



Mind Blast at Nusas
July seminar held
in Durban P3



Black dots on a white
landscape — Conference
on resettlement P5

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THE National Union of South African Students will not be intimidated into inactivity and nor will the progressive student stop fighting for change.

This is the view of the acting President of Nusas, Mr Jonty Joffe, who was elected to office in the wake of the banning of Andrew Boraine.

Mr Boraine was banned after spending over one month in detention. Immediately after he was released from detention he was flown down to Cape Town and served with a banning order restricting him to the magisterial districts of Cape Town and Wynberg for five years.

"This kind of action, along with the banning of Firoz and Azhar Cachalia and Sammy Adelman will not deter the student movement from struggling, together with all progressive South Africans for a more just and democratic country," Mr Joffe said.

Nusas president not deterred by student bannings

"The state is obviously scared of the way the student movement is developing. It was scared of the non-racialism and the solidarity between democrats. But by banning student leaders like Firoz, Azhar, Sammy and Andrew, they will not stop us from developing in a progressive way.

"The banning of students and others such as George Sewpersahd will only strengthen the resolve of all to find a system which will not need harsh actions to maintain power."

Mr Joffe said that the course of student action would not change because of state action.

"Over the past few years students have increasingly been introducing issues that have national relevance. That is why they are now acting in support roles on the campuses as in the case of the Wilson Rowntrees boycott, the anti-Republic Day actions and the Leyland strike, to mention but a few."

Asked to comment on the reactions of the police, the government



Acting Nusas President Jonty Joffe and the university administrations over the anti-Republic Day actions, Mr Joffe did not hesitate.

"Everyone over-reacted totally. The press blew the actions on the campuses out of proportion to the real situation. The students were by no means the centre of the protests, there were huge meetings all over the country — most of which were totally ignored because they were not 'newsworthy'."

Mr Joffe pointed out that the only reason a flag was burned at Wits was because the right wingers provoked people with racist slogans. Indirectly, he said, it was their actions that led to the bannings.

"It was also their direct actions when they went to John Vorster Square to inform on their fellow students that students were detained and then banned."

Mr Joffe emphasised that he was only acting President and that Mr Boraine will remain Nusas President until his term of office expires.

Nusas victorious at Rhodes



Jubilant response by Rhodes students to Nusas victory.

STUDENTS at Rhodes University have voted to re-affiliate to the National Union of South African Students (Nusas) after five years of trying.

This was the verdict of a closely fought referendum last Thursday, where in a high pole of 73% 904 students voted in favour of the National Union with 44 against.

There were wild scenes of jubilation as the result was read out to a largely pro-Nusas crowd that had gathered, many of whom had been on the losing side in previous referendums.

As ecstatic John Campbell the Rhodes SRC President said, "Our campaign was fought on a political not a student benefit basis. The result shows the clear support and confidence of our campus in Nusas' present direction".

The result is also a feather in the cap of the Nusas leadership, who have kept the National Union on an even keel following the heavy state onslaught against Nusas this year.

Said Joffe: "The result shows how strongly students have reacted against the bannings of student leaders this year. And a firm commitment to support the principles those people fought for".

Earlier this year an attempt by the Rhodes SRC to affiliate to Nusas without a referendum failed. The SRC had called for the formation of pro and anti affiliate committees. When, after re-opening nominations for 3 times, an anti-affiliation committee still hadn't been formed, the SRC voted unanimously to affiliate.

The campus reacted angrily and a mass meeting was called on a scale unparalleled in the history of tiny Rhodes University. The result was that the SRC's decision was narrowly defeated.

The SRC then decided that the Nusas affiliation issue should be the subject of a referendum in July.

This time an anti-affiliation committee was formed, led by a former Maritzburg conservative, Ian Twiddle. The 'anti's' as they are known on Rhodes campus, failed to

create any meaningful issues to attack Nusas on and relied on the old bogey of centre affiliation.

However, according to Nusas observers who were at the referendum, "this time it didn't work — students voted pro Nusas to show their contempt for bannings and detentions. The anti's in fact got nowhere".

Last Friday 31st July, the Rhodes SRC, this time with a clear mandate from their campus, voted to re-affiliate taken from now.

For long-time Nusas supporters at Rhodes, affiliation to Nusas seemed as unlikely a prospect as the coming of the Messiah.

Ever since 1976 when Rhodes took itself out of the National Union, Nusas faithful have every year unsuccessfully fought a referendum to get back into the union.

So much so that cynics were saying that an annual Nusas referendum was as much part and parcel of student life as Rag processions and writing exams.

But 1981 proved to be fifth time lucky for Nusas, when students narrowly voted to get back into the union along with Wits, Cape Town and Durban.

The hysteria that greeted the result was an unleashing of 5 years of frustrated failure with referendums like last years one having nailbiting finishes.

Indeed, when the electoral officer came out to read the result, she was so excited she could barely speak.

Whether re-affiliation will have a profound effect in politicising traditionally conservative Rhodians remains to be seen.

The only white English campus now out of the Nusas family is Maritzburg, whose SRC disaffiliated last year after a right wing group took control.

Nevertheless, the result of the Rhodes referendum should boost the moral of Nusas supporters at Natal's last bastion of true-blue British conservatism.

Editor's axing causes 'Sparks'.

IT APPEARS SAAN newspaper bosses have attempted to bring the Rand Daily Mail 'into line' by the summary dismissal of editor Allister Sparks and a 'rationalisation' of the joint resources of the Sunday Times and the Mail.

The Mail has been making huge losses for the company, and both sales and white readership have fallen sharply — the reason, say informed sources, being that the Mail is too outspoken.

The new structure is as follows:

- Sunday Times editor Tertius Myburgh takes over as editor of both publications.
- Times columnist Ken Owen becomes managing editor of the RDM, while
- Former Times chief sub Joe Sutton becomes Times managing editor.

The moves have alarmed journalists. They fear the Mail will suffer a drop in status, and will lose editorial autonomy.

The role of new editor Myburgh is not clear. If, as SAAN Managing Director Clive Kinsley says, the managing editors will be de facto editors, what is Myburgh's role? If Myburgh is to make decisions as an editor, how can Mail policy remain the same? Kinsley assured SAAN staff the individual character and policy of the two papers would not change, but he did say each editor imposed on his paper his 'own individual style'.

Sparks himself says SAAN will shift policy to accommodate conservative readers, while playing down black news — although it will still

pay formal allegiance to the PFP.

He said he was told he was fired because SAAN was concerned about loss of advertising revenue, which is tied to the kind of news the Mail carries.

He said the loss of revenue could not be attributed to editorial policy, as even those opposing Mail policy read the paper.

Another reason is the Reef market, which is 'crowded' by a large number of publications.

A statement issued by an editorial meeting, said Kinsley had failed to allay their fears about the future of the Mail and the Opposition Press.

"We remain unconvinced that the

appointment of one editor for two newspapers will enable those papers to retain their separate identities and we reiterate our view that this is an unhealthy development," the statement said.

At a staff meeting held the Monday after the news broke, a statement was issued to Sapa, but was later killed by senior staff.

It said the Mail's staff 'deplored in the strongest terms possible the dismissal', and the manner in which it was carried out.

"To date, the staff has received no explanation from SAAN management for the dismissal, which has profound implications not only for the Mail but for the Press in South Africa as a whole.

"Until a satisfactory explanation is furnished by the management of SAAN, suspicions will persist, within the media and the community, that Mr Sparks' dismissal was motivated by political considerations.

"Staff members were disturbed about the implications of the appointment of a joint editor for the Rand Daily Mail and Sunday Times, rather than a separate editor for the RDM as this could be seen as a downgrading of the Mail's autonomy.

"The meeting also expressed concern about the implications of a management statement that Mr Spark's dismissal will be accompanied by a rationalisation of the operations of the Rand Daily Mail and Sunday Times," the statement said.

Mother prays for son's return

MRS FATIMA Jardine — mother of Aziz Jardine, the 18 year old head boy of the Christiana Botha High School in Bosmont, Johannesburg, who was arrested by Security Police — is praying for her son's safe return.

A quiet and very reserved person, Mrs Jardine had just a trace of sadness in her tone as she talked of her son, who is just a name to most of the country, yet his arrest sparked off one of the biggest shows of community solidarity seen this year.

Now the so-called 'coloured' townships to the west of Johannesburg are still simmering with the after-effects of the joint action taken by the army and police. The townships were surrounded by hundreds of soldiers armed with R-1 rifles and



Ms. Fatima Jardine

tear-gas, while Police combed the streets in a door-to-door search, arresting hundreds of students.

"I have not even tried to contact the police. I know it's useless. This is not the first time that they have arrested Aziz. Last year they held him for more than a week, and wouldn't tell me where he was," said Mrs Jardine.

She told how Aziz was brought home handcuffed by security police who searched his room.

"There were three policemen with him. They took off his handcuffs to allow him to wash. He told me that he hadn't been able to wash for three days. When he took off his shirt, there were bruises on his back," she said.

"I don't know how long they will keep him. I just know that he is being held under Section 10, and that means as long as they like," she added.

"It's not just a question of sitting back and doing nothing," she insists. The family lawyers are in constant contact with the police. She has pinned her hopes on a 'rumour' that the arrested students will be released soon.

"Everyone tells me that they will be out soon, but I don't know anything definite. All I can do is wait and hope, and pray..." she said.



SMA'S Lance Crystal... expelled from SRC

SRC gives Crystal a blast then a boot

A LEADING right-wing student at Wits, Mr Lance Crystal, has been expelled from the SRC.

After a long debate at an SRC meeting last month Crystal was censured for heading racial incitement on campus, arranging racist provocation which led to the burning of a South African flag, co-operating voluntarily with the police and for undermining the SRC.

The motion of censure which declared Crystal unfit to serve on the SRC was passed with 18 votes for and one against.

Another motion was immediately put forward — that Crystal's absence without apology from the previous two SRC meetings be allowed — but was defeated by 14 votes to one with three abstentions.

In terms of the constitution, Crystal's membership was immediately terminated.

Debate at the meeting was heated and acting president Jeremy Clark had often to rule from the chair to prevent unlimited attack on Crystal.

However, Crystal was accused of being a racist and a fascist. "Rightwing incitement" was seen as the

cause of campus tension, the banning of SRC President Sammy Adelman and the detention of many students.

Secretary Adrian Tyghe said he had heard Crystal chant "Killing kaffirs is such fun", while treasurer Norman Weiss demanded that the university take disciplinary action against Crystal in accordance with its stated policy against "provocative behaviour".

Crystal, who claimed the action was part of a revenge campaign against him, denied Tyghe's allegation and said it was clear that from the time of his election onto the SRC he had not been wanted.

He said the motion of censure was totally unjust as it supported "anarchy and unrest".

Prior to his expulsion, Crystal threatened to rescind the SRC-BSS-SMA agreement with the Vice-Chancellor to control political meetings.

Crystal and his SMA have subsequently unilaterally revoked the agreement, declared war on the SRC and said that they would know no restraint in future on campus.

Geoff Berkow reports from the University of Pretoria as preparations get under way for 1984.

"I AM a radical conservative", the SRC candidate says, gripping your hand firmly in his.

Now you may take this to mean that he's a Neo Nazi. But he is not. In the contorted jargon of Tukkies student politics, 'radical conservative' means 'vaguely liberal'.

One Tukkies who claims to have mastered the lingo is Martin Terre Blanche, editor of the day students' journal, *Dagland*.

"It's simple, once you get the hang of it," he explains. "Just remember that everything means the opposite of what it says. Representative means non-representative, criticism means praise, and so on".

Dagland has set out this year to expose the fraudulence of the Christian Afrikaner Nationalist ideology prevalent on campus. Its first edition carries a provocative front-page report on Black Consciousness and various other contributions lampoon a variety of sacred cows. Not surprisingly, this kind of straight talk has earned *Dagland* a temporary banning by the SRC.

Uphill battle for Tukkies leftists



Axel von Pletsen and Martin Terre Blanche

Comments Axel von Pletsen, deputy editor and executive member of *Polstu* Pretoria: "We have to contend with an extraordinary combination of authoritarianism and self-righteousness".

But *Dagland* is not the first Tukkies publication to speak up against the status quo.

During 1980 the Commerce students' newspaper, *Commercium*,

waged a concerted campaign to conscientise students. With the twin swords of SRC action and financial disaster threatening its continued existence, it exposed issues such as Ruiterswag control of Afrikaans student politics and the undemocratic structure of the Tuks SRC.

It also reported on social issues such as the schools boycott and the Free Mandela campaign. It was the

only Tukkies publication to give coverage to Nusas activities. It was also the only publication to cater for English speaking Tukkies.

Drawing support from students in the Commerce, Engineering and Medical faculties, *Commercium* became the unofficial opposition newspaper to the perennially boring *Die Perdeby*. In October of last year it was finally disbanded by the SRC.

Have *Commercium* and *Dagland* led to any reforms?

"Yes," replies Axel von Pletsen. "But only in so far as the rightist propaganda has become more subtle. The University of Pretoria remains an enclave of white privilege and there is nothing short of a revolution which is going to change that".

Martin Terre Blanche quotes from *Die Perdeby* where the vice-chairman of the supposedly verligte *Polstu* Pretoria argues, with great erudition, for the 'academic study' of 'politically orientated phenomena'.

"When even the verligtes act as if they have all the time in the world, then it is time to despair", he comments.

1984, here we come...

Strikers tell students their story

A MEMBER of the workers' committee of the Union Co-operative Bark and Sugar Mill, in Dalton Natal addressed the Nusas July conference about the dispute at the mill where 414 workers have been dismissed and locked out of their housing compounds.

The dispute began when the food rations which the workers had been receiving were suddenly stopped, forcing them to buy their food from wages of about R120 per month. Workers say it costs R48 to feed themselves each month, effectively reducing their monthly income to R72. When they stopped work on



Dalton workers

March 31 to discuss the issue they were fired.

The Dalton committee member said that they have brought a Supreme Court action against management to have them reinstated to their jobs and housing compound. Until the case comes up in August the Sweet Food and Allied Workers' Union has to find thousands of rands each month in order to give the workers just R10 a month each on which to live.

A member of the Cape Town Wilson-Rowntree Strike Support Committee outlined the present state of the East London strike and nation-wide boycott of Wilson-Rowntree products.

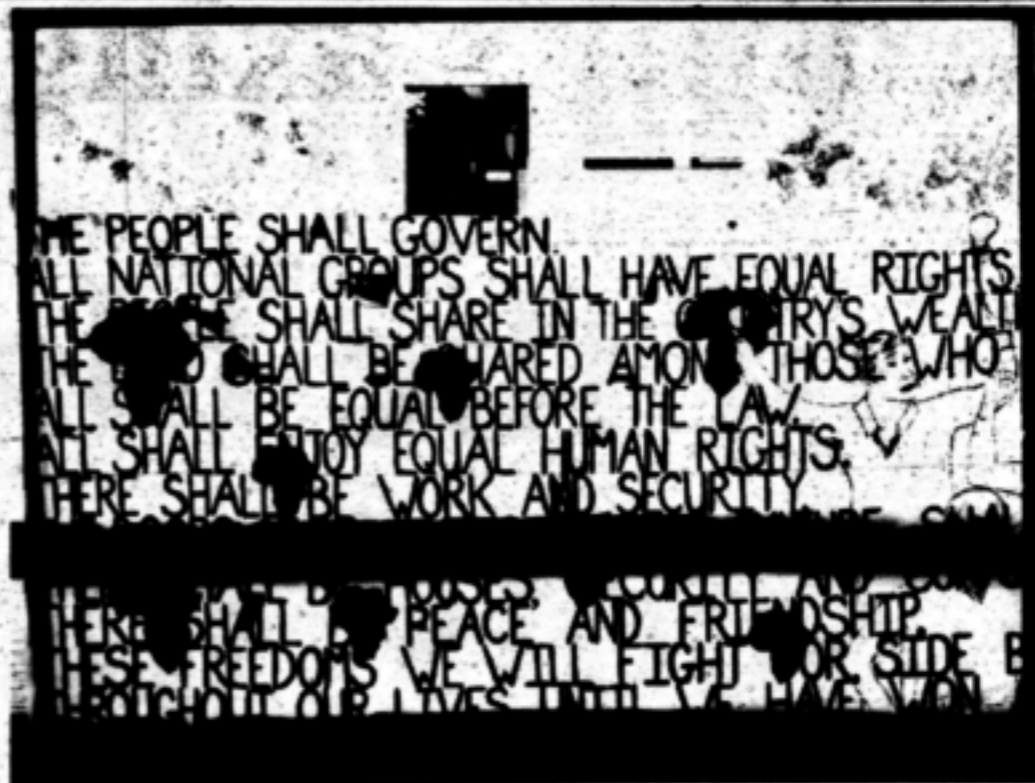
500 dismissed workers have not yet been reinstated to their jobs and although they have been replaced by scab labour, output at the factory is not yet back to the pre-strike level. Much store therefore, hangs on the boycott of all Wilson-Rowntree sweets which has taken off better in Cape Town than anywhere else.

He appealed for the boycott work to be taken up in all centres as a matter of urgency.

Delegates to the festival discussed ways in which support for these worker struggles could best be given. Publicity for the strikes and boycott as well as fund-raising ventures are to be stepped up on all campuses and close contact is to be maintained with the workers involved in the disputes.



Discussing alternatives at Nusas July Festival



A banner with the demands of the Freedom Charter



Students relax during a break between sessions at the Nusas July festival held recently in Durban.

Nusas breaks with convention and presents a new look festival

THE AIM of the Nusas July Festival was for students to explore alternatives to the present state and to understand these alternatives. This was said by Natal SRC President, the host of this year's Nusas seminar.

He said that Nusas by no means confines itself to the realm of protest politics and hoped a practical contribution to a just society arises from student commitment and involvement.

Nusas this year decided to break with convention and instead of the usual July seminar, held this festival with a wider range of talks, seminars, skills workshops, movies, slide-tape shows and an extensive social history tour.

Delegations to the festival from the five English-language universities in South Africa totalled 160 stu-

dents. Representatives and observers from numerous other organisations and educational institutions attended.

DISCUSSIONS

Papers delivered at the festival covered important domestic and international issues. A paper on South Africa in the international context looked at the political and economic relationships between it and the rest of the world. Problems of development and underdevelopment of the third world were also discussed.

A paper on state strategies and responses to them, looked at the history of resistance in South Africa. It situated the current struggle for democracy of the majority of the people in that context.

Talks on more specific struggles

included worker organisation in South Africa; resettlement and how it fits into the apartheid structure and the Durban rent struggle. Members of the Durban Housing Action Committee told the conference about the bitter rent struggle between the residents of public housing townships, such as Phoenix, and the intransigent Durban City Council.

Many of the topics covered were thrashed out in seminar groups. Seminars included: student organisation; alternatives in education; the role of research in community organisation; rural organisation and resistance; and housing struggles.

The South African Student's Press Union ran poster, pamphlet and cartoon workshops to pass on media skills to students at the festival.

This would allow them to take up and publicise topical issues on the campuses.

Slide-tape shows focussed on a whole range of subjects from pre-industrial South Africa through to Cuba and Multinational Corporations. Films shown included "Wives" by Anja Breien, "Ways of Seeing" by John Berger and "Xala" by Sembene Ousmane.

GROUP AREAS

A social history tour of resettlement areas, public housing townships, informal settlements and a site-and-service scheme showed the traumatic impact of the Group Areas Act on the people of Greater Durban.

Areas visited included Cato Manor, where people are being removed to outlying townships against their will. Phoenix - a stark and prohibitively expensive public housing township - which is the scene of a bitter rent struggle, was also visited.

The tour also went through Kwa Mashu, the hopelessly overcrowded and poverty-stricken township of an estimated quarter-million people.

Ghandi's home - now a museum - and the exclusive Inanda Girl's Seminary which he established was also visited.

Echoing most people's feelings on the seminar one participant said: "The July Festival brought together students from all over the country and went a long way towards equipping them to implement the Nusas 1981 theme."

Organise don't sue — progressives

THE ROLE of the lawyer in society was placed under the microscope at a law conference recently held in Cape Town.

The conference, under the auspices of the UCT Law Students Council and Nusas, was aimed at "Lifting the veil" that surrounds prevailing mythologies.

Names of speakers who did the lifting read like a "Who's who" of progressive lawyers around the country, including members of the legal resource Centre and Centre for Applied Legal Studies in Johannesburg, the Democratic Lawyers' Association in Durban, and UCT's

Institute of Criminology.

The conference did not however limit itself to lawyers only and other speakers raised issues such as the position of women in relation to law, and a discussion on industrial health.

The first evening saw a provocative discussion on the role of the lawyer following papers delivered by UCT academic Mike Morris and Geoff Budlender an attorney at the Legal Resources Centre.

Both speakers stressed the point that lawyers should ensure that their expertise complements organisation and does not subordinate

it. The slogan "organise don't sue" became almost a byword for the whole conference.

Day one concentrated on the relationship between crime, punishment and the state.

Ensuing days focussed on women, labour and legal education.

Finally, a comprehensive summary to the conference was given by Zoc Yacoob of the Democratic Lawyers Association, who delivered the closing address.

Yacoob stressed that lawyers must take their direction from the ongoing struggle, "There is no one fitted role for the lawyers at any-

time, depending on the needs of the struggle the lawyers role would change" he said.

Most delegates felt that the conference had set their minds abuzzing and cleared up many misconceptions they had about the law.

But as organiser Andy Durbash later noted, "the absence of many legal academics and practitioners who had been invited was disappointing — they too would have learnt a lot from this conference".

Nevertheless most delegates were in agreement that the veil shrouding the law, had truly been lifted.

The story of the black spots dotted on a white landscape

RESETTLEMENT means different things to different people.

In Zimbabwe people are "re-settled" as they return to arable land and re-establish rural communities after a devastating war in which the Smith regime confined them to "protected villages".

In Nazi Germany millions of Jews were "resettled" in concentration camps as part of Hitler's genocidal "final solution" to "superfluous" people.

In South Africa the government "resettles" people who are "badly situated" in "black spots" (black freehold areas outside bantustans), because they are "superfluous and unproductive", or for other reasons.

Victims and critics of the government's resettlement policy use words like "uprooting", "discarding" and "dumping", and say it "comes close to genocide".

The issue came into sharp focus last week at the low-key Institute of Race Relations' annual conference in Johannesburg.

Delegates were told that the scale of "resettlement" was massive, ongoing, and though official figures were "notoriously inaccurate", it could be estimated that in the last two decades, more than two million people have been relocated.

The conference heard from research and field workers that resettlement areas were characterised by:

Grossly-overcrowded living conditions causing devastating disruption and disintegration of family, social and working life and the destruction of traditional African life.



Health hazards leading to high infant mortality rates and mass malnutrition.

In the Winterveld area, one glance at an old graveyard shows rows of small graves, bearing mute and poignant witness to the high infant mortality rate.

However it has become difficult to see at a glance how many children have died, because their small bodies are now buried in adult-sized graves.



Squatter Camps . . . people resist the slow death of relocation.

"Population relocation is not a new phenomenon, nor was it started by the National Party — the system of putting blacks into reserves to serve as labour pools for the white economy was an entrenched system when the ruling party came to power in 1948, Mr Gerhard Mare, author of "African population and relocation in South Africa", told the conference.

"Crucial to an understanding of population relocation today were changes in methods of industrial and agricultural production and labour utilisation", Mr Mare said.

These changes, including the mechanisation of agriculture, have led to hundreds and thousands of workers and their families being superfluous to production.

He summarised "resettlement" as "a political policy of disorganisation (fragmentation) of the dominated classes in South Africa and of their organisations or potential organised strength".

"Superfluous", unproductive people have always been regarded by whites as belonging to reserve regions, but the threat created by black nationalism, and the linking of trade unionism to this nationalism in the early days of National Party rule, necessitated further disorganisation and re-organisation of the black population", he said.

This in turn demanded a firm ideological and political credibility for bantustan areas.

In his book, Mr Mare says some of the reasons behind the policy of independent or self-governing black states' are:

- Access to migrant or commuting labour.
- Control of the working class (employed and unemployed) through ethnic division and spatial separation and by the 'homeland' adjuncts of the State.
- Pressure (external and internal) for political participation and the

displacement of this participation.

"But at the same time the misery and anger involved in relocation of a population on such a scale is negating the goals of acceptance of separation and necessitating even greater direct repression," Mr Mare said.



Dr Chris Jooste, director of the rightwing South African Bureau of Racial Affairs, spoke at the conference on the ideology of bantustan consolidation, with reference to population removals.

Dr Jooste gave the ideological raison d'être for the bantustans — "All nations want states."

Like Afrikaner nationalism, black nationalism sought to express itself in self-determination in a specific, historic region, Dr Jooste said.

But Mr Mare says this simplistic view of black aspirations leads to the anomaly of the KaGwane reserve, described in a Benso report as the resettlement of Swazi from "badly-situated black areas or other black states".

Mr Willie Vosloo, Deputy Minister of Plural Relations, said the Swazis were "clearly experiencing a national awakening" and were "flocking to their territory in their thousands", when he opened the second session of KaNgwane's legisla-

tive assembly in 1979.

Mr Mare points out that the thousands of people were in fact forcibly removed, "dumped", in an area which was hopelessly inadequate as even the Benso report admitted, and which eventually resulted in a disastrous outbreak of cholera because of the overcrowded, unhygienic living conditions.

Speaking about forced removals of blacks during the past 20 years, he said it appeared this policy had not adversely affected dominant interests in the South African economy.

"At times there have even been direct appeals to the State from capital to implement the policy of separatism and to execute removals," Mr Mare said, citing the case of the Natal Agricultural Union and the Drakensberg locations as an example.

"Processes which allowed the National Party to use such "solutions" as forcibly removing masses of people to areas which could not support them, were inextricably bound up with the development of capitalism in South Africa," Mr Mare argued.

These processes have changed considerably over the past century, leading to influx control, which Mr Mare calls "one of the most complete systems of control of labour in the world, and still one of the most profitable to capital whether local or foreign".

He said the most dangerous aspect of population removals centered around the Government's resolution of the economic problem of "superfluous" and unproductive people and the ideological problem of inhabitants of "black spots".

The solution has involved removing the aged, the infirm, the young and the unemployed to set up communities in areas which in many instances cannot support them.

A delegate at the conference, Rhodes University history Profes-



A woman and her child

sor, Rodney Davenport, described this practice as "lunacy" and said the resettlement policy was in danger of slipping into a "genocide situation".

The conference heard that it was difficult to assess the scale of relocation, as official figures were inaccurate.

Mr Mare said there was probably no other country in the world where the ruling party claimed "to its credit" in an election manifesto that it had moved 317 000 inhabitants from employment, sometimes without even basic services and facilities.

He was referring to a pre-election speech by the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof.

Mr Mare says Dr Koornhof has underestimated the efficiency of his Government's policy as figures for four categories of relocation, excluding influx control, add up to more than one million people.

These categories are:



**In the past
twenty years
more than
2 000 000 people
have been re-located.**

- Clearance of 'black spots' and 'badly-situated areas' — this process has been referred to as an "ideological obsession" of the Government, beginning with Dr Verwoerd's "obsessive desire to tidy up" the map of South Africa — 402 772 people are believed to have been moved under this process.

- Relocation due to "homeland consolidation" — Mr Mare says that at least 304 958 people have been moved during 1970 and 1979 for this reason.

From his book, Mr Mare cites a further three categories:

- Relocations due to "betterment schemes" which have been described as part "of the plan to create a permanent farming class" — the violence of opposition to the implementation of betterment schemes shows that they involve suffering comparable to other, more obvious relocations.

- Urban Relocation — this refers to the demolition of townships and squatter areas within "white" South Africa, and the population's relocation within bantustan areas. The inhabitants then become commuters to industrial areas within South Africa.

- Relocation for strategic or infrastructural schemes — these can

be due to military test site establishments, clearing border zones where the famous sisal hedges are being grown to prevent guerilla infiltration or to remove people from strategic road sites.

- Relocation as resistance — some removals can be seen as direct or indirect resistance to forced location or relocation, as reactions against political change and oppression or the search for agricultural land and employment.

Mr Mare said relocation was a way of controlling different people in different ways and of affecting different economic classes in different ways.

- Relocation due to banishment and exile — as is the case with Mrs Winnie Mandela, who was banished from Soweto to Brandfort, and Mr Robert Sobukwe who was banished to Kimberley.

He said resistance to resettlement

was important, and it was imperative that aid given or offered to communities to resist, delay or to get "the best deal possible" out of their relocation, should be such that it worked towards changing the long-term power imbalance between those affected and the State.

Dr Margaret Nash, of the Ecumenical Education Office of the South African Council of Churches, told the conference that resistance had worked at Crossroads and Alexandra township.

Her formula for successful resistance is:

- A grass roots community group that wanted to resist.

- A partnership between the community group and wider support group.

- Exposure to local and international media.

Mr Charles Simkins, senior research fellow at the South African Labour and Development Research Unit of the University of Cape Town, said the determination to keep cities in South Africa closed to

more extensive black settlement has led to the perpetuation of the migrant labour system, which threatened to slow down the rate of labour absorption.

"The result will be, (indeed, already is) a large hard-core poverty problem in the homelands as a whole and closer settlements (relocation areas) in particular," he said.

Mr Simkins told the conference that South Africa could be "mixed and rich in 25 years — or we can continue to try for white domination and perpetuate poverty for a century".



The crippling disease that medicine can't explain . . . or cure

Mseleni disease affects about 2000 people in Kwa Zulu

ONCE every two months, from out of the sprawling latticework of kraals deep in the KwaZulu hinterland, the sledgemen make a killing.

On that day they visit hundreds of huts in the Mseleni district, load their crude carriers with pensioners and haul them off to a central pay-out point.

Others, who cannot make the R2 "return ticket" to the place where an official gives them their disability grant, are carried there by relatives.

And the loners have to crawl.

These are the victims of the Mseleni hip disease, a condition which begins with the women of the area during puberty and develops into a crippling, constantly painful state.

No one knows how it began, where it came from and where it will lead. Apart from the recent appearance of the disease on the Mozambique border, it exists nowhere else in the world.

Teams of medical researchers have tested the soil, water and acrops in the area — to no avail.

The victims blame their disease on "bewitchment".

There are about 2000 people with the disease, a ration of one man to four women. At present, the local mission hospital with its supply of aspirin is their only means of alleviating the relentless 24-hour-a-day pain.

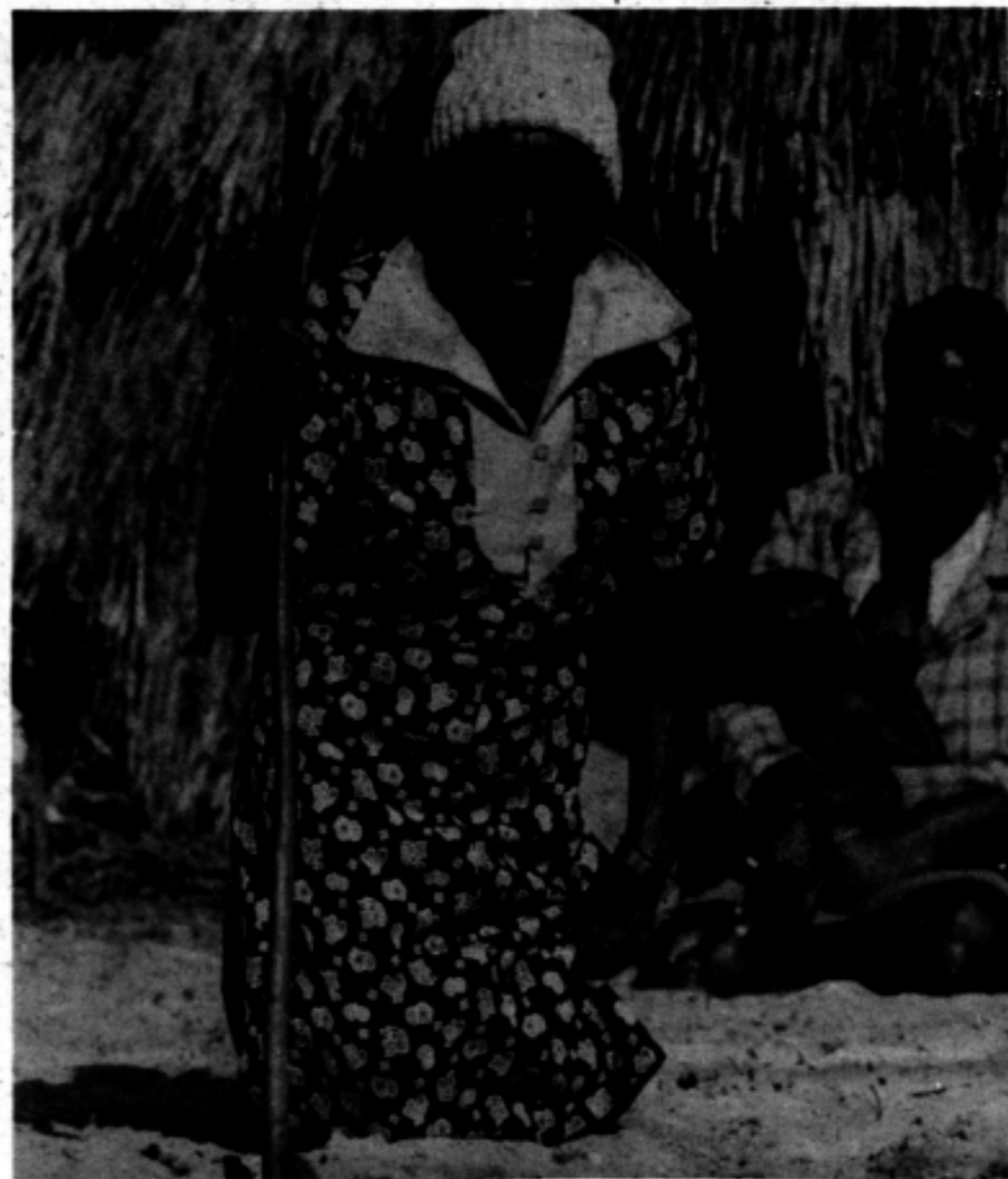
On our first day we drove from Mkuze on a kind of deathwish skidpan dirt road to the Mseleni Mission Hospital.

Deep in the bush, on a slight incline, the mission complex looks like a Hollywood copy of Albert Schweitzer's Lambarene.

It is the epicentre of the eternal struggle between modern medicine and tribal lore.

The superintendent of the hospital is Dr David Mann. He does not trust journalists. One can only gather that his mistrust stems from a fear that we might report on the disease as some kind of a "freak show in the bush" without regard for the people concerned.

Dr Mann came to the mission from Britain four years ago. In that



The victims blame their disease on "bewitchment".

time he has learned the Zulu language and picked up a fair knowledge of the people under his care.

"In really extreme cases of the disease we organise for the person to be taken to a Natal hospital for a hip replacement operation," he said. "But for the rest, all we can do here is dish out painkillers and perform Caesarian operations on pregnant women who have the disease.

This terrible affliction which has brought so many Mseleni people to their knees is a deterioration of the hip bones which leads to stiffness and ultimate immobility. The pain is always there.

If this disease were to be discussed at a medical conference, this is how it would read:

"In the three areas of Mseleni, Manaba and Mbazwana the disease has affected 39% of the female and

11% of the male population. A clinical survey has shown that among all reported cases of Mseleni disease two thirds were among adult women and one quarter among adult men.

"After an insidious onset of stiffness and gradual functional deterioration, crippling effects become apparent to the victim, often with early pain. The onset of the disease is never sudden.

"Movement of hips, ankles, knees, wrists, shoulders and elbows, in that order, become progressively restricted over 15-60 years. Despite these symptoms and the use of walking sticks, the women stoically perform their household routines, even hoeing in the small, sparsely planted fields of Indian corn and groundnuts.

"Ten new cases of Mseleni joint



First one stick, then two. The onset of the disease is never sudden.

Zimbabwe bans the controversial contraceptive

ZIMBABWE has become the first country in Africa to ban a controversial but widely used contraceptive drug, a move which has met with a mixed reaction.

The use of Depo Provera, a drug administered once every three months in the form of an injection, has been justified by the local family planning Association because Zimbabwe has one of the world's fastest

growing populations.

It has been administered in Zimbabwe for over twelve years and is being used by over 100 000 women, often without the knowledge of their husbands.

The decision to phase out the drug was taken by the Zimbabwe Cabinet and is believed to have been because there is evidence that

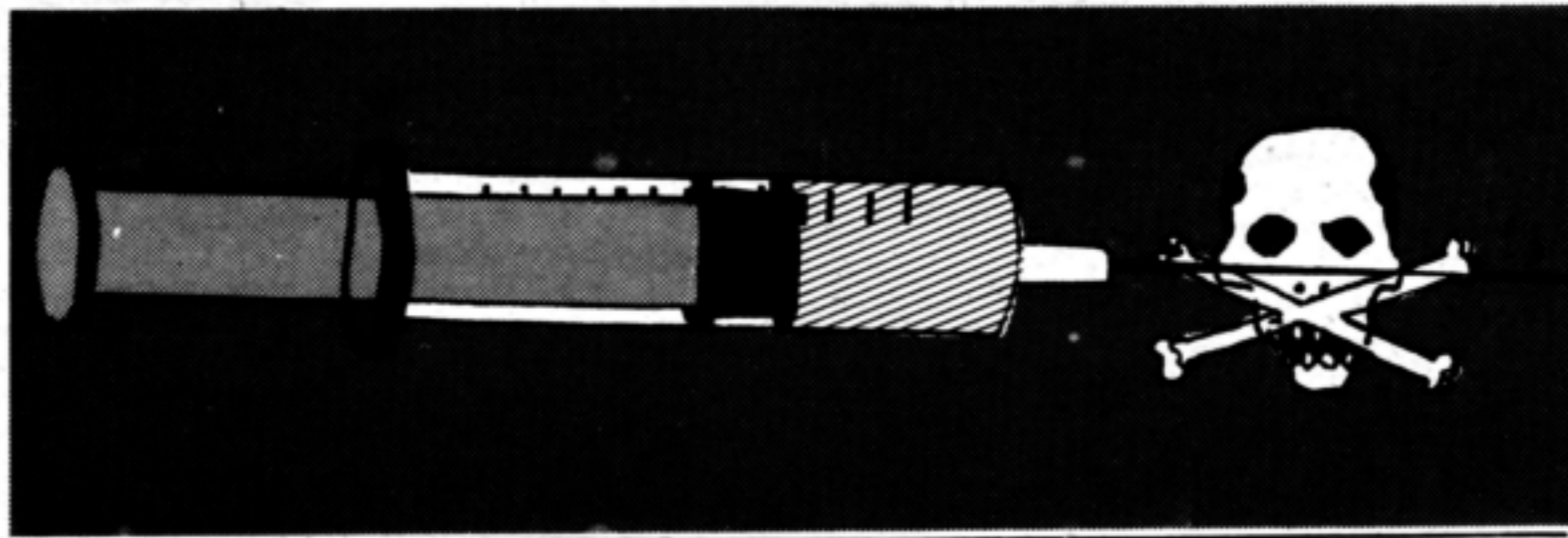
it causes blood clotting and thrombosis. The drug has been banned in the United States and some Western countries.

Peter Dodds, head of the Family Planning Association, has resigned in protest at the ban which he believes will have a disastrous effect

on the organisations attempts to reduce Zimbabwe's birth rate, which is the third highest in Africa and fourth in the world.

It used to rank higher, but Dodds believes, the slowing of the birth rate was due to the widespread use of Depo Provera.

It is understood that the Cabinet wanted the ban to be immediate but was advised by the Minister of Health, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, that this would be impossible. Instead the Cabinet opted for a gradual phasing out of the drug.



Inside the syringe lurks a lethal contraceptive.



Mseleni disease . . . hips, ankles, knees, wrists, shoulders and elbows, in that order become restricted.

Pics by Raymond Preston.

disease, not previously investigated, were diagnosed among the gardeners working in sheltered areas of the Mseleni Hospital grounds.

"In the hut cluster examined, there was evidence that the disease occurred among blood-related children. This fact tends to support the hypothesis of an hereditary factor as one of the etiologic factors of the disease.

"In Mseleni disease mild dwarfism often occurs. The average height of affected adult males is three inches shorter than normal. Deficiency of zinc may cause dwarfism, but neither deficiencies of zinc or magnesium were found in the plant ash or food of those areas or the blood of the diseased patients . . ."

We were almost out of fuel, so we took a drive back to Mkuze to look for a pump. We found one at a place called Ntshongweb but there was a sign on the pump saying "Sorry, no petrol today".

There was no accommodation at the mission, and with barely three litres of petrol left in the mud-caked city sedan we went back to Ntshongwe to barter our very existences for a full tank.

The sign was gone when we arrived, and like a rather portly angel of mercy Arthur van Heerden introduced himself.

"The people here didn't accept me at first when I arrived from Mtu-batuba. They thought I was being disrespectful to them in the shop. Soon afterwards, my leg swelled up to the size of a pumpkin. The doctors couldn't do a thing. I then softened up with the customers and soon the swelling went down.

"But you can still see the scar. Look there, no here, feel it?"

My immediate thought was: our friend Arthur saw us coming. He knows we're not bushwise and he's piling it on very thick.

Until we did the tour of the Mseleni kraals the next morning.

The people in the area, originally called Tongas, are not a tribe of cripples who spend their days working on their hands and knees and their nights bent in pain.

Of the 10 000 pulus inhabitants 2000 require hip operations, according to a medical survey done in the area. On a walk from kraal to kraal we found at least one victim in each settlement.

There were some young women at the kraals, favouring a hip and walking in pain. The older women used sticks to get around and a few crawled on their hands and knees. We saw a number of dwarfs, mainly men, whose legs had not developed in co-ordination with their torsos.

We met Mabandla Mapanga, the Sangoma, or seer.

From puberty, her folk noticed that she had the power to see through the clouds of time into the past — and the future.

One moonless night, Mabandla Mapanga was crossing a footpath on

the way to her kraal when something unseen dragged her to the ground.

"From then on I have crawled through my life," she told our interpreter, a smile cracking her features.

She has developed a tolerance to the constant pain and a sense of humour to make light of the disease that has forced her to her knees for most of her life.

"I crawl from my hut to the fire," she said. "But when I have to go long distances I call for the sledge."

Mabandla's son Vanya, is a dwarf.

Vanya said he had fallen as a toddler and his legs had not grown since.

At the kraal of the Ngubanes there was a variety of hip disease sufferers.

Twenty-year-old Thombizonke Ngubane said she had a sudden pain 10 years ago and had been unable to walk since then.

Her Aunt, Thinane, said the pain had started in her feet and then spread to her hips. Her sister, Khathazile, said the pain was worst when the weather was bad.

They said they thought they had been bewitched however, they expressed some doubt because there was no witchcraft which could be used as a cure.

All three went to the mission regularly to obtain aspirin.

At another kraal, 70-year-old Sikumbuzo Mapanga said she had gone to a party one night as a young woman and on the way home she had fallen.

"I couldn't stand up after that. My family took me to a witchdoctor and he put herb steam on my legs. I have never been to the mission for treatment or pills. I was bewitched."

Thanks to Chris Marais and the Rand Daily Mail for permission to reprint this article.

Industrial safety comes under spotlight

IN 1976, 340 000 accidents occurred in work places in South Africa and 100 000 hands, 50 000 feet and 40 000 eyes were estimated to have been seriously injured.

In the same year there were over 33 000 permanently disabled, more than 2 500 killed and a total of 32 535 000 man hours lost through accidents in the factories.

These are just those that are reported. They are also in most cases those resulting in external injury and the more serious ones. How many other accidents occur is anybody's guess.

Trade unions in South Africa and other countries have begun to recognise that work is dangerous.

This is the substance of an article

published by the Nusas Health Directive earlier this month.

It says that although workers recognised the dangers of many work processes for a long time, employers and governments have been reluctant to change the situation, mainly because protecting workers is expensive and cuts into company profits.

Focussing on South Africa the Health Fact Sheet argues that industrial accidents do not present a major cost to management since unskilled workers are easily and cheaply replaced given the high employment rate.

Injured or "unproductive" workers can be endorsed out to bantustans with little chance of

obtaining substantial, or any, compensation in the view of the authors.

health regulations have been tightened in the USA and Europe companies have begun "exporting the dangerous processes to underdeveloped countries where workers are not so strongly organised and therefore have little control over the conditions under which they work.

An example given is that of the asbestos plant recently moved from Germany; to the Cape.

Although there are no figures available for incidence of internal injuries sustained as a result of exposure to chemicals and bases, they definitely pose a problem.

In foundries, where protection is

needed, workers are paid at the lowest rates because it is unskilled labour. It is therefore cheaper for management to replace injured workers than to prevent them from being hurt.

The Erasmus Commission reported in 1976 that "Except in the mining industry, industrial health not only occupies a secondary position in industry in this country, but that industrialists have put very little time, money and organisation into the prevention of occupational diseases."

Many substances are known to be harmful. In a recent survey it was found that -3 of -8 lead-using firms did not meet industrial standards.

Apart from the physical effects of

working under unpleasant conditions, the mental and social well being of the worker is also affected.

One of the most common occupational diseases is Pneumoconiosis. 25 percent of all workers exposed to dust suffer from this disease, of which there are 3 types in South Africa — Silicosis, asbestosis and anthracosis.

Three fourths of all long serving black miners suffer from compensable diseases, which is an improvement on the first part of the century when the average life-span of a miner was 7 years. However, although their working conditions have been improved, in the long term they suffer extreme discomfort as a result of occupational disease.

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