

## REVIEW

**Robert A Jones: Collective Bargaining in South Africa  
Macmillan 1982, 89 pages**

This is a short but useful introduction for commerce students to collective bargaining in South Africa.

Dr Jones introduces his subject through a four-fold typology of trade unions — craft, general, industrial and white-collar. This introduction would, however, have benefitted by an outline of the different approaches to trade unions — in particular Alan Fox's well-known distinction between the unitary and pluralist frame of reference. Furthermore, it is a pity Dr Jones confines himself to examples from Britain when dealing with multi-unionism, as there are important lessons to be drawn from the American system of exclusive plant bargaining.

Dr Jones sets himself a difficult task in the second half of the book when he focusses on contemporary collective bargaining in South Africa. Events are moving so rapidly that information is soon dated. For example, the South African Boilermakers (SABS) do not have 26,000 members (p.63) but 53,000; FOSATU does not refuse to sit on industrial councils (p.50); unregistered unions are no longer excluded from the conciliation

machinery (p.63).

Dr Jones has moved quickly to fill a gap in the academic market. By launching the first in a series on industrial relations, Macmillan have made a timely and no doubt profitable intervention into an area in which reliable information remains limited.

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