion and they want

to sell arms to the communists in Syria," he said. A Noorddags resident, Henry Peters, could not recall one occasion on which Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale had visited a coloured township. "If there is a crisis in black townships, just about every local minister gets involved. Coloured people have had to resort to violence because it is the only way they'll be heard," he said.

The issues affecting his community were real, he said. "I am not a racist. My wife and I are very religious, but I am a coloured and I feel left out." Peters said he had been boycotting rates and service charges since 1995. He said he had no idea how

much he owed his local authority, and did not care. While some residents disapproved of the protesters' conduct, all agreed that their actions were worth it. Another elderly Eldorado Park resident said "Maybe they (the government and local authorities) will finally listen to us. This new government

makes us feel like nobodies. Is that right? Our people are also suffering." A mother of four in Westbury said unemployment in the coloured townships was soaring, and poverty was driving the youth to crime. A schoolteacher who did not want to be identified said coloureds were being blamed for benefiting from some apartheid laws. Because they had been favoured by some aspects of job discrimination, for example, they were now being made victims of affirmative action. A Reiger Park school principal said government schools in coloured areas were battling financially. In addition, they had to accommodate a growing number of black children despite the fact that more and more schools were being built in black areas. Few coloured activists had been absorbed in government structures. He said "Even though the also contributed to the country's liberation, we are a minority in Gauteng, and their efforts are now almost unheard of." He said "I used to be black, now I have no choice but to call myself a so-called coloured. "We're not a pathetic, sorry people, but we're being sidelined. Our people are bearing the brunt of unemployment, crime, affirmative action. We can't be expected to overcome apartheid without help from the government." Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale yesterday lashed out at what he called "immoral leaders" for sowing racial divisions. "It must be absolutely clear that no community in our country and thus province shall be disregarded in terms of service delivery," he said.

'It's a miracle former spy chief hasn't faced TRC'

CT 13/2/97 (263) (252)

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE greatest "miracle" about former National Intelligence Services (NIS) chief Dr Niel Barnard was that he had not appeared before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; ANC provincial finance spokesperson Ms Tasneem Essop charged yesterday

She was referring to Premier Mr Hennis Kriel's favourite quote that Barnard, the controversial newly appointed director-general of the Western Cape, was once referred to by President Mandela as the "miracle man" of transition.

Essop said Mandela was "a dear man with the biggest heart I know" — but I am a mere mortal who says the biggest miracle is that Barnard hasn't appeared before the TRC. Essop said the "miracle" was all the more remarkable given that Barnard had headed the NIS from 1979 to 1991

"Either he was an absentee landlord or he must have known what was going on in the dark days of this country," she said

She also challenged the NP-led exco to prove its commitment to affirmative

action by having a "group photo" taken of all its civil servants — and then running a newspaper competition with prizes for people who could "spot the person of colour or spot the women"

The NP's "racist" assertion that affirmative action should be introduced without breaking down standards was tantamount to saying that appointing blacks would ensure breakdown

Essop questioned how good present services were and slammed civil servants who had supported apartheid but were now taking severance packages "in droves"

The Freedom Front's Ms Eleanor Lombard, referring to growing dissent within the traditional support base of the NP and internal attacks on its leader, Mr F W de Klerk, said De Klerk had at "long last" admitted to having given away the Afrikaner's right to self-determination

What made De Klerk's admission "even more grave" was that ANC negotiators had said they were prepared to make greater concessions — but their NP counterparts had not asked for them

R455-m grant balances

Western Cape budget

(263)

ARKS 19/2/94
Central government provides R9,3-bn

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The Western Cape provincial government's budget in the 1996-97 fiscal year will break even, thanks to an extra R455-million grant by central government and internal departmental savings of R195 million.

The province tabled a budget of nearly R8,9 billion at the beginning of last year but total expenditure for the year is now estimated at R10,5 billion - more than R1,6 billion over budget.

With the extra R455 million from the Government, the province has now been given a total of R9,3 billion by the state.

Western Cape Finance MEC Kobus Meiring said he had warned when tabling the budget in the provincial legislature last year that the province was heading for a shortfall.

Most of the extra expenses were for salary increases and severance packages to 6 000 teachers as part of the rationalisation of education.

He said the R1,6-billion shortfall was made up by rollovers of R355 million, a R731-million grant by central government for salary increases of civil servants, the R40,6-million shift in functions from central government to province and R74 million from own income.

The province had asked central government for an additional R768 million, to help



Kobus Meiring: warned last year that the Western Cape was heading for a shortfall

with carrying redundant teachers for the full school year and for their severance packages, but was only given the R455 million.

Central government rejected a request by the province for R382 000 to cover salary increases and perks for members and selected administrators of the provincial legislature.

Mr Meiring said all departments were forced to trim expenses, health (cut down by R81 million), education (R59 million) and transport and public works (R35 million) were the worst hit.

Housing and local government had trimmed budgets by R9,5 million, agriculture by R3,5 million, corporate services by R2,1 million, finance by R1,1 million, social services by R1 million, and sport and recreation by R1 million.

Smaller cuts had been made in the environment and culture budget and the provincial service commission.

Among measures introduced to achieve savings were tighter controls on stores at Groote Schuur and Tygerberg hospitals and in district health services, as well as the removal of 500 beds at academic hospitals. In addition, building projects and other capital expenditure was reduced or postponed.

Mr Meiring said the Western Cape's budget for the 1997-1998 financial year would be slashed even further. He added that over the past two-and-a-half years the number of posts in the administration had fallen 24 percent from about 105 000 to 80 804 this year.

The Western Cape was dependent on central government for 96 percent of its budget.

"If the province runs short of money, it has only two options to cut the services it provides or to persuade central government to bail it out," he said.

End of long road as W Cape constitution gets final nod

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Western Cape constitution is due for finalisation this evening and — if certified — will include cultural councils, an environmental commissioner and active oversight on the abolition of the hated local "dop" system

This, as well as the establishment of a Commissioner for Children, became certain yesterday as the provincial legislature — sitting in committee — neared the end of a seven-month haul in search of consensus

Several amendments and objections by the ANC were simply outvoted, except for one amendment, that the province should monitor the abolition of the dop system.

The draft constitution also instructs the legislature to establish and fund cultural councils for "communities within the Western Cape sharing a common cultural language and heritage"

This proposal prompted hot

(263) debate with the MEC for Local Government, the NP's Mr Peter Marais, arguing that "apartheid gave ethnicity and culture a bad name" and emphasising that cultural councils were merely advisory and aimed at promoting "unity in diversity".

ANC MPL Ms Lynette Brown cited examples of cultural supremacy and exclusivity such as the Broederbond and the Taalmonument, and said language and culture "lives in people's hearts and minds — you simply cannot kill it"

She said the national Bill of Rights gave adequate protection to cultural groups.

Sport and Recreation MEC Mr Lerumo Kalako feared coloured and white Afrikaners would use the clause to oppress Xhosas with a mentality of "you belong in the Eastern Cape, go there"

The ANC believed an environmental commissioner was unnecessary and costly, citing several

CT 21/2/97 commissions established during the Saldanha Steel controversy at Langebaan as having been "ignored in favour of a political decision"

However, the DP and NP felt a local green watchdog was vital to point out the "grey" legislative loopholes through which unscrupulous developers could despoil the "jewel of Africa," and help achieve sustainable development

ANC Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool said his party did not object to protecting children's rights but believed that a Children's Commissioner was the wrong path to achieving a common objective

All three measures were passed by majority vote

● The provincial constitution will be subject to certification by the nine Constitutional Court judges, to see that it does not duplicate or clash with the national Constitution

What's in a name: Nat councillors move mountains

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

263
ARL 26/2/97

The game of the name in Cape Town's Eastern municipality became heated last night when councillors argued over a name change for the area that includes Kuils River and Kraaifontein. National Party councillors insisted

on changing the name to "Oostenberg" - favouring the idea that all municipalities in the Cape Town area have a name that ends in "berg". But African National Congress councillors demanded to know where the "berg" was in the flat eastern suburbs. The NP, with a huge majority in the council, got its way and the area is now called Oostenberg.

All this was too much for ANC councillor John van der Rheede, who walked out of the monthly council meeting at which ANC and NP councillors spoke at the same time, joking and laughing at one another. Mayor Kobus Brynard, an NP member, had to shout at times to keep the meeting in order. ANC councillor Ebrahim Savant

caused a stir when he asked NP councillor Danny de la Cruz where the mountain in Kuils River was situated to justify the name of "Oostenberg". Mr De La Cruz said the Blaauwberg municipality did not have a mountain within its boundaries, which Mr Savant should investigate. The NP won by 24 votes to 12 and the name "Oostenberg" was accepted.

Council averts stink over refuse workers' strike

METRO CORRESPONDENT

~~(152)~~ (263)
ARL 12/3/97

Nearly 40 municipal workers are on strike at the Athlone refuse transit station, where domestic waste is baled before being taken by rail to the Vissershok landfill site.

Residents of the surrounding areas have been assured there will not be a build-up, because refuse trucks have been diverted directly to landfill sites.

The work stoppage, which started yesterday, is connected to municipal restructuring issues now being negotiated.

Talks today between the SA Municipal Workers' Union, Cape Town's executive director of municipal services, Mike Marsden, and city engineer Arthur Clayton were aimed at resolving the problems.

and, amid reservations, the new basic law has been passed by all members of the provincial government

The ANC is not pleased with provisions that mandate the continuance of enforced coalition beyond the turn of the century. It accuses the National Party in the province of seeking to secure its future in governance even if it loses at the polls. Ironically, the Western Cape NP is at odds with the mother party on this issue.

The Cape Chamber of Commerce & Industry has also objected. It cites eight problem areas:

- The proposed establishment of an environmental commissioner to weigh environmental against development considerations,
- The provincial constitution mandates cultural councils and a commissioner for children. The chamber argues that existing departments could manage the "portfolios" without the need to expand and fund more bureaucracy,
- The regional politicians want to create a metropolitan police force for the urban Peninsula — even though new policing functions are not a "competence" of the provincial legislature. The correct path to be followed, says the chamber, is to press for legislative change through the new National Council of Provinces,
- The chamber believes certain functions should be privatised or contracted out and, to cut costs, this principle should be enshrined in the new law before it reaches the Constitutional Court,
- Though the draft constitution requires tenders to be awarded according to a "fair, equitable, transparent, competitive and cost-effective" system, the chamber would prefer greater, entrenched emphasis on market principles,
- It argues there is a danger that the sale of provincial assets could lead to the proceeds being frittered away in current expenditure. It proposes the creation of a special capital fund into which proceeds can be paid and then used to develop essential infrastructure,
- The chamber suggests the premier appoint business specialists to the cabinet from outside the legislature, and
- "Transparency" will be enhanced if provincial Bills are published for general comment before they enter the legislative process.

The participants in drawing up the provincial constitution say there was considerable unanimity on what provisions it should contain. Only a few clauses are in contention. *Peter Wilhelm*

WESTERN CAPE CONSTITUTION (263)

BUSINESS HAS QUESTIONS

FM 14/3/97

The Western Cape — pending certification of its proposals by the Constitutional Court — is the frontrunner in the race for the first provincial constitution (see *Current Affairs* December 20)

Last December, a draft was gazetted

Cuts stall W Cape budget

JENNY WALL
STAFF REPORTER

The Western Cape provincial cabinet today postponed its annual budget, due to have been tabled tomorrow, following huge government-imposed subsidy cuts.

The cabinet is arranging meetings with President Mandela, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Finance Minister Trevor Manuel today.

The cabinet heard further evidence at its meeting today from its five biggest

departments on the effect of the R780-million budget cut to the province.

Premier Hennis Kriel said the cabinet supported equity between the provinces, but the extent of the cut was "simply not manageable"

The cut would have drastic consequences for health care, education, local government, welfare and essential maintenance of roads and buildings, he said.

Before the provincial budget can be finalised, urgent discussions will be held with unions, municipalities, organised trade and other concerned parties

(263) ARG 19/3/97

ANC accuses Kriel of building Nat 'slush fund'

(263) ARG 19/3/97

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

African National Congress members said today that Western Cape Premier Hennis Kriel's call for more money for the province was a smokescreen for building up a R300-million "slush fund" for National Party "pet projects".

They said Mr Kriel wanted increased funding to bankroll the province's new

constitution, to establish a development bank for the Western Cape, to fund Capab, sponsor a metropolitan police force and to create a discretionary fund.

But Pieter Coetzee, spokesman for provincial Finance Minister Kobus Meiring, categorically denied the existence of such projects.

ANC members called on Mr Meiring not to set aside money for such projects.

Mr Meiring has accused the central gov-

ernment of cutting R780-million from the provincial budget, and has threatened to appeal to the Constitutional Court.

ANC members said that it had cost the province up to R600 000 so far to write a provincial constitution, and that it would cost a further R112-million this year to implement it.

They lambasted the provincial government for cutting health, welfare and education spending.

(263)

Govt is largest creator of jobs

(264) *Sowetan 20/3/97*

By Josias Charle

THE South African Government was the largest creator of jobs in 1996 with more than 37 000 new job opportunities being made available

This was followed by the manufacturing sector which created more than 16 000 new jobs

These figures form part of the recently released National Productivity Institute's (NPI) annual report

The report notes that growth in the South African economy in the last two years made a noticeable and encouraging impact on productivity growth

According to the report, this was the third consecutive year of continued, yet moderate increase in output in the private sector

The employment growth in the private sector of 0,2 percent in 1995 represents about 11 400 jobs – a far cry from the estimated 400 000 job seekers who enter the market annually

It is even further removed

from the 500 000 jobs foreseen by the Government's growth, employment and reconstruction strategy, the report noted

During 1996, the largest number of jobs – 37 500 – was created by Government followed by the manufacturing sector with 16 300 new jobs

"It is important to note that the growth in the economy exceeded the population growth rate, resulting in an increase in the gross domestic product (GDP)," the report said

The NPI said there is only one way to put South Africa on the road to prosperity – it must produce goods and services at a much higher rate than the population growth

"A sustained high growth rate invariably leads to higher employment, as labour is the only input that can transform other inputs into products and services that have value"

The report further noted that during the first half of 1996 production in the non-agriculture sectors slowed down perceptibly

ANC faces Western Cape Cabinet wipe-out

M+G 20-26/3/97

(263)

Rehana Rossouw and Gustav Thiel

FEARS are growing within the African National Congress that the National Party is planning a reshuffle to wipe out the ANC's only representation in the Western Cape provincial Cabinet.

Health and Welfare MEC Ebrahim Rasool and Economic Affairs MEC Chris Nissen's positions have been tipped for change after the provincial Constitution has been ratified.

"It's gone beyond rumour now, names are being mooted by the National Party to fill Cabinet positions," said a senior ANC official in the provincial Parliament. "The NP wants to split Rasool's position into two portfolios — health and welfare — and strip Nissen of his post. Professor Adam Small is being mooted for Rasool's post."

The ANC's fears follow the recent adoption of the Western Cape provincial Constitution. The party objected to a clause allowing the provincial Cabinet to be expanded from 10 members to 14.

The clause also allows people who were not elected on the provincial ballot to serve as members of the provincial Cabinet.

"This allows them to bring in Small. He qualifies for the position of MEC for welfare as he has lectured in social work for decades. But Rasool has performed excellently and there is no reason to tamper with it," said a senior source in the provincial Department of Health and Welfare.

"They want to get rid of him because he is too effective. The Lund Committee report on welfare showed how the NP used welfare as patronage to buy coloured votes. Rasool has changed that. He has also unearthed massive corruption in the Western Cape, leading to the police investigation into former NP Cabinet minister Abe Williams."

Small was previously tipped as a moderate NP leader in the province. He was part of an attempt to launch a coloured party in 1991, which did not succeed, and is now aligned with an attempt to launch a movement for Afrikaans speakers.

ANC sources say the NP would want to axe

Nissen as economic growth in the Western Cape is faster than the rest of the country, and the NP wants to claim responsibility for that.

They also believe Western Cape Democratic Party leader Hennie Bester could get a post in exchange for supporting the clause which allowed the extension of the size of the provincial Cabinet.

"Bester went against the DP's national position. The DP has called for the reduction of the size of the national Cabinet in order to cut government spending," the ANC official said. "We believe the reason they compromised is because he has been offered a provincial Cabinet seat."

The Cabinet reshuffle is expected in July. The ANC has not yet formulated a response, but some party members have mooted the idea of pulling out of the executive council if the reshuffle goes ahead.

Western Cape NP leader Hernus Kriel was unavailable for comment. A representative for MEC for Local Government, Peter Marais, would only say the splitting of the health and welfare portfolios in July was a "real possibility".

Western Cape told to bite bullet on big budget cut

Social services and jobs under threat

WILLIAM-MERRIN GUNDE AND JENNY WALL
STAFF REPORTERS

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel has told the Western Cape provincial government it will have to live with the R780-million cut in its budget allocation from the central government.

At a meeting yesterday with President Mandela, Mr Manuel and Finance Director-General Maria Ramos, the Western Cape government was told to bite the bullet and make do. The province had warned the budget

cut would mean job losses and reduced social services

At a hastily arranged press conference yesterday, the Western Cape cabinet announced that the provincial budget, which was to have been tabled today, was being postponed to April 2 because of drastic subsidy cuts by the central government

In last week's national Budget the Western Cape received R8,757-billion from central government, less than it asked for last year it received R8,378-billion.

The province says inflation has not been taken into account
Western Cape Finance Minister Kobus

Merrin said the health, education and welfare budgets, which had already been extensively cut, would be worst hit

Premier Hannus Kriel led a cabinet delegation that met Mr Mandela and Mr Manuel to plead for more money. Mr Kriel demanded an extra R400-million

The provincial government will now hold urgent discussions with trade unions, teacher unions, municipalities, organised trade and other concerned groups

The province would also re-examine the budget to see if it could further "rationalise and reprioritise", said Mr Kriel. The ramifications of the cut were "disastrous"

AKT 20/3/97

(263)

BUDGET FURORE

Bite the bullet, says govt to Cape

WESTERN CAPE leaders are battling to come to terms with a R780-million budget cut imposed on the province by the central government. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

CT 20/3/97

(263)

THE Western Cape government yesterday called off today's budget presentation, claiming that the R780-million slashing of their funds by the central government was "unworkable" and that to accept it would permanently damage local service delivery.

Postponing a budget on the grounds of insufficient funds is virtually unprecedented in South Africa.

It was also reliably learnt yesterday that the National Party and African National Congress in the Western Cape have struck a deal not to "slug it out" in public for two weeks, while the financial crisis is managed.

The crisis management includes urgent discussions with trade unions, teachers' unions, local government institutions and organised trade — followed by full consultation with the civil service corps.

Premier Mr Hernus Kriel and five of his exco members failed to

extract any further funding in an 11th-hour, face-to-face meeting late yesterday with President Nelson Mandela, Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel and his director-general, Ms Maria Ramos.

A spokeswoman for Manuel said last night that the funding was based on the Finance and Fiscal Commission (FFC) provincial equity formula, which had been accepted by all provinces.

She added "It's going to be a very tough year — provinces need to bite the bullet."

Finance MEC Mr Kobus Meiring, Police MEC Mr Gerald Morkel, ANC leader in the House and Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool, and Roads, Transport and Public Works MEC Mr Leonard Ramatlakane formed the delegation.

Kriel — with the full backing of his ANC members — pronounced the cut "unmanageable", and promptly cancelled today's budget presentation by Meiring.

This was prompted by final sce-

narios presented to yesterday's exco meeting by the chiefs of the province's five biggest departments. The scenarios had left the six NP and four ANC members "at a loss as to just how we go on", Kriel said.

While his exco fully supported achieving equity between provinces, the cut would have drastic consequences for health care, education, local government, welfare and essential maintenance of roads and buildings.

Meiring said the five main departments made up 95% of his budget, and the R780m cut represented between 10% and 12% of the province's entire budget.

MECs declined to detail the consequences of the cut because "we don't want to alarm the public and sensationalise".

Kriel said his government believed that the FFC provincial equity formula was being implemented with "suicidal and impractical haste".

Meiring later last night promised to revisit the budget — for the "ninth or 10th time" — in a damage-control exercise.

The budget presentation has now been postponed to April 2.



HEATED PROTEST: About 400 members of the National Education, Health & Allied Workers Union outside the Western Cape legislature yesterday protested against the appointment of former spy chief Niel Barnard as director general of the province. An effigy of him was set alight to rousing applause. **PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR**

LIFE

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INTERNATIONAL

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THE

Ex-spy chief is 'double-roasted'

(263) CT 20/3/97

DAN SIMON

FORMER spy chief Dr Niel Barnard came in for a double roasting during a protest rally outside the offices of the Western Cape legislature yesterday, where his appointment as director-general of the province was roundly condemned and an effigy of him was set alight.

The vocal lunchtime protest by about 400 members of the National Education, Health & Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) marked the start of a campaign to unseat Barnard, who was selected for the post by Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel.

Barnard, the former head of the National Intelligence Service and director-general of Constitutional Affairs, was appointed director-

general of the Western Cape in October last year.

He took up the position in December shortly after his predecessor, Mr Herbert Beukes, retired.

Kriel described Barnard's application for the post as being of a "very high quality".

In support of this, Kriel regularly refers to President Nelson Mandela's reported lauding of the former spy chief as one of the "miracle men" of South Africa's political transition.

Barnard was part of the first government team that secretly met Mandela in prison.

But his appointment has been met with heated opposition from ANC members in the provincial legislature who have demanded that he be removed from the post,

ailing which they would appeal to the High Court to overturn his appointment.

Speakers from Nehawu, its umbrella body, Cosatu, the ANC and SACP denounced Barnard's appointment, labelling it extremely insensitive, particularly because Barnard headed national intelligence when the worst human rights violations were committed against opponents of apartheid.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was daily exposing these excesses, they said.

In a memorandum handed to a member of Kriel's staff, Cosatu said the rally was the beginning of an "ongoing campaign" to remove Barnard.

"The terrible legacy of

apartheid has left us with a country that is devastated and a social fabric that is torn apart.

"Not least responsible for this devastation and destruction is the state security council and the national intelligence service Niel Barnard was a senior head in both these departments.

"Successive National Party governments had enlisted Barnard's particular brand of efficiency to ensure and secure the survival of the apartheid state.

"To entrust the management of the provincial administration to a man with such a dubious past adds insult to injury to the workers and communities of the Western Cape.

"Cosatu demands that Niel Barnard be removed."

Manuel takes tough line against Western Cape plea for more money

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Finance Minister Trevor Manuel took a tough line yesterday against Western Cape government pleas for an increase in its budget allocation, despite warnings that the R780m cut would mean a drastic pruning of social services and the loss of thousands of public servants' jobs.

Finance MEC Kobus Mearring said health and education, which have already been rationalised, would bear the brunt of the cuts, since most of the welfare budget was statutory expenditure, and local government and roads and works were relatively small votes.

Mearring said that even if all other departments, such as police, economic affairs, agriculture, finance and tourism, were closed down completely the savings would be insufficient.

Premier Hermus Krel led a delegation of four MECs who met Manuel and President Nelson Mandela to plead for urgent financial relief, but Manuel warned them that the province would have to live with the Financial and Fiscal Commission's allocation.

Krel suggested an additional R400m, slightly below the additional appropriations of the past two years, but Mearring said after the meeting that it seemed there was "no hope" for additional funds. The meeting followed a provincial cabinet decision to postpone the budget speech — scheduled for today — until April 2.

The provincial cabinet decided, if its meeting with Mandela and Manuel was unsuccessful, to embark on a programme of action during the next two weeks, including consulting various stakeholders, keeping administrative staff fully informed, and making further efforts to rationalise and reprogramme spending.

The cabinet learnt yesterday of the savage cuts required to effect savings of R780m in real terms, and decided it could not bring about such a serious deterioration in the quality of life in the province. In last week's national budget the Western Cape received R7,35bn, 10% lower than last year.

A senior provincial government source said that achieving these savings would require a reduction in staff numbers, and consequently services, as personnel costs represented more than 80% of the provincial budget.

Krel said that the provincial cabinet was in favour of equity, but the extent of its budget reduction was "simply not manageable".

African National Congress leader in the legislature and health and welfare MEC Ebrahim Rasool said the urgency

Western Cape

Continued from Page 1

of the situation transcended the differences between political parties.

Mearring said he felt at his "wits end" at the weekend while preparing the budget and realised that he could not continue.

While approving of the commission's formula in principle, Mearring said the short time given for the budget reduction would make it unmanageable. Constitutional Court action was still a possibility but was on hold.

Meanwhile the finance MECs of the Eastern Cape, Northern Cape, North West, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpuma-

langa — delivered their budget speeches yesterday.

Most of the budgets showed an increase in social spending, with health, welfare and education departments getting the lion's share.

The Eastern Cape safety and security department was given a 331% increase over last year's budget; almost 92c in every rand of the Mpumalanga budget will go to public service salaries, and 38,6% of the North West budget went to education. KwaZulu-Natal allocated 80% to education and culture, health and social welfare; while education, health and welfare are to receive R1,58bn of the Northern Cape's R2bn budget.

See Page 4



BD 20/3/97

Continued on Page 2

'NO QUICK FIXES'

West Cape looks to privatisation

(263)
ET 21/3/97

FACING A HEAVY CUT in the Western Cape budget, the province's financial chief is banking on privatisation, and has warned consumers they must expect to be taxed locally. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

As a political storm brewed in Wale Street yesterday over the "unworkable" Western Cape budget, privatisation of service delivery emerged as the favoured solution to address growing local cash shortfalls and much-needed staff cuts.

Dr Johan Stegmann, the province's corporate and finance services chief — who has seen his staff shrink from 105 000 in July 1994 to 81 070 this month — said privatisation, while retaining the province's "core business", was the best way ahead.

"We need redeployment of human capital elsewhere, without being an encumbrance to the taxpayer," he said.

This meant creating incentives for staff to move to newly established small or medium private businesses which delivered traditional public services, boosting the local economy and creating business opportunities.

Stegmann said the British model, where private companies delivered services from pension payouts to roads maintenance, had been closely studied. Toll roads were also being planned for several Western Cape roads. "We need to commercialise or restructure our own assets and the services we give," he said.

An expensive and faltering attempt, costing millions, was the Nisec pensions contract debacle and Stegmann warned that there were "no quick fixes".

While keeping tightlipped on the implications of Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel's R780-million cut to the Western Cape budget, Stegmann revealed that 10 000 of his staff had taken the voluntary severance package since May last year.

He expected to easily reach his staff complement target of 80 804 by the end of this month.

Officials have been sworn to silence while management carries out an exco crisis plan over two weeks, before Finance MEC Mr Kobus Meiring delivers his postponed budget on April 2. The plan is to urgently brief trade unions, teacher unions, local government institutions and organised trade — followed by full consultation with the civil service corps.

On the political front, the African National Congress yesterday accused the National Party of failing to accept the reality of the Financial and Fiscal Commission's provincial equity formula — a formula which the NP says has been selectively applied without giving provinces fundraising capability.

The Democratic Party joined the NP in attacking the ANC-led central government, saying it was "cherry-picking" only certain FFC recommendations.

Stegmann warned consumers that if they wanted extended public services then "they must expect to be taxed locally".

FOUR MORE EXCO POSTS

W Cape cabinet set for major reshuffle

ON THE EVE of the submission of the Western Cape constitution to the Constitutional Court, Premier Mr Hemus Kriel moves to optimise the NP's position. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports



AN expanded Western Cape executive committee (exco) is possible by the end of next month — sending political feathers flying and changing management styles of several crucial exco posts

Such a move could become a reality provision in the proposed Western Cape constitution that allows for an expanded exco is approved by the Constitutional Court next month. The ANC is planning to contest the move — but it can do is "alert the court to alterna-

In what would be a legally water-tight NP offensive, the ANC stands to lose the Welfare and Economic Affairs portfolios — held by Mr Ebrahim Rasool, party leader in the legislature, and former ANC provincial leader Mr Nissen

The ANC duo would be left clutching the big-budget Health portfolio, in which Rasool has proved his mettle, and the lesser RDP post for Nissen — though a "consolation" job is possible for him

This became apparent from a close reading of the national and provincial constitutions yesterday

The provincial constitution comes before the Constitutional Court in mid-July. The clause that makes the exco possible has a "90% chance" of being passed, says legal expert and provincial constitutional committee chairman Mr Hennie Bester, also National Democratic Party leader.

The clause allows for Premier Mr Kriel to increase his exco by four members to 14, giving him scope to manoeuvre without upsetting the balance which allows for four MECs.

The most likely Welfare post candidates are veteran local NP politician Arnold de Jager or even leader of the NP, Mr Gerald Morkel (NP), whose

Police Services portfolio has little real power

A move by Morkel would allow sidelined NP "spin doctor" and headline-grabbing Mr Patrick McKenzie to have his old police job back.

With two of the four additional exco members allowed to come from outside the legislature, author and poet Professor Adam Small, who is lecturing in social science at the University of Western Cape (UWC), is widely tipped for an Arts and Culture portfolio

This would ruffle the feathers of Education, Arts and Culture MEC Mrs Martha Olckers, whose current and much-loved responsibility this is — but she would uphold NP party discipline

Small's name has also cropped up in connection with Welfare

Nissen's possible loss is most widely rumoured to be Bester's gain — a reward by Kriel for Bester's dedicated shepherding of the provincial constitution and a means of getting the DP expertise "on board" the government of provincial unity

Bester emphasised that a written pact with the NP on party independence and "maintaining a rigorous opposition role" would be a condition of his serving on the exco

In terms of the national Constitution, Kriel merely has to "consult" party leaders to change the portfolios of his MECs — although he cannot reduce the ANC's number of exco seats without first going to the polls.

The proposed expanded exco gives him a long-awaited chance to outflank the ANC and spread more of the gravy the NP's way

A cultural council portfolio with a much-needed coloured woman at the helm is another possibility (The Western Cape exco has no coloured women, but is otherwise representative)

According to Professor Nico Steytler, director of community law at UWC and



NP OFFENSIVE: Premier Hemus Kriel, whose moves to expand the NP's position in the cabinet depends on the Constitutional Court

one of four top legal advisers to the local constitution-making process, the new Western Cape constitution has a "vastly greater chance" of being certified by the Constitutional Court than its KwaZulu-Natal counterpart, as it concedes that all powers emanate from the national constitution

Rasool has said that his party — while having helped broker the document in the name of "co-operative governance" — will object to several clauses

These include forced coalition, the expanded exco, the failure to preserve the integrity of the ANC MECs' current portfolios, commissioners for children and the environment, and cultural councils

Kriel said the constitution meant

the Western Cape now had its "own identity and ethics"

Bester said all parties had agreed on a government of provincial unity until the 1999 elections, when a 60% vote in the legislature was needed for the arrangement to continue

● The national constitution provides for legislative or executive structures and procedures that differ from its own text, making the local exco expansion possible.

Niel Barnard row sparks death threats against unionist

THABO MABASO
BUSINESS REPORTER

(263)
RRG 26/3/97

The Congress of SA Trade Unions says its regional chairman has received death threats since he led a march against the appointment of former spy chief Niel Barnard as Western Cape provincial administration's director-general. Cosatu regional secretary Tony Ehrenreich said the union federation viewed the threats against its chair-

man, Randy Pietersen, very seriously. "As workers we expect our leader to have protection under such circumstances. We will have a talk with the police, who know how to handle such things. We think caution should be the approach in handling such a matter," Mr Ehrenreich said.

The African National Congress and Cosatu have bitterly criticised Mr Barnard's appointment because of his past as head of the apartheid-era National Intelligence Service. He was

also a member of the former government's State Security Council.

Former security force members seeking amnesty before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) have testified that the State Security Council knew and approved of their "dirty tricks" campaign against anti-apartheid activists.

Cosatu members marched to the offices of the provincial government last week to oppose Mr Barnard's appointment and burned an effigy of

him in front of the building.

"The calls started coming on the night of the march and the caller said they were going to get him because he thinks he's smart," Mr Ehrenreich said.

He said Cosatu had met the police to brief them on the situation.

Mr Barnard was appointed Western Cape director-general from November 1 last year, sparking immediate opposition from public sector unions and the ANC.



HANNES THIART

Our man: ANC supporters with councillor Ebrahim Sawant, who refused to obey an instruction from NP mayor Kobus Brynard to leave the council chamber

Police called as council row snowballs into chaos

ARG 27/3/97

(263)

ANC protesters in Oostenberg offices

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

Police were called to the Oostenberg municipal offices in Kuils River to restore order when chaos erupted for a second time this week at the monthly council meeting.

Yesterday's meeting of the council, formerly the Eastern substructure, was adjourned indefinitely.

Kuils River police commissioner Raymond Strydom and his deputy Dorothy Adonis persuaded dozens of chanting African National Congress supporters to leave the municipal building, which they occupied for almost an hour yesterday.

They demanded a meeting with National Party councillors on rumours that Scottsdene residents would be evicted on April 1 if rental arrears were not paid.

NP and ANC councillors have clashed

at every monthly meeting of the council.

The meeting was first adjourned on Tuesday night after rowdiness by councillors and the public gallery, and was adjourned a second time yesterday, when ANC councillor Ebrahim Sawant again refused to leave the chamber after being ordered to do so by NP mayor Kobus Brynard.

Mr Sawant and Mr Brynard were involved in a war of words over the rules of order on how to conduct a council meeting.

Tempers had flared on Tuesday night when Mr Sawant refused to leave the meeting after Mr Brynard ordered him out.

Yesterday Mr Brynard ruled Mr Sawant "out of order" when an issue was raised on the possible appointment of a consultant to spearhead the formulation of the Combined Kuils River Structure Plan.

The Cape Metropolitan Council recently allocated R40 000 to the plan.

Mr Sawant said Mr Brynard was out of

order and did not know how to control a council meeting under the rules of order.

When Mr Sawant refused to leave the chamber yesterday, Mr Brynard adjourned the meeting indefinitely, saying he would "take lawful steps" against him.

ANC supporters jeered and heckled NP councillors and occupied the building.

Meanwhile Scottsdene ANC leader Rodney Thomas and protesters demanded to see NP councillors over eviction rumours.

He produced a letter apparently issued by the municipality's finance committee leader Willem Rossouw which allegedly ordered officials to get tough with residents who did not pay their arrears and that evictions would begin on April 1.

But Oostenberg municipality's chief executive officer, David Cedras, said the municipality had merely appealed to residents to make arrangements to pay off their arrears.

ANC ministers vow to

(263)

AR 5/14/97

defy Kriel sacking threat

Row grows over provincial reshuffle

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The African National Congress has vowed to resist any moves to kick its members out of the Western Cape cabinet.

This follows speculation that provincial premier Hennis Kriel plans to reshuffle his top team to get rid of ANC members.

Rumours are growing that Mr Kriel, the provincial National Party leader, plans to rearrange his cabinet after the provincial constitution has been ratified and to replace ANC members with members of his own party and the Democratic Party.

It is speculated that the ANC members - Health and Welfare Minister Ebrahim Rasool, Economic Affairs Minister Chris Nissen, Sport and Recreation Minister Lerumo Kalako and Transport and Public Works Minister Leonard Ramatlakane - will be forced to resign.

NP spokesmen have so far denied plans to reshuffle the provincial cabinet.

An ANC spokesman said the party had taken note of reports that Mr Kriel wanted to reshuffle the cabinet once the provincial constitution had been adopted, and in spite

of NP members denying this. "Any moves in that direction will be vigorously opposed by the ANC," he said.

ANC provincial spokesman Brent Simons said the reshuffle had gone beyond rumour, with names already being mooted by Mr Kriel to replace the ANC ministers.

"The NP wants to split Mr Rasool's position into two separate portfolios - health and welfare - and strip Mr Nissen of his post Professor Adam Small (Democratic Party) is being tipped for Mr Rasool's post," he said.

He claimed that Mr Kriel had earmarked Hennis Bester, DP provincial leader, to take over as Minister of Economic Affairs from Mr Nissen.

The recent adoption of the provincial constitution strengthens Mr Kriel's hand to drop ANC ministers and replace them with people of his choice.

The provincial constitution, which is being scrutinised by the Constitutional Court, was adopted by all political parties in the province.

It includes provisions that differ substantially from the national constitution. Although the ANC supported the constitution, it objected to a clause allowing the

provincial cabinet to be expanded from 10 members to 14.

The clause also allows people who were not elected in the provincial ballot to serve as cabinet members.

The ANC believed Mr Bester could be given the economic affairs portfolio in exchange for supporting the clause on the size of the cabinet.

An ANC spokesman said Mr Rasool had worked himself to the bone to stamp out corruption in the province's welfare department, leading to the police investigation into former NP MP Abe Williams.

Mr Nissen "continues to impress by tirelessly promoting small and medium-size enterprises", the spokesman said.

The ANC spokesman said the NP wanted to get rid of Mr Nissen because economic growth in the Western Cape was the fastest in the country and the NP wanted to claim credit for it.

Mr Kalako had played a key role in the development of support for Cape Town's Olympic bid, while Mr Ramatlakane's initiative to regulate the taxi industry was beginning to bear fruit, and public works was helping to reduce unemployment in the province.

'MOST DIFFICULT YEAR IN OUR HISTORY'

Province faces deficit

ET 3/4/97

(263)



EMBATTLED health, education and agriculture departments were handed smaller portions of Finance MEC Kobus Meiring juggled the budget in the face of the provincial equity formula. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports

THE Western Cape yesterday produced its first deficit budget ever — slashing agriculture, education and health funding — and sending a clear message to Pretoria that it found the selective application of the provincial equity formula "unfair"

Finance MEC Mr Kobus Meiring, said that unless an intensive six-month budget survey could "squeeze" his departments to make up the projected R247-million deficit — or central government came to his aid — "we'll run out of cash before the end of the year"

But Meiring also created a new Provincial Discretionary Fund of R10m, for development and job-creation. The ANC finance spokeswoman Mrs Tasneem Essop immediately slammed the Provincial Discretionary Fund, labelling it an "election slush fund for the NP"

Agriculture takes the biggest blow, with a whopping 26% cut (representing a R19m loss), followed by health, with a 11,67% cut (R255m) and education with a 10,93% (R347m) cut

Meiring's total budgeted provincial expenditure comes to R9,525 billion, compared with R10,538bn spent last year, and follows a fortnight of drama in which his government postponed the budget presentation.

"Crisis" talks failed to sway President Nelson Mandela and Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel into granting the province additional funds

Meiring said assistance by the province to local authorities would be reduced by R40m

All newly scheduled construction projects would be scrapped and the purchase of capital equipment (except information technology and medical equipment) frozen

The immediate implications are that hospital beds at Groote Schuur Hospital will be reduced from 1 143 to 1 000 and at Tygerberg from 1 500 to 1 200

In education, new desks, tables, stationery and books will become the territory of only the most inventive school committees, and the busing of children to schools may be scrapped altogether, hurting rural communities

Security patrols at school premises will be removed, and grants-in-aid to special schools may come under review,

**WELCOME TO
MEIRINGSVILLE'S
1997 BUDGET**

See Page 5

YOU CAN EXPECT:

- R120m more for pension increases
- R9m blow to Olympic Bid funds
- Drastic cuts to intake for pre-schoolers
- Drastic cuts to number of hospital beds
- Car licence fees up 10%
- Meiring's R10m new Provincial Discretionary Fund

Education MEC Ms Martha Olckers said last week

Meiring said school classes would have to be enlarged, putting added pressure on the province's remaining 30 000 teachers — although he conceded that teacher/pupil ratios were better than most other provinces at present

In an attempt to generate income from his meagre local resources (92% comes from Pretoria), Meiring also upped vehicle licence fees by 10% from June 1 this year — but left horse-racing taxes and hospital fees intact

Provincial treasury director-general Mr Johan Fourie said the body blows to agriculture would be felt most in training, research, new technology and aid to small, disadvantaged farmers

Describing his cuts as "traumatic", Agriculture MEC Mr Lampie Fick said that while producing 22% of the country's gross agricultural product, the Western Cape had been allocated a mere 3,5% slice of the national agricul-

tural cake

Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool, said negotiations between himself, Manuel, and his national health counterpart, Dr Nkosazana Zuma, would continue, "so we can find a special way to fund health and medical services provided from the province for the rest of the country, such as heart and bone marrow transplants, and oncology services."

Rasool, the ANC's leader in the legislature, said Meiring's budget speech reflected "a growing realism"

Meiring described yesterday as "a very sad day", predicting "possibly the most difficult year in our history"

"On the one hand our block (provincial) grant is cut, while on the other we are not yet allowed to augment our own income," he added

He accused Manuel of selectively applying the Finance and Fiscal Commission (five-year) provincial equity formula with undue and impractical haste — without legally enabling provinces to raise more funds of their own

On the welfare front, social services director-general Ms Virginia Petersen said that while in budget terms her allocation had been increased by R212m (R120m of which would go to pension increases on July 1), in real terms the allocation had been cut by R33m

This meant a slowing down in processing pension applications, slashing a planned early childhood educare intake of 3 600 pupils by 2 000, and staggering the remaining 1 600 pupils over the year — plus capping the frail-care grant at R1 100 a month

She had planned to increase the frail care grant to R1 300

Meiring said he had "made peace" with the concept of less privileged provinces being assisted and conceded that the Western Cape was historically the best developed

However, he said that to rigidly apply a five-year equity term when economic growth was too low could "only lead to the killing of the goose which laid the golden eggs"

He suggested using the Western Cape as a model to which other provinces could aspire, "instead of merely lowering standards and punishing us, so that the province slides into a morass of mediocrity"

One of the biggest boosts in the budget was to transport and public works — by R80m to R750,86m — with R93m earmarked for special Olympic bid projects (not included in Pretoria's block grant to the province)

Of R247m

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
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Departments to benefit from increased allocations included Premier Hernus Kriel's office (R17,68m which includes a four-person enlarged cabinet and several new commissions under the new provincial constitution), housing (increasing housing subsidies from 50 000 to 90 000), economic affairs (nearly doubled to R19,97m), environmental and cultural affairs (from R17m to R115,414m), police services (from R3,7m to R6,327m, including R250 000 for a metropolitan force), and sport and recreation (from R13m to R20,8m and including R11m for the Olympic bid)

DP provincial leader Mr Hennie Bester said Meiring's budget heralded a stormy passage for the province, and slammed the ANC national government for a "devil-may-care and mecha-

nistic" approach to governance

He said Pretoria had landed the province in a "Catch-22 situation", cutting its allocation while preventing revenue generation

Essop said the province's allocation of R2 197 per person compared favourably with the national average of R1 755 per person

She also noted that Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal had managed without additional fund-raising powers

Meiring said it was a "bitter irony" that the Western Cape had double the national growth figure, but was sharing in a "decreasing percentage of the cake"

He added that once Pretoria allowed local fund-raising powers, local taxes were inevitable

"But that is future music," he added

Meiring plans to sell off assets to raise funds

Cosatu slams privatisation plan

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The Western Cape government plans to sell off assets to fund capital projects such as the construction of roads and buildings.

The provincial government also plans to rationalise office space in Cape Town, saving up to R110-million over three to four years.

Finance MEC Kobus Meiring announced in his budget speech in the provincial legislature that all unused and costly fixed assets in the province would be sold and the proceeds transferred to a loan fund to bankroll new capital projects.

He said an amount of R13-million had been provided in the 1997-98 budget to kick-start a downsizing and privatisation programme – the most ambitious so far for any of South Africa's provinces, he said.

"We (provincial government) will introduce a level of asset management never seen before in the civil service and

look at the optimal and economic use of state fixed assets," Mr Meiring said.

A team of experts from the private sector would be recruited by the transport and public works department to speed up the compilation of an inventory of all state assets.

He said the provincial administration's lease account was far too expensive and the province's cabinet had decided that office accommodation in the Cape Town metropolitan area should be rationalised over the next three to four years.

"We expect to realise eventually savings of R110-million through this."

The Congress of South African Trade Unions has slammed the privatisation plan which it said it would "vigorously" oppose such moves.

"Organised labour has not been consulted, although Mr Meiring once gave us a presentation in which he mentioned the province was thinking of privatising some of the province's public assets," said the provincial secretary of Cosatu Tony

Ehrenreich

Democratic Party provincial leader Henne Bester called on central government to give provinces full power to privatise public services.

"The major functions performed by the provincial government – health, education, social welfare, public roads and local government – are functions where the provincial government only has concurrent legislative power with the national government," Mr Bester said.

"The Western Cape is in a Catch 22 situation. The national government cuts its allocation from the national budget, but the same national government prevents it from either generating its own resources or rationalising its administration in a rational and efficient manner," Mr Bester said.

The province was caught in a legal and managerial straitjacket as it could not raise taxes, could not retrench staff and could not privatise public services," he added.

AR 5 4/4/97

213

MEC refuses to prop up weak councils

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Non-performing local authorities in the Western Cape could be worse off after this year's real decline in intergovernmental grants, as local government MEC Peter Marais has resolved not to prop up those which did not look like they would survive.

This year the Western Cape received R174.9m (R174m) for intergovernmental grants, which local government finance director Richard Petersen said represented a real decline of between 15%-20%, when account was taken of inflation, growth in population, and migration.

According to Marais this real decline meant some local authorities would receive significantly less for current

expenditures.

As local authorities were prohibited by law from budgeting for a deficit, some would have to impose "drastic" increases in rates and service charges, he said.

Marais insisted that nonperforming local authorities could not be saved by "throwing money at them". Instead, the strong ones would be strengthened further, and consideration would be given to merging the weak ones with them. He estimated about 10% of all Western Cape local authorities were in a state of collapse.

Marais said he planned a system of financial rewards, over and above basic allocations, to those local councils that spent wisely, were creditworthy and kept sound books. He planned also to re-

(263)

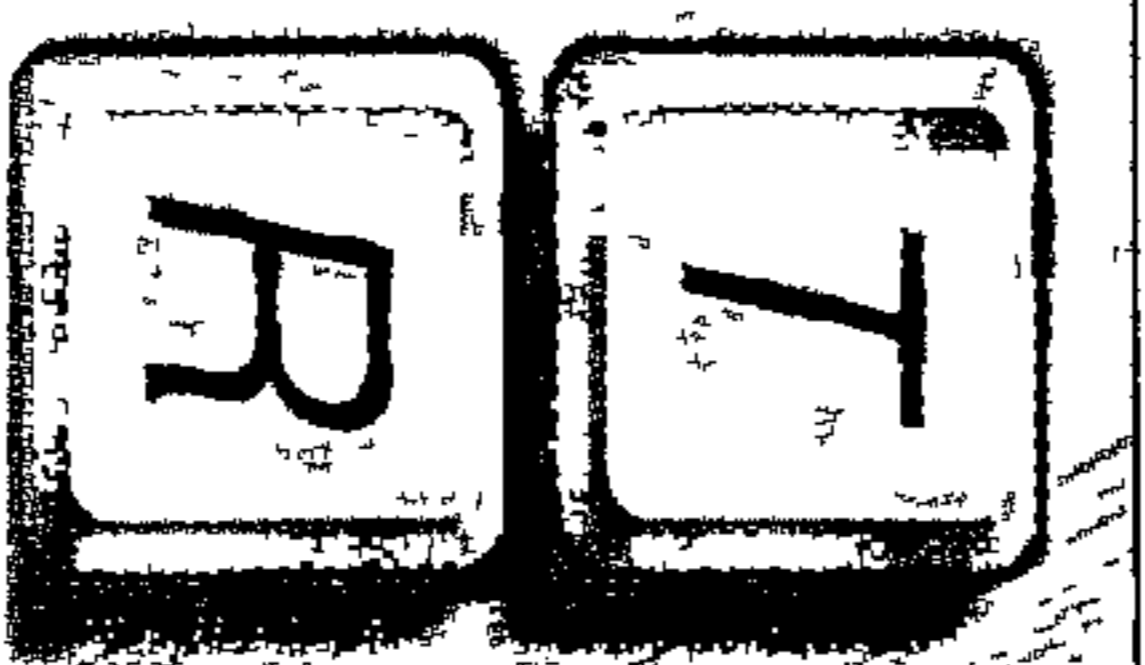
AD 8/4/97

ward those local authorities that succeeded in getting people to pay for services. The reward would take the form of a specific project chosen by the community, for example a swimming pool or community hall, which could stand as a monument to its achievement in reversing the culture of non-payment.

A long-standing dispute between Marais and the provincial African National Congress over the composition of district councils had a sequel on Saturday when the 27 rural councils asked Marais to oppose a recently promulgated amendment to the Local Government Transition Act. The amendment required that district councils be proportionally representative of transitional lo-

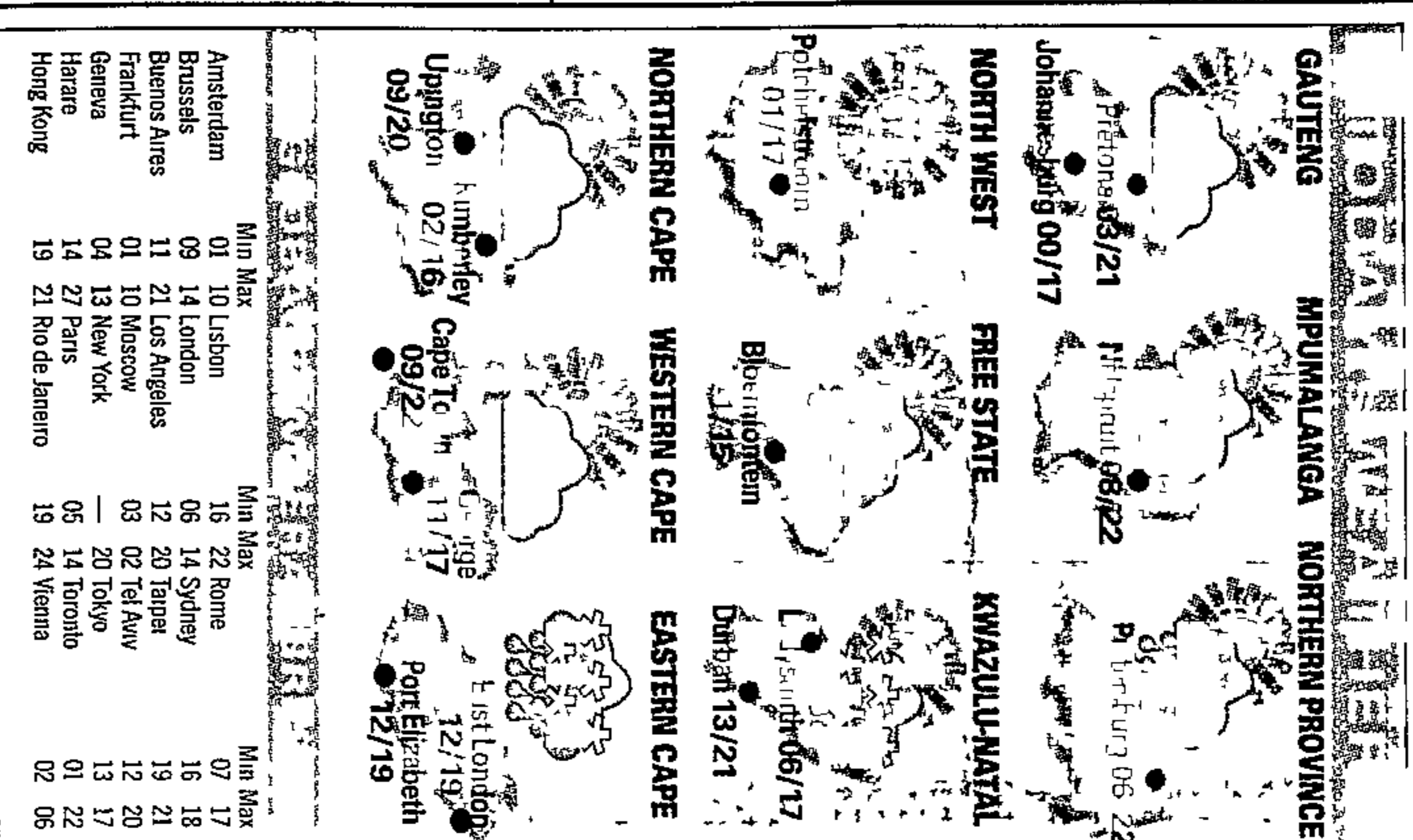
cal councils and rural year Marais said the rural councils objected to the new system, which would disempower them

the new system, which would disempower them



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Medical aid administration chaos leaves thousands of Cape civil servants bewildered

(263) (248) Star 12/4/97
By ADELE BALEFA

Cape Town - Thousands of civil servants, many of whom took severance packages last year, have been left without state-subsidised medical aid cover as the Finance Department battles to process a massive backlog of application forms.

One member, who has had open-heart surgery and spends R200 a week on medication, is having to face footing massive medical bills after finding out that his subsidy has been discontinued. Meanwhile, state-subsidised medical aid scheme offices have been plunged into chaos as thousands of civil servants flood the switchboards of the different schemes to try to get clarity on the situation.

Staffers at the Cape Town and Bellville offices of the state-subsidised schemes confirmed they were battling to cope.irate members are demanding to be informed of their status. One operator said "It's awful I am getting blasted from all sides with people wanting to know whether they are covered."

Shu'ayb Patel, chairman of Pro Sano - the third largest medical aid scheme for government employees - said several "crisis meetings" had been held in the past few months with the national Department of Finance to sort out the issue.

"We offered to help with our own staff at our expense as well as computers to speed up the process, but to date we have not heard anything."

Of 3 000 forms processed so far, Pro Sano had been able to inform only 1 000 of its members that they would not be getting

medical aid cover. There were at least another 4 000 applications in the pipeline.

"We do not decide on who gets a subsidy; we only decide on the amount. If the state does not pay its portion, members have to pay the full amount, which can be anything up to R1 000 a month. If they don't pay, we are forced to suspend membership until full payment is received," he said.

Department of Finance chief director pensions administration Piet Maritz pointed out that not all officials who took the package qualified immediately for a medical subsidy.

In terms of the Public Service Staff Code, medical assistance was available only to those officials who retired at 50 or older with at least 15 years' service. Those younger than 50 with at least 15 years' service would have to pay full membership fees, and qualify for a subsidy only from age 50.

His directorate had been in constant contact with all the state-subsidised medical aid schemes - Pro Sano, Sanitas and Bonitas - to assist with obtaining information from their civil pensioners. The problem had also been tackled by employing five temporary staff in the medical benefits section. Staff had been working seven days a week over the past five months to help alleviate the situation.

There was only one "crisis meeting" with Pro Sano, which Maritz described as "merely a forum to help find joint solutions". As a result, four Pro Sano staff members were already helping out to speed up the process, he said.

Job shuffle hits 30 000 city staff

Sackings ruled out

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

ARG 15/4/97

A huge upheaval is about to begin for about 30 000 municipal staff facing job moves, as the city embraces the post-apartheid era and reorganises itself into new municipalities.

The unbundling of the 19 old administrations involves the vast logistical process of matching each staff member to a post in the six new municipalities and the Cape Metropolitan Council.

For thousands of workers this means they will soon be reporting to new bosses and, in many instances, working in different places. The most seriously affected areas will be the core administrations, which will have to split up or merge to serve the new municipalities. Workers in the field will continue to do the same jobs.

There will be no job losses during this phase, which peaks on July 1, the date set for staff transfers to the new municipalities, but the possibility exists that municipalities will cut staff after restructuring.

In some instances they may have to take on new staff. The guiding principle is that staff will follow function.

The process is being managed under a series of agreements struck at the Metro-

politan Restructuring Forum in conjunction with a Metropolitan Labour Forum.

The six municipalities and the metropolitan council are represented on the restructuring forum, and all unions and employers on the labour forum.

Agreement has been reached on provisional post allocations for each new local authority. The next phase, likely to be the trickiest, is putting a name to each of those posts and dealing with disputes. Provisional allocations are 1 600 for Blaauwberg, 1 500 for Helderberg, 1 700 for Oostenberg, 3 600 for South Peninsula and 7 000 for Tygerberg.

Cape Town municipality has about 17 000 staff, but will be shrunk to about 11 000 as it loses several thousand personnel to the Cape Metropolitan Council and the South Peninsula, and a few to Tygerberg and Blaauwberg.

The metropolitan council, which has about 6 500 staff, will shrink to 3 500, losing some to the municipalities and gaining bulk water and sewerage staff from Cape Town municipality. In future the CMC will focus primarily on metropolitan co-ordination and services to consumers will be provided by the six municipalities.

Tygerberg will have to incorporate separate municipalities such as Bellville and Lingeletu West into one administration.

Time to stop th

Despite the budget battle,

THE TIME FOR SCORING POLITICAL POINTS AND MAKING POLITICAL CAPITAL WILL COME ALL TOO SOON. RIGHT NOW, IT IS TIME FOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE WESTERN CAPE TO MAKE CAPITAL IN THE ECONOMIC SENSE AND JOIN HANDS OVER THE PROVINCIAL BUDGET, WRITES WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE OF OUR POLITICAL STAFF

The battle rages on over the R247-million deficit provincial budget tabled by finance MEC Kobus Meiring, with the Democratic Party and the African National Congress digging in their heels in a tense standoff with the ruling National Party

The provincial DP joined the ANC in vowing to vote against the deficit budget when it came up for adoption in the provincial legislature

DP provincial leader Hennie Bester said his party would oppose the adoption of the budget as Mr Meiring could not give any explanations as to how he would cover the R247-million shortfall

The provincial ANC has declared it will vote against the R247-million deficit. The provincial budget is being debated in the legislature

Mr Bester blamed both the NP and the central government for the crisis.

"The answer to cuts in national funds cannot be to cut services, but to find new ways of doing things," Mr Bester said.

Tasneem Essop, the ANC's shadow finance MEC, said that, at the least, the party wanted the budget vote to be postponed to rework the budget to the deficit and change priorities away from administration and salaries to social services

Mr Meiring's budget slashed education, health, social services and housing

The largest amount of the R9,5-billion provincial expenses in his budget – 73 percent – went to personnel and administration, which included salaries, costing more than R6-billion.

Mr Meiring said he was banking on central government to bail out the province. Did not central government come to the rescue of the Western Cape in the previous two budgets?

But Finance Minister Trevor Manuel has told him that this time, with the central government's new commitment to fiscal discipline, there is no way in which it will come to the rescue of the province.

The only route now for Premier Hennis Kriel and the NP is to railroad the budget through the provincial legislature, crushing objections from the DP and ANC in the process

The provincial budget was bound to say as much about the politics in the province as about its fiscus

Mr Meiring took the rare step of budgeting for a deficit, in a blunt signal that the NP-ruled provincial government felt it had been punished by the central government

Whatever the arguments, there is little doubt that the ordinary person in the Western Cape will be hit by the budget. There will be fewer hospital beds for the sick, less equipment for schoolchildren, who will have to be in bigger classes, and even an end to the transport subsidy to bring rural pupils from outlying areas to

schools

Tony Twine, a senior economist at Econometrix, laconically remarked that, given the consummate ease with which Mr Meiring had "balanced" his 1997/'98 budget, no politician ever again had to wrestle over niceties such as whether budgeted expenses was covered by budgeted income

The solution according to Mr Meiring and company, said Mr Twine, was so simple that it was a wonder that budgetary deficits had been such a problem between the United States Republicans and Democrats for all these years

The problem is thus, argued Mr Twine. South Africa has one central government with nine second-tier provincial governments.

Seven of the nine have ANC majorities in their legislatures – the Western Cape has a National Party majority while Inkatha rules KwaZulu Natal.

Together with Gauteng, the industrial hub of the nation, the two account for more than two thirds of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

The Western Cape contributed about 16,7 percent of GDP and Gauteng 49,3 percent. The two provinces' share of the national budget amounted to only 5,6 percent and 8,3 percent, respectively

The way the central government allocates its block payments to each of the provinces is by the financial and fiscal commission. The commission is an independent body which checks funds are distributed equally among provinces, taking into account population and historical imbalances among other criteria.

The commission's ultimate aim, in six years' time, is to spread the budget equally among the different provinces.

Each province presents its spending requirements to the commission, and these are parcelled into shares of the total available from the national budget

The provinces then have to rework their spending priorities in the light of having less income than they might have initially budgeted for. That is exactly what happened to the provinces for the 1997/'98 fiscal year.

Using the FFC formula, the Western Cape share of the national budget increased in nominal terms from roughly R8,37-billion in 1996/'97 to R8,75-billion in the 1997/'98 budget. Measured in terms of allocation per person, the Western Cape received the second-largest share of the national budget, at R2 197 a person, even higher than Gauteng.

The Western Cape average was only exceeded by the Northern Cape. The average allocation a person for all the provinces was R1 755

When Mr Meiring worked out his provincial budget, he found out the Western Cape had about R780-million less income than it had originally planned for

Mr Meiring then went back to the drawing board – 10 times – and reworked the budget

He cut down more on his expenses – and came up with a budget that squeezed out savings of about R620-million, or a net R540-million after the adjustment for pensions

He calculated that provincial income of R502-million would be boosted by the R90-

money musical chairs

we must make the best of what we've got

ARG 18/4/97

(263)



COLIN DANIEL

Pot of gold: national Finance Minister Trevor Manuel and provincial money man Hemus Kriel squabble over the money allocated to the Western Cape

million charge to other provinces for cross-border services and the 10 percent increase in motor vehicle licences from June 1, which would generate R217,4-million

An additional R86-million would come from hospital fees, R26-million from horse racing and R19-million from last year's surplus. Savings of R620-million would come from cutting the education budget by R347-million, health by R255-million, agriculture R23-million, and housing, local government and planning by R9,6-million.

Assistance to local authorities was cut by R40-million.

The savings was offset by the net R80-million increase in the social services budget to give net savings of R540-million. Still, it was about R240-million off the mark.

The problem, said Mr Twine, was that second-tier provincial governments, as well as third-tier local governments, were not supposed to run budgetary deficits on current expenditure.

The provincial Borrowing Act restricts the financing of capital projects under the stern proviso that the means of repayment must be clearly spelled out when any bor-

rowing is undertaken.

Mr Meiring has complained, justly so, that the national government has made no provision for the provinces to boost their own income by raising taxes paid to them.

Such measures should have been implemented already, according to the interim constitution, but will not now come into effect before January 1 1998.

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel can help a lot by ensuring that plans for provincial revenue generation are speeded up.

At the moment, provinces are highly

restricted in terms of raising their own domestic revenue.

Motor vehicle licence fees, hospital fees, entertainment and gambling taxes, as well as cross-border charges rendered to provinces, make up a rather scanty list of potential sources of income apart from central government funding.

In the case of the Western Cape, 91 percent of the 1997/'98 revenue will come from the central government.

The ANC said the provincial belt could be tightened further than Mr Meiring's efforts so far to produce savings.

For example, there were funds for 2 901

public service posts which had not been filled. Why, asked Ms Essop, should Premier Kriel have to increase his office budget by R13-million, as the office of the premier was a non-delivery department?

Mr Meiring said in a budget speech the money would be used to help Mr Kriel get closer to his electorate.

Ms Essop suggested R12-million be skimmed off the R16-million increase in the budget of the province's environmental and cultural affairs department.

The ANC said this department should look at rearranging its priorities in line with delivery needs, especially those of disadvantaged communities.

It proposed the Provincial Public Service Commission's budget of R6-million be reduced by R2-million, as the commission was to be phased out at the end of this year and did not need a big budget.

Ms Essop revealed the provincial government had spent close to R3-million on an investigation into provincial budget cuts in the 1996/'97 budget and beyond. This probe, called the Special Investigation Cabinet Assignment, was a waste of money, she said.

The DP's Richard van der Ross summed up the crisis over the provincial budget: "They (NP) are playing a power game to show their supporters how smart they are in shooting down the other side, so that people will vote for them next time around."

'There is little doubt that the ordinary person in the Western Cape will be hit by the budget'

Idle workers raise residents' ire

Councillor accuses municipal staff of 'stealing time'

ANDREA WEISS
METRO CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town municipality's *modus operandi* in the field is under fire again – this time for taking four days to clear an overgrown plot of land near the Kirstenbosch Gardens using 10 workers, one driver and a supervisor.

The criticism follows complaints about the City Bowl mowing team, which recorded 750 days of sick leave in a year, and another incident in which the Bay Hotel in Camps Bay was asked to desist from mowing an adjacent council-owned lawn because it might put jobs at risk.

This time the complaint comes from a Fernwood resident who closely observed the activities of the parks and forests team involved in brush-cutting and clearing on a plot close to the Kirstenbosch Gardens boundary.

According to the resident, aside from an inordinate amount of time being spent on tea and lunch breaks, "there was seldom more than one man wielding a brush-cutter and one man raking up the cuttings."

"The rest of the squad spent the time



Land of confusion: 10 workers, a driver and supervisor took four days to clear this plot near Kirstenbosch

standing around watching. One team member spent the entire time cooking or washing up."

The concerned resident, who brought the issue to the attention of councillor Ian Iversen of the Democratic Party, said work generally only started after a tea break at

10am, while lunch would begin at 11 45am and last until 1pm. Vehicles were loaded by 3 30pm and departed by 4pm.

Mr Iversen said the example cited made any claims of lack of funds or staff to do maintenance jobs around the city ring hollow "when abuses of time and money are

observed"

He said the incident illustrated that municipal staff were "stealing time" and it was not surprising the costs to do various jobs with council staff were so expensive.

Acting engineering co-ordinator Marius Coetzee responded to the complaints saying the parks and forests branch did not condone or accept any perceived low level of productivity, and it continually emphasised the need for service delivery.

He said the total operation had involved felling and the removal of bush, the treatment of stumps with herbicide, brush and grass-cutting and the removal of the waste material to Strandfontein. Three lorry loads were moved.

Mr Coetzee confirmed that work took place on the site over four days but said that on the first day the men had to leave at midday to be taken to a meeting at Newlands at which they were briefed on the current restructuring process in local government.

"A factor which also needs to be considered is that the workers officially end work at 3 30pm on Fridays. Two full days of work were therefore not possible on Thursday or Friday."

ANC withdraws from municipal congress

ET 21/4/97

(263)

PETER DENNEHY

THE ANC withdrew from the Western Cape Local Government Organisation (Weclogo) congress after being outmanoeuvred by the National Party.

This was the second successive adjournment of the congress. Last year the issue of voting rights forced the adjournment.

The same delegates met this year to approve a reworked constitution.

A two-thirds majority was needed to amend the constitution, — but the ANC had more than a third of the votes only under the old constitution, said Ms Nomandia Mfeketo, an ANC member of Weclogo's executive committee.

"We started negotiations to find a political solution," she said on Friday. "While some of us were out of the chamber, the NP 'adopted' the new constitution. This is unconstitutional and immoral."

The mayor of Worcester, Mr Riyadh Williams (ANC), said the ANC did not accept that there had been a two-thirds majority.

"They did not count the votes. They tried to rectify that this morn-

ing (Friday) by voting on it again, but we were then operating under the amended constitution, not the old one. They (the NP) would never have got it through under the previous constitution without resorting to subterfuge."

The NP version is that the ANC had offered to accept the constitution, on condition that the ANC got one of its members on the Demarcation Board. According to Mr Pierre Uys, executive chairperson of the Cape Metropolitan Council, the ANC candidate for the board "did not make it".

The board will make recommendations about the boundaries of local authorities for the 1999 elections.

He said the ANC would not have been able to credibly oppose the constitution, because their delegates had been part of the process of working through the new constitution.

Mfeketo denied that the Demarcation Board issue was the reason for the walk-out. "We withdrew (from the congress) because of the way they behave when they are in the majority, just bulldozing things through."

Government challenges new W Cape constitution

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

(263)

ARG 22/4/97

The Western Cape's new provincial constitution is in the balance after a challenge by central government, which opposes the province's attempt to bring back constituency-based elections.

The provincial constitution was passed by the Western Cape legislature on February 21, but needs the approval of the Constitutional Court.

The court could throw it out in the wake of a challenge by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa and the Government.

Mr Moosa has sided with the African National Congress in the province, which opposes clauses such as the reintroduction of electoral constituencies - the national constitution provides only for proportional representation.

Mpho Mosimane, spokesman for Mr Moosa, yesterday confirmed that the min-

ister had opposed the certification of the provincial constitution.

Mr Moosa had challenged the provincial constitution because it allowed the Western Cape to have its own electoral system which differed from the national constitution.

The provincial system proposes a constituency-based electoral system with elements of proportionality.

Mr Moosa argued that the constituency-based electoral system was unconstitutional. He said nowhere in the national constitution was there a suggestion that an electoral system must be constituency-based as provided for in the provincial constitution.

The national government also opposes other provisions in the provincial constitution, as does the ANC.

These include the composition and membership of the legislature and executive council, provincial symbols and honours, local government powers and cultural councils.

COUNCIL WORKERS ACCUSED OF LAZINESS

'More time for tea than for work'

ET 25/4/97

(270) (263)

A RATEPAYER who monitored a council work team in action for four days claims they worked less than three hours. **CYNTHIA VONGAI** reports

TOO much tea and not enough work was the complaint a Fernwood resident had about a municipal team clearing a small plot near his home

Mr Roger Pavely complained to the city council that, because of laziness, the workers took four days to do a job they should have completed much quicker. The council, which says it monitors workers through their foreman, investigated his complaint

Pavely, who observed a team of 12 municipal workers over four days, claimed the workers spent only an average of two hours and 40 minutes a day clearing a plot of overgrown vegetation. Some, he said, just did nothing, while others indulged in long tea and lunch breaks instead of working

"If they worked for a commercial company everyone of them would have been sacked — if that was the maximum work rate they could achieve," Pavely said

The team, made up of one supervisor, one driver and 10 labourers, had come to clear the small plot next to the Kirstenbosch Garden boundary after councillor Mr Howard Parker — whose house is next to the plot — asked the council to clear the area

According to Pavely, the workers' daily activities were

- Between 8 40am and 8 50am each day, the team arrived, but no work was done till they had tea/coffee/breakfast. Equipment was prepared and the site inspected until about 10am

- Morning tea break was usually taken from 10 15 to 10 45, after which work started

- Despite a large well-equipped team, he did not see more than one man wielding a brush-cutter, and one man raking up the cuttings

- The rest of the squad spent the time standing around watch-



SATISFIED CUSTOMER: Councillor Howard Parker outside the plot of land that Parks and Forests workers took four days to clear. A complaint about the workers' "laziness" was lodged by a Fernwood resident, but Parker said yesterday he was happy with the work done by the men and that the resident had exaggerated his claims

PICTURE GARTH STEAD

ing. One team member spent the entire time cooking or washing-up

- Lunch-break sometimes started at 11 45 and would last until 1pm, except the last day, when lunch break was 12 to 12 30.

- Afternoon break started anytime after 2pm, and there was seldom any work done after this

- Vehicles were loaded by 3 30pm, and departed by 4pm

Parker told the Cape Times yesterday that he was happy with the

work done by the men and that Pavely had exaggerated his claims

"I agree that from time to time the men were standing around and that they did not work a full eight-hour day, as you would expect in the private sector, but they did the job well

"The undergrowth was so thick here that I could not see to the fence," he said, pointing to the cleared plot

Councillor Mr Ian Iversen, who

is responsible for Fernwood, said in a statement "The frequent claim by the municipality of Cape Town that they do not have the staff or funds to undertake various maintenance jobs around the city rings hollow when abuses of time and money are observed

"Certain municipal staff are stealing time"

Director of Parks and Forests Mr Marius Coetzee said yesterday the Parks and Forests branch did not

condone or accept any perceived low-level productivity, but emphasised the need for service delivery.

He said a unit cost system of monitoring work was in place for Parks and Forests workers

"We monitor workers when they are out clearing a piece of land, through the foreman. He has a job sheet and he has to measure the extent of the work involved and the cost of the materials that are needed for the job," he said.

NONRACIAL DELIMITATION FAVOURS NP

ANC to lose control of city council

THE RULE that wards be equally divided between former black and former coloured and white areas won't apply in 1999, and the ANC will lose out **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

THE ANC is set to lose political control of Cape Town City Council, in which it now has a comfortable majority.

At the next local government elections in 1999 the transition rule will no longer apply that half the wards must be in former black areas and half in former coloured and white areas, regardless of the population of each.

Should Cape Town's 480 000 voters be divided into 44 wards on the basis of numbers only, the average ward will contain 10 900 voters. This means the black areas will be entitled to 16 wards, instead of the present 22.

The difference of six wards could amount to a swing of 12 seats, if the NP wins them.

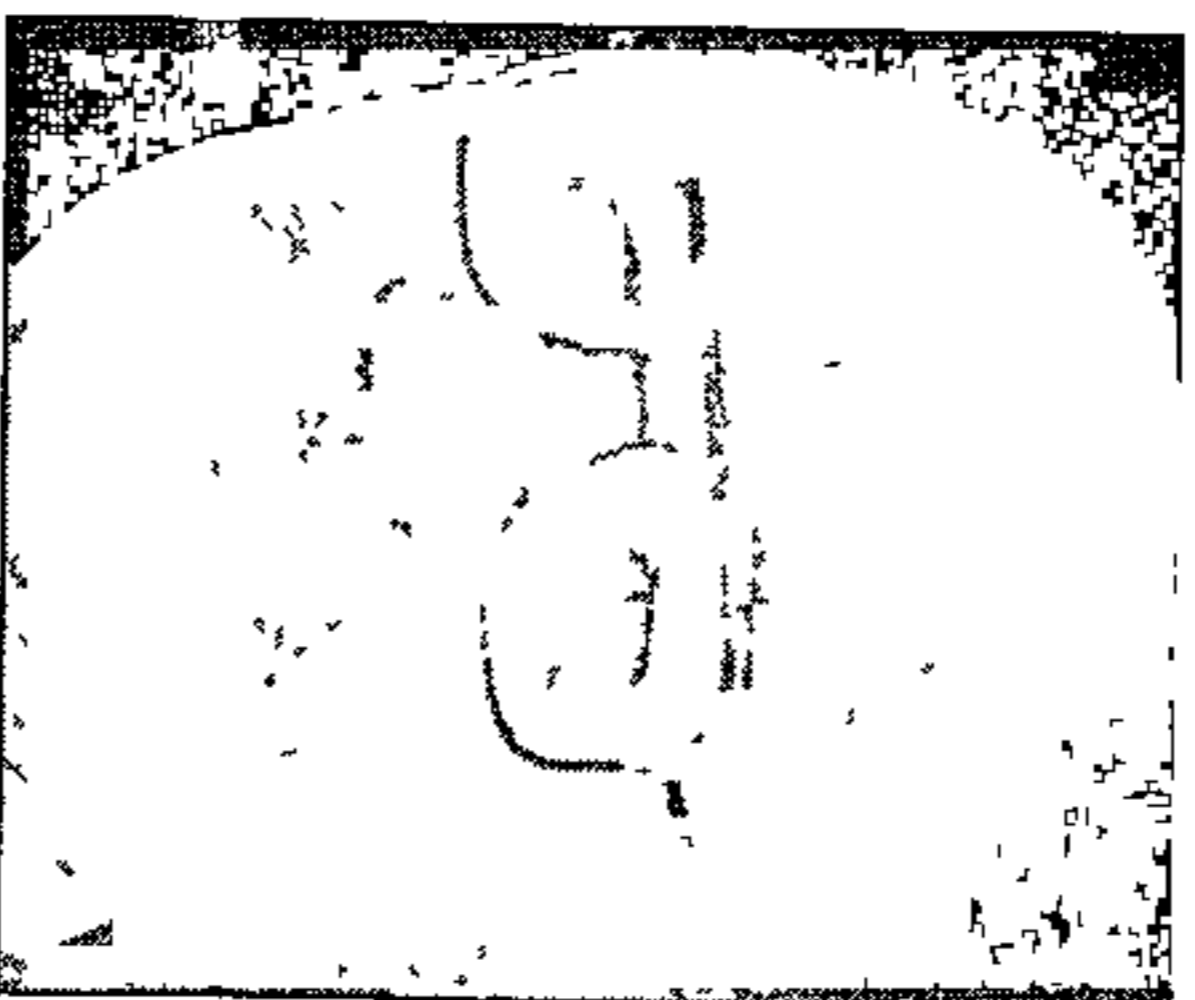
Last May the ANC won all 22 ward seats in the black areas, and

one in a coloured area, giving it a majority of the ward seats. The NP won 14 ward seats.

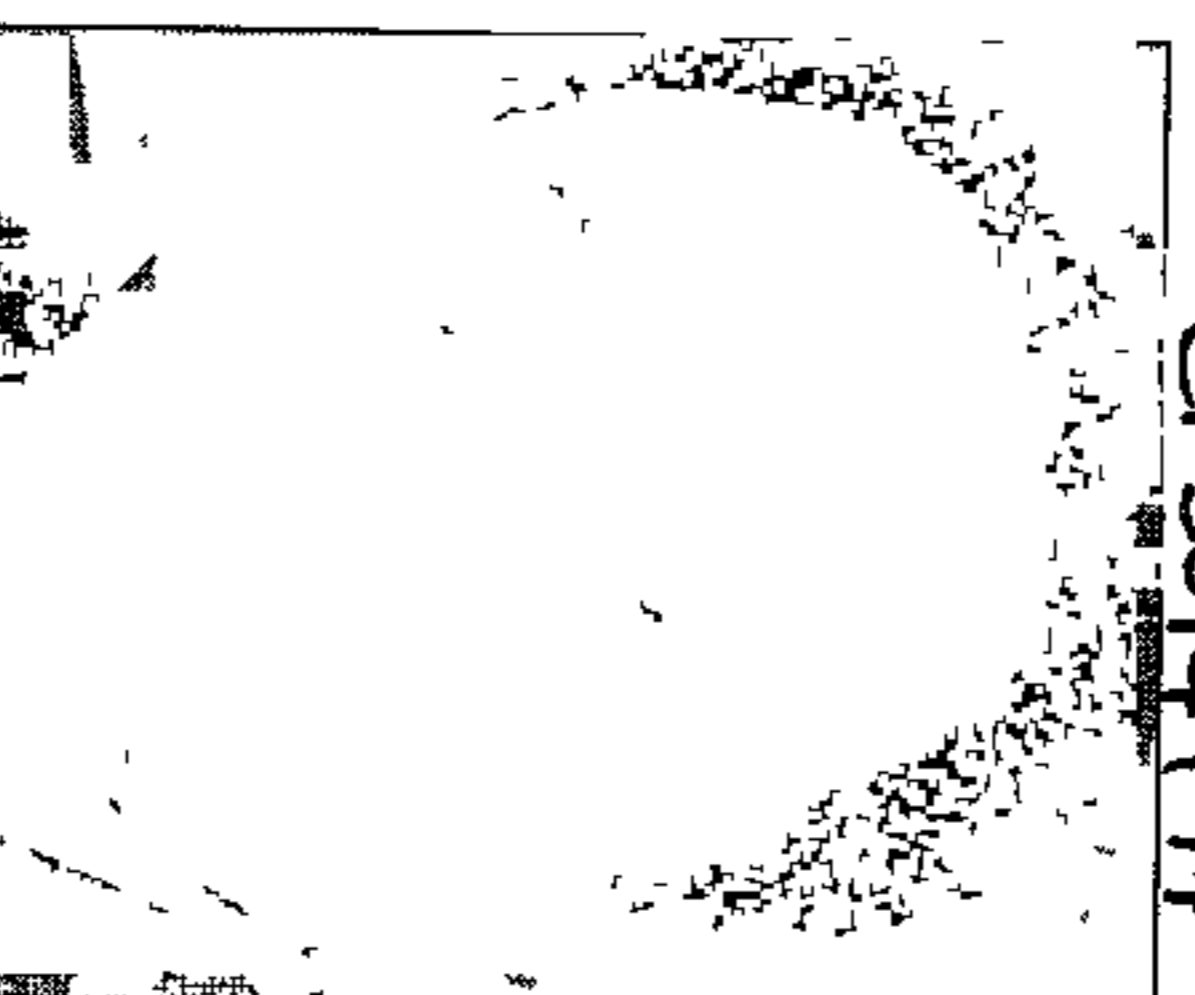
The ANC seems to know its days in power in the heart of Cape Town are numbered, although none of its councillors will admit it.

For the new election, there will be a new demarcation board of six members, two of whom — former Cape Metropolitan Council chairperson Mr Willie van Schoor and a former Bredasdorp school principal Mr Chris Maarmann — have already been appointed by the NP-dominated Western Cape Local Government Organisation (Weclogo).

Western Cape MEC for local government Mr Peter Marais (NP) will appoint two and Minister of Local Government Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa (ANC) the remaining two — four NP



APPOINTED: Willie van Schoor



TO APPOINT: Peter Marais

appointments to the ANC's two

At Weclogo's recent Strand congress, the ANC walked out after its delegates failed to make a deal with the NP.

The ANC wanted Mr Frank van der Velde in place of Maarmann to give it parity with the NP on the

demarcation board. In return, the

ANC would agree to an amendment to Weclogo's constitution that would reduce ANC power on Weclogo.

The NP's Mr Pierre Uys said this was unacceptable, as it could result in deadlock on the board — and

ET 30/4/97

(263)

Valli Moosa's appointees drawing Western Cape ward boundaries

Ms Nomandla Mleketo (ANC), co-chairperson of the Weclogo congress, confirmed that the demarcation board appointment had been discussed, but denied that it had led to the ANC's "withdrawal".

"We would have found a way to handle the demarcation board situation," she said. "They control the Western Cape, but we are in control nationally."

● The Local Government Transition Act rule about half the wards being in the black areas and half in white and coloured areas applied only in municipalities that formerly had black local authorities within their boundaries.

South Peninsula, Blaauwberg and Oostenberg did not. Their ward boundaries were drawn up on a nonracial basis. The NP won all of them. It also won majorities in Tygerberg and Helderberg, even though the rule applied there.

City managers end '100 days' with an Island boosberaad

(263) ARG 3/5/97

Cape Town is to get a dynamic new management style which looks set to change the face of the city. It will incorporate key role players and make the city acceptable to all of its people and to the outside world. This vision was outlined by new city manager Andrew Boraine, speaking to PAUL OLIVIER of Saturday Argus.

On the surface, Cape Town is an appealing city in a beautiful natural environment. Scratch beneath the surface, however, and the social problems are immense.

That is the stark assessment of Cape Town's new city manager, Andrew Boraine, who has a vision for a new city.

The city's problems became clearer after a series of meetings in areas incorporated into the new Cape Town municipality through the municipal restructuring. In these areas "conditions of service were appalling" and people felt "left behind" in the rapidly expanding city.

"We have the classic dilemma that you find in any city in the world - namely conflicting issues. The municipality has the responsibility to mediate the conflict. Not to take sides, but to find a workable solution that would benefit all," Mr Boraine said.

He and his management team of five executives have 10 days left of their 100-day-programme set up at the beginning of their period in office to identify problems and to create a new vision "acceptable to all who live within the borders of the Cape Town municipality".

The group will meet on Robben Island within the next 10 days for a two-day "boosberaad" to assess their first 100 days in office.

Cape Town's proposed new management strategy in the Central Business District (CBD), if successful, could act as a pilot project for other municipalities in the Western Cape. Mitchell's Plan and Athlone were good examples of CBDs in disarray which could benefit from a similar strategy.

"The management team has been working flat-out during the last 90 days visiting every ward with council members to identify the problems on the ground. Public meetings with the communities identified that different groups within the municipal area had different priorities.

"In the poorer areas the need is for more housing and better services, while in the more wealthy areas people expressed fear about the rising crime rate, wanted better enforcement of regulations and bylaws and expressed the need for more orderly street trading," he said.

Admitting that the municipality was cash-strapped, he said the city fathers were "committed to economic development and to encourage investors to spend their money here and create local wealth".

Not only was the council forced to expand its own revenue base, but "income levels" of people in the city also had to expand otherwise they will not be able to afford services.

"But, we must remember that we also have to protect the natural environment and not to let development destroy Cape Town's beauty. By the same token we must follow a balanced policy and not chase investors away."

Mr Boraine said the management team set itself the task to reach "all the people" within 100 days, convey the new management policy to them, and to "carefully plan strategies" for the future.

"The issue is how to get all the different systems into one and that is what we will endeavour to do on Robben Island."

"Our decisions will be made public for comment and advice, and we will also seek public assessment of our performance over our first 100 days in office."

He said he was confident that the team could deliver on all the promises made prior to the 100-day-programme.

Regarding the cleaning up of the city, Mr Boraine said the municipality was initially concentrating on the poorer areas. By using a new system, refuse removal from Ikapa was increased from 1 000 tons a day to 7 500 tons.

He promised that while one area was being cleaned up, "others won't be neglected. An example of priorities was the cleaning up of Zeekoewiel, which had become a health hazard to thousands of people."

Mr Boraine warned that informal street traders in the Cape Town CBD would soon face new bylaws which would include demarcated areas for trading and financial contributions for the cleaning up of these trading areas.

"Our starting principle is that the pavements belong to pedestrians and that street traders cannot encroach on pedestrians' rights. Although it is our firm belief that informal street trading is a positive way

for the poor to earn money, traders will have to take some responsibilities upon themselves.

"This includes collecting their own garbage and putting it into refuse bags. It costs the municipality R200 a ton when collecting rubbish in refuse bags, but R800 a ton when it is scattered on the streets."

There were more than 10 different strategies being discussed to improve the CBD, which include a social policy on the homeless and street children, child prostitution, cleansing, traffic and informal parking attendants. The council will work closely with the police, business, welfare agencies and social workers on these issues.

"People must remember that we are still battling problems which we inherited from the past. This includes a fairly cumbersome set of administrative structures, where, over the years, procedures were built up that were not conducive to quick decision-making. In parts of the city we inherited a collapsed structure with no records at all."

He added that his most daunting task as city manager was to complete the restructuring process by July 1, "and address the nervousness about change."

"We will not see a decline in the squatter communities and in the long term formal housing will be the priority. We will have to identify how we are going to work together with the provincial government on this issue."

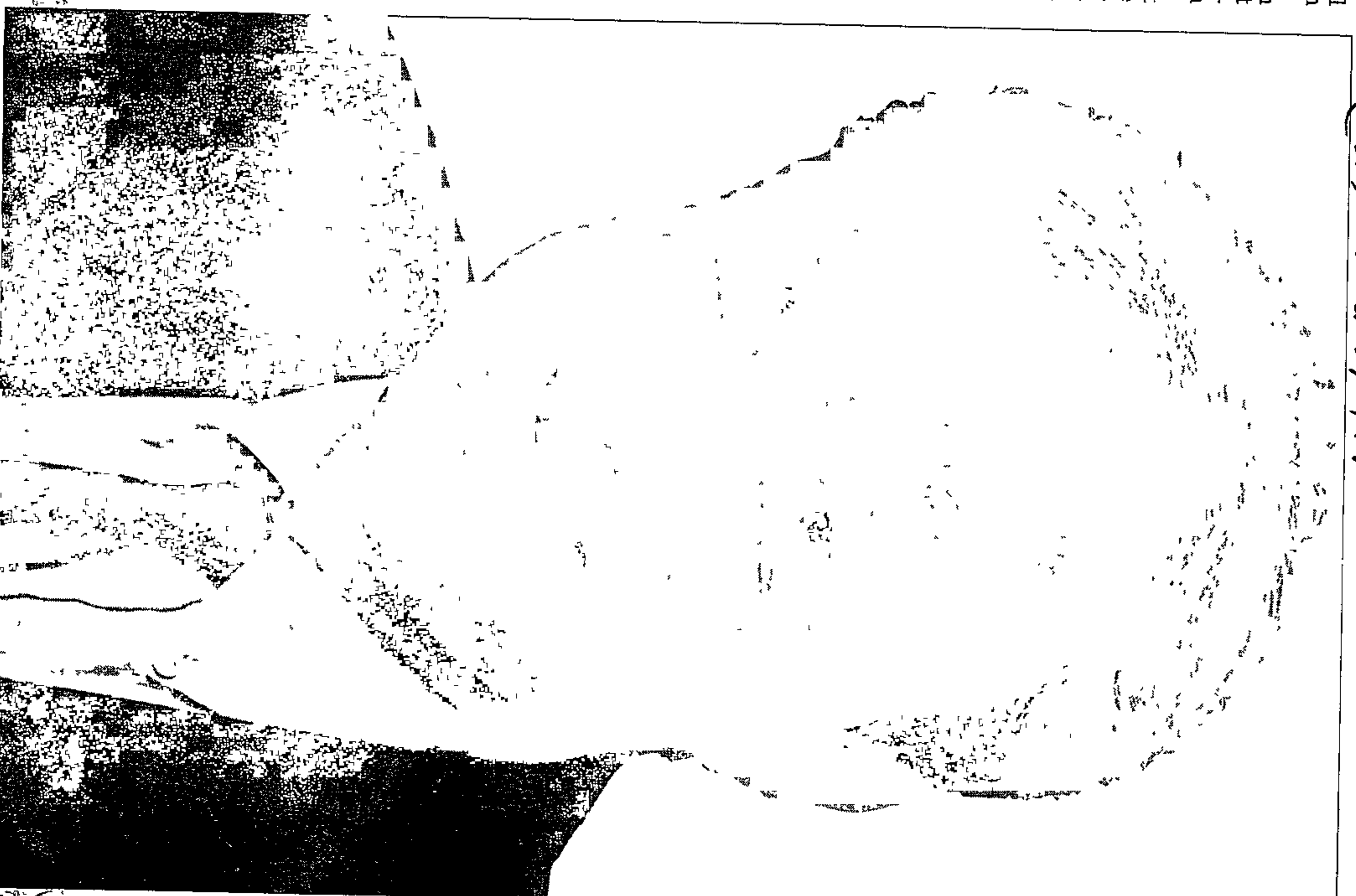
"Urbanisation has been delayed through the policies of the past, and in contrast with Europe we are only 50 percent urbanised compared to their 90 percent."

"It is not a racial thing, it is inevitable and cannot be wished away. We must look at economic opportunities that exist for the rapidly expanding urbanised population."

Regarding the 2004 Olympic Games, he said it would be wrong for Cape Town to try to compete with sophisticated venues like Rome, Barcelona, Athens or even Atlanta.

"Should Cape Town get the bid it will be a development Olympics and the International Olympic Committee knows this."

"There are a lot of management skills we can draw from across the world and there is no reason why we cannot run a successful Olympics with that in mind. Cape Town is already reaping the benefits of being one of the five bid cities. It is now our challenge to get the bid and allow our city to grow into a world player."



Municipal main man: city manager Andrew Boraine has hopes for a Cape Town 'acceptable to all'

INSUFFICIENT CONSULTATION

Municipal unions to oppose jobs reshuffle

CT 6/5/97

(263)

TO KNIT together what apartheid had cast asunder at local level may prove more difficult than workers and management had thought, reports **PETER DENNEHY**.

Forum meeting yesterday, the employers resolved to respond collectively to Imatu's concerns.

THE largest reshuffle of municipal jobs in Cape Town was yesterday challenged by two powerful unions, the 18 000-member SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) and the Independent Municipal and Allied Workers' Union (Imatu) with 10 000.

The last of the 30 000 existing municipal employees were allocated to municipalities on Friday, according to a notice signed by Cape Town city manager Mr Andrew Boraine.

The reshuffle "unbundles" 19 administrations which date back to apartheid days, and places the employees in seven new ones.

to co-operate with the "unbundling of posts" unless the present process was stopped and started again, this time with more union consultation.

Imatu was not at the Civic Centre meeting, but it wrote an ultimatum to the chief executive officers of all seven local authorities in the metropole, threatening to disrupt the unbundling process.

Most staff will stay where they are and continue working for the same employer, or its legal successor — yet thousands will have to shift employment.

"Should you fail to confirm your observance of the terms agreed, you may anticipate the unbundling process will become fraught with complexities that may take years to unravel," said Mr Gawie Beukes of Imatu's head office.

Yesterday, as the deadline for the reshuffle approached, Cape Town Samwu branch secretary Mr Robert Adams called for the process to be halted, at a four-hour protest meeting of 2 000 union members in the Cape Town Civic Centre.

Mr Pierre Uys, chairperson of the CMC's executive committee, said the terms of the ultimatum had not been met, although some councils had responded.

He urged Samwu members not

At a Metropolitan Restructuring

Lists of who goes where are already open for inspection in various offices, and individual letters will be posted to employees this week informing them of their employers from July 1.

But Adams told the workers in the civic centre yesterday that it had come to the union's attention that the "services delivery audit" was flawed. This was a process of looking at how much time each employee spent delivering services to each new municipality, to determine where he or she would go.

"Management is using old methods to get rid of people," Adams said. "They are told by management, you will go here or there, without even being given a choice."

West Cape constitution 'fatally flawed' — ANC

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Western Cape constitution — up for Constitutional Court certification next week — was "fatally flawed" and a waste of taxpayers' money, and they were confident their arguments would result in its being referred back to the provincial legislature, the ANC said yesterday.

Outlining the arguments they would put to the court, the ANC — whose provincial members helped draft the document — said it objected to 16 aspects

These included failure to embrace the "values and principles" contained in the national Constitution and failure to serve as "an instrument of unity and a vehicle for reconstruction and development"

The ANC had failed to resolve differences with other parties in the provincial legislature over an electoral system, composition and

membership of the legislature, composition of the executive council, local government and other constitutional institutions

Because of this the ANC believed the text was inconsistent with the national text's democratic principles

Among their objections were that the provincial draft

- Provided for the appointment of two executive council members who may not be members of the provincial legislature (not complying with the values set out in the national Constitution)

- Failed to contemplate the establishment or recognition of a cultural or other council in accordance with the national legislation

- Proposed a unilateral electoral system which failed to relate to the fundamental nature and substance of the democratic state created by the national Constitution

- Used the words "provincial parliament" instead of "provincial

legislature", which was a consistent term throughout the national Constitution

- Had vacancies in the provincial parliament filled in terms of provincial legislation instead of national legislation — conferring on the Western Cape a power not provided for

- Had the Judge President of the High Court of the Western Cape setting the date of the first sitting of the provincial legislature after an election, instead of the President of the Constitutional Court — as required by the national Constitution

- Allowed Premier Hennis Kriel to confer provincial honours on citizens instead of President Nelson Mandela — as set out in the national Constitution.

The ANC said they were confident their objections to certification would be upheld and the draft "referred back to the drawing board".

CT 6/5/97

(263)

W Cape Nats may yet have to split, says Kriel

'Nationwide political shakeup needed'

CLIVE SAWYER AND WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE
POLITICAL STAFF

The National Party in the Western Cape is not yet planning to go it alone, although a split is one of its options, says Hernus Kriel, the NP provincial leader and premier.

Speaking as cracks in the party widened between his hardline faction and NP verligtes under Gauteng party leader Roelf Meyer, Mr Kriel told the Cape Town Press Club yesterday he did not believe the province should leave mainstream South African politics

"But if things go very wrong in the NP, it will have to split," he said

Commenting on the disbanding of the NP task force, led by Mr Meyer, to investigate the formation of a new political movement, he said Mr Meyer had acted outside the mandate NP leader F W de Klerk had given him.

Rejecting accusations that he was

"verkramp", Mr Kriel - who described himself as "a full-blown liberal" - said the Western Cape NP fully supported the sacking of Mr Meyer and his task team.

He said he and Mr Meyer shared the same goals to realign political parties, but their methods differed

He believed a wide-ranging political reorientation was necessary across the country, involving not just the NP but the Democrats, Freedom Front "and "the ANC-SA Communist Party-Cosatu alliance"

People who shared ideas and value systems would have to be brought together, he said

Meanwhile Mpumalanga NP leader David Malatsi, the first black provincial head of the party, who was part of Mr Meyer's task team, said yesterday he accepted Mr De Klerk's decision to scrap it.

But retired minister Pk Botha told a Cape Argus correspondent in Pretoria the NP had no future and should disband if it

wanted to have any hope of opposing the African National Congress

Mr Meyer will seek guidance on his own political options from his Gauteng head council on May 17, as the party's future for the moment lies in the hands of his Gauteng allies.

One is to lead like-minded Nats out of the party into a quest for a new home, the other is to challenge Mr De Klerk for the leadership

Even the second option would be sure to result in a bruising battle ending in defections from either the old guard or Mr Meyer's supporters, depending on the outcome of a leadership contest.

But the first option, should Mr Meyer quit as an MP, with other Nationalists following him out of the party, would mean exile from mainstream parliamentary politics because of the bar on MPs keeping their seats if they change party allegiance. Mr Meyer will spend the days ahead in consultations with colleagues in Gauteng

(263)

ARG 9/5/97

Kriel defends plan to enlarge his exco

(263) CT 9/5/97
CHRIS BATEMAN

PREMIER Mr Hennis Kriel said yesterday that his sole reason for proposing that the Western Cape exco be increased by four members was to provide the expertise needed to cope with the workload.

He was responding in an address to the Cape Town Press Club to ANC attacks on the draft Western Cape constitution, which comes before the Constitutional Court for certification on Wednesday.

The draft allows for the number of exco members to be increased from 10 to 14, and for two of the four new members to be outside experts.

The ANC sees this as a "transparent" attempt by the NP to create a situation in which they can legally "steal" portfolios from ANC MECs.

Kriel cited former Finance Minister Mr Chris Liebenberg's appointment to the national cabinet as an example of bringing in expertise.

He slated the government for "punishing" the Western Cape for its top grade health system, unmatched matric results and thriving economy. Other provinces and the national trea-

7
sury had benefited from these

"Philosophically, I don't think it's a sin to say you're a provincialist," he said. "Provinces can compete with one another — what's wrong with that?"

"Otherwise it's a matter of reducing everything to the lowest common denominator." Instead of punishing provinces for performing well, they should be rewarded.

Kriel said the draft had an excellent chance of becoming the country's first provincial constitution.

Democratic Party provincial leader Mr Hennie Bester had headed the drafting committee and he, Kriel, doubted whether the ANC's legal objections would be a major obstacle, although he would be "surprised" if the draft was approved "in the first round".

The draft's provision for appointing commissioners for the environment and children's rights was a priority, as was the establishment of cultural councils to protect and serve communities.

The ANC has said appointing selected commissioners would not address other issues such as women's rights, and that cultural councils would promote racism and exclusivity.

Nat crisis brings out Cape race tensions

Grilling for MPs

ARLT 12/13/97 (263)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The crisis in the National Party has brought racial tensions in the Western Cape to the fore, with renewed demands for a bigger share of leadership roles for coloured people.

Meanwhile, Western Cape Nat MPs will face confused and distressed supporters at branch and district council annual general meetings throughout the province, beginning this week.

One senior MP lamented the timing, saying it would have been easier to face supporters after this weekend when Roelf Meyer is expected to make clear his intentions about his political future.

At the branch meetings, MPs are expected to face questions based on perceptions that the shutdown of Mr Meyer's task team represent a victory for the conservative white bloc of the party.

Some within the party believe this could cost the NP vital support among people of colour in the Western Cape. The issue was raised at an emergency caucus meeting in Cape Town on Friday night.

While a motion of confidence in the national leadership of the NP was adopted unanimously at the caucus meeting, tensions about the racial composition of the leadership persist.

A demand for a coloured premier failed to gain majority support.

A source close to those who want a bigger share for coloured people said "It is imperative for De Klerk now to do something tangible at national level to see people of colour welcomed in the widest sense in the NP."

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIVATE COMPANIES

R1bn for city out-sourcing

CT 14/5/97

(263)

LOCAL AUTHORITIES delivering services can follow two routes: deliver the services themselves, or pay a private company to do the job for them. **PETER DENNEHY** reports.

CAPE TOWN has spent about R50 million of a whopping R1 billion to provide services for the city.

This money is for private companies to provide services normally done by municipalities.

The R1bn was provided last year by a leading financial institution, so "there is plenty more money out there", development banker Mr Anthony Richards told a National Business Initiative seminar in Bellville yesterday.

Local authorities responsible for delivering services can follow two routes: deliver the services themselves, or pay a private company to do the job for them.

Mechanisms can be set up to control the private company they choose

But it would be ridiculous to appoint somebody in the private sector if it were not cost-effective,

Richards said.

Mr Ray Russon, of the National Business Initiative local government facilitation unit, said that in Australia the local authority in Queensland had solved a goat problem after local taxpayers refused to pay their taxes unless something was done about the goats running wild.

A team of goat hunters was hired, but when it was found the cost of killing the goats ran to \$135 each, it was suggested the carcasses be sold for \$35 each.

They were hunted down so fiercely that within two years the problem was solved.

Mr Richards gave several examples of "contracting out"

● The Benoni Fire and Emergency Services were the first in the world to be contracted out, in 1992. There are a few other privately run services in the world, but

these had never been part of local government.

It was a five-year contract, which came up for renewal recently. The council found it could not offer the service at less cost, so it sat down to renegotiate the contract, on its own (the council's) terms, he said.

● The Springs Bus Service was running at a R2,5m annual loss. It had a fleet of 45 buses, of which 23 were in use. The council decided to lease the buses to the private sector, instead of selling them, as it preferred the option of more control.

And in the first year it decided to subsidise the service to the tune of R60 000.

● The Sandton Cleansing service, and its Parks and Recreation Department, were not happy stories for the proponents of privatisation. The council lacked the political will to implement the bank's recommendations, Mr Richards said.

● Klerksdorp's Sport and Recreation Department did not get the bank's backing for privatisation, as the bank felt the initia-

tive was likely to fail. Parts of the department could be privatised a couple of years down the line, the bank said

"We were appointed to draw up a strategic report, which we subcontracted out"

● The Pretoria Fire and Emergency Service had an R85m budget and 550 staff.

The council wanted a 10-year contract in this case, as the company wanted R30m on day one.

One of the problems with contracting out is that often a company will not tender to render the service across the whole municipality

Different standards of service for different "communities" then apply.

This is fine at first, while everyone is happy to get a better service than in the past.

But resentment is sure to set in, and it takes politicians rather than business people to look further than the renewal of their own contract, which will do nothing to phase out the disparities in service levels.

Commissioners 'should resign'

Farouk Chothia

BD 15/5/97

MARITZBURG — KwaZulu-Natal local government and housing MEC Peter Miller yesterday called for the dismissal of members of the provincial public service commission after accusing the body of being the "single most important hindrance" to service delivery at grassroots level.

Miller's attack followed the commission's failure to finalise his department's management structures, and its refusal to accept recommendations from him.

The commission rejected a request from his department in 1995 for the appointment of chief director (housing) and chief director (community development facilitation). It also refused to appoint six directors, who were to serve three regional offices.

The commission argued the number of posts being sought by the department was "excessive" and that there would be need for the regional offices once emerging local authorities became viable.

Miller said the provincial cabinet had backed him, but the commission had taken the view that it was the "supreme authority". He had never witnessed such "mind-boggling arrogance," he said.

He said more than 800 staff members had taken severance packages in the past six months. Some were in senior positions, and had "given up" hoping their appointments would be made permanent. The department was now forced to rely more on councillors



National Party leader FW de Klerk at yesterday's session of the truth commission hearings in Cape Town.

Picture AP

ANC and govt object to draft Cape constitution clauses

Susan Russell

BD 15/5/97 (263)

CLAUSES in the draft Western Cape constitution providing for a mixed electoral system combining proportional representation with constituencies and the filling of provincial parliamentary vacancies emerged as key areas drawing objections from the government and the African National Congress (ANC) yesterday.

The draft, unanimously accepted by the Western Cape provincial legislature in February, has been submitted to the Constitutional Court.

It must determine whether a provincial constitution complies with constitutional principles before certifying the document, enabling it to become law.

One of the main objections is to section 14 of the Cape constitution which provides for an electoral system "based predominantly on the representation of geographic multimember constituencies; and results, in general, in proportional representation".

Both parties contend that the legislature confers on itself powers to which it is not entitled. They argue that elections do not constitute an area

in respect of which a province has legislative competence.

While a provincial constitution may not contain provisions inconsistent with the national constitution, allowance is made for provincial legislative or executive structures and procedures that differ from those in the constitution. They must comply with constitutional values and must not fall outside the powers and functions conferred by the national constitution.

The objectors argue that an electoral system is not a provincial legislative or executive structure or procedure as intended by the constitution.

Western Cape legislature counsel Jeremy Gauntlett argued that clauses dealt with a "legislative structure" or "legislative procedure" as provided.

He said the clauses did not confer on the province any power or function that fell outside their area of competence. Nor did they alter the substance of the legislative or executive powers of the national parliament, government or the province.

He submitted that the province, by including these clauses, was simply exercising power conferred on it.

Argument continues today.

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THE BIG STORY

Why ANC is ma!

THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT HAS BEGUN HEARING THE APPLICATION BY THE WESTERN CAPE LEGISLATURE FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF THE PROVINCIAL CONSTITUTION. HILDA NDUDE, AN ANC MEMBER OF THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE, EXPLAINS WHY THE ANC IS OPPOSING THE MOVE

The application for certification of the Western Cape's provincial constitution is being opposed by the national government and the African National Congress

The court will have to decide whether the provisions of the provincial constitution are consistent with those of our national constitution

In particular, it will rule on whether the entire text complies with section 143 of the national constitution

The ANC believes the provincial text does not comply with the provisions of section 143

Besides the substantive and technical reasons we will be advancing, we believe it is critical to examine why the National Party in the Western Cape has insisted on spending over R1-million of taxpayers' money so far in simply drafting a provincial constitution

As Premier Hernus Kriel and his NP supporters revert to old patterns and implicitly threaten to "go it alone" to maintain old NP priorities, so too does the

provincial constitution represent an attempt on the part of the Western Cape NP to "go it alone" to secure narrow party interests in our province

While the national constitution makes allowance for the provinces to write their own constitutions, it is significant that only the Western Cape and Natal have developed them

The Western Cape constitution is an attempt on the part of Mr Kriel and the Cape NP to create a distinct provincial character, out of step with the transformation process occurring elsewhere in SA

Although the ANC feels the Western Cape does not need a provincial constitution, it decided to take part in the constitu-

tion-making process to influence the outcome

The ANC believes that a provincial constitution should be an instrument of unity and a vehicle for transformation

In all respects it should embrace the values and principles of our national constitution and the concept of one nonracial and undivided nation

In the committee stage the ANC objected to a number of clauses - the electoral system, nomenclature, forced coalition, increasing the executive to 14, the failure to preserve the ANC's current cabinet portfolios until 1999, the inclusion of an environmental commissioner, cultural councils and a children's commissioner, and directives of provincial policy.

The product which emerged has not addressed our fundamental concerns and does not represent the maximum possible unity

While all parties have accepted the ANC proposal that the three official languages be treated equally for the purposes of provincial government, both the NP and DP opposed a clause in the main text which called on the provincial government to take legislative and other measures to achieve the progressive realisation of the equal status of Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa

The reluctance of both the NP and the DP to support this provision leads the ANC to question the commitment of these parties to language equality

Significantly, the NP also opposed an ANC proposal that the provincial government monitor the abolition of the dop system in the province.

Their refusal is a clear indication of an unwillingness to address the problems

faced by the disadvantaged sectors.

The constitution contains provision for a number of commissions and for the establishment of cultural councils

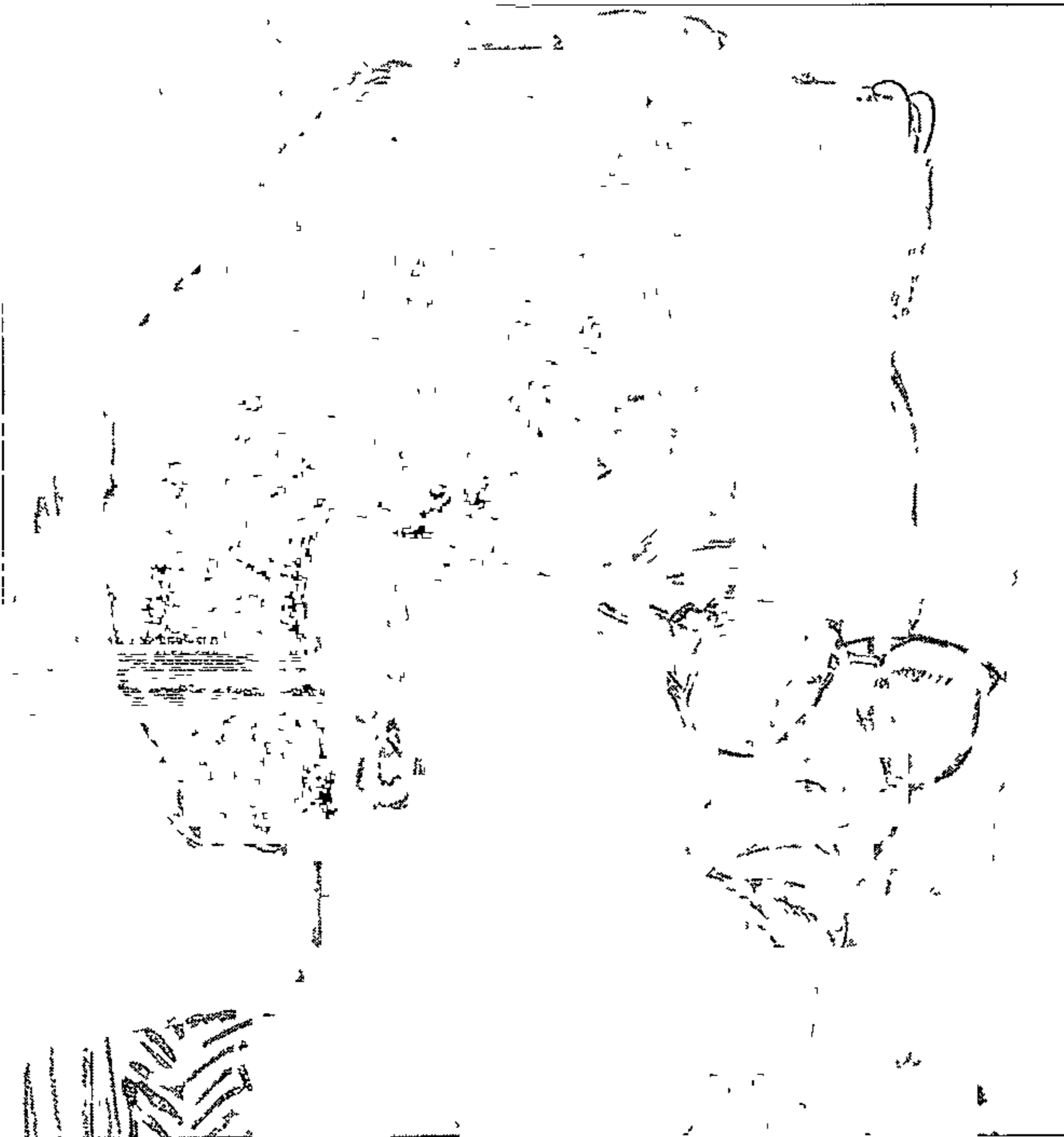
It is the view of the ANC that these provide the provincial government with a loophole to dispense patronage

We believe that proper utilisation of provincial department resources, effective work by legislators and a creative executive committee would be able to fulfil

'The product which emerged has not addressed our concerns and does not represent the maximum unity'

ing a stand in the Cape

ARG 15/5/97 (263)



COLIN DANIEL

In opposition: Hilda Ndude, an ANC member of the provincial legislature, explains their position

the tasks accorded to these commissions in an effective manner.

For reasons best known to itself, the NP wishes to extend coalition government for another 10 years, perhaps because it is so unsure of its support in the province

By extending the coalition, Mr Kriel has a device for holding ANC executive members responsible for NP failures

As a "compromise" the NP has modified this clause to say if 60 percent of the legislature wishes to extend the coalition for a further 10 years it can do so

The ANC believes a democratically elected government has the mandate to govern and deliver, free from constitutionally enforced coalitions.

This is so in the Western Cape where voters have seen the majority party refusing to accept responsibility for its failure

in housing, education and policing

The government of this province has consistently refused to adapt to the process of transformation and reprioritisation, blaming its incapacity - in spite of its historic advantages and lion's share of the budget - on the central government

The electorate needs to know who is governing this province and to hold that party accountable

Effective opposition is a cornerstone of any democracy

This democratic principle allows the electorate to compare and assess parties, their visions, abilities and plans, and to evaluate government

Coalition government, while expedient in certain situations, such as the initial transformation of our country into a democracy, blurs the choices between par-

ties and does not make for effective democracy. It is for these reasons that the ANC has consistently opposed the extension of the coalition government of this province

In the bilateral negotiations it became clear to us that we could not rely on the Democratic Party to stand firmly against increasing the provincial executive from 10 to 14

They indicated a willingness to compromise with the NP in return for the inclusion of a constituency based electoral system

This is in sharp contrast to the DP at a national level who have called for the reduction of the national cabinet from 16 to 15

The DP had the power to block the two-thirds majority required to pass the provincial constitution yet chose instead to get into bed with the NP

It is not surprising that there is widespread speculation that the DP will be offered a seat on the expanded executive council, should certification succeed

In the light of the provincial budget "crisis", which the ANC believes was a political tactic by the NP to scare the citizens of the Western Cape, it is ironic that the NP sees the need for a constitution which we believe will cost the taxpayer - calculated conservatively - R121-million.

An amount of R10-million has already been allocated under the premier's vote towards the provincial constitution

The ANC has proposed that whatever the outcome of the certification hearing now under way, the implementation of the provincial constitution should be delayed

This would constitute a genuine attempt to deal with the budget deficit facing the province.

But it is clear that the NP is determined to appoint extra MECs to the executive and also to reshuffle certain portfolios

Cost is not an issue to them. Central to their thinking is preparation for the 1999 elections and gaining control of key departments

As Mr Kriel has said "Politics is not about intellectual discussions, it is about support"

In the light of the financial implications of implementing the constitution and the potentially divisive effect of both a reshuffle and expansion of the executive, we believe that there should be a serious review of the desirability of having a provincial constitution

CT 15/5/97
Eastern Cape 'ghosts' identified ~~3230~~ (2638)

SOME 556 ghost employees have been identified by eight departments in the Eastern Cape, Health MEC Dr Trudy Thomas said yesterday.

Delivering a speech during the debate on the Public Service in the National Council of Provinces on behalf of Eastern Cape Premier Mr Makhenkesi Stofile, Thomas said a moratorium had been declared on the filling of posts in January, with the exception of "essential" posts

This had been done in response to widespread allegations about ghost workers in the public service.

Thomas said a Human Resource Project Team had been established to eliminate ghosts and to compile accurate staff records

She said the "right-sizing" of the public service had begun

More savings were expected from voluntary severance packages (VSP) and natural attrition, Thomas added.

Altogether 5 085 people had left the public service in the province, which represented four per cent of the staff complement, she said

"Our biggest problem is that the VSP has attracted the needed experienced and skilled people. There is a dire need to find a corrective measure on this matter"

She said a comprehensive study was being undertaken to eliminate duplications, overlaps and re-aligning functions at head office and regional offices — Political Correspondent

Meiring sticks to his guns in battle for W Cape budget

ARG 17/5/97

(263)

Western Cape Finance Minister Kobus Meiring has broken with an 87-year convention by budgeting for a deficit – a move that has not endeared him to the Government – writes **Jean Le May**, Staff Reporter

Minister Kobus Meiring budgeted for a deficit in the provincial budget for 1997/1998 and will defend this in the third reading budget debate in the provincial legislature this week

The African National Congress and the Democratic Party will oppose it, each for very different reasons

Arguments about the controversial deficit budget are not really about money, although there is justification for the Western Cape's complaint that it collects more for the central Government than it receives from it in the form of grants.

The argument is about the relationship between the central Government and the provinces, and the provincial National Party hierarchy has decided to make an issue of it

Its gripe is that the central Government has dragged its feet in legislating to allow the provinces to impose their own taxes.

This has now become part of the argument, studded with accusations that the African National Congress wants to keep all the money under firm central control, on the principle that he who pays the piper calls the tune

"The central Government is trying to keep taxation down to 25 percent of the gross domestic product, but in the process it is trying to stop provinces from raising their own taxes," said Mr Meiring in an interview with Saturday Argus

"The Financial and Fiscal Commission (appointed to look into financial relations between the central Government and the provinces) proposed that the Government should give up a certain proportion of personal income tax and allow the provinces to collect the difference, but this has not been done"

The ANC members of the Western Cape cabinet approved the budget drawn up by Mr Meiring before it went to the provincial legislature, but it is no secret that the party has instructions to vote against it.

Its opposition is expected to be based on its perception that the Western Cape was unwilling to accept a massive cut in the grant it received from the central Government

But Mr Meiring disagrees. "We have made peace with the concept that the less



'Blatantly honest': Kobus Meiring insists his approach to the W Cape budget issue is above reproach

privileged provinces must now be assisted. But there are qualifications. The constitution says that 'provinces are entitled to an equitable division of revenue raised nationally, so that they are able to provide basic services and perform functions allocated to them'

"But the current allocation to the Western Cape does not allow it to do so. And it's worth remembering that almost 90 percent of the budget is spent on services for underprivileged people"

The DP will oppose the budget because "the allocation is insufficient, even allowing for the transformation to a democratic society," said Western Cape leader Hennie Bester

"Moreover, about 85 percent of expenditure is on staff, but there is a moratorium on cutting staff, so the cuts have to come in other fields

"Apart from these reasons, we do not believe that this is a responsible budget," said Mr Bester

Mr Meiring budgeted for a deficit of R247-million, which he attributed to the central Government having cut the province's grant by R780-million

There were reportedly acrimonious exchanges between Mr Meiring and Finance Minister Trevor Manuel when a delegation from the Western Cape cabinet met him to ask for more money

But there is a view that the deficit could

have been even bigger because provincial Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool is negotiating with Mr Manuel for another R200-million for the provincial health budget, to cover the anticipated shortfall in academic hospitals. Another R34-million was being sought to cover shortfalls in other health areas, said Mr Rasool's spokesman Logan Wort

Nobody has accused Mr Meiring of bucking the system, but his deficit budget was a first. No province has ever before proposed spending more than it had in the kitty. But, every province has habitually spent more, in the knowledge that it would be bailed out

Up to now, provinces have obediently cut their coats according to the cloth meted out to them by the central Government. What has subsequently happened is that overspending occurred to the extent that the Minister of Finance has had to dish out extra money in an annual adjustment appropriation bill, usually in February

Mr Meiring has declared that it was not bloody-mindedness which made him part company with the convention which has held since the original four provinces were welded into union 87 years ago

"We cut the departmental budgets to the bone," he said in an interview. "We had no option, but to introduce a budget with a deficit of R247-million"

"The irony is that the four African National Congress members of the Western Cape cabinet approved the budget. I am now told that the African National Congress will oppose it. I am also told by the Minister of Finance that a deficit budget is in breach of an agreement and that it is possibly illegal. I don't think it is illegal. Our lawyers don't think it's illegal. I think it is blatantly honest. The alternative would be for the province to introduce a balanced budget which it knew was not a reflection of the true position"

This was done in other provinces, he said, where in some cases there had been massive overspending

The Western Cape had decided to go a different route and the question now was to balance its books, Mr Meiring said, raising several options

■ Save still more, by making further cuts following a critical analysis of every department,

■ Try to convince the central Government that the province was underfunded "but we have been warned that no further funds will be forthcoming"

■ Raise more provincial taxes, which will be impossible until central Government legislation is in place.

ANC set to push for coloured support

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

WHILE ex-National Party strategist Mr Roelf Meyer retreats to consider his next move, the African National Congress in the Western Cape decided at the weekend to use the recent split in the NP to garner support from coloured voters.

Provincial ANC executives met on Friday and Saturday to start planning for the 1999 elections. "They focused mainly on how best to draw votes in coloured communities to 'marginalise the NP hold on the Western Cape'".

ANC provincial secretary Mr James Ngcuku said coloured people may feel they had been marginalised in party politics, but this was

never the ANC's aim and the party hoped to change that perception to convince coloured people they had a home in the party.

The ANC deputy provincial secretary, Mr Marius Fransman, said this would be done through "individual voter contact with a strong focus on provincial demographics. In other words, we will be looking at coloured needs in particular."

"We want to exploit the NP crisis. It is clear their support is starting to diminish," he said.

Fransman was referring to the split in the NP, caused by party leader Mr F W de Klerk's disbanding of the task-team set up to look into how the party could improve its image before the next election. He said it was clear that open-

minded people no longer felt comfortable in the NP.

NP task-team leader Meyer — seen as a visionary by many for his belief that the party's leadership should become more representative of the nation's population — resigned from the party on Saturday.

Meyer said yesterday he did not have any specific plans for the rest of the week and that he wanted to have some quiet time to consider his next move.

He denied that he would be starting a new party, insisting only that he would be setting in motion "a broad inclusive process that could lead to the establishment of a new political movement".

This movement may or may not become the true home of the

voraciously sought-after coloured vote, but in the meantime the NP and the ANC will struggle on to court the coloured people.

Fransman believes that coloured NP voters in the Western Cape have until now supported the NP because it was "the devil they knew". The ANC, having consolidated its black vote would make direct contact with coloured voters, especially in urban areas, he said.

The party would not do this through mass rallies — which it had come to understand as a wrong way to secure coloured support — and neither would it exclusively send coloured ANC leaders to talk to coloured people. "We want to allay fears that we are a party for blacks only. We want a

better life for all and that includes minority groups."

Mr Peter Marais of the NP, who is the province's minister for local government, said the ANC was a "Johnny-come-lately" to the coloured vote.

"They (the ANC) don't really want the coloured person. They need him like a pawn they will use to catch the king. And the king is the Western Cape. I want to be in a party that wants me, not needs me," he said.

Marais said the NP was unable simply to "use" the coloured vote because it was an integral part of the "grand party structure" and it was doubtful the opposition would be able to make a dent in the NP's support base.

cr 19/5/97

(263)

Coloured exodus feared if W Cape Nats shift to right

(263)

ART 20/5/97

Roelf's exit upsets supporters

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A group of coloured National Party supporters in the Western Cape will leave the party if they see it moving to the right, senior sources said today.

Those considering leaving are understood to include some MPs, although most are outside Parliament and the provincial legislature.

One senior coloured Nationalist in the province today described the departure of Roelf Meyer as a "total loss" for the party.

"I still feel that the NP would have been a lot stronger had he stayed there is a danger the party is going to move into the laager, and that is no solution"

The party could not now afford to give the impression that it was moving to the right.

However, the party did not seem to be able to escape giving that impression.

"Roelf was a great loss, but on the other hand now his hands are untied"

The source confirmed that a group of coloured NP members was to meet this

week to discuss the implications of Mr Meyer's decision to quit the party

"There is a general feeling that the traditional Nats must make a quantum leap"

Other sources indicated that, while most NP members in the province were sticking publicly to the party line that Mr Meyer's departure signalled an end to strife in the party about the realignment process, there was sympathy among some Western Cape Nats about what he had been trying to achieve.

Meanwhile, Hernus Kriel loyalist Peter Marais has issued a public call for the NP to keep its name, refrain from disbanding, and pledge allegiance to leader F W de Klerk

He reportedly told a meeting in Macassar at the weekend that the Western Cape was the oasis of Afrikaans-speakers and the last outpost of Christian values

He urged the party to unite behind Mr Kriel, and said Mr Meyer had never proved he was prepared to fight for the rights of provinces

"My message to people who want to go is, go now," Mr Marais said.

Govt won't cover W Cape deficit

CHRIS BATEMAN

THERE was "no question" of the Western Cape's R247-million budgeted deficit being bankrolled by the central government, Deputy Minister of Finance Ms Gill Marcus told Parliament yesterday.

She was responding to an National Party attack alleging "lack of fiscal discipline" by the African National Congress-controlled central government during the Mineral and Energy Affairs budget debate.

Marcus said the NP-controlled Western Cape had unconstitutionally budgeted for a deficit

"And there's no question that we'll give you money — where you have the authority to exercise fiscal discipline you do not — you must find resources within your own budget," she told the NP

Interviewed after the debate Marcus said that while the provincial revenue-sharing formula would "improve as time goes on", it had been the result of full consultation and the NP's approval

Asked about Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel's complaint that the ANC had "cherry-picked" the recommendations of the Finance and Fiscal Commission, Marcus replied that all provinces had been affected equally.

"As a democratic government

(263) CT 22/5/97



NP REBUKED: Gill Marcus

you simply cannot continue to enforce disparities that existed because of the racial divisions of the past," she added, referring to the Western Cape's historical advantage over other provinces.

The NP's attack stemmed from the decline of the ANC's predicted national budget deficit (1996/7) from 5,1% of the Gross Domestic Product to 5,3%, something Marcus said wasn't final as the "books were closed" only in November.

ANC Western Cape's leader in the provincial legislature, Mr Ebrahim Rasool, has termed the province's deficit budget "unprecedented", and claimed that it failed to include management plans of how the deficit would be funded.

Councillors may defect to ANC

(263)

WILLEM STEENKAMP

SEVERAL National Party and Democratic Party municipal councillors in the NP-dominated Southern and Blaauwberg substructures are to defect to the African National Congress within the next fortnight, it was learnt last night.

Councillors elected directly — but not those on parties' proportional lists — who seek to switch parties can do so, unlike National Assembly MPs, who stand to lose their seats in Parliament if they cross the floor. It is widely acknowledged that this factor is preventing many MPs from switching allegiances.

The Cape Times was told that particularly non-white NP councillors were looking to defect, as they were "upset" at white domination of the NP and a lack of delivery to their constituents.

It comes as a fresh blow to the beleaguered NP, which was dealt a serious blow last week when transformation guru and Gauteng NP leader Mr Roelf Meyer left the party, after effectively being

fired as head of the NP transformation task team by party leader Mr FW de Klerk.

Immediately after Meyer's sidelining, a number of dissenting voices within the party — notably Mr David Chuenyane in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal NP deputy chairperson Mrs Alpha Schutte — made calls for the party leadership to change or for the party to disband.

Meyer has announced his intention to launch a new, non-racial political movement — and two sources last night said a few dissenting NP councillors in the Southern substructure had already made contact with him in this regard.

According to other sources, Justice Minister and Western Cape ANC leader Mr Dullah Omar is to meet "some" of the intending defectors for talks today.

Although the ANC has been negotiating with the dissenters "on and off for quite a while", it is believed the recent departure of transformation guru Roelf Meyer from the NP has strengthened their resolve to leave.

CT 23/5/97

Councils to hold key wage talks

Thousands of workers face transfer to other Peninsula areas

(263)

ST(CM) 25/6/97

TOM HOOD

VITAL 11th-hour wage talks take place tomorrow to keep the massive reorganisation of Western Cape local councils on track for the July 1 deadline

Thousands of the 30 000 municipal workers will be transferred to other Peninsula areas as 19 administrations are merged into seven, with everyone guaranteed no drop in income

The Metropolitan Labour Forum, representing all the local authorities, meets tomorrow to consider an agreement reached between the unions and the chief executives this week

The unions, which earlier opposed some aspects of the reorganisation, including possible retrenchments after June 30 and wage uniformity, were now satisfied that most of their fears had been sorted out, said Harvey Beukman, of the Independent Municipal and Allied Workers Union.

"We are hoping a final agreement will be reached tomorrow," he said

Andrew Boraine, Cape Town's city manager, said there were at least 60 different conditions of service, and a basic equalisation of salaries could not be achieved by July 1.

"People in the same team could be alongside others with three or four earning different wages and with different packages, but it will be impossible to solve that problem overnight

"There will be pressure to equalise everyone upwards and we will have to try and resist that because it will only add to the cost"

The unions had asked for the no-retrenchments moratorium to be extended from June 30 to December 31, and that would be negotiated tomorrow as part of the package, said Boraine.

He believed the reorganisation was on track for the July 1 deadline although there had been some hiccups in the last two weeks. Some of the unions complained that staff allocations had not been applied even-handedly.

As 39 administrations were being cut to seven, there would be fewer top-level posts. For example, instead of 39 chief engineers only seven would be needed. However, quite a number of people would be retiring or taking packages.

"It will take three to five years before we see savings. In years one and two we will have to absorb the extra cost," Boraine added.

Labour Forum chairman Pierre Uys said it would take some time to get equity and one set of standards.

"We will move towards new conditions of service but no one will be forced to change. Workers will have a choice, for example, between staying with their pension fund or changing."

R8-m plan triggers council chaos

ANC walks out over new Oostenberg buildings

FRG 28/5/97 (263)

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

A row has broken out in the Oostenberg municipality over a proposal to spend R8-million on a new administration building.

Tempers flared at the monthly council meeting in Kraaifontein last night and 11 African National Congress councillors walked out twice.

Meetings of the National Party-dominated council have been marked by regular outbursts and walkouts. In March, police were called to restore order.

The walkouts last night were led by

Shaun Byrneveld and Ebrahim Sawant.

The first was when the ANC decided not to vote on a proposal that R8-million be set aside to buy a new administration building in Strand Street, Kuils River.

ANC councillors said the money could be put to better use, such as upgrading the living standards of poor communities.

NP councillors want the money be set aside, but no definite decision has been made to buy the complex, known as the Omni Building.

Soon after ANC councillors returned to the chamber, racist remarks were made when NP and ANC councillors clashed in a slanging match and were joined by the

large audience in the public gallery.

After a five-minute adjournment, chairman Kobus Brynard, the NP mayor, asked to be excused from the meeting and deputy mayor Gawa Samuels took his place.

At one stage Ms Samuels asked Mr Byrneveld to sit down when NP councillor Dewet Marais rose to speak.

In a fit of anger Mr Byrneveld shouted that he would never sit down for a white man.

It was then that racist remarks were heard among councillors.

The meeting - continuously interrupted by various councillors - heard that a new building is to accommodate administra-

tion offices responsible for services.

From July 1 the municipality will take over services such as water, electricity, refuse removal and others previously administered by the Cape Metropolitan Council.

NP councillors said the administration offices in Brackenfell, Kraaifontein and Kuils River were too small to house additional staff and equipment from Stellenbosch.

The ANC councillors walked out a second time when a vote was called for on dates and a venue for public meetings on budget proposals which are scheduled for next month.



UBEO ZILWA

Making a point: ANC councillor Raymond Jara confronts Leon Markovitz of the NP South Peninsula Council reports, page 4, Oostenberg uproar, page 5

Council chaos after 'Jew' jibe

ARG 28/5/97

(263)

ANDREA WEISS
City Editor

The Cape Metropolitan Council erupted in chaos today after a former National Party councillor went to sit on the African National Congress side and later made an anti-Semitic remark.

Sulaiman Ebrahim took his seat in the ANC caucus after resigning from the NP earlier this week. He represents the South Peninsula Council on the CMC but there is a major dispute over whether he is still entitled to hold the CMC seat.

Angry exchanges and racist remarks led to a row with NP councillor Leon Markovitz after Mr Ebrahim told him "Don't talk to me - you are a Jew."

The slanging match broke out when Mr Markovitz said Mr Ebrahim had previously made derogatory remarks about the ANC. Asked about his anti-Semitic remarks, Mr Ebrahim said he had made the remark because "I am a Muslim and I don't want to talk to him. The reason is I wanted to avoid violence."

ANC members did not wish to comment because they would want to caucus on the issue, but they said their party embraced Jewish and Muslim people.

Mr Ebrahim alleged Mr Markovitz had supported racist decisions in the NP caucus. At one stage the CMC considered physically removing Mr Ebrahim from the chamber after the NP claimed he had lost his right to be there. He was allowed to remain on condition he did not take part in debates until the dispute was resolved.

The ANC insists the South Peninsula



UBEO ZILWA

Defiant: NP defector Sulaiman Ebrahim at today's Cape Metropolitan Council meeting

council must rule on whether Mr Ebrahim may remain its representative on the CMC.

A South Peninsula spokesman said rules stipulated Mr Ebrahim should be replaced by another NP member.

The NP said Mr Ebrahim's defection coincided with pressure on him to explain his unacceptable conduct as a NOP member. Mr Ebrahim was to have been sum-

moned this week to answer the findings of an investigation of his membership drive, including allegations that he had issued a bounced cheque, supplied false information and possibly misappropriated funds.

The uproar led to the departure from the meeting of Olympic Bid chief Chris Ball, who was to have given an update on the 2004 bid.

THIS ERA GETS UNRAVELLED

Boraine's 100-day trek maps legacy

CHANGING CITY



ACKING A CITY IN TRANSITION

ANDREA WEISS
CITY EDITOR

A grim picture of a divided city fraught with problems has been sketched by Cape Town's city manager, Andrew Boraine, after his first 100 days in office.

He says its people are divided by location, economic access, race, language, party politics, culture and religion and he wants its history, with its "diverse and conflicting nature", to be documented afresh

to bridge communities and unify the city. He identifies "housing, housing, housing, housing and housing" as the people's top five priorities.

Mr Boraine said divisions had become obvious during visits to 41 of the 44 wards in the new Cape Town municipality by his team of executive directors.

The remaining three wards will also be visited by the team, who met a wide range of people during the 100 days and held nine public meetings.

Mr Boraine said it was clear that

Capetonians were divided by their location, economic access, race, language, party politics, culture and religion - as had been illustrated by a racial row in the Cape Metropolitan Council this week.

He believed the history of all suburbs in the municipality should be written, because "it's important to understand where we have come from". This would be a way of drawing together previously segregated communities.

Among the other issues identified by his team were:

of apartheid
AR 30/5/97
(263)

■ The need to adopt an urgent policy on land restitution - Mr Boraine said more than 250 000 residents could lay claim to restitution as they had been dispossessed

■ Housing delivery, which was a matter of major concern: the city did not have a housing policy, budget or administrative capacity to deal with what citizens in some areas identified as their top concern.

■ The need to define the relationship between the Cape Town municipality with the other five municipalities and the Cape Metropolitan Council.

■ Several policy vacuums, which made it difficult for officials to make decisions on a day-to-day basis about issues such as urbanisation and urban development, economic development, densification, strategic use of land and integrated development planning.

■ Antagonistic relationships between ward councillors and community organisations in certain wards.

This had a negative impact on the ability of officials to do their jobs, Mr Boraine said.

CT

Local authorities get set to merge

MELANIE GOSLING
STAFF WRITER

OVER 10 000 municipal employees in the Cape Metropolitan area will be transferred to new municipal administrations by July 1, when the 19 local authorities in the area will be split up and merged into seven new municipalities

Local authorities have warned that it will be difficult during this transition to provide municipal services in the same way as before

But the chairman of the Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee, Mr Pierre Uys, said yesterday this would not mean there would be a decline in services such as rubbish removal or cleansing, but rather that some of the local authorities' capital investment projects would take longer to achieve

One of the biggest challenges facing the new municipalities, many of whom have inherited poor areas such as the former black local authorities, will be how to achieve equity in tariff structures throughout their new municipalities

"Councils are currently finalising plans to ensure service continuity in order to minimise any disruption that might flow from the process.

"Plans for communicating with the broad public on any changes in service provision are being finalised," a statement from the Metropolitan Restructuring Forum said yesterday.

Uys said that letters to municipal staff would go out this week, informing them of which new council they would be working for. These letters would serve as confir-

mation, as staff had already been told

All staff would get the same salary and benefits in their new posts as they had in the old posts. Their disciplinary record would also be transferred to their new employers

Most staff would probably continue to do the same job at the same work station after July 1, but they would report to different employers

Some staff would be moved because municipalities needed to consolidate their administrations as quickly as possible

There has been difficulty between the new councils and the three municipal trade unions

The councils have said they need the top management posts filled by July 1 to ensure that proper management and financial

responsibility is in place

There have been several rounds of talks between the councils and the unions on this issue, and it was hoped it could be resolved by the next meeting of the Metropolitan Labour Forum tomorrow

● The City of Cape Town would lose 6 000 staff members to other local authorities, and gain 1 500 from other local authorities

● South Peninsula Municipality would gain 3 800 employees

● Tygerberg would gain 2 200 employees; Blaauwberg would gain about 1 000 employees and lose about 60.

● Helderberg would gain 380 and lose 10

● Oostenberg would gain 843 and lose 17.

● The Cape Metropolitan Council would lose 5 000 staff and gain 2 000

(263) CT 3/6/97

NP LOSES EDGE IN TYGERBERG

Councillor's shift boosts ANC power

CT 6/6/97

THE NP FACES new criticism in the Western Cape with the loss of a councillor to the ANC — and it's been called the front end of the trend, writes **ROGER FRIEDMAN**.

THE National Party lost its edge in the Tygerberg Council yesterday with the defection of Belhar councillor Ms Monica Souls to the African National Congress

Because Souls was elected ward councillor, instead of gaining her seat as a result of the proportional representation system, she was apparently allowed to cross the floor

Her arrival in the ANC camp means that the ANC and NP now each hold 35 seats. The African Christian Democratic Party and the Democratic Party each occupy one seat

While the DP enjoys a close relationship with the NP in the Tygerberg Council, as it does in Helderberg, it is whispered in the ANC camp that it is about to exert serious pressure on the DP to quit the alliance

But even if the DP holds firm, Souls' defection clearly represents another serious blow to the NP, which has been struggling with defections of late

Souls said yesterday that the NP in the Tygerberg was racist and could not care less about coloured people.

And her defection might not be the last. A week ago Cape Times sources said Souls and another NP councillor were about to announce



CHANGING CAMPS: Monica Souls

their resignations

Although the second defection was not announced yesterday, senior ANC Western Cape official and MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool said "ordinary coloured people" in the province were beginning to lose faith in the NP, and "Monica Souls is part of the front end of that movement".

"It confirms that the NP is a dying party, its wounds are available for all of us to see, its divisions are as wide as the Grand Canyon," Rasool said.

Souls said she was confident she would convince her constituents to continue supporting her. She called on her former NP colleagues

to join her in deserting the NP.

"The NP in Tygerberg, and generally, does not care about our disadvantaged communities, and especially not about coloureds," she said.

"This is proven by the fact that although the majority of NP members are coloured they are not considered good enough to occupy leadership positions"

Souls said coloured NP councillors were sometimes forced to go along with NP resolutions although they made no sense and were particularly disadvantageous to coloured communities

For example, predominantly white neighbourhoods in Tygerberg had new electricity meters installed at no cost, while her community had to pay R800 installation fees, she said.

Although not mentioned at yesterday's press conference in Bellville-South, separate statements from Souls and the ANC hinted that the NP might not be taking her defection lying down

"Despite the frantic efforts of the NP leadership in the Western Cape to blackmail her, she is steadfast in her resolution to quit the party whose only place is in the history books," the ANC said.

"It goes without saying that the NP will now dish up all kinds of reasons to make me look bad. For the record I want to say that I will not let that disturb me, because while I was with them they had no problems with me," said Souls.

(263)

Report highlights mismanagement in Wellington

(263)

BUSINESS EDITOR

ARG 12/6/97

The office of the Auditor-General has spotlighted financial mismanagement by the municipality of Wellington between 1990 and 1996.

In a report published this week, the Auditor-General's office said constant policy changes on the collection of outstanding water, rent and services bills meant that unpaid bills jumped more than 300% to R393 000 between 1990-91 and 1995-96

The municipality paid more than R63 000 in 1994 for software programmes which still had not been delivered two years later, the report said

The Auditor-General also found that the water distribution and sewerage systems were not properly managed, and that as a result, pumps broke down and raw sewerage was pumped into the Berg River – a mistake which could have cost the municipality R50 000 in fines.

Lack of good information on the management of the road system led to insufficient funds being set aside to maintain the Wellington road network, the report said.

Instead of budgeting the necessary R826 000 a year, the municipality had budgeted only R88 500 a year between 1993 and 1997

“Shortcomings identified in this report indicate that overall management measures could be considerably improved.”

NEWS

New council's all-white top team defended

Racism claim dismissed

PETER GOOSEN *ARG 27/6/97*
CITY DESK

The South Peninsula municipality's all-white executive has been defended by chairman Graham Lawrence after accusations by some ratepayers that the council plans to appoint people of colour only to lower management positions.

This is claimed to be because the National Party allegedly sees people of colour as belonging to the lower rungs of society

Mr Lawrence said the South Peninsula municipality judged people on performance criteria and not colour.

"For this reason the staff selection process was conducted in a structured, candid, open and deliberate manner"

The executive committee, democratically representative of all sections of the electorate, politically and racially, was charged with making the appointments

(267)
Representatives of the two main municipal unions as well as the sole councillor representing a civic association were included on the selection panel. It was helped by a professional recruitment and placement agency and an industrial psychologist.

The shortlist of candidates was drawn up on criteria which did not include race, age, sex, political affiliation or religious belief, which in any event was precluded by the country's constitution

The final appointments were endorsed by the full council and in the case of six of the seven appointments there was a unanimous decision

"It is neither correct nor constitutionally permissible to assume that the South Peninsula Council is going to appoint people of colour to the lower management positions

"The council is committed to the affirmative action process and is legally obliged to comply with the dictates of the country's constitution," Mr Lawrence said

Rich to pay more as new councils back rates deal

PETER GOOSEN
CITY DESK

AUG 11/7/97

(263)

All six Peninsula councils have formally accepted a new system of property valuation, which will result in rates being charged on land only.

The new system will mean residents of upmarket suburbs will pay more and those in cheaper areas could pay less.

The fact that various areas of the Western Cape were valued at different times means that areas now lumped together in one municipality pay inequitable rates based on the value of land and buildings.

Land in some rural areas has never been valued and residents

have never paid rates.

In Cape Town municipality alone, 214 000 properties will have to be revalued, but land-only rating makes the process quicker as not every property has to be inspected by a valuer.

It is hoped that the valuation will be completed by 1999.

The South Peninsula Council decided on a land-only valuation system for the 85 000 properties in its area after winning overwhelming support for the system from ratepayers, ratepayers' associations and rating experts, including some from overseas.

The council took the unanimous decision yesterday after some debate and questioning of officials.

The new councils: all is revealed

Guide to what's what in today's municipalities

ARGUS 11/7/97 (263)

CITY DESK

Today marks the start of a new administrative era for the six new municipalities and the Cape Metropolitan Council, and if you are even slightly confused as to who is responsible for your essential services, read on.

This is the day that the 19 old administrations are unbundled and amalgamated into the seven new administrations which will serve the greater Cape Town area.

The change involves the transfer of some 10 000 municipal employees and affects a total of about 30 000 people working in this sector. It also affects millions of residents in the city who will be served by the new administrations in future.

In many instances, telephone numbers remain unchanged but all of the new administrations have a general number where information can be obtained. As a handy guide for readers, the Cape Argus has asked the new municipalities to provide a list of telephone numbers readers should use in future if they have queries about accounts, services or need to report an emergency.

Blaauwberg Municipality

Head office: Milnerton
 Chief executive officer: Peter Gerber
 Estimated population: 127 390
 New staff complement: 1 600
 Fire and Rescue numbers: Atlantis 577 4444, Bloubergstrand 533 4781, Melkbosstrand 553 3298, Milnerton 522 222
 All other areas within the jurisdiction of the municipality must call 550 1111 or 550 1355. These numbers are also applicable for water, sewerage and electricity faults in all areas.

Oostenberg Municipality

Head office: Kuils River
 Chief executive officer: David Cedras
 Estimated population: 240 020
 New staff complement: 1 700
 Fire and Rescue numbers in all areas: 903 9111 or 981 5544
 Electricity faults: cell phone 083 225 6590
 Water and sewerage: cell phone 083 225 6589.

Helderberg Municipality

Head office: Strand
 Chief executive officer: Harry Carstens
 Estimated population: 125 410
 New staff complement: 1 500
 There is only one emergency telephone number for all the emergencies in Helderberg Municipality towns: 853 1122.

South Peninsula Municipality

Head office: Tokai
 Chief executive officer: Jan Koekemoer
 Estimated population: 336 950
 New staff complement: 3 600

At this early stage the telephone numbers for the various departments or the places you pay your rates, rent, electricity, sewerage and water accounts remain the same.

So, if you live in Simon's Town or Fish Hoek, you continue to deal with the municipal offices in these centres. Those residents who dealt with Cape Town continue to do so. The same applies to those who fell under Cape Metropolitan Council.

The only difference is that residents can telephone the South's "headquarters" at the Tokai Office Centre at 755 700 with any query and will be referred to the correct official.

The mayor's office and the office of the chairman of the council's executive will remain at the Alphen Centre in Constantia where the number is 794 2493.

Old numbers which are still in use for the time being are:

Cape Town (general): 400 1111
 Simon's Town: 786 1551
 Fish Hoek: 782 1112
 Cape Metropolitan Council: 487 2911
 Ottery: 733 184
 Scarborough: 780 9068

City of Tygerberg

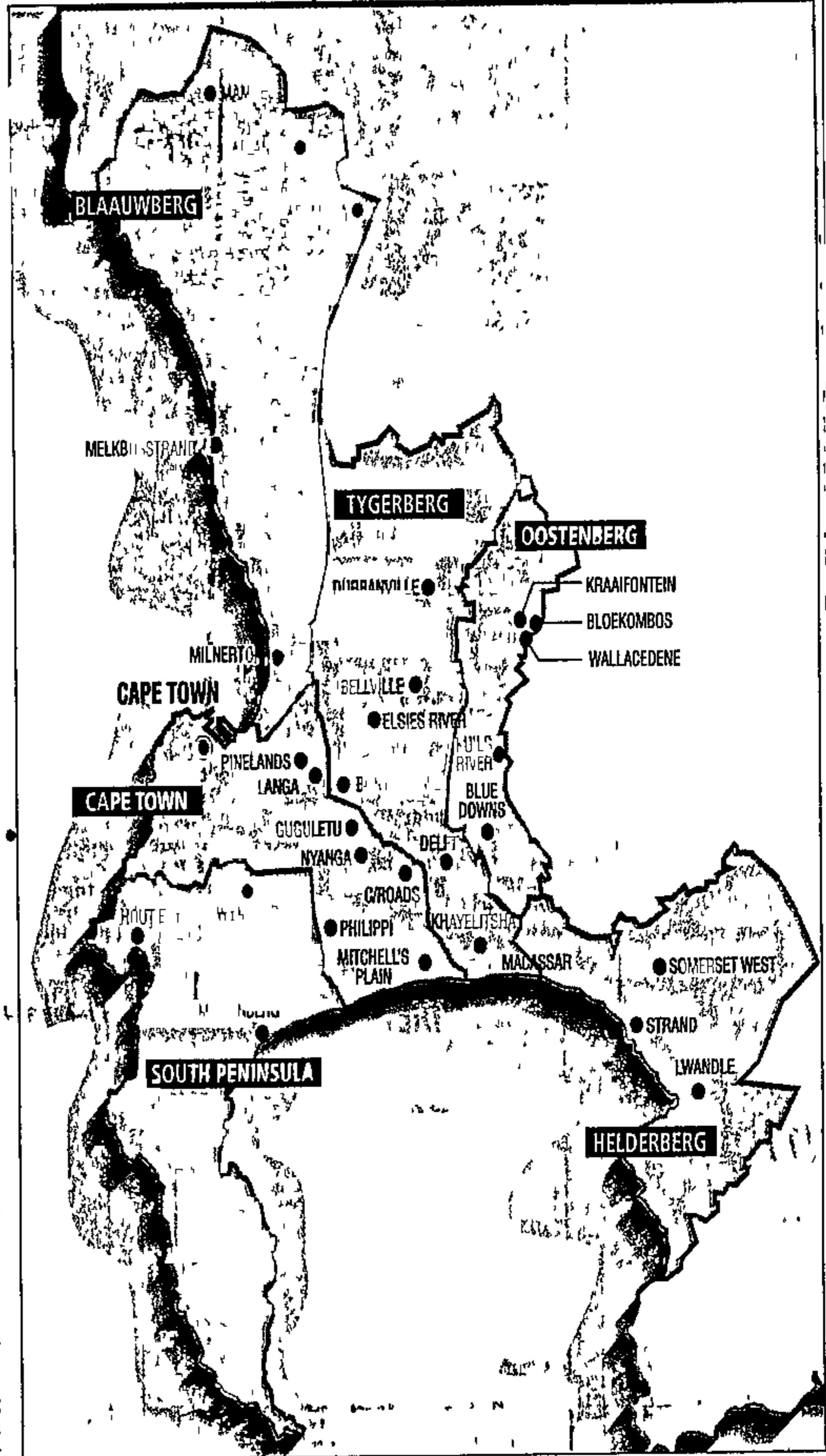
Head office: Voortrekker Road, Parow
 Chief executive officer: Dave Wilken
 Estimated population: 927 060
 New staff complement: 7 000
 For the interim, the Parow building will be the head office but residents are advised to call the number they used in the past.
 The general number for the new administration based at Parow is 938 8111.
 Emergency numbers for the new municipality are 948 1777/8 or 949 0440.

City of Cape Town

Head Office: Cape Town Civic Centre
 Chief executive officer: Andrew Boraine
 Estimated population: 1 050 880
 New staff complement: 12 500
 Cape Town municipality will be based at the civic centre and its service numbers remain those listed in the telephone directory. The general number is 400 1111.
 Fire and Rescue emergencies should be reported to 535 1100 and traffic control operates from 419 2200. All areas after hours emergency numbers are: cleansing 462 4414, and roads, drainage and sewerage 233 210.

Cape Metropolitan Council

Head Office: Wale Street
 Chief executive officer: Stewart Fisher
 Estimated population of entire metropolitan area: 2 807 710
 New staff complement: 3 500
 The CMC will be responsible for supplying bulk services so there will be less interaction with individual consumers as this responsibility devolves to each of the six local councils. General inquiries to 487 2911.



United we stand: the seven new administrations which will serve the greater Cape Town area

ANC hits out as Tygerberg backs R1,4-bn budget

Rates, charges go up 10%

JERMAINE CRAIG
CITY REPORTER

(263)
ARG 1/7/97

The city of Tygerberg has passed a budget of more than R1,4-billion with the African National Congress calling for a formal review, claiming it is geared to maintaining the status quo.

Rates and service charges will increase by 10 percent.

The budget meeting yesterday got off to a stormy start when about 30 placard-waving National Party supporters, some as young as eight, protested against the defection of Belhar NP councillor Monica Sauls to the ANC last month. The meeting was adjourned when it was disrupted by the protesters.

The council has an operating budget of R1,114-billion and a capital budget of R350-million.

Its income will be R1,035-billion, with the deficit being covered by the Cape Metropolitan Council's allocation of R79,4-million.

Gerald Smith, chairman of the finance committee, said the council had tried to keep rates and service increases close to the inflation rate of about 9,4 percent.

He expressed concern at the arrears owed to the municipality,

which amounted to well over R200-million, called on residents to pay for services and urged councillors to encourage a culture of payment in their wards.

Mr Smith said that if people did not start paying, Tygerberg would not have enough money to provide constant services.

Council staff were called on to extend the life of vehicles and equipment because there was not enough money to replace them.

Although the budget was approved unanimously, ANC caucus leader Vuyani Ngcuka criticised it as a "maintenance budget".

"It is maintaining the present infrastructure, not catering for new infrastructure in disadvantaged areas. We have asked for a formal review of the budget and a committee will be set aside to do that," Mr Ngcuka said.

He dismissed as "tokenism" provision in the budget for renovating flats in Elsies River and criticised the council for not spending money allocated to disadvantaged areas, saying: "We are going to fall into the same trap again."

He said people were willing to pay for their rates and services, but factors such as unemployment and the lack of services in poorer areas led to people not paying.

Boraine unveils plans for 'user-friendly' city

CITY EDITOR *AMT 2/7/97*

Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine has a business plan aimed at making the municipality user-friendly, "responsive and accessible" to the public.

He announced the plan at yesterday's ceremonial meeting to mark the official formation of the new City of Cape Town administration.

Objectives included housing, homelessness, primary health care, community services and facilities, safety and security, and municipal infrastructure and services.

A "one-stop shop" on the civic centre's ground floor would be opened for the approval of building plans.

Another key objective was to produce a spatial framework for the physical integration of the city and better management of the environment.

The city also aimed to achieve an equitable and effective valuation, tar-

iff and service charge system within two years

An important new focus would be the promotion of economic development, including good management of business districts, with the emphasis on better regulation of traffic, parking and street trading.

An economic development unit was to be established to deal with such issues as the effective planning and use of the port.

The city aimed to promote affirmative action, gender equality, good labour relations and training.

It also aimed to create a more "efficient organisation geared to meeting new challenges and priorities".

Mr Boraine urged citizens to make Cape Town "a leading city" in what Deputy President Thabo Mbeki had called the "African renaissance".

He wanted to see Cape Town become a cosmopolitan city known for its diversity and tolerance.

(ETA) (263)

Western Cape's policy on councils condemned

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Government found it unacceptable that the Western Cape was the only province which was not implementing national legislation on the composition of district councils, director-general Zam Titus said yesterday.

Titus said he would have to take action to ensure the integrity of the Local Government Transition Amendment Act and its uniform application throughout the country. The matter was being investigated to examine the options available.

The African National Congress in the Western Cape, which is strongly represented in rural towns but does not control any of

the rural councils, has also threatened legal action against the province over the issue.

The conflict revolves around the composition of district councils which national law stipulates must represent town and rural councils on a proportional basis.

The Western Cape has insisted that representation be on a 50-50 basis, arguing that a provincial proclamation to this effect has precedence over national law.

The chasm between government and the province deepened two weeks ago with a letter sent by the Western Cape local government department to the province's 95 rural town councils and 27 rural councils.

The letter, from local government director Gary Oliver, warned councils that the

department would institute legal action against any council giving effect to the amending legislation which came into force on July 1.

Oliver said yesterday that the district councils would be maintained on a 50:50 basis until the rural councils had been provided with independent financial and administrative resources. It was hoped that legislation providing for this would be enacted from next year.

He said rural councils were dependent on district councils for support. The department feared that if the authorities were proportionally constituted and thus dominated by the 95 town councils, the needs of 27 rural councils would be neglected.

ANC group walks out as 'war' with Marais gains momentum

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL STAFF

A WAR of attrition between Local Government MEC Mr Pieter Marais and ANC district councillors appears to be gaining momentum with ANC councillors from at least one district council refusing to vote for a new executive committee

The dispute centres on the restructuring of district councils according to proportional representation, and early signs are the fight could become as drawn-out as last year's demarcation battle.

On Wednesday, ANC representatives on the West Coast District Council walked out of a council meeting where voting was taking place for a new executive committee and a new chair and deputy chair.

Until now, district councils have appointed the chairperson. The councils have till Thursday to vote for new

chairpersons

Dr Nick Fortuin, chairperson of the ANC in the southern West Coast region and former exco member of the council, said yesterday: "The new chairperson and deputy chairperson were being voted for by councillors who should not have been there. The council was supposed to have been reduced, so we as the ANC cannot accept the legitimacy of the new structure"

The Overberg District Council voted for a new executive committee yesterday and the ANC abstained. Voting in the Central Karoo District Council also took place yesterday, but the new exco and chairpersons were unanimously chosen

The quarrel centres on which has more authority over local government business. the provincial MEC or the national Local Government Transition Act (LGTA) of 1993.

The act states that district councils

should be restructured according to proportional representation by July 1, 1997. However, the new model has not been finalised.

Marais issued a proclamation in December 1995 stating district councils would remain equally represented by town and rural representatives.

He has also recently warned that should councils restructure, legal action would be considered.

ANC Western Cape spokesperson Mr Cameron Dugmore said that if the path of proportional representation was followed — as it had been in all the other provinces — the NP could lose four of the province's eight district councils to the ANC.

Marais has said proportional representation would be unfair to rural communities, but Dugmore said the NP was "misusing its so-called concerns for rural areas to gerrymander local government structures".

(263) CT 4/7/97

Council

assets neglected, says report

RR 5/7/97

(263)

JEAN LE MAY
STAFF REPORTER

The Auditor-General has rapped the Cape Town city council over the knuckles for wasting taxpayers' money by not looking after the city's possessions properly.

Vehicles were hired when it would have been cheaper to buy them, money was lost because expensive computer systems were not installed on target, the council was laid open to prosecution for using pirated software, there was no maintenance programme for public buildings, water meters were not read at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront for almost two years, and nothing was done to find out why water loss deprived the city of more than R18-million.

Reporting on a performance audit on asset management, the Auditor-General found bad management (described charitably as "shortcomings in management measures") in several areas.

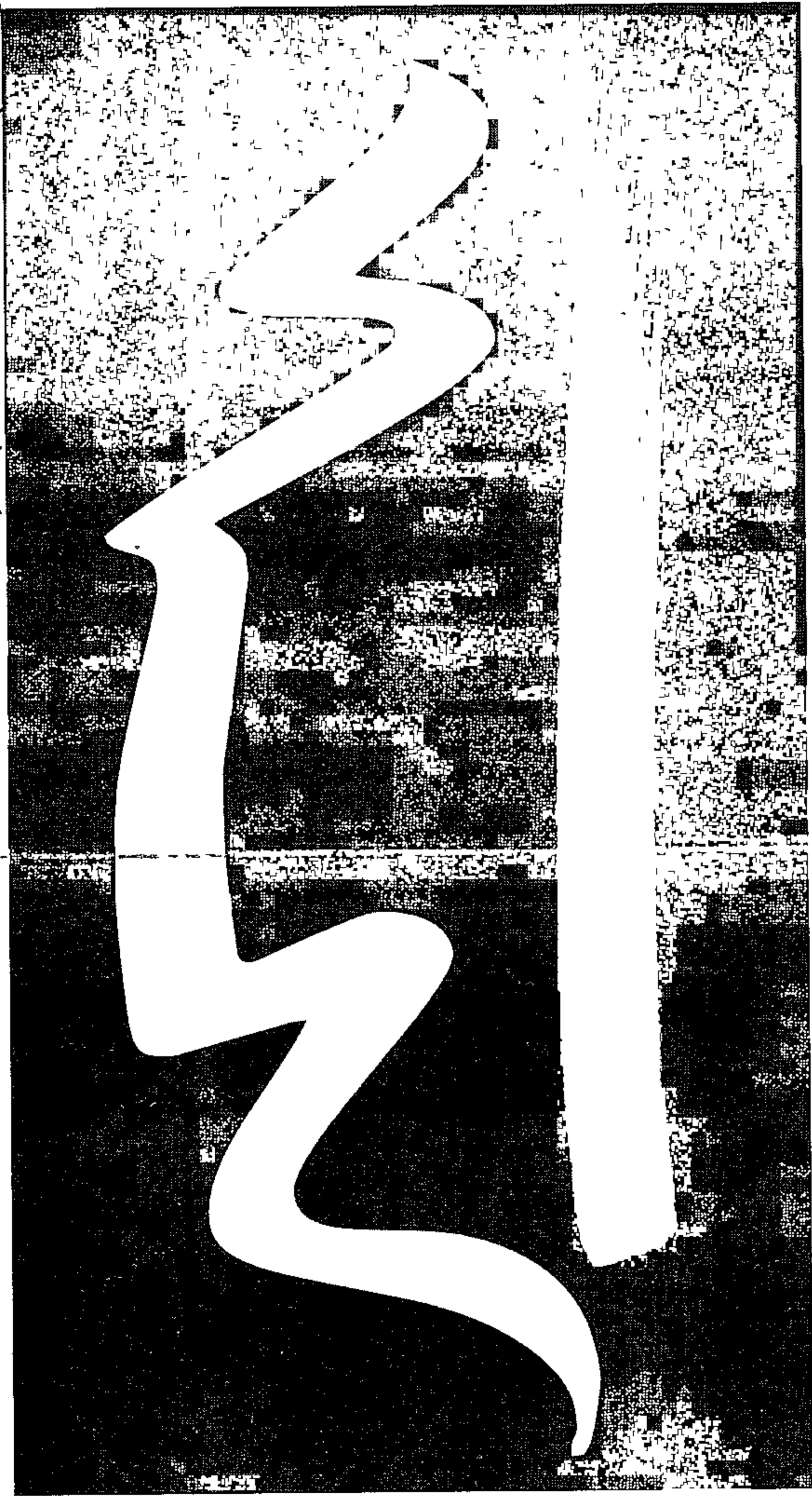
Louis van Rooyen of the Auditor-General's office, who did the audit, did not say in so many words that anyone had been inefficient or careless, but he certainly implied it - and it is not hard to imagine the terms being bandied about after the report was given to the council.

Assets in the Auditor-General's investigation ranged from tangible assets, such as buildings and motor vehicles, to intangibles, such as insurance policies and billing systems.

It was not the Auditor-General's function to question policy, said Mr Van Rooyen. However it was his responsibility to investigate the effect of policy and of overall management measures which led to the policy decisions.

An example of this was that the water branch was not allowed to disconnect the water supply of consumers for non-payment of debts, he said. In a year, arrears for water rose by almost R4-million.

He also found that the water branch of the city engineer's department did nothing to find out why the percentage "water loss"



with consumption worth R56 000. ■ Little effort was made to ensure that money claimed in insurance was received. About R9-million was outstanding.

■ Resources allocated for the combined computerised billing system were inadequate. The target date for installing the system was missed, which increased costs by R1,8-million and forfeited annual savings of about R700 000.

■ The new contract for the Table Mountain cableway was entered into before the previous contract had been terminated, which cost the council R1,9-million.

■ The fixed asset register of computer hardware and software was not updated regularly. The auditors were "unable to physically verify" R750 000-worth of these assets - a polite way of saying it had gone missing.

■ On the other hand, 444 items of unauthorised - that is, pirated - software were in use, exposing the council to a fine of R4,44-million.

As for maintenance, the Auditor-General found that it was twice as expensive for the electrical department to maintain vehicles as it was to have them repaired by a commercial firm.

■ The Auditor-General also found serious faults with the way in which the city's public buildings and stock of houses for sale were looked after.

There was no planned maintenance programme for public civic amenities: for instance, because proper maintenance would have prevented storm damage to the city hall, an insurance claim for R22 000 was repudiated.

■ There was no structured maintenance programme for 23 362 housing units, said Mr Van Rooyen. It would cost about R67-million to upgrade them to a standard which would enable them to be resold in accordance with the central government's policy.

The Auditor-General's report concluded with a list of measures which had been taken to put things right.

New look: the logo of the Cape Metropolitan Council. The CMC has been rapped over the knuckles by the Auditor-General for wasting taxpayers' money.

have cost the council R426-million. And it cost R800 000 to repair storm-damaged bathing boxes at Muizenberg, but they were insured for only half that sum.

■ The water branch made no attempt to find out why "water loss" doubled between 1994 and 1995, with a loss to the council of R18,8-million.

■ The water branch fell down badly in billing customers: no meter readings were taken at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront or at Portnet between September 1992 and May 1995, which meant a loss of R1,5-million. A farmer was not charged at all for water for two years and got off scot-free

on servicing vehicles after they had already been replaced.

■ An average of 32 bakkies were on permanent short-term hire at about R42 000 a month, although it would have cost only R29 000 a month to buy them.

■ A computer system bought in 1990 was not fully implemented until late 1995, forfeiting a projected annual saving of R8,8-million to the council as a whole.

In use and control, Mr Van Rooyen found that:

■ Assets were seriously undervalued. If disaster had struck in late 1995, the potential damage for undervalued assets would

doubled from 12 percent to 24 percent between 1993 and 1995, with a loss to the city of R18-million.

Mr Van Rooyen split his investigation to cover acquisition and management, use and control, and maintenance.

In the first area, acquisition and management, he uncovered some pretty hazardous housekeeping.

■ The maintenance costs of motor-cycles were not taken into consideration before accepting tenders. The traffic control branch spent R1,5-million more on maintenance than necessary, and the cleansing branch wasted almost R1-million

NIEL BARNARD ACCUSED OF EMPIRE-BUILDING

CT, 7/7/97

263

ANC, NP SHOWDOWN LOOMS

ANC OFFICIALS and members of the provincial legislature say director-general Niel Barnard is exceeding his mandate and trying to hijack control of the Western Cape for Premier Henus Kriel. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.

THE African National Congress and National Party are heading for a showdown over director-general Dr Niel Barnard's role in the Western Cape — amid allegations that the apartheid-era spy chief is "meddling" in affairs outside his jurisdiction and fears that senior NP members' recent talk of secession may be more than hot air.

Senior ANC officials and members of the provincial legislature said at the weekend that they believed Barnard was trying to usurp control of the province for Premier Henus Kriel's NP.

They accused Barnard of overstepping his administrative mandate and entering the realm of policy-making. They questioned the establishment of the Integrated Planning Group, which is headed by Barnard and includes the heads of police and the army. It has been described by some as a provincial state security council.

The senior ANC officials and members of the provincial legislature questioned an increase of about 350% during the past year, a time of fiscal constraint, in the combined budget for the offices of the premier and director-general and increases in these offices' staffing levels.

They also questioned the allocation of the R10-million premier's discretionary fund, described by some as a "slush fund". They alleged that Barnard was trying to locate his own audit component in his office, where they said he also wished to base planning functions.

ANC MECs are fed up with his alleged attempts to "control" heads of provincial departments and are wondering whether to confront Barnard or whether ANC provincial leader Mr Dullah Omar should raise the issue with Kriel.

"It looks as if he is trying to create one big provincial department, with himself as head," an MEC said. Another said, "He must understand that he is the head of the provincial administration, not our boss."

ANC members of the provincial legislature are also known to be seething over the NP-dominated chamber's apparent refusal to debate the merits of Barnard's controversial appointment. "The Speaker has refused three requested debates on the issue," a MPL said. "No debate, apart from these, has ever been refused."

Meanwhile, central government has been informed of the dilemma certain heads of department face over whether they should report to their MEC or to Barnard, Mr Salie Manie, head of the parliamentary portfolio committee on public service and administration, has confirmed.

Asked to explain the role of provincial directors-general, Manie said "They are not supposed to get involved in policy-making. His or hers is an administrative function. As provincial accounting officer he or she must be able to ensure that the correct procedures are followed and money is not spent recklessly."

The portfolio committee was drafting an amendment to public service legislation, Manie said. People from various provinces, including the

Western Cape, had raised the question of the authority of the head of the administration to interfere in departments' line functions.

Public service legislation was due for an overhaul "If we find unacceptable practices at provincial level, where people are trying to condemn the vision and objectives of the democratic government by implementing apartheid strategies, we will certainly close whatever loopholes they might have in the law," Manie said.

His committee would soon call representatives of all provinces to account for a range of issues in the transformation of the public service. The Western Cape would face hard questioning on the state of affirmative action. It appeared to have "its own peculiar interpretation of affirmative action, which is a national policy".

Barnard said yesterday he thought it would be unfair to respond to the allegations over the tele-

phone. He was offered — and accepted — a full right of response. This is to be carried in the Cape Times as soon as possible. Kriel could not be reached for comment.

Barnard — who has been subpoenaed to appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission at a special hearing on the State Security Council — was former president Mr P W Botha's head of the National Intelligence Service.

A member of the Broederbond and former dean of political studies at the then-University of the Orange Free State, he was one of the compilers of the 1984 Covert Strategic Communications A-Z document published in the Cape Times recently.

He was appointed head of the Constitutional Development Service by then-president Mr F W De Klerk in 1992 and played a major role in the pre-1994 election negotiations. Barnard was later appointed director-general of the Department of

Constitutional Affairs under Mr Roelf Meyer.

After the NP withdrew from the national cabinet, Barnard was appointed to the Western Cape. He is said to be one of the highest-paid civil servants in the country.

Kriel was an apartheid-era minister of law and order.

In a related development this weekend, non-governmental organisations (NGO) asked why Barnard appeared to be involving himself with the issue of streetchildren. Barnard has called a meeting for later this week to discuss the subject. The invitation to the meeting told organisations that Barnard had developed a "great interest" and registered the streetchildren as a project of the Secretariat for Safety and Security.

Ms Debi Diamond of the NGO Casp said she was "horrified" that a streetchildren project should fall under safety and security. Mr Leonard Wichmann of Mashlume said that given his security background, Barnard's interest was a matter for concern. Ms Annette Cockburn, director of The Homestead, said police should be involved only in response to criminal behaviour.

'It looks as if Barnard is trying to create one big department with him as head.'

Barnard: ANC wants meeting with NP

ROGER FRIEDMAN
SENIOR WRITER

THE leader of the ANC in the Western Cape legislature, Mr Ebrahim Rasool, called yesterday for a meeting between the ANC and the NP to deal with issues concerning Dr Niel Barnard's role as the director-general of the province.

"The present situation, filled with suspicion and mistrust, is not conducive to good governance," was Rasool's response yesterday to a Cape Times report on Monday forecasting an imminent showdown between the two parties over Barnard's alleged empire-building.

Feeding the atmosphere of suspicion, Rasool said, were the ANC's opposition to Barnard's appointment given his former role as the apartheid government's intelligence chief, the "refusal by the Speaker" to allow debate on the matter and Barnard's "complete and rapid departure from the decen-



OPPOSED: Niel Barnard

trated style of his predecessor" in the province, Mr Herbert Benkes

Aggravating factors were the province's "very tight budget leading to enormous challenges around posts, priorities and service delivery", and "the threat of a cabinet reshuffle hanging over the heads of ANC MECs".

Rasool said he believed the issues could be resolved by a meeting between the ANC and NP, a meeting between ANC MECs and Barnard to discuss matters such as departmental decision-making and centralisation of authority, and by the Speaker allowing a "free exchange of perspectives in a debate in the Western Cape Legislature".

Turning to Barnard's involvement in the issue of streetchildren, Rasool said he could understand the "anxiety" of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working with streetchildren at "being called to a meeting under the banner of the Safety and Security Secretariat, and

chaired by Dr Barnard" today.

Since assuming his responsibilities as MEC of Health and Social Services, all his department's actions concerning children had been undertaken "with a firm view on the long-term".

Rasool said he could understand the fears of some NGOs that they were to be made partners in a "Brazilian quick-fix" solution to clear the streets of streetchildren.

"My Department of Social Services and I remain convinced that this approach will not succeed. We have, instead, invested in a more lasting solution which requires other role-players in government as well."

Acting Premier Mr Gerald Morkel (NP) said last night that if the ANC wished to hold talks with the NP, then Rasool would have to approach Premier Mr Hermus Kriel, the provincial leader of the NP, on his return to duty.

If ANC MECs had any gripes with Barnard, then these should be raised with Barnard, he said.

Speaking as leader of the House, Morkel said he was not in favour of debating Barnard's appointment as director-general. A democratic process was followed to appoint him, and the

interviewing panel included ANC members.

Morkel said he was very disappointed that senior ANC sources in the province had likened the province's Integrated Planning Group (IPG) to the State Security Council of the apartheid state. The IPG attempted to adopt a multi-sectoral approach to problem-solving, and included senior law-enforcement officials, heads of department and civilian groups such as Business Against Crime as members.

Although Barnard chaired the IPG working committee, "which plans all projects", he was accountable to Morkel, as chairman of the IPG plenary.

At the weekend, Barnard undertook to respond in full to the allegations. His reply will be published as soon as possible in the Cape Times.

Cape council chaos

Nats heading for court showdown' with ANC

(263)

AAG 12/7/97

PIETER MALAN

Local government in the Western Cape is in a chaotic state, with most district councils not functioning properly amid a stand-off between the African National Congress and the National Party.

This week, meetings of three of the province's seven district councils ended in confusion as the two parties became locked in a dispute over how many representatives each was entitled to have. ANC members walked out of meetings, refusing to take part in the election of new chairpersons and executive committee members.

A fourth district council - Bree River - has suspended its meetings.

Now, Western Cape Local Government Minister Pieter Marais of the NP and Provincial Affairs and Constitutional

Development Minister Valli Moosa appear set for a showdown - one likely to end up in court.

An NP spokesman told Saturday Argus this week that the two parties were engaged in a "war of attrition", with each waiting for the other to make a legal move.

Mr Marais is accused by the ANC of trying to dictate the way district councils - the former regional services councils - should be constituted to ensure NP control of local government.

According to the ANC, Mr Marais is defying central Government's Local Government Transitional Act (LGTA) by refusing to allow district councils to be constituted on a proportional basis.

Town councils and rural councils are represented equally on district councils in terms of a proclamation issued by Mr Marais in December 1995. Equal represen-

tation favours the NP, which won most of the smaller rural councils.

With the district councils made up of more rural than urban councils, the NP would earn a majority.

However, in an amendment to the act passed by the Government last year, provision is made for the structure to be changed to proportional representation - in other words, the bigger the local council, the more representatives it would send to the district council.

Such a system would favour the ANC in the Western Cape as the party controls most of the bigger town councils.

With uncertainty over whose position held sway - Mr Marais' proclamation or the central Government statute - many district council meetings this week ended in chaos as some town councils sent more delegates than previously to the meetings, in

accordance with national legislation

Mr Marais has threatened to take legal action against any district council not conforming to the equal representation model he has proclaimed.

Meanwhile, Mr Marais has warned the Bree River District Council, which has yet to hold an election meeting, that their chairman should be voted in by Thursday.

Worcester mayor Riyahd Williams said the district council was not defying Mr Marais, but that its chief executive officer did not know which master to serve.

That leaves only three district councils in the province - Central Karoo, Overberg and Little Karoo - operating with any semblance of normality.

An insider in Mr Marais' office described the present situation as "a war of

Cape council chaos as Nats, ANC lock horns

(263)
From page 1

AR 12/7/97

attrition. The only way out is for one of the parties to take the other to court. We are just waiting for someone to fire the first shot."

ANC parliamentarian Melanie Verwoerd, a member of the standing committee on local government, said Mr Marais' proclamation was undemocratic because it gave huge influence to a small number of people who made a small financial contribution to the district council.

"In the meantime these councils cannot operate effectively with so much uncertainty around," she added.

But Mr Marais countered that the equal representation model was protecting the rural communities which consisted mainly of farm workers.

"Townpeople are serviced by municipalities with their own administrative infrastructure and revenue source. Rural communities are at the moment totally dependent on the district councils."

Mr Marais' spokesman Johan Smit said the minister believed he was within his powers to insist that his proclamation be adhered to, as local government was still in a state of flux and still legislated in terms of a transitional act.

Mr Marais' hand was also strengthened by a Cape Town High Court judgement last year, when the Worcester town council tried unsuccessfully to have the 1995 proclamation overturned.

But since the August judgement the LGTA had been amended and the ANC believed it would win if the matter was brought to court again. Government sources said there was little doubt Mr Moosa would take a hard line in forcing provincial governments to comply with the act.

1

Pay rise mooted for mayors

TOM HOOD ST (CM) 13/7/97 (263)

A 75 percent pay increase has been proposed for the mayors of Cape Town, Tygerberg, and the Cape Metropolitan Council, bringing them up to R18 156 a month

The mayors, Theresa Solomon's of Cape Town, Lucas Olivier of Tygerberg and the Rev William Bantom of the Cape Metropolitan Council, currently receive monthly allowances of R10 402

If approved, the increases will be backdated to July 1, the date of the Western Cape's local government reorganisation

The mayors' allowance rate may also be paid to the deputy mayors and the chairpersons of the three executive committees, Nomandla Mfeketo of Cape Town, Dave Wilken of Tygerberg and Pierre Uys of the CMC.

Members of the three executive committees, now receiving R7 802 a month, are in line for a 55 percent increase to R12 104. Ordinary councillors can expect a 132 percent jump from R2 601 to R6 052. The increases first have to be approved by the local authority and the MEC for Local Government, Peter Marais

2

Do we really need a provincial constitution?

DELIVERY and not symbolic politics makes for good governance, writes TASNEM ESSOP.

IN A province where we see headline news about the crisis in the health services, the problems in education, the increase in crime on a daily basis, surely effective and efficient utilisation of public resources is of crucial importance. The drafting and implementation of a provincial constitution that will cost millions cannot be the priority.

The National Party government with the support of the smaller parties — the Democratic Party, the African Christian Democratic Party and the Freedom Front — chose the provincial constitution as a priority over others. I would argue that the cost implications of the provincial constitution, in fact, contradict the objectives of cost-effective and efficient governance.

Any person today who can assert that increasing a cabinet (and, by so doing, expand the bureaucracy) will lead to a more efficient and cost-effective government, must be living in the past.

So, it came as no surprise to me that the person who made this assertion in the newspapers recently was, in fact, the premier of this province, Mr Hennis Kriel — a man who, I believe, yearns for the past days of Nat rule and a man who will try to retain this Nat control at all costs, even to the taxpayers in this province.

Kriel has demonstrated this by insisting that the provincial constitution is a priority for this province. The ANC, having no option, agreed to participate in this process of implementing such a constitution, guided by the principle that the cost to the taxpayer be considered at all times. According to the national constitution, a province will have to bear the costs of any additional structures or procedures different to that provided for in the national Constitution.

Bearing this in mind, the ANC did a conservative estimate of what the full implementation of the provincial constitution would cost.

Clause 14 of the proposed constitution provides for provincial legislation to be enacted for both a constituency-based and a proportionally-based electoral system. What would be the cost of implementing such a system?

It would obviously involve a number of elements, such as drawing up voters rolls, the demarcation of



SPENDTHRIFT? Western Cape premier Hennis Kriel who has been the driving force behind the call for the implementation of a provincial constitution

constituency boundaries, media packages, printing, a provincial electoral commission, etc.

If we use the local government election costs of 1995/96 as a yardstick — and this is a conservative estimate as it does not include a number of elements which a provincial election system would need — the cost would be about R55 million.

The clause that deals with the composition of the executive provides for its expansion to 14 members — an additional four members. At a conservative estimate, the salary cost for the four would amount to R1,4m per annum.

Assuming each ministry would have a minimum of four support staff with administration costs of R1m, this would amount to R4m. Let's say that each ministry has a small department with a budget of about R8m each, this would amount to R32m.

This brings us to a total of R38,4m for an increased executive, but let's say R40m because we have been conservative in our costing.

Chapter nine provides for cultural councils and environmental and children's commissioners and we can work on a very conservative costing of R4m per commission. (Based on the Provincial Service Commission which started off with a budget of R4m in 1995 and currently has a budget of R7m — see how they grow?)

The total would come to R12m and, if there will be more than one cultural council, as clause 70 allows, and we assume there will be two, this would total R16m.

The constitution-writing process itself has already cost the province about R800 000, this includes taking the constitution to the Constitutional Court, but does not include the possibility of non-certification and the costs of having to amend and re-apply to the Constitutional Court. This amount could therefore increase.

The total costs to this province for both the process of writing a constitution and the implementation of this is R111,8m — round that off to R112m.

This costing does not include the provisions for a flag or coat of arms. This could increase the amount considerably.

What difference to delivery could R112m make in this province?

We could employ or retain the services of 2 500 entry-level teachers, health workers or police. We could maintain the following number of in-patients at our health-care facilities: 190 000 in a tertiary hospital like Groote Schuur and Tygerberg, 320 000 in a regional hospital like the George hospital and 1,5 million in a primary healthcare facility.

We could provide 7 000 housing opportunities to those desperately in need of houses in this province. Who could possibly argue that these services are less of a priority than a provincial constitution?

Yet this province, which now has the power to determine its own priorities for spending, has chosen to write and implement a constitution over and above these priorities.

Does this sound like cost-effective or good governance?

CS 14 17 197

(263)

Good governance in this province does not depend on an increase in the cabinet, or on the number of commissions you have or whether our electoral system differs from that of a national one. The government will be judged on whether they have delivered to the people in this province, especially to those who have been most disadvantaged.

Cost-effective and efficient governance has to be addressed at a more substantial level. It requires a review of the policies and priorities we set ourselves as a provincial government and adjusting the budget accordingly, it requires reforming the budget system, designing a medium-term expenditure and delivery framework, transforming our civil service to

What difference to delivery could R112-million make in this province?

We could employ or retain the services of 2 500 entry-level teachers, health workers or police. We could provide 7 000 housing opportunities to those in need.

match the needs of service delivery and efficiency and implementing a management system based on performance measurements.

The civil service and instruments such as the budget should, in fact, be the engine room for delivery of effective, efficient government.

The parties who supported the drafting and implementation of the provincial constitution as a priority acted out of political expediency and not in the interests of good governance.

In fact, the Democratic Party's, Mr Henne Bester is on record contradicting his own party's national policy on the size of cabinets, which makes one wonder about the benefits in the pipeline for the DP — a seat in this over-bloated cabinet perhaps?

In a display of symbolic federalism, these parties have produced a "paper tiger" at the costs of the people in this province.

They have also supported a budget of R10m in this year's "deficit-ridden" provincial budget for implementing the constitution with respect to increasing the cabinet.

They have acted irresponsibly. The ANC calls on the people of this province to let their voices be heard.

□ Tasnem Essop is a member of the provincial legislature and ANC spokesperson for finance in the Western Cape legislature.

The roles of the director-general

(263) CT 16/19/97

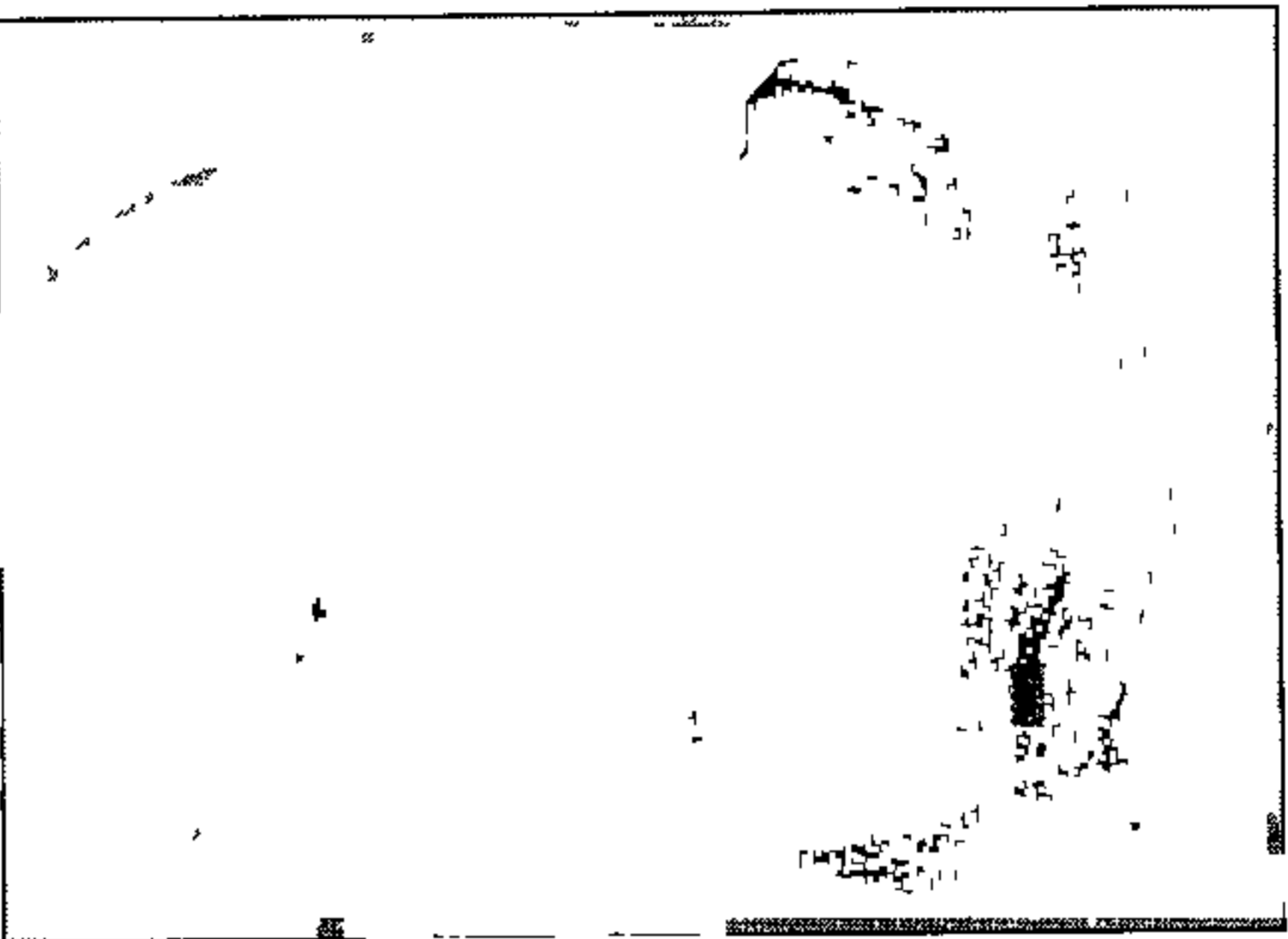
THE ANC in the Western Cape recently accused the director-general in the province, Niel Barnard, of "empire-building". **ALLAN TAYLOR** examines the scope and nature of the role of provincial directors-general.

THE discussion around the role of Niel Barnard, the director-general of the Western Cape, highlights provisions within the new constitutional dispensation that will require further refinement in the future.

The role of the provincial director-general is a complex one, even in those provinces where there is not a significant political divide such as that which exists in the Western Cape.

The Public Service Act of 1994, like its predecessors under the pre-1994 dispensation, allocates functional responsibility for the running of both national departments and provincial administrations to the "head of department" which is defined as a position with the rank of director-general. That no differentiation is made between a national department which has one political principal and a provincial administration which has at least 10 political heads is the cause of much confusion.

The fact that the national government often refers to the provinces in terms of an "administration" rather than a "government" is a source of considerable irritation in most provinces. Indeed, although the Constitution makes no provision for provincial cabinets and ministers, but rather executive



EMPIRE BUILDER? Niel Barnard, director-general of the Western Cape

councils and members of executive councils, the usage of the former has gained popular currency in most provinces.

This is partly the conundrum of having negotiated a semi-federal, semi-centralised system of government for South Africa.

The notion, therefore, that the director-general is an all-powerful chief executive officer in the province, assuming responsibility for the implementation of the political programme for that province and reporting to the provincial cabinet, much like the CEO

of a large company reports to a board of directors, is unlikely to be tolerated for too long by provincial political bosses, irrespective of their party affiliations.

At best, the tension between the director-general, the MECs and the provincial heads of department is one that requires careful and delicate management and, at worst, can lead to considerable conflict around roles and responsibilities. This triangular relationship is not present at a national level since there is no "super" director-general who takes responsibility for all the national directors-general. It is simply a relationship between the director-general and the minister (which is sometimes complicated by the roles played by deputy ministers).

Clearly, an MEC wants to have full control over the effective management of his or her provincial department since it is the MEC who is held accountable for the delivery or non-delivery of services. This can only happen if there is a solid reporting relationship between the MEC and the provincial heads of department.

As provincial assemblies do not carry the legislative load carried by the national assembly, MECs have more time to concentrate on the management of their departments than their national counterparts.

The nature of concurrent competencies in the new constitution is such that the triangular relationship between the MEC, the provincial director-general and the provincial heads of department can be further complicated by the involvement of the national minister and director-general in areas of, for instance, health, education and housing, due to areas of overlap around policy, strate-

gy and national norms and standards. As at the national level, the relationship between politician and bureaucrat is complicated by MECs who also play management roles and provincial heads of department who also want a bite of the political action.

This is a common phenomenon characterising the first term of office after there has been a radical change in government. Many appointments to head of department are based on the appointees' policy, research and strategic ability roles performed in previous jobs in civil society.

The role of the provincial director-general should then be one of co-ordinating the work among departments with due respect to the role of the MEC, as well as ensuring that the cabinet/executive council within the province is efficiently serviced. What bedevils this role is the allocation of certain public service and financial functions to heads of department as defined by the Public Service Act which means that certain decision-making stops at director-general, whether at national or provincial level, and is not extended to provincial heads of department.

Key to this, therefore, is that in most provinces there is a single accounting officer, namely the director-general. The director-general's ability to control what happens in the province, especially in respect of expenditure, is therefore strengthened by this accountability to the provincial legislature and to Parliament.

This has been overcome in some instances, in Gauteng, for example, the Provincial Exchequer Act has made each of the provincial heads of department account-

ing officers which relieves the director-general of the overall responsibility for the finances of the province. Similarly, other functions which are legislatively allocated to the heads of department can also be delegated on to the provincial heads of department.

This conforms with current thinking in the public service management debate that there should be greater decentralisation of authority together with increased mechanisms for accountability to ensure greater autonomy for public service managers. Given the competitive levels of senior management salaries in the public service nothing less should be expected.

In this context, although the overall functioning of the public service, including adherence to rules and regulations, must for the moment remain a responsibility of the provincial director-general, since he or she is the most senior public servant in the province, greater vigilance on the part of the MECs will be required to ensure that their departmental programmes and budgets are efficiently and effectively managed.

However, current initiatives to transform the public service, including the sentiments expressed in the White Paper on Transformation of the Public Service and the Green Paper dealing with Proposals for a New Public Service Statute, will have to pay particular attention to the roles and functions of senior management in the provinces and the relationship to their political heads in order that future confusions can be avoided.

□ Allan Taylor is chief director in the Gauteng Provincial Service Commission. This article has been written in his personal capacity.

Essop indulging in 'creative accounting'?

CT 21/7/97

(263)

HENNIE BESTER, Leader of the Democratic Party in the Western Cape and chairperson of the Standing Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Local Government and Housing in the Provincial Legislature, responds to an article by the ANC's Tasneem Essop, which appeared in the Cape Times on July 14 on whether a constitution for the Western Cape is a priority for the province.

THE ANC's Tasneem Essop wants to know whether we really need a provincial constitution. She argues that the new Western Cape constitution is nothing but an expensive luxury which would detract, rather than add, to the delivery of crucial social services in our province.

The mainstay of Essop's argument is that the implementation of the provincial constitution would be too costly. Unfortunately, her accounting is of the creative variety which invariably bankrupts both companies and governments. Her projected cost of R112 million to increase the executive, R16m to provide for cultural councils and commissioners, and R800 000 for the constitution-writing process itself. Let us consider these figures.

Firstly, at the insistence of the Democratic Party, an electoral system based on a mixture of multi-member constituencies and proportional representation was included in the provincial constitution. This differs from the national Constitution, which provides only for proportional representation, but that does not mean that additional costs will be incurred. An election must be held anyway, whether you have constituencies or proportional representation. Moreover, contrary to Essop's beliefs,

the national Constitution reserves the right to conduct provincial elections for the National Electoral Commission. Should the province attempt to spend R55m on an election organised by itself, it would be unlawful expenditure for an unlawful election. Thus, subtract R55m from Essop's R112m.

Secondly, she speculates that R40m could be spent on an expanded executive. She fails to mention that the provincial constitution itself does not provide for an extended cabinet. This possibility only appears in the transitional provisions which provide for a limited period during which the cabinet can be extended. It could fall away as early as 1999.

Moreover, there is no obligation on the premier to expand the cabinet. If he does so, he will have to justify it politically.

However, let us consider Essop's sums. Currently, an ordinary member of the legislature earns R190 000 and a minister R345 000 — a difference of R155 000. If a maximum of two ministers are brought in from outside the legislature and two from within, the total increment will be R1m, not the R1,4m postulated by Essop. Let's be generous and give each of the ministers a ministerial staff worth R1m a year as suggested by Essop — in total amounting to R4m. However, her suggestion that each ministry will have a small department with a budget of R8m is untenable. The departments already exist. All that can happen is for existing departments to be re-allocated to different ministers, as happens with a normal



HENNIE BESTER: "Vast potential benefits will flow from the new constitution"

cabinet reshuffle. There will be no additional costs.

The maximum possible cost to extend the cabinet, would thus be R5m. Subtract another R35m from Essop's R112m.

Whilst we're on this point, Essop should perhaps have a word with the ANC premier of the Northern Province. He governs one of the poorest, if not the poorest, province in South Africa. Yet he has 10 ministers and an additional four "commissioners". These commissioners are paid the same as a minister.

Perhaps Essop prefers this behind-the-scenes expenditure of public money rather than putting it up front.

Thirdly, the establishment of cultural councils and a commissioner for environment and commissioner for children will reputedly cost R16m a year.

It is important to separate the commissioners from the cultural councils. The environmental commissioner and the children's commissioner will be individuals, with a small support staff, and not commissions such as the public service commission.

To use the latter, which deals with the affairs of a provincial public service of 85 000 members, as a benchmark, is misleading to say the least.

However, let's be generous and allow a commissioner to be paid at the level of a cabinet minister (R345 000) with the same support staff costing R1m and an additional R500 000 in operational costs, giving a conservative estimate of R1,845m per commissioner. Section 70 of the provincial constitu-

tion provides for the "establishment and reasonable funding, within the province's available resources", of cultural councils for communities in the province, sharing a common cultural and language heritage.

Since 1994 there has been a dramatic increase in the cultural consciousness of our people. A provision like this would meet a patent need, yet the budget will be resource-dependent. The best guideline is the current financial year's allocation of R12m for cultural affairs. The amount for cultural councils, will have to come out of this budget.

However, let's be conservative and budget an additional R2m. That brings the total cost of these items to R5,69m. Subtract another R10,31m from Essop's R112m.

To date the constitution-making process has indeed cost approximately R800 000. Compare this with the more than R100m spent by the Constitutional Assembly to write the national Constitution. Total cost R11,49m. To put this into perspective, it amounts to 0,12% of the total provincial budget (R9,525 billion) for the current financial year.

Compare this with the vast potential benefits which will flow from the new Constitution. Firstly, a constituency system, under which parliamentarians depend on the votes of their constituents to get elected rather than the whims of party bosses, will greatly enhance delivery. Ask any ward councillor.

The involvement of local government representatives in provincial law-making will go a long way towards eliminating some of the current conflicts which delay delivery at local level. The new permanent standing committee to monitor the socio-economic conditions of the people in our province will assist greatly in determining the correct priorities for public expenditure.

The commissioner for the environment will act as an environmental ombudsman. Such a credible environmental institution could do much to

expedite the resolution of conflict between developers and environmentalists, thereby enhancing both the environment and expediting development. Consider only the Saldanha steel mill saga.

Finally, do you want to put a price on the welfare of our children, which the children's commissioner must protect? In a time of increasing child abuse, this institution is long overdue.

Essop also made a snide remark about the DP's possible inclusion in the Western Cape cabinet. On April 3 this year I set out the DP's position on this matter on this very page. Our position has not changed.

Then I stated "If the DP can make a contribution to the better governance of this province, especially in terms of our priority areas of economic growth, job creation and security and crime prevention, we would seriously consider such an offer."

However, we will not and cannot enter into any arrangement which would stifle our public opposition to matters of policy and administration which we believe are contrary to the interests of the province.

The ANC is concerned about good governance. So are we. We also agree with the need for a medium-term expenditure framework and a review of policies and priorities.

However, what amazes me is that Essop accuses the provincial cabinet of failing to do these things. That cabinet contains four ANC ministers, who between them control 58% of the total provincial budget. These include major delivery portfolios such as health, welfare, economic affairs and public transport.

Three years and three months have elapsed since the new provincial government came into office. Surely these ministers have had ample time to start implementing at least some of these proposals in their own departments? If not, Essop must be suggesting that her own ministers are incompetent. She should also answer to them.

Retrenchments 'unsuccessful'

(263)

□ From Page 1

three provinces did not submit figures

Earlier this year Western Cape Finance Minister Mr Kobus Meiring said 9 819 employees of the province had left by March

"It seems the Western Cape is pulling the short end of the stick," said Bester. "We have to pare down services to diminish staff so that we can achieve our part of the national retrenchment target."

"The central government is somewhat more extravagant, while the total reduction in employment of other provinces is less than the retrenchment in the Western Cape alone. The only conclusion is that other provinces increased their establishments (last) year."

He asked how national ministers — who often accused the Western Cape of falsely complaining that it was being prejudiced — explained these figures.

If the central government and other provinces did not contribute to fiscal discipline, as the Western Cape was trying to do, "we will quickly fall into a cycle of reproach and bitterness"

Bester called on Skweyiya to explain the situation.

"At the same time he must take the necessary steps to stop the availability of voluntary retrenchment packages. The policy was obviously unsuccessful," he said

ET 24/7/97

W Cape 'unfairly prejudiced'

KARIN SCHIMKE

COMPARATIVE figures for employment and retrenchment in the provinces show that Western Cape politicians were not complaining falsely when they said the province was being unfairly prejudiced by the central government, Western Cape Democratic Party leader Mr Hennie Bester said yesterday.

He was reacting to figures from the Central Statistical Service (CSS) which showed that during a time when Public Service Minister Dr Zola

Skweyiya was hoping to trim the bloated civil service by 100 000 employees a year, the service had instead grown by 0,4%

The Western Cape managed to shed almost 10 000 civil servants in the financial year ending on March 30, 1997, but provincial civil service figures show that only about 5 200 people left the service around the country last year

Bester said CSS figures showed that the number of provincial personnel had dropped from 689 702 to 684 494 across the country, although

□ To Page 6

(263)

ET 24/7/97

Dispute over make-up of district councils

ET 30/7/97 (263)
CHRIS BATEMAN

WESTERN CAPE local government MEC, Mr Peter Marais, yesterday denied that he had agreed to implement the amended Local Government Transition Act to make district councils proportional, as claimed by Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa

Reacting to Valli Moosa's claim following a meeting of the country's nine local government MEC's, Marais said his job was "not to destroy but to promote local government"

He claimed the act failed to take account of the demographics of the Western Cape and was unconstitutional.

Carrying it out would leave

"four or five" major rural areas with no representation and several under-represented on the 25 Western Cape District Councils

Valli Moosa told journalists after yesterday's Minmec (Minister and MEC's) meeting that the amendment changed chairpersons of district councils from being appointed by each province to being elected by their peers. It also changed district councils from being 50% representative of transitional local councils and 50% rural councils, to a proportionally representative system

He said Marais' fellow MEC's had called on him to fall into line and that Marais had "agreed to co-operate"

Councillors to get 130% pay increase

CT. 30/7/97
(263)

RONALD MORRIS

THE Cape Metropolitan Council will this morning decide on proposals by local government minister Mr Peter Marais to increase councillors' allowances from 55% to as much as 130%

Should Marais' proposals be accepted, the salaries of all mayors and chairpersons of exco would jump from R10 500 to R18 156 per month from July 1. Deputy mayors and deputy exco chairpersons who earn R9 100 would be paid R15 130 while ordinary exco members, who now earn R7 800, would be paid R12 104

In some instances, councillors both in the rural and metropolitan areas, are expected to get an increase of more than 130%. Marais proposes that ordinary councillors' allowances be increased from R2 625 per month to R6 052.

In February the Minister and Members of Executive Council approved a 5% across the board increase for councillors' allowances with effect from March 1.

Mr Saleem Mowzer, deputy

chairperson of Cape Town Council, said last night that the ANC caucus had met on Monday night to discuss the proposed increase in allowances and would finalise its position this morning.

Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa, the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, and the central government had agreed to a 5% increase and Valli Moosa had to concur with all MEC's, including Marais.

Mowzer said Marais had agreed to put forward proposals to increase councillors' allowances after a meeting with the Western Cape Local Government Association. The ANC, was not party to this decision, he said.

When the Steyn Commission made its recommendation in December last year, central government did not agree to it. The commission's proposals are similar to those proposed by Marais, Mowzer claimed.

Moosa had at Minmec (meeting of ministers and MECs) established a committee to look into councillor's allowances

Councillors turn down proposed 100% pay rises

ANDREA WEISS
City Editor

(263)
ARG 31/9/97
Cape Metropolitan Council members have decided against huge increases in their allowances, in some cases of more than 100 percent.

They have turned down a proposal that would have increased ordinary councillors' allowances from R2 731 a month to R6 052. Executive committee members' pay would have gone up from R8 192 to R12 104 a month.

These allowances were decided after discussion between Local Government Minister Peter Marais and the Western Cape Local Government Association.

At a meeting yesterday, executive committee chairman Pierre Uys said the matter should be withdrawn because the proposals had been overtaken by a decision of Minmec, a forum of all nine provincial ministers of local government and Constitutional Affairs Minister Valli Moosa.

Indications were that metropolitan councillors were more likely to get an ordinary allowance of R3 500, with R13 500 for the executive committee chairman and mayor.

ANALYSIS

Cape Town maps out inclusive plan of action for the future

The Cape Town council has revamped its strategies for running the city, reports David Greybe

bd 4/8/97 (263)

IN A bid to create a city driven by developmental objectives rather than service provision, the Cape Town city council has committed itself to a programme of corporate priorities with a strong emphasis on better staff performance.

Gone are the days when Cape Town — like so many other South African towns and cities — was budget-process driven instead of needs-driven, city manager Andrew Boraine says.

As Cape Town moves away from input-driven solutions to measurable output solutions, the budgetary process has to act as a "servant" of an integrated development plan for the city.

Policy, based on political priorities worked out by all the parties in the city council, has to be determined before the allocation of funding, Boraine says. "Otherwise you end up with a whole lot of creative ideas going nowhere."

Another key area to be revamped is the traditional way of governing according to line function — a method practised worldwide but acute in SA — described by Boraine as being inflexible as well as undevelopmental.

In future, departments will have to learn to work with, and not against, each other.

The first step towards a long term integrated development plan for Cape Town was the approval of a R3,12bn budget for the 1997/98 financial year at the beginning of last month. It also coincided with the official launch of the new Cape

Town city administration.

Built into the 12-month business plan are quarterly performance checks on meeting targets, and official reports back to the city's 1.3-million residents.

Boraine says that the business plan does more than identify specific capital expenditure projects and service delivery improvements. It also deals with organisational objectives, such as ongoing restructuring and transformation in the council.

He describes the business plan as a stepping stone towards the completion of a three-to-five year integrated development plan for Cape Town, as required by the local Government Transition Act.

As one of six local councils created by the redrawing of municipal boundaries in the Cape Town area last year, the city of Cape Town incorporates the former Ikapa, Crossroads, Pinelands, a portion of the cape rural area and large parts of the Cape Town city council. The new municipality has about 12 000 employees.

An estimated 90% of the revenue from this year's R3,12bn budget is expected to come from the residents and ratepayers.

Boraine says the ANC-led city council has pioneered a form of local co-operative governance with the NP and the DP who are also represented on the council, which

he says, is reflected in the ability of the council to put the city first.

The first priority of the business plan provides for the energies and resources of key council areas of expertise to be harnessed to work jointly on priority projects in an effort to rebuild communities and create one city, Boraine says.

These projects will focus on housing and homelessness, primary health care, community services and facilities, safety and security and municipal infrastructure and services.

Secondly, the plan provides for a number of initiatives to be undertaken to provide better services and make the city administration more accessible and responsive to needs. These include:

- Providing front-of-house services, such as a one-stop-shop for approving building plans;
- Introducing a culture of performance and accountability and a service ethic among staff;
- Improving communication with residents and civil society; and
- Improving response times.

Boraine says the coming year will also result in a spatial framework being drawn up for the physical integration of the city and the better management of the natural and built environment.

He says that in two years Cape Town will achieve an equitable and effective valuation, tariff and service charge system.

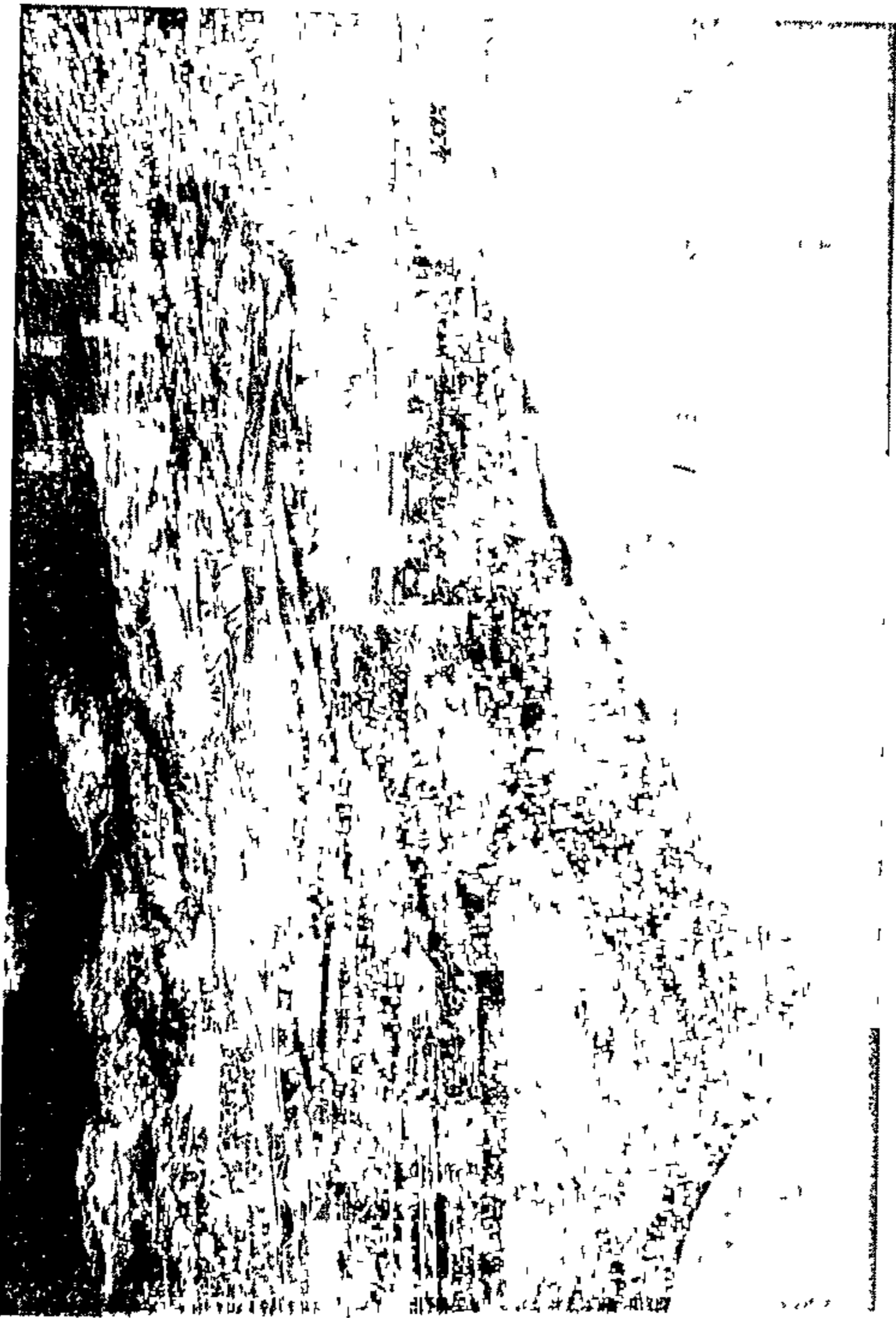
A major focus of the business plan is the promotion of an economic development strategy for the city areas to be addressed include:

- Better management of business districts, especially the city centre, including better regulation of traffic, parking and street trading, as well as the introduction of local area management;
- Identifying strategic land for development;
- Streamlined procedures for assessing planning applications;
- Effective planning and use of the city's port;
- Promoting and empowering small and emerging businesses; and
- Streamlining regulations.

Another area to receive attention is a more effective administration "with broader representivity".

Areas to be addressed include affirmative action, gender equity, management of diversity, good labour relations and training and human resource development.

Boraine says that during the next 12 months "considerable progress will be made towards restructuring, reorganising and overhauling systems in order to have a more efficient organisation geared to meeting new challenges and priorities".



Camp's Bay in Cape Town the council is taking a new look at development

'Public service best in Gauteng, Cape'

CAPE TOWN — The public service in Gauteng had benefited from strong and effective leadership by its senior managers, but lacked

clarity on the roles of politicians and heads of departments, the provincial task team has found

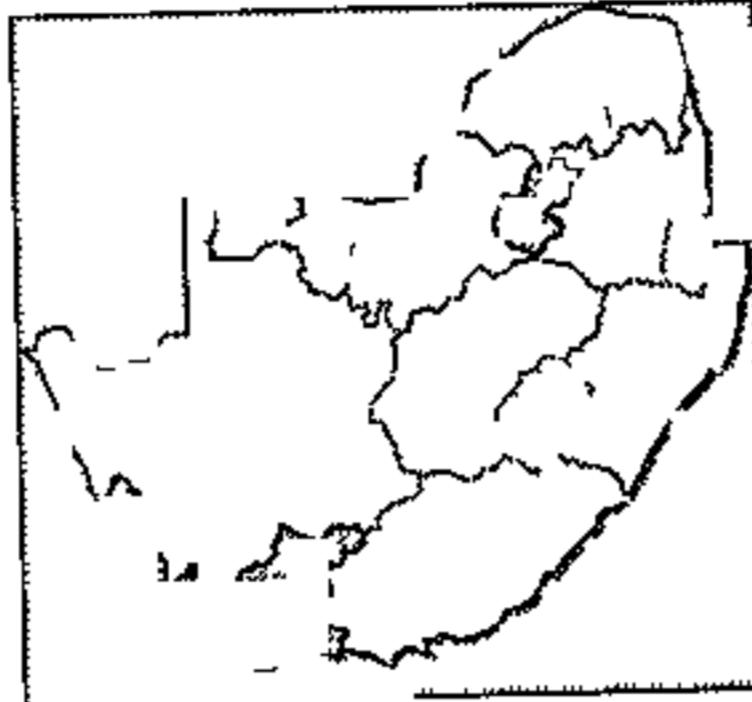
The task team considered the public services in Gauteng and the Western Cape to be in the best shape, but not without problems

It found Gauteng in general was "a well-run province, capable of developing its service and support systems for the benefit of its people" The province was in the "fortunate position of having access to the highest level of skills in the country" and had competent and dynamic managers

Gauteng had "taken the national lead in putting many of its systems in place, so much so that national departments and other provinces use its resources to assist them with their development"

However, there was a lack of clarity about who

the heads of departments in Gauteng were accountable to. "Is it the director-general, or their respective members of the executive council?"



Unlike in some of the other provinces, the task team said the provincial service commission in Gauteng has "play-

ed a valuable role in enabling effective management to be instituted" It had supported the executive council and department heads with technical information to assist their decision, and had helped to establish effective management systems

Departments were short of qualified senior financial managers. In some cases this had led to managers not keeping to budgetary limits.

In the Western Cape administration the task team found skills levels were high, but "heads of departments have few real delegated powers of management of the key functions of finance and personnel, and are strongly controlled by the central offices"

Western Cape govt losing vital staff (263)

CT 21/8/97

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Western Cape government is over-managed, is shedding vital frontline staff and is regarded with hostility because of essential "downsizing" operations.

These are among conclusions reached by a top task force set up by Dr Zola Skweyiya's Public Service and Administration Ministry to probe the country's nine provinces.

Running at a budget reduced by R1,25 billion over the previous year — a 20% reduction in real terms — the Western Cape had shed frontline staff to the detriment of service delivery.

Worst affected were the departments of health, education, housing and local government, transport and public works and social services.

Downsizing had created "hostility within the administration and hostility between the providers and receivers of services," — especially in education

Staff morale had been "negatively affected" throughout the administration, the task team found.

They spent five days in March this year interviewing among others, director-general Dr Niel Barnard.

The Pretoria task team included Dr Paseka Ncholo, director-general of Public Service and Administration, a PSA director Dr Mala Singh, PSA chief director Mr Mpume Sikhosana and Professor Harry Nengwenkhulu of the South African Management Development Institute.

The team was supported by

three Swedish experts and a British adviser.

They found that management control was "highly centralised" in spite of Barnard's stated desire to enable his heads of department to manage with "maximum autonomy"

There appeared to be a concentration of power in a severely depleted administration — again in spite of a "great deal of management capacity throughout its structure".

The Western Cape had the technical resources to support its managers effectively.

At present the overriding vision was, do not overspend.

However, the team found that functions had been delegated to the province from Pretoria without appropriate changes to national legislation — and often without funding to ensure functions were carried out.

The task team concluded that the voluntary service package — which led to the Western Cape shedding 10 946 staff members — had meant the loss of skilled, mobile and experienced staff and had had a "traumatic" effect on staff morale.

They reported an urgent plea from managers for employer-initiated retrenchments instead.

The assessment also noted the lack of affirmative action across a wide range of local departments.

The perception at national level that no assistance was required because the infra-structural and skills base in the Western Cape was so strong, was "not in the best interests of the province", the team concluded.

Govt move CT 21/8/97 (264) to oust poor performers

POLITICAL STAFF

THE government is to introduce performance-orientated contracts in a move to eradicate non-performing civil servants.

The measure has been approved by Parliament's public service committee and would form part of the government's response to the provincial audit, which found that most provincial administrations lacked financial and management controls.

Mr Sahe Manie, chairperson of the committee, said all heads of department hired after the bill had been signed into law would be offered performance-related contracts.

"The measure would force heads of department to implement their own performance-related mechanisms because those that do not perform will be out."

The measures had been incorporated in the Public Service Laws Amendment Bill, which will be debated in Parliament today.

Manie said the South African Management Development Institute would design programmes for provinces that would help train civil servants.

Public Service Minister Dr Zola Skweyiya said yesterday the cabinet had pledged to make resources available to help address the problem

In addition, the Ministry of Public Service and Administration had received donations from at least two European countries and two organisations to finance skills-training for public servants.

The audit revealed that while most civil servants were highly qualified, they did not have the skills to do their jobs.

Political parties called for immediate action. The DP called for the abolishment of the Public Works Department, the Ministry of Public Service and Administration, the Public Service Commission and the Central Bargaining Chamber. The IFP called for the devolution of power to the provinces.

Meiring pleads for job cuts

(263)

ARL 22/8/97
Deficit warning

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Provincial Finance Minister Kobus Meiring has warned that the Western Cape will be forced to overspend beyond its projected R247-million budget deficit – and says the only way out is to be allowed to retrench staff.

Speaking in the National Council of Provinces, he issued an urgent appeal that the province be given full control over retrenchments.

The voluntary severance package scheme had failed because people with skills had left, but excess staff remained.

Mr Meiring said the preliminary 1996 census figures showed that Finance and Fiscal Commission calculations should be adjusted and the province's share of public funds should be increased.

The Western Cape was historically the best-developed province in terms of infrastructure, health, education and other services.

"We have made peace with the concept that the less-privileged provinces must now be assisted." But the R780-million cut in the budget given to the province had created "impossible results".

Services rendered by provinces – such as social services, health and education – were very labour-intensive. Seventy-three percent of the Western Cape budget went on personnel expenditure and statutory payments.

"It is clear that the only way that we can cut down on expenditure is to cut down on personnel costs and therefore retrench people."

Travelling chairman nets R433 652 in months

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The chairman of the Bo-Karoo district council in the Northern Cape appropriated about 14% of total levy income for his salary and travelling and other expenses, the province's auditor-general has found.

Abraham Marais's total package came to R433 652 in the 10 months to end-April, and R466 019 in the previous year, while levy income was R3,13m and R3,35m respectively.

His basic salary for the respective years was R134 739 and R159 120, with the balance being

made up of travelling expenses, entertainment, subsistence meals, air fares, cellular phone bills and car rentals.

In the period to end-April, Marais travelled 53 071km at a cost of R275 597 and last year 53 229km at a cost of R273 664. He was found to have taken 260 trips in the 700 working days in the 10 months to end-April.

Auditor-general Ben van Niekerk said these were very large sums, considering that the district councils were meant to develop infrastructure for historically disadvantaged people.

The travel expenses had not

been authorised by the council and were calculated at a tariff higher than the normal AA rate, resulting in an "injudicious appropriation of public funds". Over three years Marais had received an "unacceptable amount" of R698 977 for travelling expenses, Van Niekerk said.

The council had to conduct a thorough investigation into the expenditures, which drew the sharp criticism of the National Party.

Generally Van Niekerk found that official trips by councillors had not been approved in advance, had not been kept to a minimum and had not been made in the most cost-effective manner.

BD 26/8/97 (263)

New council allowances 'ignored W Cape input'

CT 27/8/97 (263)

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

CAPE Metropolitan and local councillors received the details of their increased allowances with mixed feelings and, in some cases, groans yesterday

Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) executive committee chairman Mr Pierre Uys said the increases — some much as 30% — were "disappointing"

They were much lower than those mooted by the Steyn Commission, which investigated pay scales for public representatives

"It's obvious they ignored input from the Western Cape Local Government Association (Wecloga)," said Uys "We'll discuss the matter and if there is any mechanism to take it further, I'm sure we will"

In terms of the new scales, a CMC councillor will receive an all-inclusive R3 375 a month, compared with the present R2 600 An ordinary exco member will get R10 125, as opposed to R7 800, while the exco chairman and

HOW ALLOWANCE HIKES APPLY TO THE CAPE TOWN CITY COUNCIL AND THE CAPE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

	was	now
Ordinary councillor	R2 600	R3 375
Exco member deputy mayor	R7 800	R10 125
Mayor & exco chair	R10 376	R13 500

mayor will receive R13 500

Wecloga recommended allowances ranging from about R6 000 for councillors to R18 000 for the mayor and exco chair

"I'm particularly disappointed for our councillors, who work incredibly hard," said Uys

Councillors who serve on two councils, including the CMC, will receive an allowance only for one. However, they will receive R250 for each meeting attended for the second council

This was another troubling aspect, said Uys "Will we get quorums at meetings? Will it be worth their while to attend?" he asked,

adding that some councillors travelled great distances to attend CMC meetings

Chief executive officer of the South Peninsula Municipality Mr Jan Koekemoer agreed. "Local governments in other provinces do not have the multi-committee system we do The allowances are based on councillors' attending one council meeting a month, while our councillors sit on at least two other committees.

"There is no way you can hold down a full-time job and be a councillor on this municipality — some of our councillors have lost their jobs over this"

expenses paid

NEWS

Constitution bid still on track, says Kriel

Court setback 'easily remedied'

(263)

ARG. 3/9/97

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape Premier Hervis Kriel is confident the Constitutional Court's ruling that it would not certify the province's constitution is only a temporary setback.

After hearing the ruling in Lausanne, Switzerland, where he is attending the Olympic bid showdown, he said it was only a matter of time before the province had its own constitution.

The Constitutional Court announced it had withheld certification of the Western Cape constitution on grounds of inconsistency with the national constitution.

The Constitutional Court President, Mr Justice Arthur Chaskalson, said it was a unanimous judgment but for a judge who was absent ill.

The constitution was passed by the province in February in spite of strong opposition from the African National Congress and the national government.

Mr Kriel noted that the court had withheld certification on

only three grounds and its decision was in stark contrast to its refusal last year to certify the KwaZulu-Natal constitution.

"It is a meaningful breakthrough. Although the Constitutional Court has demanded certain changes, 95 percent has been accepted. The rest can easily be remedied.

"We have progressed a great deal and we can feel satisfied with what we have achieved," said Mr Kriel.

The grounds on which the Constitutional Court denied certification included the province's attempt to introduce an electoral system prescribed by provincial legislation.

It found that as the national constitution required national legislation to prescribe an electoral system, the provincial constitution could not prescribe its own system.

It also found that the provincial constitution could not take away a ceremonial power, such as the administering of oaths of office, conferred on the president of the Constitutional Court by the

national constitution, and confer it instead on the judge president of the Western Cape High Court.

It also ruled that a provision in the text calling for provincial legislation to flesh out a prohibition on provincial ministers performing "paid work", was inconsistent with the national constitution.

A provincial constitution may not confer on the province powers which fall outside the competencies allocated in terms of the constitution.

Western Cape ANC constitutional spokesman Hishaam Mohamed said the party had warned that the constitution was grossly inconsistent with the national constitution.

"We also reiterate our position that in the light of the financial implications to taxpayers and the attempt by the National Party to create a volkstaat laager in the province, we will review our further participation in this costly process.

"The attempt by the NP to create a distinct provincial character is out of step with the transformation process"

PROBLEMS EASILY FIXED, SAYS KRIEL

Western Cape constitution rejected

THE ANC has welcomed the Constitutional Court's rejection of the clauses on the electoral system in the proposed Western Cape constitution. **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

The proposed Western Cape constitution was turned down by the Constitutional Court yesterday — but it is only a matter of time before it is passed, allowing Premier Hennus Kriel to extend his cabinet.

The provincial constitution was not certified by the Constitutional Court, but only because of a few technical points of inconsistency with the national Constitution. Its provisions could become reality by as early as next year if the process of correcting those inconsistencies is speedily finalised.

This attempt by the provincial legislature at forging a particular identity for the Western Cape stands in stark contrast to

the attempts by the Kwazulu-Natal legislature to write a provincial constitution. KwaZulu-Natal's constitution was rejected out of hand by the Constitutional Court.

In the court's ruling on the Western Cape's constitution, out of 16 objections to the document raised by the provincial ANC and the national government, certification was denied on only three grounds.

The ANC opposed the proposed electoral system based on a form of proportional representation. This objection was supported by the Constitutional Court, which pointed out in its judgment that the national Constitution required that national legislation prescribe



CONFIDENT: Hennus Kriel

the electoral system. According to Mr Hennus Kriel, provincial Democratic Party leader and chairman of the provincial affairs standing committee in the legislature, this was not a major setback. "We will have to defer to national legislation in this instance, but (this clause) was always going to be a gamble."

The ANC's Ms Hilda Ndude said her party welcomed the judgment as it justified the ANC's opposition to the provincial constitution.

"We are pleased that the clauses on the electoral system were rejected," she said.

She said the ANC remained convinced that "the extended executive council opens the way for manipulation by the National Party government."

The ANC is also opposed to the cost of writing the constitution and believes the cost of an extended cabinet cannot be justified.

Ndude also said the NP attempt to create a separate provincial character was out of step with the national transformation process in South Africa.

The Constitutional Court, however, did not see the provincial constitution as an attempt to usurp national

ET 3/9/97

powers and functions". Kriel, speaking from Lausanne, said yesterday the court ruling was a meaningful breakthrough. "Although the Constitutional Court demands certain changes, (the constitution) was 95% accepted. The rest can be easily fixed," he said.

Of the other two problems the Constitutional Court had with the Western Cape constitution the first was that it could not take away the ceremonial power conferred on the President of the Constitutional Court and confer it on the Judge President of the Western Cape.

Secondly, the court ruled that a provision calling for provincial legislation to flesh out a prohibition against provincial cabinet members performing "paid work" was "fatally inconsistent" with the national Constitution.

search, makes up the second stage. The programme's second stage is to grow our economic and policy options on home investments, access to

Kriel welcomes constitution decision

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel, in Lausanne to support Cape Town's bid for the 2004 Olympic Games, was thrilled by the Constitutional Court's judgment on his province's constitution, which he described as a "meaningful breakthrough" and "the starting point for further constitutional development".

The Constitutional Court withheld certification of the Western Cape's proposed provincial constitution yesterday, but only on limited grounds of inconsistency with

the national constitution.

Kriel said the aspects rejected by the court could be easily rectified.

"It is just a question of time before the Western Cape has its own provincial constitution which will put it in a position to legitimately exercise its own constitutional powers," Kriel said.

While welcoming the rejection of the proposals on a constituency-based electoral system, the African National Congress (ANC) was unhappy with the outcome. "The attempt by the National Party, through the adoption of a provincial constitution, to cre-

02319197 (263)

ate a separate provincial character is out of step with the national transformation process occurring throughout SA," ANC spokesman Hilda Ndude said.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said the party would approach the Democratic Party to resist a certification of the provincial constitution on the grounds of the unacceptable cost of an expanded cabinet. An alliance between these two parties, not considered highly likely, would provide a two-thirds majority against the National Party proposal to extend the cabinet from 10 to 14 members.



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Western Cape constitution referred back

Deborah Fine

THE Constitutional Court has withheld certification of the Western Cape's proposed constitution, but only on limited grounds of inconsistency with the national constitution.

The National Party described it as a "meaningful breakthrough" and said the shortcomings could be easily rectified. Premier Hennis Kriel said it was just a matter of time before the province had its own constitution.

Western Cape constitutional affairs committee chairman Hennie Bester (Democratic Party) said he was "delighted" with the judgment, despite the denial of certification. The fact that the constitution was referred back on "only three limited grounds" meant the largest part of it was consistent with the national constitution.

He said the constitution would be

referred back to the committee, amended and resubmitted for certification after the Western Cape legislature had approved it again.

The grounds on which the document was rejected concerned the Western Cape's plans to introduce a provincially determined electoral system for its parliament, its proposals to remove certain ceremonial powers conferred on the Constitutional Court president and clauses calling for provincial legislation to refine a national prohibition on provincial cabinet ministers from performing "other paid work".

The court dismissed most of the African National Congress and national government's 16 objections.

In a unanimous judgment it said a provincial constitution could be certified only if it was consistent with the national constitution on co-operative government and if it did not award it-

self any powers or functions which the national constitution had not given to the provinces.

"The provinces remain creatures of the new constitution and cannot, through their provincial constitution-making power, alter their character or their relationship with other levels of government," the court said.

It rejected the province's proposed electoral system because prescribing such a system was the national constitution's function. It said the province's system, based predominantly on the representation of "geographic multi-number constituencies", was inconsistent with the national constitution's requirement that the province use an outright list system of proportional representation with a specific seat allocation method.

(263)
See Page 4

BD 3/9/97

Political row ruins lessons of bid Ball plea in vain as Nats and ANC cross swords

MICHAEL MORRIS
SPECIAL WRITER

The prospect of a calm evaluation of Cape Town's failed bid for the 2004 Olympics has receded further with the intensifying of a political row between the National Party and the African National Congress.

Western Cape Premier Hannus Kriel accused the ANC at the weekend of sidelining him and of hijacking the bid

In a cutting riposte yesterday, Sports Minister Steve Tshwete said the NP had sunk "into a political cesspool", and that Mr Kriel's comments "illustrate the dearth of decency" in the party

One of the most measured comments to date comes from bid chief executive Chris Ball, who has urged Cape Town not to lose the opportunity to become a key city in the future, and said it should capitalise on the bid experience

"We should not have any recriminations about losing the bid"

It also emerged yesterday that the Government itself was not proposing a new bid, the initiative for which would have to come from the city of Cape Town, or any other city which felt it wanted to make a second attempt

Mr Tshwete implied that Cape Town would be the ideal city to try again, but that the initiative would have to come from the city itself

ARK 9/9/97 (263)

dealt with successfully on their own

He argued that if the Government had wanted to politicise the bid, "it would simply not have agreed to Cape Town entering the bid in the first place, because it is an NP enclave"

And he insisted he, as chairman of the Bid Company board, had never "attempted to interfere with or manipulate the bid"

On the other hand, the NP "have never done a single piece of work to popularise the bid in Cape Town"

BITTERNESS FUELLED BY OLYMPIC BID 'SNUB'

Nat threat to axe ANCMECs

ET 9/9/97

OLYMPIC BID fallout is likely to hit the local ANC in a somewhat different way — it could lose its four cabinet posts to political rivalry, reports Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE**.

THE government of provincial unity in the Western Cape is under threat from longstanding bitterness between the ANC and the NP.

Tensions that have surfaced could lead to the ANC losing its four cabinet posts in the Western Cape.

The ANC's embattled position in the provincial cabinet follows renewed strife over the provincial constitution. A decision will be made today whether a clause in the provincial draft constitution guaranteeing a government of provincial unity will be removed.

Ruel is being added to the fire as the NP's barely-hidden bitterness about being sidelined in the Olympic bid starts surfacing.

Western Cape Premier Mr Herinus Kriel this weekend made known his party's feelings on what is widely perceived by it as gross breach of protocol on the part of the bid company.

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's representative on the Bid company, Ms Mofanku Gumbi, rejected Kriel's charge that Cape town had lost because the ANC had manipulated it for political ends.

Gumbi, an attorney, said it betrayed the NP's readiness to sink into a political cesspool.

Tshwete described the NP as "skunk of the world" and said Kriel had become a physical embodiment of its frustrated fortunes.

"It's contemptible in the extreme, and once again marks the aberrations of a party that has lost not just its direction but its soul as well," Tshwete said.

He described Kriel's statement as "mischief" which would not

help this country's efforts to host international events. He said the NP had been involved in the bidding process at local, provincial and national level.

In the run-up to the final vote by the International Olympic Committee last Friday, the NP was careful not to speak publicly about feelings that the Olympic bid had been hijacked by the ANC. However the list of slights dealt the NP is likely to grow with discussion around why Cape Town lost.

Not least of these was that Kriel was not officially invited to be part of the delegation in Lausanne, Switzerland. Leaks from several provincial cabinet sources confirm that because of this, Kriel had to be coaxed to go to Lausanne. The NP contends that had Johannesburg been the bid city, Premier Tokyo Sexwale would not have been ignored as often as Kriel had been.

In an interview two weeks ago, Western Cape local government MEC Mr Peter Marais spoke frankly about the NP's concerns on condition that it was not published before last Friday.

"If it wasn't for the premier telling us (NP members of the cabinet) to remain calm, we would have blown the thing sky high." Mayors from NP-run structures in the metro have also complained of being ignored and several examples have been cited.

Late last month Marais said "If we win the bid we will make co-operation with the ANC condition-

al on greater recognition of the province and local government

The underlying friction between the two parties has been compounded during Constitutional Affairs standing committee meetings at the provincial legislature. The committee met yesterday to discuss three clauses the Constitutional Court had rejected.

The draft constitution gives the premier permission to increase the size of his cabinet from 10 to 14 members. Although the ANC was opposed, the Constitutional Court found no fault with it.

However, during a meeting yesterday to amend the constitution, the ANC proposed it be scrapped. In retaliation, the NP proposed an amendment to end power-sharing.

SPONSORS GIVE GREEN LIGHT FOR 2008
—Page 3

The ANC opposes a bigger cabinet because the province, faced with a budget deficit of R247 million, could ill-afford it.

The party yesterday made it clear that the budget process — which began after the constitution was agreed to by all parties in February — was the reason for re-opening the issue of the size of the cabinet.

The Democratic Party, the Freedom Front and the African Christian Democratic Party agreed that they would not oppose proposals to end power-sharing.

The ACDP was the only other party adding its voice to the ANC's reflection of an extended cabinet.

At this stage in the provincial relationship between the ANC and the NP there is only one strand of understanding that remains unbroken.

Both parties are still fighting strongly to ensure that Parliament remains in Cape Town.



THE CITY OF EAST LONDON COMMEMORATES STEVE BANTU BIKO SEPTEMBER 1997

Nats vow to oust ANC in Cape row

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

Argus 10/9/97 (263)

The National Party will not back down on a proposed amendment to the provincial constitution which will effectively end the government of provincial unity.

In the past few days there has been a war of words between the NP and its main rival in the province, the African National Congress, over proposed changes to the constitution

NP chief whip Piet Meyer said matters came to a head yesterday at a constitutional affairs standing committee meeting, arranged to discuss the three clauses in the provincial constitution the Constitutional Court

refused to certify last month

Mr Meyer said while there was broad agreement on the three clauses, the ANC objected to another clause which would enable Premier Hernus Kriel to appoint four additional members to his cabinet - two experts and two from the legislature

"The NP has now proposed to amend a clause in the constitution which will end the government of provincial unity and the matter will come up for debate in the legislature this afternoon. We are expecting the ANC to bring in their big guns in an attempt to win support for their cause, but the NP is adamant that our proposal to end the GPU will be carried and the four ANC MECs lose

their cabinet posts"

Mr Meyer said all the amendments to the provincial constitution would go back to the court in November and, if certified, could see the end of ANC cabinet ministers in the provincial government

The ANC leader in the provincial legislature, Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool, said it appeared a rightwing element led by Mr Kriel had taken firm hold of the NP and was intent on destroying the GPU

"The NP is effectively kicking the four ANC ministers out of cabinet. Our only concern is that the provisions of the GPU remain in place until 1999 as intended by the Kempton Park negotiations," Mr Rasool said

Schools may take legal action after budget cuts

SABATA NGCAI
EDUCATION REPORTER

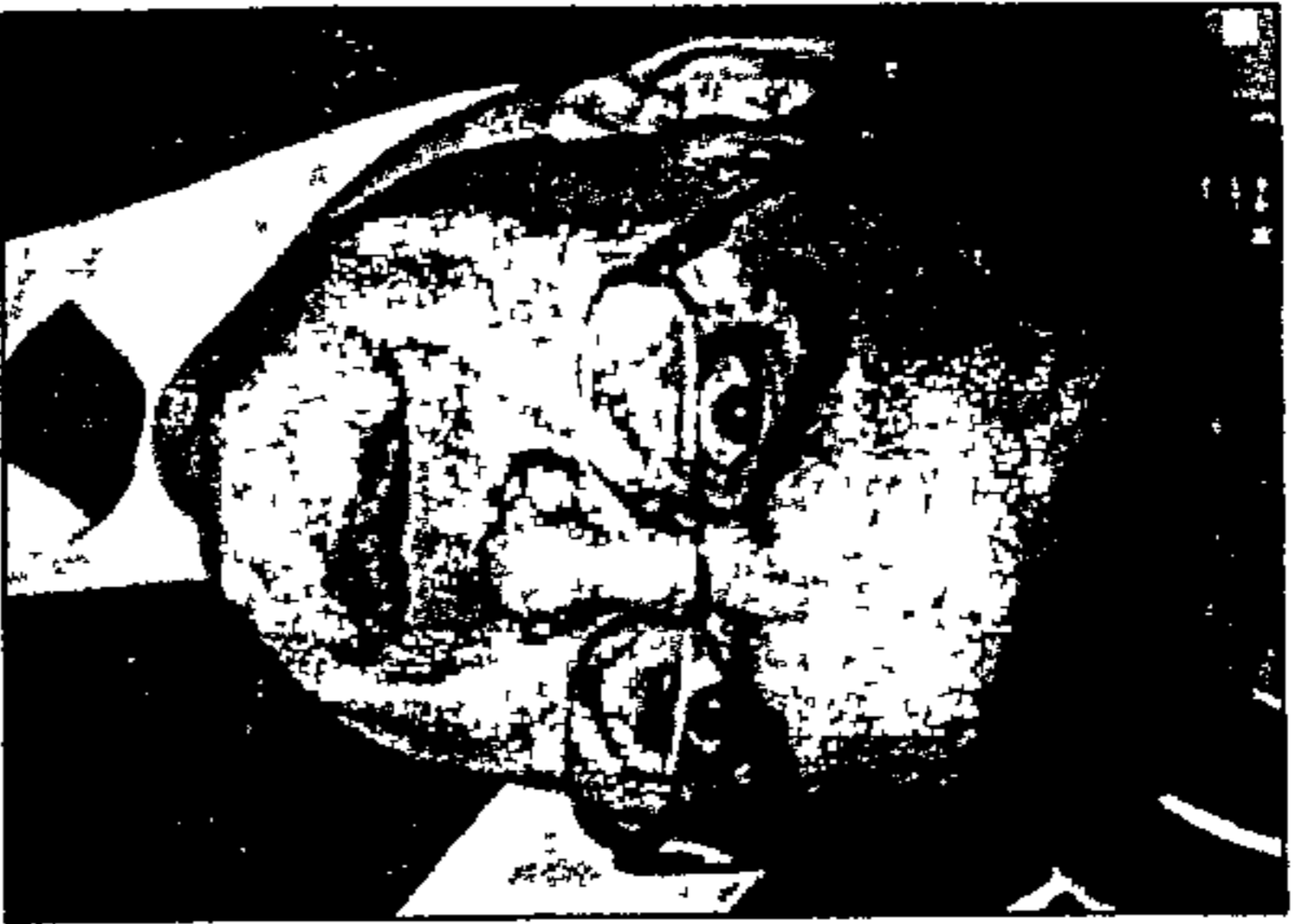
Argus 10/19/97 (263)
Embattled private schools may
take legal action against the
Western Cape Education
Department for cutting their
government grants by 32%.

Representatives of 77 Western
Cape private schools will meet in
Cape Town on Friday to discuss a
course of action.

The schools say the department
took the decision in disregard of the
provisions of the South African
Schools Act. The act says the head of
the education department may not
terminate or reduce subsidies to pri-
vate schools unless they are notified
in advance and given reasons for
such a decision.

The schools said they had
appealed to provincial premier Her-
nus Kriel, national Minister of Educa-
tion Sibusiso Bengu and Western
Cape education head Brian O'Con-
nell, but to no avail.

The cut sounded a death-knell for
cash-strapped St Columba's High
School in Athlone, which is closing
its doors at the end of the year.



TALKS: ANC provincial chief Dullah Omar met key ANC people last night.

ANC MECs set to lose their jobs today

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

THE four ANC MECs in the provincial government of unity in the Western Cape are set to lose their posts today when the provincial legislature votes on the amendment that will remove the power-sharing provision from the provincial constitution.

With the African Christian Democratic Party, Freedom Front, Democratic Party and National Party showing support for the amendment at committee level, voting will render the removal of provincial ANC ministers a fait accompli. With co-operative governance in the Western Cape flying out the window in

the wake of bitterness between the ruling NP and the ANC, four ANC members of the provincial cabinet will have to take salary cuts of around R9 000 a month when they go from being MECs to normal members of the provincial legislature.

Mr Chris Nissen (Economic Affairs and Reconstruction and Development), Mr Ebrahim Rasool (Health and Social Services), Mr Leonard Ramatlakane (Transport and Public Works) and Mr Lerumo Kalako (Sport and Recreation) will lose their positions in the cabinet once an amended version of the provincial constitution is certified. With it goes their monthly salaries of about R25 900, which will be reduced to around R16 800; their car allowances,

cars and drivers; their security guards, their support staff and their direct access to government information.

The four ANC MECs control about 58% of the provincial budget within the four portfolios and losing their cabinet positions will rob them of considerable power in the Western Cape. Rumblings of anger and bitterness are showing early signs of leading to serious conflict in the province. Provincial ANC leader Mr Dullah Omar and key ANC members of the provincial legislature, including those holding cabinet positions, met last night to discuss their strategy. Mr Cameron Dugmore, head of the ANC's publicity and information department in the legislature and also a

member of the Constitutional Affairs standing committee, said yesterday: "Taking some of our positions on the cabinet away is going to create division. It will have a major impact on the province and we won't take this move lying down. There is going to be mass mobilisation."

The mobilisation would be against NP rule and would transcend plain opposition politics. The ANC's support in "critical constituencies" would not accept any tampering with the co-operative agreement which was supposed to be in place until at least 1999, he said. Dugmore added that removing ANC members from the cabinet held dangers for provincial unity and stability. **Turn to PAGE TWO**

is worth nothing," Bester said. Following a Western Cape ANC meeting last night, Dugmore said: "It is clear that the NP is determined to lead the campaign to remove Parliament from Cape Town. The party has set out on a course of confrontation and in the end Cape Town will be the loser. "It is hoped that reason will prevail in today's debate," he said.

● Following a Western Cape ANC meeting last night, Dugmore said: "It is clear that the NP is determined to lead the campaign to remove Parliament from Cape Town. The party has set out on a course of confrontation and in the end Cape Town will be the loser. "It is hoped that reason will prevail in today's debate," he said.

he was offered one despite his party's stance against an inflated executive — said yesterday: "I would rather leave politics than enter the cabinet under a cloud." If he was approached by Kriel to join the cabinet, it would not be for Bester to decide. Because the independence and autonomy of the party would be in question, the DP's provincial council would have to consider the offer. "If one is offered political leadership and you don't take your constituency with you, your voice is worth nothing," Bester said.

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ANC MECs
may get the
axe today
(263)
CT 10/19/97

From Page 1

TOUGH LINE ON HARASSMENT

A wink is as bad as a nod to metro workers

GOOD INTENTIONS don't count if anything you say or do is construed as sexual harassment by a fellow metro council worker, male or female. **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

CAPE Metropolitan Council employees who are loose tongued, fond of a cuddle and enjoy the occasional dirty joke could be in for a rude shock with the imminent introduction of the council's strict new sexual harassment policy.

Believed to be the first of its kind for councils in the Western Cape and possibly the country, the policy warns employees that simply calling a colleague "honey, dear or sweetheart", regaling fellow workers with an off-colour joke or "puckering one's lips suggestively" may well land them in hot water.

"Compliments like 'Nice legs! You look sexy in that outfit!' can make individuals feel uncomfortable or worse," cautions the policy document approved last week by the CMC's human resources committee.

It is anticipated that the document will be given the green light by the full metropolitan council by the end of the month.

Squeezing a worker's shoulder, putting a hand around his or her waist or "making obscene signs with one's fingers or hands" are all unwise actions that could result in a complaint being laid.

And don't think only women are victims in these cases. "Studies show that the number of non-traditional sexual harassment complaints is increasing," says the document.

"Even a wink across a table, with no connotations attached,

could be construed as harassment," chairman of the committee Mr David Dali said yesterday.

He agreed that the policy was tight, stressing that it was a "first step in the right direction" rather than carved in stone.

"The CMC is adopting a proactive approach from which Metropolitan Local Councils can take a lead," he said.

Chairman of exco, Mr Pierre Uys, said the policy "must be strict".

"For both sides' sake, people must have clear guidelines so that they know where they have to stop," he said.

The comprehensive policy, also offers advice for specific situations.

"If, for instance, someone means no harm by "friendly" behaviour and "harmless" joking, not intending to hurt anyone's feelings, is he or she still guilty of sexual harassment or discrimination?"

"Probably yes," the document advises. Apparently, guilt in this case is determined by how the behaviour is received and not necessarily by how it is intended.

"Anyone in a command posi-

tion who uses or condones any form of sexual behaviour to control, influence or affect the career, pay or job situation of a council employee is engaging in sexual harassment," in terms of the new policy.

"Any employee who makes deliberate or repeated unwelcome verbal comments, gestures or physical contact of a sexual nature in the workplace is also engaging in

sexual harassment.

"If you feel that you may have sexually harassed someone," it urges, "Apologise."

Then ask another person or a supervisor for advice and help.

Recipients of unwelcome attentions should first try to solve the

problem informally.

If this doesn't work, a specially formed "harassment grievance committee" will be called in to investigate.

If it finds that the incident did indeed occur, the culprit could, depending on its seriousness, escape with a warning or face a disciplinary hearing.

Whatever happens, the issue must be tackled, says the document: "Ignoring sexual harassment won't make it go away. Doing nothing about it can only increase the likelihood of your organisation being involved in legal disciplinary action."

Calling a colleague "honey, dear or sweetheart", regaling fellow workers with an off-colour joke or "puckering one's lips suggestively" may well land Metropolitan Council employees in hot water.

Kriel likely to remove three of the four ANC members of his cabinet

B D 10/9/97 263

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hennis Kriel was likely to remove three of the four African National Congress (ANC) MECs in his cabinet after the National Party's (NP's) rejection of a government of provincial unity with the ANC.

Political polarisation threatened as the ANC warned of mass mobilisation to contest the premier's plans.

Kriel's spokesman said the premier would undertake a fundamental

reshuffle of his cabinet to create a multiparty executive.

The NP-dominated constitutional affairs committee in the provincial legislature, meeting to amend the provincial constitution for resubmission to the Constitutional Court, yesterday approved a document deleting all references to the government of provincial unity and providing for a cabinet of 10 members plus two outside experts.

On proclamation of the new constitution the government of provincial unity would end immediately and

Kriel would have the power to remove all the ANC MECs.

But it was considered likely that he would remove three of the four ANC MECs — those in charge of economic affairs, public works, and sport and recreation — while offering cabinet posts to Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Hennie Bester and African Christian Democratic Party provincial leader Michael Louw.

The only ANC MEC likely to be retained, sources said, would be health and welfare MEC Ebrahim Rasool, but

ANC provincial information director Cameron Dugmore said the party would not accept the retention of only one MEC. Dugmore believed Kriel wanted to appropriate the "delivery" portfolios ahead of the 1999 elections.

NP MP Quarta du Toit said the NP had always been committed to cooperative governance and had proposed constitutionally prolonging the government of provincial unity after 1999. However, this had been offered to the ANC as a "total package" with a cabinet of 14 members. When the ANC

insisted on a less costly 10-person cabinet, the NP reduced its proposed number by two and withdrew its support for a government of provincial unity.

"It has nothing to do with the fact that the NP was slighted by the Olympic bid," Du Toit said. "We were pushed too far."

Bester said the DP's provincial council would have to decide on any offer of a cabinet position on the basis of whether it could still play an effective opposition role and what contribution it could make.

MP thwarts NP bid to change Cape legislature

Linda Ensor

BD 11/9/97

(263)

CAPE TOWN — The National Party (NP) in the Western Cape had to backtrack on its plans to immediately dissolve the government of provincial unity yesterday when the sole Freedom Front representative in the legislature hesitated about supporting the move.

The special sitting of the provincial legislature, held to adopt the revised constitution, was postponed indefinitely at the suggestion of the NP. Another sitting to decide on the issue was scheduled for today.

Meanwhile, Freedom Front member Eleanore Lombard is being wooed by both the NP and the African National Congress (ANC).

Lombard's vote would have given the NP the necessary two-thirds majority to pass a revised provincial constitution that excluded all references to the government of provincial unity. The Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party supported the NP's proposals.

Sources said that after Lombard indicated yesterday morning that she

would abstain on the vote, the NP approached the ANC. The NP offered to keep the government of provincial unity on condition that the size of the cabinet be increased from 10 to 14. However, the ANC, opposed to incurring additional costs, rejected the offer.

Premier Hennis Kriel said he was not determined to dissolve the government of provincial unity, but the talks would dictate the outcome.

ANC leader in the provincial legislature Ebrahim Rasool said he believed both the ANC and NP were committed to the government of provincial unity until 1999. Both sides would have to be flexible, he said.

Lombard said she did not support a government of provincial unity as she thought the ANC MECs were performing poorly.

She said she rejected an extension of the cabinet as originally proposed by the NP, citing the extra costs.

When the ANC raised the issue of the cabinet during talks earlier in the week, the NP proposed a 12-member cabinet and the dissolution of the government of provincial unity.

'NO TO GRAVY TRAIN CLAUSE'

FF vote threatens ANC cabinet posts

(263)

TODAY'S reading of the constitution in the provincial legislature will highlight which party was prepared to compromise most on issues of powersharing and an extended cabinet. **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

THE Freedom Front in the Western Cape holds the balance of power which could determine the fate of four ANC members of the provincial cabinet.

Strife between the ruling National Party and the ANC this week surfaced during negotiations around the provincial constitution which was sent back by the Constitutional Court last week for technical amendments.

The ANC, despite earlier support of a provincial constitution which allows the premier to increase his cabinet from 10 to 14 members, on Monday proposed a new amendment which would effectively put an end to any such plans.

Based on this proposal, the NP in turn brought an amendment which will remove clauses guaranteeing co-operative governance until 1999. The effect of this would be that Western Cape Premier Hermus Kriel could dismiss his entire

cabinet and reconstitute it without a single ANC face on the executive.

In an unusual turn of events in the provincial legislature, a smaller party held the balance of power by indicating it could not, with a clear conscience, vote for a provincial constitution which contained what it calls a "gravy train clause".

Ms Eleanor Lombard of the FF said. "We have a serious difficulty with the financial aspect of increasing the cabinet. At the same time, we feel strongly that co-operative governance in this province exists in name only and that the premier should be given the power to elect cabinet members on merit."

To get a two-thirds majority vote, the NP needed the vote of the three smaller parties in the legislature: the Democratic Party, African Christian Democratic Party and the FF, she said.

The uncertainty about which way the FF would vote, led to the sitting of the house being postponed until today.

Yesterday evening the ANC, NP and FF were wrestling with their stances and the reading of the constitution in the legislature today will highlight which of the parties was prepared to compromise most.

Lombard said the FF was heavily in favour of a provincial constitution and did not want to be the "spoke in the wheel". If it came down to voting, she said, the FF felt more strongly against enforced power-sharing than it did about an increased cabinet.

The ANC may decide to withdraw its amendment in a bid to hang on to its four portfolios. In that case, it is likely the NP will withdraw its amendment to dispense with co-operative governance until 1999.

If the compromises are made, the constitution will have little effect on the structure of the provincial government. The ANC MECs Mr Chris Nissen (Economic Affairs and Reconstruction and Development), Mr Leonard Ramatlakane (Transport and Public Works), Mr Lerumo Kalako (Sport and Recreation) and Mr Ebrahim Rasool (Health and Social Services) could then remain in power until the next election.

NP wins W Cape battle

Star 12/9/97 (263)

Cape Town - The ruling National Party in the Western Cape mustered a two-thirds majority yesterday to pass its provincial constitution which, among other things, will see the end of power-sharing with the ANC.

Four ANC MECs are now set to lose their posts in Hernus Kriel's provincial cabinet

They are the MECs of economic affairs Chris Nissen, transport and public works Leonard Ramatlakane, sport and recreation Lerumo Kalako and health Ebrahim Rasool

The Freedom Front's sole MP, Eleanor Lombard, who held the balance of power, threw her weight behind the NP, DP

and African Christian Democratic Party who supported the constitution which included, a clause ending co-operative governance in the province.

Lombard held out until the last minute, saying she could not vote for a constitution with a "gravy train clause"

She was referring to a clause allowing Premier Hernus Kriel to appoint two more "outsiders" to his cabinet, increasing the number from 10 to 12.

She said the presence of four ANC MECs who were unco-operative and were wasting taxpayers' money would in the end be more of a financial burden - Sapa

MULTIPARTY CABINET FAVOURED

Dumped ANC men say 'no' to Kriel proposal

CT 12/9/97 (263)

BITTERNESS has replaced the government of unity in the Western Cape, leaving the ANC out in the cold. Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

THE government of provincial unity in the Western Cape is on its way out

By as early as January next year, African National Congress provincial ministers Mr Ebrahim Rasool, Mr Chris Nissen, Mr Lerumo Kalako and Mr Leonard Ramatlakane will be reduced to normal members of the provincial legislature, losing with their posts a monthly salary of R25 000 and the perks that go with being a member of the executive committee

In their place, the people of the Western Cape could see new MECs from parties like the Freedom Front, the African Christian Democratic Party and the Democratic Party, because Premier Mr Hennis Kriel has stated he is in favour of having a multiparty cabinet

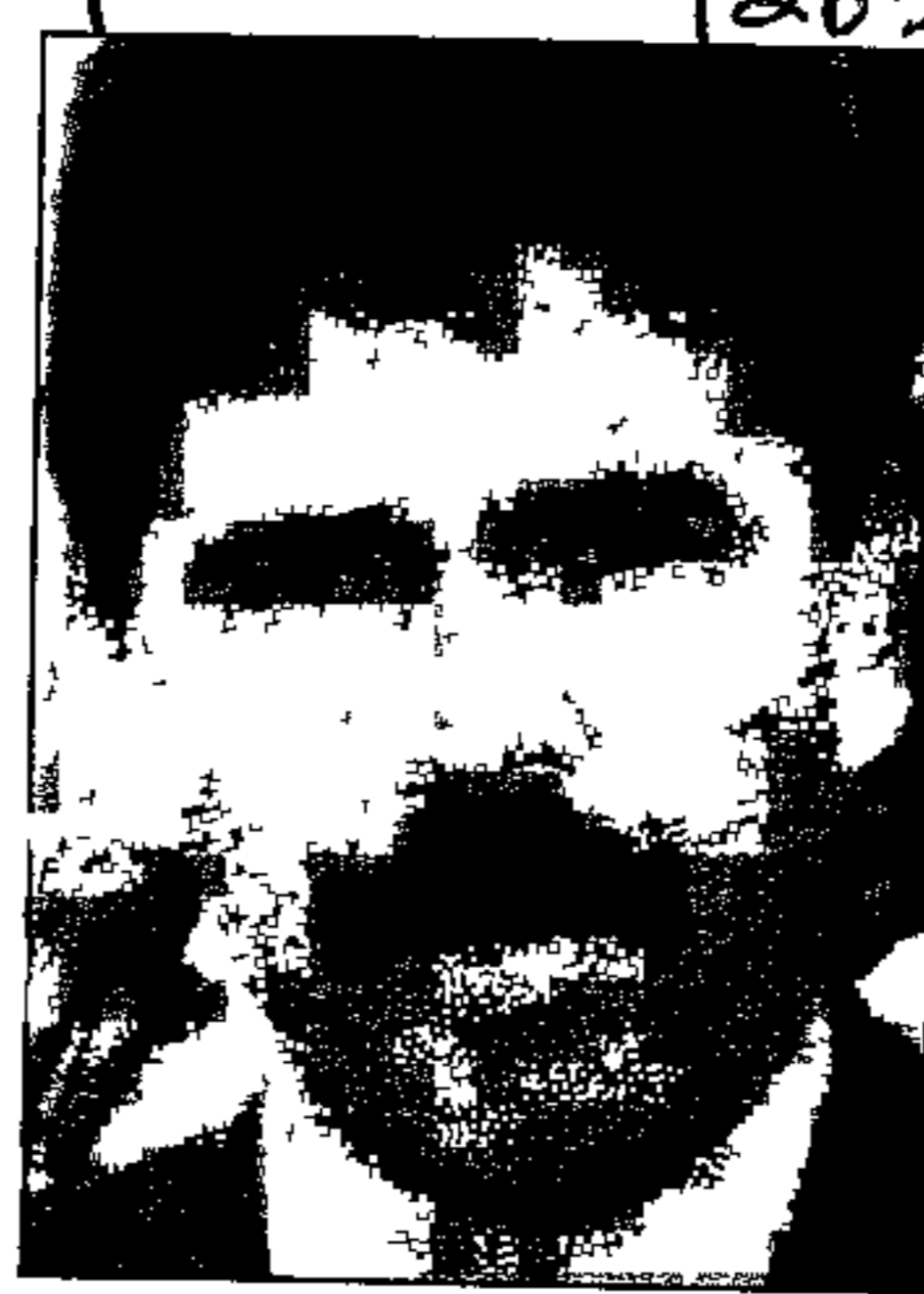
Yesterday he said he would invite the ANC to join a new cabinet which would be constituted once the provincial constitution was certified

However, the ANC has made it clear it would not accept such invitations and would rather take up a position as a "lobbying opposition" Rasool said when it came to choosing between material benefits and principles, the ANC stood on the side of principle

Sour speeches were made in the provincial legislature yesterday —



PRINCIPLED: Ebrahim Rasool



OUT: Chris Nissen



OUT: Lerumo Kalako



OUT: Leonard Ramatlakane

which was sitting to debate the second reading of the provincial constitution — and were the culmination of a week of extreme tension between all the parties

The increased bitterness between the ANC and the NP came

to a head because of a dispute around the provincial constitution which was not certified in the Constitutional Court last week.

The Constitutional Affairs Standing Committee met on Monday to adjust technical hitches in

the document, but the ANC unexpectedly, and contradictory to an earlier position, brought an amendment that would no longer allow the premier to increase the size of his cabinet

The NP in turn tabled an amendment which would bring to an end the power-sharing arrangement in the province

The DP and ACDP indicated they would vote for the amended constitution, despite concerns over the ANC about-face.

However, the FF, whose vote the NP needed to pass the bill of the constitution, earlier said it had reservations on the constitution.

The FF's position sent all the parties into crisis talks Rasool, also leader of the ANC in the legislature, yesterday indicated that the ANC and NP had moved closer to agreement by late Wednesday

This possible compromise flew out the window yesterday morning, he said, and was probably because the NP had secured the FF vote overnight.

The FF did vote for the constitution, but stated that it did not agree with the NP's wish to increase the cabinet This was just a case of adding wagons to the gravy train, said the FF's Mrs Eleanor Lombard.

"We're projecting an image to the province that the fat cats are not just getting fatter, but that there are now more of them," Lombard said

Kriel said he had made friends with the ANC members in his cabinet and he had often pleaded that their relationship not become a political instrument.

Cape legislature adopts provincial constitution

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape government of provincial unity came to a formal end yesterday when the legislature adopted a revised provincial constitution which contained no reference to this form of government.

All hopes of a compromise waned overnight and the National Party (NP) position prevailed.

Premier and NP provincial leader Hennis Kriel said once the provincial constitution was certified by the constitutional court in November or December, he would remove the province's four African National Congress (ANC) MECs and form a multiparty cabinet which the ANC would be invited to join.

However, ANC leader in the legislature, health MEC Ebrahim Rasool, considered it unlikely the ANC would

agree to participate on the sole basis of the premier's discretion and not of their own right.

There would have to be a constitutional underpinning for the party's participation, he said, adding that the ANC's withdrawal from the provincial government would see it consolidating its role as opposition.

He warned of possible frustration and confrontation, in that the ANC might in the past have been a "safety valve" for the NP government.

It was likely that Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Hennie Bester and African Christian Democratic Party provincial leader Michael Louis would be asked to join the cabinet.

In terms of the amended provincial constitution to be submitted to the constitutional court, the cabinet will consist of 12 members, two of them co-opted experts for at least six years.

PD 12/19/97

(263)

Freedom Front MPL, Eleanor Lombard, whose vote was crucial to the NP obtaining the required two-thirds majority, explained that she had been forced to weigh up "the lesser of two evils". By allying herself with the NP, she would have to accept a larger size cabinet than the 10 members she wished for.

On the other hand, if she refused to budge, the NP would have done a deal with the ANC on the basis of a continuance of the government of provincial unity which Lombard opposed on the grounds that three ANC MECs were underperforming and wasting taxpayers' money.

The DP's Bester also opposed the government of provincial unity, saying it could not continue when ANC MECs — who controlled 58% of the provincial budget — voted against the adoption of the deficit budget.

The ANC voted against the constitution's adoption on grounds of the cost of extra cabinet members and of its opposition to the dissolution of the government of provincial unity before 1999. It also believed the public should have had an opportunity to comment on the proposals.

Rasool said the losers would be the Western Cape people who had up till now felt the benefits of ANC-driven delivery, as the NP was not orientated towards this.

Rasool said ANC MECs would go all out to ensure that transformation programmes and delivery systems were firmly in place before they departed from the cabinet.

Kriel said he was disappointed that the government of provincial unity had ended, but said the ANC had pushed the NP too far by reopening the question of the size of the cabinet.

There was a gentleman's agreement that what was not at issue with the constitutional court should be left as it was, including the continuation of the government of provincial unity.

When the ANC had reneged on this agreement, the NP had fought back and proposed the dissolution of the GNU, Kriel said.

Sapa reports that the ANC now intends to table two motions in Parliament on Tuesday criticising NP and DP leaders. One motion would call on new NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk to censure Hennis Kriel for "creating division in the Western Cape and the nation". The other attacks the DP for supporting reductions in the number of national cabinet seats, while favouring the new provincial constitution and an enlarged Western Cape cabinet, where it stands to gain up to two cabinet seats.

Row as Cape parties scramble for ministerial posts

PIETER MALAN

Members of political parties in the Western Cape climbed into each other this week in a desperate effort to ensure themselves ministerial seats in the Western Cape government.

What many expected to be a fairly easy job - making the amendments suggested by the Constitutional Court to get the Western Cape constitution accepted - turned into an acrimonious political battle and an end to African National Congress participation in the provincial government of national unity.

This week's fight centred on Chapter 4 of the proposed constitution that stipulates the number of ministers the province may have

The court had no problem with the draft document bolstering the number of ministers from 10 to 14.

But with the court having referred the constitution back to the provincial legislature, the ANC used the opportunity to again open up the debate on the size of the executive, arguing that the province could ill afford paying for all the extra ministers.

Provincial government ministers earn salaries upwards of R25 000 a month.

But Premier Hermus Kriel did not take kindly to the ANC trying to derail the province's constitution at such a late stage and threw down the gauntlet by tabling an amendment to end the power-sharing agreement whereby the ANC holds four cabinet

posts in the Western Cape until 1999.

But for the constitution to obtain the crucial two-thirds majority, the NP still needed the vote of the three smaller parties in the house - the Democratic Party (DP), the Freedom Front (FF) and the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP).

And though all three supported an end to power-sharing, the FF's Eleanor Lombard said she still had a problem with the expansion of the cabinet to 14 members - which left her holding the balance of power.

It left Kriel with two options either to compromise with the ANC or to persuade Lombard to accept a bigger cabinet.

NP sources said it was after Kriel offered a compromise - to increase the provincial cabinet to 12 instead of

14 members - that the Freedom Front agreed to accept the constitution.

Two of these members would be from outside politics, allowing the premier to appoint outside experts without voting powers in key portfolios.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said that it became clear towards the end of the week that the NP was buying patronage with promises of cabinet posts, something smaller parties found hard to resist.

If the Constitutional Court accepts the latest amendments - something most believe will happen - it could open the way for Kriel to reshuffle his Cabinet, offering some posts to smaller parties.

NP closing the circle, page 22

ARG 13/9/97

268

CAPE TOWN — Government would block attempts by the Western Cape authorities to promote apartheid policies, Housing Minister Sankie Mthembi-Mahanyele said yesterday.

She was reacting to Western Cape housing MEC Cecil Herandien's threat to take her to court for ordering him to halt housing delivery in the province.

From March 1994 to July this year the province had spent R787m, of which R400m had been spent on projects initiated under the former tricameral Parliament's coloured House of Representatives, Mthembi-Mahanyele said.

"It is a fact that the Western Cape province could have built five times as many houses if the R400m had been spent in terms of the current housing subsidy scheme."

Her ministry had been talking to the Western Cape to phase out their old dispensation projects, she said.

"These were inherited

Cape warned on 'apartheid' policies

BD 15/9/97 (263)
by every province. But they (the Western Cape) are taking their time about this and using the money for these old dispensation projects."

The province's housing department had been asked on numerous occasions over the past year to supply figures on cash flows and commitments to the national department. No response had been received.

The minister said two weeks ago her department had sent two officials to the Western Cape to get the statistics from deputy housing director John Austin.

"The figures supplied to the national department by Austin showed the province had unauthorised overcommitments totalling more than R700m," Mthembi-Mahanyele said.

These, as well as unauthorised overcommitments by other

provinces, was a matter of serious concern to her department.

Provinces had been told earlier in September they might not make further commitments until an accurate reconciliation of their cash flow and current level of commitments had been made against their national housing subsidy scheme allocations.

On Friday, Herandien said he would allow the provincial housing board to allocate subsidies to achieve the national goal of 1-million houses by 1999.

To date it had built just more than 50% of the provincial target of 114 000 units.

Mthembi-Mahanyele said the Western Cape ranked third in terms of the actual number of houses under construction under the new housing subsidy scheme. — Sapa

Niel Barnard condemns audit

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape government yesterday criticised damning provincial audit reports, and said it was "extremely irresponsible and unfair" to claim that the Western Cape management style was too centralised.

The Western Cape joined the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal governments in condemning the reports by the public service department under the leadership of director-general Paseka Nicholo.

Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard, singled out for accumulating too much power in his office, criticised the audit during a Presidential Review Commission hearing into the public service last Friday.

"The philosophy of the Western Cape administration is to delegate to the maximum," Barnard said yesterday. He denied that his management style was overly centralised, as the audit report suggested. He said the audit process had been con-

ducted "on a wrong level" because it had focused mainly on the views of public servants and ignored those of the political leadership. But of "more concern", Barnard said, was central government's practice of developing policy at a national level without a clear determination of financial implications at provincial level.

The nationally driven budget process was much too centralised and hampered provinces in determining priorities between health, education and welfare.

However, decentralisation of the budget process would not enable provinces to meet responsibilities unless they were enabled to raise a greater share of their revenue, Barnard told the review commission.

The audit report found the primary issue facing the Western Cape was the reduction of its budget for the current financial year by R1,25bn as a result of an allocation reduction from the national treasury.

According to the audit report, Barnard's "office is lean, totalling four staff, and is the

hub of all management decisions in the provincial administration".

It said management control in the provincial administration "appears to be highly centralised, in spite of the stated desire of the director-general (Barnard) to enable his heads of department to manage with the maximum autonomy, and the high skill levels found in the Western Cape generally. Heads of department have few real delegated powers for the management of the key functions of finance and personnel, and are strongly controlled by the central offices, particularly the department of finance and corporate services, which has both a strategic and a line management function over the departments it services."

The audit report said Barnard was "supportive" of the concept to decentralise power to departments "as they show themselves able to manage", but said: "He does not appear to be of the view that all departments should receive decentralised authority at the same time."

BD 16/9/92 (263)

Provinces running out of cash to pay staff, says Kriel ⁽²⁶³⁾

'We're heading for disaster'

ARG 19/9/97

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Provincial administrations will soon be unable to pay employees, says Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel.

"It is a grave, grave situation that we face," he told the National Council of Provinces debate on the Public Service Ministry's provincial review

Mr Kriel said the review had exposed that provinces could not govern well. They lacked financial and human resources.

Provinces had been brought to the brink of collapse because they did not have enough trained and experienced officials. Central government had made a faux pas with its offer to public servants of voluntary severance packages

"The effect of this was that we lost some of our best officials"

The vacancies had been filled in many cases by inexperienced and unqualified people

"Don't accuse me of racism, I am talking about qualifications," Mr Kriel told delegates

This was not the end of the problems. Central government had said there should be a leaner, meaner and better-paid public service

"So we raised salaries, but there was only one province that reduced the number of public servants, and that was the Western Cape," he said

Other provinces, and central government, had increased the numbers of public servants employed. The percentage of budgets spent on salaries, which already averaged more than 90% in some departments, would rise to more than 100% unless the number of public servants was reduced

Thus there would be no money to fund work for public servants, and "It would be better for us to tell them to stay at home so they don't use the telephones"

Provinces were not allowed to

retrench people, but were expected to pay higher salaries

"We are heading for a disaster," Mr Kriel said

Public Service Minister Zola Skweyiya, opening the debate, said steps being taken to solve the serious "capacity" problem in provinces included various "capacity-building" programmes, with central government and sometimes foreign support

He appealed to provinces with the "capacity" to do so, meaning the Western Cape and Gauteng, to help their fellow provinces

Other steps to resolve the situation included the Batho Pele service delivery campaign. "We no longer have time for more analysts. We need to improve service delivery," Dr Skweyiya said

Narend Singh, for the KwaZulu Natal government, said the report had been counter-productive "because we played into the hands of the media" with exposures of poor administration

Danes set to boost new local authority

(263)

PETER GOOSEN

CITY DESK

ARG 19/9/97

Danish business consultants financed by the European Community will help restructure the South Peninsula municipality into a slim, trim and efficient local authority, a pilot project for the rest of the country

The consultants, Mercuri Urval, which has offices in 17 countries, has become involved in the South Peninsula project through Khalil Mullaie, project co-ordinator of the National Business Initiative in Cape Town.

The arrival of Mercuri Urval was described at a meeting between the consultants and the South's executive committee as "manna from heaven"

The new municipality, which has just become home to an additional 4 000 staff from other local authorities, is desperate to reorganise but does not have the funds

Not only is the South getting the expertise of the Danes, but the project will be financed by the European Community to the tune of R5-million

The South's mayor, O J Jacobs, recently signed papers to get the process under way

Chief director Jan Koekemoer said the offer was the most exciting thing since the formation of the new municipality

"It must also be remembered that central government has passed down many new responsibilities not handled by local authorities in the past"

ANC 'sheepish' over exit

(263) M+G 19-25 19/97

The ANC in the Western Cape did not jump. It was pushed.

Andy Duffy reports

The African National Congress in the Western Cape is struggling to justify a decision that has opened the door to the party's eviction from the provincial Cabinet

Senior party members are putting a positive spin on the ousting, talking about the "principled" stand against Premier Hernus Kriel's move to enlarge the provincial Cabinet — a stand that led Kriel to scrap the government of provincial unity, and with it his obligation to entertain four ANC MECs

Several insiders have also suggested that the party's enforced status as formal opposition might goad it into seriously attempting to challenge the National Party in the province

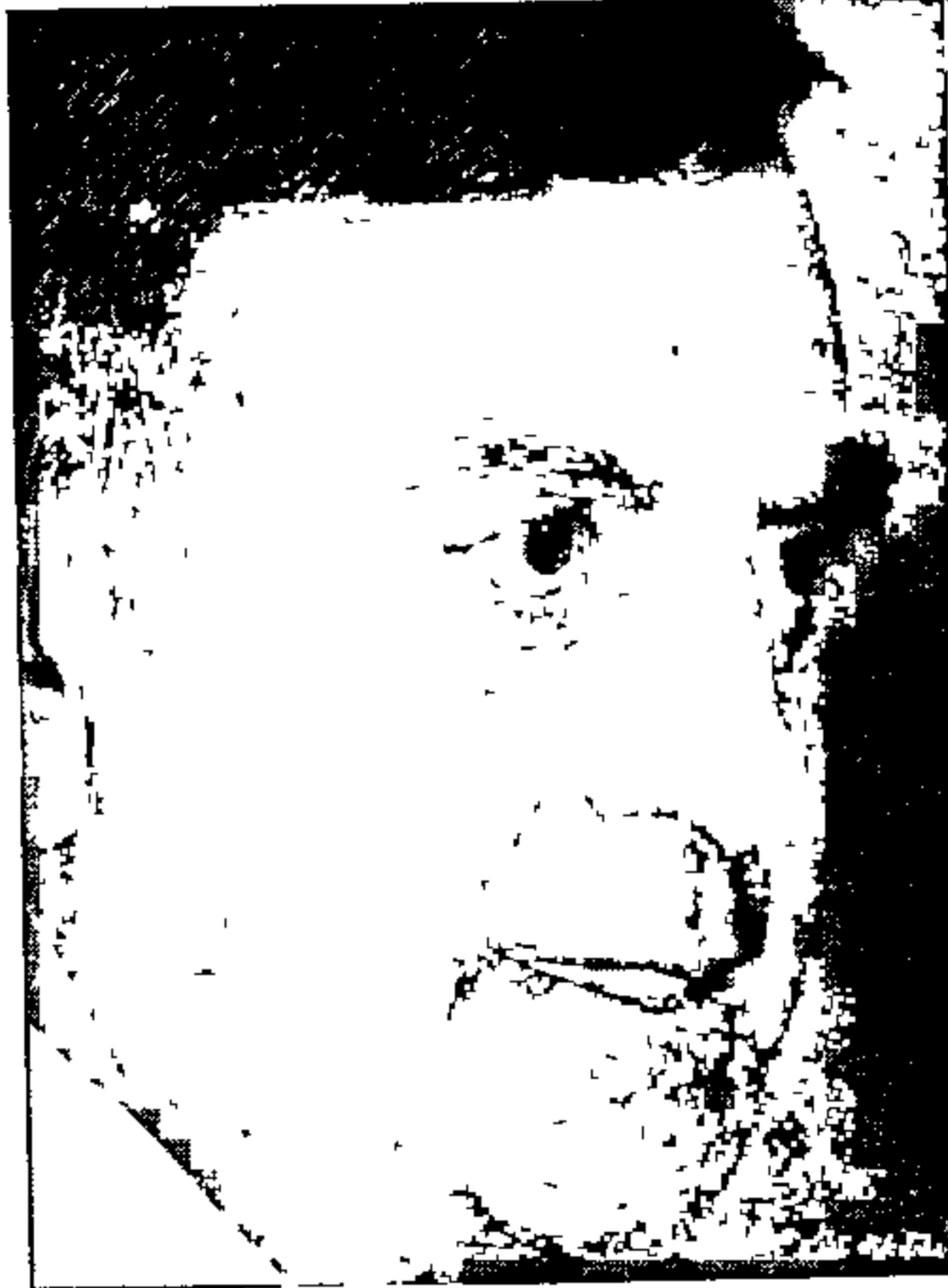
"The situation could be just what is needed to reignite a power hunger which has been absent until now," one insider says. The forced smiles aside, however, it is clear that the party in the province is reeling, unsure of its next move and pointing fingers.

There has been debate in the ANC-Congress of South African Trade Unions-Communist Party alliance for months about whether to leave the provincial Cabinet. But until now, the overriding view was that it would be unwise to relinquish strongly performing portfolios so close to the election. The party is having enough trouble winning support in the province with four Cabinet posts, without them, the task would be daunting.

There are also claims that provincial party leader and Minister of Justice Dullah Omar failed to give a lead on the issue, that personal vendettas by some MPLs against provincial ANC caucus leader Health and Social Services MEC Ebrahim Rasool neutralised Rasool's arguments for cutting a deal with Kriel, that the party at national level is failing to take the problems of the Western Cape seriously.

"We didn't leave (the provincial Cabinet) on principle," one insider concedes. "We left by accident. It's called a strategic fuck-up."

The party is now scrambling around, looking for a way to salvage something from the mess. The initial prognosis does not look good. Omar decided on Sunday night that the party



Dullah Omar: Did Western Cape provincial leader fail to lead?

should produce detailed reports of what its MECs have achieved, which can then be used to "mobilise" popular support against the eviction — a strategy that inspires few

"How about that for a bright idea," one of-ice-bearer says

The party is calling on business to argue the case for the government of provincial unity before Kriel, and has contacted the Institute for a Democratic South Africa (Idasa) to see if it can help change Kriel's mind. All of which is humbling for a party whose MECs will control close to 60% of the province's budget, until Kriel dumps them

Kriel's intentions have been known for some time. Earlier this year, the *Mail & Guardian* reported that Kriel wanted to reshuffle the provincial Cabinet, and that he was eyeing Rasool's portfolio and Chris Nissen's Economic Affairs and Reconstruction and Development Ministry. Both are high profile delivery portfolios — Kriel himself has admitted that Rasool has performed well

The ANC's other provincial Cabinet posts are in Sport and Recreation (Lerumo Kalako) and Leonard Ramatlakane at Transport and Public Works

Kriel's hand, however, was stayed while the

Constitutional Court judged the merits of his proposed provincial constitution. Two weeks ago it rejected the constitution on minor technical grounds. These should have been cleared up when the province's constitutional affairs standing committee met last Monday

Instead, the ANC decided to oppose the clause expanding the number of MECs from 10 to 14. The party had previously voted the clause through, but then decided the increase could not be justified, given the province's R247-million budget deficit.

Kriel's response was blunt to remove the clause in the constitution that guarantees the government of provincial unity through to 1999. Rasool tried on Wednesday to cut a deal with Kriel. But the wily Nat only needed the Freedom Front, the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party to get the majority required to push the revision through. And as they all stood to gain from the posts the ANC would lose, they duly complied

Once the Constitutional Court passes the province's constitution, Kriel can dump the four ANC MECs. "We're all feeling rather sheepish, to say the least," says one ANC member

The question the ANC now faces is: what next? Kriel has indicated that at least one position in his new Cabinet could be available to the ANC, possibly to Rasool. The debate about accepting has still to take place, but several insiders say the party is unlikely to play ball

The party has also suggested attempting to persuade Kriel to reopen negotiations on the constitution. Many party members, however, believe the ANC has little choice but to get on with the job of opposition. With less than two years to the election, it looks a tall order

Nevertheless, insiders put a brave face on their prospects. "The provincial government, apart from our portfolios, has achieved stuff all," one official says. "There are good issues that we can take up"

Provincial ANC members are also quietly investigating what went wrong last week. It is an issue expected to be discussed at the party's national executive committee (NEC) meeting next month. The province also wants the NEC to draw up strategy for dealing with the issues of the Western Cape.

"It's no good going to this province with what's going on at national level — it has to be played out here on the ground," an office-bearer adds.

CMC to pay R42-m for staff

526 new posts for 'very expensive' people

(263)

ART 24/9/97

ANDREA WEISS
CITY EDITOR

The Cape Metropolitan Council has voted to swell its bureaucracy by 526 at an estimated cost of nearly R42-million.

The council has also budgeted an additional R1-million to employ consultants to help it fill the new posts. The proposal was adopted amid objections from the African National Congress that it was being rushed through and did not follow the principle of creating a lean administration. The Democratic Party also expressed con-

cern but agreed on condition its concerns were taken into account. Among the DP's concerns were the financial implications for the council's budget.

The DP also asked that people who could lose their jobs when the moratorium on retrenchments came to an end should be accommodated.

Human resources consultant Dirk Jonbert told the council the job proposal had come out of a lengthy process, including more than 60 workshops.

Among the principles which had been applied were the need to accommodate all staff allocated to the metro council, which had to be balanced

against the need to create flatter structures and to adopt a "minimalist approach".

He said the council had 3 308 existing posts. Of the 526 new posts, 408 had budget implications. Jobs which would not cost additional money involved placing existing staff or formalising contractual arrangements.

He said the council had suffered badly from the unbundling process which had resulted in losing skilled staff. Its metropolitan co-ordinating functions required it to employ highly competent, "very expensive" people.

While the council appeared to be top-

heavy, its new role meant it did not need foot soldiers as much as strategists and people at the highest level.

He said 269 of the proposed new posts were attached to new functions allocated to the council.

These included economic and social development, tourism, housing and urbanisation, environmental management, protection services and passenger transport.

The intention is to fill the posts, about 400 of which are regarded as priority, in phases during the 1997/98 financial year. The council hopes to fill 100 before the end of the year.

Nats lose one seat - and majority on council

CITY EDITOR

The National Party has lost its outright majority in the Cape Metropolitan Council.

It now holds 29 seats to the 31 seats held jointly by the African National Congress, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party. The loss of one seat has come about

due to a shift in power in the South Peninsula municipality where two NP members resigned from the party recently.

The South Peninsula previously had three NP members and one DP member on the metro council, but at a re-election of metro representatives this month it voted to return two NP, one DP and one ANC member.

Yesterday, at the CMC's monthly meeting, a dispute arose over whether the new ANC member, Peter Gabriel, was entitled to hold office prior to October, the date the metro council had requested that new members take their seats.

After an adjournment, it was agreed that Mr Gabriel was entitled to be in the council because the South Peninsula

had elected him on September 2.

However, when it came to a vote over new posts for the metro council, the ANC's hopes of drawing the DP into its camp to defeat the NP did not come off. Instead, the DP voted with the NP which agreed to take cognisance of DP concerns in the debate.

The ANC now holds 25 seats, the DP four, the ACDDP two and the NP 29.

ANC slams move on rural councils

Linda Ensor (263)

BD 29/9/97
CAPE TOWN — The African National Congress (ANC) in the Western Cape has slammed the decision by local government MEC Peter Marais to appoint administrators to govern the rural towns of Saron and Ladismith following reports by committees of inquiry.

Saron councillors are investigating legal options, including an application for a High Court interdict, to oppose Marais' measure.

Marais announced on Friday that the administration of the two ANC-controlled rural councils would be taken over by administrators until the councils were back on a sound footing.

While the ANC had legitimate concerns over Ladismith and had appoint-

ed its own commission of inquiry to investigate the behaviour of ANC councillors there, it regarded Marais' measures as "politically motivated", ANC information and publicity director Cameron Dugmore said.

"Marais has gone far beyond the recommendations of the committees of inquiry, which did not make a specific recommendation that administrators be appointed. His decision is a party-political one aimed at undermining the ANC-controlled councils."

The committees had recommended that the Ladismith council be given three months to put its house in order and that a CEO be appointed in Saron.

Dugmore accused Marais of failing to respond to requests for inquiries into National Party-dominated councils.

Pay up or lose out, municipal debtors warned

Deborah Fine

DURBAN — A senior government official has warned that without a "fundamental improvement" in municipal payment levels and the short-term cash requirements of local authorities, municipalities could "not even begin to consider" addressing historical backlogs in service delivery.

Jackie Manche, chief director of the constitutional development department's local government finances unit, was delivering a speech on behalf of Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa at a conference of the Institute of Municipal Finance Officers yesterday.

Manche said recent departmental surveys of 640 municipalities countrywide indicated that the "general financial health of municipalities is not acceptable."

The total outstanding amount owed to local authorities nationwide as a result of nonpayment for services stood at R7,9bn in June this year. Combined with stunted payment levels, this meant an average cash shortfall of about R8bn a year.

Although payment for services countrywide had stabilised at about 70%, further studies had indicated that up to 30% of municipal customers were not regular payers. It was estimated that up to 1 263 000 municipal accounts re-

mained unpaid each month, meaning that up to R4bn was "unnecessarily tied up in debt", she said.

Manche said that if municipalities were to normalise payment levels and release these funds, this could finance an infrastructure investment programme of between R17bn and R32bn, equivalent to at least twice the annual capital budgets of all local authorities.

In addition, bank balances and investment held by municipalities at present totalled R7,3bn, indicating that sufficient capacity did not exist to cover the outstanding debts of R7,9bn.

Institute president Henne Venter said many municipalities were

using their available services and capital funds to finance operating expenditures and the nonpayment of debt accounts, as well as to offset their inability to attract external capital finance.

"This is a totally unacceptable situation; it is a recipe for financial disaster," Venter said. Manche said there were signs of political and community interference in administrative processes.

The situation was not "without hope" and local authorities could turn themselves around if they rigorously followed cost-cutting and other corrective procedures.

This had been demonstrated already in Gauteng, where municipal-ites had recovered more than

R1,9bn in outstanding payments "in a matter of weeks" after tough credit control action against nonpayers and relief programmes for the genuinely indigent.

The department would continue to monitor local authorities, intervening with financial management support programmes where necessary and spearheading training for officials and councillors.

The department was assisting the training board to develop training modules. Training was scheduled to begin later this year and was expected to improve the capacity of up to 3 000 local government officials over a two-and-a-half-year period.

No unity govt for Western Cape

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hennis Kriel yesterday ruled out any possibility that the former government of provincial unity between the National Party (NP) and the African National Congress (ANC) would be resurrected.

The ANC in the province has been seeking ways to salvage the unity government, which was ditched by the NP during the last round of negotiations on a provincial constitution.

The move entails the loss of the health, economic affairs, transport and sport portfolios currently held by ANCMECs. Kriel said in an interview

yesterday he would invite one or two ANC provincial MPs to serve on the cabinet, although the ANC has so far indicated it would accept only four or none.

The establishment of a multiparty cabinet could be a stepping stone to creating a "formidable" opposition to the ANC. This could possibly lay the foundation for national alliances formed between opposition parties in the runup to the 1999 elections, he said.

"If it develops, after 1999 you may find new developments taking place — stronger alliances, stronger working relationships and possibly the formation of a new party." On the other hand, Kriel con-

ceded the ANC's nonparticipation in the provincial cabinet was likely to end in its consolidation as a party in opposition.

He also admitted that being out of government would give the ANC the chance to make political capital out of the NP's mistakes in government. The party was prepared, however, to take this responsibility, he said.

"It turned out that more and more they were using their positions in cabinet to make propaganda for the ANC," he said.

Regarding the effect in the Western Cape of the newly formed United Democratic Movement (UDM) of Roelf Meyer and Bantu Holomisa, Kriel said this was difficult to evalu-

ate. However, he did not believe the new political movement would have much effect on the NP's support base.

He predicted the UDM would carefully select a local by-election in the Western Cape in a predominantly white, upper class suburb to test the water. They would probably put up a very good candidate and pour considerable resources into the campaign.

"I doubt whether their first venture will be into the black townships," Kriel said. He also predicted Meyer would disappear from politics ultimately, as Holomisa was unlikely to want to share the leadership when the was bringing in all the support.

Nieuwoudt gets amnesty for training IFP group

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The amnesty committee of the truth commission has granted amnesty to former military intelligence Lt-Col Anton Nieuwoudt for providing offensive military training to Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) members in Namibia in 1986.

The 200 IFP members were trained at the Hippo base in Caprivi for action against African National Congress (ANC) and United Democratic Front (UDF) members in KwaZulu-Natal. The aim of the training was allegedly to attack and eliminate enemy targets.

Nieuwoudt said he had undertaken the training on the instruction of former SA Defence Force (SADF) Gen Tjeme Groenewald, now a Freedom Front MP. Others cited by Nieuwoudt as being involved with the training were Col Jan Breytenbach and Maj Jakes Jacobs.

The amnesty committee decided in chambers to grant amnesty without holding a public hearing as Nieuwoudt's application did not specify offences which constituted gross human rights violations.

Nieuwoudt said in his amnesty application that for a month he had trained the IFP group — led by Daluxolo Luthuli — on information gathering, interrogation, target development and infiltration.

Nieuwoudt admitted that the trainees would have been capable of eliminating ANC targets without leaving clues and were trained in foreign weaponry. This could have resulted in loss of life, although Nieuwoudt did not know of anyone who died at the hands of his trainees.

Nieuwoudt testified that the State Security Council had approved the training.



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1998

ADMINISTRATORS TO TAKE OVER

Two town councils 'on ice'

(263) ET 30/9/97

THE ANC has accused Local Government MEC Peter Marais of a party-political approach in intervening in mis-managed towns. Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports

MISMANAGEMENT by local governments in some Western Cape towns is at almost farcical proportions.

Now MEC for Local Government Mr Peter Marais has decided to appoint administrators to take over the affairs of at least two councils

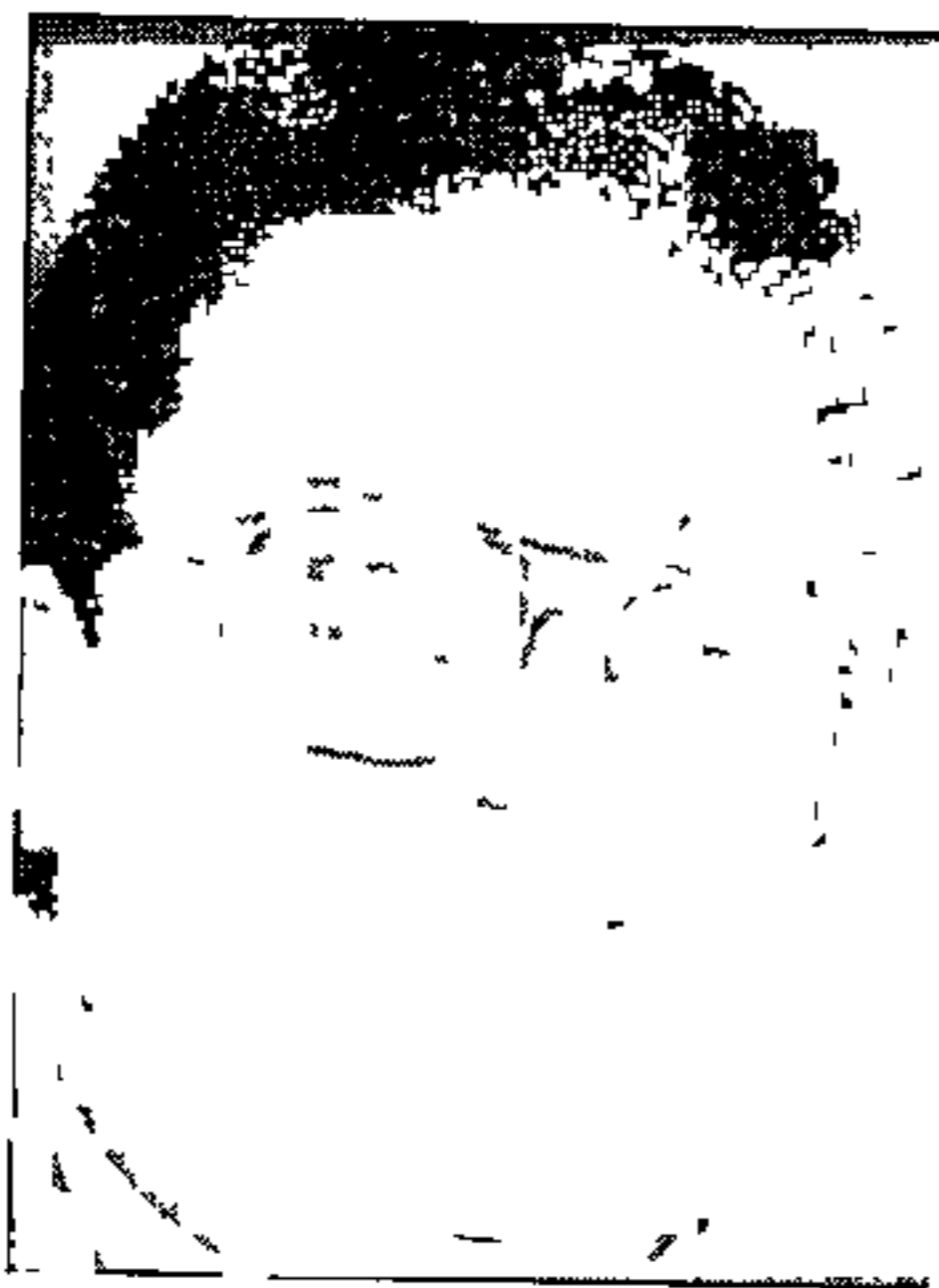
Part-time administrators are to deal with Saron and Ladismith

This means that the towns' councillors — regardless of their political affiliations — are powerless to run their towns, although they will continue to draw their monthly allowances

Reports compiled by committees of inquiry into the running of Ladismith and Saron leave little doubt that high-level intervention is needed if local governance is not to run aground

The African National Congress, however, is unhappy with the way in which Marais is exercising his powers as the provincial politician responsible for local government

"Appointing administrators to deal with these problems confirms Marais' history of acting in a party-



'NO WITCH-HUNT': Peter Marais

political manner," said Mr Cameron Dugmore, a member of the legislature and the ANC's spokesman on local government

Earlier this year, Marais announced that he had appointed nine committees of inquiry to look into the workings of local authorities where problems had been reported

However, completing the task is slow because funds are short and it

is undertaken by only one committee

Marais announced on Friday that committees of inquiry had completed reports on four ANC-run municipalities

Marais' decisions about Genadendal and Worcester are less controversial. His department is devising a plan of action to deal with the problems at Genadendal

In Worcester, problems of a "technical nature" would be discussed with the council, Marais said

Local government in the province was healthy and on a sound footing, Marais said on Friday, but he added "I have a constitutional obligation to maintain this record of excellence"

Marais said the committee had found no evidence of malice in the Ladismith council — "but they did not have the capacity, knowledge, will nor experience to function as a proper municipality"

He had decided to "disband" the council and to appoint two administrators with local government experience until the council was on sound financial footing

Two administrators are also to be appointed for Saron, the Western Cape's "problem child", until

the council has rehabilitated itself.

Marais is to soon issue a proclamation to suspend the administrative powers of the councils

"This is not a witch-hunt," said Marais, "it is an attempt to get good government"

The ANC, however, insists that there is something amiss in the way Marais is going about this

Dugmore said the recommendations of the committees had not been to suspend councillors and appoint administrators. Nor had the problems been discussed at provincial executive level, nor had the make-up of the committees been mooted

"Marais is targeting the ANC councils in his selective appointment of committees," Dugmore claimed

He said there needed to be a common approach at executive committee level. Because of its concerns about the management of Ladismith, the ANC had appointed a committee to look into the council's affairs

Marais said: "It is not in my power to make ANC councils perform. If they are not, I have a constitutional obligation to do something. I am not being selective and will take each and every council that does not perform to task"

NP ACCUSED OF GERRYMANDERING

Tygerberg bid to exclude poor slammed as 'racist'

NATIONALIST COUNCILLORS say Tygerberg is being made to take over the needy of Cape Town, when it already has 500 000 really needy residents in the area. **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

CT 3/10/97 (263)

A MOVE by Tygerberg councillors to redraw boundaries to effectively exclude 25 000 poor people from the municipality has been slammed as "racist and political" by critics at provincial and local government level.

Central to the debate are 4 000 erven in Southern Delft developed by the Integrated Services Land Project and ready for occupation.

Long before the local government elections and the drawing up of present municipal boundaries, it had been agreed that half these sites would be given to families on coloured waiting lists and half to black people living mainly in Crossroads — which now falls under the Cape Town council.

And this is where councillors on Tygerberg's housing committee decided to draw the line and rather lose the large piece of land than accommodate any new residents.

"We're being expected to take over the needy of Cape Town to the detriment of the at least 500 000 really needy existing residents," said a senior NP member of the committee who

asked not to be named.

"We must direct our resources — already stretched to the limit — to the needs of people already living in Tygerberg," he said.

"Those who call us racist are at best ignorant. I see the existing proposal as racist as it seeks to bring people in on a racial quota."

Although Tygerberg has adopted no firm policy on the issue of site allocation, he believes it will award sites "drawing no distinction between creed, race or age" but purely on the date people applied.

The mix of races in the area would also "stimulate feelings of racial dissatisfaction" and make people "more colour conscious than they are already", he said.

"You can't create a new reality overnight — everyone in South Africa feels discriminated against at the moment."

Meanwhile, the Cape Town City Council has met provincial Local Gov-

ernment MEC Mr Peter Marais and housing MEC Mr Cecil Herandien to clarify the issue.

Chairperson of Cape Town's housing committee, ANC councillor Mr Sydney Ncete, said "We've been told that minister Marais can push through the change — but he needs the blessing of the Cape Town council first. So we're asking exco to discuss the matter at its next meeting."

And according to the director of local government legal services, Mr Fanie Louw, the MEC has the power to alter boundaries as long as all the affected municipalities agree in writing.

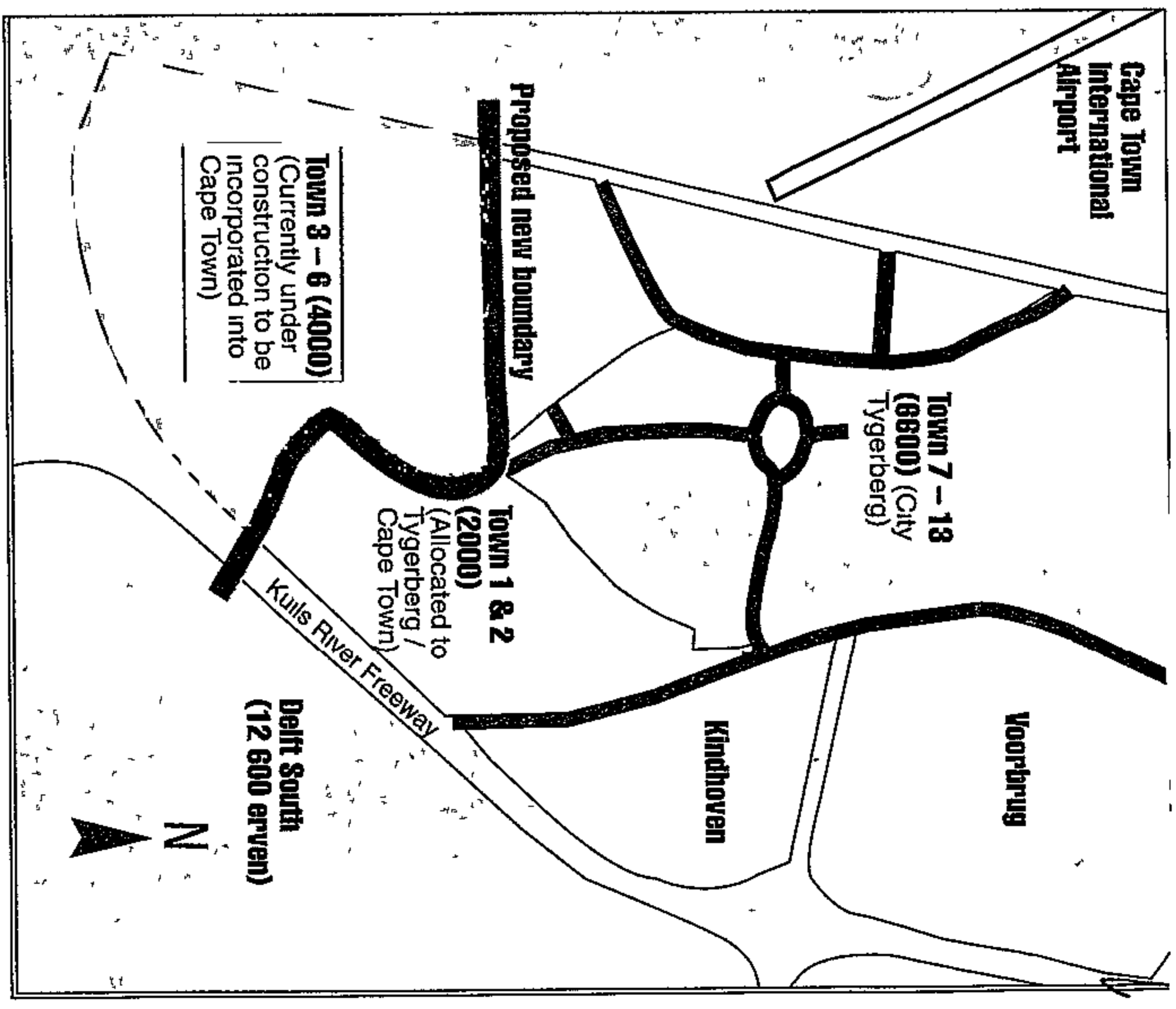
"If they don't, the issue must go to the demarcation board," he said.

The ANC has labelled the move as "nothing less than racism and gerrymandering of the highest order."

"We recall the attempts by Peter Marais to exclude the people of Khayeltsha from Tygerberg. This failed attempt cost the taxpayer R5 million. Now the NP wants to keep the African people out of Tygerberg by gerrymandering the boundaries again. Next we will be having



HAS THE POWER: Peter Marais



border patrols between substructures," said ANC provincial housing spokesperson, Mr Rosebery Sonto.
"We believe people should be settled where land is available and that we should attempt to unite the people of the metro by supporting non-racial waiting lists and settlement patterns."
Although the original agreement was concluded in 1991, long before the present administration came into being, a Cape Town council source said the spirit of transition from national government down had been to respect these inherited agreements "even when they're appalling."
"What they're doing means that as soon as you have a problem you change the boundaries. Morally they're certainly not allowed to do that," he said.
Marais was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Cape Town shuns drastic steps on debts

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The city of Cape Town had decided not to adopt drastic measures "at this stage" to recover more than R450m in rates and service arrears, the council said yesterday.

City director income and cash Derek Harris said the council would not, as other cities had done, issue mass ultimatums to consumers in arrears. The council would also not write off arrears, Harris said. It had instead decided to adopt a two-pronged medium to long-term strategy to deal with rates and service charge arrears.

Firstly, consumers would be expected to keep up current payments and, secondly, the council would "invite" those in arrears to make arrangements to settle their debt.

80 3/10/97 (263)

"Individual consumers in arrears would also be expected to act on their own initiative and contact the council to discuss the settlement of their arrears," Harris said.

He said the council would insist on the worst offenders having prepaid electricity meters installed, but first they would have to settle half their electricity arrears.

Harris said 14% of all prepaid electricity used in homes where prepaid meters were installed would be used to offset the remaining 50% of arrears.

The new system covered the entire Cape Town electricity supply area of about 240 000 homes. "The council plan was to establish a uniform credit control policy to apply across the city of Cape Town," Harris said. "While we want consumers to concentrate on get-

ting their current accounts up to date, those in arrears must feel they can come to the council offices to make arrangements to settle their arrears."

The council had begun to use workshops to consult residents and local leaders in former black local authorities. "We will be moving into other areas very shortly," Harris said.

The formation of the new Cape Town council from five former councils took effect on July 1 this year.

Harris said the total arrears of R453,1m at the end of July could be broken down into the five former councils. The former Cape Town council was owed R364,5m, the Cape Rural Council R57,9m, Ikapa (Nyanga, Langa, Guguletu and Browns Farm) R27,4m, Crossroads R3,1m and Pinelands R271 000.

'DILEMMA OF DISADVANTAGED'

Pay increase proposal has councillors wanting more

COUNCILLORS SERVING on the CMC and a local authority may ask for an allowance increase of 50%. Metro Writer **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

A CABINET proposal paving the way for hikes of between five and 35% in councillors' allowances, has not laid the issue to rest — Cape Metropolitan councillors are considering a counter-bid for increases of up to 50%

Reacting to the proposed cabinet scales, the Western Cape Local Government Organisation (Weclogo) has recommended that Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) and ordinary Cape Town councillors' allowances be increased from R2 731 to R5 063 a month

According to Weclogo, the dilemma of ordinary councillors — "especially those serving in major urban areas where their office is a full-time occupation" — has not been addressed in the proposal

"Almost 60% of these councillors are from disadvantaged areas, where conventional telephones are not available, the distances to headquarters of local authorities are greater, public transport is a real problem, if not a severe risk, and the demands of the constituency

	Present	Proposed by cabinet	Proposed by Weclogo
Gross remuneration	R2 731	R3 375	R5 063
LESS			
- Pension contributions	R376	R464	R696
- Income tax	-	-	-
- Telephone - cellular	R400	R400	R400
- Travelling ±500km @ R1,50 per km	R750	R750	R750
- Stationery and postage	R50	R50	R50
- Secretarial services	R100	R100	R100
- Entertainment and donations	R100	R100	R100
Total deductions	R1 776	R1 883	R2 444
Net remuneration	R955	R1 492	R2 619

are so much higher," says director of Weclogo Mr Carel Du Plessis.

Of the present R2 731 received by councillors, R1 776 is deducted for pension contributions, tax, cellular telephone bills, travelling expenses, stationery, secretarial services and entertainment. This leaves the councillor with R955 at the end of the month, Du Plessis said

If, however, the councillor were to receive an allowance of R5 063 as proposed by Weclogo, he or she would be left with R2 619 after

expenses and deductions

At the moment, a CMC councillor receives a "reimbursive fuel allowance" of R840 a month (in addition to the ordinary allowance)

Exco members get a R1 800 fuel allowance on top of their current R8 192 allowance, which according to the cabinet recommendation will increase to R10 125

"These (fuel allowances) will carry on until the cabinet recommendations are implemented," said exco chairman Mr Pierre Uys

yesterday

In a letter to the provincial MEC for local government, Mr Peter Marais, Du Plessis says cabinet plans not to pay two allowances to councillors serving on a primary local authority and the CMC, is "unacceptable"

According to the proposals, the councillors will instead be paid R250 per meeting of the second council, for up to four meetings a year

"If councillors are prepared to serve on metropolitan councils at all, a quorum will not be obtained in the majority of cases," Du Plessis said

"Whoever formulated these proposals doesn't realise that some Tygerberg councillors, for instance, attend one CMC meeting a week," Uys added

Weclogo proposes that councillors receive a full allowance from the council to which they were elected as well as 50% of that applicable to Cape Metropolitan councillors

According to cabinet recommendations, which have yet to be promulgated, Blaauwberg, Helderberg and Oostenberg councillors' allowances can be increased by 5,2% from R1 992 to R2 096

South Peninsula councillors would benefit from a 34,5% increase, receiving R2 680 compared with the present allowance of R1 992

CT 7/10/97
(263)

NO WORK, FULL SALARY

Pay bonanza for axed town clerk

CT 13/10/97
(263)

IT'S SIX MONTHS since the City Council terminated the services of one of its most senior officials — and he is still being paid a full salary. Metro Writer **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

CAPE TOWN'S former town clerk, Mr Kerth Nicol, has been at home and receiving a full salary and benefits for the past six months while a dispute over a settlement for his termination of service is referred to the MEC for Local Government, Mr Peter Marais.

Well-placed sources say this is costing the city at least R34 000 a month but, asked to confirm this, the Cape Town City Council has refused to divulge a figure.

Tentative and obviously distressed when contacted at his Constantia home, Nicol confirmed he had been at home for the past six months and had been receiving full benefits.

"The council indicated it would enter into negotiations with me about a settlement, but to this day no negotiations have taken place," Nicol said.

"I was made an unacceptable offer which I turned down."

"The council has now indicated that it does not wish to negotiate a settlement proposal with me (and) has referred the situation to Mr Marais."

"I have hoped the matter could be resolved amicably. All along, my attitude has been one of co-operation — I want to see the success of local government."

Despite repeated attempts by the Cape Times to gain confirmation and financial details, official city council comment has been scant.

A meeting called by the chairman of the council executive committee, Ms Nomandla Mfeketo, late on Friday to discuss exco's response to questions yielded little information.

"The matter in relation to Mr Nicol is sub judice. I am therefore not able — nor would it be appropriate for me — to comment on the details," said Mfeketo.

"I can confirm, however, that attempts have been made over the past months to resolve Mr Nicol's position amicably with him. As things stand, it has not been possible for the parties to reach agreement."

"The matter has been referred to the (MEC for) Local Government as the power to determine the matter vests with him in terms of the legislation."

Nicol said the past few months had been "frustrating" as all he wanted was "to settle graciously" on a mutually acceptable package.

A message, recorded by Nicol and connected to his former extension number at the Civic Centre, directs all council inquiries to the office of the city manager, Mr Andrew Boraine.

A council source said that shortly after Boraine's appointment was announced last December, Nicol was told his services would be terminated.

"He was told he could stay on until he'd seen through responsibilities relating to his presidency of the Institute of Municipal Managers and other issues," said the source.

At the time, it was reported that Nicol was in line for a payout of "well over R1 million".

At the beginning of April, he received notification that there "was no longer any work for him and that he'd have to give up his office and secretary".

Nicol left his office and went home to



'FRUSTRATED': Kerth Nicol says he hopes for an amicable settlement.

wait for a settlement to be negotiated. Demotivation among higher council official ranks is critical, says the chairman of the Association of Liberal Democratic Councillors of South Africa, Mr Daniel Silke.

The reason for the malaise was twofold, he said. There were "uncertainties surrounding the restructuring of most coun-

cils and the fear of job retrenchments at a senior level"

"Officials are demoralised, demotivated and depressed and are uncertain of where they will be in six months."

In many instances, the buzz words "micro-design" and "reorganisation", used at all levels of council operations, had led to a paralysis in job function, said Silke, a Democratic Party member of the Cape Town City Council. Officials no longer understood their role — and many did not even have a role to play.

"This situation is aggravated by affirmative action (and) politically-motivated appointments and the resultant employment of inexperienced personnel, which causes unease and distrust at higher levels of the organisation."

"In particular, antagonisms between long-serving officials and new politically-motivated senior councillors create added levels of tension which have not been adequately addressed."

Competition among Metropolitan councils had led to officials being offered higher salaries for the same jobs in smaller structures, Silke said.

"Officials, looking to their own financial security, have been quick to seek employment elsewhere, thus denuding the larger councils of available talent."

"The only way to stem this tide is to offer competitive packages — again at the cost of the ratepayers. This has seen the emphasis of concerned local authorities switch from service delivery to worrying about how to keep quality staff."



Clerk: Give me a chance

CT 13/10/97 (263)

ACTING town clerk Mr Reggie Timmie (pictured above, centre), with the pool champions in Ladismith, Earl Peceur (left) and Dino Moses (right), is a key figure in the drama at the Karoo town

Sweet, keen and also a local pool champion, he lacks experience and age. He is 20 and matriculated two years ago

When the Cape Times visited the Ladismith municipal offices, Timmie sent a message that he was not prepared to speak to us and left. It was lunch-time. We tracked him down to the local games hall. Timmie became acting town clerk by

default when the former-town clerk became ill. Until then, he had been an administrative assistant

ANC councillors say the only qualification a town clerk needs is the ability to do the job, something they believe he has

But not all councillors agreed and some voted for health officer Mr Christo Hamman until an appointment had been made

Although he admits to being under-qualified, Timmie is studying public administration. What he needs, he says, is training and support. He is getting neither. "They should just give me a chance."

SERVICES COLLAPSE, INVESTORS FLEE

Ladismith fails in new SA

DESPITE government support for the devolution of power and "grassroots" governance, people are losing faith. Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** visited a town imploding.

THREE years ago the town of Ladismith was on the brink of an economic boom, but then it lost its head.

In the short time that democracy came to the small Karoo town, anger, suspicion, overt politicking and ineptitude have left a chaotic wake in which services are floundering.

Administration is in such a mess that no budget for the 1997/98 year has been passed. No property taxes have been collected for months. Would-be investors have taken one look at the chaos and fled.

The town has two mayors, one picked by a council with no quorum. It also has two town clerks, one aged 20, with no experience for the key position he holds.

The town treasurer is a former bank teller with a Std 9 in accounting and economics. There are nine charges of fraud pending against her from a former employer.

While the Western Cape has a fair track record of stable local government, there are many small councils in the province which are struggling to come to terms with new conditions in South Africa.

Councils in Ladismith and Saron have been disbanded and administrators appointed by Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais. At least another five councils in this province are under investiga-

tion.

"In this town," says acting Ladismith town clerk Mr Christo Hamman, "we're like chicks without a hen."

One of two acting town clerks, he is actually a municipal health officer, but this is what he is doing for now.

Mr Reginald Timmie is the other acting town clerk. Timmie is only 20 and has no experience for the key position he holds.

He and Hamman jointly administer the town's affairs.

The two mayors are Mr Moos le Roux, picked recently by a council that had no quorum. His predecessor is Mr Christoffel Jonathan. Some of the townspeople have hitched their carts to Le Roux's leadership, others are sticking by Jonathan.

One town councillor was permanently suspended after he was found guilty of having profited from a deal between a certain building contractor and the council. He carried on attending council meetings and another case was made against him. Should he put his foot in the council chamber now, chances are someone will see to it he gets arrested.

Then there's the town treasurer, Ms Wilna Geldenhuys. She is 38 and her only qualification is Std 9 accounting and economics. Before clinching the position of town

ET 13/10/97
treasurer, she was a local bank teller. There are nine charges of fraud pending against her brought by her previous employer.

Tensions in the council spilt over a while ago when two councillors had a fist fight in the chamber.

The budget should have been completed in June, but there have been no council meetings since around May, so it could not be passed. Both the NP and the ANC in the town blame each other.

Mr Douw Steyn, chairman of the Ladismith Chamber of Commerce, says "What is happening here is not about party policy. The people who came to council to a large extent did it to enrich themselves. There is no real intention to work together to further the interests of our people."

This is a widely-shared and oft-repeated sentiment among residents of Ladismith.

Steyn says "Business confidence has taken a big knock. Lots of people from up north want to come here, but they don't expect these hassles and go elsewhere."

Not a single house has been built in Ladismith in the past three years. An expensive Reconstruction and Development brickworks factory no longer operates, despite its huge potential for creating jobs.

Residents clean the streets themselves as the rubbish, and the chaos, piles up.

Adding insult to the injury, the people of this friendly town have already suffered, but the nine councillors relieved of their duties still have to be paid until the next

(263)
local government election in 2000. With each councillor earning an allowance of around R850 a month, this amounts to just under a quarter of a million rand by January 2000.

Hamman says. "The sadness is that the loser in all of this is the community of Ladismith. Politics is 130% responsible and that fact can't be reasoned away. The ANC and the NP can't compromise. They put their political interests first. They act like nine children."

The pity is that the politics is not about to end. Marais has appointed the brother of one of the town's NP councillors to act as an administrator.

Mr Johan Gelderblom is an NP councillor in Oudtshoorn and the chairman of the district council incorporating both towns. It was that position that earned him the task of fixing Ladismith, reasons Marais. The ANC, however, is unlikely to accept this appointment without a fight.

For the people of Ladismith, getting rid of all the councillors should have been done ages ago.

Says Steyn: "We used to be proud of this town. I do think, though, that all of this bad publicity was necessary. We had to go through it to get to the other end."

● Since the Cape Times visited Ladismith, another "acting town clerk", Mr Hannes Nel, the council's accountant, was appointed, say ANC councillors. How this appointment could be made, in the light of the disbandment of the entire council, is unclear.

'TWIDDLE THUMBS, DO CROSSWORDS'

Council has estimated 16 'ghost' officials

CT 16/10/97

(263)

WHILE SOME COUNCIL officials have no work, others labour under severe staff shortages as top employees take better jobs. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

As many as 16 senior council officials who have found themselves jobless — and on full pay — in the new Cape Town administration are "twiddling their thumbs and filling in crosswords" while the municipality decides what to do with them, it was claimed yesterday.

This follows a revelation earlier this week that former Town Clerk Mr Kerth Nicol has for the past six months been at home on full salary and council benefits amounting to at least R34 000 a month while MEC for Local Government Mr Peter Marais decides his future.

Reports as to the exact number of senior "ghost workers" haunting the Civic Centre vary from five to 16. The Cape Times spoke to several who said they were "stressed and demoralised" seeking only "fair and expeditious treatment".

They have considerable experience in their areas of expertise and valuable skills to offer, yet were "sidelined" in the council's micro-design process, they claim.

"As this situation drags on and on we see alternative opportunities fly out the window as other municipalities crystallise their situations," said one, who asked not be named.

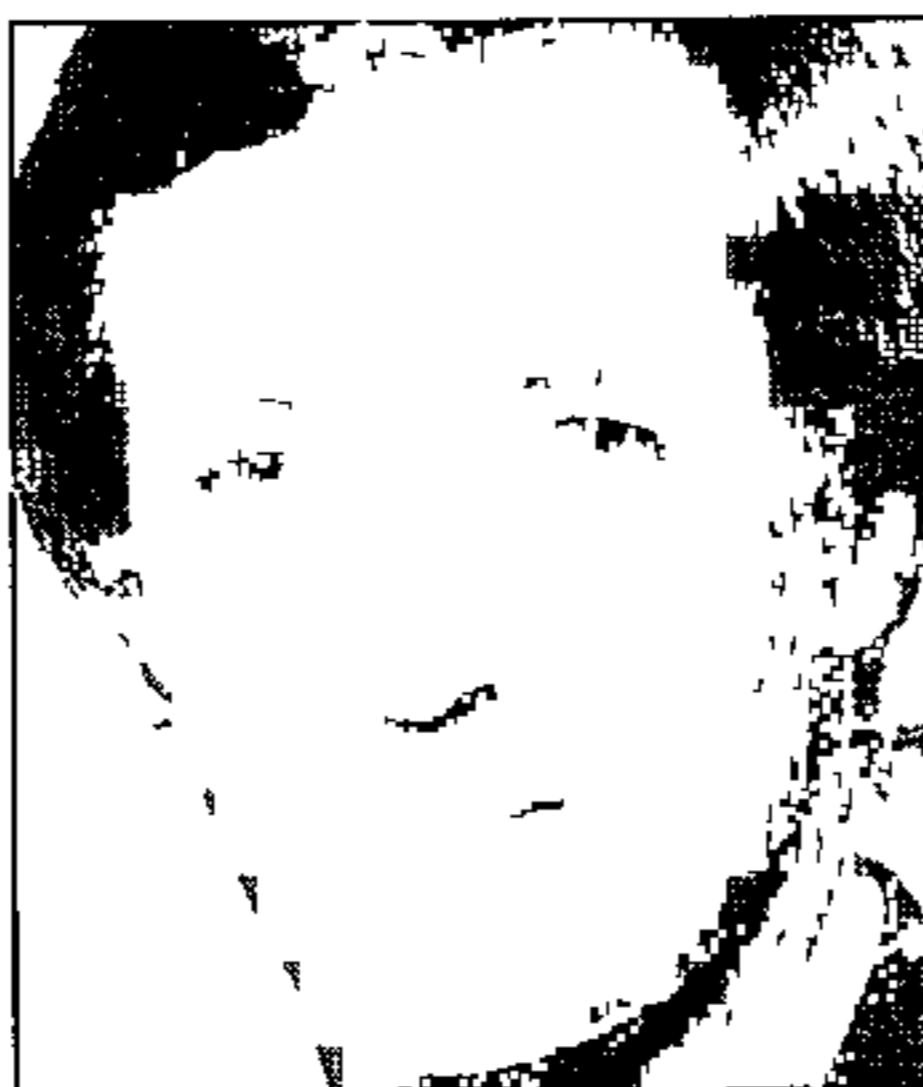
"I'm on full salary and am certainly not fully employed."

Another said he'd not been treated fairly and simply wanted to be paid out and let go. "I see no future for myself here any more."

One council employee described a colleague as "a free-floating balloon in space".

Some were considering legal recourse on the grounds of "constructive dismissal" — a legal term for people squeezed out of jobs.

Repeated requests for information regarding these employees were put to the city's human resources directorate yesterday — but by the close of the day no response was forthcoming.



BID OFFICIAL: Peter de Tolly

City Manager Mr Andrew Boraine did however respond, saying the "sidelining" allegations were not true.

"Nobody is sitting around doing nothing. Some were not accommodated because their posts have disappeared — our first priority is to redeploy them."

"Every day steps are taken to normalise the situation."

At press conferences earlier this week, the names of former Deputy City Planner Mr Peter de Tolly, who was seconded to the Olympic Bid two years ago, and former senior deputy city administrator Mr Barney Botha, were raised.

Approached by the Cape Times, Botha refused to comment.

"My position is too tenuous at the moment," he said.

"Barney Botha's situation is being addressed," said exco chairperson Ms Nomandla Mfeketo.

"Failing redeployment we'll negotiate a package. We're going through a transformation process which is never easy."

"Peter de Tolly has come back to the council and has not applied for a position. Clearly we'll look at his situation."

De Tolly and two other officials seconded to the Bid from the city council have asked to "stay together for the next couple of months"

to complete their work.

Mfeketo said she was aware of only five senior officials who had not been redeployed.

"We're restructuring the organisation and are trying to accommodate everybody because we do not have the money to retrench and give out golden handshakes."

"One of our commitments is to have a lean administration, so we're handling all new appointments carefully."

"Because we are consulting the unions every step of the way, we're not filling the posts as quickly as we'd like to," said Mfeketo.

NP exco member Mr Leon Markowitz said he was aware of about 16 senior members of council "who may or may not have applied for other jobs, but don't fit into the micro-design structure".

He said exco had not been told of their dilemma.

"One council member of staff who used to be third or fourth in the hierarchy has no function whatsoever — yet exco did not hear about the matter for nearly two months."

"We had to ask for information after hearing about it in the corridors," Markowitz said.

DP exco member Mr Chris Joubert added: "There is a move afoot to place some members of staff. But July 1 (when the new administration came into being) has come and gone. The matter should have been sorted out long before now."

● While some council officials have no work, there are departments labouring under severe staff shortages with senior officials leaving posts for greener pastures.

In many instances they were poached by other municipalities offering better packages.

"It's common knowledge that the most hard-hit cluster was finance — the nerve centre of the council," said Markowitz.

"People are being offered bigger packages at other municipalities. For instance, car allowances at the CMC and Tygerberg range from R35 000 and R50 000 more than this council," Mfeketo said.

Municipality battling to survive

Officials' morale at an all-time low after job cuts

WILLEM STEENKAMP

Cape Town's new municipality and neighbouring councils - set up recently amid great fanfare - are already battling for survival as their administrative workload threatens to swamp officials, a top official has disclosed.

Philip van Ryneveld, executive director, corporate finances, for the Cape Town municipality said the morale of officials in the local authority was at an all-time low. "The restructuring of the old municipality saw staff cut back from a high of 17 000 to a current employment figure of about 12 000. "On June 30 we had the biggest ever restructuring of a local authority in the history of Cape Town as the new substructures were put into place. Workers were unbundled to other substructures as the new Cape Town municipality was organised and established. "While the city lost thousands of



Executive director: Philip van Ryneveld

employees, it also gained new responsibilities - such as the Ikapa township areas which now forms part of the new municipality. "But in many instances other substructures had to start new divisions from scratch. This meant that Cape Town had to assist and still assists Tygerberg, Blaauwberg and the Southern substructures with

ARG 18/10/97

(263)

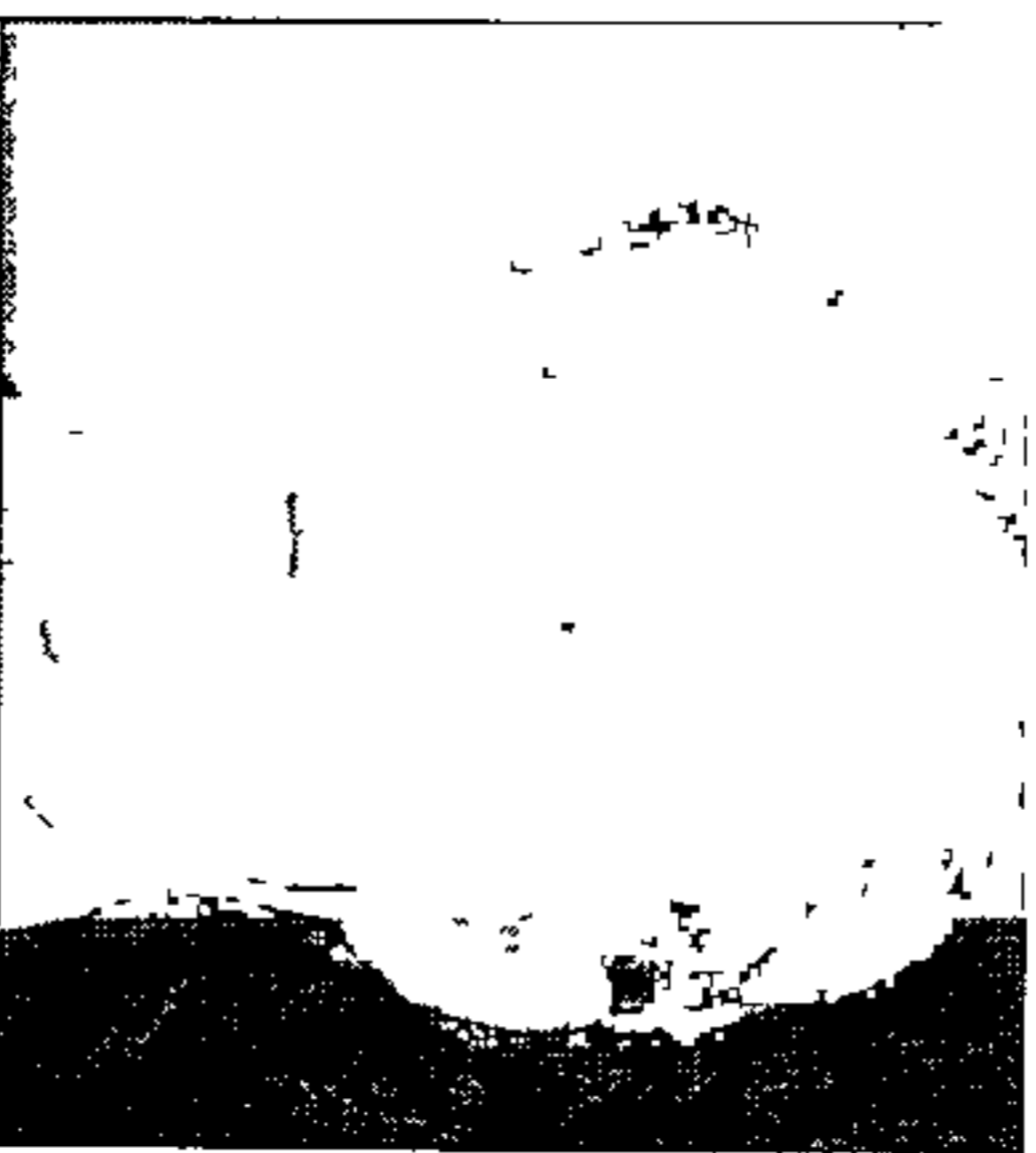
staff. For instance, the staff in my finance department was cut by 50% with some retiring and others unbundled to the Southern substructure.

"Because that substructure did not have a finance department in place from day one, we are now jointly handling certain financial issues. At times it becomes very difficult to administer."

"The restructuring of Cape Town municipality and the formulation of other substructures was and is a mammoth task. But I believe we are now well positioned for an upturn."

Referring to the so-called "ghost" officials who fill positions at the Cape Town municipality, but are said to be "twiddling their thumbs" while earning "fat salaries", Mr Van Ryneveld said these problems should be seen in the context of the huge restructuring which had occurred.

He said top officials in the Cape municipality had been aware of this



City manager: Andrew Boraine

particular problem for some time - "before it was reported in newspapers. We are aware of the problem and we are addressing the situation," he said.

He said a moratorium had been placed on retraining till December. The redeployment of people in positions other than those in which they had previously been deployed,

was also a sensitive issue which had to be addressed.

Referring to the finances of the city, Mr Van Ryneveld said the Cape Town municipality had about R600-million in cash reserves, while it was owed more than R300-million in electricity, housing and water arrears and other debts. He said the city was involved in capital works projects of R750-million - which included roads, sewerage and other services. A large part of this work was taking place in low-income areas.

Another official who declined to be named, said the restructuring process - which saw the greater Cape Town split into seven local authorities, six municipalities and the Cape Metropolitan Council - was both a logistical and administrative nightmare.

He said the problems which Cape Town municipality was experiencing were not unique to the city and that other substructures were suffering from the same problems.

ba, had been flown by the company into the

Western Cape faces crisis as deficit climbs to R1,1bn

BD 22/10/97 (263)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape provincial government's estimated deficit had climbed by about R850m to R1,1bn and unless government granted additional funds, the province would land in a financial crisis early next year, finance MEC Kobus Meiring told the legislature yesterday.

Without help, the administration would come to a standstill, services would have to be stopped and there would be insufficient money to pay salaries and pensions. Meiring warned that by February next year the Western Cape administration would show a negative bank balance in its exchequer accounts which would build up to an accumulated R800m by March.

But finance department's chief director of intergovernmental relations Ismail Momoniat dismissed Meiring's "game-playing" which he said was just an attempt to get more money. This would not be forthcoming as the government was determined to achieve its 4% budget deficit target.

"I think you have to take everything that is said with a big pinch of salt. Provinces must stick to their budgets, full stop," he said.

Meiring noted that overexpenditures by Western Cape's personnel-intensive health and education departments totalled R422m and R458m respectively despite a reduction of 12 000 staff which had already saved R1bn. To remain within its budget the Western

Cape would have to cut its personnel numbers by an additional 15 000.

He felt the main problem was that central government had agreed to high increases in public servants' wages without offsetting this by the planned drastic cut in employee numbers.

The financial difficulties of other provinces with these votes were worse and Meiring therefore did not think it would be possible for government to achieve its targeted 4% budget deficit.

He said he had insight into the provisional provincial figures at yesterday's meeting between the minister and the MECs.

Their problems also meant they could not pay about R84m to Western Cape for the health and education services rendered to their citizens.

At the start of the fiscal year the budgeted provincial deficit was R247m. This was reduced to R223m by the R24m surplus from the 1995/96 fiscal year which arose because of the R455m additional central government grant for education.

Meiring urged the adoption of a mechanism to replace the voluntary severance package to get people out of the public service. He also appealed to government to allow provinces to impose a levy on VAT for their own use.

The provincial treasury committee has asked cabinet to initiate discussions between the departments of finance and state expenditure as to how Western Cape's accounting officer should manage the overexpenditure.

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Broke Western Cape 'grinding to a halt'

(263)

KARIN SCHIMKE

CT 22/10/97

THE entire Western Cape provincial administration could come to a standstill early next year if the national government did not reach out a helping hand, Western Cape Finance MEC Mr Kobus Meiring told the legislature yesterday.

Delivering what he called his "most serious speech yet", Meiring told members of the provincial legislature that the province would have a negative bank balance of around R800 million by March.

"Even if we stop rendering all services to the people of the Western Cape, we will still not have enough money to pay our officials or pensions," he said.

However, he assured officials and pensioners that "whatever happens, come what may, we will pay their salaries and pensions".

He estimated a deficit of nearly R1,1 billion by the end of this financial year.

Meiring said there were two possible solutions to convince the national treasury that the province was entitled to additional funding or ask for an advance on its 1998/99 allocation.

"Even if we get an advance on next year's budget, the problem will not be solved. It will just postpone the inevitable — that we will eventually run out of money."

The projected R1,1bn deficit was despite savings on not filling posts and on capital expenditure.

Money was being drained from the budget by the health and education departments which employed more than 90% of the entire provincial work force, he said.

"During the past year our personnel decreased by 12 000 people, of which 6 000 were teachers."

"It is ironic that, at the same time, the personnel figure (in the civil service) for the country as a whole increased by as much as 150 000. In education alone there are today 55 000 more teachers than 18 months ago."

The province's health department shed 11 000 staff between 1994 and this year.

To bring the province within budget, more health jobs would have to go, he said.

Provinces have no borrowing power or overdraft facilities.

Meiring made an urgent request to the government to allow provinces to impose a surcharge on VAT (value added tax).

13 CMC COUNCILLORS EXERCISE PENSION OPTION

R400 000 buy-back bill

COUNCILLORS buying-back pensions don't want to appear to be "on the gravy train". Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

THIRTEEN Cape Metropolitan councillors have opted for the Municipal Councillors Pension Fund controversial "buy back" option which — when conservatively estimated — could cost ratepayers in the region of R400 000

The move comes four years after attempts by three councillors from the old Cape Town administration to buy back service were thwarted by the council.

When the scheme was first introduced in 1988 it led to heated debate in Cape Town council chambers and vociferous criticism from ratepayers facing a R2 million buy-back bill

Included on the CMC list is exco chairperson Mr Pierre Uys (NP) who has applied to repurchase 18 months' pension at a personal cost of around R27 000 — and at the council's expense of about R65 000 Other exco members — ANC councillors Mr David Dlali, Mr Mzukisi Gaba and Mr Welcome Zenzile — have also opted for "buy-backs" which will cost the council around R98 000, R62 000 and R84 000 respectively, while the DP's Mr Brian Watkyns said he had made inquiries about the scheme but had not applied yet

Requests yesterday for a full list of councillors involved were initially denied by CMC officials

By the time the go-ahead to release the information was given around 4pm, the only person with access to the figures had "gone home"

An exco meeting in August this year heard how 28 councillors had "indicated a desire" to repurchase



APPLIED: Pierre Uys (NP) to buy back 18 months' service.



APPLIED: David Dlali (ANC) to buy back 31 months' service.



APPLIED: Mzukisi Gaba (ANC) to buy back 23 months' service.

previous pensionable service at an estimated cost of R769 981 to the council.

Of these, 13 are elected CMC councillors, the rest are from the six metropolitan local councils

Several approached by the Cape Times said they hoped it did not look as though they were "climbing on the gravy train"

"For many of us, the council provides our only means of income and the only opportunity we'll get to join a pension fund," said one

But to qualify for the CMC buy-back, councillors must join the pension scheme of which only 12 of the 60 odd are members

And in the long run this will cost the council — which pays in more than twice the amount each member contributes — even more

Existing members pay a sum amounting to 13,75% of their monthly allowance in contributions as compared to the 33,25%, the CMC pays.

The councillors can buy back service for a maximum of 31 months service, an amount which according to pension fund rules can be paid off over nine years at a



APPLIED: Welcome Zenzile (ANC) to buy back 31 months' service.



UNSURE: Brian Watkyns (DP) may buy back 17 months' service.

"very reasonable interest rate" of 15%

The South Peninsula Municipality spends more than R27 000 a month in contributions towards councillors' pensions

Responding to questions tabled at a recent council meeting by independent councillor Mr Philip Bam (not a member of the fund), executive director for Financial Ser-

vices Mr Dave Heywood produced figures showing that, on average, an ordinary councillor pays R272 a month towards his or her pension opposed to a council's contribution of R662.

Mayor Mr John Jacobs and exco chairperson Mr Graham Lawrence pay R1 096 into the fund each month. This is topped up by a council contribution of R2 351

ET 22/10/97 (263)

Millions lie unspent as delays dog Cape municipal projects

Huge council revamp blamed
ART 27/10/97

ANDREA WEISS
CITY EDITOR

Millions of rands are going unspent for municipal projects which have either never been started or are lying dormant.

These projects range from street lighting to ablution facilities, road upgrades to stormwater drainage

The Cape Metropolitan Council has 48 projects, dating back to 1995, on its books. These projects are meant to be implemented by municipalities which have been allocated the money by the metro council

And R60-million which has been allocated for reconstruction and development programme projects also remains unspent

Chief among the reasons for the delays is the burden of local government restructuring, which has stretched the capacity of municipalities to the limit

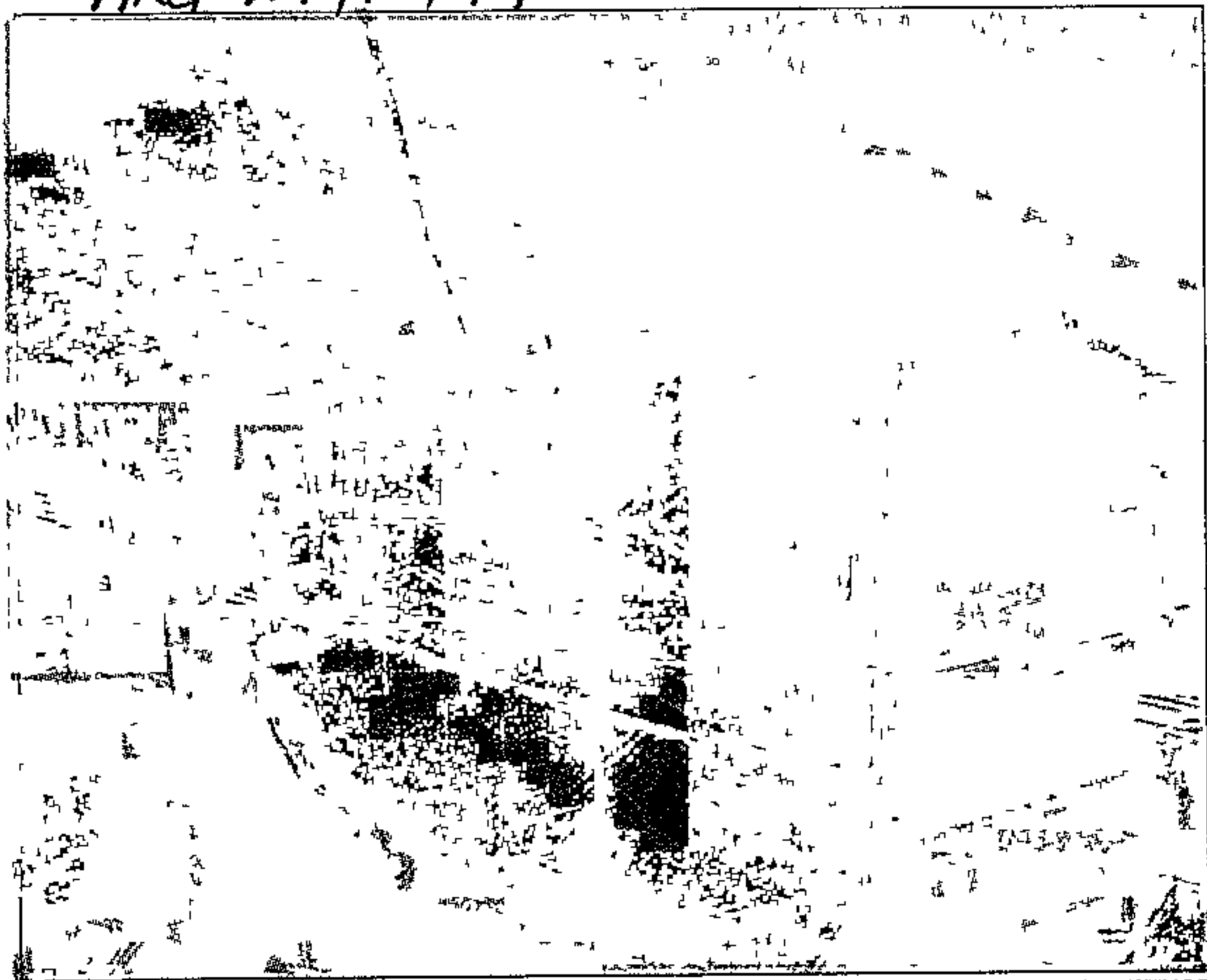
One example is provision of ablution facilities for a community in Hout Bay that lives in unserviced bungalows and shacks behind a blocks of flats in the harbour residential area.

Although R100 000 has been available from the metro council for the past three years, the money has been rolled over from year to year, mainly because additional finance needed to put in bulk services has not been forthcoming

The consequence is that residents of the settlement, which consists of about 400 dwellings, have to use toilets in the nearby blocks of flats or resort to pit toilets

A visit to the Hout Bay settlement revealed several illegal electricity and water connections.

Hout Bay councillor Dicky Meter explained that the situation is now in its third year. Initially, a decision was



JACK LESTRADE

On hold: illegal power lines from flats in Hout Bay lead to an informal settlement still waiting for services

made by the then Hout Bay/Llandudno council to supplement the R100 000 from the metro, but this money never came through

Then it was decided to approach the province for additional funding, but this has not materialised either

Mr Meter suggests that although initially "the money was there, the political will to implement it wasn't there"

A project in Dido Valley, Simon's Town, has been delayed because the South Peninsula municipality is waiting for land to be transferred into its name

Pierre Uys, chairman of the Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee, said there was concern that things were not happening fast enough.

"We've gone through a big restructuring process, which didn't help capacity, especially on the engineering side"

Mr Uys said that among the reasons for delays was that municipalities were attempting to raise money elsewhere or changing the scope of projects, which led to them becoming more expensive than had originally been anticipated

Although he believed "social-compact" communities were good, it was also necessary eventually to "stop consulting and say let's deliver now"

But Mr Uys said that the picture was not all doom and gloom, with some projects beginning to come on stream, among them the upgrading of flats in Atlantis and a clinic in the Oostenberg.

New deal on councillors' salaries

ARG 29/10/97 (263)

CLIVE SAWYER

Peter Marais, Western Cape minister for local government, hopes new salary scales for local councillors will be proclaimed next week.

The salary scales would be "fair", he told delegates to the National Party's Western Cape congress

Mr Marais said several local authorities had complained to him that they were unable to balance their books, but many wanted to

pay their councillors more money

Because councillors' salaries were defined in terms of the interim constitution, the approval of national Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Valli Moosa was required to change them

Mr Marais said he had had late-night telephone consultations with Mr Moosa this week about changing the salary scales

Contributing to the controversy about salary scales was the wide range of recommendations on the

subject, Mr Marais said

Four bodies, including the SA Local Government Association and the Western Cape Local Government Association, had proposed salary scales.

A key issue was whether councillors who occupied positions in two different councils, for example a city council and a metropolitan council, should be paid salaries for each post, Mr Marais said.

He said he hoped to get Mr Moosa's signature on a proclamation next week

MEIRING KILLS IDEA

'Secession would be folly for W Cape'

CT 29/10/97 (263)

THE WESTERN CAPE relies on a central government allocation for 95% of its income and is therefore incapable of going it alone, the NP provincial congress has heard. Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports

CHANCES of the Western Cape seceding are minimal because it is not a financially viable option, Western Cape Finance and Environmental Affairs MEC Mr Kobus Meiring has said

"With the best will in the world, and however attractive it may look, secession is not the answer," Meiring told his party colleagues at the Western Cape National Party fourth congress in Goodwood yesterday.

His statement quelled recent speculation that the NP-run province would consider breaking away from the national government

Explaining why secession was not financially viable, Meiring said about 95% of the province's fiscus was made up of a block allocation from central government. The rest was made up of licence fees and horse-racing taxes. Money from the casino industry would help boost provincial income eventually, he said

With this statement, Meiring put to rest one of only two contentious issues raised at the conference. The first was NP provincial leader Mr Hennis Kriel's statement that the province would hold a referendum next year on bringing back the death sentence.

NP leader Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk also said earlier this week that his party would introduce a private members bill next year to reinstate the death sentence.

Former NP leader Mr F W de Klerk spoke at the congress yesterday morning and predicted that the NP would keep the Western Cape and also take the Northern Cape and larger parts of other provinces in the next election.

"We are going to surprise friend and foe alike," he told congress delegates, urging them not to give in to despondency, but to work towards changing things.

"Whenever this party looked weakest in the past, it became stronger," De Klerk said

● The Democratic Party has responded to Kriel's statement that there would be a referendum on the death penalty by writing it off as mere bravado

Kriel said the referendum would be called in terms of Section 127 of the Constitution, which allowed him to do so within the framework of national legislation

However, Mr Hennie Bester, leader of the DP in the Western Cape, said there had been no new national legislation since the Constitution came into being. What legislation there was still only allowed the president to call a referendum.

"Even if a referendum is held, it won't have any binding political power," he said

Bester predicted that the referendum issue would "boomerang" on the NP.

"They are busy creating false perceptions," he said.

Rural councils row hots up

ANC threatens court battle with Marais

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

A showdown is looming between Minister of Local Government Peter Marais and the African National Congress over the restructuring of district councils in the province.

Following commissions of inquiry into the affairs of a number of rural towns, Mr Marais decided to strip these local councils of their power and appoint administrators to run the towns.

A small contingent of council representatives from Saron, Ladismith, Slangrivier and Rietpoort yesterday marched on his office to protest, and vowed they would not allow administrators to take over.

Mr Marais and the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Valli Moosa, have been negotiating for months about the issue of restructuring the district councils and the situation looks likely to come to a head soon.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said yesterday that Mr Moosa had, at a meeting of MECs last week, given Mr Marais until today to see to an agreement on the implementation of district councils.

"It is widely believed that Mr Marais has not complied and it is expected that Minister Moosa will now resort to the courts to ensure compliance with the Local Government Transition Act.

"The deadline is tomorrow and there does not seem to be any indica-

tion of a willingness on his (Mr Marais's) part to restructure the constitution requires that the national government should attempt to seek solutions, and avert recourse in the courts." But the process has been going on for three months and nothing has happened." Mr Dugmore said.

He said it was possible that the matter could be settled in the High Court.

Mr Dugmore said Mr Marais's actions were politically motivated and an attempt to influence the balance of power at district council level.

Mr Moosa's spokesman Mpho Mosmane said he had not given up hope that the impasse could be settled quietly, without a court battle.

"We are still negotiating. Our aim is to solve the problem in private, not

necessarily scoring political points," said Mr Mosmane.

Mr Marais's spokesman, Johan Smut, dismissed speculation of a standoff between Mr Marais and the ANC and said the negotiations over the restructuring of district councils were "going very well".

"There has been a very good relationship in terms of the technical aspects and we will soon release the findings from both sides. Valli Moosa and Peter Marais are in constant communication and are working towards an amicable agreement."

He said Mr Marais was investigating the viability of all local councils in the province and had decided to appoint administrators in Saron and Ladismith after irregularities had been found.



Up in arms a crowd marches on Peter Marais's office yesterday to protest at plans for administrators to run several rural councils

ANDREW INGRAM

*b28WC

Boraine probes leak of 'free Tutu' vote

Council snub an 'NP ploy'

JERMAINE CRAIG AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine is investigating how the results of the secret "Tutu" ballot were leaked to the press.

The leaked "green paper" broke down how councillors voted on the proposal to give the freedom of Cape Town to Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Truth and Reconciliation Commission chairman Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

The leak has led to a row and the resignation of former mayor and exco chief Clive Keegan as an alderman.

African National Congress councillors proposed the motion, but the green paper makes it clear that National Party councillors voted en masse against it.

NP caucus leader Leon Markovitz said the leak was a con-

travention of council rules. He wrote to Mr Boraine calling on him to investigate and said he was "deeply saddened" that the matter had been brought out into the open.

Councillors were cautious yesterday about how they voted.

Ian Iversen of the Democratic Party said the vote was supposed to be secret. He did not say how he voted, but hinted that he was "a great admirer of Tutu".

The ANC's Daphne King said she had voted in favour of the motion and was "disgusted and disappointed" that not enough support could be mustered.

ANC caucus leader Salim Mowzer felt the outcome of the vote was an indication of a "political ploy by the NP".

Nooroel Anwaar Saffodien of the African Muslim Party was also not present, but said he would either have voted against the

motion or spoilt his ballot.

The council's only independent councillor, Norman Jantjies, said he voted in favour of the motion.

"What makes me sad and disturbed me is that those who voted against it were from previously disadvantaged areas.

"Only because of sacrifices made by people like Archbishop Tutu are we in the privileged position to take part in government."

■ Archbishop Tutu would have been only the seventh person to receive the freedom of Cape Town.

William Duncan Baxter, a former mayor, was the first in 1958, followed closely by clergyman and social worker Bishop Sidney Warren Lavis. Then came heart transplant pioneer Chris Barnard, former Catholic Archbishop Owen Cardinal McCann and academic and educationist Richard van der Ross. President Mandela will become the sixth this month.

4/11/97

(253)

ARG 4/11/97

(263)

Councils shun change to local government

ARG 4/11/97

(263)

Two tiers 'successful'

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town's metropolitan council and six local councils all reject proposals to replace the present local government system with a megacity government, warning of huge costs and disruption.

This emerges from a submission to the National Assembly committee on constitutional affairs, which is conducting hearings on the green paper on local government.

Two models for remaking metropolitan government, including one for a single-tier "unicity" style of government, are proposed.

The megacity concept has the backing of Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Valli Moosa and deputy director-general in charge of local government Crispin Olver.

Yesterday the Cape Metropolitan Council, City of Cape Town, City of Tygerberg and the municipalities of Blaauwberg, Helderberg, Oostenberg and South Peninsula made a joint submission to the committee.

Nomandia Mfeketo, head of Cape Town's executive committee, said the councils believed the Cape metropolitan area had succeeded in creating the foundation for a successful, two-component system of metropolitan governance.

In harsh criticism of the green paper, the councils said:

- Time frames for finalising the new dispensation for local government did not allow enough time for input, or for input to be debated.

- Lack of research on individual metropolitan areas had led to generalisations that did not apply to Cape Town.

- Inappropriate legislation would hamper local government's capacity to deliver services.

- The green paper's assumption that the allocation of powers and duties among the metropolitan council and local councils led to duplication and inefficiency was "a gross simplification of reality".

- There was no proof difficulties in the Cape metropolitan area were caused by the structural failure of metropolitan governance.

Keegan drops title over Tutu snub

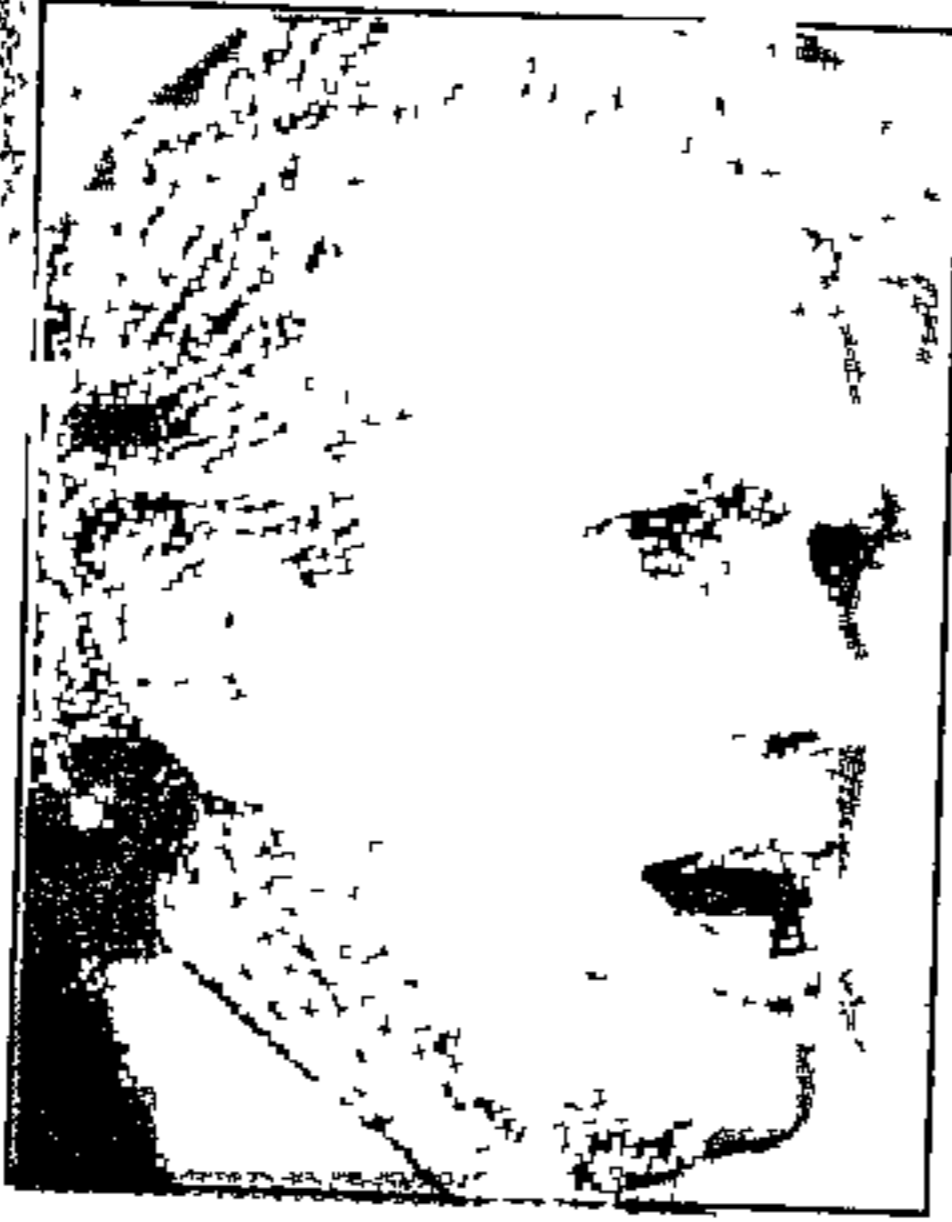
(263) ET 4/11/97

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

AN "absolutely disgusted" former mayor of Cape Town, Mr Clive Keegan, has resigned as an alderman of the city in protest at the council's recent decision to deny Archbishop Desmond Tutu the freedom of the Cape Town

"In the 22 years of my intimate and committed association with the Cape Town City Council, during which period I have served the city as both mayor and chairman of the executive committee, I can recall no single occasion when the council has brought itself more public discredit than by its decision last week to deny to Archbishop Desmond Tutu the highest and most distinguished honour which the city is able to bestow upon its citizens," he said yesterday in a letter to city manager Mr Andrew Boraine.

"In view of the international



ANGRY: Plain 'Mr' Clive Keegan

shame which this decision has brought upon the shoulders of Cape Town's local government and community, I have no wish to continue any personal association with a city council which I have always sought to serve with diligence and loyalty

"I must therefore ask that my

name be removed from the roll of Aldermen of the City and that I am no longer addressed by this title in any correspondence from your council "

Speaking to the Cape Times late yesterday, Keegan said he well remembered Tutu's response to a banquet the city held to honour him when he became Archbishop of Cape Town

"Tutu said he was so flattered and that the city's support meant so much to him," said Keegan

"This whole thing brings such discredit to Cape Town — I don't think there has ever been a more disgraceful episode

"It is both regrettable and deeply ironic that the new, legitimate council should adopt policies so deeply antipathetic to those of its predecessors whom it so regularly attempts to belittle."

Chairperson of Cape Town's executive committee Ms Nomandla Mfeketo said she understood

Keegan's feelings on the matter

"I'd feel the same if I was in his position," she said

The decision had been taken by the council, and to reverse or change it would involve "a long process of review and rescinding".

There needs to be a reason for reviewing the decision. For this to happen the matter would have to be raised by "someone" at a council meeting, she said.

Although the National Party in the council was accused yesterday of swaying the ballot that failed to confer the honour on Tutu, councillors within the NP caucus said the party had taken a "free vote" on the issue

This allows councillors of a particular party to vote "according to their consciences" and not according to a party decision

"Quite a few Nats voted in favour of his being given the freedom of the city," said one councillor.

Freeman Chris Barnard hits at Tutu snub *(263) ARG 5/11/97* Council review urged

SHARKEY ISAACS AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

The decision by National Party councillors to withhold the freedom of Cape Town from Archbishop Desmond Tutu has been condemned by earlier freemen of the city.

Heart transplant pioneer Chris Barnard, who got the freedom of the city 29 years ago, described the council's no vote as "petty" and top academic Richard van der Ross said the decision was regrettable.

Professor Barnard said he was saddened by the decision.

"Archbishop Tutu deserves it more than I did. Looking at it in perspective I would say Cape Town needs Desmond Tutu more than he needs the city."

Professor Van der Ross, a former Western Cape University rector, who became a city freeman nine years

ago, said the decision was "something to be regretted".

He said it would have been a credit to the city if the freedom of Cape Town had been conferred on Archbishop Tutu.

"If it only requires 50 votes from the 74 councillors to confer the award, then the whole issue should be duly reviewed. It is a great pity. The whole situation was undoubtedly badly handled."

When the secret vote was held last week, only 60 of the 74 councillors were present and 40 voted in favour of the ANC proposal while 16 voted against. Four ballots were spoilt.

Seven of the 14 councillors absent on the day were ANC members.

Chris Koole, spokesman for Her-nus Kriel's office, said that although the premier held Archbishop Tutu in high regard he did not want to comment on the matter as it was a city council decision.

Workers 'attack councillors'

TWO Tygerberg city councillors were injured and number of vehicles damaged when members of the SA Municipal Workers' Union allegedly attacked councillors after a disagreement over services to the Khayelitsha area.

The Western Cape branch of the ANC condemned the "senseless and spineless attack" on Mr Vuyani Ngcuka, chairman of the executive committee of the Tygerberg council and ANC councillor Mr Mbulelo Ncedani.

Ngcuka, the former mayor of Khayelitsha, was taken to N1 City Hospital in Goodwood, where he is being treated for serious lacerations. The hospital said he was in a stable condition. Ncedani was discharged after treatment.

Several ANC councillors were attending

ET 5/11/97 (263)
a meeting at the Khayelitsha Training Centre when workers attacked them.

Police spokesman Captain Bill Kilian said police were asked to protect local residents who were employed as casual labourers to remove refuse after a dispute between Samwu and the council.

The workers took the keys to the council vehicles with them and a court interdict was obtained for them to hand them back.

Kilian said his men and the residents were intimidated by the union members and thousands of rands of damage was caused when the tyres of vehicles were slashed and the wiring ripped out.

The ANC said it would meet the union, the Congress of SA Trade Unions and Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar to discuss the matter. — Sapa, Staff Writer

How council blew two votes on Tutu

ET 5/11/97

(263)

THE CAPE TOWN CITY COUNCIL botched two attempts — not one — to honour the head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Archbishop Desmond Tutu with the freedom of the city, a Cape Times investigation found yesterday.

COUNCILLORS had heard the results of the ballot actually voted on the issue twice. The first time, in August, they failed to return enough votes to bestow the honour after they'd been given ballot papers a month before.

Then, in a second vote last Thursday — a full two months after the first — not enough support could be mustered for the motion, with 14 of the 74 councillors absent.

The move to grant the honour was finally foiled by the 16 councillors who voted against the motion. It is thought they were all NP councillors, although NP leader Mr Leon Markovitz said his councillors had been given a free vote on the issue — and three NP councillors last night said they had voted for the motion.

Although he wouldn't say which way he'd voted, Markovitz told the Cape Times he'd written a personal letter to Tutu after the incident.

The chairperson of exco, ANC councillor Ms Nomandla Mfeketo, is reported to have wept when she

this matter is substantially shy of the first ingredient," he said.

All 74 councillors were given ballot papers on July 31 and asked to return them by August 28.

Only 34 were returned, of which 24 were in favour, nine against and one spoilt — but 50 votes are needed to bestow the honour.

"Astoundingly," said Kinahan, "Exco felt that some councillors may not have understood the significance of the ballot paper." For such a highly politicised society, never mind an exclusive group of politicians, not to understand a ballot is mind-boggling. How many other issues are understood before a vote is cast?

"Nothing daunted, the rules were bent to allow a second ballot, this time to a captive chamber. Again, 50 out of 74 votes were required. Problem! Only 60 councillors were present, this time returning 40 for, 16 against and four spoilt papers.

"It is not the city council that has embarrassed the city but the ineptitude of the ANC leadership, which did not do its job properly. Their apology to His Grace should include the truth," said Kinahan.

The DP's Mr Ian Iversen agreed. "Although the NP should be rapped over the knuckles, the ANC is equally to blame."

One should never risk embarrassing someone like Tutu until one had "locked up" enough votes, he said.

Even if all 74 members of council were present, and the ANC secured its 37 votes in favour of the motion, as well as the six DP, the two independent and the one African Christian Democratic Party vote, it would still have had to canvass at least five of the 28 NP members to secure a "yes".

"The ANC should have done its homework. They knew they needed 50 votes but hadn't lined up enough people," said Iversen.

Mfeketo denied her party had failed over the matter. ANC members who didn't attend the meeting all had valid reasons for not being there. "Some were writing exams, others are teachers and were invigilating (examinations) and some were on normal leave of absence."

Mfeketo said there was "no short-cut" available to the council to reverse the embarrassing decision.

"If there's a strong enough feeling about it among council members, a motion for review and rescind can be brought to the next council meeting, or a special meeting can be called," she explained.

The Cape Times last night continued.

□ Turn to Page 3



A LIGHTER MOMENT Truth Commission chairpersons Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Cape Town Mayor Theresa Solomon — whose council botched two attempts to bestow the freedom of the city on Tutu — share a light moment shortly before a banquet in honour of Prince Charles last night. **PICTURE BENNY GOOL**

Council snubs Tutu twice

ET 5/11/97

subject by presidential decree

(263)

□ From Page 1

tacted 19 of the 24 National Party councillors to find out how they had voted.

Three voted yes and one, Ms Sumaya Taliep, was absent during the voting. The rest said their votes were secret and they declined to comment.

Councillor Mr Howard Parker said yesterday evening "The voting should be re-submitted or revisited. For the papers to say that the NP didn't support it (the vote) is not fair. It's not entirely true — I think Tutu's a great man."

Councillor Ms Ramoġa Parbhoo said she would like to see another vote on the issue.

"We'd like to see it (the voting) being reopened. He's truly a humanitarian," she said.

Councillor Mr Michael Windvogel said he felt Tutu deserved the freedom of the city.

"He's still fighting to bring the nation together. He's the forerunner of peace in our country," Windvogel said.

Angry Western Cape ANC members of the National Assembly held a caucus meeting yesterday to debate the issue, deciding to refer decisions on how to deal with the matter to the national caucus and provincial executive.

The MPs hinted that the vote could represent a body-blow to Cape Town's chances of keeping Parliament in the Mother City, though they declined to elaborate on this point as they are precluded from debating the

The media should not take it on themselves to be the government, Western Cape Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais said yesterday in a strongly-worded response to press reports about the matter, as well as to a Cape Times leader page editorial yesterday which stated that councillors owed it to the public to say how they voted.

Marais telephoned the Cape Times to comment on "these continuous reports about Tutu and the freedom of the city".

He asked "What happened to freedom of expression? Didn't the councillors have the freedom to vote freely?"

"Tutu is not the first person to be denied freedom of the city. That is why the vote is strictly confidential. Why does the press now take it on themselves to be the government?"

Marais challenged the media: "If the freedom of the city had been denied to Nobel Peace Prize winner FW de Klerk (former National Party leader), would the press have reacted this way?"

Said Marais: "This is government by the editors. They should stick to news coverage."

Tutu told the Cape Times yesterday: "I am touched by the reactions of so many people to this issue. I know that they have dubbed me The Arch, and this title is good enough for me." — Staff Writers

'WRONG RECTIFIED'

Freedom at last for Tutu

ET 7/11/97

A SPECIAL COUNCIL meeting will be held on Monday evening at which councillors will be given a third chance to confer the freedom of Cape Town on Archbishop Desmond Tutu — and this time there'll be no chance of a snub, writes Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH**.

IT is strange how important events hinge on insignificant details. What led to the Tutu debacle, it now transpires, was the scheduling of a vote on the issue straight after a debate on the Anglo-Boer War, in a city council meeting last week.

Filled with chagrin about issues raised in the Anglo-Boer War debate, NP councillors voted against granting Tutu the freedom of Cape Town — thereby starting an ugly chapter in the history of the city, which ended with councillors having to apologise and eat humble pie before a Nobel Peace Prize winner and one of the city's most internationally honoured citizens.

A week of political in-fighting, mudslinging and tears over two botched attempts to confer the freedom of Cape Town on Archbishop Desmond Tutu has ended after a multi-party delegation of high-level councillors with "tails between their legs" paid him a visit.

"We apologised and asked him if he'd be kind enough to accept the honour if we revisited the issue. He accepted," said Cape Town City Council executive committee chairperson Ms Nomandla Mfeketo.

The meeting followed the storm of protest and accusations which erupted when a second secret vote in the city council last week failed to muster enough support to carry the motion, resulting in an episode which deeply embarrassed the city. Now all parties — including the National Party caucus,



GENEROUS: Archbishop Desmond Tutu at a dinner in honour of Rabbi Cyril Harris yesterday.

PICTURE: KIM LUDBROOK

which took much of the blame for the earlier fiasco — have agreed to vote in favour of his receiving the honour.

Earlier this week, "extremely disturbed and angry" ANC councillors accused the NP caucus of swinging the vote, the Democratic Party blamed the ineptitude of the ANC leadership for "not doing their homework" and the NP refused to comment other than to say the party councillors were given a "free vote" on the issue.

But yesterday, after an executive council meeting at which the matter was raised, NP leader Mr Leon Markovitz spoke out.

"I approached the chairperson of

(263)
exco (Mfeketo) with the belief that the wrong should be rectified," he said.

A multi-party delegation — Mfeketo, exco's deputy chairperson ANC councillor Mr Saleem Mowzer, the NP's Mr Sumaya Talep, Democratic Party councillor Mr Chris Joubert and Markovitz — met Tutu on Wednesday afternoon to apologise for the snub.

"He was his usual accommodating self — extremely pleasant — and we had a very cordial meeting," said Markovitz yesterday.

Mfeketo agreed "We went to him with our tails between our legs. He's a wonderful man with a big heart, was very welcoming and landed up consoling us."

And now the only person who's staying mum on the issue is the archbishop himself.

"He would prefer to say nothing until he knows for certain that the honour is his," said a spokesperson.

So how did the extraordinary turnaround come about and why was the motion not supported in the first place?

"I think the issue could have been exacerbated earlier last Thursday by comments by ANC members during a debate about the city taking part in Anglo-Boer War commemorations," said Markovitz. NP members were upset when the war was dubbed "a non-event" and "a part of history we want to forget."

But the debacle began in July when councillors — given ballot papers a month before the meeting — failed to return enough votes to bestow the honour. Exco felt some councillors might have missed the significance of the issue and a second vote was allowed.

This took place on secret green papers last Thursday — but still, with 14 of the 74 councillors absent, the 50 votes needed for approval could not be mustered.

As year-end approaches, Cape Town is committing a series of political faux pas, writes Editorial Director of Independent Newspapers Shaun Johnson, and the city and province need to act quickly to avoid paying a high price in December

Tutu insulted: has city shot itself in the foot?

ART 8/11/97 (263)

Is Cape Town succumbing to a virulent bout of summer madness? Why else would we be contriving to shoot in its majestic foot South Africa's most beloved and beautiful city, the one with the most potential for prosperity and progress on the entire continent?

To outsiders looking in at the mother city - and look in they do from the hinterland, constantly and somewhat covetously - a recent spate of developments appears all but inconprehensible. Just consider the cumulative impact of some of them as 1997 draws to a close.

The city has, in fantastically cack-handed fashion, handed down a mighty insult to Archbishop Desmond Tutu, proud local resident and a rare figure who has earned respect across most lines of division in a still-schismatic country.

It doesn't help that His Grace has been characteristically gracious, pooh-poohing as insignificant the failure of the City Council to achieve sufficient support to date to grant him Cape Town's freedom. It doesn't help Cape Town because it is not what the Archbishop makes of it is not what the matters, but the signal - and the ammunition - it sends to others who harbour rather less goodwill toward our city. That ammunition will hardly be reduced by hasty efforts to paper over the cracks, which will happen when the council reconsiders the issue on Monday.

Take it as a confident prediction made here that when South Africa's majority (in effect, ruling) party gathers in congress in Matieling in December to discuss the future location of parliament, the following leading question will be asked of the ANC rank and file

"How can the legislation of this entire African country continue to be fashioned in a city whose elected representatives are so conservative and mean-spirited as to be reluctant about a ceremonial honour to a Nobel laureate, in retirement, and fighting serious illness?"

I wouldn't like to have to answer that before thousands of hyped-up delegates

It is a question that will resonate, even as it is used disingenuously by northern politicians pursuing their own agendas. Cape Town will have walked slap-bang into it, and our guns in the crucial battle to keep parliament (history, statistics, impact studies, power devolution and all the other elements of the strong case being marshaled by our local lobby) will be partially spiked because a dangerous perception will have been given credence.

That perception is that Cape Town really does not yet in its heart accept that it is inextricably part of the wider new South Africa, whether it likes it or not.

There have been for some time ominous rumblings from a growing number of black politicians residing in Cape Town that they "do not feel welcome" here. Did those conservative councillors who voted down the Tutu motion think for a moment how powerfully they might confirm that prejudice - the destructive prejudice that Cape Town remains racist, a kind of wannabe volksstaat-met-stry, make no mistake.

There are so many other recent instances in which we have appeared to handle our affairs with towering ineptitude. The scorched-earth way in which officialdom's wrapping up

of the Olympic Bid effort has been managed is one. I have argued this point at length elsewhere suffice to say that we emerge to outsiders (who would have loved to bid) as spoilt-brat bad losers at best, irrational faction fighters at worst.

There is more. Last week two deep political rivals from the province of Kwazulu-Natal, Premier Ben Ngubane of the Inkatha Freedom Party and Economics Minister Jacob Zuma of the ANC, came together to Cape Town to present from the same podium a united vision of a future for their region; a vision which supersedes party politics.

It was not lost on the large audience at the Mount Nelson that such a joint roadshow of Western Cape leaders is a most unlikely prospect. Kwazulu-Natal may have its problems, but it is not rolling over and playing dead in the face of them - and it is certainly not compounding them by scoring petty points regardless of the wider, deleterious consequences.

There is serious, quality political leadership in that province and it should be applauded and emulated here at home, where for the moment the profundity of our provincial party politicking extends little further than battles over who should hold on to which regional cabinet position. No wonder we flail in the face of gangsters, the Pagad phenomenon, taxi wars, crime, and the time-bomb of joblessness.

Things do not have to be this way. We have so much going for us if we can just get going. Cape Town - indeed the whole Western Cape - can not afford to be considered by outsiders as mean-spirited, smugly complacent, xenophobic and endemicallly negative in every field save those of

the sports at which we periodically excel.

We are best placed of all to be a city and region on the move again, striding with confidence and pleasure into the new millennium. But to make that a reality we have first to come to terms, sincerely come to terms, with the changed realities of South Africa.

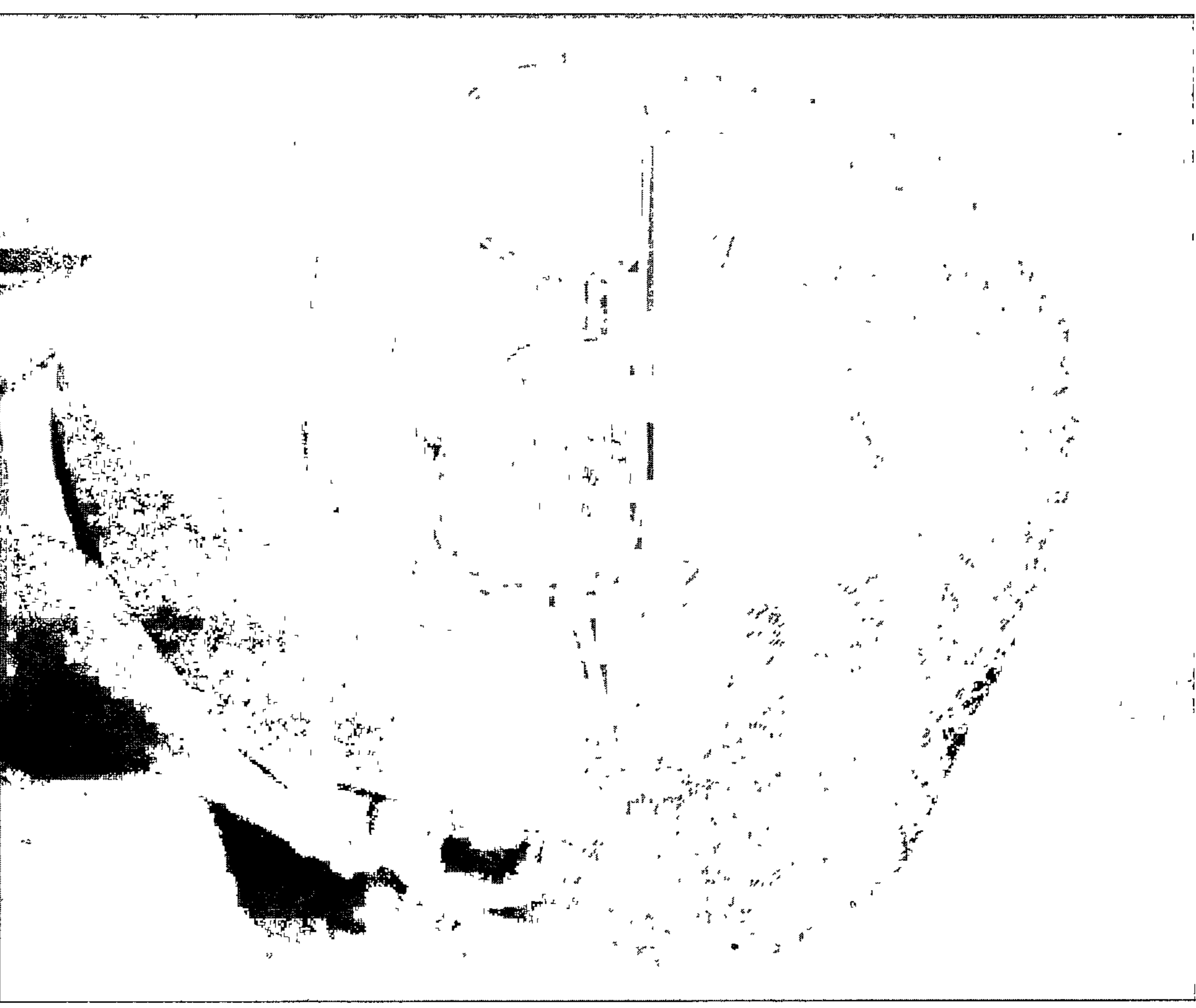
National power has shifted in this country to the democratically elected representatives of the black majority, and it will never shift away again. This is an African country which is blessed with an unusual, rich, price-less range of different hues. But they are all part of the Archbishop's single famous rainbow, not different and separate ones.

"Africanisation" is on its way in earnest in South Africa come the ANC's year-end congress. Its precise content - and whether it turns out to be a force for good or ill - will be determined in large part by the commitment to reconciliation and transformation displayed across the spectrum of the country and its diverse people.

Cape Town and the Peninsula would need nothing less than a latter-day continental drift to avoid feeling the effects of that Africanisation, and I know of no geologist's prediction of an imminent new fissure opening up along the foothills of the Overberg.

So Cape Town, wonderful Cape Town, needs to start thinking and talking about these issues, embracing them and helping to shape them.

The way we're going now, somebody's going to suggest we're not even fit custodians of our mountain - that it should be moved to a safer place. Righting the wrong done to Desmond Tutu, Capetonian, on Monday will be a start.



Tutu dismissed suggestions of being insulted, but the slight is felt by his followers

LEON MULLER

Mayor in 'dirty work' storm

Anger after Nats award R197 000 refuse removal contract to their boss

(263) ST 9/11/97 (CM)

YVETTE VAN BREDA

THE mayor of the small Boland town of Montagu is at the centre of a controversy over a R197 000 contract awarded to him by his fellow NP councillors

ANC and other non-NP town councillors walked out of a meeting at which five NP councillors decided to grant a contract for refuse removal to NP Mayor Leon Dekoker

The non-NP councillors are angry that Dekoker did not turn down the contract on ethical grounds

But Dekoker said this week the decision had been above board and he was the obvious choice as his was the lowest of three tenders which had been submitted

The contract was advertised some three months before he was elected mayor on September 30, Dekoker said, and he felt it was his right to accept it

However, one of the town's two ANC councillors, Barend Takeloo, said there had been no agreement between the council and the union regarding the privatisation of the refuse removal service.

He added that the SA Municipal Workers' Union intended to declare a dispute with the council over the issue

Takeloo said he and three other councillors were so angry at the way in which the matter had been handled that they refused to vote and walked out of last Tuesday's meeting.

The town has 10 councillors including Dekoker

— two from the ANC, two Sanco and six NP

Dekoker left the meeting as he was an interested party, so that the other nine councillors could decide on awarding the contract

But after the four walked out, the remaining NP councillors were the only ones left to vote — and they awarded the mayor the contract

Takeloo questioned the validity of the decision, because he doubted whether there had been enough councillors present to constitute a quorum

Dekoker said the council had taken a decision to privatise the refuse removal service and had first approached municipal workers in the town "to ask if any of them wanted to take over the service, but none of them saw the opportunity to do this".

The job was advertised in newspapers and Dekoker, who is also a carpenter, put in a tender for R197 000 a year. His tender was R28 000 less than the next lowest bid and he was awarded the contract

Fritz Marx, spokesman for Western Cape MEC for Local Government Peter Marais, said that since the job had been advertised publicly, there was "nothing wrong" legally with granting the mayor the contract

"Whether there is a moral dilemma over this issue is debatable," he said, adding that often in small towns, the mayor was one of the most influential people, owning the businesses that could provide services

The ANC and civic organisations in the town have called a meeting with the town clerk to consider further action

Kriel to sell off Cape

Premier to put prime land and property on market in bid to raise millions for

assets

cash-strapped province

(263)

HENRY LUDSKI

ST(CM) 9/11/97

WESTERN Cape Premier Hernus Kriel is preparing to sell off prime land and property worth millions to help finance projects for which there is no money in the existing budget

The Western Cape Administration Bill, published in an extraordinary provincial gazette on Friday, will give Kriel the power to both "acquire" and "dispose" of government-owned land and property

But the cash-strapped province — operating on a massive R230-million 1997/98 budget deficit and facing further cutbacks imposed by a controversial new provincial funding formula — is in more of a selling mood at this stage

Cutbacks in the provincial education, welfare and health budgets have plunged departments into a crisis, forcing the suspension of all new capital projects and a scaling down of services

The sale of assets, especially those of no economic benefit to the province, is said by Western Cape Finance MEC Kobus Meiring to be the only way new projects such as roads or buildings can be financed.

Meiring said the proceeds from the sale of all "unwanted" and under-utilised costly fixed assets would be transferred to a capital account from which all future capital infrastructure projects would be funded. The proposed legislation is also seen as a way of forestalling central government from laying claim to revenue generated by the sale of property and land.

Western Cape Transport and Public Works MEC Leonard Ramatlakane said on Friday that the proposed law would for the first time enable the province to dispose of land.

It would also allow it to enter into development partnerships with the private sector.

Allaying fears of a large-scale sell-off of provincial land, Ramatlakane said his department would not sell off land "willy-nilly" to generate funds.

"Selling off property won't solve our budget problems in the long-term," said Ramatlakane, who added that it was "too early" to say which properties would be sold as the province was still assessing its assets

Ramatlakane said the Bill would also allow the province to enter into long-term leases and agreements whereby the private sector could be brought in to finance specific projects

The Bill, on which organisations and individuals have until November 21 to comment, also requires authorities to draw up a "consolidated register" of provincial land details

The proposed legislation, which sets out strict guidelines for the sale and purchase of land, makes Kriel directly responsible for all land and property transactions

It also states that any provincial land disposed of cannot be resold by the new owners before five years

The provincial plan to become more self-sustaining is in line with a national Public Works strategy to streamline the management of its property portfolio and rid itself of the enormous burden of maintaining state-owned buildings, said Ramatlakane

Leaders take credit as Nats support freedom

ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

The National Party leadership is taking credit for the city council voting to bestow the freedom of Cape Town on Desmond Tutu.

Western Cape Premier Hennis Kriel's spokesman Chris Koole said last night that Mr Kriel had been "instrumental" in resolv-

ing the issue. He said Mr Kriel acted as a mediator between councillors on Friday and this had led to the crisis being resolved.

"It seems like the premier's intervention had a satisfactory outcome," he said.

Political Correspondent Clive Sawyer reports that National Party city councillors acted on the direct orders of NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk in voting in favour of Archbishop Tutu yesterday.

When news broke that NP city councillors were behind Cape Town's rejection of the honour, Mr Van Schalkwyk telephoned Archbishop Tutu to distance himself from the decision.

Party sources indicated that Mr Van Schalkwyk was deeply upset by the decision - particularly because his first achievement on becoming leader was to resolve the party's dispute with the Truth Commission.

Mr Van Schalkwyk also telephoned Mr Kriel, who had not been consulted about the Cape Town councillors' stand against Archbishop Tutu.

The sources indicated that the NP leader in the council, Leon Markovitz, was given a direct order to ensure the party's councillors reversed their decision when the matter returned to the vote yesterday.

Mr Koole said Mr Kriel was approached

(263)
last week by Mr Markovitz, and the two met to discuss mounting criticism of the NP for apparently blocking the Tutu honour.

"The premier then met councillors from the political parties on Friday to ask them what the problem was," said Mr Koole.

It had been Mr Kriel's intervention which had ended the fiasco, he said.

Reports and pictures, page 3

for Tutu

AR 6 11/11/97

At last! 'The Arch' has freedom of city

(263)

ARLT 0/11/97

Councillors vote unanimously

JERMAINE CRAIG AND ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTERS

Cape Town has gone a long way towards restoring its tattered image by finally deciding to bestow the freedom of the city on Truth Commission chairman Desmond Tutu.

At a special meeting of the Cape Town council yesterday, it was unanimously agreed to grant the honour to Archbishop Tutu after weeks of bickering and political mudslinging

All 65 councillors at the meeting voted in favour, putting to rest an issue which has caused a huge public outcry and much embarrassment. Before yesterday's meeting there were two attempts to bestow the symbolic honour on Archbishop Tutu.

At council's executive committee

meeting last week it was decided to call the special meeting to again try to grant the freedom of the city

Executive committee chairwoman Nomaandia Mfeketo proposed that the issue be resolved by show of hands, rather than a secret ballot

The failure to secure a two thirds majority at the last attempt caused much animosity, with political parties trading strong words and accusing one another of using the issue to make political mileage

But from the outset of yesterday's meeting it was clear everyone was intent on avoiding further controversy and would support the motion

When the chairwoman of the meeting, Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon, called for the vote all the councillors raised their hands and applause erupted. A relieved Mrs

Solomon said afterwards "a weight has been lifted off my shoulders"

"Now I can again feel proud of being mayor of this city. What happened showed that we can again work within the ambit of reconciliation and co-operative governance. I want to compliment the Archbishop on the dignified way in which he handled it and the fact that he had it within his heart to forgive whatever decision was taken in council," she said

Ms Mfeketo said before the meeting that the issue had caused much controversy and created a "very embarrassing situation for the city", with accusations and counter accusations being made by councillors.

National Party councillor Somaya Talep said she had more respect for Archbishop Tutu after the manner in which he handled the matter

Future of Parliament could hinge on Tutu snub

ASHLEY SMITH AND JERMAINE CRAIG

Has the resolution of the Tutu affair come too late to redeem Cape Town's image less than two weeks before the ANC executive votes on the future of Parliament?

This was the question asked across the political spectrum last night after the city council voted in favour of conferring the freedom of the city on Desmond Tutu.

Adding fuel to the fire were comments by executive committee chairwoman Nomandla Mfeketo who said the Tutu debacle and similar incidents could sketch a picture of a racist and uncaring Mother City to upcountry members of the ANC, to the detriment of the city's chances of keeping Parliament.

The vote was unanimous last night after two attempts to honour the Nobel Peace laureate failed when a two thirds majority of 50 votes was not reached.

After yesterday's "yes" vote, representatives of diverse political parties expressed their concern that the issue would have a detrimental affect on the city's chances of keeping Parliament. Midrand in Gauteng is challenging to host Parliament

Mrs Mfeketo said the Tutu debacle and similar incidents could make black politicians from other provinces feel unwelcome in the city

A spokesman for Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel lashed out at the ANC saying that if a "little thing" like that determined whether Parliament stayed in the city, the powers-that-be had already made up their minds.

Hennie Bester of the Democratic Party said there were "much bigger issues" at stake than swinging public mood in favour or out of favour of Cape Town in the bid to keep Parliament

Kevin Kevaney of the Citizens Alliance for Parliament said the Tutu affair was the first test of the unity that existed among all parties in the province about keeping Parliament.

He said resolving the issue had gone a long way towards "clearing the decks" for Cape Town to strive to hold on to Parliament

EMBARRASSING CHAPTER CLOSED

Tutu given freedom of the city — at last

A UNANIMOUS show of hands yesterday saw Archbishop Desmond Tutu become a freeman of Cape Town. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

A SIMPLE question followed by a rapid show of hands last night ended what had become one of Cape Town's most embarrassing moments, or to be more accurate, fortnights.

Within minutes of convening a special meeting to give city councillors a third chance to confer the freedom of Cape Town on Archbishop Desmond Tutu — this time in the open, by a show of hands and watched by a large press contingent — the council decided unanimously.

Obvious tension in the chamber kept the mood serious throughout the proceedings and although councillors broke into spontaneous applause when the result became apparent, they dispersed with little or no conversation afterwards.

Last night's meeting followed the storm of protests and accusations that erupted when a second secret vote in the city council nearly two weeks ago failed to muster enough support to confer the honour on Tutu — a Nobel Peace Prize winner and one of Cape Town's

most internationally honoured citizens.

In a week of mudslinging and even tears, the ANC accused the National Party caucus of swinging the vote, the Democratic Party blamed the ineptitude of the ANC leadership for "not doing their homework" and the NP refused to comment other than to say its members had taken a "free vote" on the issue.

It was believed that an angry debate on the Anglo-Boer War just before this issue was raised could have influenced NP councillors.

Finally, on Thursday, a multi-party delegation visited the archbishop with "their tails between their legs" to apologise for the snub. He agreed to accept the honour, should the matter be revisited.

"In submitting this item, I want to note that it created much controversy over the past two weeks resulting in a very embarrassing situation for this city," said the chairman of the executive committee, ANC member Ms Nomandla Mfeko.

CT 11/11/97 (263)

"Through this, accusations and counter-accusations were made in the heat of the moment and in anger I urge everybody today to deal with this matter with dignity and due respect, as shown by the archbishop himself when we went to apologise. We've had enough controversy and are now rectifying the situation."

The NP leader in the council, Mr Leon Markovitz, said he went "back a long way with Tutu."

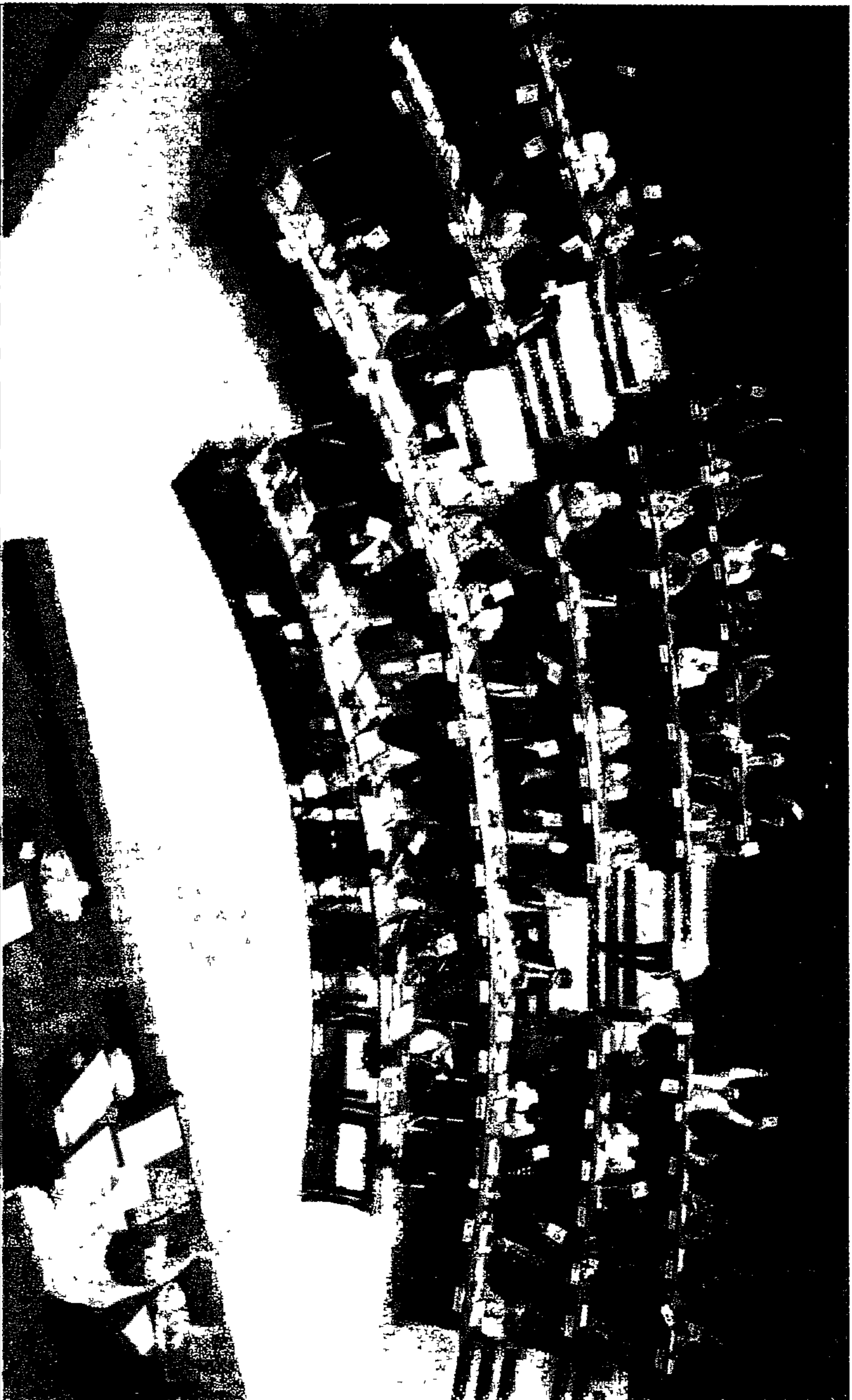
As mayor in 1986, when Tutu was installed, Markovitz hosted a banquet in his honour.

"I did not belong to a political party then but was criticised by the previous government for having done this. See how the wheel turns in such a short space of time."

Although he did not want to taint the honour with political jibes, comments had been made in print and were "now cast in stone."

"Anyone who says it was a Nationalist ploy to stop the archbishop getting this honour, he so richly deserves, would be telling me I swear to God there is no truth in that whatsoever," said an emotional Markovitz.

He called on councillors to embark on a "true process of co-



THIRD TIME LUCKY: A unanimous show of hands in the Cape Town City Council chambers last night has finally paved the way for the freedom of Cape Town to be conferred on Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu. **PICTURE GARTH STEAD**

operative governance"

"I ask you not to allow Tutu — who so richly deserves this award — to become the issue the city uses to flex its political muscles."

DP member Mr Owen Kinahan, referring to the two bungled attempts to confer the honour on Tutu, said the council had procedural rules "because they work"

"It's not acceptable that councillors were excused (when the first ballot failed to return enough votes) on the grounds that they didn't understand the ballot — the

same vehicle that brought us all here"

brought the archbishop "The freedom of the city is not a party political matter," he said. Tutu could not be reached for comment last night.

Cape has too many councillors - Marais

(263)

ARL 12/11/97

Call for action to save money

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape Local Government Minister Peter Marais feels local authorities have too many councillors and their numbers should be cut to save taxpayers money and reduce political infighting.

He said yesterday he would instruct the newly appointed demarcation board, responsible for restructuring municipal boundaries, to look at reducing the number of councillors

"This will save taxpayers thousands of rands, lead to greater efficiency, less political infighting

and a more streamlined service," Mr Marais said

The Cape Town municipality with 74 councillors and Tyberberg with 72 have the most councillors in the province

Mr Marais said a possible alternative could be the Miami model, where a 15-member full-time executive was employed with a strong support staff

He said the Western Cape was committed to clean administration and the provincial government was delivering services in spite of financial constraints. His department had spent R94-million on improving municipal infrastructure and another R9-million

would be spent in disadvantaged communities before March

Mr Marais said the six-member demarcation board - chairman Donald Craythorne, Rob Cameron, Vanessa Watson, Jacques de Ville, Koos Theron and Chris Maarman - had been approved by himself and Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa

The board would demarcate municipal boundaries and establish whether councils should remain or be merged. It would also define the areas of jurisdiction of municipalities and the number of seats in a municipality.

'Disaster' if Parliament were to move

Cape Town stands to lose millions

AR 5 13/11/97 (263)

LEAD STORY

Removing Parliament from Cape Town could trigger the terminal decline of the central city.



Special Writer
MICHAEL MORRIS reports

In the years after the District Six thousands were pushed out of the city, and the scar grew over with grass, the delusion that a sound outcome would somehow devolve from South Africa's political settlement may have seemed plausible.

Yet - quite apart from the apparently intractable debate on what is to be done with the contested swathe of prime city land - the legacy of the removal of the people of District Six is as enduring as it is pernicious.

There was a time when the east city served, and was served by, a substantial community that, within years, was gone.

The result, says architect, chairman of the Cape Town Heritage Trust and former deputy mayor Llewellyn van Wyk, is still evident.

"The removal of District Six undermined the economic viability of the east city to the extent that 20 years later it is still struggling to come to terms with the consequences."

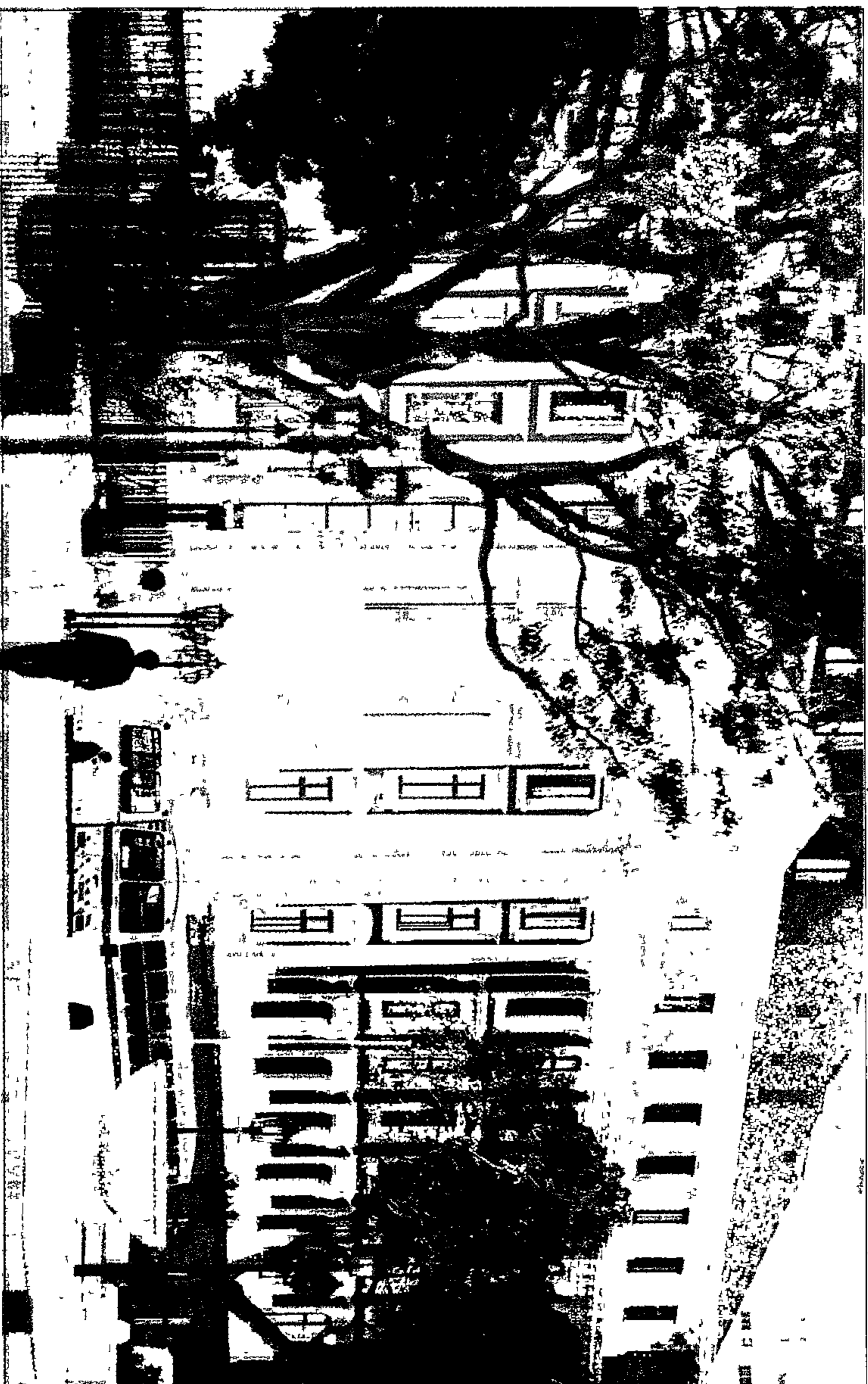
Now, he says, imagine taking Parliament away from the same Cindarella sector of a central city area.

"I fear a second removal, this time involving office workers and ancillary services, could just be the death knell of the east city."

"But this time, the effect will spill over into the CBD as a whole because the combination of District Six and Parliament going is too large an impact to contain in one quarter of the city."

"The urban blight which followed the removal of District Six will spread to the entire CBD just as the disinvestment of property developers from Johannesburg collapsed its CBD."

"Johannesburg is still struggling some two decades later to overcome the economic devastation that followed, despite numerous attempts to tackle the problem."



Parliament by night - moving it could sound the death knell of the eastern part of the city, says architect and chairman of the Heritage Trust Llewellyn van Wyk

Putting Parliament somewhere else, he says, "is not just about the relocation of the legislature - it is about the disinvestment of an entire sector of the economic life of the city."

Mr Van Wyk points out that Parliament "brings with it a massive requirement for ancillary service space in the form of office accommodation and government garage facilities, as well as many thousands of people who require access to the full gamut of service facilities."

One of the main consequences of taking Parliament away would be to "leave behind many thousands of square metres of empty office space in a precinct which is not in high demand for office accommodation."

"The quality of the space left vacant is at best lower B grade with little or no access to parking."

"The take-up rate of office space in the CBD is not sufficient to absorb the dumping of thousands of square metres of undesirable space into the market in one fell swoop."

"The service facilities which currently occupy ground floor retail space will also become vacant with a dramatic impact on the quality of the

urban environment. Apart from the urban blight so created, many thousands of jobs will be destroyed.

"It will become almost impossible to reactivate these economic activities once they have been dislocated - the experience which followed the District Six removal bears testimony to this."

"These impacts are all measurable, particularly in the light of the past experiences of our own cities, let alone those of international cities. The impacts are tangible and real."

Couple this with the (desirable) metropolitan planning goal of reducing the daily influx of commuters into the city by creating opportunities for economic activity nearer their homes on the Cape Flats - and the fact that any future use for the parliamentary buildings is heavily constrained by their design, and their conservation-worthy status - and you have a potentially devastating impact.

"These factors combined," Mr Van Wyk warns, "will place such a heavy burden on the CBD that many

investors and tenants will relocate to new sub-urban areas and thus pattern will finally lead to the collapse of the CBD in a similar way to that of Johannesburg."

He acknowledges that while several key projects in the east city - a new shopping complex in Roeland Street, the redevelopment of the central Post Office site among them - could contribute to a regeneration of the area, they could not compensate for the loss of Parliament.

"When you start pulling out the

government property and dropping it on the market, no amount of individual buildings will stop that wave."

In fact, the consequences extend beyond the city centre.

"The most substantial portion of the rates base of Cape Town is the CBD. If you pull the plug on it, you are taking away one of the city's major sources of income."

And the likelihood is that businesses moving out will not simply move to Claremont, which would still fall within the city, but to Constantia,

or Bellville, or Century City.

"The city, however, would still have to clean the streets and service the area. There is a huge capital investment in the CBD, which the city is still paying."

"CBDs are the golden egg of municipal treasuries. If the value drops, you are looking at a financial disaster."

But there is an alternative.

Mr Van Wyk sees it as a "wonderful opportunity to transform the east city, bury the effects of the removal of District Six and create an urban environment which could be the residential phoenix of the CBD" - the creation of a pleasant, dynamic parliamentary precinct.

"A properly developed and managed precinct with residential quarters, shops and restaurants, hotels and schools all centred on the Gardens could become the alternative legacy of the Parliament debate."

On the other hand, the central city location of Parliament could be turned into a desirable alternative.

"The parliamentary precinct is fortunate in being one of the most beautiful precincts of the CBD, located as it is in proximity to the public Gardens and having access to so many of the national museums and galleries, good restaurants, schools, creche facilities, and shopping."

Mr Van Wyk notes that the Government owns much of the land, and could use it to good effect in creating an attractive accommodation precinct.

"That residential mixed-use quality could be extended beyond Roeland Street towards Spin Street, and if this were to happen, one would be talking about a totally different kind of city. Inner-city living really could work well and life for parliamentarians would be transformed."

As African National Congress MPs prepare for their year-end congress at which the Parliament question is expected to be a prominent concern, Mr Van Wyk believes they are faced with a simple challenge: an "opportunity to destroy, or to create?"

For Cape Town's sake, he says, "I pray they choose wisely."

ARLS 19/11/97

(262)

'Disaster' if Parliament were to move Cape Town stands to lose millions

In the years after the District Six thousands were pushed out of the city, and the scar grew over with grass, the delusion that a sound outcome would somehow devolve from South Africa's political settlement may have seemed plausible

Yet - quite apart from the apparently untractable debate on what is to be done with the contested swathe of prime city land - the legacy of the removal of the people of District Six is as enduring as it is pernicious

There was a time when the east city served, and was served by, a substantial community that, within years, was gone

The result, says architect, chairman of the Cape Town Heritage Trust and former deputy mayor Lewellyn van Wyk, is still evident.

"The removal of District Six undermined the economic viability of the east city to the extent that 20 years later it is still struggling to come to terms with the consequences."

Now, he says, imagine taking Parliament away from the same Cindrella sector of a central city area.

"I fear a second removal, this time involving office workers and ancillary services, could just be the death knell of the east city"

"But this time, the effect will spill over into the CBD as a whole because the combination of District Six and Parliament going is too large an impact to contain in one quarter of the city"

"The urban blight which followed the removal of District Six will spread to the entire CBD just as the disinvestment of property developers from Johannesburg collapsed its CBD"

"Johannesburg is still struggling some two decades later to overcome the economic devastation that followed, despite numerous attempts to tackle the problem."

INSIDESTORY



Removing Parliament from Cape Town could trigger the terminal decline of the central city
Special Writer
MICHAEL MORRIS reports

Putting Parliament somewhere else, he says, "is not just about the relocation of the legislature it is about the disinvestment of an entire sector of the economic life of the city"

Mr Van Wyk points out that Parliament "brings with it a massive requirement for ancillary service space in the form of office accommodation and government garage facilities, as well as many thousands of people who require access to the full gamut of service facilities"

One of the main consequences of taking Parliament away would be to "leave behind many thousands of square metres of empty office space in a precinct which is not in high demand for office accommodation"

"The quality of the space left vacant is at best lower B grade with little or no access to parking."

"The take-up rate of office space in the CBD is not sufficient to absorb the dumping of thousands of square metres of undesirable space into the market in one fell swoop"

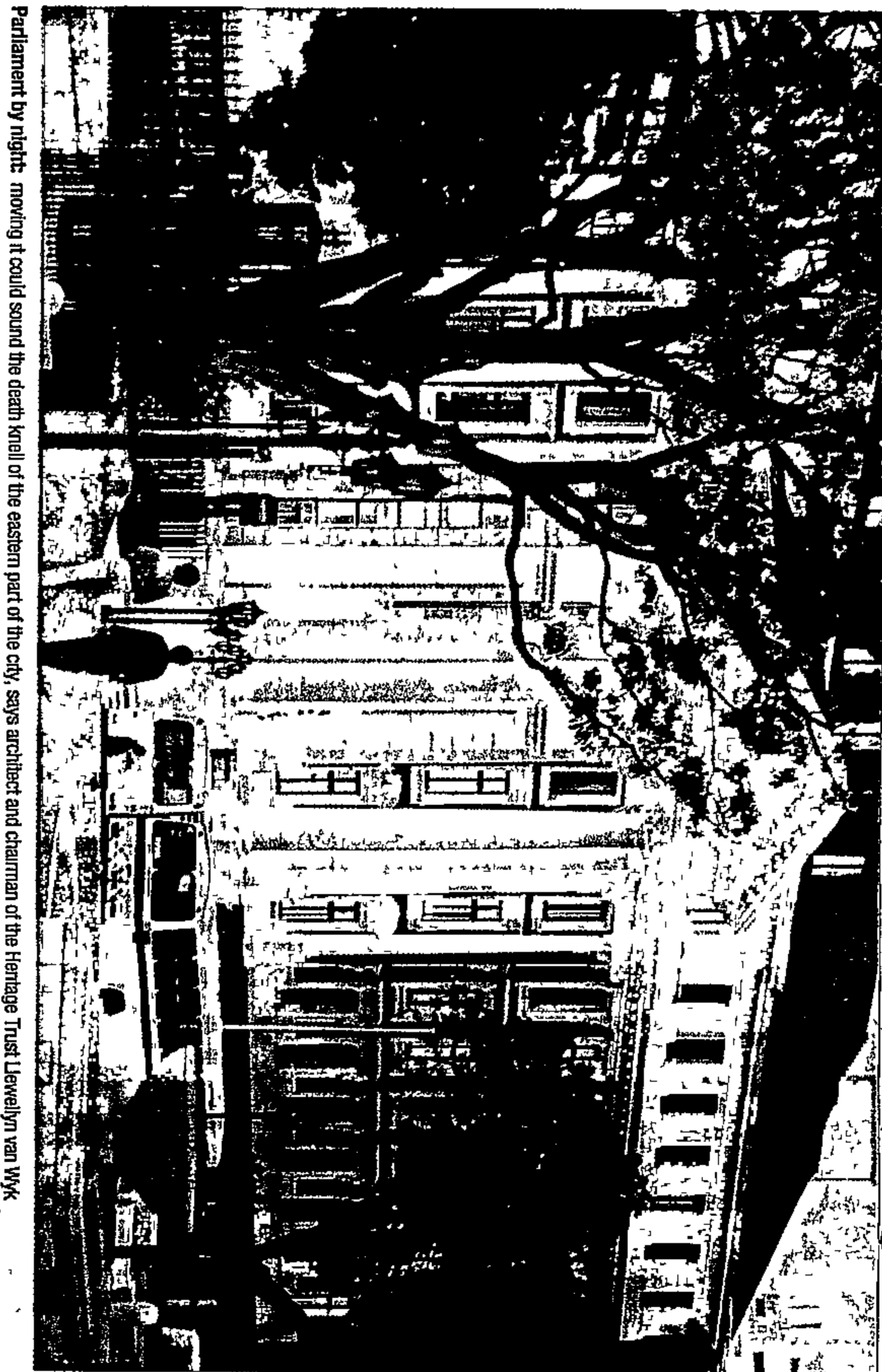
"The service facilities which currently occupy ground floor retail space will also become vacant with a dramatic impact on the quality of the urban environment. Apart from the urban blight so created, many thousands of jobs will be destroyed."

"It will become almost impossible to reactivate these economic activities once they have been dislocated the experience which followed the District Six removal bears testimony to this"

"These impacts are all measurable, particularly in the light of the past experiences of our own cities, let alone those of international cities. The impacts are tangible and real."

Couple this with the (desirable) metropolitan planning goal of reducing the daily influx of commuters into the city by creating opportunities for economic activity nearer their homes on the Cape Flats - and the fact that any future use for the parliamentary buildings is heavily constrained by their design, and their conservation-worthy status - and you have a potentially devastating impact."

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For Cape Town's sake, he says, "I pray they choose wisely"

Parliament by night: moving it could sound the death knell of the eastern part of the city, says architect and chairman of the Heritage Trust Lewellyn van Wyk

Council

ET 14/11/97

double

(263)

car perks

AS TOP CITY COUNCIL managers are to receive dramatically increased car allowances, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa is to take steps today to ensure that municipalities report publicly on their financial affairs, Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

IFBE at the top is not so tough for Cape Town City Council employees these days. In a bid to keep top managers from being lured away by other councils offering better packages, car allowances are to be dramatically increased and in some cases doubled.

So, for instance, an executive director who would have received an allowance of about R6 000 a month, over and above his salary, can now look forward to a travelling allowance of about R9 000.

This, say dealers, is enough to buy a Porsche Carrera, a top-of-the-range Mercedes-Benz, a Landcruiser or a BMW. "You could even buy a small helicopter with that," joked one.

Only council officials in the top nine grades are affected by the change, which will cost ratepayers about R6 million a year.

Those in these grades — which include some executive directors, directors, heads of department and managers — are also offered car loans equal to their basic annual salary to be repaid in less than six years, at an interest rate of 8% a year calculated on the outstanding balance. At the most senior levels, this is estimated at about R290 000.

But increases aside, Cape Town allowances are still less than those offered to employees of the Tygerberg and Cape Metropolitan Councils (CMC) Cape Town's executive director for finance, Mr Philip van Rynveld, said the move was taken to counter "the beginnings of a brain drain".

"We're trying to give the council flexibility to be competitive when it needs to be," he said.

The transport allowance was "essentially a non-pensionable part of a salary" and it would therefore cut costs for the council in one sense, he said.

He pointed out that only 2% of the council's annual salary bill of R900 million a year went towards senior management salaries.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Valli Moosa is to promulgate regulations today which will require South Africa's more than 800 municipalities to report on their financial affairs — including salary scales and debt — publicly.

Chief executives could be taken to court if they did not provide councillors, the public and the government with this information, he said.

Also yesterday, acting chief executive officer for Tygerberg Mr Gys Hofmeyr, ironically himself a former deputy city

TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCES

GRADE	CAPE TOWN		COMPARATIVE FIGURES	
	PRESENT PER MONTH R	PROPOSED PER MONTH R	TYGERBERG PER MONTH R	CMC PER MONTH R
02	6 015	8 752	-	-
03	4 575	7 106	9 142	7 496
04	3 490	7 106	9 142	7 496
05	3 490	6 097	7 496	6 487
06	2 825	6 097	7 496	6 487
07	2 305	5 253	6 487	5 643
08	2 110	4 915	6 487	5 305
09	* See below	3 505 - 4 915	5 305	5 305

* All present there are 77 employees in grade 09, of whom 24 receive a reimbursable transportation allowance. The remaining 25 employees do not receive any transportation allowance.

administrator in the old Cape Town City Council, refused to divulge the car allowances offered by his administration. He said he "wished to refrain from making comments" on the subject other than that the council was "implementing the Local Bargaining Council arrangements in this regard".

The latest move comes a month after Ms Nomandla Mfeketo, chairperson of Cape Town council's executive

committee, said that senior officials were leaving posts for greener pastures. In many instances they were poached by other municipalities.

"For instance, car allowances at the CMC and Tygerberg range from between R35 000 and R50 000 more than this council's. As a city, we recognise we have lost staff," she said.

Consultants who investigated the matter recommended that "in the short term, car allowances for the Cape Town Municipality should be increased to be on a par with other local authorities and the broader Cape Town market".

The Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (Imatu) has taken a harsher stance. In the same week that the allowances were proposed, it says, Imatu heard that an emergency healthcare worker was told there were no funds available for a portable ECG machine.

"What is more, the recommended interest rate for the loans is 8% per annum, while staff who are compelled to buy vehicles to do their work have to pay double," said a spokesperson.

"If they wish to improve car allowances, it should not be confined to management — many of whom don't need to drive as part of their duties — but for all relevant staff," he said.

Mass property sell-off to fund projects

'Not a case of selling family silver'

WILLEM STEENKAMP

In a revolutionary move to provide urgently needed facilities, the Western Cape provincial government plans to sell off thousands of properties to fund development projects throughout the region.

The province owns at least 8 000 properties valued at billions of rands and the Government is set to dip into this valuable pool of resources to fund new hospitals, schools, clinics and other much-needed community projects.

Thousands of jobs are expected to be created through the scheme, described as "selling off pearls to buy diamonds".

Explaining the concept, provincial deputy director-general Roy Petersen said no money generated through the sale of land would go towards servicing the province's budget shortfall, "outstanding debts or operating

expenditure

"We are in the process of compiling a land register to establish which and how many properties the province owns. This is a multi-phased project through which each and every property will be identified, listed and valued," he said.

"The Western Cape Land Administration Bill, which will ultimately empower the Western Cape premier to sell off land, has been published for comment in the provincial gazette and should be passed before the end of the year. This will give the provincial cabinet the authority to sell off land."

It was important to note that the intention was to pay money generated from such transactions into a Capital Development Fund

'Money won't be used to fund deficits or go towards operating expenditure'

"It will not be used to fund deficits and neither will it go towards operating expenditure. It will most definitely not be a case of 'selling the family silver'." The intention is that the money will be used to fund much-needed development projects such as hospitals and schools. What will in essence happen is that we will sell one asset to create another development project.

"So, for instance, we could sell tracts of land in Porterville which lie under-utilised, to generate funds needed for capital development projects," Mr Petersen said. Referring to the recent outcry over the potential sale of the land in Observatory on which the Valkenberg hospital is situated, Mr Petersen said some of the property which had been

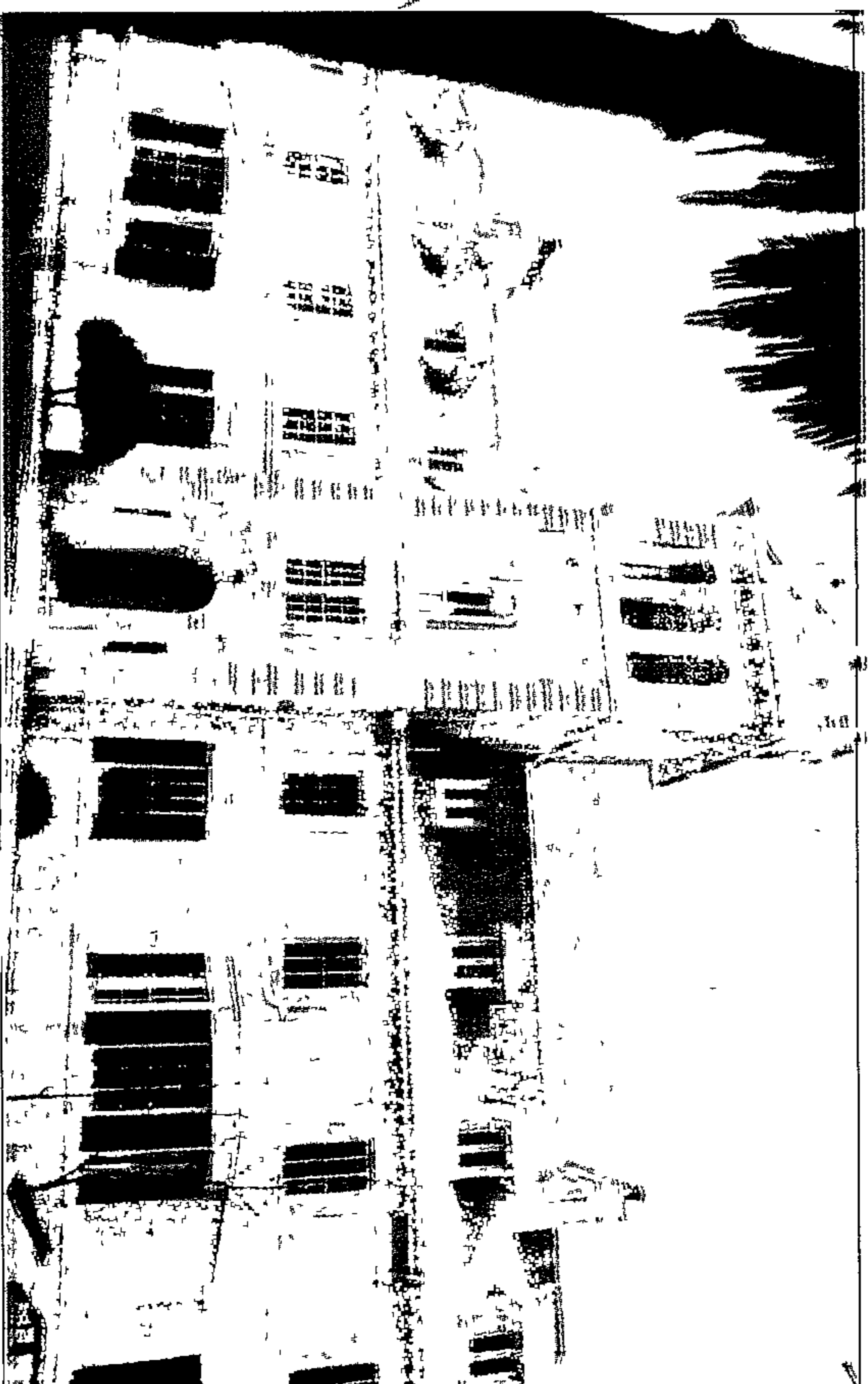
used by the province was described as belonging to the Republic of South Africa.

"In such cases we will, through a process of negotiation - reach agreement with the central department of public works as to whether such land should become provincial property, or should fall under the control and ownership of the national department."

"We believe these issues will be amicably resolved. We do not foresee any conflict on issues such as these."

Mr Petersen said the whole process of promulgating the new Western Cape Land Administration Bill and the listing, valuation, compilation of a land asset register and the establishment of a Capital Development Fund, should be completed in the first half of next year.

This will allow the province to launch capital development projects using funds paid into the Capital Development Fund.



Paydirt: the land at Valkenberg is the subject of a potential sale. Money from such transactions will not be used to fund deficits.

Fraud, theft in Cape government

KEN VERNON

THE Auditor-General's department has slammed the financial administration of the Western Cape government in a report that has highlighted inefficiency and theft.

The A-G's report on the 1995-96 financial year revealed "significant shortcomings" that were of "serious concern"

The report by provincial auditor Willie Brits recorded instances of fraud in which almost R1-million was stolen from state coffers, while "shortcomings and deficiencies" in the collection and control over revenue sources meant income of R94-million had not even been collected by the end of the financial year on March 31, 1996.

ST(CM) 16/11/97 (263)
The report noted 14 cases of fraud involving amounts of up to R370 000, which included theft of stock, misappropriation of receipts and irregular issuing of cheques

While provincial welfare spending had increased by 58 percent, said the report, the number of recipients of welfare had increased by only one percent

In another instance more than R50 000 was spent on the appointment of consultants without proper compliance with tender directives

In one case of unauthorised expenditure, R465 690 had been spent on a series of educational videos without complying with the Tender Board instructions

The case had been reported to the Office for Serious Economic Offences for investigation, the report said However, OSEO West-

ern Cape head Tommy Prins this week said his department had no record of the case.

Approached for comment, MEC for Education and Cultural Affairs, Martha Olckers, said she had not seen the report and could not comment, adding that she knew nothing of the unauthorised expenditure.

Points detailed by the A-G included.

- Significant lack of control over computer equipment

- Inability to present proper authority for transactions.

- Lack of proper control over pharmaceutical and linen stock in provincial hospitals.

- Inability to submit a complete register of equipment of the Roads, Public Works and Transport departments

- The inability to ascertain the validity of certain journals

All eyes on Kriel amid unity fears

ARG 19/11/97

(263)

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

There have been mixed reactions from Western Cape provincial legislature opposition parties to the news that the Constitutional Court has certified the province's constitution - the first to be ratified by the court.

African National Congress secretary James Ngculu said that although the certification had been expected, the onus now rested

with Premier Hernus Kriel to decide whether party political considerations were more important than a stable government.

Provincial Democratic Party leader Hennie Bester said his party welcomed the news, and that it created a challenge for parties to either co-operate through agreement or descend into growing antagonism.

The certification of the amended provincial constitution comes more than seven months after it was opposed by ANC members,

who argued that it was an unnecessary expense the province could ill afford

In terms of the constitution, Mr Kriel can now reshuffle his cabinet, putting the four posts held by the ANC in jeopardy. But Mr Kriel is on record as saying that he wants to put together a cabinet that is reflective of all the parties in the province, and to appoint two technical experts to the cabinet.

Mr Ngculu said that an end to the government of provincial unity would be a severe setback

Cape ANC threatens to 'take to streets'

Linda Ensor

BD 19/11/97

(263)

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel said yesterday he might substitute National Party (NP) members for the two outside "experts" envisaged when the provincial constitution — certified by the constitutional court yesterday — was drafted.

The African National Congress (ANC) in the province threatened to take to the streets in protest against what it called Kriel's breach of faith.

The ANC, agreeing to two posts being created, wanted the experts to take them. The party threatened to meet Kriel's government "on the streets" if it was excluded from his cabinet.

The certification opened the way for a cabinet reshuffle and Kriel said he would approach people over the next two months with a view to announcing his team in the new year.

The provincial constitution made provision for 12 members instead of the previous 10, and two could be non-voting members drawn from outside the provincial legislature. Kriel did not think there was a constitutional obligation on him to appoint "experts" and said he might have to sacrifice this in favour of both expanding NP representation on the cabinet and creating a multiparty executive. "I asked for two experts in a 14-strong cabinet. Now I have a 12-person cabinet. I will have to look closely at whether there is scope to bring in outside experts if I am to include other parties in addition to the ANC, as well as expanding the share of the NP. You cannot ignore up-and-coming people within your own party. One of the bases of good government is to get people in who have the confidence of their fellow NP members and the people of the province."

The ANC would certainly lose some cabinet posts — ANC representatives occupy health and welfare, roads and public works, economic affairs, and sport and recreation portfolios.

ANC leader in the provincial legislature Ebrahim Rasool said Kriel's reneging on understandings reached during negotiations was merely a further step down a road he embarked upon when he broke faith by ending the government of provincial unity.

Rasool warned that excluding the ANC would exclude a sizeable segment of the coloured community and most of the African community in the province from the executive.

However, Rasool said, the ANC would not allow itself to fall victim to Kriel's "divisive tactics" of selecting one or two MECs on so-called "merit."

See Page 4

Row erupts over Western Cape provincial land bill

Linda Ensor

80 19/11/97 (263)

CAPE TOWN — A row is brewing between central government and the Western Cape over proposed legislation empowering Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel to acquire and dispose of provincial land and other immovable assets

Ian Phillips, special adviser to Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe, said yesterday the bill was probably unconstitutional in that the province did not own state assets. However, Kriel was equally adamant provinces acquired land and fixed property when the country was divided into nine regions

Phillips said similar legislation in Gauteng was also probably ultra vires the constitution as all state-owned land was vested in the public works minister as custodian and only its use was delegated to provincial governments and national departments

"No province has the right to dispose of land or other assets without the approval of the minister," Phillips said. Provinces only "owned" donations made specifically to them

The Western Cape Land Administration Bill, promulgated in the provincial gazette last Friday for public comment, defined "provincial land" as "any immovable property which vests in the Western Cape provincial

government in terms of any law or which is registered in the name of the province of the Western Cape".

Kriel said the bill was motivated by public works MEC Leonard Ramatlakane following long delays in securing central government approval for property sales.

Phillips noted, even if the right to dispose of land was delegated to the provinces, this right would vest in the public works MEC and not the premier. By giving the premier these powers, he believed the Western Cape was playing a political game to seek recompense for what it believed was an inadequate budget allocation

Where central government approval was granted for the sale of state assets, the proceeds would revert to the central revenue fund and not into the coffers of the province, Phillips explained. However, the provinces disputed this, arguing that they had the right to appropriate the proceeds

One of the conditions placed by the bill on the disposal of provincial land was that the purchaser could not sell it within five years of buying it unless the premier had first been offered it and then declined to repurchase it

Phillips said Radebe's office was examining the Western Cape bill and hoped to resolve any dispute through discussion

Western Cape constitution approved

Deborah Fine

THE Constitutional Court has unanimously approved the provincial constitution of the Western Cape, sparking concern by the province's African National Congress (ANC) that the ruling National Party (NP) will move to invoke clauses in the constitution to disband the province's government of national unity.

The Western Cape, the first of SA's nine provinces to secure its own constitution, obtained the go-ahead from the Constitutional Court yesterday after making a few technical amendments to its original constitution, which the court initially rejected in September owing to "limited inconsis-

tency" with the national constitution.

The court found the original document out of line with the national constitution because it proposed a provisionally determined electoral system for its parliament which was based on the representation of "geographic multi-number constituencies".

Other clauses found to be unconstitutional sought to remove certain ceremonial powers from the Constitutional Court president and transfer them to the Western Cape High Court Judge President, as well as allow the provincial legislature to redefine a national prohibition on provincial cabinet ministers performing "other paid work".

True to its claims in September that the offending clauses were "easily rec-

ified", the province secured certification by placing the electoral system back in the domain of national legislation, removing references to multi-number constituencies and "other paid work" and conferring the ceremonial powers back to the Constitutional Court President.

Western Cape constitutional affairs committee chairman Henrie Bester (Democratic Party) said yesterday his was "absolutely thrilled" by the certification, which was the culmination of an extensive 18-month process.

His enthusiasm was not shared by ANC provincial MP and constitutional affairs steering committee member Cameron Dugmore, who said his party was "deeply disappointed" that the NP, DP, Freedom Front and African Chris-

tian Democratic Party had "effectively clubbed together (ending) the government of national unity in our province".

He was referring to a clause which allows Western Cape premier Hennis Kriel (NP) to disband the existing provincial cabinet after the adoption of the constitution and reconstitute it at his discretion with up to ten members from the provincial legislature plus an additional two people who were not legislature members.

The clause was not part of the original constitution but was adopted after the ANC sought to reopen debate on various aspects of the provincial constitution after it was initially rejected by the Constitutional Court.

BD 19/11/97

(263)

24 housing support centres set up in SA

Robyn Chalmers

A TOTAL of 24 housing support centres have been set up around the country to provide people access to affordable building materials as well as advice and information, the housing minister says.

A further 31 initiatives are in the pipeline in areas where subsidies have already been approved and people need support to build their own houses. The minister said R150m had been set aside in the current financial year for the establishment of such centres.

Housing support centres have been on the cards for a number of years as part of government's housing policy, but have been slow to get off the ground. Housing Minister Sankie Mthembu-Mahanyele said housing support centres and other such initiatives had not yet become widespread primarily due to inadequate institutional capacity at provincial and local level.

In addition, she said appropriate policy guidelines and operational procedures were still being formulated in a partnership approach involving all key stakeholders. Most of the support centres set up to date were located in the Free State followed by the Western Cape, the Northern Cape and Mpumalanga.

Housing support centres formed an integral part of the housing ministry's long-delayed people's housing process, which involved encouraging individuals, families or groups of people to take the initiative to organise the planning and building of—or actually to build—their own houses.

The minister said critical factors which would affect the success of the programme included access to urban and rural land with secure tenure and services and access to housing subsidies. The mobilisation of savings along with opportunities for employment creation were also key criteria.

Cape MEC may face court action

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Court action would be taken against Western Cape local government MEC Peter Marais by the provincial affairs and constitutional development ministry unless he came up with a proposal for the composition of district councils along proportional lines within seven days, sources said yesterday.

Last Wednesday, Marais was given 14 days to submit a new proposal after his previous one was turned down on the grounds that it was illegal in terms of the Local Government Transition Act.

The longstanding dispute over

the composition of the Western Cape district councils, which comprise representatives of town and rural councils, concerned the degree of representation of rural councils. In terms of the act, district councils had to be constituted along proportional lines but Marais, concerned that the interests of rural councils and farmers would be inadequately dealt with, initially proposed a 50/50 formula.

This was rejected as contravening the proportional rule. Larger towns also objected on grounds that, as they contributed the lion's share of the district council's budget, they should have more votes.

Marais's second suggestion

ANCL League wants youth to vote

Pule Molebeleli

THE Northern Province African National Congress (ANC) youth league has reopened its campaign to reduce the voting age to 16 in order to increase the bargaining power of "this important" sector of society.

In a document entitled "Lower the voting age" the league said it

Consortium earmarks R72m for water project

Louise Cook

WATER Affairs and Forestry Minister Kader Asmal has secured R72m funding from a private-sector consortium to supply water to previously disadvantaged farmers.

The consortium is headed by Rand Merchant Bank (RMB) and the money

has been earmarked for the Koeke-douw Irrigation Board in the Ceres/Prince Alfred Hamlet area.

The water project is expected to provide about 1 050 permanent and 450 seasonal jobs.

Inca, a specialised infrastructure development financing corporation, is a 50% co-financier of the project.

IN A VARIETY OF

Another Somalia or Rwanda possible

ET 19/11/97

(263)

KANTHAN PILLAY

What prevents Kenya turning into the next Somalia or Rwanda?

If one discounts the armed forces under the control of President Daniel T arap Moi, not much. Hospitals have no medicine — lost to theft. Roads are crumbling. Unemployment is rising. And crime is on the increase. The three-storey Barclays Bank headquarters near the City Market now features shotgun-armed guards on every floor after armed robberies in the centre of Nairobi in broad daylight.

Razor wire and broken glass now protect the walls of residences. Violent cattle-rustling has become commonplace in the north. Armed bandits reportedly use policemen for target practice.

In a country that lacks political sophistication, ethnicity has become a powerful rallying point.

"The reality of Kenyan political parties is that they are based on individuals," says political commentator Tim Maiti. "Politicians acquire prominence in certain areas either because of wealth or because they have taken a stand on certain issues."

So what then is the difference between Kenyan politicians and the warlords of Somalia? Again, not much.

"Moi is this key individual in his area," says Maiti. "He has been president for 19 years and vice-president for 12 before that. Nothing in Moi's area takes place without his saying so. Anyone standing against him is bound to lose for that reason."

sition leader the late Oginga Odinga)

"That's why Kenneth Matiba is the dominant force in the central province — because of the support he has from the Kikuyus. And Kijana Wamalwa, the chairman of FORD Kenya, whose profile is increasing in the provinces dominated by his Luhaya tribe. Social Democratic Party leader Charity Ngilu dominates her area."

"There is no ideological stance," says Maiti. "The only stance they had in the 1992 election was to get Moi out. Unfortunately, a lot of those (who stood for election) in 1992 were ministers in Moi's government and lacked credibility. So they began appealing to people's tribal biases closer to election date. The whole point of having resisted the dictatorship recently was overridden by the need to emphasise the tribe."

Nevertheless, there is a new variable in these elections. Three of Moi's challengers — Wamalwa, Oginga, and Ngilu — are part of a new breed of post-independence politicians.

What is the possibility of violence? Maiti is optimistic. "Unless the government clearly sets out to instigate violence, it's difficult to envisage that the polls will be marred by violence. There was talk of attempting to disrupt the elections unless certain minimum constitutional reforms were not implemented."

"That package (of minimum reforms) has not been implemented, but those

people who threatened disruption have now stood back and said OK. Let's run out these elections. Let's now restart the campaign for reform in Kenya."

The lack of an ideological platform also detracts from mass action.

"To disrupt elections, one needs popular support," says Maiti. "One needs a party with a strong plan of action at the grassroots level in about 210 constituencies."

The return of Moi to power is a possibility, he says, but there are "qualifiers" to that. "The constitution requires the winner to achieve at least 25% of the vote in at least five of Kenya's eight provinces. At present, Moi will find that difficult to achieve because of Raila's dominance in Nyaasa, Wamalwa's dominance in Luhya, and Charity Ngilu's dominance in Hokambali, Matiba's clear dominance in the central and Nairobi province — and therefore any candidate he endorses is bound to garner that support. So that's already four provinces where Moi will not be able to achieve 25% as opposed to the last time."

So how will the presidency be decided?

"There will be a run-off that will have to take place within two weeks of the last presidential vote being taken. There's a British politician who said one

week is a long time in politics. In those two weeks, alliances are bound to change. Promises will be made. Moi may emerge a winner, but not as easily as last time."

An opposition mindset has already been created, which is likely to hold even if Moi returns to power.

"The secretary for the inter-parties parliamentary group (IPPG) was already lobbying for a government of national unity, to ensure that the bills passed by parliament would be implemented, and for parliament to run its full course until January 25 next year so that there would be at least some time for the reform to sink in."

"Moi has definitely pre-empted the implementation of reforms and taken the opposition parties for a ride, including the IPPG. Maybe it is his calculation that by dissolving parliament on Monday, having the speaker of the National Assembly issuing the writs declaring the seats vacant on Tuesday, and the elections being announced on Wednesday, any other moves towards delaying the

polls, towards refocusing the reform campaign, can be nipped in the bud.

"That's an assumption. One cannot say for sure that those steps will guarantee his re-election. They will add to the possibility, but they cannot guarantee it."

Is the corruption likely to go on? All indications are that this will be the case. "The political parties in Kenya are individual based. They do not function



LEGACY: Raila Odinga



DEVALUED: When Daniel T arap Moi became president, Kenya was considered a land of promise. Today the Kenya shilling is worthless.



WORN BY TIME: Daniel T arap Moi earlier this year.

like normal political parties by striving to increase their membership, they do not account for monies that they use, so one does not know how much it costs to operate a political party in Kenya, and perhaps more importantly, one does not know where the money is coming from.

"There are some instances where one individual has been known to be bankrolling a political party, but there are also allegations from both sides that

some individuals are financed by foreign masters. Of course, these allegations are never substantiated, and the political party accused of receiving money from abroad never provides proof of denial by opening up its account books."

Any party taking control of Kenya is likely to back an International Monetary Fund/World Bank-directed economic plan with liberalisation of the economy and privatisation of state enterprises

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South Peninsula pair cross to UDM – more

councillors may follow

PAUL OLIVER

ARKS 22 H1199 (269)

Two South Peninsula councillors have crossed the floor to the United Democratic Movement (UDM) and say more of their Western Cape colleagues will soon follow

Alan Phillips, former National Party councillor for Ward 19, and Sulaiman Ebrahim, independent councillor for Ward S6, met with UDM co-leader Roelf Meyer at Cape Town International Airport this week

Two more South Peninsula councillors, whose names are known to Saturday Argus, said they were still considering the option of crossing the floor to the UDM

Saturday Argus last week reported that several local councillors in the Western Cape were poised to announce their allegiance to the UDM, but withheld their names after they expressed fear of being harassed by fellow council members

The UDM also announced that it would contest the Meadowridge-Bergvliet by-election on January 20

An official statement is expected to be released soon

The UDM, a marriage of interests between Mr Meyer's New Movement

Process and former Treaskei leader Bantu Holomisa, was formed in September this year to challenge the African National Congress in the 1999 elections

Mr Meyer welcomed the two councillors to the movement and said they shared the party's vision of bringing together all races to build a new and successful South Africa

"The cross-over of the two councillors now gives the UDM direct representation in local government structures in the Western Cape," said Mr Meyer

Mr Phillips said his decision to leave the NP was based on "a bunch of broken promises" by a party which could not deliver what it had promised during last year's local elections

"We were looking for a new movement because all the traditional parties are playing politics at local level—something we believe is wrong

"By supporting the UDM, we are convinced that we could see the needs of the people in our wards more effectively," he said

Mr Sulaiman is a former NP caucus member in both the Cape Metropolitan Council and South Peninsula, and until Thursday was an independent councillor



Big hopes: Alan Phillips, left, and Sulaiman Ebrahim with UDM co-leader Roelf Meyer

ROY WIGLEY

Heralding new era in W Cape

AYESHA ISMAIL

(263)

ST(CM) 23/11/99

PREMIER Hernus Kriel is pressing ahead with plans to give the Western Cape its own flag and coat of arms following this week's ratification of his provincial constitution by the Constitutional Court

A coat of arms has been designed for the Western Cape and approved by all parties

It includes an anchor in a shield symbolising hope, stability and faith, and a bunch of grapes alluding to the importance of agriculture. Also on the coat of arms are a clay pot of Khoi origin. The shield includes a quagga and a bontebok.

A spokesman for Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel said all letterheads, invitations and official documents would soon bear the new emblem.

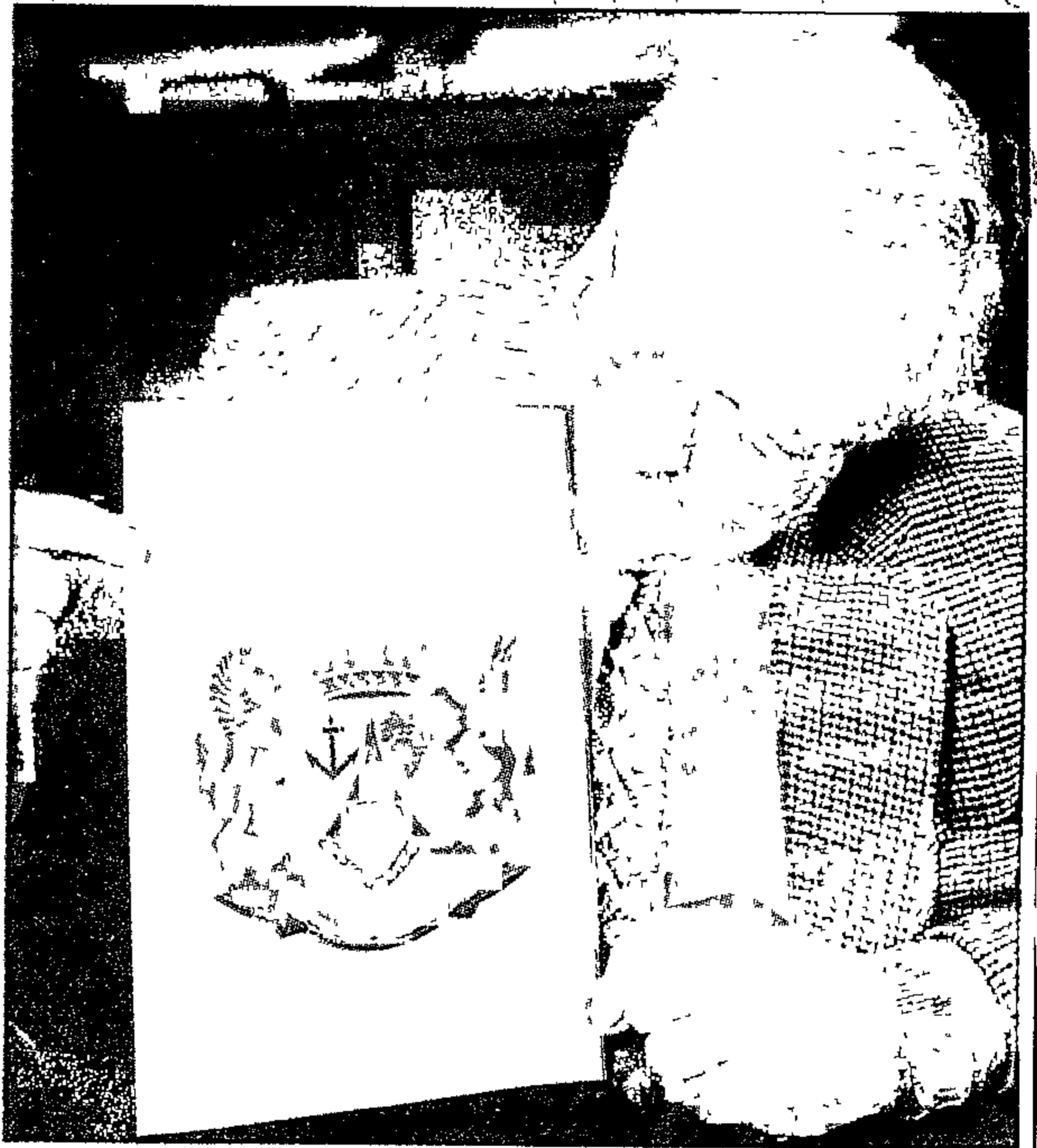
"Once we decide on a flag, the emblem will also go on it," said the spokesman.

The provincial constitution allows the Western Cape to have wider policing powers, to set up cultural councils for communities in the Western Cape sharing a common cultural and language heritage and to have a provincial environment commissioner and a commissioner for children.

The commissioner for environment must ensure conservation in the Western Cape and give attention to the need to balance the goals of conservation with those of sustainable development.

The commissioner for children will look after the needs and interests of children.

The constitution also provides for provincial symbols and the conferral of provincial honours.



ARMS AND THE MAN: Premier Hernus Kriel with the Western Cape's proposed new coat of arms
Picture: AMBROSE PETERS

ANC scramble to save MEC posts

Omar to see Kriel about looming shuffle

AYESHA ISMAIL

WESTERN Cape African National Congress leader and Minister of Justice Dullah Omar is to meet premier Hernus Kriel tomorrow to try to salvage the posts of four ANC members of the provincial executive.

This follows the Constitutional Court's certification of the province's constitution this week, giving Kriel the go-ahead to shuffle his executive committee.

According to insiders, the battle for posts has begun as it is expected ANC and NP members alike may lose posts and portfolios in the shuffle.

The provincial constitution allows Kriel to extend his executive committee from its present 10 members to 12. Kriel has said he would like to bring other parties into his revamped executive.

This means the Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party could be given key posts, but the Freedom Front has said it would not be interested.

The ANC holds the portfolios of economics and RDP (Chris Nissen),

sport and recreation (Lerumo Kalako), health and social services (Ebrahim Rasool) and public works and transport (Leonard Ramatlakane). It is understood that Rasool is the only ANC MEC assured of keeping his post.

Sources say although Kriel acknowledges the "good work" Nissen has been doing, the two clash continually — so the question is whether the premier would want to keep a member who challenges him. One politician described Nissen as a "thorn in Kriel's flesh".

The four ANC MECs have said they will abide by decisions made by their organisation.

Its regional secretary, James Ngculu, said the ANC's decision on "the way forward" would depend on the outcome of the meeting between Omar and Kriel this week.

He noted, however, that during the Kempton Park negotiations and the elections in 1994 the view was that the government of provincial unity should remain until 1999.

"The ANC is proud of the achievements of our four MECs," Ngculu said, adding that Kriel would have to decide whether party political considerations were more important than a stable representative

government. "Kriel has to decide whether the Western Cape is pursuing the path to a volkstaat or the path of delivery to all our people."

Nissen said whatever decision was made "has to be in the interests of the people of the Western Cape and the ANC".

However, according to some sources, Nissen is not prepared to serve in the new multiparty government as Kriel is perceived to be resorting to the old NP tactic of divide and rule.

If the ANC sticks to its stance of "all or nothing", then NP members of the legislature would take some of the vacant portfolios. Among the names mentioned are Nic Koornhof and Patrick McKenzie. Hennie Bester (DP) and Mike Louis (ACDP) have already been approached.

Some of the changes expected next year are the separation of health from social welfare, education from cultural affairs and transport from public works.

Chris Koole, spokesman for Kriel, said experts were studying the constitution to see which sections could be implemented and which needed to be promulgated.

The new executive is to be announced early next year.

ST(CM) 23/11/97

(263)

Saron battles Marais over 'Draconian' appointments

(263)

RONALD MORRIS

THE appointment of two administrators by Western Cape MEC for local government Mr Peter Marais to run the Boland town of Saron was "Draconian" and undermined residents' rights to have a direct say in who should govern their affairs

The High Court heard this last week in an application by the Saron Ratepayers' Association to have the appointment of Mr Neil Hamman and Mr J Coetzee declared unlawful or, alternatively, unconstitutional.

The Saron community rejected the appointment of the administrators, said Mr Gert Marsh, outgoing chairperson of the Saron ratepayers' association

Marais appointed a committee of inquiry in October last year to investigate the financial affairs of the local authority, its management and administration, allegations of irregularities by councillors and officials and allegations of corruption and missing funds.

The committee handed its report

to Marais in August.

The committee found that no Saron officials or councillors could be suspected or accused of fraud, corruption or maladministration

"Indeed, the committee found the unsatisfactory state of affairs was due almost entirely to the lack of training of personnel and the failure or refusal of the ratepayers to pay their rates, taxes and other service charges," said Marsh

The committee recommended the appointment of an experienced chief executive officer, the computerisation of the bookkeeping and an inventory of the municipality's property and equipment

Nowhere in the report did the committee recommend the appointment of the administrators and Marais' decision to do so was inconsistent with its recommendations, said Marsh.

Neither Saron municipality, nor its residents, were given a copy of the report and only became aware of it from a newspaper article.

The town rejected the appoint-

ment of the administrators on October 9, and when they arrived on October 24 they were told they were not wanted. This message was repeated on November 4 and as far as he knew they had not been back, Marsh said

Since the appointment of the administrators, the municipality had been unable to meet. The Saron community's refusal to accept that their appointment had resulted in large-scale uncertainty, Marsh said

In terms of the Constitution, the Saron ratepayers had a right to elect representatives of their choice

They had voted overwhelmingly to elect the councillors of the municipality's management board to give leadership and direction, said Marsh

By agreement between the parties Mr Justice W J Louw ordered Marais to file answering papers by next Thursday and the ratepayers' association to reply by January 21 1997

Mr Norman Arendse, instructed by Mr J van der Merwe, appeared for the ratepayers Mr Nick Treurnicht, SC, instructed by the State Attorney, appeared for Marais

ET 24/11/97

Councils join forces to make Cape Town great city

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

ARC 25/11/97

(263)

Local government role-players throughout Cape Town have pledged to work together to make the city a global economic power and eradicate problems hampering development.

High levels of poverty and unemployment, an inadequate transport system, rampant crime and pressures on the natural environment are issues identified as major problems.

The Cape Metropolitan Council, all six metropolitan councils and the statutory Cape Metropolitan Development Council representing business, labour and community organisations have combined to address these issues.

They are working on an integrated development plan launched yesterday, which aims to change the way local government operates and to transform the role of councils from service providers to development agencies.

The plan aims at producing guidelines for the development and management of the metropolitan area, providing housing and education for all, improving services and developing easy access to amenities.

Pierre Uys - chairman of the executive committee of the metropolitan council, who also chairs the Metropolitan Co-ordinating Forum responsible for managing the plan, said the launch gave the city a chance to "seize the challenges of a changing world".

Planned CMC offices will cost estimated R220m ⁽²⁶³⁾

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

THE Cape Metropolitan Council is scouting around for new offices in a move that could cost the metropole around R220m

This is despite growing uncertainty around the CMC's future role in local government — a role which will be determined by the outcome of central government discussions considering a single city or "mega-city" concept

"Any drastic moves that would result in high-level expenditure should be approached with caution at this stage," chairperson of the portfolio committee on constitutional affairs Mr Pravin Gordhan said yesterday.

"The future shape of local government is still under debate and will be for the next six to eight months."

The metropole had "very limited resources" gleaned mostly from the old RSC business levies

"The money is intended for building infrastructure. I'm sure if the CMC looked around it would find existing facilities that would do fine. I certainly would not consider creating a R220m facility an urgent priority"

But CMC officials and some councillors are adamant that something must be done "urgently" to accommodate staff "scattered all over Cape Town" in one building

Consultants appointed in September have developed a three-volume report identifying five alternative sites for CMC offices

These are Cape Town International Airport, Valkenberg east on the M5, Century City, N1 City east and a site in Bellville

The present building in Wale Street could also be refurbished

Chief executive officer Dr Stewart Fisher said the CMC's 11-storey office block at 44 Wale Street was built for the old Divisional Council in 1954

"We need more office and parking space for our head office staff who are scattered all over Cape Town. The building is old and full of dungeons," he said

Of the 3 800 people who work for the CMC, around 500 are based in the city. These numbers

ET 25/11/97

could swell to 800 as new appointments are made

"Whatever happens from a political point of view, our administrative staff need somewhere to work," Fisher said.

Chairperson of exco and NP councillor, Mr Pierre Uys, said the existing premises are "not functional and don't have enough facilities".

The CMC appointed consultants to look at all the options — buying land, building or renovating the old head office

An amount of R25m has been budgeted for the planning stage of the operation, Uys said

DP councillor Mr Gordon Merrington is not so enthusiastic: "The powers that be within the CMC seem to want to pre-empt changes by getting a building up. We think it'll be premature to do this until the future form of local government is determined"

The consultants estimate the capital cost of a new head office will range between R130m and R220m

An amount of R25m has been budgeted for the planning stage of the operation.

— Pierre Uys, exco

Nat councillors jumping ship

Defections erode municipal majorities in W Cape

CAROL CAMPBELL
STAFF REPORTER

A major shake-up in Western Cape local politics is on the cards as councillors in smaller municipalities desert the National Party and erode its majorities in local government.

In recent months there appears to have been a growing disaffection with the NP, especially in local government, as voters look for a new political home after the resignation

of F W de Klerk as party leader.

In the Peninsula the NP won the majority of seats in all but the Cape Town council in last year's local government election - but in recent months several South Peninsula councillors have quit the party.

While the National Party still has healthy majorities in South Peninsula, Blaauwberg and Oostenberg, the party political battle in Heiderberg and Tygerberg is on a knife's edge. Defections in any large numbers could affect control of the Western

Cape's smaller councils, setting the scene for the 1999 election.

Yesterday another NP member of the South Peninsula council crossed the floor to join the United Democratic Movement - the fifth to leave the party since the municipality came into being last year. Alan Phillips, councillor for Noordhoek Valley, made his move at a council meeting at the Alphen Centre in Constantia. There are 36 seats on the council. The NP's election tally of 26 has now dropped to just 21.

Mr Phillips's defection yesterday was no surprise. Less than a week ago he was summoned to NP headquarters to explain "rumours" of his pending move to the UDM.

NP southern regional chairman Mark Wiley said Mr Phillips had denied allegations of defection. "He said he was considering leaving politics due to pressure of work and family circumstances," said Mr Wiley - who has now asked the wayward councillor to resign his seat. Bill Stibbe, a councillor who left

(263) ARU 26/11/97
the NP to become an independent, said: "Councillors are leaving the NP because the party hasn't moved with the times. I joined the NP because I believed in F W de Klerk - but where is he now?"

The resignation of Bergvliet ward councillor Herbert Syré, who left the NP only to be forced to resign his seat when it was found he was not an SA citizen, means a by-election next year. There will probably be an aggressive fight between the NP, the Democratic Party and the UDM.

ANC

(269)

ST (CM) 30/11/97

snubs

Kriel

Provincial Cabinet offer rejected

AYESHA ISMAIL

THE ANC has rejected Western Cape Premier HERNUS KRIEL's offer of limited positions on his new and expanded multi-party Cabinet.

The ANC currently holds four ministerial positions in Kriel's Cabinet. He proposed to Western Cape ANC leader Dullah Omar this week that this be cut to two posts and chairmanship of a key provincial committee.

The ANC is expected to give Kriel an ultimatum: Four Cabinet seats or nothing.

At a press conference later today Omar is expected to spell out why his party finds the offer unacceptable.

The ANC is likely to warn Kriel that they will pull their MECs out of his Cabinet if he carries out his threat to kick out two of their four MECs — Economic Affairs and RDP Minister Chris Nissen, and Sports Minister Lerumo Kalako.

A controversial clause in the new constitution allows Kriel to extend his Cabinet from 10 to 12 members.

But the ANC has shown fierce resistance to the move, which the NP premier claims will allow him to form a multi-party Cabinet that includes the Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party. The ANC has dismissed it as an attempt by Kriel to consolidate a provincial NP "volkstaat".

This move could spark a major crisis in the province, setting the scene for a bitter election battle in 1999.

The ANC's stand could finally end the tenuous provincial unity.

In a last-minute bid to salvage the posts of the four ANC MECs, Omar held talks with Kriel early this week.

Kriel offered the ANC two posts and the chairmanship of a committee. While he did not spec-

ify the posts, reliable sources said Kriel would like to keep MEC for Health and Social Services Ebrahim Rasool, and MEC for Public Works Leonard Ramatlakane.

Cape Metro has learnt the decision to quit Kriel's Cabinet was taken at an executive meeting of the ANC yesterday. The ANC has all along said that they would accept nothing less than their four posts.

However, ANC spokesman Brent Simons refused to comment, saying that they would call a press conference at their Athlone offices later today to announce their decision.

The ANC's decision may have serious implications for the delivery of services in the region.

At the same time, it paves the way for Kriel to bring in NP members from the national parliament to take up some of the vacant portfolios.

It is expected that during his reshuffle he will relieve controversial MEC for Education Martha Olckers of her duties and offer her another portfolio.

Poet and academic Professor Adam Small is said to have been approached to serve in the new Cabinet next year.

The present Cabinet will disband when Kriel signs the constitution early next year and announces his new multi-party Cabinet.

Spokesman for Kriel, Chris Koole said: "It would be a pity if the ANC quit, as Kriel wanted a truly representative multi-party Cabinet. Without the ANC, this would not be so."

Rose garden for AIDS victims



ANC rejects NP offer of two posts

(263)

THE ANC Provincial Executive Committee and the ANC caucus in the Provincial Legislature have rejected a National Party offer of two ANC posts in a provincial cabinet of 12.

At present the ANC holds four MEC posts

ANC spokesman Mr Brent Simons said last night the NP's proposal did not have

the interests of the province at heart.

He said MECs of the organisation would continue with their programmes of delivery to the people of the province.

However, he said if Premier Mr Hennis Kriel kicked out the MECs, the ANC would consolidate its role of a "full force" opposition party to the NP in the executive committee and in the legislature. — Staff Writer

CT 11/12/97

Kriel gives ANC midnight ultimatum

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel says his offer to the African National Congress of two posts in his new-look cabinet of 12 - which the ANC has publicly rejected - remains open until midnight.

But he is not prepared to reopen negotiations and blames the ANC's conduct during constitutional negotiations for the deadlock on the remaking of the cabinet.

The original draft of the provincial constitution, which the ANC rejected, proposed 14 members but this was reduced to 12 in a later draft after Mr Kriel made separate deals with the Democratic Party, Freedom Front and

(263)
African Christian Democratic Party

He said that allowing the ANC to keep four seats in a cabinet of 12, while giving other opposition parties a total of two, would have put half his cabinet in opposition hands.

The reshuffle means that the ANC, the second largest party in the province, will move into a fully fledged opposition role.

In a statement, the ANC said it was clear Mr Kriel's offer of only two cabinet posts did not have the interests of the province at heart. His attempt to oust the ANC ministers and bring in smaller parties with less than 4% support was an attempt to



Hernus Kriel:
midnight deadline

ARG 1/12/97
consolidate a provincial NP volkstaat.

"Why is it that the ANC and Inkatha Freedom Party are able to work together in KwaZulu Natal while the NP is bent on creating conflict in the Western Cape?" the ANC said.

"It is not difficult to see that the NP's attempt to axe two of our MECs is politically motivated."

■ Sapa reports that ANC provincial leader Dullah Omar said that if the impression was created that the province was not interested in nation-building, it could have dangerous consequences for its economic development and the fight to keep Parliament in Cape Town.

Health budget cut a crisis in the Cape

Linda Ensor

BD 2/12/97

CAPE TOWN — Next year's budgetary allocation earmarked by the Western Cape treasury for the provincial health department was about R800m short of requirements and would require a drastic 27,5% downscaling of services, health services chief director Faried Abdullah said yesterday.

He warned that a massive "health crisis" was looming in the province.

Already the Western Cape faced a budget deficit of over R400m this year on a projected expenditure of R2,9bn. The department rejected next year's allocation of R2,1bn as the "last straw", Abdullah told a news briefing.

Abdullah said that, if the Western Cape budget was slashed in this way, the three academic hospitals would collapse, a large number of community health centres and regional and district hospitals would have to close, 6 000 jobs would have to be cut, the closure of a further 2 500 hospital beds would be necessary and the number of hospital admissions would have to fall by 80 000 annually.

Expenditure on nursing colleges, dental schools and capital investment would have to be reduced by about 50% or more. This would be over and above the staff reduction of 5 000 since 1995 and the closure of 2 500 beds.

"It is significant that the accepted international maximum for the downscaling of health services over one year is 2,5%," Abdullah said. "The health department believes it would be irresponsible and virtually impossible to deliver satisfactory health services on such a reduced budget. It will be making an urgent plea for review by the national and provincial treasuries."

(263) ~~275~~
Abdullah complained that the province's attempts to cut expenses were constantly being undermined by decisions at national level. For instance, in the present fiscal year, conditions of service increases of R442m had been approved, while the overall health budget was reduced by R372m.

He laid some of the blame for the pending crisis on the fact that national government used budgets as a baseline instead of expenditures; allowed large conditions of service increases and other personnel increases while implementing the growth, employment and redistribution strategy, allocated too little to the provinces for basic services; and introduced changes too rapidly.

Last week 160 health officials, nongovernmental organisations, community health representatives and other health sector workers met to discuss the situation.

The department will lobby the provincial legislature's standing committee on health today to recommend that next year's allocation be reviewed. The committee is to receive submissions on the crisis from trade unions, nongovernmental organisations, academics and health service officials.

National and provincial cabinets meet tomorrow to discuss the medium-term expenditure framework and budgets for next year. The Western Cape is to appeal for greater funding for health and for the repayment of this year's deficit to be spread over three years.

Health and Welfare Services Minister Ebrahim Rasool said he had also written to Finance Minister Trevor Manuel for him to "reconfigure" the R264m for academic hospitals, arguing this it should be added to, rather than be part of the provincial allocation.

'STAGE SET FOR OPPOSITION ROLE'

ANC's withdrawal sealed as Omar rejects Kriel's offer

THE ANC will continue to open people's eyes to the NP's dangerous path, says its Western Cape leader Dullah Omar. Political Writer CHRIS BATEMAN reports

THE stage has been set for a return to old-style opposition politics in the Western Cape with ANC Western Cape leader and Minister of Justice Mr Dullah Omar's rejecting Premier Mr Herens Kriel's extended deadline for accepting reduced participation in government.

This means that when Kriel signs the provincial constitution into law on January 15, the ANC will withdraw from the government of provincial unity and its four members on the executive committee will become ordinary members of the legislature.

The provincial constitution allows Kriel to increase his executive committee from 10 members to 12 by bringing on board two non-voting "expert advisers", halving the number of ANC participants from four to two and including the smaller parties like the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party.

Kriel had written to Omar offering to extend the deadline for the ANC's accepting this deal from midnight on Monday to 10am on Friday.



'RACISM IS ALIVE': Dullah Omar



'DON'T BLAME NP': Henrus Kriel

night unless Kriel capitulates and allows the ANC to continue to hold four portfolios, local politics will change radically.

"Mass action and mobilisation have always been part of our style," Omar said last night.

"We'll continue to open people's eyes to the dangerous road the National Party is taking, so that in 1999 the electorate will be better informed."

Omar predicted that Kriel's decision would strengthen the hands of those who wanted Parliament to be moved from Cape Town.

"I'd say the NP is now the major obstacle to Cape Town's remaining Parliament," he said.

"It's quite clear from dominant perceptions that people see racism as being alive and well in the Western Cape with no attempt to build

smaller parties had rejected an earlier NP proposal to increase the number of executive committee members to 14. The ANC had later wanted a 10-member team.

His offer of continued but reduced ANC participation was "of great importance to the Western Cape and also to its benefit", Kriel said.

"Quite clearly the ANC now moves into purely opposition role," Omar said.

"We can still make an impact with policies and programme for delivery."

The ANC's withdrawal had the full support of his provincial executive, the legislative caucus and the MECs affected, Omar said.

"The proposal to reject the offer came from (MEC for Health and Welfare and legislative leader) Mr Ebrahim Rasool on behalf of the four MECs I asked if we were not making a mistake in terms of the capacity to deliver and those in departments who look up to our MECs — and they all indicated that they had thought this through."

Rasool said that if the ANC won in the Western Cape in the 1999 elections, there was virtually no chance of its offering the NP a role in the provincial executive.

The drama comes on the eve of a watershed local government by-election in Elsie's River, a Nat stronghold. A gain by the ANC will be seen as indicating trends for the 1999 elections.

"I would like to know if such a proposal, if it had to come from the NP, would be acceptable to your party in any of your party's seven provinces or at national level," Kriel said.

He noted that the ANC and

NP 'suppressing debate' in W Cape house

CHRIS BATEMAN

CT 3/12/97

THE National Party had so effectively suppressed debate in the Western Cape legislature that 23 motions, most of them by the ANC, had never seen the light of day — and the NP was now taking legal advice on how to scrap a motion altogether, the ANC said yesterday.

Speaking on the penultimate day of the legislature sitting as a government of provincial unity, ANC leader in the House Mr Ebrahim Rasool said his party was

prepared to sit an extra week into December to get important motions debated — but had been arbitrarily denied this.

His counterpart, Leader of the House Mr Gerald Morkel, had taken suppression of debate to "new heights," when he tried to get the ANC to remove a motion about former National Intelligence Agency chief Dr Niel Barnard's appointment as director-general of the province.

In return, Morkel had offered to allow the ANC its other motions for debate — and had then

(263)

instructed his chief whip, Mr Piet Meyer, to seek legal advice on how the NP could remove a motion from the order paper.

Rasool said Morkel's move was "fueling suspicions" about Barnard's role in the legislature.

The ANC yesterday formally requested, and was granted, by the Speaker Mr William Doman, a snap debate on the suppression of freedom of speech by the Leader of the House "for not allowing a motion to be debated".

Doman said the ANC's Ms Tasneem Essop yesterday took a point

of order on why the Freedom Front's request for an urgent debate on education was allowed when a previous ANC request on Barnard's appointment was refused.

He emphasised that motions were "entirely a political matter for the Leader of the House".

"I've pointed out that requests on Barnard came before a general debate where the matter could be raised anyhow and was on the order paper. It's the only matter on which two requests were made to me by the ANC which I rejected — both on the same grounds."

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 <p>ALTO WHITE 750ml</p>	 <p>VERGELGEN 750ml</p>	 <p>GANDIA 750ml</p>	 <p>VILLIERA TRADITION 750ml</p>
 <p>ALTO 750ml</p>	 <p>VERGELGEN 750ml</p>	 <p>GANDIA 750ml</p>	 <p>VILLIERA TRADITION 750ml</p>



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EXCLUSIVE TO PICARDI TO REBELL

Upbeat ANC gears for its new role in W Cape

Elsies River kickstarts opposition era

Western Cape politics is poised for a new phase as the African National Congress, which within a month will be out of the provincial cabinet, has sent a clear signal it will not confine its new opposition role to the legislature.

The ANC in the province is in jubilant mood after what it describes as a watershed swing of support to it among coloured voters in Elsie's River in yesterday's by-election.

Although the NP won the seat, it was with a reduced majority in a much lower percentage poll than in the 1995 local elections.

The National Party retained support only in conservative white areas.

New NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk had drawn a paltry crowd at a meeting in Avonwood on Friday, while a weekend ANC rally in the area drew larger numbers.

Premier Hernus Kriel, who refused to give in to ANC demands in talks on the remaking of the provincial cabinet, was making a mistake if he believed the ANC would be reduced to an ordinary parliamentary opposition, said Ebrahim Rassool, ANC leader in the legislature.



POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Provincial ANC leader Dullah Omar emphasised that the ANC would be acting in a constructive and not destructive way to follow through the good work done by its provincial ministers since 1994.

Talks between the ANC and NP on the new provincial cabinet broke down after Mr Kriel refused an ANC-suggested compromise of giving it three seats in the cabinet of 12, rather than the two the premier offered.

Meanwhile, Mr Kriel is facing a range of options and serious pressures in the talks on remaking his cabinet.

He has some time left to him, with the announcement of the new cabinet expected to follow the official signing into law of the new Western Cape constitution in mid-January.

Sources in the legislature indicated there could be a portfolio change for Martha Olckers, now education MEC, who has let it be known she wants the police

portfolio now held by Gerald Morkel.

Some observers believe that Lampie Fick's agriculture and tourism portfolio could be split, with tourism going to Nick Koornhof, an NP member of the National Assembly.

Western Cape ANC leader Dullah Omar confirmed yesterday that Mr Kriel in his talks had made it clear he wanted to take away the welfare portfolio from health and welfare MEC Ebrahim Rassool, and the public works portfolio from transport and public works MEC Leonard Ramatlakane.

Patrick McKenzie, former provincial police MEC and one-time national Minister of Welfare, has been named as a possible welfare MEC.

A question mark also hangs over the future of Kobus Meiring, now finance and environmental affairs MEC, who as the last administrator of the old Cape province was a rival to Mr Kriel for the leadership of the Western Cape.

A factor in the outcome will be the decision of the Democratic Party about whether it will accept Mr Kriel's offer of a cabinet post, a move which the national and Gauteng members of the party are known to be unhappy about.

Another candidate for a post is Michael Louw, African Christian Democratic Party member of the legislature, whose support as a minority party was essential for the sealing of the deal on the provincial constitution.

Also on the table for discussion is the future of the Deputy Speaker, with Mr Kriel having told the ANC he intended taking this post away from it and giving it to an NP member.

Mr Omar confessed himself to be "mystified" by Mr Kriel's conduct in remaking the cabinet, saying it was not in the interests of the Western Cape.

In an open letter to Mr Kriel, Mr Omar said the NP in the Western Cape was not taking the province towards nation-building or being part of the new South Africa.

There was no emphasis on non-racialism, the letter said.

The ANC was committed to building unity and ending racial polarisation and would play a "constructive and not a destructive role", Mr Omar said.

It was strange that at a time of growing ANC support, the premier was reducing ANC participation in the provincial government, particularly because of the ANC MECs' outstanding record of delivery.

Drastic spending cuts Province acts as deficit reaches R782-m

JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTER

Unveiling "draconian" steps today to halt overspending, Western Cape Finance Minister Kobus Meiring said no new capital projects would go ahead and all public service posts would be frozen.

The province had already overspent to

the tune of R782-million, he said. But capital projects already under way would continue and some appointments could be made "within present expenditure levels".

Mr Meiring, addressing the provincial legislature, said it was a sad day when the government had to halt capital projects as this inevitably led to a state of ruin.

He appealed to members to be more disciplined in their approach to spending

With the continued decrease in the province's allocation from central government, there was no other option but to work towards a point at which the provincial government would break even.

"Although the province has had a deficit for several years, in the past we could go to the central government and put our case to them to get more money. This position has now changed and the central government is

no longer in a position to bail us out.

"We will stop all capital projects that we have committed ourselves to but have not signed any contracts for, and will place a moratorium on all new appointments."

Projects already under way, such as construction and upgrading of the Gordon's Bay-Rooi Els road, would not be stopped.

"Not only are we looking at savings for the rest of the financial year, we are also

putting mechanisms in place that will generate savings over the next three years.

"We are applying draconian measures especially in health and education, and will fill posts within our present expenditure levels only."

"In health we will have to get rid of at least another 2 006 jobs and hundreds of beds. Several clinics will not be built," said Mr Meiring.

(263) ARC 8/12/97

'TIME TO STOP ABUSE'

New party aimed at coloured people

CT 9/12/97
(263)

THOUGH A PARTY launched as a haven for coloured people has connections to self-styled reformed gangsters, it denies it is a "smokescreen" for Core. **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** reports.

ECHOES of the old National Party's "swart gevaar" tactics resounded yesterday at the formation of Die Suid-Afrikaner — the newest addition to the South African political spectrum. The new party was launched by a hard-talking Pastor Albert Martins, who described his party as a "house" for the coloured people.

Martins, who rose to prominence last year as a leader of the Community Outreach Forum (Core), the organisation of gangsters who say they have reformed, said the time had come to stop treating coloured people as "walk-overs".

He said Die Suid-Afrikaner would stand up for coloured people who felt threatened by "black people streaming into our schools and coloured areas such as Mitchells Plain, Blue Downs and Delft".

And although the wives of prominent gang leaders Messrs Rashied and Rashaad Staggie were present at yesterday's press conference, Martins denied that Die Suid-Afrikaner was a "smokescreen" for Core.

Rashied Staggie played an instrumental role in the formation of Core after the public lynching of his twin brother Rashaad in August last year.

Martins said although there were no definite moves to incorporate Core into Die Suid-Afrikaner, the door of his party was "open to all, including gangs".

But Martins was quick to squash suggestions that Die Suid-Afrikaner was the latest assault on the elusive coloured vote in the National Party-held Western Cape, saying his party was national and looking way beyond 1999.

Outlining its vision, Martins

said Die Suid-Afrikaner was open to anyone who didn't benefit under the old or the new South Africa.

But he stressed that the focus of Die Suid-Afrikaner would fall on coloureds. Martins said: "The main aim of Die Suid-Afrikaner is to see that our (coloured) people will no longer be abused."

He slammed the past and present governments for abandoning the coloureds, saying "everyone just tramples on us".

Martins said no one was prepared to fight for the coloureds while they were "dying in heaps" on the Cape Flats.

Martins said his party would focus on reaching downtrodden people in rural areas and also the prison population.

The formation of Die Suid-Afrikaner follows several recent attempts by other political movements, most notably the symbolically-named December 1 movement and the Kleurling (coloured) Weerstand Beweging (KWB) to take up the cudgels on behalf of the coloured community.

Former Core executive member, Mr Ivan Waldeck, who is now a community worker and a Die Suid-Afrikaner supporter said "Everyone talks about the crime and the violence in the Western Cape, but no one wants to take it up. Our door is open to the gangs."

Martins said his party aimed to reduce crime by uniting the coloured community, even if it meant working with gangsters.

He said his party strongly rejected violence, crime and drugs, but that "one can't just kill the drug lord. That is not the solution."

Martins also said Die Suid-Afrikaner was about giving coloureds an identity.

"First our people hung onto the NP, trying to be white, and then the ANC, wanting to be black. Now they find themselves in the desert."



OUR PARTY: Rashieda Staggie (left) wife of gang leader Rashied and Denise Staggie, wife of the late Rashaad

Exclusive

OLCKERS OUT OF EDUCATION

Kriel's new-look team



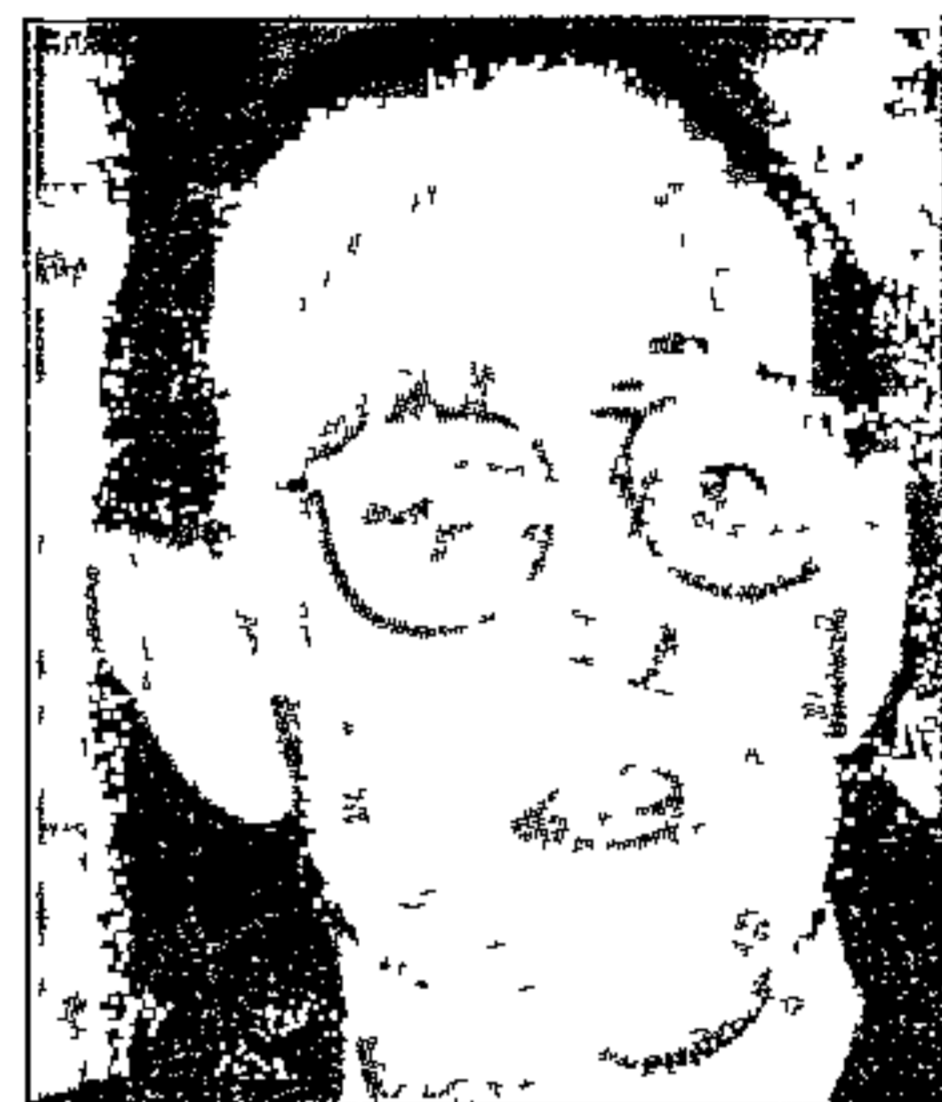
CULTURE: Martha Olckers



EDUCATION: Nick Koornhof



HEALTH: Peter Marais



ECONOMY: Hennie Bester



LOCAL GOVT: Patrick Mackenzie

WESTERN CAPE Premier Hernus Kriel's reshuffled "cabinet" will only be appointed in mid-January — but today the Cape Times can lay bare the entire pack. Political Writer **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

THE new-look Western Cape multi-party government is to see embattled Education MEC Ms Martha Olckers sidelined and replaced by easy-going NP reformist Mr Nick Koornhof

In another surprise shift, combative Local Government MEC Mr Peter Marais is to step into outgoing ANC Health MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool's shoes to make way for NP propagandist and MP Mr Patrick McKenzie.

The comprehensive exco reshuffle — prompted by the ANC's four-member pull-out when negotiations over the newly ratified provincial constitution went awry last month — will take place in mid-January

Premier Hernus Kriel's new team emerged from exclusive Cape Times interviews with well-placed confidential sources in the provincial legislature this week.

The new party members represented in the 12-member exco will be the Democratic Party's provincial leader, Mr Hennie Bester (Economic Affairs and Trade and Industry) and

the African Christian Democratic Party's Mr Michael Louis (Public Works and Transport)

But the most strategic move by Kriel is the shifting of Olckers, who has weathered a storm of protest from teacher unions. She is replaced by Koornhof, a seasoned negotiator and attorney — formerly the chief political assistant to retired NP leader Mr F W de Klerk

Koornhof, who will also take on the Sport portfolio from the ANC's outgoing Mr Lerumo Kalako, has a reputation for being "anything but a party hack" and is well-liked across party lines.

Secretary of the central Parliament's rugby club, Koornhof is at present chief director in NP leader Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk's office and serves on the House of Assembly's portfolio committee for environment and sport

Olckers will keep her chief love, the Culture portfolio, and takes over Environmental Affairs from the seasoned Cape administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring

Meiring will continue to play to

his strengths in administration but will hand over the powerful Finance portfolio to Mr Lampie Fick in return for Fick's current planning portfolio.

Fick, himself a farmer, will give Agriculture up to current NP chief whip in the legislature, Mr Piet Meyer, but continues handling his transformation of Tourism

Meyer will drive an entirely new Labour Relations portfolio — a shrewd move aimed at addressing the most crippling area of the Western Cape government's cash-strapped crisis budget bogged-down union negotiations.

The two new non-NP exco members are fairly well suited for their portfolios

Bester, who has insisted that he is not "constrained" from publicly criticising and distancing himself from any decision taken by the exco, is an experienced corporate commercial lawyer and is studying for his honours in economics

Yesterday he publicly announced his party's backing of his decision, which is being interpreted by experts as a strategic local DP "vote-catcher" for the 1999 elections.

Louis (Public Works and Transport) is a property developer

Only a brace of NP stalwarts in the legislature remain untouched

Leader of the House Mr Gerald Morkel retains his Police portfolio (to be renamed Community Safety) and Mr Cecil Herandien remains Housing MEC

The fourth ordinary legislator or MPL (besides Louis, Bester and Meyer) to be elevated to exco status will be Mr Arnold de Jager, a former Oudtshoorn mayor, ostrich farmer and current chairperson of the province's powerful Standing Committee on Finance

De Jager, who recently overcame heart-related health problems, will be MEC for Welfare, a post which Rasool will vacate when he and Mr Chris Nissen (current Economics MEC), Mr Leonard Ramatlakane (current Transport and Public works MEC) and Kalako (Sport and Recreation) carry out the ANC decision not to accept Kriel's halving of their present exco membership

Kriel's much-vaunted "outside experts" on the 12-person exco are McKenzie and Koornhof, the Cape Times sources revealed yesterday

Kriel has said that neither of the "experts" would have voting powers on his exco

With the ANC moving out, Mr Nic Isaacs would replace Mr Mampie Ramotsoma as Deputy Speaker of the legislature, and the portfolio committees will, from

ET 11/12/97
THE expected new Western Cape exco line-up at a glance.

Lampie Fick: Finance and Tourism.

Peter Marais: Health.

Arnold de Jager: Welfare.

Piet Meyer: Agriculture and Labour Relations.

Hennie Bester: Economic Affairs, Trade and Industry.

Michael Louis: Public Works and Transport.

Martha Olckers: Culture and Environmental Affairs.

Patrick Mackenzie: Local Government

Nick Koornhof: Education and Sport

Cecil Herandien: Housing.

Gerald Morkel: Community Safety (Police Services).

Kobus Meiring: Planning and Administration.

Hernus Kriel: Premier, Constitutional Affairs, Horse Racing, Publicity and Gambling.

mid-January, be chaired by Mr Charles Redcliffe (Finance), Mr Anwar Ismail (Community Safety), Ms Annette Reinecke (Education) and Dr Quarta du Toit (Health)

Mr Reyno King is to replace Mr Piet Meyer as chief whip of the NP

Kriel unveils new cabinet

(263)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ARG 11/12/97
Premier Hennis Kriel today unveiled a new Western Cape cabinet to take office when the provincial constitution comes into effect next month.

There is to be a significant reshuffle of National Party office-bearers, posts for two minority parties, while the four African National Congress MECs will depart into opposition and the private sector.

The ANC said today it was gearing up for a campaign to ensure the work started by its provincial ministers was fulfilled.

With the Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party having accepted posts and with talks with the ANC on possible cabinet membership having collapsed, Mr Kriel was able to finalise his new executive. Changes expected to be announced today were:

- Martha Olckers losing the education portfolio to Nicky Koornhof, currently an NP member of the National Assembly, but remaining as provincial minister for culture.

Mr Koornhof was also expected to become sport MEC in the place of outgoing ANC minister Lerumo Kalako;

- Peter Marais replacing Ebrahim Rassool as health MEC, with Mr Marais's local government portfolio going to Patrick

To page 5

New W Cape cabinet: DP in, ANC out

(263)

From page 1

ARG 11/12/97
McKenzie, currently a member of the National Assembly and former Western Cape police MEC and former national Minister for Welfare,

- Arno de Jager of the NP becoming welfare MEC,

- Piet Meyer of the NP becoming agriculture and labour relations MEC,

- Michael Louis of the ACDP becoming public works and transport MEC;

- Lampie Fick, until now agriculture and tourism MEC, becoming finance and tourism MEC, with finance incumbent Kobus Meiring becoming minister for planning and administration,

- Gerald Morkel was expected to retain the police portfolio, which was to be renamed community services,

- DP Western Cape leader Hennie Bester was being tipped for the economic affairs portfolio now held by Chris Nissen of the ANC, who is leaving politics for the private sector.

Announcing that the DP's federal executive had agreed to the party accepting Mr Kriel's offer of a post, Mr Bester said the decision was still subject to "certain outstanding matters" being negotiated. The DP would retain the right to criticise publicly and distance itself from any cabinet decision with which it did not agree.

He said a "decisive majority" of the federal executive, including national leader Tony Leon, had been in favour of accepting the Western Cape cabinet post. "Acceptance of this offer in no way signifies an agreement on policy or principle with the NP," Mr Bester said.

Ebrahim Rassool, leader of the ANC in the Western Cape legislature, said the DP would "forever be tainted as the party which spurned a national Cabinet post offered by President Mandela and instead accepted a cabinet post offered by Hennis Kriel."

Mr Kriel said he was happy to have the DP in the cabinet.

While the cabinet is expected to be officially announced soon, its new members will take office only in January when the constitution is signed into law.

'HEARTSORE' AT LACK OF BLACKS

Kriel reveals new cabinet line-up

(263)

0712/12/97

THE NEW PROVINCIAL cabinet will be sworn in on January 19 next year — four days after the provincial constitution comes into effect. Political Writer **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

AMID ANC cries of "total credibility loss" and NP rejoinders of "political ineptitude", the NP-led Western Cape government of provincial unity stumbled to a mutually acknowledged halt yesterday

In its place on January 19 will rise a new "multi-party" government — with 13 of the 17 portfolios in the executive committee as predicted by the Cape Times yesterday.

Already, according to outgoing Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool, his successor Mr Peter Marais has sent staff around to his office to "take inventories and ask questions"

Other outgoing ANC MECs claimed their staff were being scrutinised by security staff more closely than usual on leaving the Wale Street building

The four portfolios different from the Cape Times revelations yesterday are that Caledon farmer Mr Lampie Fick retains his Agriculture portfolio (and becomes Finance MEC instead of stalwart administrator Mr Kobus Meiring, now MEC for Planning and General Administration)

The DP's Mr Hennie Bester has had Tourism added to his Trade and Industry portfolio and NP propagandist Mr Patrick Mackenzie has garnered gambling as part of his new Local Government office

At a news conference specially convened after the Cape Times revelations, Kriel conceded that the two "outsiders" brought in, Mr Nick Koornhof (Education and Sport), and Mackenzie, could help loosen the expensive union negotiations logjam crippling education and local government

"It may be that the new blood will loosen things," he conceded when it was put to him that Ms Martha Olckers (current Education MEC) and Marais (currently Local Government MEC) were widely regarded as "a red rag to the union

bull"

When his favourite contention that the Western Cape was "punished" by Pretoria for being an NP-led province was put to him in the context of the latest developments, Kriel shot back "How can they punish us any more? Already we've been told that we're being cut by four percent (of budget allocation)"

He then added that he'd rather have people on his cabinet who could "manage these problems than those who can't"

Kriel accused the ANC of having "shot itself in the foot" during negotiations for a 14-person versus a 12-person exco

However, ANC leader in the legislature Rasool said Kriel offered them two posts with a portfolio removed from each (Welfare from his Health Portfolio and Public Works from colleague Mr Leonard Ramatlakane's Transport portfolio) as a "take it or leave it" deal

"No self-respecting party can accept that," Rasool said, accusing the NP of having lost all credibility, with no black members and reduced coloured representation (eight of the 13 exco members will be white)

The ANC said Kriel had underestimated them in thinking the lustre of high salaries would retain half their exco members

Kriel's new cabinet was "fundamentally flawed" with the DP and ACDP representing just three percent of the Western Cape vote having 17% representation on exco

"We believe it was far too embarrassing and politically expensive for Mr Kriel to have in his cabinet, with one year to the next election, four ANC ministers who consistently outperform and outshine his NP ministers with their high delivery rate," Rasool said.

Kriel blamed ANC "backbenchers" for "reneging" on a provincial constitution "gentlemen's agreement" about a 12-member exco when they insisted on a return to 10 members — at a



RESHUFFLE: Premier Hernus Kriel presents his new provincial executive committee to the media at his Wale Street headquarters yesterday.

PICTURE THEMBINKOSI DWAYISA

critical stage while senior colleagues were overseas

He said he was "heartsore" at the lack of blacks on his planned exco, but there was a distinct lack of available skills in the new smaller parties and his own "It would have been pure tokenism and I don't think black people or the NP

would want it"

The new MECs will be sworn in on January 19 — four days after Kriel signs the provincial constitution into law

The full official exco line-up will be: Gerald Morkel (Community Security), Kobus Meiring (Planning and General Administration),

Lampie Fick (Finance and Agriculture), Peter Marais (Health), Martha Olckers (Environmental Affairs and Culture), Cecil Herandien (Housing), Hennie Bester (Trade, Industry and Tourism), Patrick Mackenzie (Local Government and Gambling), Arnold de Jager (Social Services)

Kriel's 'cabinet lite' brews strife

Racial tension looms, ANC says

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The storm clouds of electioneering have begun gathering over the Western Cape, and Herus Kriel's cabinet reshuffle could herald lightning bolts from gathering racial tension.

Mr Kriel himself quickly concedes that it is "heartbreaking" that his new cabinet contains no black Africans, saying there was no African in his party or the other minority parties who merited appointment to the executive.

The cabinet which will take office on January 19 contains seven whites and five people of colour.

If Mr Kriel meant to build, in his terms, a cabinet of multi-party representation, the one he has produced is less representative of the province than ever.

Depending on whose claims you believe, the African National Congress excluded itself by not agreeing to his terms in negotiations, or Mr Kriel excluded the ANC by offering terms to which it could never agree.

The upshot is that a party representing a constituency which in 1994

was demonstrably the second biggest in the province, a party which some opinion polls now hold to be the majority, has no access to executive power.

Mr Kriel, speaking to reporters at the legislature's offices in Wale Street, put a bright spin on the make-up of his cabinet: it was a good cabinet, one that could go places.

Not having the ANC on board was not the end of the world. There were ANC ministers he would have liked to have kept on, but the "wild bunch" of ANC backbenchers had prevented this.

Ebrahim Rassool, outgoing health MEC, leader of the ANC in the legislature and one of those named by Mr Kriel as a minister he wanted to retain, warned of the heightened racial tensions the cabinet reshuffle would stir up.

The ANC had been the only bridge spanning all racial groups in the province.

Speaking for himself and his fellow departing ministers, Mr Rassool said: "Replacing us with four white males sets the scene for racial contention in the Western Cape."

Sport MEC Lervino Kalako said it was clear Mr Kriel still regarded the

Western Cape as a foreign country to black Africans.

Mr Kalako said ANC members in the cabinet had for the past three-and-a-half years been battling attempts by the NP to bring back forms of influx control directed against what NP members termed "Eastern Cape people" and "Transkei people".

Transport MEC Leonard Ramatlakane said it was clear Mr Kriel was rejecting nation-building, and from the composition of the new cabinet it was evident that redistribution of resources was not going to happen.

For the ANC, it is clear there could be some electoral gains from this week's developments.

The party, which claimed a swing to it among coloured people, based on an analysis of results in an Elands River local government by-election, believes that more coloured people may become disillusioned with the NP, and that more are becoming comfortable with the ANC.

But the other implication of the move is one not welcome in the province that the fragile process of inter-racial reconciliation in the province has been damaged severely in the political manoeuvring to survive the coming electoral storm.



'Ment selections': Premier Herus Kriel



Out: the ANC's Ebrahim Rassool



No change: security chief Gerald Morkel



Finance boss: Lampie Fick

Nat caucus removes 'traitor' from top job

PETER GOOSEN
METRO DESK

(263) ARG 12/10/97

The South Peninsula Council's National Party caucus has sacked a defecting member from the vice-chairmanship of a council standing committee.

During an acrimonious debate yesterday, Alan Phillips of Sunnydale, who recently crossed the floor from the National Party to join the fledgling United Democratic Movement, lost his job as vice-chairman of the engineering services committee.

Although the agenda said that his position should be reviewed and rescinded because his "punctuality at meetings and commitment was in question", the NP's Garin Cavanagh made it clear that the Nats regarded Mr Phillips as disloyal to the party and a "traitor".

In reply, Logra councillor Phillip Bam said with the action against Mr Phillips, "people will see you as the bureaucrats you really are. If you are not loyal to the party, you are a traitor."

There was absolutely no motivation for Mr Phillips's sacking, Mr Bam said. He accused the Nats of having artificial intelligence.

Bill Stibbe, who left the National Party caucus some time ago to become an independent, said Mr Phillips had the wisdom to leave because the party was going down the tubes.

Mr Phillips said the motion exposed the small mind of the NP, which did not have the best interests of ratepayers at heart. Loyalty to the party was everything.

"I thought that when the chips were down, this council would function as a unit. I was sadly mistaken."

Reshuffle puts new faces in the picture

ARG 12/14/98 12/19/97 2630
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Outside the office of Ebrahim Rassool, health and welfare MEC and leader of the African National Congress in the Western Cape legislature, hangs a framed colour photograph of the province's cabinet.

The photograph will be taken down some time before January 19, when Peter Marais of the National Party succeeds Mr Rassool as health minister and Arno de Jager of the NP takes over the welfare portfolio.

Already the corridors of power are a trifle chillier for the four outgoing ANC ministers. Mr Rassool has been asked to provide an inventory of the contents of his offices.

Sooner or later, another photograph will hang in the Wale Street offices.

These are the people who will be in it, and the cabinet portfolios they will hold: Gerald Morkel, police MEC, who keeps his job (renamed Community Security); Kobus Meiring, ex-finance MEC, whose portfolio will be Planning and General Administration; Lampie Fick, Finance and Agriculture; Peter Marais, Health; Martha Olckers, Environment and Culture; Cecil Herandien, Housing;

Henrie Bester (Democratic Party), Trade and Industry and Tourism; Piet Meyer, Transport and Labour; Michael Louis (African Christian Democratic Party), Asset Management, Public Works and Media; Nicky Koornhof, Sport and Education; and Patrick McKenzie, Local Government.

The last two, now members of the National Assembly, will be appointed as non-voting members of the provincial cabinet in terms of a provincial constitutional provision allowing the appointment of two "experts".

Mr Koornhof and Mr McKenzie, who cease to be MPs, will have the rights and perks of provincial cabinet ministers, and will be allowed a full part in the provincial legislature, but will not be allowed to vote.

Those who will not be in the picture include people said to have been approached by Mr Kriel, but who turned him down for appointments to the "experts" posts.

These are claimed to include Al Gierdien, past president of the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Adam Small, poet; Franklin Sonn, ambassador to Washington; business person L T Links; and, an unnamed "former businesswoman of the year in the Western Cape".

Metro council in budget impasse

Municipalities caught in the red

(263) ARG 13/1/98 - 12/97

ANDREA WEISS

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel is refusing to approve the Cape Metropolitan Council's (CMC) budget on the grounds that it is spending too much on its bureaucracy and too little on infrastructure in poor areas.

The budget impasse has reached critical proportions, with the CMC unable to pay out millions of rand it promised to the six municipalities in the metropolitan area to help them get through this financial year.

None of the six municipalities have had their budgets approved, because they are relying on the R209-million promised them by the CMC to balance their books.

The total budget for all the local authorities in the Cape metropolitan area is about R7-billion.

On Wednesday, the CMC resolved to send a delegation to Mr Manuel to see if the problems around the budget could be resolved.

Unlike municipalities which rely on ratepayers for income, the CMC gets its revenue from levies imposed on payrolls of registered businesses.

A complicating factor is that over the last year, local government in the Cape metropolitan area has undergone a major shake-up, with the CMC having taken on new powers and functions.

This makes it difficult to compare this year's budget with the previous one, in the light of an 8% growth restriction imposed by Mr Manuel.

Pierre Uys, chairman of the CMC's executive committee, said there was deep concern about the delay in the approval. He said there had been no official political communication about problems around the budget, and he was reluctant to deal with the matter via the press.

He said the old Regional Services Council Act had stipulated how the levies should be used, but this was before the new constitution and the Local Government Transition Act awarded new functions to local gov-



Concerned: the CMC's Pierre Uys

ernment. Among these new functions is the promotion of economic development.

"Our role has changed, but our income has remained the same," he explained. "Where do they think we get the money from?"

Mr Uys said the CMC's view was that its redistributive role also involved providing operational support for the municipalities.

He said the budget approval had come through only in November last year, but now it looked as if this year's approval might be through only by the end of January.

This could cause cashflow problems for the municipalities, which were relying on the R209-million operational grant from the CMC.

From the Department of Finance's perspective, a key issue is whether the CMC's new administration is as lean and efficient as possible. The department also is concerned that the administration is being expanded too fast before new legislation comes into effect which could have further restructuring implications.

Another concern is over the high salaries being paid to senior staff.

Department of Finance director



Firm: Finance Minister Trevor Manuel

for local government. TV Pillay said: "We realise that restructuring has taken place. To a degree, we are sympathetic where funds will be used to assist municipalities and we do not wish to delay delivery in disadvantaged areas."

"But what we are against is the former Regional Services Council (RSC) levies being used for major administrative expenditure rather than capital infrastructure expenditure in disadvantaged areas."

Mr Pillay said the effect of spending too much on operational costs would be that money would have to be borrowed for capital costs.

He said the line that had been followed throughout the country was that the budgets for this financial year should not go up more than 8%.

The department now has asked municipalities to give details of their finances to ensure there is no duplication of services taking place in the Cape metropolitan area.

CMC chief executive officer Stewart Fisher said there appeared to be a difference in understanding as to what the former RSC levies could be used for. However, he was confident the matter would be resolved.

Making room for two more in cabinet costs province R1,5-million

ARG 13/49812/97(263)

ANDREA WEISS

The cash-strapped Western Cape government is spending R1,5-million refurbishing offices to make space for its new, extended 12-member cabinet.

The money is being spent to move provincial director-general Niel Barnard to another floor to make way for two new provincial cabinet members. The cabinet is being extended under the new provincial constitution.

This has emerged after the National Education Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) alleged that the R1,5-million was to be spent on new offices for Dr Barnard.

According to a statement from Dr Barnard's office, the move is part of a "cost-cutting" exercise aimed at improved use of space that will "ultimately result in a net saving of at least R110-million for the province".

This news comes in the week that Kobus Meiring, former provincial finance minister, announced that the province would be taking draconian measures to deal with its R782-million deficit.

According to the statement from Dr Barnard's office, the ratification of the provincial constitution by the Constitutional Court had necessitated the move of the director-general's offices to create office space for the expansion of the provincial cabinet by two additional members.

"It is envisaged that these members will occupy the offices vacated by the director-general and his staff," the statement said.

Dr Barnard's office is to be moved from the first floor in the provincial

headquarters at Wale Street to the mezzanine level.

At present Premier Hennis Kriel, four ministers and their supporting staff occupy the rest of the first floor. An allegation by Nehawu that proper tender procedures were not followed was rejected, with the assurance that the necessary approval was given by the Regional Tender Board.

Democratic Party provincial leader Hennie Bester, who becomes the province's new Trade, Industry and Tourism Minister, said that if the figure of R1,5-million was correct it would be "grossly excessive expenditure".

African National Congress spokeswoman for finance Tasneem Essop said an amount of R1,5-million was not to be scoffed at, even in the context of the provincial deficit.

She questioned the need to relocate the director-general when the province was going through a financial crisis.

■ The last time office expenditure hit the headlines was in May when former provincial education minister Martha Olckers was reported to have spent R20 585 on office furniture for her legislature office.

The furniture included a pastel-coloured, imitation Victorian settee and two matching armchairs, plus a glass coffee table, an ornamental green bird and a pink lamp.

Some of the furniture was passed on to other members of the legislature, because Mrs Olckers, who also has a Foreshore office, did not use her Wale Street office.

This, according to the report, led to other members of the legislature asking for extra furniture.

DP's 'critical role' in W Cape

Hennie Bester, leader of the Democratic Party in the Western Cape, sees his party's role in the provincial cabinet as essential in ensuring good governance

After serious debate and consultation inside the party, the Democratic Party accepted Premier Herhus Kriel's offer to take on the economic affairs, trade and tourism portfolio in the Western Cape provincial cabinet.

Our decision is obviously important, not only for the Democratic Party, but also for the political future of the Western Cape. Understandably, therefore, it is a decision which has given rise to a lot of debate. I wish to take this opportunity to set out clearly the conditions of our acceptance and our motivation for doing so.

The DP will never accept any offer of involvement in any government structures unless our institutional independence and freedom to criticise are guaranteed.

That is why we rejected President Mandela's offer earlier this year to join the national Cabinet - Mr Mandela made it clear we would have been bound by decisions with which we could not possibly agree.

The terms of the offer made by Mr Kriel were, however, the exact opposite of those laid down by the president: the DP will be entitled to publicly criticise and distance itself from any decisions taken by the cabinet.

We also have ensured that the National Party abides by these terms by insisting that Mr Kriel sign an agreement spelling out our conditions of acceptance. Included in the contract of agreement are the following points:

■ The DP will not be bound by cabinet co-responsibility for decisions with which it disagrees.

■ The DP reserves the right to advance, comment on, mobilise around or demonstrate for or against any political issue.

■ The DP reserves the right to withdraw from the cabinet at any time if it becomes apparent that it is not able to fulfil the mandate the party has received from its voters and to further the principles of the party and the interests of its supporters.

Thus our independence as a party is secure. I must also make absolutely clear that our decision to join the cabinet in no way signifies an agreement on policy or principle with the National Party. Indeed there are many issues on which we disagree fundamentally. We will thus be fighting the 1999 election as a separate, independent party.

'There are those who will say we are getting into bed with the National Party'

Our decision to join the cabinet was primarily motivated by the desperate need for good governance in the Western Cape. We believe we need to take the opportunity to get stuck in and do some good for the people of our province, and we believe the economic affairs post is the ideal way to do that.

The DP can offer management skills, sound economic policies and credibility with small and big business. Our priority will be to start winning the battle to alleviate unemployment in the Western Cape. We believe our province has the potential to compete successfully for investment, both domestic and foreign.

Our focus will also be on expanding opportunities for small businesses and we will not hesitate to push the outer limits of provincial

power to achieve this. There is thus no doubt in our minds that it would be wrong for us to turn our backs on the people, having obtained from Mr Kriel such favourable terms for a place in the provincial cabinet.

Ideally we would have liked the Western Cape cabinet to include all the significant parties in the province. For this reason we have been involved in trying to persuade the African National Congress to come on board.

Unfortunately, it seems that the radicals in the ANC have prevailed. One can't help feeling that, by refusing to accept two or three seats instead of the four it is demanding, the ANC is turning its back on the people of this province simply because it cannot have everything its own way. And if, as Dullah Omar has threatened, the ANC decides to use mass action as part of its new opposition strategy, then it will quickly lose whatever support it might have gained in this province over the last three years.

There will, of course, be criticism of our decision. There are those who will say we are getting into bed with the National Party and are undermining our moral credibility in so doing. That is complete nonsense.

The overriding political imperative in South Africa right now is to ensure that all South Africans benefit from the new democracy we have established. That means making delivery work, and work well. Any party that would choose to ignore the desperate cry for efficient delivery because it dislikes those it finds itself working with, is living in the wrong country in the wrong decade.

Of course we would never sell our independence or integrity as a party - because to do so would mean turning our backs on the people who voted for us and who continue to give us their support. But we have ensured our independence and continued critical role



Making the case: DP leader Hennie Bester

ARC 13/11/98

(263)

13/12/97

More powerful Western Cape in ANC

ANDRE KOOPMAN AND CHRIS BATEMAN

MAFIKENG: The large number of votes garnered by Western Cape cabinet ministers in being elected to the ANC's national executive committee is seen as a strong message from the rank and file that competence and the delivery of basic services are the main criteria

Minister of Water Affairs Mr Kader Asmal, who has been widely praised for his dedicated efforts in delivering water to the poor, gained the second-highest number of votes. Previously he was 19th Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel, previously 17th, was placed seventh Justice Minister Mr Dullah Omar rose from 10th to eighth position

The Western Cape's representation on the NEC was also increased — from seven to nine, with Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry Ms Phumzile Mlam-

bo-Ngcuka and MP Mr Phillip Dexter providing the "new blood".

The Western Cape now has 15% of the ordinary seats on the 60-member NEC (excluding the top officials, none of whom are from the province)

The strong showing by Western Cape ministers could also influence the tensions in the ANC in the province, its leadership battle, its relationship with the National Party and the sting of Parliament

"I suppose the various provinces took into account the work that ministers were doing," Omar said "In the case of Kader, his work has been outstanding in the delivery of water and he has been singled out about it and winning the second position, in my view, is well-deserved"

"Trevor Manuel has clearly been recognised as the best finance minister South

Africa has had. In one year he has won international recognition and respect

"We met as a whole Western Cape delegation before we went into conference and there was general jubilation and people were very pleased. It gave me a great deal of pleasure to ensure that we rescue our province, and that it is being seen to participate in national transformation"

Speaking on the NEC results and the implications for the moving of Parliament, Omar said "The high positions that we obtained hopefully will signal to people in the Western Cape that the ANC is committed to the province and its future"

"Clearly the direction in which the province goes can create positive or negative perceptions in the rest of the country. So far the perceptions created by the NP have been negative and that will

impact negatively on our ability to keep Parliament here. My own hope is that people of the Western Cape will over the next year take matters up and do the right thing so as to ensure that we strengthen our position. I do think it has positive implications for us in the Western Cape"

Omar, who was reluctant to talk about himself, has effected a large-scale transformation of the justice ministry

The conference also highlighted the conflict over a change in provincial leadership from Omar to aspirant chairman and outgoing Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool

Party insiders predict that Omar will step down as chairman in June to make way for Rasool

Asmal said he was "up in the clouds" about his election

● See Pages 5, 8 and 9

W Cape health brawl as Rasool slams Marais

ANC MP warns Nat successor in top job: 'Don't undo my good work'

ADRIE BAILEY

Outgoing Western Cape health minister Ebrahim Rasool has hit back at his successor Peter Marais, calling him "boastful" and "blatantly dishonest" politically.

Mr Rasool of the African National Congress said that before he had even been sworn in, Mr Marais of the National Party had committed his first fundamental blunder by trying to politicise health. "You just don't do that when people's lives are at stake," He was responding to a report in

Saturday Argus last week in which Mr Marais blamed Mr Rasool for crisis in the Western Cape health system.

Mr Marais inherited the health portfolio in a provincial cabinet reshuffle after the end of the power-sharing deal in the province between the majority NP and minority ANC.

Mr Marais, who was also MEC for health from 1991-92, claimed he started primary health care and that when he left his position for the local government portfolio, "health care was in a sound state".

"I don't think the same can be said

for health now," he said.

In reply, Mr Rasool said in this day and age no one would dare boast about what they had supposedly achieved under the apartheid state.

"It's a sad reflection on Mr Marais' political position that he is one of the few people who point to that period of our history with pride."

Calling Mr Marais "blatantly dishonest", he said, "If he is as good as he says he is, then why was it necessary for me to build 60 primary health care facilities?"

The Delft and Macassar community health centres were nearing com-

pletion. "In fact, Mr Marais will be opening things I built."

He was "surprised" Mr Marais claimed to have been the initiator of primary health care when he and his successor had heard at the recent opening of the Ida's Valley clinic in Stellenbosch how the community had struggled for 24 years to get their facility.

"They told us they had gone to the local authority since 1973 and in the early 1990s they had approached the divisional council. They even went to the province when Mr Marais was MEC for health, but their appeals fell

on deaf ears," Mr Rasool said.

The same could be said of the Uitsig community. "Uitsig has the highest TB rate in the country, if not in the world, and that is what I inherited from Mr Marais."

Mr Rasool said that when he assumed office there were 29 000 people in the Western Cape with TB, of whom 11 000 died in 1994. Mr Rasool said that as a result of his administration, that figure was down to 20 300 with 723 deaths for 1996, he said.

He said that during Mr Marais's time in office, nothing had been done to deal with AIDS, while he and his

team had forged a major partnership with non-governmental organisations in the field. In addition, he said, his administration had for the first time launched an immunisation campaign against polio and measles.

He said Mr Marais had done nothing about the spiralling budget for academic health. "It's been only in the last three years that we, together with the universities brought in overseas consultants to work out a plan to rationalise academic health."

"Instead of being petulant, Mr Marais should be grateful for this and that I was able to secure an additional

grant for academic health. This is what I am leaving him."

He said he was also leaving a unit-aid ambulance service in which costs had been brought under control.

Health in the rural areas had also been addressed to the point where even a small hamlet like Haarlem in the Klein Karoo had a clinic, an X-ray machine and a scanner.

Mr Rasool said Mr Marais should not politicise health care because "the will soon run into a brick wall. He will do well instead not to deny what has been achieved and to undertake to sustain what has been achieved."

Rasool ready to take Omar's place

'I have a contribution to make'

ADELE BALETA

Outgoing Western Cape Health Minister Ebrahim Rasool this week made himself available to lead the African National Congress in the province as the ANC prepares to challenge the National Party's power.

Mr Rasool's statement follows expectations that Justice Minister Dullah Omar will step down as ANC leader in the province early in the new year, to concentrate on national issues

The ANC is challenging the NP in the 1999 elections for power in the Western Cape - one of only two provinces not controlled by the ANC. KwaZulu Natal is governed by the Inkatha Freedom Party

Mr Rasool's term as provincial Health Minister is ending in the wake of the breakdown of the power-sharing deal between the NP and ANC.

Asked by Saturday Argus whether he would make himself available to lead the ANC in the run-up to the elections, Mr Rasool said: "I think that I have a contribution to make. Yes, I would seriously consider it, but this would be subject to the democratic process in the ANC"

Prompted further, he said "There are no guarantees, but there are people who may feel I should succeed (Mr Omar)" Mr Rasool withdrew from

(263) ARG 27/12/97
the race against Mr Omar last year after a heated leadership row

Tony Yengeni, chairman of the parliamentary defence committee, who also stepped down against Mr Omar last year, would not be drawn on whether he would consider challenging for the leadership again

Mr Yengeni said yesterday it was premature to comment and that he would have to make up his mind when and if he was nominated by the branches

Sources have indicated the time is ripe for Mr Omar to hand over the leadership reins

They said Mr Omar had received overwhelming support at the recent ANC national conference in Mafikeng where he sought direct election on to the NEC although he already had a post there by virtue of his position as justice minister

At the conference there was an emphasis on crime and justice which meant Mr Omar would need to focus more on national issues, the sources revealed

They also said Mr Omar might feel he had achieved some of the major objectives in the Western Cape

The ending of the government of provincial unity between the NP and ANC in the Western Cape meant a greater opposition role for the ANC. This could be a factor leading to a review of how the ANC operated in

the region and who would lead the party

Commenting on the ANC's strategy and campaign for the 1999 elections, Mr Rasool said recent changes in the Western Cape had created conditions for the ANC to play an oppositional role.

The ANC's campaign would kick off on January 15 when Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel signs the provincial cabinet into being.

"On that day, the ANC will make it clear that we are not going to our own funeral," said Mr Rasool. Every branch of the ANC, including George and Saldanha, would organise pickets in their areas and each branch would send five people to Cape Town centre to warn against the "new Western Cape constitution that has brought about a Volkstaat and to ensure services are delivered to the disadvantaged," said Mr Rasool.

"The 1999 campaign will be part of how we define the opposition movement in the Western Cape. If we define it based on delivery, we would accelerate what already has been set in motion, such as in health and welfare. We won't change what we have done"

He described recent NP appointments to the provincial cabinet such as that of Welfare Minister Arnold de Jager, as a negative shift to the right