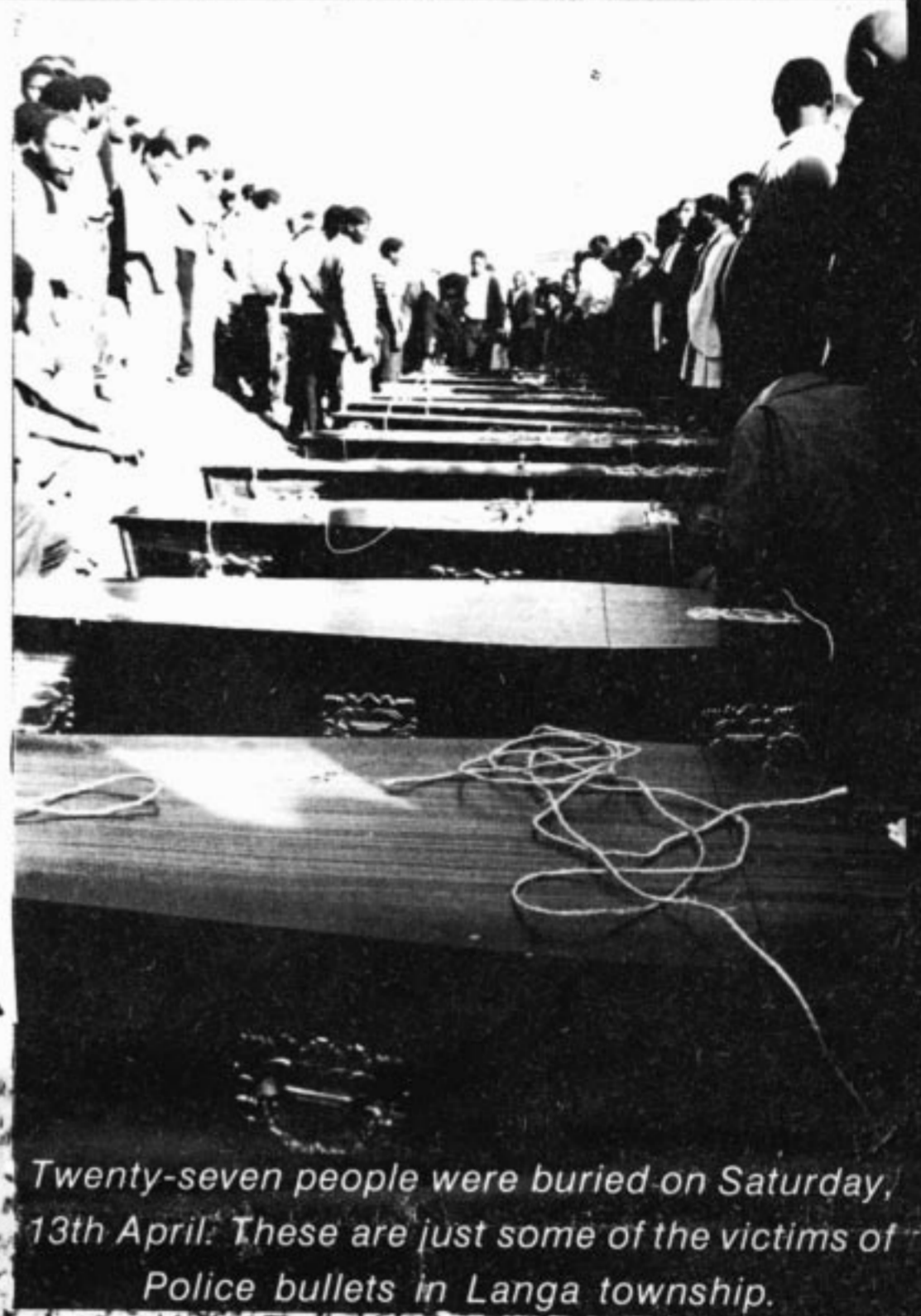


80 000 mourn victims of Uitenhage massacre

GRIEF AND ANGER

Page 2 and Page 15



Twenty-seven people were buried on Saturday, 13th April. These are just some of the victims of Police bullets in Langa township.



Thousands raise their fists at the biggest funeral in South African history

UNITING IN ATLANTIS

P. 5



TRIBUTE TO WINNIE MANDELA

p. 7



LEARNING

Roots The Student Paper No. 2 April 1985

- Stevie Wonder
- writing short stories
- macbeth part 2

FREE SUPPLEMENT

Fighting for Peace

UDF AGM

P. 8 & 9



LEARNING ROOTS

The Student Paper
No. 2 April 1985

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I like the IDEA of Learning Roots...

Dear Grassroots,

I like the idea of LEARNING ROOTS. I am a student at Silverstream Senior Secondary, where I am sub-editor of our school newspaper, and as a student, I would like to see LEARNING ROOTS grow and it can only grow if we put everything into it.

I would like to help produce a LEARNING ROOTS that's a force to be reckoned with.

Yours in Oneness
Stephen the Lion

STUDENT NEWS IN BRIEF



Schools boycott is called off

ABOUT 1500 residents and pupils of Cradock decided at a mass meeting on April 8 to call off the 15-month-old boycott of schools.

At the lengthy meeting the people felt that pupils should return to school on Monday April 15, provided that no pupils were victimised because of their involvement in the boycott.

The school boycott began more than a year ago after teachers and community leaders Mathew Goniwe and Fort Calata were dismissed.

The pupils went on a boycott — demanding

the immediate and unconditional reinstatement of the two men.

During the boycott, the community has shown its full support

for Goniwe, Calata and other leaders.

The authorities, however, have refused to give in to the community's demand.

Unemployment hits youth

AS the unemployment crisis deepens, pupils leaving school will have a tough battle finding jobs.

A recent survey showed that young people formed a major part of the unemployed in this country.

According to the survey, teenagers accounted for 18 percent of the jobless while 42 percent of the total unemployed were between the ages of 20 and 29.

It is expected that the unemployment crisis will become even worse in the next year and beyond.

NEW RECORD

THE depth of the talent in Senior Schools athletics was once again revealed over the Easter Weekend when 41 field and track records were broken at the South African Senior School Sports Association's tournament in Johannesburg.

After the tournament, a team consisting of 50 athletes from the various provinces, was selected to compete against clubs, colleges and primary schools at Vygieskraal stadium on April 20.

34 of the 50 athletes chosen are from the victorious Western Province team.

YOUTH GET GOING



Young students, workers, unemployed, break-dancers . . . everyone was there to kick off the International Youth Year on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th March.

The IYY launch was organised by the Western Cape IYY committee. The committee represents the Cape Youth Congress (Cayco); Congress of South African Students (COSAS); Azanian Students organisation (AZASO); National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) Young Christian Students (YCS) and End Conscription Campaign (ECC)



Familiar faces in the End Conscription Committee play!



GRASSROOTS launches YOUTH EXPRESS at the cultural day.



Breakdancers keep up the beat at the cultural day in Hanover Park. The day included displays, music, plays and a

Youth celebrate their unity at the IYY mass meeting in Bonteheuwel

WE BURY OUR DEAD

"OUR people cannot continue suffering like this. We must put a stop to it. Today we have seen that all of us, black and white, can live together in peace."

These words were spoken by a young man of Kwanobuhle as the funeral procession of 27 people who had died at the hands of the South African police, moved towards the cemetery.

Thousands and thousands of people — parents, youth, priests, teachers, white and black, filled the streets of the small township. People came from all parts of South Africa to mourn the dead.

For those who were there, Saturday April 13 is a day they will never forget. Most of the gravel roads of Kwanobuhle were hidden beneath a mass of humanity. People crowded on to the roofs of township houses to get a proper view of the proceedings. Thousands more gathered on the green hills surrounding the cemetery. There were 80-, 90-, maybe 100 000 people.

Earlier, speakers from various township organisations like the UDF, Uitenhage Womens organisation, Uitenhage Youth Congress, Trade Unions and Churches addressed the massive crowd that had gathered from early that morning at NEW STADIUM in Kwanobuhle.

Just before 3 p.m., the funeral procession left the stadium led by Dr Allan Boesak, Bishop Desmond Tutu and a large group of priests from the Eastern Cape.

Mourners formed a guard-of-honour stretching for about 500 metres. The 27 victims, most who had been killed in the massacre in Langa on March 21, were carried to the cemetery in their coffins.

The 27 coffins were placed next to the 27 burial holes. Families and friends of the victims showed their grief and sorrow. The entire community is shocked and angered at these senseless and unnecessary deaths.



Langa and Kwanobuhle Townships under siege

As we neared Uitenhage at noon on Saturday, more than 14 hours after leaving Cape Town, we sat up at the sight of an armoured SADF vehicle surrounded by soldiers.

As we travelled on, we stared in disbelief at more and more armoured vehicles and soldiers lining the roads, parked behind bushes, on the top of a hill, next to a shed, on one of the farms. They just stood there, looking bored waiting.

In the business area of Uitenhage, there were soldiers, uniformed policemen and plainclothed security policemen on virtually every corner.

But the area appeared unusually quiet for a Saturday morning.

With the policemen and soldiers in sight, some of the workers who were on duty at shops and filling stations, raised their fists defiantly as our bus headed in the direction of Kwanobuhle.

At the border of the township, a group of soldiers wearing helmets and carrying guns, radiotelephones and binoculars, stood guard.

A busload of people from Cape Town travelled to Uitenhage for the mass funeral on Saturday April 13. A Grassroots team went along and in this report, they describe what they had seen and heard.



We got the impression that a war was in progress. The army, who we are told, defend the country's borders, was right there on the borders of Kwanobuhle.

As we drove towards the stadium where the funeral proceedings had already started two hours before, we passed large groups of people, heading to the same destination. Everyone — young, children, youth, parents, old men and women greeted us with clenched fists and shouts of "Amandla" and "Viva".

We arrived at the stadium two-and-a-half hours late, thanks to three roadblocks — the first in Paarl, the

second just after Worcester and the third a distance outside Oudshoorn.

Many people in the bus believed it was a deliberate attempt to delay us.

In and around the stadium, there were people everywhere. We had never before witnessed so many people gathered together at one place.

The Cape Town delegation entered the stadium and we made our way through the crowd of 70 000 people, slowly, until we finally stationed ourselves near the grandstand where the speakers were seated. 27 coffins were lined up in front of the grandstand.

Women dressed in purple and white outfits, stood out in the crowd while many priests, including Dr Allan Boesak and Bishop Desmond Tutu caught one's attention with their impressive looking robes.

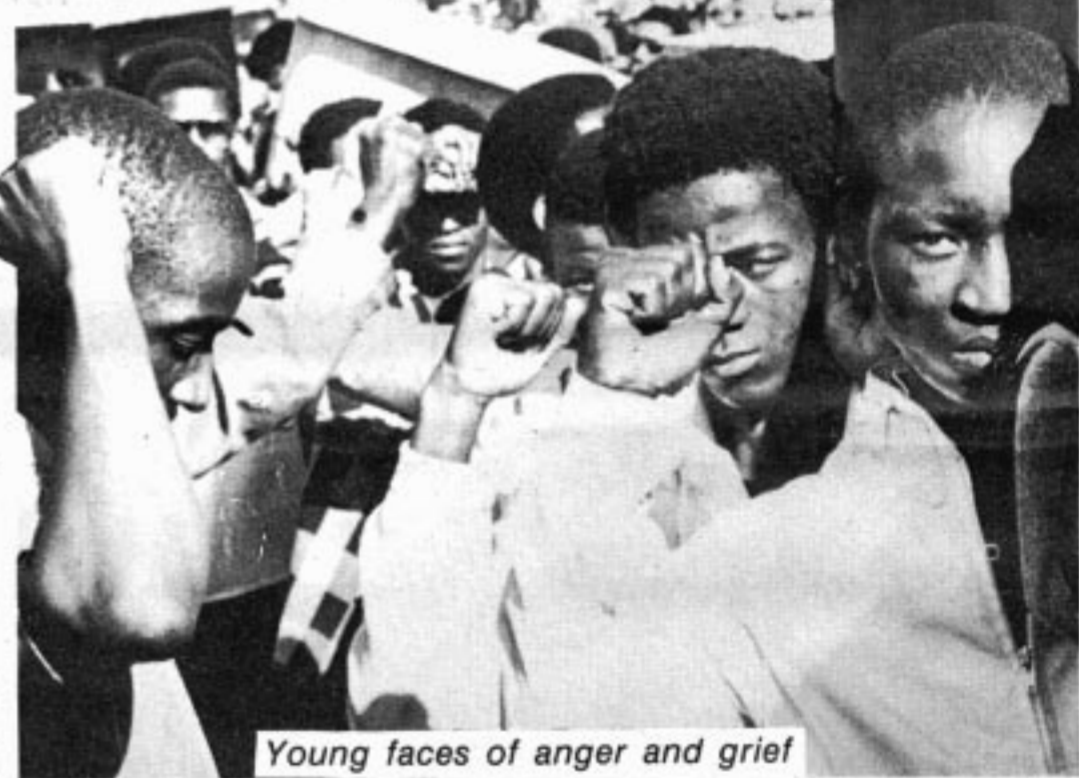
Hand-made and painted banners were held high. Many people wore brightly-coloured T-shirts bearing the name of various township organisations.

For almost three hours, with the sun shining brightly, we were hemmed in by the crowd, hardly able to move forward or backward.

Just before 3 p.m. the funeral procession left the stadium. Young men with clenched fists carried the coffins to the cemetery where their fallen comrades were finally laid to rest.

As people sang and held their banners high, one knew one was among a very determined people. They experience endless suffering under the inhuman system of apartheid.

They refuse to allow the Government to oppress and exploit them any longer. They want freedom and are prepared to fight and die for it.



Young faces of anger and grief

Crimes against the people

IN December last year, the home of Fiks Qobese, a former vice-President of the United Democratic Front (Eastern Cape Region), was petrol-bombed.

In the resulting fire, his 19-year-old brother Lesley was burnt to death.

The last few months have seen increasing violence in the townships of Langa and Kwanobuhle. Langa, an old township, is situated about 3 km from Uitenhage, while Kwanobuhle is on the opposite side, 13 km away.

About 6 000 people live in Langa, a squatter township, where poverty, unemployment, high prices and retrenchments cripple the community.

Last year people from Langa were moved to the new township of Kwanobuhle but many moved back because there were not enough facilities.

A few months ago, the Uitenhage Youth Congress started a campaign calling for the resignation of the Community Councillors. The Community Council declared war

on people's organisations like the Youth Congress, the Womens organisation and the UDF. They were prevented from using halls for meetings.

Fiks Qobese was attacked and his home later petrol bombed, a result of which his brother died.

Community Councillors were armed and protected by Vigilantes and police.

A number of township youth were either shot or assaulted by bullyboys of the community council.

In February this year, the anger of the people erupted. All the community councillors, except Kinikini resigned.

Kinikini was later hunted down, hacked to death and burnt. Today, not a single policeman or community councillor lives in either township.

The people, after years of frustration, bitterness and suffering under apartheid, are fighting back. And their first targets have been representatives of Apartheid right in the townships.

BUT NOT OUR ANGER

Part 2
Themes

STUDY GUIDE TO MACBETH:

'FAIR IS FOUL'

IN this article we look at the theme of DISRUPTION OF ORDER in Macbeth. By "themes" we mean the main topics or ideas a writer is exploring.

WITCHES: Fair is foul and foul is fair (1.1)
DOCTOR: Foul whisperings are abroad. Unnatural deeds do breed unnatural troubles. (5.1)

THE theme of disruption of order is introduced right at the beginning of the play, when the witches say "fair is foul and foul is fair." From this time on we can expect to find ourselves in a topsy turvy world where order becomes chaos.

Because Macbeth murders the king he disrupts the natural order of the universe. His crime is unnatural because it goes against the order of life as the Elizabethans saw it.

Elizabethans (people who lived in Shakespeare's time) believed that all things were ranked in order of importance. The king was believed to come first on earth, followed by ordinary people. Angels and God were above the king, and animals were below people.

People believed that this order, which they called the "Chain of Being," had been created by God, and was therefore natural and good.

"In this order, angel is set over angel, rank upon rank in the kingdom of heaven, man is set over man, beast over beast."

The important idea in this world view is that the universe is arranged so that it is harmonious. It works smoothly with a natural unity.

As the Elizabethans saw it, Macbeth killed the rightful king Duncan, who was superior to him in the Chain of Being. In so doing, he interfered with the natural order. His action was evil because it went against the God-given order of the universe. It also set off a chain reaction because the order was disrupted. Horses stopped behaving as they should, day became night. Order is only restored when the rightful heir, Malcolm, becomes king.

The language of the play is full of reminders that Macbeth has committed an unnatural and evil act. Even just the thought of murder shakes his "single state of man".

Lady Macbeth calls on evil spirits to replace her milk, which is nourishing, with bitter gall. She speaks of giving suck to a smiling baby and then

dashing its brains out. All these images are unnatural and murderous. They prepare us for the murder.

Immediately after the murder the world turns upside down. Daytime is dark, an owl which usually eats mice, eats a raven, horses break out of their stables, "at war with mankind" and eat each other.

But it is not only the world order that is disturbed. The theme also extends to mental order. Macbeth begins to lose his mind. Lady Macbeth ends up sleepwalking and finally commits suicide. Macbeth knows that he may do "all that becomes a man, who does more is none", but he does it nonetheless. He enters a nightmare world with no sleep, visions of daggers and ghosts, where "noting is but what is not."

As the doctor says, "unnatural deeds do breed unnatural troubles."

The Chain of Being



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

EXERCISE

Read the following extract and answer the questions.

MACBETH (4.1)
"I conjure you, by that which you profess,
How'er you come to know it, answer me:
Though you untie the winds and let them fight
Against the churches; though the yesty waves
confound and swallow navigation up;
Though bladed corn be lodged and trees
blown down
Though castles topple on their waters' heads
Though palaces and pyramids do slope
Their heads to their foundations
Though the treasure of Nature's germens
tumble all together
Even till destruction ticken, answer me
to what I ask you."

1. What does this passage tell us about Macbeth's attitude to natural and social order?
2. What examples of disorder does he give?
3. Compare this speech with his speech at the beginning of Act 1 sec. 7 (if it were done . . . other) Has his attitude to the natural order changed? (answers in the next Learning Roots).

Solutions to Crossword in Learning Roots, No.1.

- Across
1. Gold; 2. thick; 6. Golgotha; 7. meet;
8. stage; 11. reeks; 13. porter; 14. all;
17. filthy witness; 20. knell; 24. die;
25. Neptune; 26. sudz
Down
1. gilds; 2. two; 3. chamberlains;
4. fress; 5. flee; 6. grater; 9. croak;
10. gore; 12. senses; 13. perfumes;
19. sleep; 21. end; 22. LP; 23. pun.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Student Views

Unite for a better future

Dear Grassroots,

THIS being International Year of the Youth, we as a class have discussed some aspects of life around us. As thinking young people we feel that it is our right to ask questions, and through your newspaper we would like to address parents, teachers, old people, young children and the government.

Firstly to the parents we ask: Do you think that children should make their own decisions without asking their parents? Are there some decisions which parents have to make for their children? What do you think?

We ask the teachers: Should sex education be introduced at school? Many girls fall pregnant when they are not ready for it. If we had sex education, maybe we could help our pupils.

To the old people, those who have experienced life: Do you senior citizens get enough pension? The reason we ask this is that we think that poor pensioners cannot manage with the high cost of living. You pensioners who live alone, are you able to afford your rent?

We ask the young children: Do you have enough playgrounds? We see many young children playing in the street and we don't like it.

Lastly we address the government of this country with a number of questions, all of which we feel are important. We would like to know why the government is removing people from their homes. People do not want to go and they feel happy in their own place.

We are also concerned about the high cost of living. Food prices go up, and so does rent. There are already many poor people who do not have food in their houses.

Many of us want to know why South Africa must have apartheid. Why can't we all live together? People cannot live without each other. What are the future plans for South Africa? We think that the system of apartheid should make way for equal rights. People must unite to build the land up for a better future.

We would be very happy if any readers would like to respond to our questions.

Yours faithfully
The 8 B's, Heideveld Senior Secondary School

WRITE TO:
LETTERS Grassroots
7 CORPORATE
COMMUNICATION CHAMBERS
10 CORPORATION ST
CAPE TOWN
OR PHONE 45-3321/452352

Peace in Our Land

DEAR GRASSROOTS
MY dream for the future of South Africa is that there be peace throughout the country. I would also like apartheid to be scrapped. Apartheid not only splits people up, it causes other people to degrade their fellow countrymen.

South Africa should be a country where people feel free to do whatever they like and go wherever they wish. So-called whites, coloureds, blacks and Indians would all be treated as equals. They are all as human as the next person and they should not be classified according to the colour of their skins.

UITENHAGE
IN Uitenhage lots of people are being killed for going to a funeral of a person who was fighting for his rights. The police accuse people of throwing stones and petrol bombs. Anyone knows that you don't carry stones and petrol bombs to a funeral. The police were just looking for an excuse to put the blame on the people.

ZULAYGA

Scrap apartheid

DEAR GRASSROOTS
PRESENTLY the situation in South Africa makes the future look very grim. But all these problems can be solved by a simple solution, namely the scrapping of apartheid. It is an abhorrent ideology, that does not belong in a civilized world.

If apartheid were dropped, there would be no more violence and bloodshed in the country, and people could sell their skills and talents on an equal scale.

CONSCRIPTION
NOW the coloureds and Indians supposedly have some say in government affairs, they are also required to serve in the army. Many people are fooled in this way. They do not know that by serving in the SADF, they are oppressing themselves, because they are defending the apartheid system.
Shamiel Gameldien.

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IZWL LALUTSHA
YOUTH EXPRESS

ENTER NOW!!!

Zac Yacob speaks about treason

'OUR WHOLE COMMUNITY IS ON TRIAL'

THE treason trial is much more than just a trial of leaders, says blind Durban advocate Zac Yacob.

"It is the democratic community and our methods of struggle which are on trial," said Yacob, who represented five of the treason trial accused during the Durban Consulate drama last year.

He was speaking at a meeting in Athlone recently.

Mr Yacob said that by holding the trial in Natal, the government was hoping that the people of Cape Town and the rest of the country would not show support for the sixteen leaders on trial.

"By having a treason trial in the first place, they are trying to frighten people. We need to demonstrate clearly that we are not afraid. We must continue the struggle.

"The only way to do this is to ensure that the treason trial is part of whatever campaigns we take up. The treason

trial is not unrelated to what has happened in the Vaal Triangle, Crossroads or Uitenhage.

"The government tried different methods to control our struggle. They use bullets, batons, the courts, the army and their education system.

"In the same way, we need to use all we have to beat the govern-

"THE government tries different methods to control our struggle. They use bullets, batons, the courts, the army and their education system."

ment. We need to demonstrate. We need to protest against the government's attempts to declare our methods of struggle illegal."

Mr Yacob said the government was clever to charge people with high treason first and then under the Internal Security Act.

"High treason is considered a crime everywhere. Any subject of a country can be charged with high treason.

"But the South African government is illegitimate. We did not vote for them. We owe our allegiance not to the government, but to the country of our birth."

Mr Yacob said people are fighting for

government wants to create for their puppets to move in.

"We must let all our people know about and understand the treason trial.

"We must make sure that things which are happening in this country are known about internationally.

"We must show the link between the treason trial and other atrocities committed by the government. This can be done through hard work and action only.

"The fact that the government is behaving so badly is not a sign of strength, but it is a sign of absolute weakness.

"It is during times of such weakness that we need to act because the government is most vulnerable now. Whatever happens, our struggle must continue. We will win."



CHURCH and UDF leaders were among more than 200 people arrested recently during a march on parliament.

'For those in jail . . .

WHEN 300 people held a Good Friday service outside Durban Central Prison, the prisoners joined them in song from inside the prison.

The 16 UDF leaders facing charges of high treason are held at this prison.

Some of their wives and children were part of the service outside the prison walls.

The service was held after church leaders carrying a two metre wooden cross led a

traditional procession through the streets of Durban.

The churchgoers, led by Archbishop Dennis Hurley and the Reverend Wesley Mabuza, prayed for all those suffering in South Africa, and for all prisoners of apartheid, particularly those on treason trial and those on Robben Island.

A similar march was held in Johannesburg, led by Bishop Desmond

Tutu.

At a march of more than 300 in Cape Town, 262 people were arrested. They include Dr Allan Boesak, Dr Beyers Naude, Rev Abel Hendricks and several of the UDF leadership in the Western Cape.

They have all been released without bail and are appearing in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court on June 3, 4 and 5.

Jail, bomb shock for banned Issel

The harassment of community leader Johnny Issel continues.

Recently, he was arrested for breaking his banning order — and a few hours later a car burst into flames outside his house in Athlone.

Mr. Issel was arrested on Tuesday April 2 at the offices of the Churches Urban Planning Commission (CUPC) in Observatory.

In terms of his banning order, he is not allowed to leave the Wynberg Magisterial District. Within two hours, Mr. Issel was taken to the Cape Town Magistrate Court where he was charged with breaking his banning order.

To shouts of *Amandla* and other slogans from the crowd in the court, he was



released without bail and asked to appear again on May 10.

Later that evening there was more drama in the Issel household.

Soon after midnight while he was watching videos, Mr Issel suddenly realised that a car had burst into flames outside his house.

Afterwards they found a petrol bomb under the car's tank. Petrol had been thrown on the car.

The incident has not been reported to the police.



Crossroads victims laid to rest

TEARS flowed freely when Crossroads laid many of its brave sons and daughters to rest recently. But more than the tears, was the resolve to "take forward their fight".

The deceased were victims of police violence during the recent unrest in Crossroads. Police has opened fire on protesting

people. Eighteen people were killed and hundreds injured.

The protests started when the people heard that 600 Venda-speaking work men had been brought to Khayelitsha in February.

"These people are here to force us to move to Khayelitsha," said the people of Crossroads.

They decided to stay at home on February 18 to protect their homes.

The police moved in. Within hours the area was like a war zone and the dead bodies were being counted.

Most of the funerals were organised by the people's organisations, like Crossroads Commit-

tee and the United Democratic Front (UDF).

Oscar Mpetha, outgoing president of the UDF, spoke at the mass funeral in Crossroads on Saturday March 16.

The message from the people of Crossroads remain the same: "We will not move to Khayelitsha."

THE oppressive midday heat beat fiercely down on the withered blades of grass in Woodford Square, the sanctuary¹ of Port of Spain's² unemployed. Groups of ragged, melancholic³ and vociferous⁴ men and women were scattered over the grass, discussing one subject or another.

On a bench in the square sat two men. Leo was in the middle. Tall and sturdy, he wore a faded and dirty khaki suit, which left vast areas of his arms and legs uncovered.

On Leo's right sat Eric. Lean and emaciated⁵, his bones seemed to protrude through his thin black skin, and a crafty glint shone in his ashen eyes.

"I hear the Government want people for stevedor work" Eric said, insinuatingly⁶. Leo blew a thick cloud of smoke through his lips. Then he flicked the grey ash from the end of his cigarette, lightly crushed out the dim red glow, and placed the still warm "zoot" behind his right ear.

He knew why the government wanted workers. The dock workers were on strike for higher wages. And the government wanted to break the strike by getting other workers. But he did not speak.

"What happen now?" growled Eric. "You ain't want work or what? The government give we work, and you sitting down like you proud."

Leo was angered by Eric's sarcasm. "We black people ain't have no unity," he shouted. "Anybody who take that work want shooting. When the white man have the business, all them does get together. But when we black people do something, the other does set against them. We ain't have no unity, that's what." "You just minding them politicians and their talk" said Eric, rising from the bench. "What you say is true, but politics ain't for black people. Man have to live."

As Leo watched Eric go, the clock of the cathedral chimed twelve. It reminded Leo that soon he would have to face Mabel, his wife. He sighed. Life was hard. Life, he reflected, had never been rosy. Now it was coarse and horrid. And Mabel made it worse.

He remembered how she'd been yesterday. "When you going to get work, Leo?" she'd asked him, "Is over a whole year and you ain't working. How long you think we could live so?"

"But Mabel," he said, "I trying my best. Some people ain't working for years now."

"That is some people" she exploded, "but me is me. I can't go on living like this, not knowing what I go eat tomorrow, or when the man going to put we out for the rent, or borrowing and not knowing when I am going to pay back. This ain't go do."



A Short Story by Caribbean writer Clifford Sealy

"Keep courage," he begged. "You forget is tomorrow I have to go see the man at the soap factory." But there was no job at the soap factory. The forman had already given it to his cousin.

Leo sighed and rose from his seat. When he reached their small barren room, Mabel was lying on the small iron bed. She must have seen the disappointment on his face, for as soon as she saw him, she exclaimed, "You ain't get the job!"

Leo shook his head.

"But this is . . ." Mabel burst out, sitting up. "What you mean by? If you know you can't get work, what you get wife for?"

His pride severely wounded, Leo spluttered. "But Mabel, I try my best."

"You trying you best" she sneered. "Hows Jane's husband, working on the docks three days now."

"He is a dog," growled Leo. "I ain't want that work."

I ain't for to sell out the workers. . . ."

"Oh, you picking and choosing" she snarled. "You minding the union and politics. Is pride you have, going on so."

"You ain't understand."

"I understand well. You ain't really want to work. But I ain't living with no man who ain't want to a work and mind his wife. I ain't any woman you just find. And if you ain't want to mind me, there's plenty others will."

"Go to hell" he shouted, tumbling out of the room.

A huge and excited crowd had gathered outside. The dock workers were going on a march. Men and women stood in the streets and on the pavements.

The crowd began to move, and Leo found himself moving with them. Placards rose high and voices shouted to the heavens. Starting in the front, their song swiftly spread through the assembly like a summer fire in a dense forest.

"Sing, comrade, sing" a man commanded Leo.

"Hold the fort we are coming

Union men be strong"

Leo sang, the words finding a dim echo in his breast which rose to a choking crescendo.

Suddenly, he thought of Mabel, of Eric, of his own hunger and despair. He turned and ran down Henry Street, away from the crowd, away from the joy which reminded him of himself, away, away.

He reached the docks. A line of men was standing in front of a wooden building. As he drew closer to the line, there was a hoarse familiar whisper "Psst, Leo, room in here" Leo hesitated, and turned to leave. But Eric's long hand gripped him. "Come you young fool, before you lose your chance," he said.

For a deep, significant moment, Leo resisted. Then he gave in, and squeezed himself behind Eric. He deafened his ears to what Eric was saying. He deafened his ears to the song of the strikers, which still played in his heart. He stared straight ahead, and waited.

¹Sanctuary: Place of refuge

²Port of Spain: Capital of Trinidad, and Island in the Caribbean

³melancholic: sad

⁴Vociferous: talkative

⁵emaciated: thin

⁶Insinuatingly: with a double meaning

FOR DISCUSSION: Do you think Leo made the right decision? What would you have done if you had been him?

How to write Short Stories

STORY TIME!

WE often think that good, exciting stories are always about unusual people in unusual places. Like oil barons in Texas! But often, the best stories are about ordinary people, doing ordinary things. And all of us have had experiences — funny or sad, pleasant or frightening, which could form the basis for a good story.

Writing a short story is not that difficult. There are no rules about what makes a good story, but here are some points to help you.

A short story has different aspects:

THEME

The theme is the issue or moral illustrated by the story. In "the bitter choice" the theme is the choice between standing by others, and looking after ones' own interests. The story also is a commentary on the difficulties of unemployment, how it undermines the unity and spirit of workers.

A story can have more than one theme. But generally, it is better to stick to one theme and to make one main point in the story.

THE SETTING

This is the time and place where the story happens. When describing the setting, you need to decide what is important to the story. In our example, the author does not give a long description of the town. He just

tells us enough to give a feeling of the place, and to give a sense of the large numbers of unemployed — which is important to the story.

THE CHARACTERS

Then, of course, there are the characters, of people in the story. In a short story, you do not have much space to describe your characters. This means that you cannot have too many characters, and you have to be quite tight in your descriptions.

In "the bitter choice" the author uses different methods to create the character of Leo. He briefly describes what he looks like, and what he wears. But he also uses his dialogue (conversation) — we can learn a lot about Leo both from the way he talks, and what he says. We can also learn from small actions — the way he nips his cigarette and keeps it for later for instance.

It is important that your characters are consistent.

A gangster is not likely to talk like a school teacher, for instance!

THE PLOT

This is what actually happens in the story. Again, keep it simple.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER.

Once you have planned the theme, plot, characters and setting for your story, you can start putting it together. There is no magic formula. But there is a

standard framework, which is used in many short stories and is a good place to start:

PRESENTATION OF SITUATION — "Johnny was walking down the road"

DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION — "Suddenly a dog ran out and bit him on the ankle"

RESOLUTION/ENDING OF THE STORY — "Johnny picked up the dog, threw it over the fence, and carried on walking"

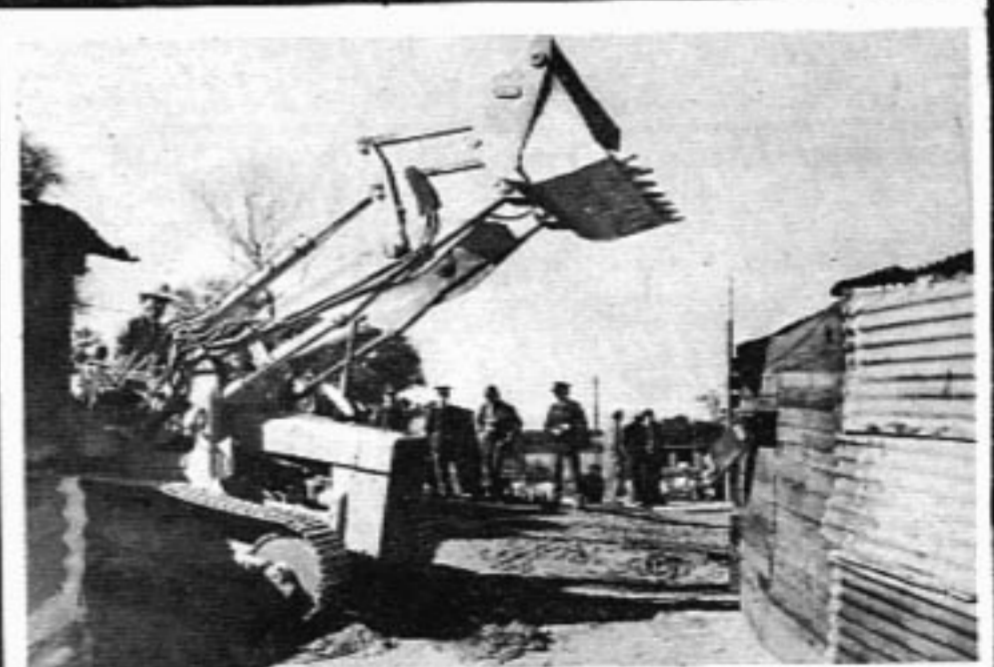
Your ending is the most important part of the story. It can be happy (as in our story) or sad (Johnny bled to death in the road) or unexpected (Johnny bit the dog back) but it must END. Don't leave your readers hanging on and wondering what is going to happen next.

In general, keep it simple; write about people and places you are familiar with; and read lots and lots of short stories to get ideas.

Some authors and books to look out for: Alan Sillitoe (Loneliness of a Long Distance Runner; A Sillitoe Selection) Rool Dahl; Jan Needle (A Sense of Shame and other stories); H.C. Bosman; Farrukh Dhondy (Come to Mecca and other stories).

EVERYONE has a story! Why don't you try your hand at writing a short story? We will publish the best story sent to us in the next issue of LEARNING ROOTS. You can also enter your stories in the GRASSROOTS YOUTH EXPRESS competition — and win a typewriter / other exciting prizes. This article may give you some ideas of where to start . . .

Some ideas for Stories



1. Write a story around this photograph — try to imagine who these people are and how they got here, and what happens after this. The picture can be the beginning, end or middle of your story.

2. STREET LIFE . . . Write a story about someone who joins a gang because he/she can't find work.

3. LAID OFF — Thousands of workers have been retrenched because of cut backs in staff, closing down of factories etc. Write a story of someone who has been laid off after working in the same factory for twenty years.

4. GUTTER EDUCATION DOESN'T EDUCATE, GUTTER EDUCATION JUST FRUSTRATES. Write a story illustrating this.

5. I JUST CALLED TO SAY I LOVE YOU — write a story ending with these words.

6. POLICE BULLETS. Write a short story set in Uitenhage, around the killing of people by

police. You can either describe what happened when the police opened fire, or describe it from the point of view of a relative of one of those killed. For more ideas, look at GRASSROOTS p.2.

SAAWU STRIKE VICTORY

But Pretoria strike goes on

THE South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU) has scored a major victory at the Continental China firm in Blackheath after a short strike.

But at the Continental China plant in Rosslyn, Pretoria, the workers are still fighting to be reinstated after a strike that started in November last year.

Talks between the workers' union and the bosses ended in a deadlock recently. The bosses said they would be prepared to take back only 12 of the dismissed workers. About

650 workers had gone on strike and were dismissed.

On the morning of Wednesday April 10, about 300 workers picketed outside the gates of Continental China and demanded their jobs back.

They were all arrested and face charges of intimidation.

The fight at Continental China in Rosslyn started in August last year when the bosses asked them to work 45 hours instead of the normal 40 without an increase.

After a number of

work stoppages, 300 workers were dismissed, followed by another 350.

Early this year, the Pretoria workers asked the workers in Cape Town for support.

The workers at Blackheath plant decided to come out on strike last month.

After two weeks, they were all reinstated. They all received an increase of at least 15 percent, with another possible increase in August.

Management also agreed to recognise the workers' union SAAWU.

GWU goes for registration

THE General Workers' Union has, at a special conference in March, expressed "its outrage at the killing of innocent people in Uitenhage."

The union also condemned "the leader of the capitalist world", President Ronald Reagan, for supporting the South African government.

In a statement released after the conference, the union said that "the escalating unrest in the country is an expression of the mounting anger of the workers of South Africa and their children."

They call for the unbanning of all political organisations, and the recognition of the political representatives of the people's choice.

The conference also decided that the union would register in terms Act. The General Workers Union, which has 11 500 members, has always opposed registration, because it felt that the government was trying to control the unions.

After discussing the issue for six months in each of the factories in the union, the workers felt that "the realization of our objectives

would be better served by registering".

This is because the law has changed over the years such that the unregistered unions are forced to give the government the same information as registered unions.

The advantage of registering is that the union does not have to have the permission of the Minister of Manpower to obtain stop orders which makes it easy to collect money from members. In January the National Union of Mineworkers took a similar decision.

CLOTHING WORKERS UNION FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE MARCH '85



IMAM Hassan Solomons speaks at the first AGM of the Clothing Workers' Union

The bosses are scared, Boesak tells Clowu AGM



GAWA HARTLEY, one of Clowu's executive members speaks at the AGM.

"I have discovered there is much hope in the struggle. We are not fighting in a dark tunnel anymore . . . from management in any small factory to the big bosses of this country, to the Government, they are the people who are worried. You are the people on the road to victory."

With these words Dr Allan Boesak congratulated the members of the Clothing Workers Union (Clowu) on the work they had done.

Dr Boesak was a guest speaker at Clowu's first annual conference held in Bonteheuwel on March 30.

There was a great spirit of unity at the AGM. Workers sang and shouted Amandla! in response to speakers. Other guest speakers were Amanda Kwadi from the Federation of Transvaal Women and Imam Hassan Solomons. There were many messages of support from other organisations.

PRODUCE

The secretary of Clowu, giving a report on the year's work, explained how workers in the industry are affected by retrenchments. "The bosses are using this to scare workers away from Clowu. The bosses are vicious. The big stick they are using now is retrenchments."

They say they are forced to put off workers. They use this to make our workers produce more and more. They get production without paying for overtime."

Amanda Kwadi gave a message to the workers. These were her words; "A woman from Vietnam once said that when women start to get into the struggle for freedom, you must know we are entering a new phase . . . we cannot win if women are not involved. . ."

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NO WONDER - SABC cracks down on blind singer

STEVIE SALUTES MANDELA

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
FREE SOUTH AFRICA!

ALMOST every day we read about prominent Americans protesting against the evils of apartheid. Already thousands of Americans have been arrested during anti-apartheid demonstrations outside South African embassies in the United States.

Trade Union leaders, students, politicians, entertainers and sportspersons are all making their opposition to South Africa's system of apartheid known.

Among those arrested in the last few months are Stevie Wonder, Harry Belafonte, director of the movie "Beat Street" and Larry Holmes, the World Heavyweight Boxing Champion.

Why are they demonstrating? What do they hope to achieve? More and more Americans are beginning to understand the evils of apartheid - how hard it makes our lives.

The crimes of apartheid like the killings in Crossroads and Uitenhage are making them angry. What makes them angrier is the fact that the United States Government supports this evil system by dealing with the Botha Government.

These demonstrators also feel that big American companies like General Motors, Ford etc. only invest in South Africa because of the huge profits they make.

These investments they say help the Government more than the people.

For these reasons, the Free South Africa Movement which is organising these demonstrations are saying the following things:

- no more money must be invested in South Africa.
- President Reagan and his government must break all ties with the Botha regime

The Free South Africa Movement believes that through these demonstrations, more and more people will begin to understand how big business makes a profit from our people's misery and how the Reagan Government strengthens the apartheid state.

With this understanding they will force the United States Government to break all ties with apartheid.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



"I THINK the ban on Stevie Wonder's music is totally ridiculous. Everyone likes his music - it's the people's music.

The government is scared that he will open people's eyes to the truth of what is happening here."

These are the words of a high school student. He was reacting to the SABC's decision to ban Wonder's music after the blind singer accepted an Oscar in the name of Nelson Mandela, the jailed ANC leader.

Stevie Wonder, who was recently arrested during an anti-apartheid demo outside the SA Embassy in Washington, received the award for his song "I just called to say I love you".

The SABC labelled the singer "An African National Congress supporter." The SABC said it would not promote anyone who supported the ANC.

A spokesperson said: "If someone supports the ANC, financially as well, we cannot continue promoting that person's music while he earns money from it in this country."

Some students and

music-lovers gave Grassroots their views on the banning.

Naelin of Livingstone S.S. said "Stevie Wonder is famous. Now people will start asking questions about why his music is banned and what's it all about."

Ghalieb, a Crestway S.S. student, said the government clamps down on all things that promote the truth. "The government thinks they can stop us asking questions. But now people are asking more questions. All other musicians and professional people should start thinking seriously about joining up with the anti-apartheid movement."

Another student, who gave his name only as Wayne, said: "Stevie Wonder used his position to promote the name of Mandela. Many people will now want to find out more about Mandela."

Soraya of South Peninsula said: "It's stupid to ban his music. He's the best vocalist around. He was brave to do what he did."

Kieyaam, a Wittebome S.S. student, said the stand Stevie Wonder and others are taking will make people throughout the world aware of what's happening in South Africa.

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Grassroots April 1985

Atlantis crippled by high prices, unemployment

A PLACE OF HARDSHIPS, SUFFERING

IN 1975, people from different towns, struggling to find good homes and jobs, began moving into Atlantis. The people were promised that work would be plentiful and that they would be given decent housing.

Rents would be low and there would be lots of facilities like parks, sportsfields and creches. There would be no need to go and work out of Atlantis.

The people dreamt of a better future for themselves and their families. But today, for the 50 000 people living in Atlantis, these dreams have turned into one big nightmare.

In just a few years, Atlantis has become a place where poverty, unemployment and high prices have virtually crippled the West Coast community.

Today men and women daily take to the streets of Atlantis to look for jobs. Many are forced to travel to Cape Town in search of

work.

Mr Noel Williams of the Atlantis Residents Association said: "Every day you see new faces. Many of the other people have given up. They don't go out any more because there just is no work."

Daily people in Atlantis are losing their jobs. Since the beginning of this year, more than 1 200 people have lost their jobs. Some scratch in bins for food, while others sell bottles to get money for food.

Because things are so bad, many people have

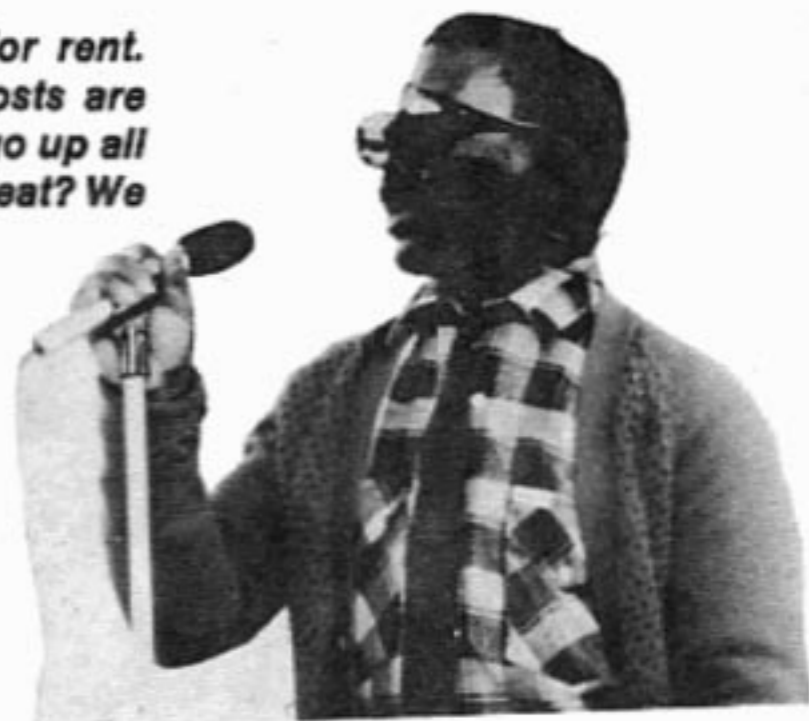
fallen heavily in arrears with their rents. Some families owe the Divisional Council more than R2 000. This has led to many families being threatened with eviction.

It was only action by supporters of the Atlantis Residents Association in February which stopped more than 300 families being evicted.

So it seems that the suffering and hardship in Atlantis has no end. But the people are determined to overcome their problems. With the formation of the Atlantis Residents Association in February, the residents took the first step in the long and hard battle to build a better life for themselves and their children.

"All our money goes for rent. Water and electricity costs are very high. Food prices go up all the time. What must we eat? We can't eat anything any more. What can we do?"

John Mtini



Atlantis residents come together to discuss their problems



Atlantis staan saam om probleme op te los

DIE mense van Atlantis is aan die beweeg. "Ons moet saamstaan", is die boodskap wat soos 'n veldbrand na alle dele van hierdie groot gemeenskap versprei.

Die inwoners se eerste stap was om die Atlantis Inwoners Vereniging op Februarie 25 te stig.

Meer as 450 mense het die vergadering in die Avondale Dorpsaal op daardie dag bygewoon. "Ons moet een woord praat en een pad stap," het 'n vrou gesê. Die mense het gepraat van hulle swaar-

kry in Atlantis. Hulle het gepraat oor die uitsettings, hoë huur, werkloosheid en stygende kos pryse.

Maar hulle het sterk gevoel dat iets gedoen moet word oor hierdie probleme. Dit baat nie om net te kla nie.

Die volgende dag het meet as 200 mense na die kantore van die Afdelings Raad gestap om stop te sit aan die beplande uitsetting van meer as 350 families.

Die amptenare van die Afdelingsraad het geskrik. Een van die amptenare het onmid-

delik 'n oproep gemaak om opdrag te gee dat geen uitsettings moet plaasvind nie. Dit was 'n groot oorwinning vir die mense van Atlantis en die nuwe Vereniging.

Maar die Atlantis Inwoners Vereniging het nie daar stilgestaan nie. Hulle het besluit om ander probleme aan te pak. Hoë huur is 'n groot probleem in Atlantis. Die Inwoners Vereniging het besluit om daarteen te veg.

Deur die pogings van die Atlantis Inwoners Vereniging, is daar heel-

wat mense wie se huur verminder was.

Die Inwoners Vereniging is nou besig om area komitees op die been te bring. Hulle voel dat die betrokkenheid van die mense baie belangrik is. Die Vereniging wil nie soos die bestuurskomitee werk nie, waarin die mense niks sê het nie, en wat vir hulle niks beteken nie.

Dit is net deur die samewerking en die eenheid van alle mense in Atlantis dat die slegte toestande kan verbeter.

WE ARE SUFFERING HERE IN ATLANTIS



PETER NIJO (19): "Ek moet bottels verkoop om geld te kry vir brood. Ek is 'n bouwerker. Na Krismis het die baas gesê daar is nie meer werk nie. Ek soek nou lank werk. Daar is baie mense soos ek. Daar is net nie werk nie. As jy steel, is dit ook nie goed nie. Jy gaan tronk toe."



NOEL WILLIAMS: "Every day you see new people looking for work. Many others have given up. They don't go out any more because there just is no work."



CHARLES NEELSE: Nie een van ons het gevra om hier te kom woon nie. Ek bly hier vir nege jaar. Die boere het ons belas met probleme. Ek kan nie meer snags slaap nie. As ons uitgesit word, waar gaan ons met ons kinders? Die tyd het aangebreek dat ons moet saamstaan. In die woorde van Nelson Mandela, we must fight for our rights.

DID YOU KNOW

- Since the beginning of 1985, about 1 200 people have lost their jobs in Atlantis.
- The arrears rentals for the period January 1 to March 31 1985 totals more than R300 000.
- That there are families in Atlantis who owe Divco more than R2 000 in rental arrears.
- That, about 350 Atlantis families are threatened with eviction.

Comment

Botha is taking SA in civil war

THE United Democratic Front have just held an important national general council where they took major decisions and made changes to their leadership.

Some of these decisions were incorporated in resolutions on the cost of living, unemployment, black local authorities, tricameral parliament, repression, treason trial, education and the international year of the youth.

The message to the government from all these resolutions was the same: "Mr Botha, you are taking our country on the road to disaster. You are taking South Africa into a bloody civil war. Whatever time you have left, is very little."

ECONOMIC DISASTER

There is no doubt that these words are very accurate. That South Africa is in an economic disaster is clear from the way prices are rising almost daily, by the 12 per cent GST, by two rises in the petrol price in two months, by the millions of unemployed.

That South Africa is in a political mess is clear by the way people have rejected all the plans of the state — its three-chamber parliament, black local authorities, management committees and Black Forum.

That South Africa is in a state of civil war is clear by what is happening in the Eastern Cape, the Vaal Triangle and elsewhere. Police and army are moving in everywhere to crush the people's demands for a better life.

PRECONDITIONS

Mr Botha, the way to peace in South Africa is not through killing people who oppose apartheid or by putting our leaders up on trial.

At the UDF conference certain preconditions were reiterated. Let us state it here again.

Unban all political organisations, release all political prisoners, allow the return of exiles, lift all banning and banishment orders, disarm the SADF and police.

There can only be peace in South Africa if there is no apartheid. Let the people govern.

'SOMETHING IS WRONG IN SA'

Dear Grassroots

I want you to publish this letter of mine in Grassroots please!

Something is truly terribly wrong with South Africa. If only the government would listen to the black people's pleas and cries, then surely some agreement could be reached.

We don't like being treated as if we don't belong in this country. We are all South Africans (not whites only) and we belong here in South Africa.

Piet "Promises" Koorhof went overseas. He said that, as far as he is concerned, apartheid was dead in SA.

Who did he think he was kidding? The whole creation knows that apartheid is still alive and doing well in SA. Everyone must know that we are not blind: We've got eyes and we know what's going on around us.

It's about time the government did something for the sake of our beloved country.

We are still sick and

tired of promises. We want to see changes, a lot of changes. We want to be free so that the whole of SA (blacks and whites) can live in peace, understanding and harmony.

AWAY WITH APARTHEID! IN-KATHA = South Africa shall be free! Viva South Africa. White South Africa must change or die!

From Bruamo, Freddie the Lion of the Tribute of Juda.

Beaufort West.

I don't think the coloureds are being treated fair. Where jobs are concerned the coloureds work hard but still get a little amount of money. The whites just sit behind a chair and own a lot of money.

Some people in Steenberg and Retreat can't even afford to buy food for their children.

But I also believe, if the coloureds want to get what they want, they have to fight for it.

LINCOLN BREYER

'We all belong here'

Dear Grassroots

Capitalism and apartheid are the roots of our oppression. There are two forms of oppression — exploitation and colonisation.

All people in South Africa are exploited irrespective of race, colour or creed. White people are also exploited but on a very limited basis.

Colonisation is when a certain race is oppressed by an imperialist government such as Britain or America. We are being colonised by the imperialists and it is because of them that our people have to live in poverty, hunger and starvation.

The missionaries who came to our country to teach our people about christianity were criminals who fooled our people.

When the imperialists came to our continent Africa was rich with minerals. They robbed it of its wealth and left the poverty and suffering to the people.

They came to westernize Africa, turning it into a Third World continent. They are not superior but have learnt from the people how to make diamonds and gold.

Workers are directly exploited by the capitalists. They have to work in poor, unhealthy conditions far from their homes. In a capitalist system workers will also be retrenched in order for the hungry profit-seekers (capitalists) to gain a very huge profit. There will always be a high inflation figure, there will always be poverty, a high unemployment rate, homeless people, starvation and hundreds of children dying of malnutrition.

Workers no longer want to be exploited or underpaid. The workers have voiced strong opposition to the racist government because they want to share in the wealth of their country.

It is the production of the workers that make the capitalists rich.

It is because of our money that the racist and oppressive government are able to strengthen the SADF and to defend their apartheid policy.

C. Hans
Elsies River
'FIGHT FOR YOUR RIGHTS'

Dear Grassroots,

I don't think the coloureds are being treated fair. Where jobs are concerned the coloureds work hard but still get a little amount of money. The whites just sit behind a chair and own a lot of money.

Some people in Steenberg and Retreat can't even afford to buy food for their children.

But I also believe, if the coloureds want to get what they want, they have to fight for it.

LINCOLN BREYER

Unity won post office

Dear Grassroots,
Referring to the statement printed in the Metro Burger on the 21st March 1985 to the effect that post offices are being built. We refer particularly to the post office being allocated to Lentegeur.

We wish to thank the residents of Lentegeur for all their support we received during May 1984 for our signature campaign for a post office.

It is the unity of the people that has brought about the building of the post office, and not the Tri-

camera Parliament.
This is one of the basic facilities that should be built in any township. Before the Group Areas Act came into being, the people lived where they pleased and had access to all the basic facilities, post-offices, schools, hospitals, etc.

We appreciate the fact that the post-office is being built, but why should voteless people resort to signing petitions and holding meetings before their needs are seen to or recognised.

Further good news to the resi-

dents of Lentegeur is that due to correspondence between the City Engineer and the Lentegeur Steering Committee, we have confirmation from the department that Community Halls are being built and will be available for use in early September.

It just goes to show that when people unite things can and will be achieved.

"One Community — One Struggle."

A.Morton.

LETTERS

WRITE TO GRASSROOTS, AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH ALL OUR READERS!

To: Grassroots
P.O. Box 1167
Cape Town
8000

'SACTU SHOWED THE WAY'

Dear Grassroots
This year is the 30th anniversary of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU).

The name Sactu has for many years been unknown to us.

During the sixties, the state tried to smash Sactu. But, as in so many other cases, these efforts have failed. Without banning the organisation, many of its leading activists were imprisoned, others were forced to flee the country.

The fruits of many years of hard work of those who were forced to flee has today become evident throughout the world. The present outcry against investment in this country and an end to apartheid has reached momentous proportions. The attacks against the working class in this country has been exposed by their activities.

And there were also those who remained behind inside the country, many of whom painstakingly helped to rebuild the broad pro-

Therefore, it rests equally on all of us, within and outside the progressive trade union movement, to find the ways and means to acknowledge the outstanding contribution made by Sactu to the development of the working class movement inside the country.

Presently it is obvious that the state is fast losing its ability to assert its dominance over a large section of the oppressed. Their ability to govern us is decreasing and it does appear that the present crisis is going to worsen.

The crisis is being experienced at the economic level, at the political and at the ideological levels. The difficulties at the economic level are unprecedented. These internal economic progressive trade union movement which operates in the country today.

The tradition and legacy left by Sactu facilitated the reemergence of the progressive trade union movement within many sections of the working class.

lems are worsened by the disinvestment campaign initiated in many Western countries.

The attack on Dr Allan Boesak was a clear indication of the extent to which the state has become fearful of the ideological backslide it has suffered amongst the coloured community.

Community councils ofcourse have been completely discredited amongst the African masses. Traditional forms of control amongst the oppressed have broken down.

Generally our people are aware that the state is in confusion. It is imperative for us to intensify this crisis faced by the state.

Large numbers of our people are demonstrating their willingness to be guided by an alternative view to that imposed by the state for the last decades. It is imperative for us to provide that alternative view.

Concerned Athlone

Winnie Mandela - a symbol of hope

MOTHER OF A NATION

WHEN the government banished Nomzamo Winnie Mandela to the little town of Brandfort in the Free State in 1977 they hoped they would silence her and the world would forget about her.

But the people of South Africa and the world did not forget Winnie Mandela. Like her husband Nelson she is still one of the most popular leaders in South Africa.

In Brandfort she is approached by all for help and advice on anything from baby care to domestic problems. To the rest of the oppressed people in South Africa she is a symbol of hope and inspiration.

Winnie Mandela's life has been one of resistance, suffering and courage.

She has been married for 26 years, but has only been able to live with her husband for two of those years. And since 1963 she has been restricted for all but 11 months.

She has been detained, re-

IN THE last issue of Grassroots we looked at Nelson Mandela. We now look at his wife, Winnie Mandela, who many consider as the First Lady of South Africa and the mother of the freedom struggle in South Africa.

stricted, house-arrested and imprisoned. In 1977 she was banished to Brandfort, where she lives at house No. 802 in the location.

She was first banned in 1963. The banning order was reimposed in 1965 and again in 1966. The following year she was sentenced to 14 months imprisonment. All but 14 days were suspended. She was twice charged with contravening her banning order. This related to visits to Robben Island.

In May 1969, Winnie Mandela and many others were detained. She spent 491 days in solitary confinement. She was charged with 21 others of furthering the

aims of the banned African National Congress.

The charges were dropped but the accused were all immediately redetained. They were taken to court to face charges of terrorism but were all acquitted.

Two weeks after her release, Winnie Mandela was banned for five years.

She was allowed to visit her husband for the first time in two years in November 1970. For only 30 minutes they could see each other. They were separated by a glass partition and had to speak to each other over phones.

Winnie Mandela was arrested and charged many times with breaking her restrictions. She served six months in Kroonstad Prison in 1973. Most times she was given suspended sentences.

Her banning order expired in September 1975. For a brief period the banning order was not renewed. She was able to travel around the country, to meet friends and to address



Winnie Mandela

meetings.

But her "freedom" lasted only 11 months. At the height of the Soweto uprising in August 1976, she and other members of the Black Parents' Association were taken into "preventive" detention.

Just before they were detained, her house and the houses of other leaders were attacked.

When she was released around Christmas 1976, she was banned yet again. Shortly before the first anniversary of the June 16 uprising, she was banished to Brandfort.

In Brandfort, she is faced with many restrictions.

- She cannot be quoted.
- She cannot receive more than one visitor at a time.
- She must remain at home at night, weekends and public holidays.
- Police keep a careful and constant watch over her actions.

Two days before her ban was supposed to expire in December 1981, she was banned again for another five years.

A book on Winnie Mandela has just been published. It will not be released in South Africa.

My mother - by Zinzi

IN JUNE 1980, Zinzi Mandela wrote a story about her mother for the Cape Herald. This is what she wrote.

IT could have been 1935 (the year has never been accurately recorded) when, in the early hours of September 26, my mother was born.

In a remote countryside area called Bizana a woman in labour knelt on a red sail in a candlelit rondawel while old ladies anxiously assisted her. Soon a baby girl was born and immediately named Nomzamo, meaning trial - a very appropriate prediction of her future.

My mother came from a family of nine children whose upbringing by my grandmother had been totally conservative and religious.

My grandfather, on the other hand, was a traditionalist who believed in African medicines.

Mama was extremely close to both but it was grandfather who really protected her from the wrath of family rights.

Her role at home as a girl was minimal because she preferred climbing trees and visiting cattle posts or fighting with boys than anything else.

My grandmother died when Mama was only eight but she remembers being kept in the room next to hers during those final hours.

What I remember to be most prominent in her mind is the death of her eldest sister, Vuyelwa. I remember hearing how grandma collapsed at Vuyelwa's bedside - then grandpa collected her and covered her sister with a white sheet.

LOSE FAITH

Grandma continued crying and praying to God to save her daughter from dying when she had obviously passed away. My mother thus began to lose faith after witnessing this irony of fate which was traumatic - especially since they used to pray three times a day.

Mama's best subjects at school were history, geography and arithmetic. Fortunately grandpa taught her history at home because he always brought that atmosphere back from the classroom with him.

While she was a matric head prefect at Shawbury she came into contact with fiery Fort Hare students who were her teachers and who belonged to various political organisations.

By now she was already aware of the discrepancies in the lives of black people in Southern Africa.

It was only natural that she decided to serve her community as a social worker.

When she was a pupil at the Hofmeyr School of Social Work, she was approached by



Zinzi Mandela

Rolihlala Mandela to try to raise funds for the treason trial.

This 'business' relationship slowly developed into something else until the day when he told her that they were getting married and he proceeded to fill her in on all the details.

When their first child was born, Mama felt that she was compensation for so many things she had been deprived of as a child. This was the reality of being a woman in the absence of so many things at home.

Another interesting factor was that this baby had the privilege of going to prison even before she was born, as Mama was detained while expectant. With the second child, Tata wasn't even there.

Mama has always been a health fanatic. She only uses vaseline and carbolic soap for her face, exercises regularly and follows a health diet.

At school she used to be an athletics coach and she surpassed in shotput, baseball, American basketball, netball, hockey and swimming. As a young girl she taught herself piano and the harp and was a leader in traditional dances.

She has an interesting taste in clothes; anything with African print or in military khaki, especially trousers, berets and shirts with lapels.

Musically speaking anything black goes, although she does appreciate other music since she has a natural musical ear. Her favourite authors are Mqhayi Ntabozuko, Jolobe Jordaan and 'acceptable' Russian authors. She never says 'no' to historical biographies.

Who knows what my grandmother meant when she gave Mama a belt on her dying bed and said: 'Here my child, you will tie nations!'

11 months 'freedom'

NGEXESHA utulumente waye vala umlomo u Nomzamo Winnie Mandela kwidolophana encinci ebizwe Brandfort e Frayistat ngo 19717 wayecinga ukuba uyamthulisa kwaye nehlabathi lakulibala ngaye.

Kodwa abantu bomzantsi Afrika nehlabathi zange bamlibale u Winnie Mandela. Njengomyeni wakhe u Nelson usengomnye wenkokheli ezibahule kileyo kweli loMzantsi Afrika.

Phya eBrandfort ubizwa ngapha nangapha ngabantu befuna uncedo namacebo kuye ayo yonke into ukusukela ebantwaneni uyakuma kwezekhaya. Kuninzi lwabacineze-lweyo boMzantsi Afrika usisibane esiqaqambileyo esikhanyisela wonke ubani.

Ubomi buka Winnie Mandela ibebubomi bambandezelo nentshushiso ubomi bokunyamezela nobenkuthazo.

Ube etshatile iminyaka eyi 26, kodwa ubenekuhlala nomyeni wakhe iminyaka ye emibini kuyo yonke lomi nyaka. Kwaye ukusukela ku 1963 soloko ephantsi kweliso egadiwe ukuba angathi, agayi ngapha ahlele ndawenye ngaphandle kwan- yanga ezilushunu elinanye apho wakhe wayekwa wadakasa.

Ube ebanjwa, egcinwendlini evalelwa. Ngo 1977 wayakuphoswa EBrandfort, apho wahlala kwa no. 802 elokishini.

Wawalwa umlomo nog 1963. Yaphindwa yahlaziywa ngo 1965 nango 1966. Kunyaka alandelayo wafumana isigwebo senyanga eziyi 14 etsalanzima emiva. Wophulelwe ye iintsuku ezilishumi elinesine. Wagwetywa anatyeli amabini ezio- ishumi elinesine.

Wagwetywa anatyeli amabini ngokuphula uvalomlomo. Le inxulumene notyelelo lwasesiqhithini e Robben Island.

Nog 1969 u Winnie Mandel nabanye babanjwa. Yena wahlala iintsuku ezi 491 yedwa engahanjelwa Bohlwayelwa ukuqhubela phambili iinjongo zombutho owalwa umlomo umbutho wesizwe. African National Congress yena

nabangamashumi amabainin anaye. Bafola kwesityholo bakhululwa kodwa baphi nda babanjwa Bavela ekundleni phantsi kwesityholo sobunqolobi kodwa bonke bakhululwa.

Emva kweveki ezimibini ekhululwe wawalwa umlomo isithuba esingangeminyaka emihlanu.

Wavunyelwa ukwya kubona umyeni wakhe okokuqala emva kweminyaka emibini kwakungo amathathu ukuba bathethe. Babohlulwe yigoss bethetha ngomnxeba omnye komnye.

u Winnie Mandela ubanywe amatyeli ngamatyeli ngokophula imqathango eyimiselweyo ngabasemagunyeni. Wabhantinta i inyanga ezintandathu e Kroonstad ngo 1973. Aexsha amaninzi ebegwetyelwa ngaphandle.

Uvalomlomo lwafikelela esiphelweni ngo September ka 1975. Okwexeshana wakhe wayekwa ingahlaziywa. Wabanako ukukwa ahambela izizalwane nezihlobo wakhe waye nasezintlanganisweni.

Kodwa loo damsese yathatha nje linyanga ezilishumi elinanye yaphele. Ngo Agasti ka 1976, yena nabanye be Black Parents Association ikomiti yabasali abamnyama bathathwa phantsi kokhuseleko bavelelwa.

Phambi nje kokuba babanjwe izindlu zabo zahlaselwa.

Wakhulululwa phambi kwe krisimesi ngo 1976, waphinda wawalwa umlomo. Kancinci nje phambi kwesikhumbuso sukuqala se June 16, wayakulahlwa eBrandfort apho wawalelwa khona umlomo.

Apho kulo Brandfort uphantsi kwemiqathango emininzi.

- Akanakubizwa
- Akanakufumanandwendwe zingaphezu kwesinye ngexesha
- Funeka esindlini ngokuhlwa nangempelsaveki neholidi.
- Amapolisa soloko emgadile yonke into ayzenzayo.

Ikhona incwadi esandula kuphuma ngo Winnie Mandela. Kodwa ayifumaneki apha eMzantsi Afrika.

UDF holds national conference

FIGHTING FOR PEACE

There can be no peace in South Africa while there is apartheid. This was said in a statement adopted by the National General Council of the United Democratic Front.

The UDF said that the meeting of more than 300 delegates, representing millions of people throughout the country, was proof of the strength of the UDF as a mass organisation.

In the context of the worst state of repression in the past twenty-five years and on the basis of overwhelming popular support throughout the country, the UDF still represses and articulates the genuine needs and demands of all democratic South Africans.

There is still time for the racist minority regime to consult with the real leaders of the people to speedily and effectively dismantle apartheid and transfer power to the people.

If we want peace in this country, the evil apartheid system should be removed. That is why we say that our struggle for liberation is a struggle for peace.

If these conditions are met, not one more drop of blood need be shed, not one more family need live in misery and starvation, no man or woman need go without work and not one more family need go without shelter.

The state and its agents are letting blood flow in the townships, billions of rands are spent maintaining apartheid structures, while subsidies for essential food are reduced or withdrawn, raised GST pays for SADF aggression. Instead of homes at affordable rent, adequate recreational facilities, equal, democratic education, the people experience ever increased misery and oppression.

We also meet at a time of unqualified world-wide support from ordinary men and women, organisations in all countries

committed to doing away with Nelson, and of most governments throughout the world. Against this massive show of international solidarity, the right wing Reagan/ Thatcher/Kohl axis and their allies continue to bolster the apartheid regime.

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'The people's servants'

The National Executive Committee are the servants of the people and can only work properly if they have the support of the people.

These words were spoken by Curriek Ndlovu. He was elected executive chairperson of the UDF at its national general council.

Mr Ndlovu was a prominent member of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU) in the 1950s. He spent 20 years on Robben Island and was released last year.

Albertus Siole and Archie Goanale, who

are both detained and face charges of high treason, were re-elected national presidents.

National general secretary Pepsu Madole and publicity secretary Patrick "Teror" Lekota were also re-elected. Arthur Cahill of the Transvaal was elected national treasurer.

Other members of the national executive include Trevor Manuel and Noli Madidi (Western Cape), Steve Tshwete and Reverend M Sothile (Eastern Cape), Yaxos Mkhazane and Reverend M Ntshela (Natal), Edgar Ngyal and Derek Swartz (Eastern Cape), and Mohammed Valli and Ditso Nofalo (Transvaal).

'Botha we will resist!'

IN SPITE of government repression, the United Democratic Front retained the organisation of the people, publicity secretary Teror Lekota has said.

He was speaking at the opening night of the UDF's national general council.

After a standing ovation and to continued applause, Mr Lekota said that he and other UDF officials had not been able to go into the UDF head office in Johannesburg since February 19, after the arrest of eight UDF leaders.

"Since then we have had to run our organisation from the corners of airports, dark rooms and buses."

"We still the UDF has survived. The UDF must survive. The UDF is the people and it has a massive task to perform."

'THEY REMAIN DEAF'

"The government's actions - detentions and other repression - are acts of aggression, to provoke the anger of the masses."

"We must warn those in Pretoria and those who support apartheid. They must stop their bloody policies. They are pushing our country to a civil war which is going to cost many lives, black and white."

"The people of South Africa are not guilty. The blame must be put at the door of those who support apartheid."

"For many years our people have appealed to them, but they remain deaf."

Mr Lekota said the government tried to make criminals out of those fighting against apartheid.

"It is not a crime for us to defy the laws of apartheid and this government, because the government has no democratic approval of the people. It is a crime for them to impose their laws on us."

Mr Lekota said the UDF had to show the government clear demands for the dismantling of apartheid.

RIGHT TO RESIST

"The issue is not whether we can bear them in battle but whether they can solve the country's problems without bloodshed."

The UDF also had to give clear direction to the mass action to challenge the government's new constitution.

"It was at first a mistake for the government to impose its new constitution on us. It is no longer a mistake, it is now a crime."

Mr Lekota saluted "all the friends of the struggle in South Africa". He spoke out against US president Ronald Reagan.

"Reagan must be stopped. We must urge the American people to protest as never before against constructive engagement."

Mr Lekota said many had sacrificed in the fight against apartheid.

"If they want to take our lives, the must do so, but they must realise that the last thing we have is our right to resist them."



TERROR LEKOTA speaks at the opening night of the UDF's National General Council.



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UDF takes decisions on issues facing the country

SEVERAL important resolutions were taken at the UDF's national general council. These included resolutions on education, Namibia, cost of living, unemployment, international youth year, the treason trial and the government's "new deal".



EDUCATION SRC's for democracy

THE conference noted the inferior status of education, the attempts by the SADF to win the hearts and minds of students, the repression of progressive teachers and students and the lack of effective ways to represent student interests in schools.

It believed that democratically elected SRCs were the only bodies able to peacefully negotiate students' long term demands at schools.

"It is the right of students and teachers to improve the conditions in their schools and communities."

NAMIBIA 'ONE STRUGGLE'

"WE support the Namibians in their rejection of conscription in the SWAFT," said the UDF conference.

"The struggle of the Namibian people is linked to the struggle of the people of South Africa to get rid of apartheid. We demand the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the SADF troops from Namibia and the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 435," said the conference.



IMPERIALISM Reagan condemned

THE UDF conference condemned the support for the South African government shown by US president Ronald Reagan.

It demanded the immediate end to US and British collaboration with the SA government and an end to exploitation of the people and the national wealth of South Africa by foreign investors.

"Foreign investors do not benefit the oppressed and exploited of South Africa."

"We pledge our solidarity with all oppressed people in their struggle against imperialism and must warn the accomplices in the crimes of apartheid that we will leave no stone unturned in winning support throughout the world to expose and end their ruthless treachery."

Conference called on the American people to "intensely and struggle against constructive engagement and to compel the American government to abandon this policy and to support the just struggle of the people of South Africa for liberation from apartheid."



TRADE UNIONS 'Worker unity a necessity'

"WORKERS unite," was the call of the UDF conference.

"The unity of the working people is a goal which all progressive people of our country desire."

"We support all the independent and progressive trade unions in building up their organisations and in realising the goals of a single trade union organisation."

UNEMPLOYMENT 'Living wage for all'

THE working people bear the brunt of the present economic crisis, said the UDF conference.

"There can be no solution to poverty wages and unemployment until workers have control over every aspect of their lives, and the economy is directed by need and not by greed."

"We will struggle for an end to unemployment and to demand useful work for all. We will work for pensions, disability grants, paid maternity leave, job security and unemployment benefits."

NEW DEAL 'The people shall govern'

THE tricameral parliament, community council, the government proposed black forum and the black local authorities are all totally rejected at the conference as "enemies of the people".

"Only a government based on the will of all the people has a right to govern. And only a government based on the will of all the people and the total eradication of apartheid and all forms of exploitation can resolve the injustices, hardships and suffering of our people."

"We will intensify the struggle for a non-racial democratic state based on the will of all our people," said the conference.



YOUTH YEAR 'Youth must unite'

THE South African government had no right to represent South Africa's youth internationally, said the UDF conference.

The conference decided that youth should, through the IYY campaign, play an important role in building opposition to apartheid, both inside South Africa and abroad.

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more than 300 delegates from all over the country attended the National General Council of the United Democratic Front (UDF) in Alexandra, Krugersdorp, over the Easter weekend.

The conference started with a public meeting on Good Friday, addressed by the general secretary of the Namibian Council of Churches, Dr A Shekela, UDF Treasurer vice-president Dr R A M Sobolewe and publicity secretary Patrick "Terror" Lekota.

On the Saturday and Sunday, delegates shared ideas and planned how to tackle the problems facing South Africa - from unemployment, high cost of living and the education crisis to the black local authorities and the tricameral parliament.

committed to doing away with Nelson, and of most governments throughout the world. Against this massive show of international solidarity, the right wing Reagan/ Thatcher/Kohl axis and their allies continue to bolster the apartheid regime.

"We have looked at our weaknesses and our shortcomings. We will try in the coming years to increase the effectiveness and democracy of our organisations, to raise the quality of our activists and leadership, to translate our living experience among the people during struggle into viable programmes and to overcome the constraints of regional differences.

"We recognise the need to encourage the increased and dynamic participation of progressive trade unions within our Front and to build the UDF so that it accurately reflects the complexity and leadership of the African masses in our struggle.

"Finally we pledge to organize the

masses of our people to effectively challenge the apartheid state by frustrating its efforts, preventing its advance, forcing its retreat and if possible to cut off all its lines of retreat.

"We therefore make the following immediate demands as the beginning of a process of transition from the prevailing oppressive and exploitative order to a democratic state:

- the immediate scrapping of the 1913 and 1936 Land Acts and all Group Areas Laws, and an end to any form of forced removals.
- doing away with bantustans and ending the migratory labour system
- the scrapping of the 90-member parliament and all other puppet bodies created under the Black Local Authorities Act and other instruments of racial rule
- a unified and democratic education system
- the repeal of the pass laws and all other restrictions on freedom of movement
- the right of workers to freely organise in trade unions, to collectively bargain and the right to strike without being penalised, the right to security of employment, housing, social welfare, pensions and maternity benefits, as laid down in the United Nations Human Rights Covenant and the Charter of the International Labour Organisation
- the release of all political prisoners, the unbanning of the banned, the lifting of all restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly
- the disbanding of the SADF, Koorps, the SAP and all other repressive apparatuses
- the scrapping of all barbaric 'security' laws which violate the fundamental freedoms set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



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INSPITE government repression, the United Democratic Front retained the organisation of the people, publicity secretary Terror Lekota has said.

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TREASON TRIAL

'We stand by our leaders'

THE treason trial and the refusal of bail to UDF leaders, effectively detained them, said the conference.

Repression against the UDF had taken the form of brutal police and SADF violence against peaceful protests, harassment of people, organisations and leaders through detentions, trials, raids, hearings and the assassination of activists struggling against puppet structures.

The conference demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all political prisoners and called on the state to "cease its violence and other attacks on the people's organisations."

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The conference said the local authorities have been totally rejected because they were exploitative and could not solve the people's problems.



YOUTH YEAR

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5 YEARS OF grassroots

NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

THE PAPER ABOUT YOU

5 YEARS ago the Western Cape's first community newspaper Grassroots was started. With only one full-time organiser and sharing offices with the Domestic Worker's Association, Grassroots was a small project. Only 5 000 copies of the first issue (March 1980)

were printed.

Today Grassroots is 5 years old. There are 5 full-time workers. And the circulation is between 15 and 25 000 copies.

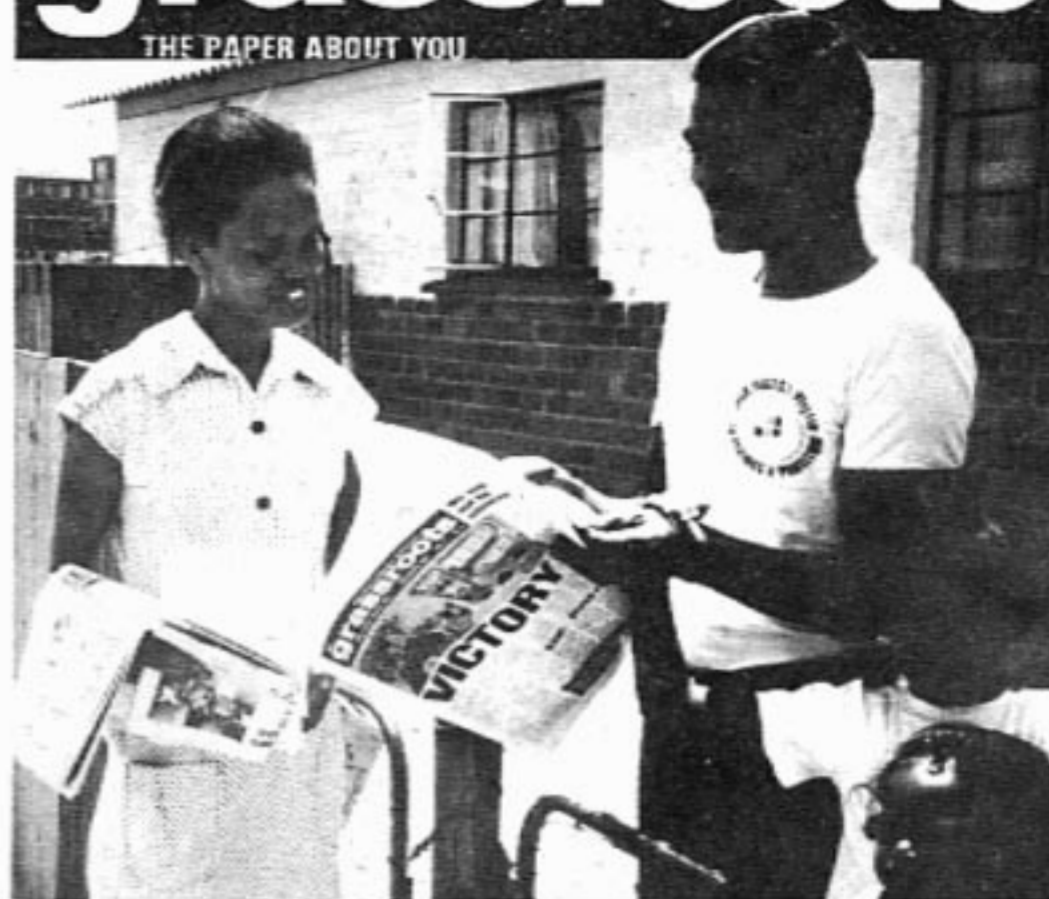
In 1980 there was only Grassroots. Now there is also Ukusa (Durban), Speak (Johannesburg),

The Eye (Pretoria), Saamstaan (South Cape), Grahamstown Voice and Bricks(Windhoek). Saspu, a national student newspaper, is based in Johannesburg.

Grassroots is made up of over 60 democratic organisations. The civics under WCCA and CAHAC, women's

organisations, students organisations, youth under CAYCO, many trade unions and the UDF are all linked to Grassroots. The members of these organisations keep Grassroots alive by giving news and selling Grassroots.

Unlike other newspapers Grassroots does not make a profit. It is always struggling for money. Many people help Grassroots by subscribing and giving monthly donations. Cape Town small traders also assist Grassroots by advertising in the newspaper.



Passing media skills on to other organisations

Meeting needs of the Community

GRASSROOTS is not only a community paper. It also has an Education and Training Project.

Grassroots gets lots of requests for assistance in producing newsletters, pamphlets, posters, banners and so on. In the past we could not always help organisations. Often we were bringing out the paper and too busy.

So in 1983 it was decided to start an Education and Training project. One person was employed full time. The E T person's job is very exciting but also demanding. She has to

train members of organisations and school students in media. She also assists them in bringing out publications and school magazines.

Twice a year she also trains people who want to assist Grassroots. These people then help to get news of assist with designing the paper.

Last year for the first time Grassroots held a big media school. This course ran for eight days. People from Cape Town, Oudtshoorn, Port Elizabeth, East London, Grahamstown, North Cape and OFS attended the

school. They were taught all the different aspects of producing media.

The ET person also produces media resources. So far three booklets on media have been printed. By the end of the year 2 more will have been completed. These booklets help people to understand media and to take out pamphlets and newsletters.

A tape-slide show on Grassroots was completed last year. This year Grassroots will be producing a 40 minute video on media.

Speaking for Ourselves!

IN our country the government controls the TV and radio. Through this they try to imprison our minds. To sell us 'leaders' like Hendrickse, Rajbansi and Buthelezi. They try to close our eyes and ears to oppression and injustice.

The Afrikaans newspapers support the government in this. They will always side with Botha against the people. These papers are owned by the big bosses.

They depend on the government to help make their fat profits from our workers.

The English newspapers sometimes attack the government. They criticise apartheid. But they too are owned by the big bosses. These bosses fear a real People's Government in South Africa. So while they criticise apartheid, they still won't help us in our struggle for freedom.

For this reason Grassroots and other community papers were started in different parts of our country. These community papers are controlled by the

people's organisations. They promote our organisations and our fight for justice. They open our eyes to exploitation, injustice and the suffering of our people. Through them we speak for ourselves.



Building organisations through selling 'Roots'

Popularising organisations

Government raids and bannings

THE last five years have not been easy for Grassroots. The newspaper has come under many attacks from the government.

Eight months after Grassroots began, its first organiser Johnny Issel was banned. He is still banned.

Every year many issues of Grassroots are banned. This government does not like to hear the truth. It is afraid because the people will see how evil they are. So, wherever Grassroots exposes injustice, oppression, exploitation, they ban Grassroots.

Two months ago the Security police raided Grassroots offices. They searched for hours. They took away many documents, publications and pamphlets.

But Grassroots is determined that this harassment and intimidation will not stop it from reporting the truth. The government, Hendrickse, Rajbansi and community councillors say they speak

for us. But today our people are saying: "Through our newsletters like UDF News, pamphlets and Grassroots, We Speak for Ourselves!"



Mobilising the oppressed



Educating the people

Building the Peoples Press

A newspaper is a powerful weapon of the people. It can play an important role in building our struggle for freedom.

For this reason Grassroots is committed to helping communities start their own papers.

Many of our people live in the rural areas. They live in small towns and are on the farms. Here they face many hardships. They are heavily oppressed and exploited by the white baas.

For a long time our people in the rural areas got no help from the organisations in the



community papers started last year: SAAMSTAAN (Oudtshoorn), BRICKS (Namibia)

big cities. To help overcome this situation, Grassroots began a Rural Project.

Through this project, Grassroots helped to start Saamstaan, a com-

munity paper for the South Cape. Saamstaan brought together the oppressed communities Oudtshoorn, Mossel Bay, George, Ladismith, Calitzdorp, Swel-

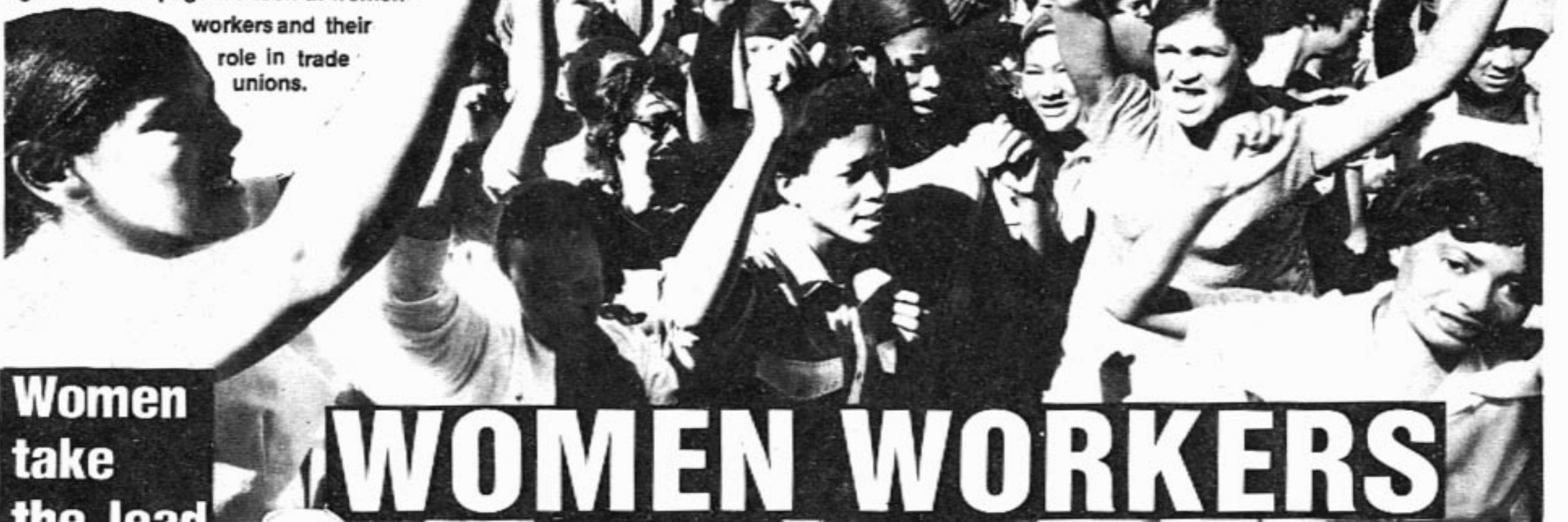
lendam, Willowmore and many other towns. Today Saamstaan is the voice of these communities, uniting them against oppression and injustice.

May Day (1st May) is the International Workers Day.

This year, we pay tribute to women workers. Women workers have many problems — their wages are often very low, they have to look after their families after work. But women have a proud history in the struggle for workers rights. On this page we look at women

workers and their role in trade unions.

GRASSROOTS pays tribute to . . .



Women take the lead

SOUTH African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU) recently started organising at Continental China. In this factory 70% of the workers are women, but the men and women do the same jobs.

Last month, the workers at Continental China went on strike. We spoke to Albert, a SAAWU organiser. "The women were the strongest in the strike. Before, they used to sit in groups at the back of union meetings. They spoke amongst themselves and then one woman would come to speak for the group. But in the strike, the women came right to the front and gave the lead. Now, when we have union issues to discuss with the workers, it is the women who have suggestions."

But the women still have some problems. For example, they often find it hard to come to meetings.

"During the strike, the children came with the mothers. One woman told me the other day, that she has worked for Continental China for 10 years. She is now 23 and has two children. She started work as a child herself, only 13 years old."

SAAWU won a big victory at Continental China. The union still has battles to fight with the Continental China bosses. They hope to reach an agreement about women workers maternity rights.

SAAWU won a maternity agreement at Johnson and Johnson in East London.

This agreement gave women the right to time off work for medical treatment during their pregnancy. Women are guaranteed their jobs back after maternity leave. Women are also allowed time to breast feed their babies for the first three months.



Women often have two jobs - keeping a family and making profits for the boss.



"A women's place is in her Union. . ."



The lowest paid and most insecure jobs.

WOMEN WORKERS

Women "best members"

JUNE ESSAU is an organiser for the Retail and Allied Workers Union (RAWU). Grassroots spoke to her about her work.

"Before I started organising for RAWU, I used to organise for Food and Canning Workers Union from inside different factories.

In all of these factories I found women difficult to organise. But, once they are organised, they are the best union members. When problems started, it was the women who started speaking and they were the first to down tools. They were so militant and strong. They could not be broken."

Grassroots: Why is it difficult to organise women?

June: Men are much more open to organisation. The women are very hesitant. They often have an excuse when it is time for a meeting - church meetings, TV programmes and husbands and children.

Sometimes I find that the women agree with me, but say I must speak to their husband. I find it easier to organise women if we have area meetings, so I can meet the family and they can hear what is being discussed. After these area meetings, the men are never hostile.

If the union organises a day workshop, it is sometimes difficult for the women workers. But some of them bring their children with them. Even some

have brought their husbands along too.

Grassroots: What are your experiences of being a woman organiser?

June: I have a lot of support from the other organisers in the union. We discuss and decide on work together.

In the factories, the workers both men and women think I am a lightie when I approach them because I am short. But when I speak about the union, they listen. Some of the men are only interested in taking you out, but others are interested in what the union can do for them.

Recently I have started to organise in a new area. Other union organisers have tried to go to the hostel before, but the security guard will not let them in. But I can go into the hostel and hold meetings - maybe that's because I am a woman.

One of my problems is my two children. They live in Worcester with my mother and father. I find it sad not to have my children with me.

They were with me for a month last year. I took them with me to the office and organising. They enjoyed it. But for me, it made my work even more demanding.

I want them with me. But children are a shared responsibility and there is no father to share the load. I cannot cope with them and my work.

Contraception by force

IN the clothing industry 90% of the workers are women. Many of the women are scared of the union. But they are learning to organise, and build Clowu.

Zubeida Jaffer is the general secretary of the Clothing Workers Union (CLOWU). Grassroots spoke to her about organising women workers in the clothing factories of Cape Town.

"The first problem is the family. It is difficult for women to get to meetings at night. Many

of the young women are single mothers, and find it difficult to leave their children for meetings.

"If the worker is married, I find that you have to speak to the man too. If you explain to them about the union, they will support their women. We have to educate and politicise the men as well.

"Another problem is pressure on women not to have children. The bosses are against pregnancy, because they want a stable workforce.

"Many factories force women to use contraception. Some have a factory nurse so you can get the kind of contraceptive you want. But they do not educate the workers about the dangers of the injection, so women think it is the easiest and the safest.

"CLOWU has tried to educate workers about these matters and to get them to understand their rights to proper medical treatment.

The situation with maternity rights is very terrible. If you fall pregnant now, you lose your job. It is another way to retrain workers. The workers can get maternity benefits, but they do not know how to apply.

"CLOWU has not negotiated any agreements and it is difficult for us to do anything now because of the recession. But it is important that workers understand their rights. And we will help them fight for those rights.

Advice

HP: Beware greedy salesmen

LOTS of us are losing our jobs. And because our wages are low we are forced to buy furniture on hire purchase. Buying on HP is often a bad deal. Salesmen often trick and confuse people. We must know the law so that we will not be confused and intimidated by greedy salesmen.

The laws concerning higher purchase have been made to protect the shop owners and manufacturers, but if you know what your rights are, it will not be so easy for them to take advantage.

There are two laws: 1. The old law is the Hire Purchase Act. This law, will only apply if you bought goods before 4 June 1980.

2. The new law is the Credit Agreement Act and applies to all those people who bought goods on Hire Purchase

after 4 June 1980.

According to this law:

1. Many salesmen go from door to door and people sign agreements to buy goods at home. If you do this and then decide you don't want the goods, you can, cancel the agreement within five working days. For example, if you bought the goods on a Friday or over the weekend, you must cancel this agreement by the following Friday. To do this, write a letter to the company and register the

letter. Say that you want to cancel the agreement and give the date on which you signed it.

2. The deposit that you pay, or the goods that you trade in for

the new item, must be 25 percent (1/4) of the purchase price. If you paid a deposit less than this, or paid no deposit at all, then your agreement is illegal. You can then demand your money back and return the goods.

Your monthly payments cannot be more than a quarter of your wages. If they are, the agreement is illegal. You can demand your money back and return the goods.

4. Your monthly payments cannot be more than a quarter of the wages. If they are, the agreement is illegal. You can demand your money back and return the goods.

5. Your contract must say that you will finish paying for the

goods within 42 months.

6. There are two types of contracts: One of which the ownership of the goods do not pass to you until they are fully paid for, OR, one in which the ownership of the goods does pass to you when you sign the contract. This means that if you run into difficulty with the payments, you can sell the goods to someone else, to pay for it.

Read everything very carefully before you sign it. Once you have signed something, you have to keep to that agreement, even if you didn't read it. If there is anything in the contract you don't understand, ask the salesman to explain it to you or go to your nearest advice office.

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Advice moves

THE Lavender Hill Advice Office has moved. They are now at the new creche centre next to the NG Church in Grindal Drive, Lavender

Hill. They are open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and on Mondays from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Need help?

TAP is a small group of people with engineering, scientific, computing, economic, financial and other related skills.

It aims to provide technical information to assist trade unions and community organisations in their struggles and campaigns.

If your organisation has a technical problem, why not contact us?

We can be contacted either through Grassroots 452352 or Rob Dorrington 253943.

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A game to learn

IN THE last issue of Grassroots we wrote about Emily who gets around in a wheelchair. She has a physical disability - her legs don't work but her brain works.

Other people with physical disabilities may be able to walk but have clumsy ways of moving. Their muscles are weaker. They need time and patience to learn how to move.

Fuzail says some children in his school laugh at him. "They get impatient with me when I try to climb stairs. They won't let me play games with them because I can't catch a ball. I also can't run as fast as they can. But in class I am very 'quick with maths'".

write with a pencil or pen

Grownups who help the children with this game can then give the children a bag. Things that children know must be inside the bag e.g. cup, toothbrush, pencil, ball, knife, comb.

A GAME TO LEARN WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE CLUMSY WITH HANDS

- Children need a pair of socks. They put one on each hand. They then try to:
- tie up their shoes
 - do up buttons and zips
 - open doors
 - cut paper with scissors
 - put puzzle pieces together

While they still have the socks on their hands, the children should take it in turns to put their hands into the bag. Without looking they must tell the grownups what they can feel in the bag.

At the end of the game the children can talk about how they felt while they were playing this game. They can also think of ways they can help children who are clumsy and have weaker muscles.

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Advice

How to claim UIF

LOTS of workers are being put off work at present. The government has a fund which gives a little money to workers who have been put off. It is called the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF).

If you have worked for at least three months and are then put off work, you can claim money from the UIF.

WHEN CAN YOU GET UIF PAY?

You can get UIF pay if you are put off work and you have worked for at least three months in the last year.

HOW DO YOU GET UIF PAY?

When you stop working the boss must give you a blue card. This is your UIF contributor's card. It shows you have been working and can get money from the UIF.

You must go with your blue card to the office of the Department of Manpower. The list at the end of this article tells you where these offices are.

You will not get any money the first time you go to the Manpower offices. The clerk at the

Manpower office will tell you to come back in a few weeks time.

You must go back to the office on the date the clerk gives you. If you do not do this you will have to wait longer for benefits.

You might get your first UIF payment on your second visit. But sometimes you have to wait longer for payments.

The person at the office will tell you to come back again. You must always go back on the correct day otherwise you will not get your UIF money.

HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU GET FROM UIF?

You get 45 percent of your pay at the time you stopped working. This means you get a little less than half your pay. So if your wages were R40,00 a week, you will get R18,00 a week from UIF. If you earned R60,00 a week you will get R27 a week from UIF.

HOW LONG DO YOU GET UIF?

You get one week's UIF pay for every six



UNEMPLOYED workers wait for trucks which may mean a job.

weeks your blue card shows you worked. The longest time that you can get UIF for is six months. You can get this if you have worked for three years or longer. So, for example, if you have worked for a year, you will get UIF pay for nine weeks.

After six months work, you will get three weeks UIF pay. You can ask the Department of Manpower for extra benefits if your UIF pay is used up and you are still out of work.

WHO DOES NOT GET MONEY FROM UIF?

Farmworkers, domestic workers and people on the permanent staff of the Civil Service do not get UIF. But if you are one of these workers and you have a blue card from an earlier job you can still get money from UIF.

If you have worked for less than three months in the last year, you will not get UIF money.

WHAT IF YOU DON'T

GET YOUR BLUE CARD WHEN YOU STOP WORKING?

You can go to Manpower to apply for UIF pay without your card. But you will not get any money if you don't until you have your card. So ask for your card if you are put off work and your boss does not give it to you.

CAN A MARRIED PERSON GET UIF?

Yes. If you have been put off work but your husband or wife is still working, you can still claim UIF pay.

WHERE DO YOU GO TO APPLY FOR UIF PAY?

You can apply for UIF at:

- Department of Manpower, Thomas Boydell Building, corner of Parade and Barrack Cape Town (opposite Caledon Square Police Station) Phone 457110.
- Department of Manpower, Hoboken Building, Kruskallaan, Bell-

ville (Behind the Holiday Inn) Phone

Both these offices are open for the whole day. You can also apply at the:

- Department of Manpower office, Town Hall, Wynberg, in the mornings only. Phone 713163.

If you are outside Cape Town: Apply at the Magistrate's Court.

African workers have to register as work-seekers first at the Administration Board offices. In Cape Town this means the labour office at Nyanga East.

If you have any problems with UIF, go to one of the advice offices you've read about in Grassroots.

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Calling all young people 1985 is your year!

GRASSROOTS: What is the significance of IYY and why are you taking up this campaign?

DAN: The significance of the IYY is that for the first time we are able to involve a cross-section of young people in the same campaign. By participating in joint activities, young people are forming unity.

IYY can also help expose the apartheid practices of the government. If one looks at the IYY themes, one can point out the lack of participation in South Africa, one can show how development is stifled and what peace should mean in South Africa.

One could show that the black local authorities, new constitution, GST and unemployment are not the way to peace.

GRASSROOTS: How do you intend taking up the IYY?

DAN: We intend having a number of activities, for example around the 30th anniversary of the Freedom Charter. The Charter gives direction to the youth. If you reject apartheid, you must have an alternative. The implementation of the Charter will lead to a free and just South Africa.

The form of our activities have not yet been concretised. A lot will depend on the regions.

Some of the issues which may become focuses of the campaign are conscription and the Education Charter campaign. The most important aim of IYY, however, is the unity of the youth in South Africa and internationally.

THIS year has been declared International Year of the Youth (IYY) by the United Nations. In South Africa, youth and students have come together to celebrate IYY. Grassroots spoke to Dan Montsitsi, national co-ordinator of IYY, during the recent IYY launch in Cape Town.

We are thinking of a national rally which would include cultural activities. A national youth festival at the end of the year is meant to bring all kinds of young people together. All our activities would be to mobilise people to benefit our organisations.

There are ideas of linking up with other countries, particularly African countries, for various joint youth activities. It would be nice if we could, for example, organise soccer matches between South African and Zimbabwean youth and at the same time share experiences.

GRASSROOTS: What is your relationship to church organisations?

DAN: We have quite a good relationship. We are working closely with the youth desk of the South African Council of Churches. They have invited us to some of their activities and we have invited them to ours.

GRASSROOTS: What is your attitude towards the government taking up the IYY campaign?

DAN: The government find themselves in a bad position. Lots of other countries have spoken out against South Africa, for example in the UN resolutions on the police killings and the treason trial.

Now the government is deliberately trying to mislead youth. They have never been serious about the development of youth. Examples here are education, job scarcity and discrimi-

nation. Youth don't participate in decision-making.

I doubt the sincerity of the government. They can't talk about peace because their response has always been that of repression, in the 50s, 60s, 1973, 1980 and still today.

The intention of the state in taking up IYY is to misguide the youth and to present a front to the world. They are also doing this to promote their puppets.

In the Transvaal, the government takes up the IYY through the community councillors in the different townships. They have a central committee consisting of youth, community councillors and the West Rand Administration Board. The government gave R49 000 towards IYY in Transvaal.

We want to have nothing to do with the government's campaign. We question the legitimacy of the government.

GRASSROOTS: What would you say is expected of young people this year?

DAN: Our strongest appeal is for young people to come forward and participate in our IYY activities and to show up the false and dishonest intentions of the government.

Our call is for youth to unite under progressive forces in the UDF and to challenge the government, to question their intentions.



DAN MONTSITSI addresses the launching meeting of the IYY campaign in the Western Cape. The meeting was held at a church hall in Bonteheuwel.

On Saturday afternoon, hundred of young people including many members of youth and student organisations, took part in a cultural rally to celebrate the International Youth Year campaign.

New art body

A NEW regional cultural body which will encourage and promote talents in the Western Cape, will be launched early in May.

Invitations have been extended to all progressive organisations and individuals to attend a meeting at the Community Arts Project (CAP) at 3 p.m. on Sunday May 5.

Initial work has been done by a group of artists and interested individuals. They have drawn up a set of working principles outlining the aims and objectives, the structure and function of the new organisation.

Some of the aims of the organi-

sation are:

- to unite progressive cultural workers in the Western Cape.
- oppose all forms of oppression and exploitation.
- encourage and promote creative talents existing in the communities of the Western Cape.
- to focus attention on and actively oppose the harassment of cultural workers.

Membership will be open to progressive cultural organisations and cultural workers actively engaged in the community and who subscribe to the aims of the organisation.

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MASSACRE!

What really happened in Uitenhage on March 21

THIS IS WHAT THE PEOPLE SAY

'There was no warning'

I WAS moving down 15th Avenue. The people were marching down Maduna Road and I joined them. As the procession was going down Maduna Road there was a hippo in the middle of the road in front of the people. We were going to the funeral of Kwa Nobuhle.

The people were peacefully going to Kwa Nobuhle. We were not carrying stones and I saw no petrol bombs. Some police were on the hippo and some were on the ground.

The man in front of the people who was riding on a bicycle was shot. There was no warning, we were not told to go away. There was no stones thrown at the police. The man on the bicycle was passing the hippo when he was shot. The crowd was behind this man and the hippos were not surrounded.

The police then fired at the crowd and I ran away. I was hit on the head by a bullet and I fell onto the ground and pretended to be dead. As I was lying on the ground I heard a black policeman say that they must finish them or they would make a claim. The man lying next to me was shot while he was on the ground and the police said he was a leader.

I was shot in the foot. A white policeman then examined me to see if I was dead and said "hy is lankal dood hierdie kaffir". Another white policeman shone a torch into my eyes and he left me. The police then gathered some stones and put them on the ground where the bodies were.

The ambulances came and I was put into an ambulance and taken to the hospital and from there I managed to escape. I went to a private doctor who attended to my wounds. The doctor was Dr Peer in Durban Street.

ERIC TEMBANI

'They put stones in people's hands'

"WE WERE in Maduna Road between 8 and 9 in the morning waiting for transport to go to the funeral of Kwa Nobuhle. A hippo came from 23rd Avenue. The hippo circled around the people. There was no transport so we started on foot to go to Kwa Nobuhle.

At 15th Avenue there was another hippo and two land-rovers. When they got to 15th Avenue the hippo went in front

THE massacre at Langa township, Uitenhage, on March 21 has shocked the whole world.

At 10 a.m. that day about 5000 people were on their way to a funeral. They were confronted by police.

Police said that 17 people were killed immediately and 19 injured. They said that two more people died later in hospital.

The people say that at least 43 people died that day and that hundreds more were injured.

Now the government has appointed a one-man commission to investigate.

On this page, Grassroots looks at what the Minister of Law and Order said about the incident. We also look at what the people of the area said in affidavits signed before commissioners of oaths.

of them. The policeman shot the man on the bicycle in front of the people and then the other people.

I ran away to the houses nearby. When we looked back at Maduna Rd. there were lots of people lying on the ground.

We saw the police collecting stones and putting them in the hands of the people on the ground. The people asked the police what they were doing and the police said the people must say Amandla Wethu.

The ambulance came and took the people away.

We went back to our homes."

LILY MADELA

'No-one in crowd had stones, sticks'

"I WAS going to the funeral on 21st March 1985 at Kwano-buhle.

I was in a group. I saw two hippos in front of us and another at the back near 16th Avenue. We were walking down Maduna Road.

When we got close to the two hippos they started shooting. I was shot in the ankle and fell down. While I was lying on the ground the police left the hippos and came among us.

They took our umbrellas (it was hot). They said all who were alive must get up. They hit and kicked us.

The police collected stones and scattered them among the dead people.

I was taken to hospital in an ambulance and later escaped.

I did not see anyone in the crowd carrying stones, sticks or any other weapon.

I escaped from the hospital because, though I was innocent and had done nothing, I was afraid I would be put in goal.::

VUYANI MLOMZALE

'Police threatened us with guns'

"I WAS moving down 17th Ave heading for the funeral. I joined the procession next to Mita's Shop. There was a hippo in front of the procession and another alongside. We went down Maduna Road.

Some elderly woman were coming and some policeman waved them to join the procession. A man was in front on a bicycle and a white man on a hippo pointed a gun and shot him.

The policeman did not say the people must go back. I saw



Youth members carry the coffins of their friends and brothers

no stones being thrown or any spears or petrol bombs. There was no warning when he was shot and then the police fired at the crowd.

The people were in front of the hippo - they were not around it.

When the police fired I threw myself onto the ground. I heard the police say we must kill all the people still alive. They did not see I was still alive.

The police put stones on the road. The ambulances came and I was put in an ambulance. The people who were wounded were trying to run away and the police were beating them . . .

In the hospital I ran to the toilet where I cleaned the blood from my clothes. I then walked slowly out of the hospital and went home.

JOHN FILA

THIS IS WHAT LE GRANGE SAID

AFTER the Uitenhage massacre,

the Minister of Law and Order Mr Louis le Grange made a statement in which he said 17 people were killed and 19 injured. He also said the police were attacked with stones, "and other missiles including petrol bombs".

The people said they were unarmed, they were going to a funeral.

Several political parties called for the resignation of the Minister. They said he had lost control over the police.

Dr Allan Boesak, patron of the UDF, said it was useless for Mr le Grange to resign while the Botha government and its apartheid policies still existed.

The following is the Minister's statement.

"I regret to announce that a most unfortunate incident took place at about 10 a.m. this morning when the police were forced to open fire on a crowd of people estimated at between 3000 and 4000 near Uitenhage in the Eastern Cape. 17 people

died and 19 injured.

"The crowd, armed with stones, sticks, petrol bombs and bricks were marching towards Uitenhage on the highway from the Langa Black township. They were led by a person dressed in black and carrying a brick.

"About one kilometre from Uitenhage a police unit consisting of 19 men led by a lieutenant confronted the marching crowd and the officer in charge climbed onto his vehicle and told the leader that

the march was illegal in terms of the prohibition on open-air gatherings. He instructed the leader to order his people back but his instructions were ignored.

"When the crowd was about five metres from the police the commanding officer fired a warning shot into the ground next to the leader.

"It still had no effect and the police were suddenly surrounded and pelted with stones, sticks and other missiles including petrol bombs.

"The police officer had no alternative but to order fire, in self defence. Three R1-rifles and some shotguns were used. The crowd retreated and firing immediately ceased. Six R1-bullets, 27 shotgun cartridges and 10 pistol shots were fired.

"Eleven people died during the incident while six others died in hospital. Nineteen people were wounded.

"Police later found traces of exploded petrol bombs as well as one unexploded petrol bomb. Fingerprints have been found on the unexploded bomb.

"I am particularly perturbed that notwithstanding the fact that the police and my office informed the media as quickly as possible after the incident of the correct facts it came to my notice that grossly exaggerated messages which stated that the police had opened up with machine guns and that wounded people had been shot dead in cold blood, had been relayed to the media. [This is a calculated distortion of the facts.



grassroots SPORT

EP LEAGUE CHAMPS

EASTERN Province won the SA Cricket Board Howa Bowl trophy from Western Province after five years, when they were held to a draw by Transvaal in their final fixture at Johannesburg last month.

EP also won the Booley Bowl trophy when they beat WP Under 21 by 85 runs in the final played in Cape Town. The holders of the trophy was WP B.

EP beat WP by three points after the latter could not obtain the maximum bonus points and the two extra points for an innings victory over Natal in their final game in Durban.

Although WP won the game outright they still could not catch up with EP who had a 15-point lead before the final game. EP gained six bonus points from their match against Transvaal which was enough to give them the title.

EP last won the title in 1978 but had to make way for WP who won the title from 1979 to 1984. The heroes in the Eastern Cape sides' success was Steven Draai, Garth Cuddumbey, Jeff Frans, Khaya Majola and Haroun Lorgat.

EP beat Natal in Port Elizabeth and Durban, Transvaal and Western Province in Port Elizabeth. They tied with WP in Cape Town and drew with Transvaal in Johannesburg.

WP beat EP in the Benson and Hedges semi-final in Port Elizabeth while Transvaal beat Natal in the other semi-final in Durban.



Saait Magiet, the Western Province allrounder, during his brilliant innings of 73 runs which helped his side beat Transvaal by 69 runs in the Benson and Hedges final at the Green Point track. Magiet was voted player of the match.



ARMIÉN Jabaar (left) captain and Saait Magiet vice-captain of Western Province, hold aloft the Benson and Hedges trophy which WP won by beating Transvaal in the final in Cape Town.

WP WIN FINAL IN FINE STYLE

THANKS to a brilliant allround performance by the Primrose skipper Saait Magiet, Western Province retained the Benson and Hedges trophy when they beat Transvaal by 80 runs in the final at Green Point Track.

This was WP's only success in the SA Cricket Board competition this season and it was the second time that they won this trophy. WP won it in 1983 and shared it with EP last year.

Magiet batted, fielded and bowled with typical belligerence and it was no surprise when he was awarded the Man of the Match Award.

Magiet and WP skipper Armién Jabaar (23, one four and one six) lambasted the visitors' attack mercilessly to put on 79 for the sixth wicket in 46 minutes.

Magiet set a new top score for B & H finals of 73, made off only 62 balls in 82 minutes.

The home side's

innings got off on a sound footing when Stuard Hendricks (25) and Sheraj Gabriels made 52 in 58 minutes.

However, four wickets then fell in the space of 25 runs.

Magiet came to the wicket with the home side on 77/4, to add 41 with opener Gabriels.

When Gabriels was out soon after reaching his 50 with a six off Aboo Manack, he had faced 73 balls in just over two hours at the crease. Western Province eventually reached 225/7 off their 50 overs.

Vincent Barnes had both Transvaal opener Ahmed Bhabha (6) and number three Andrew Mentor (0) caught behind by Randall Cupido in his first spell to put the visitors on the defensive.

Sixteen-year-old Mahomed Moosajee who scored an undefeated 44 delighted the crowd with some excellent off-side shots, but Transvaal lost Odendaal (16), stumped off Gabriels, when he tried to take the battle to the WP spinners. Edwards then returned with the total 60/4 and whacked two sixes, including the biggest of the day, onto the pavilion roof.

He soon became Gabriels' second victim, bowled for 27 (including two fours and two sixes), and complained of dizziness afterwards.

With 15 overs to go there, was very little chance of the visitors catching up on run-rate, and a swashbuckling batsman of the ilk of Magiet was sorely missed in their line-up.

Aboo Manack a retired hurt a... collecting a cut on the chin when going for a hook off Barnes, and the total crawled to 145/6, despite Jabaar giving Hendricks and Fagme Solomons an over each.

Lansdowne end season on high note

LANSDOWNE of Western Province became the Smirnhoff Western Cape Interclub Champions when they beat rivals Thistles also of WP 17-5 in the final at Vygieskraal Stadium last month.

They also made a clean sweep at the WP Union, winning the league, grand challenge and knock-out trophies.

Earlier Lansdowne beat Maitland Giants and Black Hawks, both of Cape District, on their way to the final while Thistles beat Westridge Cardinals of

Mitchells Plain and Dynamos of Cape District on their way to the final.

Ridgeville also of Western Province won the softball A section when they beat Silver-tree of Cape District in the final.

Crusaders of Cape District won the B section when they beat Cresta of Western Province in the final.

Western Province won the junior softball title while the baseball was shared between Cape District and Mitchells Plain.



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