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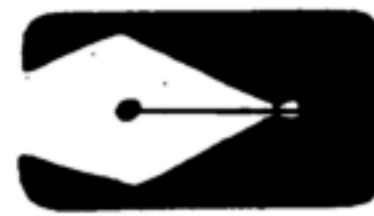


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SASPU



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Police round up 1,500 workers at Kloof Gold Mine near Westonaria during the recent strike wave on the Rand

Death strikes as miners face bullets, batons and teargas

A BLACK miner, Headman Mazibuko of the Transkei, was shot 12 times during the huge wave of strikes that paralysed the mining industry during the first week of July.

The story of Headman Mazibuko, who, according to medical sources, was admitted to a mine hospital with twelve bullets in him, is one of the few details of the strike to have emerged.

At least three of the bullets had entered through his back and, he says, many of them hit him while he was lying on the ground.

The strikes, sparked off by anger

over unexpectedly low pay increases, involved up to 70,000 workers on nine gold and platinum mines belonging to Gold Fields of South Africa and General Mining Corporation of South Africa and a group of coal mines owned by Iscor.

By the end of a week of turmoil, at least 10 mine workers lay dead, scores were injured and hundreds had been arrested. Thousands more were bussed off to the homelands. Exact figures have not been released.

Although such unrest has occurred repeatedly on the mines, these

figures indicate that the strikes were some of the biggest and most significant since the massive mine workers' strike of 1946.

They began only hours after workers were told officially of the annual pay increases set by the Chamber of Mines — the lowest percentage increase in five years.

The increase, set arbitrarily by the chamber, was 11% for surface workers and 12% for underground workers, compared to last July's increases of 15% and 20%. With inflation at about 16% this means miners would be taking a significant

drop in their real incomes.

At least three mining groups Anglo-American, Consolidated Investments (JCI) and Rand Mines are thought to have granted a higher increase than this.

These three groups were not hit by the strikes.

One of the miners, Shimane Deetsang from Wildebeesfontein Mine, has described what happened: 'We had decided not to go to work and were striking because the pay increase was not enough.'

Deetsang said he earned up to R200 a month and had received only

an extra R6 in his pay packet that day.

'We were not fighting, just making a noise and were surprised to see the police come. We were just sitting and waiting when they called the police.'

'I saw they were using teargas, so I ran to get a cloth and some water to cover my mouth. When I came out of my room I was shot. That's all I remember,' he said.

Deetsang was admitted to a mine hospital with multiple buckshot wounds on the top of his back. He is now fully paralysed from the waist down and his arms are partially paralysed.

Another picture of the outbreak of unrest on July 2 was painted by the manager of West Driefontein Mine, one of the first and biggest to be closed by the strike.

He said a night of violence began after 4,000 workers from the Number 2 compound had refused to go to work and had gathered at the compound gates chanting for the compound manager.

When he came, he saw they were militant, so he called in security.

'The miners were warned to disperse to their rooms and told to send a delegation to speak to the compound manager. When they failed to do this, teargas was used,' he said.

Mine security guards, with dogs, batons and plastic shields, then swept through the compound in a 'show of force', according to the

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Square claims another detainee's life

AS SASPU National was going to print, a 21 year old detainee was found dead in his cell at John Vorster Square.

According to a police statement Ernest Dipale was found hanged by a strip of cell blanket at 12.13am on Sunday, August 8.

Lawyers acting for the Dipale family have reported that the young Ernest was detained three days before his death.

This is the second political death at John Vorster Square since the beginning of the year, only six months after trade unionist Neil Aggett's death in detention. Dipale was a former fellow detainee of Aggett.

He was detained in October 1981, released in January this year and

redetained on August 6.

His family's lawyers have said an attempt to shoot Dipale was made two days before security police arrested him. Earlier this year an assassination attempt was made on his sister in Botswana.

The last time Dipale's family saw him was on August 6 when security police brought him to their house to conduct a search. Dipale's father has said police had taken the only picture of his son from the family album.

Meanwhile the acting commissioner of police, Lieutenant-General Johan Coetzee has announced that Dipale made 'a confession to a magistrate' hours before his death and was to appear in court to face 'several charges'

under the Internal Security Act the following day.

Dipale's parents and lawyers said they knew nothing of a scheduled court appearance, nor did they know of any charges being brought against him.

In response to Dipale's death, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) has released a statement calling for the scrapping of all security laws and the unconditional release of all detainees.

According to the DPSC Dipale is the 53rd person to have died in detention and the 16th to be found hanged in his cell.

The statement said: 'We have been repeatedly told by the authorities that the health, safety and well being of detainees are the responsibility of

the Security Police and that measures taken are adequate.

'Yet another death in detention, the 53rd by our count, serves to expose the barbarism of the detention laws.'

The closed system of visits by State-appointed doctors and inspectors would never protect detainees against excessive pressures from police interrogators, the statement said.

'Any person held in total isolation from the outside world and at the complete mercy of his captors will have his life at risk.'

'As predicted, the new Internal Security Act, on which the ink has not yet dried, has produced no improvement in the safe-guarding of detainees.'

ANC three sentenced to death in Pretoria trial

THREE ANC men were found guilty of treason and sentenced to death in the Pretoria Supreme Court on August 6th. They were convicted on charges of high treason and alternative charges of murder, terrorism, robbery and possession of arms, explosives and ammunition.

Thelle Simon Mogoerane (23), Jerry Semano Mosololi (25) and Marcus Thabo Motaung (27) appeared before Justice Curlewis in the Pretoria Supreme Court. In judgement, Justice Curlewis and two assessors said they were satisfied the three accused were members of

the ANC whose purpose was to overthrow the government by violent means.

On the last days of the trial the court was packed and the trialists entered the court room singing and with clenched fists raised.

The charges against the three were that they underwent military training in ANC camps and infiltrated South Africa. They hid arms, ammunition and fellow ANC members inside the country.

Mogoerane and Motaung were convicted with being involved in the attacks on the Moroka and Orlando police stations in Soweto. The charges of murder and attempted murder related to policemen injured and killed during these attacks.

Mosololi was charged for his alleged involvement in the attack on the railway line near New Canada Station in May 1981.

Motaung, Mosololi and Mogoerane were charged with taking part in the attack on the Wonderboom police station in December 1981 when policemen were killed and injured and a car was stolen.

The accused were also charged with using an underground base.

The accused had pleaded not guilty to the charges, but had admitted attacks on the three police stations, the Capital Park Substation and the New Canada railway.

An ANC member, who had defected to the security police described the arrest of Motaung and said that he had shot the accused in the hip. Motaung received no hospital treatment for two days after he was shot.

The trial took a dramatic turn when a state witness, who cannot be named, denied a statement that linked Motaung with a Valiant car that was allegedly stolen during the Wonderboom attack. He told the court that he knew nothing about the car and said, 'I was drunk and did not make the statement voluntarily.'

Allegations of torture were made against Captain Visser of the Security Police by Mr Jack Unterhalter, SC in his cross examination of the witness.

Visser had told the court of his arrest of Mogoerane and Mosololi on an island hideout near Hammanskraal. Unterhalter alleged that Visser had put a wet plastic bag over Mosololi's head which nearly suffocated him. One of Visser's colleagues had given the order for a police dog to bite Mosololi.

Unterhalter said Mosololi and Mogoerane had been subjected to electric shocks and alleged a wooden pole was inserted between Mogoerane's legs and arms to suspend him between a chair and table while being interrogated.

The trial is continuing.

Nusas festival focuses on Education

'EDUCATION WEAPON and Tool' was the theme of a Nusas festival held at Wits university last month.

Addressing delegates on the theme, Wits lecturer, David Webster said, 'Democrats and progressives who wish to operate in the sphere of education have a responsibility to challenge the quality of their education.'

'They must do this from a position of strength they have to be well-



David Webster

armed with knowledge and successful organisation on the campus. From this position of strength they've got to forge alliances with those democratic groups who are in a position to bring about progressive change in the broader society.'

The festival consisted of seminars, papers and panel discussions together with much informal debate and discussion. Representatives from Nusas, Azaso and Cosas led a panel discussion on the education struggle.

Papers presented at the festival included one on 'Black Consciousness and the history of the student movement'; 'The role of the intellectual in the struggle for democracy' and 'Post-university involvement'. There was a great degree of participation by most delegates in discussions and seminars and a productive exchange of ideas took place.

'The task facing us now,' said Nusas President Jonty Joffe, 'is to strengthen our base, to further educate ourselves and to tighten discipline and our organisation.'

Witness jailed in first Ciskei Terror trial

A WITNESS in Ciskei's first Terrorism Act trial in Zwelitsha was sentenced to two-and-a-half years imprisonment for refusing to take the oath and give evidence.

He was called to give evidence in the trial of four Mdantsane men, Mabone Duna (31), Dumisani Maninjwa (31), Bayi Keye (52) and Luyanda Mayekiso (23). The witness said he knew nothing and had

been forced to make a statement.

The accused are charged with participating in terrorist activities, being members of the ANC and possessing banned literature.

Another witness has given evidence, although he refused to take the oath because it was against his upbringing and religious beliefs.

He alleged he was assaulted with open hands and clenched fists by



Dr Beyers Naudé victim of right wing action

Banned Beyers' car hit again

THE BOMB that damaged the car of banned cleric Dr Beyers Naudé was planted by an expert, say police.

A small device exploded under the car while it was being serviced by a friend in Bosmont at the end of June.

The friend, Chris Peilman, phoned the police immediately after

finding the car burning but they only arrived two days later to investigate the explosion.

Peilman felt certain that the attack was directed at Dr Naudé, as the attackers ignored a number of other cars that would have been easier to bomb.

This is not the first time that Dr

Naudé has been the victim of a right wing attack. In addition to other forms of victimisation, two petrol bombs were thrown at his car in 1978.

Dr Naudé was banned in October 1977. He was the leader of the Christian Institute which was one of the 22 organisations banned at the same time.



Wilson Rowntree workers protest against black-listing

Sweet campaign on despite intimidation

SAAWU OFFICIALS in East London can't get away from Wilson Rowntree. The new South African Allied Workers' Union offices are directly behind the Wilson Rowntree factory; they can see and smell the sweets being made every day.

However the smell of Peppermint Crisp and Toff o'lux has not tempted the workers at Wilson Rowntree to give up their demand for reinstatement and recognition of their union.

At a recent mass meeting in East London, the workers called on people around the country to continue boycotting Wilson Rowntree products.

Reports showed heartening support of the boycott from overseas unions and other progressive groups.

The meeting's main speaker was Bonsile Norushe, the East London branch secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers' Union, who had just been released from detention.

He called on workers to persevere in the struggle for their rights. 'To win a recognition agreement is not enough', he said. 'This must not be seen as an end in itself as circumstances change and workers need to strive for democracy.'

The meeting condemned the detention of Saawu officials Thozamile Gqweta, Sisa Njikelane and Sam Kikine. 'Our leaders are in jail because of our strength', said Norushe.

A Saawu official said the Ciskei government acts harshly against workers in Mdantsane. 'On the weekends, the Ciskei police engage in door-to-door raids. People with union cards are arrested and so are people who wear political T-shirts', he said pointing to someone wearing a union T-shirt.

Saawu officials reminded the meeting of the 205 people detained last year for singing freedom songs. They appealed to the workers not to sing freedom songs as they entered Mdantsane, which is in the Ciskei. 'The Ciskei government uses us to make money last time we had to pay R9,000 in fines', said one official.

Workers also protested against blacklisting. 'The Ciskei department of Manpower operates as a blacklisting agency', said one speaker. 'Workers involved in strikes may never get jobs again. This was especially true in the Eastern Cape, he said, where unemployment is high. 'The Wilson Rowntree workers won't get other jobs and so they see a victory for themselves as a victory against blacklisting.'

The trial continues.

Continued from page 1

mine manager. Security guards and miners clashed repeatedly that night and by dawn four miners lay dead.

At the outbreak of the strike mine management and police responded immediately with the explanation that it was caused by a few intimidators who were dissatisfied with the pay increases. Gold Fields director, Colin Fenton, even said that one flare-up was 'straight tribal'.

But this does not explain why so many miners were involved over such a wide area and why only certain mining companies notably those with a reputation for paying less than other mines were affected.

Another factor likely to have compounded dissatisfaction with the increase was the difference in pay between black workers of different categories one of the most frequent causes of dissatisfaction in the past. This year the gap between the majority of black workers in the lower categories and the 'team leaders' and more skilled workers in the higher categories increased.

The fact that the miners are all migrant workers, living in cramped compounds with no family life, must also be taken into account. As one mine official, speaking unofficially, put it: 'Of course, the truth is that as long as we have migrant labour, we will probably have unrest.'

ANC appeal to be heard next month

THE APPEAL of three men convicted of treason in August last year, is to take place on September 3 in the Bloemfontein Appeal Court.

Antony Bobby Tsotsobe (25), Johannes Shabangu (26) and David Moise (25) were sentenced to death for their part in sabotage operations.

Tsotsobe was sentenced for participating in the attack on the Booyens police station and on the Dube railway station; Shabangu for his involvement in the attack on a South African policeman's home near Malelani, Barbeton; and Moise for participating in the attack on Sasol II and for returning to South Africa to gather information for a second attack on Sasol.

State still to decide on fate of Saawu men

UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDS the future of Sam Kikine, general secretary of the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU). Major A Conwright, said during the Fine trial on the previous day that Kikine was to be taken to the Eastern Cape and charged with Thozamile Gqweta and Sisa Njikelane.

Kikine's eight-month detention has been marked by a series of legal wrangles.

And the lengthy detentions of his two colleagues, Saawu president Thozamile Gqweta and Saawu vice-president Sisa Njikelane, have also been unusual.

Kikine was detained in Durban on November 27 last year under Section 22 of the General Laws Amendment Act. Two weeks later, he was held in terms of Section Six of the Terrorism Act: which calls for detainees to be held in solitary confinement with no access to the outside world.

In March this year, he was admitted to the psychiatric unit of the St Augustine Hospital in Durban, where he was under police guard.

Sometime after his discharge from hospital, he was transferred to Johannesburg. His lawyers do not know exactly when.

On June 28, he appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court together with Gqweta and Njikelane in connection with charges under the Terrorism Act. Details of their charges were not disclosed.

Gqweta and Njikelane were told they would be transferred to Grahamstown for trial, and Kikine was told he was being transferred to Durban for trial.

The three men left the court — but 30 minutes later, Kikine was returned to court, where he was told the charges against him had been withdrawn.

He was immediately redetained and transferred to Durban in police custody. His lawyers do not know under which law he was detained, but presume it was Section Six of the Terrorism Act.

The next day, June 29, he appeared in the Durban Magistrate's Court, where he was told his case had been remanded until July 13. He appeared in connection with a charge under the Terrorism Act, but no details of charges against him were given.

Kikine was returned to police custody, and police said he was being held in terms of Section 12(a) of the Internal Security Act, the refusal of bail clause.

Meanwhile, his lawyers applied to have the trade union leader released on bail. When he appeared in court on July 13 he was told his bail application had been successful, and that he was being released on R500 bail.

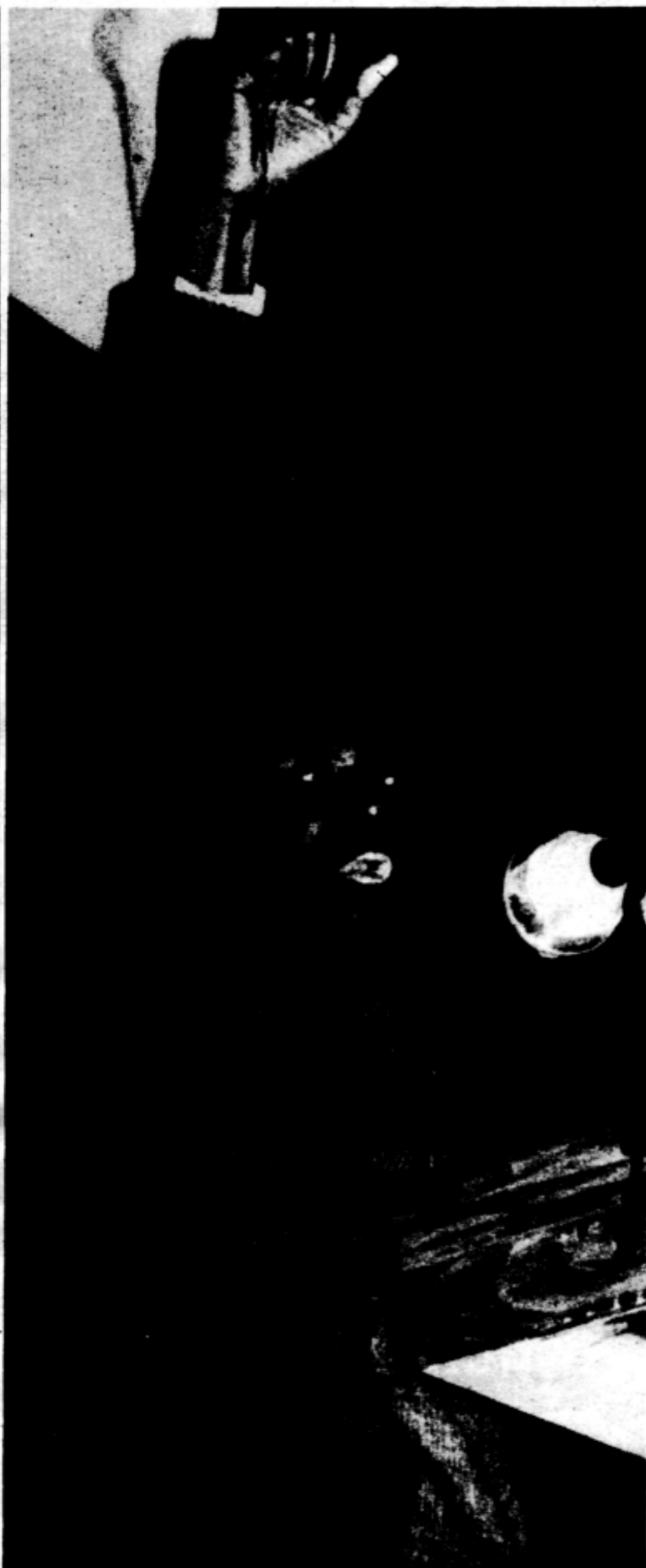
He was told to appear in court again on August 6.

Legal sources said it was unusual for an accused due to face a Terrorism Act charge to be released on bail.

When Gqweta and Njikelane appeared in a Grahamstown court, the magistrate told them he has no jurisdiction over their case, and that they were being transferred to East London.

They are due to appear again in an East London court next month.

Another Saawu office-bearer, Eric Mtonga, has been in detention under security laws since late last year.



Gawu's Samson Ndou ... "Dummy bodies can do nothing about housing, security and comfort"

Mass meeting says down with PW's puppet show

MORE THAN 1 500 people unanimously passed a resolution rejecting the proposals of the President's Council at an anti-South African Indian Council meeting in Lenasia this month.

'The PC has been projected as an instrument of reform which is supposed to bring about meaningful change for the coloured and Indian people,' said Anti-SAIC Committee chairman Dr Essop Jassat.

'It is however nothing more than an attempt to create the impression that the Botha Government is interested in bringing about real change.'

'The vast majority of the country's people have been ignored. Homelands are provided for the African people. The proposals are thus merely a sophisticated form of divide-and-rule tactics.'

Dr Jassat said that the PC was an undemocratic body because the people serving on it were hand-picked.

'Another reason why we reject the PC proposals is because it provides for a State President with dictatorial powers,' he said. 'Political power will be removed from parliament.'

'The executive president will select the Prime Minister and his Cabinet. The president also has the power to sack Cabinet members and dissolve parliament. This is a dictatorship as I see it.'

The PC also recommends that each residential area has its own local councils. 'These councils will have no real power,' said Jassat. 'They will deal only with administration.'

'This means we have to solve the many problems that we are not responsible for in the first place. It also diverts responsibility for housing from the central government.'

He attacked the PC's proposals for retaining the Group Areas Act. 'It does not reject the principles of compulsory segregation,' he said.

'The Group Areas Act is the very cornerstone of the policy of apartheid. Instead the proposals recommend a Group Areas Act Board.'

Jassat said the limitations of the proposals were thus clear: 'It is proposing nothing more than a powerless and ethnic parliament.'

Jassat said the demands of the people were made known long ago by the Freedom Charter drawn up in 1955 in Kliptown at the Congress of the People.

He said the demands were:

- a national convention;
- universal franchise in a single parliament;
- decent housing for all;
- the right to live where we please;
- free, non-racial and relevant education; and
- equitable land distribution.

Jassat said the PC does not even meet the minimum demands of the people.

He said 'grassroots, democratic organisations' such as trade unions and residents' associations have been formed to work towards this.

'The present government will not change,' he said. 'The only alternative is to actively oppose its policies. The road to freedom and justice is not easy.'

Rev Cecil Bebie, the vice-chairman of the Witwatersrand Council of Churches, said the PC was an attempt to fool people. 'But apartheid is evil through and through,' he said.

'Any attempt to bring about change within the framework of the system of apartheid is doomed to fail. It has to be scrapped. We can already see the cracks in apartheid.'

'We will not be divided. All people are created equal and should be granted equal freedom. I cannot see God giving any support to a political system which denies basic rights to all people.'

The president of the General and Allied Workers' Union (Gawu), Samson Ndou, said SAIC members know they can do absolutely nothing about 'housing, security and comfort'.

'Such institutions must be exposed and totally rejected by those who uphold the principles of democracy,' he said. 'Workers will also continue to fight for a democratic South Africa.'

'The wealth of this country must be shared by all who work for it. The union leaders are not agitators. Bad working conditions are themselves agitators.'

Ndou also attacked 'the criminal role of America in Israel and South Africa.'

From what we see of the Reagan government's policy of genocide in Lebanon, we don't want them here in South Africa', he said.

The crowd stood for a minute's silence in sympathy with the Palestinian people.

Helen Joseph, whose banning order expired in June, was welcomed with a standing ovation and presented with a garland. There was an emotional scene when she and Ama Naidoo, mother of the jailed Anti-SAIC member Prema Naidoo, embraced each other.

Helen Joseph is a listed person and may not be quoted. She was the first person to be placed under house arrest in South Africa in 1962. She was first banned in 1957.

Students launch blueprint

PREPARATIONS FOR the drawing up of an education charter have taken a new turn with the election of a Steering Committee to initiate and co-ordinate the campaign.

The Steering Committee, made up of representatives from different centres throughout the country, was elected at the recent Azaso congress to consult with student, community and labour groups to prepare for an education conference at the end of the year. This will involve a wide spectrum of organisations in accordance with Azaso's policies.

'At the education charter conference,' said an Azaso spokesperson 'all these organisations will meet to draw up a plan of action for the campaign'.

At the moment, he said, 'the campaign is in a stage where people are sharpening themselves up theoretically, consulting different groups on how the campaign should be run and also working on the kind of issues which can be taken up on the various campuses as a build-up to the charter'.

The charter campaign, decided on at the end of last year, has been jointly launched by Azaso (the Azanian Students' Organisation and Cosas (the Congress of South

African Students).

Azaso students have already caucused the idea on various campuses and at the congress report-backs confirmed a need for students to formulate a common set of educational demands.

The charter campaign is also important, they said, as a rallying point to mobilise students and to make student structures more mass based.

Said Azaso president Joe Phaahla, 'In the past demands for changes were neither co-ordinated nor consolidated. The only way to develop an alternative in education in South Africa is to involve students in formulating an education charter.'

The process will inevitably be as important as the charter itself — if not of more value'.

'The education charter could act as a barometer against which students could measure current educational reforms to see how far they contribute to meeting their basic demands', said one report.

All delegates stressed that education cannot be seen apart from the rest of society and the demands made in an education charter could only be met in a democratic South Africa.

A resolution to launch a national campaign to identify, consolidate and popularise the demands of the majority and to embody these demands in an education charter was passed.

'The education charter should be seen as an attempt to consolidate the demands and lessons of the '76 and '80's experience', said an Azaso spokesperson.

Expanding on this point, a Cosas representative said, 'In 1976 students were not clear about what type of education they wanted — whether they wanted the education given to whites, that offered to their forefathers or a fundamentally different kind'.

He said students also needed to formulate a document outlining their basic demands because 'the government is embarking on cosmetic changes in the educational field to counter progressive organisations. Students need a yardstick against which to measure, analyse and expose these so-called changes'.

'The education charter is important', he said, 'because it will be democratically formulated and democratically adopted and so will embody the minimum education demands of the people'.

Key to student strength is to organise and consolidate

ORGANISING and consolidating the student movement is the main task facing Azaso in the coming year.

This was the key message of speakers and delegates at the recent Azaso (Azanian Students Organisation) congress in Hammanskraal, Pretoria, who saw the 1982 theme 'Education Towards Democracy' as a vehicle to rally active student support and mass participation.

The congress, attended by over 300 students was seen as an important landmark for Azaso as it was the first time representatives from every black university and black students from all liberal campuses had attended an Azaso congress.

Speakers pinpointed repression and reform as a means to curb student activity and to create an ill-informed and co-opted student mass. Azaso saw this as a major challenge facing students today and one that could only be met by grassroots organisation.

'For such organisation', said one speaker, 'we don't need powerful speakers as much as we need creative organisers'.

In his opening address, Azaso president Joe Phaahla, re-elected for a second term at the congress, said repression and reform are cornerstones of the state's response to democratic organisations.

Reform, he said, was an attempt to divide the people by creating forums for collaborators within the system.

While this strategy could easily be seen in the Presidents Council and local administration bodies, he said, 'whether to be part of the oppressive system or part of the oppressed majority' was also a major challenge facing black students today.

'Because those of us who reach university are a selected few out of the majority, we become the natural targets for the system's methods of privilege and ideological control', he said.

'Money is poured into the universities to make sure we come out believing we are privileged, different from the rest of our community and are thus alienated from them.'

He said students must change all privileges into instruments to strengthen the struggle for democracy.

In his talk on student involvement, former executive member Aaron Motswaledi said because demands on students of the 80's are greater than ever before, students must organise around issues that affect them directly as well as outside issues.

Motswaledi said the student of the 80's is different from the student of the 70's having gained direction from learning and experience.

'Students have realised workers and not themselves are the vanguard of the struggle and so they have taken on a more supportive role'.

'Stronger links have also been forged with the community as students now see that the education struggle cannot be separated from the broader struggle for change in society'.

He said this understanding and the emphasis on mass based organisation and democratic decision making meant students were now concerned with continuous involvement, no longer confining their activities to boycotts.

'The state has also had to find new strategies to cope with the students of the 80's, he said. 'The Verwoerd strategy that blacks be 'kept from the green pastures of the Europeans where they are not allowed to graze' has changed.

'Reform has become a keyword in total strategy today', he said, 'and education is now the main reform tool used to contain student activity. Reform aims to build a strong middle class as a buffer zone and to divide the community'.

He said reform on university campuses goes hand in hand with repression. 'Repression operates through academic structures with the university administration taking over the role of the security police.'

Motswaledi said some of the forms this 'academic terrorism' takes are:

- Admin imposes SRC constitutions unacceptable to students
- Students are secured from outside contact. They have to get permission to sell publications and material and to bring outside speakers onto their campus. This year, Azaso president Joe Phaahla was not allowed to address students at Medunsa because 'it would not benefit the students' and at Fort Hare speakers are only permitted if their 'christian credentials can be identified'.



'We need creative organisers' Aaron Motswaledi

- Exams are scheduled for commemoration days so that it is difficult for students to take part.

These restrictions and intimidatory methods allowed for the creation of an ill-informed and co-opted student body, he said, and this was why students needed to organise around these immediate issues.

Reports from the various campuses covered student struggles over the past year and showed that a major issue facing the students at the black universities of Medunsa, Ngoya, Turfloop and Fort Hare was establishing student structures which were both representative and acceptable to students.

'The lack of SRC's on these campuses seriously effects student organisation', said one speaker.

A Fort Hare representative said during the recent boycott there had been an urgent need for a SRC to make communication between students easier. Instead students had had to rely on an interim committee to fill this gap.

Other speakers at the congress included Paul Davids of the Natal Indian Congress and John Lazar, president of the South African Students Press Union.

A resolution condemned the Swaziland land deal with South Africa and called on both governments to accede to the people's right to live in the land of their birth.

Other motions on education, women, forced removals and graduation ceremonies were passed at the congress.



Helen Joseph addresses meeting after her banning order expired

Another banning ends for Helen

HELEN JOSEPH, South Africa's veteran of resistance politics recently completed a two year banning order.

At 77, the expiry of her latest banning order follows a long line of detention, trials, jailings, house arrest and harassment spanning a quarter of a century.

Helen Joseph has the distinction of being the first person to be placed under house arrest in South Africa. Following her house arrest in October 1962, she was forced to lead a solitary dusk to dawn existence and deprived of visits by friends.

Even when she became critically ill with cancer in 1971, special permission had to be obtained to



Helen is garlanded at Lenasia protest meeting

allow her to go to hospital for an emergency operation.

Helen Joseph was involved in the Congress of Democrats and was

secretary of the Federation of South African Women in the 1950's. She was one of the 156 people arrested and put on trial for treason in 1957. However charges against her were dropped and those charged were acquitted after a marathon trial.

She is also listed which means that she cannot be quoted nor can she write articles or publish.

A friend of hers said: 'Through all these years Helen has retained her firm convictions, spoken out when she could and expressed her belief in the determination of South Africa's people to struggle for a non-racial democratic country where the people will govern.'

Women come together at Wits

HELEN JOSEPH delivered her first public address since her recent unbanning to a crowd of over three hundred at the Nusas Women's Conference.

The four-day conference, the first ever of its kind, focussed on women's oppression and their position and role in society.

The conference consisted of talks by academics, students and unionists; discussion groups; movies;

workshops and videos.

One of the most useful papers was on the role of women in the liberation struggles of China, Cuba, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The paper highlighted some of the gains and changes that have taken place in socialist countries as regards the position of women. It also pointed to a lack of advancement in certain aspects of women's status in these countries.

One of the highlights of the conference was an evening discussion on 'Organising Women in the Trade Unions'. Francis Baard and several other unionists spoke to a packed lecture theatre on the triple oppression of black working-class women. It is difficult to organise women in unions, they said, because of their oppression both at work and by their husbands at home.

A focus on women's organisation in South Africa covered the Defiance and Anti-pass Campaigns, and speakers from the United Women's Organisation in Cape Town and the Women's Federation in the Transvaal discussed their organisations.

Sociologist, Jacky Cock, in a paper on 'Women and Health' commented on the fact that contraception and abortion are withheld by a male-dominated medical profession in capitalist countries. Thus, she said, women have lost the right to control their own bodies.

During an evaluation session of the conference people felt it had been highly productive as a forum to discuss women's issues and bring together people involved in organising women to look at problems and new horizons for South Africa's women.

Azaso launches committee to focus on women

AN INTERIM committee to look into women's oppression and the possibility of forming an Azaso Women's Movement was elected at the recent Azanian Students Organisation Congress in Hammanskraal.

Following much discussion on organising women on campuses, the congress passed a resolution to elect the investigating committee.

A spokesperson for the committee said women face particularly harsh forms of oppression.

'On a broad level they share the oppression of the community and workers, but they are also oppressed by the sexist attitudes of our society'.

'They are brought up to believe they are inferior to men and must be passive and subordinate themselves.'

She said women also have little legal protection, are a large part of the unemployed and have difficulty in forming trade unions.

Because of these problems and the resulting general lack of women participating in organisations, Azaso students felt it necessary to look into drawing campus women

into an organisation.

The interim committee's objectives are two-fold:

- To make women understand how and why they have come into the situation they find themselves in. 'This can be achieved', said the spokesperson, 'if women forge links with progressive women's organisations and so continue the struggle for the democratic rights of women.'

- To help women define issues that they should take up both in their organisations and in other areas of the struggle.

Lone Lillian faces charges

AFTER SPENDING eight months in custody, Lillian Keagile was refused bail by a Johannesburg magistrate.

Lillian Keagile (24) was detained on November 18 last year and held under security legislation before being charged. She is alleged to have belonged to a banned organisation but there are no details of the

charges.

Her defence in requesting bail said it seemed that the police would never complete their investigations. Bail was opposed by the Attorney-General in the interests of State, security and the maintenance of law and order.

Keagile's trial was remanded to August 12.

Workers drive bosses into a corner

THE EASTERN Cape has recently been shaken by a work stoppage at all Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage motor assembly plants.

The dispute lasted thirteen days after about 13,000 workers walked out during Industrial Council negotiations after employers refused to budge from a minimum pay offer of R2.15 an hour.

The union initially demanded a minimum wage of R3.50 an hour, but moderated their demands to R2.50 an hour.

At mass meetings however workers decided to return to work on condition that employers meet their demands later or face more strikes.

Shop stewards warned workers not to give management the opportunity to dismiss them 'on their own volition'. Workers would continue to press for their pay demands, but their strength lay within the factory.

About 3,000 General Motors workers assembled outside the firm's giant premises in Kempston Road and demanded to be let in.

Shop stewards argued with stern-faced security guards to open the gates but they said the plant would not open.

As workers pressed against the gates, hundreds streamed back into Kempston Road blocking traffic. After about two hours they returned home.

Workers also gathered outside Ford's four motor plants and at Volkswagen in Uitenhage.

At Ford's engine plant a shop steward argued heatedly with the plant manager.

'Our union representatives have reported back that the company would not negotiate wages because we are out on strike, meanwhile we are not,' he shouted. 'It is the company that is locking us out.'

The plant manager told workers that no discussion for a return to work had taken place so far and the



Flashback to 1980 Ford strikes. This year thousands of motor workers have gone on strike to demand higher wages

plant remained closed for the day.

After talks with shop stewards later in the week, Volkswagen began partial production on Friday July 23 and production at General Motors resumed after the weekend.

Ford announced plans to re-open their Cortina and engine plants where the majority of the 1,800 workers are members of a rival union the Motor Assembly and Component Workers' Union of South Africa (Macwusa) which has not backed the pay strike.

However a deadlock on the return to work procedure between Ford and Naawu delayed the re-opening of two of the four plants.

The union charges that its members have been locked out of the plants since they downed tools nearly a fortnight previously. Management says they have been on strike throughout the period.

The issue reached a climax when the union gave Ford a written warning from lawyers that it would seek a court order to have its gates re-opened.

The affected Ford workers initially refused to accept an arrangement that only a limited number of workers in a vital department should return a day before the others. The dispute ended after workers accepted Ford's offer to re-open another department accommodating 500 workers.

Labour observers believe that by demanding an assurance from the union that its members will go back to work, rather than with shop stewards on the factory floor, the union will be held responsible if members decide to go on strike again for their demands.

They have also warned that the major motor manufacturers are attempting to obstruct and hinder the growth of Naawu. They say workers in non-unionised firms or firms with weak union membership

have been given large pay increases while demands in unionised firms have been rejected by management.

Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen are refusing to budge from a 7.5 per cent increase in basic pay, from R2 an hour to R2.15 an hour. The union is demanding R2.50 an hour rising 25 cents every six months.

At Sigma, where Naawu has more than half the workers signed up and elected shop stewards in the plant, the firm granted an 18 per cent increase. But at two other Pretoria

motor firms, Datsun Nissan and BMW, where union membership is low and the unions are struggling to build up membership, employees have awarded high pay increases.

At BMW, where the union is not recognised and wages are discussed on an 'Employee Council' minimum pay has increased from R1.00 to R2.30 an hour this year. This makes BMW the highest paying motor worker employer in the country.

Naawu's umbrella body, the Federation of South Africa Trade

Unions, have charged that employers are co-ordinating on a national basis in an effort to check and even break the union.

Workers at Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen are still battling with the motor bosses and worker unrest has spread to other industries in the Port Elizabeth area.

There is a go-slow at Volkswagen and all three plants have rejected outright new wage offers. 900 workers who stopped work at Busaf bus body manufacturers were locked out on August 5.

Mark Kaplan sent packing

EX-DETAINEE. Mark Kaplan was given an hour to pack before being deported to Zimbabwe.

Police arrived at his home on August 5 and told him to leave or go to jail until he agreed to leave. No reason was given for his deportation.



Detained, now deported

Kaplan worked for the Community Video Resource Association in Cape Town. He was detained at the end of 1981 for 51 days.

A group of family and friends including about 20 UCT students gathered at the airport to see Mark off.

At a UCT SRC meeting, a motion was passed expressing solidarity with Kaplan. It said that Mark wanted to expose the unjust nature of our society and he chose to do so through his work in the media. The SRC motion saw his deportation as an attempt by the state to 'ship away people it sees as a threat.'

The UCT Principal also registered a vigorous protest against Kaplan's deportation.

Fort Hare rector expels 1 500 'terrorist' students

FORT HARE students and their parents have demanded that the university re-admit all expelled students unconditionally.

With the official expulsion figure at 1,500, the Soweto parent-student group has decided to seek a court interdict to reinstate the students and in Port Elizabeth parents have demanded the rector withdraws expulsion orders unconditionally and 'either readmits the students or resigns'.

The student protest at Fort Hare has left only a small number of students on campus.

One student harbouring in a neighbouring town after being expelled said reports from the campus showed less than 100 students at the most, and probably fewer, were still at Fort Hare. A lecturer described the number attending lectures as 'only a handful'.

The latest trouble at Fort Hare began when students refused to write tests because they were unable to study due to continual power failures in the hostels.

Since students returned to university in mid-July, there had been blackouts in most of the men's residences during the evenings.

On July 18 students held a mass meeting to discuss a draft constitution for an SRC. An interim committee was elected and mandated to go to admin to inform them of student dissatisfaction about the lighting situation.

At the end of July nothing had yet been done to correct the situation and students stormed 'Freedom Square', a courtyard with extensive lighting.

'How come is this electricity so available here when in our residences we are meant to study in the dark', said one student.

The rector reacted to the stoning by disbanding the interim SRC and suspending all discussions on the formation of an SRC.

A mass boycott of lectures by students followed and when an admin ultimatum to return to class or leave campus was not met, students were forced to leave by Ciskei police.

According to one student 'The rector refused to speak to students and called the police in immediately.'

The men were the first to be moved from the campus and then women were evicted. Some of them have returned home but many are staying in towns surrounding Alice.

In response to the rector's press statement blaming the events on a small group of activists, a student said: 'This is not true. Nothing was

being done about our grievances and students became very angry'.

Meanwhile protest by lecturers at the campus on the university authorities' handling of the issue is also mounting following the suspension of lecturer Jonathan Jackson.

Jackson had been held by Ciskei police after offering students a place to stay for the night after their dismissal. On his release, he had criticised the university for neglecting its responsibilities and leaving students stranded and hungry thousands of miles from their homes.

He was suspended by the rector Prof Lambrecht for violating the terms of his university contract by making a press statement.

On hearing of his suspension the Black Staff Association (BSA) released a statement supporting the views of Jackson and expressing anger if Jackson be suspended 'for speaking the truth'.

The day after releasing the statement, it was withdrawn because the university authorities ordered the BSA to retract it or face admin action. The rector said staff members who criticise the university would 'be brought to book' for 'working hand in glove with activist groups of terrorist students.'

At Turfloop students held a mass meeting in solidarity with Fort Hare students. A statement said, 'We note with disgust the high-handed and contemptuous action of the Fort Hare authorities in collusion with the Sebe regime in unjustly disrupting the studies of our brothers and sisters'.

Spy testifies against Fine

IT WAS not necessarily unlawful to send information to the exiled South African Congress of Trade Unions, Major Craig Williamson of the Security Police told the Johannesburg Regional Court.

He was giving evidence in the trial of Alan Fine, 28, who is being charged under the Terrorism Act.

Fine is alleged to have sent information of trade unions to Sactu.

Williamson said Sactu was a genuine trade union federation 'but unfortunately had revolutionary aims.'

Major Arthur Conwright, head of John Vorster Square's investigation unit also gave evidence. The trial continues.

Union presses on after Mavi's death

THE BLACK Municipal Workers Union changed its name to the Municipal and General Workers Union of South Africa at its recent annual congress.

The congress was held shortly after the tragic death of the union's president, Joe Mavi. Gatsby Mazwi, former secretary was elected new president.

Mazwi, explained the reasons for the change of name and also for the change of constitution.

He said over 2,000 workers were dismissed during the 1980 Johannesburg Municipal Workers strike and they had to look for work in other industries.

'When they came back to Johannesburg they still wanted to be

members of our union, and wanted the union to represent them in their new jobs,' he said.

'We found workers needed organisation. We believe intruding into other union's areas is not in the interests of workers. If workers are being organised by another union we will not intervene as long as they are organising in the workers' interests.'

Magwusa is not happy in its role as a general union, however. They prefer to minimise the confusion that comes with too many undemarcated unions, which they see as weakening the union movement as a whole.

'People will be scattered and the

unions will not have a solid base. General unions must be phased out. When the ideal of demarcation is practicable, we will dissolve as a general union,' Mazwi promised.

Further policy decisions at the AGM were to involve the union in community issues and 'to build closer relationships with progressive organisations'. They were actively involved in bringing a halt to the South African Breweries soccer tour.

A short term objective outlined at the annual meeting was to push for recognition from the Johannesburg City Council. At this stage the Council will not recognise Magwusa as it is not registered, a step which the union resolved not to take.



Gatsby Mazwi, the new president

Bosses try to intimidate workers with a new Bill from Rabie

THE RECENT industrial unrest in the Northern Natal has revealed the speed with which the state uses new weapons to deal with independent trade unions.

In this case the new Intimidation Act, a result of the Rabie Commission proposal, has been used for the first time to arrest and charge 15 workers from the Richards Bay Coal Terminal with intimidation.

They have been released on bail and will appear in the Umtumzini magistrate's court on August 18.

The arrests followed a wave of strikes in the area. The main ones were at the aluminium plant at Alusaf where 1,700 workers downed tools and at the Richard's Bay Coal Terminal where 500 workers were involved.

Both strikes focussed on the issue of pensions. They came shortly after a speech by Owen Horwood in which he indicated that parts of the controversial Preservation of Pensions Bill, which was dropped last year after massive worker opposition, would be reintroduced.

After the speech the Registrar of Financial Institutions, Naas van Staden, announced that the government was not planning to 'freeze' pension monies.

The strikes involved Fosatu-affiliated unions. At Alusaf the members of the Metal and Allied Workers' Union demanded that their pension contributions be removed from the Seifsa fund and be placed in the company fund.

At the same time, 700 workers at Grinaker Constructions and 300 workers at David H also downed tools and 550 workers at Triomf Chemicals in Richards's Bay boycotted their canteen over management's refusal to negotiate wages with the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union.

The Intimidation Act, which took effect on June 2, is very short but its definition are vague enough to cover a wide range of activities.

It covers any attempt to coerce or persuade a person to do or not do something, or to adopt or abandon a particular standpoint by assault or causing damage to that person or threatening to kill, assault or cause damage to that person. It will depend on the defence to prove that the accused can show he or she had a legal reason to do what he or she did.

The definition's widest part is the threat to cause damage. If such a threat is made with the intention of, for instance, persuading a worker not to 'scab' during a strike, it will amount to intimidation. It is also possible that a wide range of activities connected with consumer boycotts might also amount to intimidation. Clearly a boycott will cause damage to the employer concerned.

Much will depend on how the courts decide to interpret this Act. It is possible they will restrict its application. The maximum penalty for intimidation is extremely severe - 10 years imprisonment and or a fine of R20,000.

SATS trying to derail union on recognition

THE GENERAL workers union (GWU) is involved in a recognition dispute with the country's largest employer, the South African Transport Services (SATS) at the East London and Port Elizabeth docks.

This is the first time an unregistered union has attempted to deal with a state-owned employer and the dispute has significant implications.

SATS has so far adamantly refused to even talk about the issue with the union, despite pressure from workers, the International Transport Federation (ITF) and even some employers who are scared of international implications of a potential strike at the docks.

SATS' management says black workers on the railways must be represented by the 'sweetheart' Black Staff Association (BSA) which though it was only started little more than a year ago claims to have more than 50,000 members.

Workers at PE and East London

GWU demarcates in interest of unity

AT ITS annual conference in Cape Town in June the General Workers Union (GWU) decided not to operate in certain industries.

The main reason for this was to foster unity in the trade union movement and not move towards becoming an industrial union. A GWU statement at the end of the conference said 'demarcation disputes between trade unions are the single greatest cause of division in the trade union movement. The large number of general unions greatly adds to the potential for conflict.'

The GWU constitution was amended to exclude workers in the food and canning, textile and motor assembly industries and the commercial distributive trades. The GWU offered to help other unions in these industries where it could.

In another significant development it was agreed to contact the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU) to discuss demarcation issues and general co-operation in the engineering industry where the GWU has made substantial progress.

A request was made to other general unions to follow the GWU example and give serious consideration to the question of demarcation.

The conference endorsed the moves towards trade union unity, calling for unity of all democratic trade unions and the establishment of mutually acceptable criteria to verify and monitor the attainment of basic democratic practices in each

have been questioned and intimidated by railway police because they are GWU members and the chairman of the PE workers committee, Jeremy Toluana, was fired in January at 24 hours notice.

But this has not deterred the SATS dock workers at the ports who have remained members of the union, demanding recognition and refusing to be provoked into striking which would give SATS an excuse to fire them or break their organisation.

The SATS workers are receiving strong support from the stevedores who work alongside them at both ports. It was in fact the stevedores who first organised the railway workers, after they had won recognition for their committees at both ports.

The dispute has important implications. If railways management recognise the GWU then it opens the way for genuine unionisation of the country's largest workforce.

The power of an organised railworkers union would be immense, considering the importance of the country's transport system to the economy. SATS management must be well aware of this, but they must also be aware that the credibility of the South African Government's attempts to sell its labour reforms to the world would be seriously undermined if SATS refuses to even speak to the GWU.

Secondly, if the railway workers at the PE and East London docks strike, there is little doubt that they will be supported by the stevedores in PE, East London, Cape Town and Durban, effectively blocking cargo loading in all four ports. German and Dutch dockworkers have already pledged support in the event of a strike and there is a strong possibility that dockworkers from some of South Africa's major trading partners will refuse to handle South African goods.

In the meantime SATS management is playing for time but the patience of the workers cannot last forever. They are demanding that the union of their choice be recognised and will use every means possible at their disposal to achieve that end.

One of the most unsavoury aspects of the whole dispute is the reactionary manner in which the white railway unions have insisted that railways management ignore the GWU. This is significant because white workers have always received a good deal from the railways in terms of housing, pensions and so on, while black railworkers are the lowest paid, worst housed and least secure workers in the country.



Joe Mavi, former President of BMWU, was buried last month

Tributes paid to a 'Man of the people'

JOSEPH MAVI, the man who led 10,000 Johannesburg municipal workers in a strike for higher pay, was buried on June 26, the 27th anniversary of the Freedom Charter's signing.

About 2,000 people from all over the country gathered for the funeral service at Soweto's Regina Mundi church. The service was delayed as mourners waited for a court decision on whether they could continue with the burial.

Police kept a close watch at Regina Mundi and heavily armed police, members of the SAP and the West Rand Administration Board were stationed at entrances to Soweto apparently to stop whites from going to the funeral. Even the few who did get into Soweto were prevented from attending the service

as police had thrown a tight net around the church.

During the service a unionist said: 'Joe Mavi was not an ordinary man - he was a man of the people'. Mavi had been a highly devoted trade unionist and had aspired to progressive unionism, he said.

The workers sang 'Mavi was a hero' and other freedom songs during the service and a green, gold and black flag was raised.

Most of the mourners walked to the Avalon cemetery, and as Mavi's coffin was lowered they sang 'Hamba Kahle mkhonto we sizwe' ('Go well spear of the nation'). Police in the procession kept a low profile.

At Mavi's house in Moletsane there was a mixed mood as family members welcomed the birth of his son, born a day before his burial.

Workers strike out against divisions

IN A display of solidarity 160 'Coloureds' and African workers at Motorvia in Uitenhage went on strike last month because Coloured women were receiving higher wages than their highest paid African male colleagues.

Workers found the 'Coloured' women workers were being paid

R60 a week whereas men in the highest category, most of whom were African, received only R53.

In response to what the workers saw as a management strategy to create division among them and underpay the African employees, the entire workforce went on a three-day strike.

Motorvia provides drivers for the transport of cars and trucks to other centres.

The company's manpower resources director, JPS Gouws, flew down from Johannesburg for talks with representatives of the Transport and Allied Workers Union, a Fosatu affiliate, after which workers returned to work.

Cosas leader detained . . . poisoned . . . now missing

CONCERN IS mounting for the well-being of a former Port Elizabeth detainee and student leader who is suing the Minister of Police for R150,000 for allegedly being poisoned while in security police detention.

Twenty-one year old Siphiwo Mthimkulu, an active member of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS) and SRC president of Loyiso High School, was last seen by his family on the morning of April 14.

Since then they have heard nothing of him.

Previously he had never gone away without informing his parents of where he was going or when he would be back. Now three months

on, inquiries by a range of concerned people have all drawn blanks.

Most recently a visit by his mother to Lesotho, to where the South African and Transkeian authorities say they believe he has fled, proved fruitless. Joyce Mthimkulu found no trace of her son — none of his friends living there had heard from him or seen him.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees and various churches in Lesotho are now circulating photographs of him. So far without success.

Against a background of what Mthimkulu stood to lose by leaving South Africa, his family and friends find his disappearance inexplicable. As well as suing the Minister of Police for alleged poisoning while in detention, a second court action against the Minister for alleged torture while in detention is pending.

Neither of these can go ahead while Mthimkulu cannot be found.

At the time of his disappearance, five months after his release from detention, he had not recovered from the effects of thalium poisoning sufficiently to be able to walk without the aid of a stick. He was still undergoing regular treatment at the Livingstone Hospital in Port Elizabeth and was due for further tests, at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town on May 3.

Friends and family believe he would not have given up this treatment. He was determined to recover completely and was keen to return to his studies — his schooling was broken by his five months in detention and on his release he became too ill to study.

Besides having a lot to lose, there was nothing, according to his family, to make him leave. He had no reason to anticipate re-detention. Since his release in October last year he had not been harassed by police at all.

On the day of his disappearance, a friend, Topsy Madaka, drove him to the Livingstone Hospital where he had an appointment to see his physician.

He arrived at the hospital at about 11am and was asked to fetch his file from the outpatient section. When he did not return, it was assumed he had become impatient and had left since he did not have any serious complaints that day.

During the afternoon four phone calls were made to Molly Blackburn, PFP MPC for Walmer, who knew Mthimkulu well — two were made to her office and two to her home.



Siphiwo uses his exercise bicycle to regain strength after poisoning

She was at a meeting and did not get the message until much later that Mthimkulu had phoned to ask her for a lift from the hospital.

That was the last anyone heard of him.

A few days later Madaka's car, with his passport inside, was found abandoned at Sterkspruit in Transkei, near the Telle Bridge border with Lesotho.

This sparked speculation that the men may have fled into Lesotho or may be somewhere in the Transkei. However, Madaka's father, who is a teacher in Umtata, has heard nothing of them and no trace of them has yet been found in Lesotho. PFP MP for Walmer, Andrew

Savage, was given an assurance by the Minister of Police, Louis Le Grange, that Mthimkulu was not being held by the South African authorities. And Le Grange apparently told another PFP MP that his own investigations had revealed that Mthimkulu was not being held in Transkei but was believed to have fled to Lesotho.

Joyce Mthimkulu is desperately worried about what could have happened to her son: 'The devil puts pictures into my mind at night — sometimes I see him cold and unhappy sitting in detention somewhere, sometimes I see him happy with his friends somewhere. But sometimes I see him dead.'

Heavy sentences for refusing to testify

THREE MEN are facing charges of treason for their alleged participation in an explosion at a Field Street post box, the Cenotaph explosion, the bombing of two motor car showrooms, two government offices, the SADF recruiting centre and a railway line to Umlazi in Durban during 1981.

Patrick Ntobeko Maqubela (32), Mboniswa Richard Maqhutiyana (29) and Seth Gaba are charged alternatively with terrorism, sabotage, possession of arms and ammunition, attempted murder and malicious damage to property. Each accused is alleged:

- To be a member or active supporter of the ANC;
- To have recruited people for military training and acts of sabotage;
- To have established arms caches;
- To have trained people inside South Africa to commit acts of sabotage;
- To have been in possession of hand grenades, limpet mines, a machine rifle, plastic explosives, TNT and detonators.

The charge sheet alleges that Maqubela, based in Durban, acted as a link for the ANC in Swaziland.

The trial has been characterised by the refusal of people to testify. Before the end of the first week four people had been jailed, the fourth for five years. He was Mpila Ichabod Thaho was has been in custody since November 25.

On August 3 Litha Jolobe, a 25-year old student was jailed for four years for refusing to take the oath or testify. The next day, Durban attorney, Bulclane Ngcuka, 28, and an articulated clerk in a law firm, Mbulelo Hongo, 26, were each sentenced to three years for the same offence.

Kimberley schoolboys held illegally say lawyers

LAWYERS ACTING for 15 Kimberley schoolboy detainees believe the boys are being held illegally in one of the country's longest Terrorism Act trials.

Twenty-four Galeshewe, Kimberley, boys have been in detention for 18 months.

Early last month, lawyers brought an unsuccessful application before the Supreme Court to have the schoolchildren released.

Anxious parents said they did not know what had happened to their children after the mass detentions on January 5, January 22 and February 5 last year.

The detentions followed unrest in Galeshewe during the 1981 2 boycott of black schools.

Five of the boys appeared in court on March 30, 1981 in connection with charges under the Terrorism Act.

On the same day, 19 children were transferred to Section 12 I(b) of the Internal Security Act, the State Witness clause.

Parents said they would still be in the dark about their children if one of the parents had not happened to be on the spot when the five appeared in court.

Those charged were Sello Motlabakwe, 21, Johannes Kerrs, 20, Eugene Mokgosi, 21, Neleo Hlatshwayo, 20, and Mlulami Fani, 22.

They have all pleaded not guilty to terrorism, arson, attempted arson, and housebreaking.

The trial started on June 2 last year and is still continuing. It is believed the costs exceed a staggering R160,000.

On May 6 this year, almost a year after the trial began, the State closed its case. Four of the group of 19 detainees gave evidence for the State.

Lawyers said that on the same day, the prosecution made 15 detainees available to give evidence on behalf of the accused 'should the legal representatives of the accused decide to call any or all of them'.

The lawyers took statements for all 15 detainees and decided to call all of them to give evidence.

In their application to the Northern Cape Division of the Supreme Court, the lawyers said: 'It is therefore submitted that the reason for the detention of the persons concerned has fallen away and the authority granted in terms of the Statute no longer exists'.

The Supreme Court ruled that it had no jurisdiction to order the detainees' release.

The 15 detainees are Arthur Malisto Thuntsi, Andrew Connie Molusi, Thomas Plaatjies Myaniso, Conrad Diseko Moeti, Hope Chiwa, Lucky Mokubung, Donald Seekoel, Philip Vika, Bonnie Andries Thekisho, Moses Dodo Senye, Luthando Walker Charlie, Paulus Moeketsi Tati, April Masitwe, Patrick van Wyk, and Benjamin Lesego Swartz.

Perjury charge in long Mpetha trial

A STATE witness in the marathon trial of trade unionist Oscar Mpetha and 17 others was sentenced to 15 months imprisonment in the Parow Magistrates Court for perjury.

The court found that sworn statements made by Shadrack Ponomo Neapayi (21) made on September, 1980, differed from his evidence under oath in the Cape Town Supreme Court on October 27 and November 3 last year.

SASPU **NATIONAL**

Two many deaths at John Vorster Square

ERNEST DIPALE, 21, is the third person to have died in detention this year. He allegedly hanged himself at John Vorster Square on the morning of August 8.

His death has come while the inquest into trade unionist Neil Aggett's death in detention is continuing and follows the inquest into the death of detainee Isaac Mofhe.

In the Mofhe inquest the magistrate ruled that Mofhe had died because of unlawful assault by the security police.

We need to relate these deaths to the large number of detentions which have occurred this year.

How should we respond to deaths in detention, torture allegations, heavy sentences imposed by the courts and the unexplained events such as the death of Griffiths Mxenge and the disappearance of Siphiwo Mthimkulu?

We can't afford to become numbed to state repression or to the growing threat of right wing violence. We need to expose each and every action which aims to undermine the struggle for democracy.

This is especially necessary at a time when the state is trying hard to win over people with talk of reform and proposals for a new dispensation.

This dummy's for real

The latest reforms are not just 'window dressing' The Presidents Council proposals need to be taken seriously. The state is attempting to offer a few concessions to so-called Coloureds and Indians in order to preserve apartheid's power basis.

The Presidents Council is not rejected by progressives because it excludes Africans but because it is fundamentally undemocratic.

It was drawn up by a minority and handed down to the majority of people.

The proposals do not meet the people's minimum demands for a non-racial democracy, freedom from oppression and exploitation.

Along with these demands has gone the call for a national convention involving the legitimate leaders and organisations of all South Africa's people. This is what is needed now — not a Presidents Council.

The commercial press and others have emphasised the power of the proposed Executive State President. But also of concern are the proposals which affect local government. If these come into effect, local authorities will be given more administrative say over housing, rent, transport, community facilities and education — the list goes on.

People will thus be forced to direct grievances at these bodies and their attention will be drawn away from the real causes of their problems.

The proposals will be used to disorganise, confuse and divide people.

But progressives have not been hood-winked. They continue to protest against such moves and commit themselves to fight for fundamental change.

Women up front

NATIONAL WOMEN'S Day commemorates one of the greatest demonstrations this country has ever seen.

In 1956, the government was shocked by the massive march of women who made it clear to all that they would no longer remain silent.

August 9 is a special day because it emphasizes the significance and strength of women in the struggle for democracy.

But commemoration is not enough. All over the country women see the need to organise — both in women's and other progressive organisations — to fight all forms of oppression.

The tradition of the 50's has continued and women have shown their organisations are integral to the democratic struggle.

National unbanned

THIS IS the first edition of *Saspu National* since its recent unbanning.

The newspaper was banned for all future editions at the end of March under the Publications Act.

The South African Students' Press Union appealed against the all future editions ban and distribution ban on the first edition of this year, Volume 3 No 1.

At the appeal hearing on July 9, the Publications Control Board lifted the ban on Vol 3 No 1 and *Saspu National* itself was unbanned.

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What's behind the great South African homeland giveaway?



The men at the middle of the 'altered states' controversy: P W Botha, Gatsha Buthelezi and King Sobhuza

Mum's the word on KaNgwane and Ingwavuma

WHOEVER KNOWS the 'real' reason why the South African Government is keen to give away hundreds of thousands of hectares of South African land to Swaziland is certainly not talking.

Ever since Gatsha Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, lifted the lid on discussions he had with top Government cabinet ministers and officials, there have been plenty of theories and speculations on the deal.

The South African Government has yet, in the words of Prime Minister Pieter Botha 'to put it's case'.

Reasons such as Minister of Co-operation and Development Piet Koornhof's one that they would like to re-unite the Swazis so that King Sobhuza can die a happy man, cannot be the main motivating factor behind the deal.

But while the South African Government sits tight waiting for the Appeal Court's decision on whether the State President exceeded the powers given him by issuing a proclamation handing the control of Ingwavuma from the KwaZulu Government to the Department of Co-operation and Development, the KwaZulu and Swaziland governments have taken up the issue.

Partially due to the fact that the South African Government is keeping quiet, the controversial deal is fast becoming an issue of ethnicity and conflict between the Swazis and the Zulus leaving out the main protagonist in the whole drama.

The Swaziland Government has launched a world-wide public relations campaign to win support for its controversial dealings with the South African Government. Their claim to KaNgwane rests on the fact that most of the close to one million inhabitants are Swazi speaking people.

The case for Ingwavuma is more complex, and the Swaziland Government claims to have over 20,000 refugees from the area. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has stated that there are 5,000 registered refugees in Swaziland.

There are 5,000 inhabitants in the Ndzevane refugee settlement across the border from KwaZulu. It was established in 1980 by the United Nations (UN) after a feud amongst factions of the Mngomezulu tribe which lives in the Ingwavuma area.

The trouble started in 1974 when Chief Ntunja, installed as a chief by the South African Government, was stripped of his chieftainship, again by the South African Government. One of the reasons given at the time was that Chief Ntunja had Swazi personal documents.

Fighting broke out and Chief



The land deal will give Swaziland access to the sea.

Ntunja along with his followers crossed the border into Swaziland and were recognised by the UN as refugees from apartheid. Since then there have been numerous raids across the border. In 1976 the area was handed over to the KwaZulu Government.

The Swaziland Government is claiming that the refugees had to leave Ingwavuma as they were being terrorised by Inkatha and many had to deny their Swazi heritage and become Zulus. These claims are getting wide publicity including interviews with refugees on South African Television.

For the KwaZulu Government the two important issues are land and citizenship. The KwaZulu Government has organised protest meetings in the area and other parts of Natal. Petitions have been launched to gain more support for their opposition. They have also tried to win support internationally but the Buthelezi Government's position is severely compromised by their participation in the bantustan system of government in South Africa.

Many commentators have said that if the South African Government is able to push the deal through, Buthelezi's argument for participating in government-created institutions as a means to promote change will be severely compromised. Many have also hastened to add that if Buthelezi had accepted independence for KwaZulu the issue would never have arisen. But the land deal must run deeper than the South African Government trying to teach Buthelezi the lesson of what happens to those who do not take

independence when asked to.

Out of the three BSI countries, Swaziland has always enjoyed the closest relationship with the South African Government, and many people have seen the land deal as an attempt to bring Swaziland even closer into the much spoken about 'constellation of Southern African States'.

The South African Government's motives have been seen largely as an attempt to get Swaziland to participate in the constellation and crack-down on ANC guerillas in the country.

Both claims have been refuted by the Swaziland Government who maintain the land deal comes with no strings attached.

One theory is that the South African Government offered KaNgwane but the Swaziland Government said it wanted Ingwavuma as well.

For the Swaziland Government, the deal would mean a significant gain of land to the tiny kingdom. But there is also an even more significant gain in population. If the deal should go through the new inhabitants will outnumber Swazis two to one. The other aspect is that gaining the Ingwavuma area will give Swaziland access to the sea and with outside help, a harbour could be built.

The 'harbour theory' on the deal goes further to involve the United States Government. There have been widespread rumours that the USA would aid the development of Kosi Bay into a harbour. The comeback for the USA would be that it would have a naval base in the South Indian Ocean.

US officials in South Africa have said that they know nothing about the plans and that they 'are absolute nonsense'.

Since the outset the position of the African National Congress has been drawn in. But the reporting on it has been confused. Initially Secretary General Alfred Nzo came out in opposition to the deal saying the ANC viewed it in the same light as Lesotho's claims to the Orange Free State. Then two weeks later it was announced that the ANC would not oppose the deal but negotiate separately with the Swaziland Government. Three days later a statement was released from Lusaka stating that the ANC never supported the move and would continue to oppose it.

Meanwhile, thousands of pamphlets condemning the land deal have been distributed in the Ingwavuma area under the name of the ANC.

Underground workers have no say on surface

LOW PAY increases were the immediate cause of the strike by at least 70,000 miners in the first week of July.

The strikers were the biggest labour action to hit the mining industry since 1946, and with at least ten miners dead by the end of the week of striking, the most costly in human lives since the Carltonville shootings of 1973.

In most previous mine unrest management and the police have pointed to tribal animosity and agitators at the source of the trouble.

The latest unrest was no exception although these comments took a few days to emerge. The reason for this was that the July unrest strikes were clearly not tribal but were a response to low pay increases.

The General Mining Corporation (Gencor) and Gold Fields of South Africa (GfSA) were the hardest hit because their increases were the lowest.

For some years, the Chamber of Mines (CoM) has announced wage increases for black workers at the beginning of July.

The workers have come to expect increases on that date, and the preceding weeks are filled with anticipation and speculation.

On the wage issue their demands are twofold.

Firstly, black workers want increases to compensate them for inflation to keep their wages at the same *real* level.

Secondly, they want an increase to a new level of earnings — their present wages are still a pittance.

The increase announced at the beginning of July was disappointing in both respects. By awarding an increase of about 12 per cent, the Chamber was effectively telling black mineworkers to accept a drop in their real incomes.

The increases brought the minimum rate for underground workers to R129 per month and for surface workers to R100 per month.

Establishing the exact details of what has been happening in the mining industry is difficult. Mine management are notoriously defensive about labour conditions and will often give out half-truths or downright lies to the media.

Since media access to striking mineworkers is almost impossible, the Press tend to end up reproducing management and police versions of the events.

The few published interviews with mineworkers have revealed a totally different perception of their problems and grievances compared to the view expressed by management.

Industrial relations on the mines mirror these management attitudes. They are (with small variations between mining houses) paternalistic, racist, tribalist and repressive. The recent comments of the PRO of GfSA, Mr Moller, although later retracted, only serve to highlight this. He described rioting miners as 'savages dancing around a fire'.

There are two basic factors explaining why the CoM increases were so low.

Firstly, the economic conditions in the mining industry have been poor.

Gold has been particularly hard hit with the dramatic slump in the gold price. The falling uranium price has also meant that this by-product is no longer always profitable.

The point is being reached where it will be most profitable to close some of the more marginal gold mines, management argues.

However, the gold mines are still making large profits for their owners, even if the super-profits of recent years are no longer being matched.

The seven gold mines of the GfSA group are an example.

In the year ended June 30th 1982, the total profit from these mines (after tax and the state's share of profit) amounted to more than R602 million. From the workers' point of view, profits are still more than



Miners have many grievances — but they are not allowed to organise

South Africa's black mineworkers have no powerful union to articulate their demands. Pay is low, working conditions are bad and accommodation is cramped and uncomfortable. When looking at last month's massive strikes and unrest on the mines, all these factors have to be taken into account.

sufficient to allow for dramatic wage increases.

During the boom period workers received only the most minimal benefits out of the super-profits then being made.

Now, they are expected to pay for the less favourable economic conditions by accepting cuts in their real wages.

The second reason for the low CoM increases relates to the conflicts it has been having with the white employees who come together in the Council of Mining Unions (CMU). During wage negotiations which began earlier this year the mining unions unsurprisingly rejected a derisory offer by the Chamber. (It is believed that some Chamber members wanted to offer no increase at all).

Further attempts at negotiating failed and talks were deadlocked when the Chamber refused to go above 9 per cent 'the maximum the mines could afford'. While the CMU was demanding 15 per cent.

The unions began preparing to call a legal strike. The CMU, and particularly Arrie Paulus' Mine Workers' Union (MWU), had not wanted to settle until they had seen the extent of black wage increases.

The waiting tactics of the CMU paid off. An eleventh hour pre-strike settlement on July 6, saw the unions and the Chamber agreeing to a compromise increase of 12 per cent.

In addition to this racism lies a

deep-seated management fear of workers, as a confidential internal memorandum of the GfSA group shows.

After much hesitation, the memorandum reveals, the group decided to introduce ethnically based liaison committees in late 1975. But even these useless bodies were an adventurous step for them.

Although 'in the final event' they were to be 'the main means of management contact with employees', they were not intended to supersede the excellent relationship that our Compound Managers have with employees'.

'We have had few problems in our communications with our employees', concludes General Manager P W J van Rensburg, 'and we do not wish to upset this state of affairs by introducing 'advanced methods' to which they are not yet attuned, provided we keep abreast of events'.

In 'keeping abreast of events' since then, new ways of channelling grievances have been introduced on most mines.

These have often accompanied high-powered Industrial Relations advisers. And yet, almost without exception, these bodies have not voiced major worker grievances nor have they given management forewarning of impending unrest.

For all the 'sophisticated' developments, the strategy remains the same — to keep workers powerless

and divided, to keep labour cheap, and to use extreme force when the workers get out of hand. To a greater or lesser extent, this holds for all mining groups.

The net effect of this strategy has been to turn legitimate worker strikes into illegitimate, violent riots.

With no channels to express their rejection of the wage offer, and without the right to refuse to go underground, the workers are left with few options.

Reports reveal that police (SAP or mine police) appear to form a substantial part of management's industrial relations arsenal.

At West Driefontein workers gathered at the compound gate on the evening of July 1.

They wanted to see the compound manager. They were militant (not surprisingly since they'd just heard about their low increases) but they were not violent.

Nevertheless the response was to call in the mine security and the crowd was dispersed with teargas. Then the helmeted, green overalled security men, carrying transparent shields and with dogs moved through the compound.

It was simply 'a show of force', one manager unofficially admitted. Overhead flew a helicopter equipped with a siren. After this response the worker violence began as windows were smashed and a new concession store was totally destroyed.

The very structure of the compounds is built in expectation of unrest.

Most compounds have only one tightly-controlled entrance. The newer ones are often built so that sections can be sealed off if necessary. Well-equipped riot-control rooms are common features.

Western Deep Levels mine is not unique in having numbers painted on the various roofs within the hostel. This is to facilitate security action from the air.

At Venterspost, the single entrance to the compound is topped by a military-style tower with searchlights and camera equipment. Access to the tower is possible only from the outside and is used for controlling unrest.

Although the strikes unrest were a result of low pay increases, there were other contributing factors.

The whole position of black miners affects their every action and demand.

They live in a highly oppressive environment. Unlike a worker who leaves the factory for home at 5pm, the miner has no such freedom.

Working underground must surely be one of the most unpleasant jobs possible — and one of the lowest paid. Imagine descending daily down a shaft and walking kilometres along steadily narrowing passages until you climb or slide into a small cavity where you will work for the day alongside, perhaps, 8 other men.

Above you lies up to three kilometres of rock, continually threatening to close down upon the metre-high cavity you have opened and in which you are working.

You work for 8 hours. The darkness is illuminated only by the battery-powered light attached to your helmet. The work is unhealthy, heavy and dangerous — loss of life and limb is frequent. Every day brings the fear that the worker will not ascend alive.

But mostly the work is tiring and the sweat pours in temperatures and humidity levels that make Durban in February feel like an Arctic winter.

Then there is the long trek back to the surface and the inevitable delays in getting a lift up — the white miners are invariably hoisted up first.

On a good day the black miner can expect to be back for a shower and a meal ten hours after he went underground.

Not that 'home' is an appealing prospect. The compounds are huge, single-sex complexes. Some of the newer hostels are more spacious and have 16 men per room, but it is not uncommon to find 20 men crowded into tiny rooms (the case at strike-hit Venterspost).

Rooms and sometimes whole sections of the compound are divided ethnically. One miner explained that in the old days the division was into broad Nguni and Sotho groups. Recently the division has become stricter as Pedi speakers are separated from Zulu and Sotho speakers and so on.

In brief, the miners live in the hostels without their families, and without privacy. Sport is encouraged as an outlet to frustration.

The unrest on the mines and the forms which it took cannot, therefore, be divorced from the total working and living environment of black miners.

The pay strikes of July '82 were enormous in their magnitude. Clearly the miners need a strong union to articulate their demands and discipline coordinate their actions. But in an industry where 'troublemakers' are blacklisted by the labour recruiting offices (those fired are unlikely to find a job in mining again), to establish a genuine union would be a daunting task.

The recently formed Black Mine Workers Union (BMWU), groomed by the TUCSA-affiliated Boilermakers Society and with a constitution rumoured to have been written by the Chamber of Mines, clearly does not fit the bill.

THE VISITING 'stars' of the South African Breweries' soccer tour may have walked away with R50,000 each but the trophy went to those who did not put a soccer boot on the field.

First up on the winners' rostrum were the teams who refused to play those community organisations who organised the move against the tour. SAB — Orlando Pirates, Moroka Swallows and Kaizer Chiefs. Standing with them to a world ovation were the soccer supporters who boycotted the matches as well as those community organisations who organised the move against the tour.

Also plumbing for performers' medals were sportspeople of a different kind, in a sport inspired by the success of the anti-tour moves. These are, of course, the verbal gymnasts — found mainly in the commercial press — who twisted and turned, kicked and screamed, and leapt up, down and sideways to prove that 'pressure' and 'threat' stopped the Big Three soccer teams from playing.

The decision to refuse to play was not a result of 'bowing to political pressure' by the teams but rather of their co-operation with the organisations opposing the tour. The teams responded, according to a joint statement released by the anti-tour organisations, to 'the practicalities of the situation in South Africa', and were hailed 'for choosing to be on the side of the oppressed people.'

The Soweto Security Police, it seems, was not convinced that free choice was involved and has launched an investigation into 'possible intimidation'. Officials from the three teams, the National Professional Soccer League and the South African National Football Association were called to Protea police station to answer questions.

All three managers of the teams have clearly put their reasons for the boycott, overruling the speculation of 'political pressure'. Kaiser Moutaung of Chiefs said boycotting the tour was 'in the nations interests', and Swallows chairperson David Chabedi said it 'would have been suicidal' to go against the wishes of the people.

'The club management had not realised the extent of the opposition and anti-tour groups had convinced them it would be in the best interests of the community to pull out', said Chabedi.

He said opposition had also come from the clubs' supporters.

The success of the campaign, according to a statement released by the anti-tour organisations, indicates the need for unity and a strong broad front. The campaign was 'a radical departure from the traditional go-it-alone approach which has been adopted by some organisations in the past.'

'By simply issuing press statements and not allowing mass participation — as is being done with the boycott of international music starts who tour South Africa — such campaigns have failed.'

At the centre of the anti-tour thrust were the Congress of South African Students, the Azanian Students' Organisation, the General and Allied Workers Union, the Teachers Action Committee, the Committee of Ten, the South African Council of Churches, the Azanian People's Organisation, the Detainees' Aid Movement, the Workers Support Committee, the Municipal and General Workers Union and Civic Associations of Soweto.

Sacos also opposed the tour.

This is not to forget the role played by the soccer supporters of Soweto. At Orlando Stadium, on the day Amazulu played the SAB XI, people supporting the stand taken by the three teams stood outside chanting 'Go home, go home'. Apparently they had not

Match of the year: The game that never kicked off

The winners of the international soccer boycott: the three teams who refused to play, the supporters who stayed away and the community groups who organised against the tour.



Thousands of fans usually turn up for soccer games. But at the Amazulu-



Chiefs' manager Kaiser Moutaung — 'The boycott is in the nation's interests'

swallowed the SABC and commercial press' line that there is no link between politics and sport.

The 'big story' in the press has become the world title fight, the rugby tour, the soccer tour, the cricket tour. High-powered delegations have stepped up lobbying for readmission to the international scene on the basis that their particular sport is now 'completely multi-racial'. SA's case has been strengthened by favourable reports from the very many overseas officials who have been brought (or is it bought?) out here, shown around, and persuaded to add their voice to the call for an end to the international boycott.

Government money, funnelled into sport through Info Department fronts like the *Citizen* newspaper, has been replaced by a sudden, massive injection of private capital, largely from SA Breweries, its subsidiaries Southern Sun and Sales House and the Sigma Motor Corporation.

Dr Danie Craven, president of the SA Rugby Board, put his finger on it when he said SA would 'buy' its way back into world sport.

SA Breweries, the major sponsor of rugby, cricket and soccer has found itself able to underwrite a cricket tour to the tune of R2m; a soccer tour for a similar amount in the same years; and there is talk now



Jimmy Hill . . . an organiser of the SAB Internationals. In 1976 Saudi Arabia's Prince Faisal gave him £25 million to promote soccer in the oil-rich state

of another R2m cricket tour featuring a West Indies team for the summer.

Not all the money has been spent, but these are amounts unheard of in world cricket and soccer. Players have been paid astronomical sums to break international bans on sporting contact with SA. A major aim of these tours has been to demonstrate to the world that SA sport is 'completely multi-racial' and so hasten the country's return to the international fold.

Thus it was interesting, to say the least, to see SA Breweries and the Football Council cut short the football tour because 'there are feelings against the tour among some sections of our black supporters'.

What persuaded Breweries and the Football Council that these feelings were worth listening to? After all, they were there before the tour began. Breweries and the Council know perfectly well that most people support the international sporting boycott.

Perhaps it was because a mere three thousand people turned up to watch the Amazulu-SAB match. Many more than that may have gone to the meeting that was to take place between Pirates and their supporters. A day before the anti-tour meeting was to be held, however, the tour was aborted.



SAB's Peter Savory. The company sponsored the tour to the tune of R1.7 million.

with the community on the tour at all. Perhaps if they had they would not have ended up wasting about R50,000 per player, or, put another the profits made on about 2.5 million beers.

When the day was done SAB would have had to put up R73,000, the rest of the costs coming from gate money. The community would have paid for the tour. And what is R73,000 when SAB is set to make a profit of R1.715 million this year anyway?

'Our hope is that we have helped football, that we can contribute to the development of the game, that spectators will thrill to the joys of seeing some of the great players of the age', said Savory before the tour was called off.

What did Kaiser Moutaung have to say about that besides labelling the tour a 'rip-off'.

'Some of the players in the touring side looked like wrestler more than anything else. They were obviously not match fit and no better than the current crop the country can offer'. The SAB XI would not have helped soccer in any way, he said, and the money would have been better spent at club level.

George Thabe for the FCSA said there were four considerations for the tour:

- It would be in the best interest of local soccer.

Undoubtedly the two most important reasons are that the community organisations formed a united front and that, for the first time, major clubs of one of the most powerful sporting bodies have come out on the side of the oppressed community and the international sporting boycott.

The Big Three have now been invited to join the Sacos affiliated SA Soccer Federation. Their stand, said the SASF, would 'go down in history'.

The clubs may be some way from joining the Federation. There is no money in the Sacos leagues, while Breweries, Mainstay, Datsun and others plough more than R500,000 annually into the NPSL.

When SA Breweries put up R1,780,000 for the tour they did so, according to Peter Savory, a senior executive, to help football and the community.

'SAB involves itself in the support of the community because the community supports SAB', said Savory. '90 per cent of the people who support us are followers and players of sport so we put money back to help them.'

It is difficult not to see red at this kind of misguided philanthropy. Apart from the fact that the beer drinkers have no choice but to support SAB as it has the beer monopoly, SAB did not consult



Four game supporters of the Pirates', Chiefs' and Swallows' decision to boycott stood outside chanting 'Go home'

Mixing colours for world appeal

VERY FEW black sportsmen — perhaps two or three thousand in all — regularly play mixed sport in this country; for millions of other black sportsmen and would-be sportsmen, nothing has changed. They have no facilities, no opportunities, no coaches; a web of apartheid legislation keeps them in their place.

They have no vote, and therefore are powerless to change their lot.

Their children get one-tenth the education that white children get, and pay-and-job discrimination is deeply entrenched.

The number of blacks who play regular mixed sport has remained virtually unchanged in the past five years.

Almost without exception, it is confined to provincial and national level. At club and social level, it is a great rarity.

When Punt Janson was Minister of Sport a few years ago, he told a National party congress that 'Maverick sportsmen who join clubs of other races are members of a dying breed.' It seems he may be at least partly right. Not the smallest reason is the Group Areas Act, which forces blacks and whites to live in separate towns. Another reason is racial attitudes, which far from being outlawed by the government are entrenched by a web of laws.

In tennis, where SA draws some of the world's best players to an International Grand Prix tournament with prize money of R300,000, there are no black members of the ruling body, the SA Tennis Union. Reason: boycotts.

In cricket, perhaps a few hundred blacks play under the SA Cricket Union. Reason: boycotts.

In soccer, a few hundred blacks play mixed soccer under the black controlled NPSL.

In rugby, only a handful of blacks throughout the country regularly play mixed matches. Reason: entrenched racism at all but the highest levels.

In swimming, the SA Swimming Union is non racial but has no black members. Reason: a boycott.

In athletics, many hundreds of black road and cross-country runners compete regularly against whites, and the number is growing rapidly, though mixed clubs are still few and far between. Running is strongly encouraged by the mining houses, who field powerful teams, and offer big incentives to successful athletes.

In professional boxing, there are several hundred black boxers and the number is growing rapidly. It is a 'profession' of the under-privileged, and offers big rewards to the few who make it to the top. The better fighters regularly meet white opponents. In amateur boxing, full nonracial status has yet to be achieved, but at provincial and national level there are mixed bouts.

In the end, we are talking about a few thousand 'privileged' blacks for whom apartheid laws have been rolled up, and the red carpet rolled out. The good times last while they are at their peak. After that, unless they can get a job in coaching or administration, it's back to the township, the pass arrests; the hard life under apartheid.

Springbok rugby player Errol Tobias still does not have the vote.

Is it surprising that Sacos puts the achievement of the most basic of human rights ahead of international competition?

● It was not in contravention of any FIFA (the world soccer body) rules or statutes.

● It would help SA's soccer 'development' programme.

● The soccer futures of the overseas players would not be jeopardised.

From the beginning Thabe refused to respond to the call to halt the tour, saying 'I wish only to address myself to those in favour of the tour.'

But all he achieved in doing this was to bring the focus onto the undemocratic way in which he runs Santa, Moutaung and others complained that the teams had not been consulted on the tour at any stage.

Casio Dynamo's chairperson Ishmael Pahad said his team stood with the Big Three in rejecting the tour.

Thabe said the 17 players would transfer their soccer skills through coaching clinics in Soweto and

elsewhere. 'In three days?' one soccer fan replied incredulously.

World opinion differed from Thabe as regards FIFA rules and the future of the 17 polecats.

The first indication came when Osvaldo Ardiles, the one genuine star in the side, withdrew following a warning from his club Tottenham Hotspurs. Ardiles, part of a two-man R14 million buy for Spurs, was told he could be banned from international and league football throughout the world. Mario Kempes and a Brazilian player withdrew at the same time.

Fifa publicity director, Eric Courtois, warned that the players faced a severe suspension.

In London, 100 Labour Party MPs — led by former minister of Sport, Dr Denis Howell, condemned the tour. In a parliamentary motion they said it was an attempt to give respectability to sporting links

with South Africa.

The MPs called on Fifa and the English Football Association to 'ban those sporting mercenaries who are more interested in financial gain than the struggle for racial equality in South Africa.'

A Football Association official pointed out that every player has to register with the FA to play in England. 'Those men in South Africa', he said, 'would have to apply for registration on their return and we have the power to refuse them.'

It comes as no surprise that when one of the returning players was asked by BBC-TV what he thought his future held, he replied: 'You tell me...'

The Football Council of South Africa (FCSA) claims to be a fully non-racial body but the truth is different. It has racial organisations within it. The NPSL has a few whites



The NPSL's George Thabe in happier times. He has been accused of organising the tour without consulting the three teams.

playing with blacks at adult level but there is no mixing at school level.

Kenyan soccer boss, Clement Gachaiya, an influential voice in both Fifa and the African Football Confederation, says the FCSA has chosen the wrong course.

'Instead of coming closer to Africa, the FCSA seemed to have chosen a confrontation course.'

'We are waiting for a signal from the SA football authorities to show they are with us and against the policies of the South African government. You are either with the South African government or you are with us. There is no middle course.'

A United Nations resolution in 1976 calls on member nations to have no sporting ties with SA 'until apartheid as a whole is dismantled.'

What now happens to the link between politics and sport?

Soccer players are members of the communities before being members of the teams, the NPSL or the FCSA. If they were asked by the

Security Police what pressures were put on them to withdraw, they may well answer by listing a few laws and a couple of realities.

The South African laws of motion — the Group Areas Act, the Pass Laws, the Liquor Act and others restrict there being any normality in sport.

The country's law of gravity — the lack of a vote for the majority hopes to make sure things remain the same.

From the other side, what would non-playing members of the community say about SAB and the tour? No prizes for guessing the answer of the SAB employees who were recently forced to go on strike because they were being paid inadequate wages.

Ultimately, the banner 'No normal sport in an abnormal society' is still flying and it is the courage of the Big Three, community organisations, the people of Soweto and the international pressure groups, that have won the day.

There is something wrong in the 'state' of Venda

'IN YOUR language it is different from Venda.' That was the simple explanation from a police witness for conflicting testimony that was tried a few times during the Venda inquest into the death in detention of Tshifikura Isaac Mofhe.

That bit of semantic skulduggery did not help the witness very much and at the end of a four day inquest, Sibasa Magistrate Stan Stainer found that two security policemen in the Venda National Force were the cause of Mofhe's death as a result of an apparent unlawful assault.

Police fumble over death of detainee

FOR SOME amongst the 80-100 people who packed the Sibasa Magistrates Court daily to attend the inquest into the death of Isaac Mofhe, listening to security policemen fumble and equivocate under cross-examination seemed like sweet revenge.

They were some of the 14 people detained in the clampdown by Venda Security Police following the ANC attack on Sibasa Police Station on 26 October 1981, in which two policemen were killed.

One of those detained was Mofhe, who was to die in detention less than 36 hours after his arrest.

The other detainees, save one, were all acquitted in a recent security trial in Venda when sensationally midway through the trial the prosecutor dropped charges against them.

Now sitting in the court, some of the ex-detainees like Reverend X, felt a curious sense of irony listening to security police inadequately try to explain how a healthy man died from injuries two days after being in police custody.

Most of the released detainees have told tales of torture and a number of them including Rev X have instituted civil action against the police.

Thus far the Venda police have been unable to successfully pin the attack on Sibasa, on anyone.

The clampdown on church leadership appears to have been the Venda authorities attempt to use the attack on the police station as their own 'Reichstag fire' an excuse to clamp down on political dissidents in the territory.

In a country with no meaningful political opposition, the Lutheran Church has become one of the few opposing voices in pretoria's second satellite republic.

Mofhe himself was a lay preacher in the Lutheran Church and vice-president of the Bold Evangelical Church Association. Over 600 people attended his funeral in Sibasa in November last year where speakers paid tribute to his contribution to the community.

The hearing was centred around the two security policemen's (Captain Ramaligela's and a Sergeant Mangoga's) bizarre tale of how Mofhe came to die after less than 36 hours in police custody.

According to Ramaligela, Mofhe was arrested on the evening of the November 10, 1981 at his home in Sibasa. He was, according to Ramaligela, warned in terms of Judges Rules, and then confronted with information about his alleged participation in an ANC attack on the Sibasa police station on 26 October 1981.

Mofhe having denied the allegation was detained for further questioning and taken to the Venda Central Prison where he passed the night.

The following morning, 11 November, Mofhe was fetched from the prison at 8.30am and taken to the offices of the security police, where he was interrogated by Ramaligela and Mangaga.

At first Mofhe denied all knowledge of the attack, but later during the afternoon he 'confessed' to having witnessed the attack and then taking the insurgents in his car and driven them to two remote northern parts of Venda where he dropped them off.

Mofhe agreed to point out to the policemen these places but implored them to only take him at night as he would be ashamed to be seen in police custody during the day.

Ramaligela and Mangaga, being the understanding men that they are, agreed to this request since Mofhe was being so 'co-operative'. So at 8pm that evening they drove out of the security police Headquarters with Mofhe sitting in the back of their open landrover without handcuffs, next to Captain Ramaligela, while Sgt Mangaga drove.

The landrover had not driven more than a few hundred yards down the main road, testified Ramaligela, when Mofhe attempted to jump over the side of the vehicle either in a bid to commit suicide or escape.

Before he could do so Ramaligela managed to pull him back over the side and wrestled him down to the floor of the vehicle, with Mofhe falling on top of the captain. The scuffle was brief and it appeared from Ramaligela's testimony that Mofhe's only possible injury as a result of it was a bump to his back from the vehicle's side.

The landrover at this stage had stopped and Mangaga had got out. Ramaligela explained what had happened and ordered him to return to the security police offices. There they took Mofhe back to prison in a car, deciding to abandon the 'pointing out' exercise. During the journey to the prison Mofhe was said to have expressed disappointment at the fact that he was not being taken back home.

When they got to the prison, Mofhe began to behave strangely. He refused to get out of the car and



"Griffiths Mxenge — a man of the people"

THE WIDOW of lawyer and community leader Griffiths Mxenge slammed allegations that her husband was killed by the ANC or that he had misappropriated ANC funds at an inquest examining the circumstances surrounding his death held at an Umlazi court last month.

Mxenge's body was dumped near the Umlazi cycle stadium on November 20 last year.

In court, the counsel for the State, Andre Oberholzer, quoted Natal Mercury reports linking Mxenge's death to the ANC and claiming he had been misappropriating ANC funds.

Nonyamezelo Mxenge, in reply, vehemently denied these allegations saying that her husband had not even handled or kept any ANC funds. She said she had dealt with all her husband's accounts so it would not have been possible for him to have even handled the funds without her knowing.

The court was told that it was well known that many people in terrorism trials were defended by advocates briefed by Mxenge and Mrs Mxenge said the practice was still continuing.

'But isn't it true that men came round shortly before your husband's

Mxenge murder questions, too

death to look into his accounts', Oberholzer asked.

'Yes,' she countered, 'but these were tax people who didn't believe his tax returns. They thought we should be paying more but all our money went to paying advocates.'

Mrs Mxenge added that the police had never looked into the allegations of misappropriation of funds.

After further suggestions that the ANC had killed her husband, she said, they had 'absolutely no reason to kill him'.

'I'm not able to point a finger at the people who killed my husband but the people who hated him were the people who regarded him as a Leftist. The whole thing was a cover-up by people who want to draw attention away from themselves to the ANC,' she said. 'Besides,' she added 'one of the first people to phone me after my husband's death was Mrs Tambo, the wife of the president of the ANC, and I

received telegrams of condolence from ANC offices in London, Zambia and Swaziland.'

Earlier, Mrs Mxenge told the Court that she knew the office telephone was tapped by the Security Branch and that they had approached the owner of offices next door to use their premises to bug her husband's offices.

'The lady next door had told us that they had told her that my husband would be in jail before December'.

And shortly before his death, she said, Griffiths Mxenge had been interrogated by the security police as they wanted him to give evidence in a recent terrorism trial.

The court also heard how the Mxenge's two dogs had died after being poisoned on the night before Mxenge's death.

'My husband had remarked that the death of the dogs was frightening and had said he would try and get

the Captain had to summon two warders to 'escort' him out. Mofhe was escorted to his cell by the warders, and left there for the night. The next morning, 12th November 1981 he was discovered dead.

Ramaligela's account of the events became the subject of various cross-examinations during the inquest and soon questions were raised about every aspect of his testimony.

Two pathologists giving expert testimony on the medical evidence said Mofhe's post-mortem injuries were inconsistent with the official explanation of Mofhe's death.

The post mortem revealed that Mofhe had suffered an injury to his right eye, a bruise on the chest, severe bruising on the scrotum, and bruises all over his back. The bad bruises alone according to the one expert, Professor J D Laubscher, were caused by at least ten deliberate blunt blows.

The landrover Ramaligela and Mangaga claimed to have used on November 11 to transport Mofhe was not in use that day according to its vehicle log book. In fact it had not been used from the period August 10 to November 14.

The first written statement by Mangaga and Ramaligela on the events leading to Mofhe's death were made on January 20 1982, more than two months after the death, and after the post mortem results were known.

Ramaligela testified in court that he had pulled Mofhe back into the

landrover by his arms, but his statement on January 20 said that he had pulled him back by his ankles. He explained the discrepancies as a result of 'language confusion'.

Ramaligela said he had torn up his notes of Mofhe's interrogation and had no written confession from Mofhe as he had intended getting the confession written down once Mofhe had pointed out the place where he had dropped off the ANC attackers.

Both Ramaligela and Mangaga testified that no doctor had been called for Mofhe once he had been taken back to the prison as there didn't appear to be anything wrong with him.

The evidence of the warders at the Venda prison contradicted the evidence of both security policemen. One warder, Constable Khalushe, told the court that at 11.45pm on the night of November 11, Captain Ramaligela called him and another warder to help him carry out a person from his car. The person was Mofhe. Khalushe testified that he found Mofhe on the back seat of the car with his eyes closed. Ramaligela told him that the man was drunk. The man had to be carried to his cell he said, as he could not walk.

If warder Khalushe's testimony was to be believed, it meant that Ramaligela and Mangaga were unable to account for at least three hours that night, from the time Mofhe had made his abortive 'escape' at approximately 8.15pm

until 11.45 when warder Khalushe saw them at the prison. The prison was only 15-20 minutes drive from the security police Headquarters.

The warders had all testified that Mofhe had to be carried out of the car into the prison; he appeared to be either very 'tired' (warder Netshuhungilulu) or drunk (Khalushe). The two policemen in their original statements both said Mofhe had walked out of the car with the warders and did not need to be carried.

By day four of the inquest the inconsistencies had become so blatant that both the prosecutor, Tony Manktelow who led the evidence and Ernie Wentzel, SC, who appeared for Ms Mofhe agreed that the case could be closed to allow the Magistrate to make his finding.

The magistrate, in an historic finding in an inquest into the death of a security detainee, found that Mofhe had died from haemorrhage as a result of his injuries which were caused by an apparent unlawful assault by Captain Ramaligela and Sergeant Mangaga.

At the time of going to press his judgement was not available to *Saspu National* but it is understood that the inquest record has been referred to the Attorney General of Venda, to consider a prosecution.

Already in May this year, Mofhe's widow, Lilian Mofhe and his mother Anna Diadlama had instituted a civil claim against the Venda National Force for R385,000 in damages.



Mxenge's funeral in King Williams Town

— too many few answers

some dogs from a friend,' Mrs Mxenge said.

During the inquest proceedings the counsel for the family, Louis Skweyiya, asked the investigating officer whether he would be pleased if he helped him find the whereabouts of the 'untraceable' man who had found Mxenge's body.

And, after Det-Sgt Wilmot Ntshangase had said he would 'jump around for joy', Skweyiya told the Court the man's address and where he was working.

He added that 'although I am not a policeman' between the close of the proceedings the day before and that morning he had been able to trace the man.

Under cross examination by Skweyiya, Det-Sgt Ntshangase admitted he had not talked to the night watchman of the building where Mxenge was last seen nor had he talked to the people living in the flats

in the area.

Det-Sgt Ntshangase then told the court that the reason he had not done this was because he 'was not used to Durban' and especially the area where Mxenge was last seen.

The investigating officer also said he did not know the whereabouts of the shirt which Mxenge was wearing when his body had been found and had not examined it for clues.

He thought it had been handed over to the Mxenge family but Mrs Mxenge told the Court she had only received his trousers, belt and socks.

Neither the shirt or the trousers had any blood stains on them, the Court was told by various witnesses, in spite of the fact that Mxenge had 45 wounds on his body.

The first State witness, Dr Johannes van Staaten, said the cause of Mxenge's death was 'multiple clean cut injuries to the lungs, liver and heart.'

He said the majority of these had been caused by a knife or knives but a number of wounds on the head had been inflicted by a blunt-edged instrument 'like a hammer'.

Describing the wounds, Dr van Staaten said most of the wounds had not been fatal but a 'potentially fatal' wound had been the cut slightly above the Adam's apple which had severed the neck to the bone.

Also giving evidence at the inquest, Advocate Pius Langa who was reputedly the last person to see Mxenge alive — said he had met Mxenge in Victoria Street where he had handed over a case file late that afternoon.

He had then U-turned the wrong way up Victoria Street when he heard urgent hooting from what could have been Mxenge's car.

'Thinking back, I believe that if the hooting had come from the deceased it was the hooting of someone in distress or somebody trying to draw somebody else's attention,' Langa told the Court.

But, he said, he had ignored it thinking someone was hooting because he was going up the street the wrong way.

The inquest was adjourned to 'a date still to be established.'

Parole as Island turns 21

TWENTY ONE years ago, Robben Island was proclaimed a maximum security prison for political prisoners. This year's anniversary was marked by the Government's move to grant remission to political prisoners for the first time in the history of Nationalist Party rule.

The first prisoners granted parole were Henry Africa (25) and Siphwe Ngwenya both of Soweto, Joe Mati (49) of Mdantsane, Mluleki George of Qongqotha township near King Williams Town and at least three others. All had been jailed for contravening the Suppression of Communism Act. Before release they had spent 42 months at Helderström Prison near the Free State town of Caledon.

Also recently released were three Swapo members who have just completed terms of six and five years. The men are believed to be Sakria Nashandi (34), Michael Shikongo (42) and Nabot Limene (43).

The government's remission policy has been welcomed but is open to speculation and scepticisms in view of the circumstances and conditions under which certain prisoners are eligible for parole. In May, the Minister of Justice, Kobie Coetzee announced in Parliament that parole and remissions would

'only apply to those with good prognosis. In other words, those who have co-operated and shown that they have in fact turned their back on crime.'

A Release Advisory Board, appointed by the Minister, met on 2 July. Its function is to decide 'whether the prisoner is ready to be a productive member of society and to be reunited with it'. If there are any conflicts of opinion on the Board, the Government has the final say.

The remission policy has led to speculation on the possible future release of prisoners such as Mandela, Sisulu and others serving long or life sentences. There has also been speculation about the possible release of Herman Toiva ya Toiva, the Namibian leader who is serving a 20-year sentence. However this has been dismissed by prison authorities and it is likely that mainly short-term prisoners due out before 1984 are in line for parole.

The government's unprecedented move should be viewed with greater caution, rather than over-optimism, observed a Black Sash member. 'In the light of detentions, bannings and banishments this move can hardly be seen as a change in the state's attitude,' said another commentator.

The Island has housed opponents

of the Government since the 18th century. In 1918, Makhanda, the Xhosa war doctor, became the first black political prisoner. Other rebellious chiefs were imprisoned on the island by the British colonisers. In 1860 one prisoner drowned in an attempt to escape to the mainland.

John Vorster and a few other Nationalist Party leaders also spent time interned on the Island during the Second World War. They were members of a pro-Nazi organisation opposed to the Smuts' government's support for the Allied forces.

In 1959 it was officially declared a penal settlement and initially held criminal and political prisoners. After the banning of the ANC and other organisations in the early 1960's and the trials that followed, many people were imprisoned on the island. Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki, Walter Sisulu, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, Andrew Mlangeni and Ahmed Kathrada were all sentenced to life imprisonment during that time. Some of them have recently been moved off the island to Pollsmoor Prison on the Cape Peninsula.

Robben Island may not be a prison for very much longer. The government has announced that it wants to change it into a holiday resort and move the prisoners to an inland jail by 1983.

Hogan alleges heavy handed action by SP

AN AWAITING trial prisoner, Barbara Hogan, 30, told a Johannesburg Magistrate's Court that she was assaulted by a security policeman who told her he took delight in beating terrorists and communists, including women.

Hogan, who has been in detention since September 22 last year, has been charged with treason and will appear in the Rand Supreme Court on August 15.

Two security policemen, Warrant Officer (WO) Nicolaas Johannes Deetleefs, 32, of Beach Avenue, Primrose, Germiston, and WO Lawrence Charles Phillip Prins, 31, of State Residences, Government Mortuary, Springs appeared before Mr G J Schoeman on July 22.

The State alleges that the policeman hit Hogan with fists and open hands on her face, head, ears and back on October 22, 1981. They

pleaded not guilty.

She said on October 22 she was taken from her cell at about 9am to an office on the 10th floor of John Vorster Square and intensively interrogated by a group of security policemen.

Later that morning, WO Deetleefs and WO Prins came in. Her hands were tightly handcuffed behind her back so that she could not move.

'They were shouting and screaming at me and calling me a communist,' she said, adding that throughout her interrogation she had been screamed at and threatened with physical violence.

She said it seemed that violence was a pattern the Security Police used when interrogating detainees.

At lunchtime, the handcuffs were removed and she was shouted at and told to swallow her food quickly.

'After lunch, WO Prins came and stood behind me. A question would be asked and he would hit me from behind across the right side of my face,' she said.

'He started hitting me regularly then. He hit me on my face, back and neck. He made a special point of hitting me on my ears and said this would break my eardrums.'

'Deetleefs would ask the questions and Prins would hit me. As I recall, there must have been between 25 and 30 blows. They were not continuous but interspersed with very aggressive questioning, screaming and shouting.'

She said she was deeply shocked and numbed by what she described as an 'overwhelming experience'.

She said she could not say if the assault was serious or minor because 'in the circumstances, you have little power, you are in the control of the Security Police and you are mentally strained. To have two men beating me was traumatic.'

When she was eventually allowed to go to the toilet, she noticed the rectal fissure she had developed in detention had started bleeding.

She was taken in a Security Police car to a district surgeon, Dr Jacobson. On the way there, she was warned by WO Deetleefs not to speak about what had happened, and was threatened with further assaults.

She said WO Deetleefs had once said to her he was 'not scared of assault charges because they always get squashed'.

'When I got to Dr Jacobson, he asked me if I had any complaints. I pointed to my face and started crying,' she said.

'Dr Jacobson became angry when he saw my bruises. He asked me to strip down so he could take note of all the bruises on my body. He called in another doctor to verify the injuries. I begged him not to say that I had been assaulted.'

She said she had bruises under her right eye and a larger one on her right cheek. Her back, neck and ears were also painful.

The doctor's report was handed to the Security Police as they left the consulting rooms, and she said WO Deetleefs told her he would be nice to her because she had not told the doctor about the assault.

Mr T T A Bornman, for WO Prins, put it to Hogan that she was a member of the ANC and that she had received instructions on how to behave in detention 'to put the police in a bad light'.

Hogan refused to say if she was a member of the ANC because it could incriminate her. She denied she had any knowledge of how to behave in detention.

Latest laws are no fairy tale

FIXING UP the legal niceties for South Africa's security measures is like trying to pass off Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother in the pension queues.

But, such has been the shake-up of security legislation in the wake of the Rabie Commission recommendations that even the security boys have been getting themselves twisted in confusion over who they are hiding under what law.

On June 24, seven people were detained under Section 22 of the General Law Amendment Act which allowed them to be held for 14 days without recourse to lawyers, family and friends. These detentions were widely reported by the media before the security police, for the first time ever, prohibited further publication of the names in terms of Section 27(c) of the Police Act.

So far so good, everyone's used to this sort of thing, but here comes the catch.

Not only had Section 27(c) been removed from the statute books eight days before the detentions, but Section 22 ceased to be law a week after the incarcerations having been eclipsed by the new Internal Security Act.

The recent shake-up of security legislation has only changed a few names of the country's most draconian laws and streamlined them for easier application.

The shake-up was heralded early in June by the introduction of the Intimidation Act, which has already been put to use in the current wave of labour unrest in Natal.

The onset of July saw the disappearance of the infamous Terrorism Act, Internal Security Act of 1950 and several others where were collectively replaced by the Internal Security Act 74 of 1982.

The new act is likely to be used extensively in future security police investigations.

People taken in for interrogation will be held under Section 29 while potential state witnesses will be held under Section 31. Those detained because the Minister of Law and Order so desires will find themselves victims of Section 28. If any charges are made the Attorney General may, in terms of Section 30, refuse bail.

With effect from the beginning of July any warrant officer or higher rank, may detain a person without a warrant if he feels the detention will combat public disturbance, disorder, riots, or violence.

Housing: Community leaders give firm 'No' to Pen's plans

Government's responsibility to provide decent and adequate housing for its citizens.'

In the case of lower income groups, he said 'the government must subsidise housing so that tenants are not forced to sacrifice basic necessities to afford rentals. 'We must unite against the government's unjust policies in general and its housing policy in particular,' he said, calling on residents to 'resist the government's attempts to shift the burden of housing onto the community which is already finding it difficult to make ends meet.'

Dr A S Carrim, chairperson of Actonville's Housing Committee, said the Dawn Park issue was an 'open acknowledgement of the government's concern for its white electorate and not for the people of South Africa as a whole.'

COMMUNITY LEADERS in Actonville, Benoni, have fiercely criticised the government's new housing policy, outlined by the Minister of Community Development, Pen Kotze, in his recent visit to the area.

According to a statement issued by Kotze, his department's housing commitment is 'almost complete' and 'it is now the responsibility of the individual and private enterprise to provide housing, as Government funds will not be available for this purpose in the foreseeable future'.

'Our first priority is to ensure that land and infrastructure be made available to all persons who can with their own financial resources, that of their employers, financial institutions and by private means accept the responsibility for constructing their homes,' said Kotze.

As far as housing for the poor is

concerned, he said the department would consider making funds available for housing projects for those earning less than R150 a month. Such loans would, however, be restricted to those unable to get financial assistance from any other source.

In response to a request by the Actonville Housing Committee to proclaim Dawn Park in Boksburg an Indian area, the minister said Dawn Park would be kept for whites affected by extensions to Reiger Park, an overcrowded 'Coloured'

area in Boksburg.

With an estimated 4,000 people on the housing waiting list in Actonville, outbuildings and garages are being converted into homes in some cases sheltering two families. Tenants complain of exorbitant rents and exploitative landlords, and families are forced to separate to find accommodation.

With the granting of approximately 1,000 stands in Actonville extensions 4 and 5 and Kingsway the problem is a long way from being solved.

Reacting to the Government's decision, the Transvaal Anti-SAIC Committee of Benoni said, 'The Kotze meeting has convinced us that the government is not sympathetic to our real problems. To talk of reform (through the President's Council) on the one hand, while ignoring the day to day needs of our people on the other is nothing but trickery.'

'It has become clear that the present government is not only unwilling but unable to deliver the goods,' he said. 'We believe it is the

Thousands will be evicted from Inanda homes

ABOUT 135,000 people in Inanda, just outside Durban have been told they are to be systematically evicted over the next 12 to 18 months.

While the commissioner for the Verulam area, Brian Durant, has publicly said the vast majority of these people have alternative houses in KwaZulu and are recent arrivals in Inanda, the facts are very different.

- Those from rural KwaZulu have been forced into Durban's metropolitan area through overcrowding, poverty and starvation in their 'homelands'.

- Many of the people have been forced, by the chronic shortage of housing and subsequent gross overcrowding in the townships around Durban, to find plots of land for themselves in Inanda and to erect their own houses.

- Many people have lived in Inanda for a number of years have contributed to the community and have permanent jobs in Durban.

Already over 20 residents have been charged under the 1936 Trust and Land Act and the 1951 Illegal Squatting Act.

The policy to evict people from RA 33 (Released Area 33) in Inanda contradicts earlier government statements to develop the area.

Following the 1980 typhoid outbreak in Inanda, a water tanker supply scheme was introduced by the SADF and the Department of Water Affairs. This was taken over by the Department of Co-operation and Development which stopped the water supply in October 1981.

The public outcry that followed caused the Department to resume supplies. In 1982 money was appropriated for the purpose of installing a bulk water supply system and standpipes for R.A. 33. The technical division of the Department of Co-operation and Development briefed engineering consultants to install the system. It was designed

and was due to be operational by June 1982.

There have also been positive statements in Parliament regarding a sub-economic structure plan for the entire area, involving upgrading the present squatter settlements and installing basic services and facilities.

The Department's actions in continuing with the evictions flies in the face of any permanent stabilisation plans for the area.

There has been a confusing series of orders and counter-orders from the Commissioner's office in Verulam regarding evictions. Varying tactics have been used against both the landlords and tenants.

In the face of what is clearly a potentially explosive issue, Mr Durant is attempting to set the black and Indian communities against each other by prosecuting or threatening to prosecute Indian landlords in order to force them to evict the tenants on their land. Indian landlords have also been pressurised to draw up lists of their tenants showing personal details and employment status. This presumably is being done in terms of Section 35 of the 1936 Land Act.

These tactics create racial tension and divide the community itself.

In an effort to discourage settlement, new structures on rented land have recently been demolished by the Department, in some cases affecting both new and old structures. People have been selected at random for prosecution, despite the Department's stated intention to evict 'new squatters'.

This tactic destabilises and demoralises the community.

There are several cases pending in the Verulam Magistrate's Court. In the likely event of conviction the people will be evicted, their houses demolished and they will be transported jobless and without possessions to the rural slums of KwaZulu.



Thousands flocked from all parts of Western Cape to protest against high rents.

The house that Cahac built

ADDRESSING THE first Annual General Meeting of the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (Cahac) the secretary said 'Cahac has become a household name. People identify Cahac with being at the forefront of their struggles.'

Today, residents associations representing 21 areas in greater Cape Town are affiliated to Cahac and two more have applied for affiliate status. But the best indication of Cahac's growth lies in its assessment of the problems and direction needed to carry the organisation forward. This emerged at the recent Cahac AGM attended by 40 delegates and over 150 observers.

In reviewing its work Cahac emphasised the need for 'a new approach which will ensure that the people who come into our organisation can become committed to its work. This will build organisations that are both lasting and effective.'

Over the past year Cahac's prime activity has related to campaigns around issues such as rents, maintenance and busfares. Work has primarily focussed on

immediate issues which has meant people have flocked to organisations during times of crisis and have drifted out almost as quickly at the end of campaigns.

Now Cahac believes that it needs to go beyond defending the little that people have already. It will advance demands that go beyond campaigns and enable organisation to continue.

In the words of Wilfred Rhodes, chairperson of Cahac: 'We must see the increasing rents, busfares and electricity charges as being only the smoke. Our work must be geared to extinguishing the fire that causes the smoke. Our goal must be to eliminate from this society all the causes of our hardship.'

But, says Cahac, if lasting and effective organisation is to be built, then it must not be built in the air — organisation must be rooted in the community. This means a greater emphasis on drawing in more ordinary tenants, both at area and Cahac level, to fill positions of work and leadership.

Since the organisation's growth in the early 80's many civic

organisations have relied too heavily on the experience and understanding of young activists schooled in the mass upsurge of recent years. Cahac has now committed itself to breaking down this reliance.

This calls for greater involvement by all affected people. Not everyone in our community understands things equally well. Some have more experience and confidence. It is the task of those with confidence not to make decisions on their own but to reach out and involve the others in day to day work.

The task of drawing in ordinary tenants will be done by:

- Opening up Cahac to ordinary membership by holding general meetings in different areas. Host areas will be encouraged to bring as many observers as possible;
- Establishing ad hoc structures along regional lines, along lines of common issues or along lines of common local authorities;
- Emphasising education and organisational training through holding regular workshops and setting up education sub-committees around issues such as housing, transport, resources and publications.

Cahac has committed itself to establish working relationships with other progressive organisations.

In particular, it has resolved to establish a firm relationship with the trade union movement, recognising the close link between the struggles workers face in their workplace and in their communities.

Supporting this move, a spokesperson from the Cape Town Municipal Workers Association said: 'Our members in the trade unions are also the tenants in the communities. We must encourage our members to join unions. It is essential that people are organised in all aspects of their lives.'

Administration Board ignores influx case

A CONTRACT worker's breakthrough in being granted permanent rights to live in Cape Town by the Cape Supreme Court is being ignored by the West Cape Administration Board in its application to hundreds of similar cases.

On May 3 Totosi Stanford Booii, a Fattis and Monis worker was granted a court order entitling him to Section 10 1b rights in Cape Town because he had worked for one employer for more than ten years.

Many people saw this as a test case opening the way for hundreds

of contract workers with the same 'qualifications' to gain these rights which mean they can live with their families, change jobs freely and not have to return to the homelands when they lose their jobs or retire.

But the administration board has been refusing to grant permanent residence rights to the over 500 workers who have applied for Section 10 1b rights since Booii's case.

The board says it is still waiting for the appeal against the Rihhoto case. Last year a Germiston contract worker Mahlolo Tom Rihhoto in a

similar case to Booii's was granted Section 10 1b rights at the Rand Supreme Court. The judge held that Rihhoto had worked 'continuously' for one employer for ten years even though in terms of a government regulation he had to renew his contract yearly.

It is this regulation published by the Department of Bantu Administration in 1968 which has enabled administration boards to systematically refuse residence rights even if people had worked for more than ten years.

The Rihhoto case was the first challenge to the regulations and his victory meant that many thousands of other workers could also gain permanent residence. But the West Rand Administration Board appealed and the outcome is still being awaited.

However Cape Town lawyers said the Rihhoto case had no bearing to the Western Cape and the Administration Board was making a mockery of the law by refusing to grant Section 10 rights to applicants who had the same rights as Booii.



'The Pretoria demonstration showed that we women can do something about our oppression and suffering — we can get up and work together' — a woman who took part in the march.

Taking the march forward

AUGUST NINTH is the day 20,000 women marched on the Pretoria Union Buildings to protest against the extension of passes to African women.

The spirit of unity and defiance these women showed is celebrated every year by thousands of South Africans as National Women's Day, a highpoint in the people's struggle against apartheid.

Yet, today, 26 years later, black women are still the most exploited and oppressed section of the population.

They bear the burden of a triple oppression. Their sex, class and race together make them the lowest paid workers, the most vulnerable to dismissal, retrenchment and unemployment. They also fill the worst jobs — domestic service and farm labour — those offering the least protection to the employee.

As wives, mothers and head of households, they bear the brunt of poverty caused by high inflation and a skyrocketing cost-of-living. It is women who have to deal with sick and malnourished children, inadequate health care and overcrowding.

In addition to these burdens, women are also oppressed by their men, who are themselves exploited and humiliated by the yoke of oppression. Much of women's ill-treatment by their men results from old tribal values which say men are superior to women.

For many years, women have carried this bitter burden in silence. But recently, women's organisations, committed to involving women as equals in the struggle, have once again emerged. The promise of that great march to Pretoria so many years ago, is now being taken forward by organisations like the United Women's Organisation in Cape Town and the Federation of South African Women in the Transvaal together with those organising women in unions.

This is not to say that any great victories have been won yet, or the way forward is without problems. But there is an increasing recognition and understanding of the role women have to play. As organisation proceeds, there is a clearer understanding of the specific problems that women face.



Bread-and-butter struggles are drawing more women into collective action.

In the trade union movement organisers daily confront the effects of women's bargaining position: they are paid less than men; they are retrenched first; they are vulnerable to sexual harassment by foremen and supervisors and they are often forced to have dangerous contraceptive injections (Depo-pravera) or risk losing their jobs.

The most common problem amongst working class women is having to work a double-day. On top of their 8-hour day in the factories, they also have to feed, clothe and care for their families. This leaves little time for union or community matters especially when husbands or fathers are not yet convinced that 'their' women need to be involved in the struggle.

'It makes me so irritated when I come home and find my husband

lying on the bed reading the paper, knowing how hard I work — and he still expects me to do everything for him and the house.' These are the words of one trade unionist but it is a common experience amongst women.

In the communities there are also problems. Women are scared to stand up and be involved. Their daily experience of being at the very bottom of the heap has made many feel unconfident, scared and inadequate. This is all besides the fact that women have so little time for anything besides their jobs and their household labours.

This situation has led to the idea of a 'family union' being raised by one woman trade unionist. 'Men will be disciplined to share resources and not only salary. The burden of babies and housework must also be



Women labour at work and at home. There is little time left for other activities.

shared.' She suggests that the way to start pushing for such changes is through discussion with 'our husbands and brothers. Without discussing it I don't think we will ever get anywhere. We will just have to keep the burden on our shoulders.'

Women organisers, whether in trade unions or in communities, also have specific problems. Often, they find they are not taken seriously because of their sex.

One woman trade unionist described a problem of organising: 'When I started work it embarrassed me when I approached the men in the metal industries. They weren't interested in what I was there for they were just interested in me.'

Recently-established women's organisations are keenly aware of these problems. Through a commitment to grassroots organising they hope to mobilise women around the issues most immediate to them: those of health, childcare, food prices and housing amongst others.

They also see the need for ongoing education programmes and for discussion so women can teach themselves to regain the pride and independence that has been beaten out of them through constant

humiliation by bosses, officials and their own men.

Democracy is a cornerstone of these organisations. As a member of one of them has said, 'control of our own organisations is a step towards taking control of our own lives.'

Democracy for these women means a full and active involvement in their organisations so that they can regain a sense of their own worth.

'Of course things do not always run smoothly. We are learning through our own efforts and mistakes. Taking decisions together means that A.I.I. our members must know what the implications of a particular decision will be... this method may seem slow and clumsy, but since we are all learning, we have sometimes had to sacrifice short-term efficiency for long-term understanding.'

Women throughout this country have realised that only through united and collective action will they be able to struggle towards solutions to their problems, be able to participate fully and equally in all organisations of the oppressed and begin to be able to imagine for themselves what a free society would be like.



"Students must organise around their common grievances"
Tshediso Matona, Cosas organiser



"We must support trade union and community struggles."
Toiva Mokgoja, Cosas secretary.



"Our broad aims can only be realised in a non-racial society"
Shepard Mati, Cosas president

Cosas: an organising force in the classrooms

'We've come a long way since '76', says the Cosas executive. Here Saspu National speaks to the executive about Cosas' development, its aims today and the tasks and problems it faces.



The Cosas executive. The 1982 theme is Student-Worker Action

Q: How does the new executive see the role of Cosas?

A: Our general objective is to fight for compulsory, free and democratic education in a democratic society.

To achieve these aims one has to work towards improving relations between parents, teachers and students.

Our broader aims can only be realised within the context of a non-racial society.

We aim to help our communities achieve awareness of society. It is important to perceive Cosas as playing a meaningful role in society as a legitimate and effective force in a broad democratic alliance.

Q: Why did Cosas choose Student-Worker Action as its theme for 1982?

A: Students were realising slowly — after 1978 and 1979 — that they are a specific group and that they play a limited role in the broader struggle. Their role is to support the struggles of workers. One of the aims of Cosas is to teach students that after completion of their studies they have got a role to play in society. Students are the workers of tomorrow and as such they must be educated and organised. The reason that Cosas was formed, was because we realised that our role is actually to support the struggles on other fronts, especially the trade union and community fronts.

The students experience conditions that might be different from the conditions that workers experience, at work and in the

community. We feel that by bringing the workers struggle to the students and the community, students will actually play a very supportive role in the overall struggle led by the workers. That is why our theme is Student-Worker Action.

Q: Do students and workers have a basis for united action?

A: Students are oppressed at school. Workers have grievances at the factory and places of employment. Students and workers in the community have common grievances — unhealthy living conditions etc. We feel that by bringing these two distinct groups together on the basis of a common experience they would form a very strong united front to challenge the system, to expose injustice.

Q: Does the adoption of this theme indicate an advance in student activity?

A: Very importantly. One would not have expected such a theme in the pre-1976 period where students to a large extent thought that they would bring to an end the system of education and also bring about liberation. Students saw themselves as a leading force in the struggle while, ultimately, that was an illusion. We realised our limitations.

Q: How is Cosas organising in the schools?

A: Since the boycotts of 1980, we have made demands for democratic student councils in the schools. To get students involved in the struggle they must be organised. SRC's can organise students around issues they experience at school and show them the importance of

supporting the community. We see ourselves as part of the community and therefore have an obligation to serve the community.

One of our aims in the schools is to improve relations amongst the students themselves. As students we should realise that we are oppressed and have common grievances. We should come together around these common grievances.

We would like the teachers to realise that they are also part of an oppressed community and will have to join with us to fight to end apartheid education.

Q: What immediate problems are you facing?

A: One is the state-induced measure of compulsory education. By introducing compulsory education, the state is forcing parents to pay for their children's tuition.

In a society where exploitation is the order of the day, education must be seen as a weapon used to maintain oppression and inequality. We can never be free until the entire system is eradicated. Compulsory education can only be acceptable when it is free and democratic and will equip students with skills for the betterment of society.

Another problem facing school students is the age limit issue. The age limit states that students over the age of 21 should be forbidden from school and should register with Adult Education Centres. These regulations are in fact a response to 1976 and 1980. They are aimed at controlling activity and getting rid of so-called trouble makers at school.

In all areas where Cosas has branches, this issue was taken up. In Port Elizabeth Cosas took up this issue in conjunction with the parents and organised a survey. A parent-student committee was formed which managed to force the government to suspend the introduction of the age limit.

Q: What is your attitude towards other student organisations?

A: During the earlier stages of Cosas, many students were not clear about their position as regards organisations like Nusas, for instance. Now students are able to analyse the situation more realistically and are able to identify the forces which oppress them — not colour as such but rather economic factors.

We have realised that Nusas sees the situation in the same way as we do. It has democratic aims and foresees a non-racial democratic society which is what we are also struggling for.

It is through day to day experiences in the struggle that students realise the struggle is not against white individuals, but is against the system of oppression and exploitation. There are committed activists amongst the ranks of the white community who have dedicated their lives to the struggle. That this number is limited, we can understand by appreciating the constraints and dynamics of the white community.

Q: And Azaso?

A: As far as Azaso is concerned, it is another Cosas in the universities. Our aims and objectives are the

same in almost all aspects as our grievances and situation are to some extent common. We are working very closely with Azaso.

Q: Does Cosas organise white school students?

A: We have to point out that the conditions of black and white students differ. You will find that in white schools, the issues that they can take up would be of little relevance to black students.

It is not a question of policy, but rather a question of strategy, that students organise separately. It is a creation of the South African system which has caused students to organise like this. We have to organise black students around their grievances and equip them with the means to analyse the situation from a progressive point of view.

Q: How do you view the education system in this country?

A: A system of education in a racist and undemocratic society is only of benefit to the rulers of our country. We feel we have to respond by challenging this indoctrination. We commonly decide what type of education we want by sitting down and formulating our demands and principles.

Take for example the Freedom Charter. There was a time when people were active in rejecting pass laws, and all criminal laws in this country. And so a time came when they saw the need to formulate the Freedom Charter. People submitted their demands and said the only system that will meet their demands is a society where the people govern.

The total onslaught of propaganda in the veld

A NEW report has again branded veldschools run by the Transvaal Education Department (TED) as pure propaganda attempts.

In a report on the Schoemansdal veldschool, the Johannesburg College of Education (JCE) report says: 'Under the guise of environmental education the veldschools are guilty of using the isolation of the veld to propagate a particular, one-sided view of the South African situation.'

The report again underlines the falseness of repeated TED claims that veldschools are neutral and objective approach, and that there is no possibility of indoctrination.

The veldschools are generally seen as an extension of schools' Youth Preparedness (YP) programmes.

A teacher who went on one of the camps said children were far more racist when they returned from veldschools.

They are much more convinced of an undefined total onslaught against South Africa. They then understand why they are taught how to build bomb shelters in YP sessions.'

The JCE report found pupils were warned against certain teachers who were 'not Christian, failed to keep discipline in their classrooms and lived with their boyfriends.'

Lecturers told children these teachers were more likely to try to indoctrinate pupils with 'marxist ideas'.

The implication of this is that teachers who step slightly out of the strictures of Christian National Education are likely to be harassed by their pupils, because they are seen as 'Marxist', and thus a threat to the country.

The ideology of 'total onslaught' comes across very strongly at the camps.

The main themes of the total onslaught which 'has intensified violently in the last decade' are spelt out: 'military, economical, ideological, political, apartheid, racism, religion, colonialism'. The precise nature of each of these 'onslaughts' is not defined and children are presumably left to conclude that any criticism of any of the 'main themes' is inspired by an outside 'Marxist menace'.

All South Africa's problems are

located outside rather than inside the country.

One pupil, who had asked a question about cholera, was informed that: 'It comes from Mozambique, their standards have deteriorated so badly since independence that cholera is rife there, and now it is spreading across our borders.'

When the pupil challenged this answer by pointing out that rivers flowed from South Africa into Mozambique, and that therefore cholera was more likely to spread into Mozambique, she was told that it is in fact 'illegal immigrants from Maputo who bring it into South Africa'.

The lecturer then went on to indicate that the cholera epidemic was also a result of overpopulation — 'blacks having too many babies' — and the fact that blacks had not yet developed to the same stage as whites had.

The real problems of apartheid are denied, and instead the evil is sought outside South Africa, in African degeneration and a communist total onslaught.

Add the requisite racist ideology, and a recipe for the programmed indoctrination of young white South Africans emerges at the Veldschools.

The JCE report is particularly critical of the para-military nature of the Veldschools. At the Schoemansdal camp, pupils were put on obstacle courses, camouflage exercises and a 'nocturnal obstacle manoeuvre'.

The regimentation is continued in the set up at the camp — the blue group will eat while the green group washes and the red group tidies its bungalow, for example.

Army lecturers are frequently used at veldschools, 'to give a foretaste of army life', according to a TED document.

The 'moral' aspect of the Veldschools is possibly the most insidious.

At one camp, Std 8 pupils were told to hand in all pills and medicines they had with them.

Later a search through pupil's lockers uncovered a pack of contraceptive pills in one woman's locker, which she had failed to hand



South African youth are kept in line through Youth Preparedness and veldschools

over. She received an angry lecture on the evils and immorality of pre-marital sex, and was held up to her bungalow-mates as a bad example.

When the pupil in question protested that this was not the case, but that she had been prescribed the pill for medical reasons, she was accused by the lecturer of being a liar.

There is a great deal in a veldschool programme emphasising the sanctity of marriage, the evils of

pre-marital sex, the importance of only one sexual partner throughout life, and the like.

One of the most typical responses to veldschools has come recently from groups such as the PFP who have condemned veldschools for pushing National Party propaganda.

However, this response is inadequate. In fact, veldschools only put the cherry on the top of the total

indoctrination and socialization of the ideas of South Africa's ruling group.

As one teacher put it: 'Veldschools work, and they work because most of the children enjoy them, and find them reasonable.'

This blind acceptance cannot be combatted by condemning Veldschools. It must be understood as the outcome of the broad socialization of white South Africans.

Cosas interview continued

Presently the government is embarking on cosmetic changes in the educational field to counteract progressive organisations and to put into effect its total strategy. This to many people is not obvious. Thus it is very necessary to formulate basic and fundamental demands of a democratic and universal education that student organisations are fighting for. An education charter can play this role.

If this is not done, the system will succeed in winning the students onto their side by some of the half hearted and in fact meaningless forced concessions they are making. For instance they are now building double story schools.

We need to expose the inefficiency of the system — why we have unqualified teachers in the schools. Rather than learning inferior education in modern schools, we would prefer a democratic and a better

education in corrugated iron schools. This does not mean that we prefer corrugated iron schools in the society we envisage.

We strongly feel that all student organisations should come together and formulate the type of education they want in terms of short and long term demands which can become our programme of action — a national democratic programme for a democratic, universal education for all.

It should not only focus on the controls of education at present but also how we want to change them. Our broader aim is to struggle for a free, democratic, compulsory and non-racial education for all in a new society.

In this regard we can learn from the Freedom Charter. The Freedom Charter is a valid and accepted document not only because it embodies democratic demands and objectives but because it was democratically formulated and adopted.

So for an education charter to be accepted by all, it has to be democratically consisted.

Q: Do you think only students should decide what type of education they want?

A: We do not want to come out as students only, and say we want this kind of education. We want our parents as workers to be there when we determine the kind of education we want.

We feel that emphasis should be laid on a link between formal and informal education and the fact that education does not end at school. Education continues outside of school, like adult education and education in a broader sense.

Q: At its last Congress, Cosas made provision for a youth organisation to cater for pupils who have had to leave school. Could you expand on the reasons for such an

organisation?

A: Due to repressive measures and conditions in the townships, many students are forced to leave school. These students are accommodated in some areas but in most areas there are no youth organisations. So, Cosas set up a committee to look into the practical ways of involving the youth in an autonomous structure.

Youth who leave school are generally inactive. Some get frustrated and vent their frustrations by resorting to undesirable activity. We feel that if we can provide the youth with a structure, they will be able to make a more meaningful contribution to the process of change.

In addition many activists have been expelled from school and they become disorganised and disillusioned with the struggle. We should also cater for students who have completed their studies and who have the same aims as Cosas.

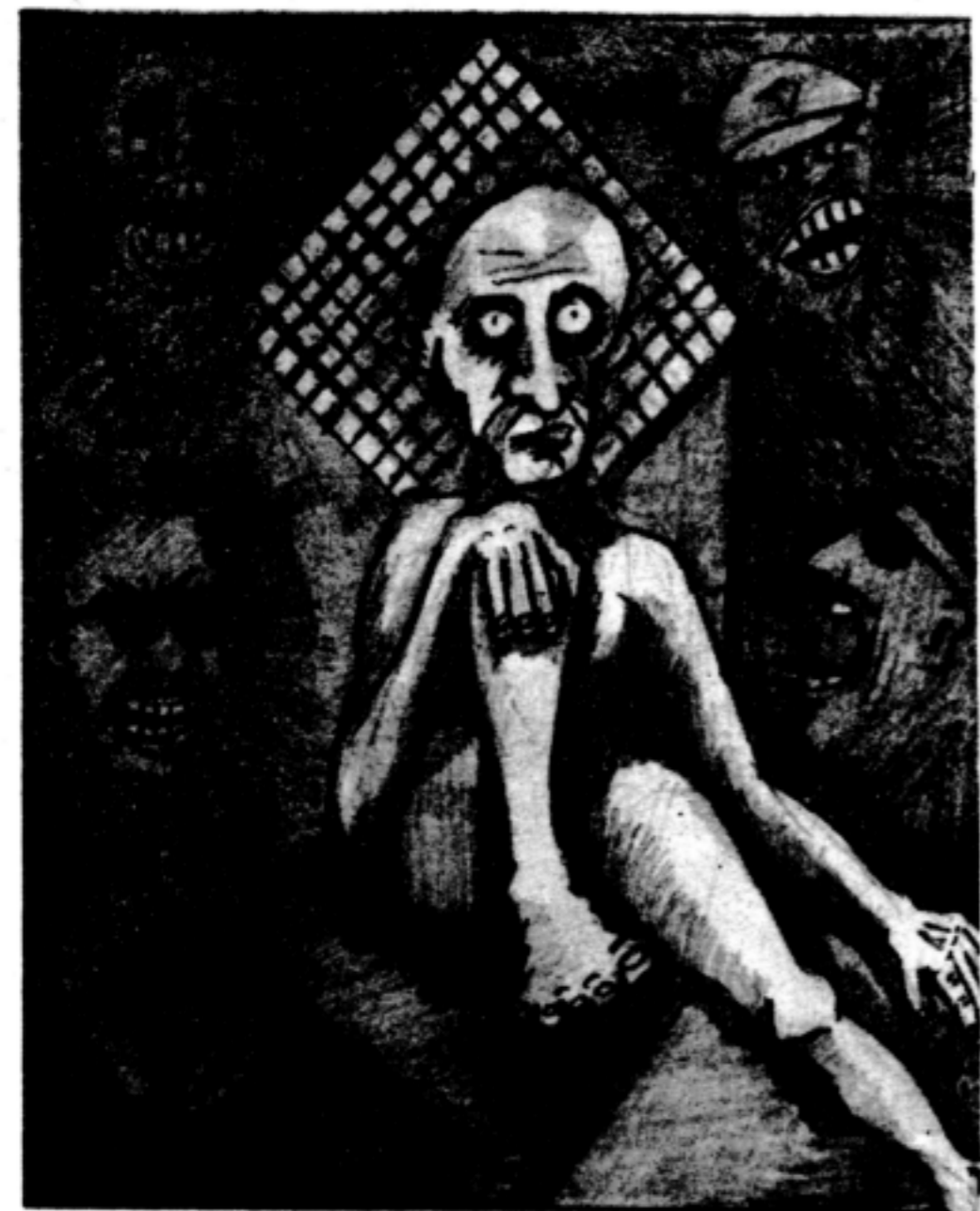
They have certain skills to serve the community.

Q: How has Cosas been affected by state repression?

A: In the last decade we have seen an increase in state repression of democratic organisations. Cosas has been one of the most hard hit. In 1979, almost the whole national executive was detained. The first president of Cosas, Ephraim Mogle is now serving a jail sentence.

State repression affects the progress of Cosas. Students stay away from Cosas because they fear detention. More subtle repression like the age limit also affects us but we do not foresee a situation where it will stop Cosas from growing.

Nobody can silence the forces of justice and democracy. State repression has not been able to stop our determination to achieve our goals.



Aggett's fellow detainees to give evidence at inquest

A DAY before he died Dr Neil Aggett provided in his own handwriting names and information of the greatest use to the Security Police, Major Arthur Cronwright, head of the John Vorster Square interrogation section, told the Johannesburg Inquest Court.

The inquest into the death of Dr Aggett, 28, a medical doctor and trade unionist found hanged in his cell at John Vorster Square in the early hours of February 5, has been postponed until September 20.

Maj Cronwright told the court the documents had not been shown to the Attorney-General, officers of the court and the Aggett family lawyers because the investigation was not complete.

When Mr George Bizos, SC, counsel for the Aggett family, questioned this, Maj Cronwright said the information was secret because it had been obtained while Dr Aggett was being held under Section Six of the Terrorism Act.

Prompted further by Mr Bizos to explain why he had withheld the documents, Maj Cronwright appealed to the magistrate, Mr Petrus Kotze, for court protection.

He said the contents of the documents implicated a 'very respected person present in this court today who is named and who would be warned about the investigation', and who had links with the SA Communist Party.

The magistrate said he would decide before September 20 if the documents could be used.

During his cross-examination of Maj Cronwright, Mr Pieter Schabert, SC, counsel for the Minister of Law and Order, read out a statement in which Dr Aggett allegedly admitted he was a communist. The statement was typed but unsigned.

In the statement Dr Aggett said he 'supported the Marxist ideology and I am therefore a communist. I am also an idealist.'

Mr Bizos said the statement was a typed copy of a statement by Dr Aggett. The words 'I am also an idealist' had appeared in the original

but had been left out of the copy, he said.

The magistrate said although Dr Aggett's statements could be used in the proceedings, the court had previously decided that the contents were not necessarily true.

Cross-examined by Mr Bizos earlier, Maj Cronwright said Dr Aggett had heard Security Police discussing the possible arrest of people he had named during a lengthy interrogation session.

Maj Cronwright said the discussion took place in front of Dr Aggett on the morning of February 4. Several hours later, Dr Aggett was found hanged in his cell.

These 'new names' were part of the useful information Dr Aggett had supplied to the SP in his own handwriting.

Later, Maj Cronwright said the SP had been in no hurry to complete Dr Aggett's interrogation.

Mr Bizos told the court that on the weekend of January 28-31, Dr Aggett had been interrogated for 62 hours by several trained officers working in eight-hour shifts. According to affidavits made by Dr Aggett's interrogators, he had been allowed 11 hours' rest.

Maj Cronwright said he had given Lieutenant Stephan Whitehead permission to interrogate Dr Aggett for 62 hours over that weekend, but dissociated himself from the part of Lt Whitehead's affidavit which said that Dr Aggett required more 'intensive' interrogation after he had completed his statement that weekend.

Maj Cronwright said he would not have authorised an 'intensive' interrogation unless Dr Aggett had agreed to it.

He said Dr Aggett was not taken back to his cell but was allowed to sleep on the 10th floor in front of his interrogators in case he was in an agitated state and needed a doctor, and because Dr Aggett was anxious to complete his interrogation.

Asked if the SP were 'as anxious as Dr Aggett' to complete his interrogation as soon as possible,

Detention support committees meet to plan future action

THE FIRST ever National Detention Seminar was held in Johannesburg last month, drawing together delegates from all over the country — who have been affected by detentions or involved in detention support work.

About 150 delegates from the western and eastern Cape, Kimberley, the Witwatersrand, Durban and the so-called Ciskei and Venda homelands attended the seminar.

Opening the seminar, Dr David Webster, a member of the Johannesburg Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) said support committees felt the need to assess their activities and plan for the future.

'In the last two or three years', he said 'there have been a number of new developments in South African politics' he said. 'Campaigns such as the Anti-Republic Day and Anti-SAIC, saw the re-emergence of a non-racial alliance against the apartheid state, involving democratic and progressive organisations and a significant growth of independent trade union strength'. 'The recent wave of detentions was aimed at crushing this alliance, which was reminiscent of the movement of the fifties' he said.

Webster isolated different phases of activity of the detention support committees. The early response was defence, followed by consolidation of the support groups and a developing self confidence which resulted in an offensive against the state and recently a phase of fall-off in activity.

In discussion groups the internal and external functioning of the detention support committees was analysed to evaluate their activities. Support activities have covered many areas from the struggle for material support and welfare of detainees to education of committee members, raising awareness and education of the general public, monitoring of security police activity and delegations to the authorities.

Delegates felt achievements had

Maj Cronwright said: 'There was no hurry. He could have stayed there for a year.'

Maj Cronwright said he had never read Dr Aggett's statement to Sergeant Aletta Blom on February 4, in which he claimed he was assaulted and tortured, because he (Maj Cronwright) did not want to interfere with the investigation into Dr Aggett's death.

Mr Bizos said: 'I submit the reasons for not looking at the statement were because you did not care and because you knew he had been ill-treated.'

Maj Cronwright said Lt Whitehead, one of Dr Aggett's interrogators, had kept Dr Aggett and his girlfriend, Dr Liz Floyd, under constant surveillance for 'years' before his arrest.

He did not think, however, that this would have influenced Lt Whitehead's feelings towards Dr Aggett in any way.

Mr Bizos suggested that when a policeman followed somebody 'night and day for two years' he would 'not be feeling very friendly towards that person'.

Maj Cronwright disagreed, admitting he knew of the surveillance of Dr Aggett.

In his testimony, Brigadier Hendrik Muller, chief of Johannesburg's Security Police, denied that Section 22 of the General Laws Amendment Act, the 14-day detention clause, was used to isolate detainees to prepare them for interrogation.

His denial came after Mr Bizos said that Dr Aggett had told a



Durban lawyer, Zac Yacoob.

been made in areas such as winning concessions for detainees welfare, support for family and friends, and in publicity. In addition many people peripheral to the struggle for democracy had been brought into its ambit. However some of the problems were that there was no equalization of concessions to detainees and there was a tendency for individual rather than collective action.

The function of special groups arising from the detention issue was discussed. Health sub-committees have been established in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg. These committees are publicising the conditions and effects of detention, such as solitary confine-

ment and methods of interrogation, and the demands of the DPSC for access by detainees to independent doctors.

ment and methods of interrogation, and the demands of the DPSC for access by detainees to independent doctors.

The Health sub-committee it was felt, had succeeded in initiating a high degree of publicity relating to the health care of detainees. Also various medical organisations have condemned detentions and the handling of the detention issue by the Medical Association of South Africa (MASA).

Delegates realised the structure and functioning of committees was different in each area, determined to a large extent by the nature of the broader struggle in that area.

'The extent to which detentions are an issue depends on the resistance/repression ratio at the time' said Zac Yacoob, Durban lawyer and chairperson of the meeting.

'Detentions are a permanent feature of state strategies, but mass campaigns against the state around the detention issue is not always possible or desirable,' he said.

'There is a direct relationship between the extent to which we can mobilize around the detention issue and other democratic struggles that are being waged. The support committees have to keep in touch with other activities and struggles... we are only a small part of the struggle.'

At the seminar's end, delegates reaffirmed the need for ongoing support work and laid the basis for national co-ordination.

In a unanimous resolution they pledged to rededicate themselves to continue and intensify their fight, in the short term for changes in the treatment of detainees and the conditions under which they are held, and in the long term for the unconditional release of all detainees and the abolition of the security legislation which serves to maintain the unjust apartheid system.

'These demands we shall fight side by side until they are met in a free, non-racial and democratic South Africa,' they said.

Dr Aggett's statement, but could not release him because he had been told Dr Aggett had not answered questions in a satisfactory way.

Asked if any urgency prompted the 62-hour interrogation session, Brig Muller said Dr Aggett could have begun to reveal 'new names'.

'I submit', Mr Bizos said after Brig Muller had refused to disclose the names, 'that, in the absence of new names, this alleged information never took place and if the officers tendered them to you, they did so to justify their actions.'

When Mr Abraham Mouton, an inspector of detainees, gave evidence, he denied he was helpless to do anything about detainees' complaints. He said he immediately reported complaints to the Minister of Justice.

'If a detainee says he has been assaulted and fears he will be assaulted again the next day, and you tell the Minister, is this not helpless?' Mr Bizos asked.

Mr Mouton said it was not helpless because he urged detainees to air their complaints. He had received a number of complaints, but knew of none that was followed up.

During a trial within a trial, the magistrate ruled that several of Dr Aggett's fellow detainees would be called to give evidence. Dr Aggett's girlfriend, Dr Liz Floyd, was among them.

Although the inquest court has sat for 16 days, still to give evidence are Dr Aggett's interrogators, at least eight detainees, a psychologist and a psychiatrist.

Brig Muller said he had not read

What's the use of doctors who can't be reached

TWENTY-FIVE children have died of polio since the first outbreak of the epidemic in May this year. Another 252 children suffering from polio are lying in hospital wards, mainly in Gazankulu and Lebowa. In 1981, more than 80,000 Africans mainly from the rural areas, were affected by poverty-related diseases, such as TB, cholera, diphtheria, and typhoid. In 1982, this figure is likely to multiply because of the resurgence of epidemics believed to have been eradicated or brought under control.

The four-month-old polio epidemic bears this out — last year, only 20 confirmed cases throughout the country were reported. This year, Gazankulu alone has ten times more cases than that.

The epidemic flared up in March in the Letaba district of Gazankulu, near Tzaneen in the north-eastern Transvaal in May this year. Polio has affected Phalaborwa, Lebowa and Venda and is creeping towards the Witwatersrand. Seven cases have been reported in Garankuwa, near Pretoria and a child from Honeydew, near Johannesburg, is being treated in Johannesburg's CMR Hospital.

Polio is a relatively rare, but highly contagious disease which is spread through direct contact with affected people. In most cases, it is confined to the throat and intestine. Initial symptoms are often mistaken for flu, with diarrhoea and high fever. Although often a mild disease, in about one to every 100 to 1,000 cases, it attacks the spinal cord, weakens muscle groups and causes paralysis. If it is not treated in time, it is fatal.

Polio has been notifiable since 1919 with outbreaks occurring every four to five years. The biggest outbreak was in 1956 when polio claimed 3,000 victims. In 1960, an oral Sabin vaccine was introduced along with compulsory immunisation in 1963.

The disease can be prevented by three doses of this vaccine, administered mainly to children below six years of age. This is the age group most affected by polio.



The present polio epidemic will cripple hundreds of children

Why is polio yet another epidemic disease striking our rural areas?

Government Health Department authorities admit uncertainty on the disease's source, but argue it is spreading because of a breakdown in neighbouring states' health services, parents failing to immunise their children, rural ignorance and 'superstition and disbelief in white medicine'.

But other medical sources lay the blame on inadequate local health services, personnel shortages and deplorable living conditions.

Although preventive vaccines are given free, rural dwellers often have to travel great distances to get to the sparsely situated health clinics. Inadequate and expensive transport facilities make this very difficult for most rural people.

The polio problem, they say, is rooted in the state's health policy rather than in the afflicted communities.

Fifteen months ago the South African Medical Journal reported that polio seemed under control with a drop in cases to about ten a year. The increased 1981-82 statistics suggest a breakdown in health services.

This links to a government attempt about a year ago to reduce bureaucratic structures. Health services have been hardest hit with health spending curbed and personnel levels frozen.



Children aged between one and five are most vulnerable to polio

Also, giant hospitals in urban centres have grown while rural health needs have taken a dismal second place.

Clinics in rural areas are few and desperately overcrowded. The overflowing Letaba hospital in Gazankulu where most polio deaths have occurred has had to accommodate many of its paralysed victims on the floor as the 350 beds are inadequate for the daily influx of patients.

By contrast some urban hospitals, the largest in the southern hemisphere, stand half empty.

On the polio front negligence has also contributed to the diseases' spread.

A survey found that medical personnel had run out of vaccine supplies at a critical stage because they had focussed on school children



Rural hospitals do not have enough beds to accommodate victims

and not on the most likely polio victims — children between the age of one and five who have not yet developed a natural immunity to the disease.

Even more disturbing is that many vaccinated children have contracted the disease. One victim, three year old Salome Litsiyo caught polio after being vaccinated in March and September 1980.

Careless handling and storage of the vaccine has been pinpointed as the reason for this. The Sabin vaccine is highly effective and can be kept for over two years if stored at below freezing temperatures. At higher temperatures it becomes ineffective within hours and so if incorrectly handled, the 'cold chain' essential for keeping the vaccine is broken.

The Letaba hospital superintendent has attributed negligent handling to the South African Railways which transports it from Johannesburg to Tzaneen in gas refrigerators. He says the SAR

sometimes fails to notify health authorities immediately on the vaccine's arrival and undetected gas leakages could also neutralise the vaccine.

PFP health spokesperson Dr Marius Barnard hit on a contradiction in South Africa's medical service when he said, 'In one sense we have one of the best medical services in the world, but also one of the worst . . . good doctors are of no use if patients die because they can't reach them.'

One suggestion to counter the chronic health service shortage has been to train members of the community in basic health practices as 'barefoot doctors'.

Another way to lessen the problem would be to use mobile clinics so that rural people who cannot afford travel costs could have access to health. But these measures could only be effective in the short-term.

In the meantime, rural health remains in crisis and polio continues to spread.

A shot in the arm for apartheid medicine

THE PROPOSED establishment of a medical school at the University of Durban-Westville (UDW) spells the end for South Africa's only non-racial medical faculty.

The Medical School at the University of Natal admits Indian, Coloured and African students.

With the planned establishment just 15 kilometres away of the UDW medical school, the expansion of the exclusively black Medical University of South Africa (Medunsa) near Pretoria as well as a proposed medical school in the Western Cape, the Durban Medical School is likely only to admit white students, and become a fully fledged wing of the white-designated University of Natal.

The latest moves culminate over a decade of State pressure to compel the faculty to toe the apartheid line.

For years, the Durban Medical School has posed a very real threat to apartheid medicine: Its non-racial policies alone were a slap in the face for racial exclusivity. Its students, academics and post-graduates have achieved international recognition with substantial achievements in several fields. Most importantly, the

medical faculty has, since its inception in 1951, emphasized community medicine as a priority with the establishment of a community medicine clinic and a Department of Community Medicine.

While students at the school favour non-racialism, they have generally opposed the admittance of white students.

A student spokesperson explained this stance: 'While students strongly support non-racialism, in view of the glaring disparities regarding medical training for blacks in South Africa, we oppose the admittance of white undergraduates.'

'Rather we would push for all educational institutions to be opened to all races.'

The State response to the progressive policies being followed in the Natal Medical School goes back to the 1960's.

In the late 1960's, plans were drawn up by the government for the creation of a medical school in one of the bantustans, and for the use of the Natal school solely by whites. The plans remained secret until

1976, ironically enough, also the 25th anniversary of the school.

The Cabinet then ordered the Medical faculty not to admit any more black students, and to prepare to admit white students in two years' time.

After intense pressure the state postponed the measures for a year, and in September 1977, the decision was apparently shelved indefinitely after a lecture boycott by students. The solidarity between students, academics and members of the community contributed to the suspension of the plans.

But efforts to enforce state control over the Medical School have continued rather more subtly.

Several departments of the school now fall under State Health conditions of service. This means the international recognition which they have enjoyed may fall away. Laboratories in the faculty have also been placed under state control, a move seen at none of the other six medical schools in South Africa.

There have been big financial pressures too. State loans and bursaries open to all other South

African students are according to a 1979 amendment to the Universities Act, not available to students at the Natal Medical School.

It has been announced that in 1984 the faculty's state grant will be cut by R900,000. Although the administration, after student pressure, has been able to find some alternative sources of funds, academic and residence fees will still double and treble respectively from 1984.

In 1979 a national and international campaign was launched to oppose the state moves to phase out blacks, so-called Coloureds and Indians from the Natal Medical School. Despite this intense pressure, the state has continued with its plans.

These plans have involved the expansion of the Medical University of South Africa, Medunsa was established in 1975 in Garankuwa, a part of Bophutatswana, 50 kilometres north of Pretoria.

Superficially, Medunsa looks, with its potential annual enrolment of 200, like a positive step in


eradicating the chronic shortage of black doctors.

But a closer look at Medunsa and its constitution shows it to be no more than a state tool: It is under the direct control of the Minister of Health, meaning the minister must approve all appointments, promotions and dismissals. Students and staff may be subjected to a religious questionnaire as a prerequisite for university admittance, and ethnic representatives sit on the university council.

Recently Medunsa has been expanding — a possible pointer to a preparation for the influx of black students should the Natal faculty become racially exclusive.

At the University of Durban-Westville, buildings are already going up to house the new medical faculty, which would be linked to the 500-bed Phoenix Hospital.

And in 1980, the then Minister of Internal Affairs, Chris Heunis, said a medical faculty would be established for the University of the Western Cape. This means so-called Coloureds would no longer be allowed to go to the Natal Medical School.



Wena Strydom!
Wathint abafazi
Wayithint imbokoto
Uzakufa!

"Strydom you have
tampered with the women
you have struck a rock"

"We are women from every part of South Africa.
We are women of every race.
We come from the cities and the towns, from
the reserves and the villages.
We come as women united in our purpose to
save the African women from the degradation
of passes . . .
For to us, an insult to African women is an insult
to all women."

Presented to the Prime Minister on August 9,
1956 when 20,000 women marched on
Pretoria's Union Building