

NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

grassroots

THE PAPER ABOUT YOU

Vol. 4 No. 5 June 1983 15c

GRASSROOTS SPECIAL

**4 page
CAHAC AGM
supplement
inside**



Anger at increases

ON July 1, rents, water and electricity charges will go up in Divisional and City Council areas.

"These increases will affect our families very badly", said Aunty Vivie, a member of the Bellville Housing Action Committee. "Our families will suffer even more because our expenses are much higher. We cannot afford this".

All over the Cape Flats the people are angry. They are angry because the Council is spending R4 million on the greening of the city. "How can they do this when we have such urgent needs?"

The Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (Cahac) has condemned the increases.

"These increases have come at a time when the government has made great promises to our people. The President's Council will not bring down our rents".

The government has recently confirmed that it will not build houses for people earning more than R150 per month. There is another plan for them. 500 000 Council houses have been put up for sale. Cahac says that more increases can be expected. This will be used to force tenants to buy houses.

"It shows us that those who make the laws do not care whether we can survive. We cannot sit and wait for things to get worse.

We must win the support of the people. It is the task of all civics to ensure that we reach the people. And, that they decide what should be done".



Is this our new home?

Khayelitsha a waste land of mud and bulldozers.

FURTHER AND FURTHER AWAY

FOR years the government has tried to force the Africans and Coloureds out of "white" Cape Town - to push them further and further away.

Now they have given the Africans a new "home". A sandy wind-swept desert beyond Mitchells Plain - 40 kms. from the city. This is Kayelitsha, the future home of 125 000 people.

The first people to be moved here are the KTC squatters, squatters from Crossroads and people who have been on the housing waiting list for years.

But Piet Koornhof has announced that people now living in Guguletu, Nyanga and

Khayelitsha - Dr. Koornhof said that close to 125 000 people from Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga will be moved 40km from the city.....

Langa will eventually be moved here as well.

"This government forced us out of Crawford, Athlone and other so called coloured areas. They put us in tents and dumped us in these townships (Guguletu, Langa and Nyanga), where we had to live in mud!

We sacrificed a lot to make these houses comfortable, and now we are to be dumped somewhere else!" a Langa resident said.

If this is done, it will also mean that people will be dumped in a smaller area than the total area presently covered by the three townships.

Kayelitsha is the government's solution to the housing crisis of Africans in the Western Cape. But it is the government that has caused the crisis in the first place.

Khayelitsha comes after years and years of hounding and harassing

squatters: at KTC, Modderdam, Nyanga Bush and Crossroads. At KTC people were forced to sleep out in the rain and cold, without any protection.

They were surrounded by police day and night. They were beaten, harassed and arrested. They were teargassed. Now, finally they are to be moved to their 'new home', Kayelitsha.

At Khayelitsha there is nothing. A cleared area is the only thing that is provided. Grassroots spoke to one of the KTC women, who has been living in a Nyanga beerhall.

"We have seven days in which to build our own homes. But we don't have any money. Where must we get material to build from? There are no shops to buy from in Swartklip.

"If our children get sick, who will look after them? They want us to move to a place where there is nothing. We will have to travel far to work.

"Our children will have to get two busses to go to school or they will have to walk for miles... it is so far... Swartklip will be better than police raids, teargas and no shelter, but it is not a home for us." she said.



People from KTC are now living in overcrowded Beerhalls.

The people's leader

ONE of the longest political trials in the country is drawing to an end.

This is the trial of Oscar Mpetha and seventeen other young men. For three years they have stood on trial. For three years, their families have stood united giving support and encouragement.

All this is now drawing to an end. On 6th and 7th June, 74 year-old Oscar Mpetha and ten young men were found guilty. They

were found guilty of terrorism. Some of murder and others of murder and terrorism.

And, while the hearing continued, hundreds of people were turned away from the courts this week. Police with batons and dogs stood outside the Supreme Court in Cape Town.

Such was the interest in the trial of these people. Oscar Mpetha, is a respected community and worker leader. In the minds of

many people - of workers in the factories of the Food and Canning Workers Union, of those in the communities and all over the country - 'Oscar, is the people's leader'.

Today, as many wait for sentence to be passed, "we remember Oscar. We remember the ten young men also found guilty. We believe in what Oscar believed in - freedom in our lifetime", said a relative outside the Supreme Court.



Residents look at their new "homes" at Khayelitsha

INSIDE

Recession - page 3

Children's day - page 5

Uprooted - page 6

Vegetable growing - page 13

Youth congress - page 12

Bantu education - page 14

Migrant workers rights in doubt

EVERYBODY was happy with last month's Appeal Court judgement that gave thousands of migrant workers the right to live permanently in the cities — except the government, which made the law.

The judgement gave a migrant worker, Mr Tom Rikhoto, the right to live in the city with his family. It opened the way for thousands of others to have new lives in the cities.

But soon after the decision, the cabinet met to discuss what it meant. There are fears that the government will change the law to take away the workers' rights.

Now workers who have been working for the same employer for 10 years, or who have been working for several employers for 15 years, qualify to live permanently in the cities. There are many workers who will qualify in future.

But the Government may change the law to take away the right of workers who already qualify to live in the cities, as well as those who will qualify in future.

So Mr Rikhoto's struggle through the courts for his rights may have been in vain. The Government can easily change the laws the courts uphold.

On June 1, the first working day after the Appeal Court ruling, hundreds of workers took their passes to the Langa Registration Office for a stamp giving them the right to live permanently in Cape Town.

But the Western Cape Administration Board said it could not act on the applications because it was waiting for the full judgement to arrive from Johannesburg.

That night, Dr Piet Koornhof, said the government was giving the matter its urgent attention.

But workers went on applying for their rights. Thousands applied.

Later, the WCAB said it was welcoming and accepting applications.

In the second week of June, it said workers should bring a letter from their employer saying they had worked for the company for 10 years to the Langa

We must work together



"Union members are part of the community."

AT a mass meeting tenants of Hout Bay decided that they had had enough. The next day 200 people marched through the township to the rent office, where they handed over a list of their electricity complaints and their demands.

Most of the people living in Hout Bay work in the food industries around the harbour. The wages they earn are very low. This makes it difficult for them to pay high rents and high electricity bills. They also have other problems like a lack of facilities in the township.

The Hout Bay Action Committee have been organising people around bad conditions in the township. Immediate problems people decided to do something about were high electricity accounts, the due date, broken meter boxes and faulty wiring. They decided to march in protest.

The people who marched were mostly women working in Sea Product factories. Most of these workers belong to the Food and Canning Workers Union. The women marched in their work overalls and boots.

"At the meeting all the women decided that they had to march. They couldn't just sit still and watch others march. They were their problems too.

They decided to go and speak to the bosses themselves. The women spoke to the bosses about the problems they had with electricity.

They asked if they could take time off to march. The bosses said they could come in late, Auntie Gusta Bester told us.

"Everyone met at the factory gates at 7.30, waited for the others to come and then marched. As they passed the other factories, they called to the women working inside to join them. At Dormans the women came pouring out, except for 3 or 4 who stayed behind to finish an order."

Auntie Gusta told us that she felt that even though the Union helped them to fight for higher wages and better working conditions in the factory, Union members should also help with the struggles in the township.

"Union members are part of the community. They must help us in the Hout Bay Action Committee," she said.

Registration Office.

The worker should return to the office in three to four weeks, and if all was in order, he would be given his stamp.

Workers who applied before May 31 without bringing a letter from their employer, should bring one in now. And workers who applied before May 31 with a letter should come to the Langa office to check that their appli-

cations are in. They will also have to wait three to four weeks before the board can make a decision.

At the same time, the government is still discussing the Rikhoto decision. There are fears that it is planning to change the law to take away the workers' right.

Perhaps this is why the board is taking so long to stamp workers' passbooks.

GWU wins victory

THE General Workers Union has won another victory. Last month the bosses at Industrial Sands in Phillipi agreed to recognise the union.

The union started to organise the workers at Industrial Sands last year and soon most of the workers joined the union.

The workers demanded that the bosses

recognise their union. After much talk, the bosses agreed to negotiate with the worker committee and the union about wages and working conditions.

The workers also want the bosses to talk to the workers committee before any worker is sacked or disciplined.

Workers want permanent rights

AS soon as they heard Tom Rikhoto had won his right to a permanent home in the city, workers rushed to apply for their rights.

Grassroots interviewed some workers who were getting help with their applications through the Athlone Advice Office. They said they were overjoyed with the judgement.

In 1980 I went to an office in Observatory to apply for my rights. I applied to be permanent in Cape Town, but they said I must wait.

In October last year I continued with my application through the Langa registration office, and they said I must wait until February this year.

"Then we were waiting for the end of the case in Johannesburg. Then after I read about it in the paper I came to the Athlone Advice Office with my pass.

"Cape Town is the only place I feel happy in. My children are happy here too when they come from the Transkei for their holidays. That's why I am

here for my rights.

Another worker, from Dairybelle, tells how he travelled back to the Transkei every year for 10 years and now hopes to have a permanent home in Cape Town.

"I started working here in 1970 for Dairybelle. After 11 months they said I had to go because my contract was finished. So I went back to the Transkei and came back to my company in 1971. I've been working for more than 10 years like this.

"Then I heard about the big court case in Johannesburg. I was very happy. I want to be permanently here, so I am applying here for my rights."

A man who has been working for Cape Foundries for 10 years said: "I like it in Cape Town very much and I want to bring my family here. Now they sometimes visit. I was waiting for the end of the court case in Johannesburg, and was very happy when I read about it in the newspaper."

c/o 5 Avenue, Buck Road
Lotus River

Telephones:

71-1290

73-4324

BRANCH
35 Thorton Road
Gleemoor

Telephone:

67-7051



Management & Staff wishes all Muslim well
over the Fast & a Happy Eid Mubarak

Shiba's Shoe Stores

Panama

LADIES' FASHION SHOES
NOW FROM - R16.99 pair

FASHION SHOES

ARRIVING DAILY

FOR EID FOR

THE FAMILY

idlers
by Sata

INFANTS 3 to 6 1/2 R7.99
CHILDREN 7 to 1 1/2 R10.99
YOUTH 2 to 8 R12.99
MENS 6 to 10 R16.99
(BLACK OR TAN)

GATESVILLE SHOPPING CENTRE
OFF KLIPFONTEIN ROAD, RYLANDS ESTATE
(OPP. POST OFFICE)

LAYBYES ACCEPTED

PARKFAIR CENTRE, LANSLOWNE ROAD
LANSLOWNE. (OPP. LANDROST HOTEL)

EXCLUDING G.S.T.

Dalman Motor Spares & Hardware

SHOP NO. 12
ROCKLANDS
SHOPPING
CENTRE
MITHCELL'S PLAIN
TEL.: 32-6070



SHOP NO. 1
TOWN CENTRE
POLKA SQUARE
MITCHELL'S PLAIN
TEL.: 32-2090

17 REPULSE ROAD, (Cnr Belgravia Road)
ATHLONE

2 LITRE VAVOLINE 20W/50W - R5.99

TEDDY SEAT COVER - R19.95

We wish all our Muslim Customers
Well over the Fast & a Happy Eid Mubarak

What is a recession?

IN South Africa, the bosses own all the factories, mines and farms. Most people do not own anything. So, to get money to survive, they have to sell their work to the bosses.

The bosses are not interested in the workers. They are only interested in making profits. They do not care if workers do not have jobs.

We call this system a capitalist system.

In a capitalistic system, we have booms, when business is good, and recessions, when business is going badly.

The bosses say that we are in a recession now. They say that is why so many people are without jobs.

But what causes booms and recessions? A BOOM

Let us look at what has happened in the

clothing industry.

Two years ago many people were buying clothes. The clothing bosses make big profits.

So they employed more workers to make even more clothes. Their profits became even bigger.

The same thing happened in other industries, like the car factories. When everything is going well like this, when bosses say that business is good, then this is a boom.

RECESSION

But a boom cannot go on for very long. In a capitalist country, no one tells the factories how many products they must make.

So after a while, the clothing bosses found that they had made too many clothes. They could not sell them all, and thousands of

clothes piled up in the factories.

Many shops had sales to try and sell them at lower prices. But because most people earned such low wages, they couldn't afford to buy them.

The prices were lower than before, the bosses profits went down. It was the end of the boom.

The bosses decided to make fewer clothes. Then they will be able to sell them at a higher price and make more profit.

So they sacked thousands of workers because they did not need them any more. The same thing happened in other industries.

We call this a recession. WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

So we see that many

clothing workers are losing their jobs. But we also know that most people in South Africa do not have proper clothes.

Why can't the unemployed workers make clothes for all the people who need them?

The reason is that the bosses are not interested in what people need. They will only make things that they can sell at a profit.

As long as there is this system there will be unemployment. We can only stop if the workers decide what should be made and how much should be made.

We need a country where the products that the people need are made. And where people can get what they need without paying a lot of money.

Why is there no work?

"On Friday the foreman told 50 of us to go to the office. There he told us that we were laid off because there is too little work. They gave us each a week's wages and told us to go at once. Maybe they were afraid we will cause trouble."

This is how one worker lost her job. There are thousands of people who will tell the same story. Why are so many people losing their jobs?

The bosses say it is because we are in a recession. On this page, GRASSROOTS explains what a recession is, and why it happens.

We also look at other reasons for unemployment.

Many machines, no jobs

A RECESSION is one reason why workers are unemployed. But we know that it is not only in times of recession that there are unemployed workers. What are other reasons for unemployment?

MANY workers have lost their jobs because they have been replaced by machines.

Mr Mboto is a stevedore who works in the docks. He tells us what happened there:

"We used to load everything by hand. We needed lots of workers to load everything onto the ships.

Then about 10 years ago, this changed. The bosses started to use containers. A container can load many things at one time. All we do is tie the chains to hold the container.

"The bosses saw that they did not need so many workers. They sacked hundreds of workers. 10 years ago, there were over 2000 stevedores at the docks. Now there are only 800.

This happened in many other factories too. One reason why the bosses would rather use machines is

that machines are easier to control than workers. They don't go on strike, or demand higher wages.

The stevedores joined General Workers Unions. They organised themselves so that the bosses had to listen to their demands.

They stopped the bosses from sacking more workers. But most workers do not belong to good, strong trade unions.

The bosses also find it easier to control workers if there are many people without jobs.

This means that the bosses will always be able to find someone to work for them, even if they pay very low wages.

If the workers go on strike or demand higher wages, the bosses can find other workers.

For example, in 1981 the Wilson Rowntree workers who went on strike all lost their jobs. Most of them still cannot find work - the bosses refuse to employ them.

This could not have happened if there were no unemployed workers to take their jobs.

Hard times for everyone?

Recessions are hard and bitter times for workers. At the moment, millions of workers are struggling to live.

Bus fares have increased 4 times in the last two years. Rents went up in 1982, and now they will rise again. Most foodstuffs cost twice as much as they did five years ago.

Even workers who have jobs find that their wages are too low to pay for these things.

The unemployed get nothing. They wait for months to get a little money from Unemployment Insurance Fund

(UIF). But what happens to the bosses in times of recession?

The Financial Mail, a magazine for bosses, say that most business men are spending as much money as ever. They looked at some of the things bosses are buying:

- CARS Expensive cars are still selling well. Cars like the new Mercedes 500 SEC (R115 000) and the Lambourgini Countach (R190 000)
- HOUSES. The rich are still happy to pay between R200 000 and



WHO SUFFERS MORE?

R750 000 for a house. R250 a month worked for 60 years, he would have earned R180 000.

Some bosses are still spending more than that on a sports car! In the words of a union organiser, "When business goes well, the worker produces high profits for his boss."

"But in a recession, it is the worker who suffers most."

LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE



LADY BEE SUPERMARKET
Cares for You

WE LEAD IN

HARDWARE AND HOUSE-HOLD APPLIANCES, ELECTRICAL APP. BUTCHERY, FRESH FISH GARDENING FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

5% Discount on all purchases for Pensioners

PLEASE PRODUCE LADY BEE CARRD

EID MUBARAK



LADY BEE SHOES

For High Fashions Shoes At low Fashion Prices

WE STOCK TRACKSUITS AT LOW PRICES

MEN'S CANVAS BOOTS R9.99	LADIES SLIPPERS R5.99
GIRL'S FASHION SHOES from R9.99	BOY'S TRAINERS from R8.99


LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE LADY BEE CENTRE




Elite
YOUR ECONOMICAL SUPERMARKET

PHONE 67-2501

KLIFFONTEIN RD., RYLANDS ESTATE
ATHLONE



HALAAL AND WHOLESOME



VitaMeat
PACKED WITH NATURAL GOODNESS
(PRONOUNCED VYTA MEAT)

THE HYGIENE - CONSCIOUS FACTORY WITH STAINLESS STEEL WALLS

Blomvlei Road, Lansdowne, Cape
Phone: 67-81/44

Comment

Apartheid has failed

PIET Koornhof has a new "masterplan". A plan which may uproot 125 000 people from Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga to a new township 40 kilometres from the city.

A township which will only house so-called legal squatters and those who have been on the housing waiting lists for years.

Piet Koornhof says he is doing this to ensure the orderly movement of African people. At the same time, he has assured the country that the government's Coloured Labour Preference policy will remain. That 'illegals' in the Western Cape will be dealt with.

This policy has failed. The homelands policy has failed. Pass laws cannot control the movement of the people. KTC, Nyanga Bush, Modderdam and Crossroads show that the government's policies cannot and will not work.

First, there was New Crossroads. All work has now stopped. Now, there is Khayalitsha. Again the government is finding patchwork solutions for problems of its own making. Again, thousands will be uprooted and dumped in what is being called a semi-urban homeland.

Yet again, the people have not been consulted. Community councillors and government stooges cannot speak for the people. Piet Koornhof should let the people speak for themselves.

All they would ask is for housing security and comfort. All they would ask is the right to live and move where they choose.

All they would say - why must we bear the burden of the failure of Apartheid?

Up goes the rent

RENT, water and electricity increases have once again been forced onto our people.

This triple shock comes at a time when food and transport costs are sky high. When millions of people are unemployed, and many fear that they will lose their jobs.

The local authorities say that their expenses have increased. That they need money for roads and the greening of the city. This is how our money is wasted while the people battle to survive.

On 1st July, these increases will come into effect. On the same day, the government is putting up 500 000 council houses for sale. This is no accident.

Many tenants believe that they have paid for these houses over and over again. For years, they have lived under poor conditions. And, for years, they have had to dig into their pockets to pay for rents increases. Their wages did not increase, and their lives are insecure.

Thousands of people have been uprooted by the Group Areas Act. They had to give up their homes, friends and neighbours for the dream of Apartheid.

The government has been promising our people a 'new deal'. Part of this deal is to make tenants homeowners. To make them more satisfied and comfortable on the Cape Flats.

The government is facing serious problems in making its Apartheid dream work. It cannot solve these problems.

Tenants cannot afford rent increases and they cannot afford to buy houses. What will their next plan be when this one has failed.

WE ARE LIVING TOOLS

Dear GRASSROOTS

THE way that our people are being treated by the Government is bad. This has been happening for quite a long time.

We have been watching the Government for years. The people were forced to move from Modderdam and other places. We were living peacefully and happily

in these places. But a sudden sadness covers us all. We were moved away but never given places that belong to us. The people were angry about this. We see again the Government moving people from Crossroads and KTC.

How can we fight for this? The people are

RACE USED TO DIVIDE US

Dear GRASSROOTS

I agree with FM. when he points out that class is the main problem, and not colour.

The reason for this is that even if the Coloureds and Indians come to the PC the power will still remain in the hands of the oppressors.

The government is on the side of the capitalists, and they are the ones who hold the ultimate power.

Another thing is, if the government does not use colour, it will be getting itself into a tight corner. The government is using colour to blind us, and it is trying to separate us.

We must not think about colour. What we must think of is the struggle in this country, between capitalists and the oppressed.

If we go further back, in 1922, you will find out most of the strikers were organised by white miners, the

oppressed workers.

Many were killed and wounded, hundreds arrested and four men were sentenced to death and hanged.

Let me come to the conclusion that black and white workers are in the same struggle, and we were divided by the bosses with the help of the government.

The reason the bosses do these is to safeguard their profits and to protect their system of labour control.

Those who are in the capitalist class they know nothing about the hardships of the

workers struggle.

The Matanzima's and the Sebe's know that South Africa is a place that has a reputation for giving the oppressed the rawest deal.

PC should explain how the government is using colour to oppress us. Maybe we will be clear of what he is saying about the colour and the national pride of our customs.

Is it not true that nation has been used to divide us workers in South Africa.

Yours in the struggle,
G.N., Nyanga.



Smash the pass laws

Dear GRASSROOTS,

The working class and the pass laws started on the mines by the rich Randlords and the mine bosses. On the mines it started when workers were recruited.

They would sign a contract, it was for the worker to stay on the mines until his contract expired.

If he broke it, he would be jailed. Workers were breaking their contract by running

away from their job because of the conditions in the compound and low wages.

Then there started pass laws. They knew these pass laws were going to be a burden to the workers.

The government allowed the pass laws, so the government is for the bosses, not for the people.

Workers, we must unite against this oppressive hazard of the bosses wanting

cheap labour by means of the pass laws. The pass laws must be smashed.

You come home from work tired and hungry, telling yourself at least at home I will not get arrested.

In the middle of the night you hear banging and harsh knocking on the door. The boer wakes you up to ask you "Kaffir where is your dompas?"

Yours in the struggle,
Steve Sello

Why we left CAHAC

Dear GRASSROOTS

We the Parkwood Tenants Association, BBSK Resident's Association and the Mannenberg Civic Association would like to state our reasons for withdrawing from CAHAC.

It is not enough that action should be united but it must increasingly take on a decisive form. It should be recognised that there are weaknesses in actions like petitions and delegations.

These forms of action do not begin to challenge authority and in no way give worker-tenants confidence in their own strength.

The only value of these forms of action is that they show the unwillingness and an inability of the state to solve our problems.

It is therefore necessary that the leadership should draw on the lessons of action and not try to cover up mistakes, because this can

only prepare the ground for new mistakes.

This has not been the case within and in fact, opposition has been harshly dealt with.

We therefore found it necessary to withdraw from CAHAC.

Below we list our five principle reasons.

1. CAHAC has not provided a forum for united and decisive action.
2. The CAHAC leadership has held back the struggle of worker-tenants.
3. The CAHAC leadership betrays the interests of worker-tenants.
4. CAHAC leadership has flouted principled unity for organisations working together.
5. The CAHAC leadership has denied minorities the right to criticise.

Yours sincerely
Parkwood Tenants Association
BBSK Residents' Association
Mannenberg Civic Association

the Government we are living tools.

People, there is no easy way to freedom. It is not just around the corner.

We must be prepared to walk a long way to get it. Forward to those who are prepared to share with the people.

An injury to one is an injury to all.

Aluta (Guguletu).

The people must govern

Dear GRASSROOTS

Commenting on the two letters from FM and PC there are points which I agree with FM when he says the government is capitalist and we must not separate the government from this exploitation.

Because when the war breaks out they say we must fight for the nation. They don't say we must fight for capitalists.

They try by all means to hide behind the nation. For example the government is always keeping on saying the white people must fight for the white nation against the black.

Although the white workers they do get all the benefits. But still they got no power on running the country.

Which it shows how the capitalists hide behind the nation.

On the PC article it is true, as the writer

pointed out, our struggle is non-racial, undivided and democratic South Africa, and not one where the oppressed will become the oppressors.

So it means the really right way of running the country is for the people to govern, not capitalists.

What is not clear enough when PC says that the vast majority of so-called Coloureds, Indians and Africans, they are stripped of their dignity, their culture, their national pride.

I would like to ask PC to put us in a green light. To tell us what does he mean when he says that?

In the question of Sebe's, Matanzima's and others, yes they are the enemies of the people because they are the stooges of the white capitalist government.

Yours in the struggle
R.M., Langa



CAHAC is our organisation

Dear GRASSROOTS

Last week I read in the Cape Herald the story by BBSK, Mannenberg and Parkwood.

I don't agree with what they said. I support CAHAC. So I wanted to write to Grassroots to say what I think.

I stay in Factreton. We have stayed there now for many years, in a council house. I work in a factory and get very low wages. Then I must still feed four children.

We in Factreton cannot find money for rent and busfares. And we have other problems too, like the afdakkies.

So I was happy to hear about CAHAC. My friend told me that

CAHAC won a case with City Tramways.

Then when CAHAC was fighting for high rents, I decided I must join CAHAC. That's when I learnt about saamstaan.

CAHAC is our organisation. Mr Marks said at the meeting "CAHAC is ons die council se mense se organisasie". That is right. Because we decide what CAHAC must do.

CAHAC brought us together. Now we don't sit alone in our house with our problems. We go out together and fight for our rights.

That is why I support CAHAC.

Yours sincerely
CAHAC Supporter.

They are the flowers of our struggle

ON the 13th May, UWO organised a 3 day camp for children at the Dora Valk center in Muizenberg.

57 children came from Guguletu and New Crossroads. This is how one mother described the camp:

"The children had many things to do. They made puppets and did plays with them. They also learnt about dancing and painting. Molo Songolo told them stories.

"On the Sunday, we mothers visited the children. They did a puppet show for us and sang. I never knew our children were so clever!

"I am very pleased we could give this to the children. So often we don't have time for them. And we have no money to give them things.

"I think the children liked the camp very much, and they also learnt a lot. I wish all our children could have these camps.

The UWO also organised activities for International Children's Day.

On June 4, more than 1000 children came together to celebrate their day. Programmes were held in

Kensington, Athlone, Worcester, Paarl, Wynberg and Woodstock.

"We wanted the children to come together and enjoy themselves on the day" said a UWO member.

"But it was also a day of reaching mothers. Women worked together to organise the programme. In some areas a programme was held for the parents as well.

"In this way we can reach new women and tell them about our organisation."



Children, go forward

CHILDREN of South Africa! You are the hope of our country. You deserve the best our country can give. But what does South Africa give to you?

You have the right to be loved and respected by all. Yet how many of you were shot down in the streets in 1976 and 1980? Some of you have been inside a prison before the age of 13. Many of you have been beaten, kicked and badly treated.

You have the right of a healthy body. But every year thousands of you die because you do not have enough to eat. You get sick because you have no food, and live in overcrowded places. When you are sick, you do not get proper medicine.

You have the right to live in comfort. But many of you have not known a proper home. You live in small places with too many other people. At KTC and Crossroads, you were left in the cold rain with no shelter. Many of you sleep in the streets.

You live in areas where there is mud and dirt instead of grass and trees. You have nowhere to play.

You have the right to live with your family. But many of you do not know a father or mother. Sometimes your parents work in far away places and you are not allowed to live with them.

Sometimes your mother or father

is taken away from you and put into prison.

You have the right to be educated, to know and understand the world. Most of you are forced into overcrowded classrooms. You do not get books. You are told lies about your past and your present. You have the right to know the truth.

You have the right to play as children. But many of you have to work. We see you late at night, selling newspapers on the streets.

We see you working on the farms, from early in the morning until night-time. You have to do the work of full-grown men.

You have the right to peace and friendship. But you have only known hatred and fighting. You are separated from other South Africans because of your colour. You are told to hate people who are different. You have known riots, teargas, police bullets and dogs.

This is the only life you have known. But there are children all over the world who have never known such things. You have the right to know that you deserve a better life.

Let us fight for the rights of our children. Let us bring the day closer when you will be free. Let us work so that your children will never know the hardships that you have known.

June 1st was International Children's Day.

This is when people all over the world remember the rights of children.

But in South Africa, most children, like their parents have almost no rights. We try to give our best to our children. But we cannot protect them from gutter education, pass laws and group areas. We must fight to free our children of these hardships.

On this page GRASSROOTS looks at the lives of children in South Africa.



TRU-SEW GARMENTS

Fantastic range of Dress Materials suitable for Eid

- HALT RD., ELSIES RIVER
- KLIPFONTEIN RD. ATHLONE (opp. Magistrate's Court)



269 VICTORIA ROAD, SALT RIVER
TFL. 55 4848

MONDAYS TO THURSDAYS CLUB FUNCTIONS

FRIDAY & SATURDAY DISCO PARTIES COVER CHARGE R5,00

PHONE BOOKINGS ACCEPTED AT THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS 55 5316 ★ 55 4848 ★ 55 4982

BETWEEN 11am - 6pm MONDAY - THURSDAY
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11am - 10pm

Sharing child care

MANY of the members of UWO (United Women's Organisation) are mothers. They often struggle to care for their children.

So UWO brings mothers together to organise activities for children. In this way, the organisation helps mothers share the work of child care.

These are some of the projects organised by UWO branches:

- Playgrounds bring children together every week to play and share

experiences.

- Children's Days help children from different areas to get to know each other.

- Sharing Child Care brings mothers together to share the work of looking after toddlers. The mothers arrange for each of them to take a turn in looking after all the toddlers for a day. This frees the other mothers from some of the work.

- Helping with the running of creches. This

means mothers can have a say in the running of a creche. They can take part in the development of the children.

Child care is a serious problem in the townships. There are very few facilities, and many mothers have to go out to work in the day. The government has a responsibility to provide free creches for all children.

If we unite in a women's organisation, we can fight for proper child care and facilities.



O.K. MOSLEM BUTCHERY

71 PARK ROAD, WYNBERG

BE WISE STOCK UP NOW BEFORE

PRICES GO UP

DAILY DELIVERIES

ALL MEATS STRICTLY HALAAL

Eid Mubarak

عيد مبارك

HOT SPICE



GOLDEN CRACKLES

You'll love the Spicy Flavour

GENUINE INDIAN MASALAS
GARLIC & GINGER PASTE.
BRAAI SPICES & FRESHLY
MOULD SPICES ARE SOLD

AT ALL MITCHELL'S PLAIN SUPERMARKETS AND FOOD STORES

at your nearest Supermarket and Food Stores.



"I cannot talk about the future. The future means death. I don't have a future. When one says future, you mean you have a job and that means children. You see your children growing up and then again their children, you grandchildren... At the beginning we cried but crying doesn't help. I would have been better if I had been an animal. A man suffers when he is taken away from his land. After a while you think that God must take you as well."



"People must know our problems. We are still struggling here until everyone has rights and houses. Other communities? They must stand together, then they will win. They mustn't allow themselves to be separated, then they won't win."



Naboomkoppies - children queue for water, with only one tap per street after nearly 20 years. - September 1982.

Since laws were passed restricting Africans to small parts of the land, the government has moved millions of people. Settled communities are uprooted and the residents relocated in areas far away. This happens throughout the country, and brings hardship and suffering to thousands of families. On this page we look at the reasons for relocation and resettlement, and the effects it has on the people.

THE forced removal of Africans from the cities and towns of "white" South Africa and their relocation in the homelands, is part of the Apartheid policy.

In the last 30 years, 30 million Africans have been uprooted from their homes and dumped in the overcrowded homelands. There they suffer hardship and poverty.

The Government's laws say Africans may only live in the homelands. These homelands make up only 13 percent of South Africa. The land is badly eroded and the people cannot make a living from the land.

In the 1950's, the Government decided that each ethnic group must have its own homeland. Xhosa were to live in Transkei and Ciskei; Zulu in KwaZulu and so on. Today, there are already four homelands with more to come.

They also introduced pass laws. All Africans over the age of 16 have to carry passes. The passes are used to control the movement of the people between the cities and the homelands.

So Africans may only come to the cities and towns to work for the bosses of the mines, factories, shops and farms. Otherwise they must remain in the homelands.

Because there is no work in the homelands, many families move to cities like Cape Town to look for work and security. Sometimes the father or husband is already working in Cape Town as a migrant worker. The rest of the family come to Cape Town so that they can live together.

Other African families have rights to live in Cape Town. The Government is not happy with large numbers of Africans living in the cities permanently. It refuses to give rights to the

people and build houses for them. So, thousands of African families - those with rights and those that the Government calls "illegal" - have to live in shacks.

This is the reason why Modderdam, Unibell and Crossroads grew. In 1981 it was Nyanga Bush. Today it is KTC.

In the mid 1970's, Unibell, Modderdam and Westgrove were destroyed. Thousands of families lived there. Bulldozers, guns and dogs were used to force the people back to the homelands.

In 1981, the police forced the women and children of Nyanga Bush on to buses and dumped them in Transkei.

Today the people of KTC are harassed and put in jail.

Two years ago Koorndorf said that no one would be forced to go to the homelands. Nyanga Bush and KTC show that he is lying.

Besides using direct force, there are other methods the government can use. It can put up the rents. Or it can close down the schools, shops and stop services in the camps. In this way, the people are still forced to move.

The PC and Koorndorf Bills will not put an end to the removals. The PC says the homelands are here to stay. The Koorndorf Bill says that only a small number of Africans should live permanently in the cities and towns.

It introduces harsh new laws against squatting and heavy fines for the people who are in the cities illegally.

So, if the Government has its way, even more people will be uprooted and removed to the homelands.

A CRIME TO BUILD SHACKS?

THE Government says the people of KTC will now have to live at Khayelitsha in Swartklop. The KTC residents are scattered in many places. Some are in Polhemmer, some are living in bombsites and others in Church halls.

Over the past few months they have suffered a lot. Arrested, teanga, sleeping in the cold and rain. Sharing their miserable shelters hooked down almost every day by the police and the Western Cape Administration Board officials.

A few of the students spoke about their hardships at the camp.

One woman said: "I have been on the housing waiting list for the past twelve years. My husband, my two kids

and I were staying with his family. But my marriage broke up because I could not get on with his family."

"I went to stay with my family in Guguletu. There were already eight people staying in my parents' four-roomed house."

"When I heard there was a site at KTC, I rushed there. Everyday I came from work, I built my shelter. Every morning the kids and I would get up very early to take down the shel-

ter."

"The Board came at about 7.30 in the morning. They later we went to jail. Is it a crime to build a shack on an empty lot in the township?" she asked.

Another resident said: "We at KTC are mainly from the Western Cape. We have tried the so-called legal channels. We have been to the Board's office many times. Many of us who are on the waiting list have been bypassed. We are fed up."

Another man, Mr. Thembu, also spoke about his last few weeks at KTC.

"We have no shelter, only five. Now we are digging holes to sleep in."

Ten or twelve people fit into each hole. We cover the holes with use. The police cannot take the holes away."

The people of Guguletu have also suffered because of the police raids.

One township resident said: "From the beginning we have supported KTC. We all knew the Government has not built houses for the people. The houses which we have are overcrowded. What the police came with the teanga, the gas was carried to us."

"Our eyes were running. I saw someone run and fall because she could not see."

UPROOTED

Seventy years of removals

Khayelitsha not a home for us



NKOSI Nsopeyi lives in a village in the Transkei. The homelands is overcrowded and poor. People cannot grow enough food to live. There is no work.

Nkosi has to go to the city to find work. The bosses need workers for the factories. So the Government lets Nkosi come to the city.

He cannot take his family with him. He must live in the compound. If he loses his job, he must go back to the homeland.

Nkosi's wife, Ntombi, is left behind with her family. She cannot find food for her family. Nkosi sends money but it is not enough. Ntombi misses him very much.

So she decides to go to town to be with Nkosi. There are no houses for them. Already thousands of families are on the waiting list for a house.

Nkosi and Ntombi are then forced to build a shack at Crossroads Squatter camp. There are many other people like them at the camp.

But things were to become worse. Nkosi loses his job. The bosses don't need so many workers any more and many people are laid off.

The Government does not want unemployed people in Cape Town. They want them to go back to Transkei. They break the shack at Crossroads. The Nsopeyi's build another shack at Crossroads.

The bulldozers come again. The family move to Nyanga Bush. Then to KTC.

At last the police arrest them and force them to go back to the homeland. But if they stay in Transkei long, they will starve. There is even less land than before.

Soon they will have to come to Cape Town again. In town they can be thrown into jail at any time. They have nowhere to live. But it is better than dying in the homelands.



KHAYELITSHA means "our new home". Many people would look forward to moving into a new place.

But for the people of Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga, Khayelitsha, the new township being built on the outskirts of Mitchell's Plain, can only bring more hardship and suffering.

Many people are angry and say they will refuse to move. They say they were first dumped in Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga and now the Government wanted to dump them even further away.

Conditions are bad in these townships but in Khayelitsha it will be much worse.

A Langa resident said: "The Government forced us out of Crawford, Elms River, Athlone and many other areas. They put us in tents and dumped us into Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu."

They put us into hovels with very little protection. We suffered a lot to make these houses comfortable. Now that we have renovated the houses, we are to be dumped somewhere else. We will not move."

Some of the KTC squatters who lived in Nyanga Bush had already moved to Khayelitsha. One of the women told Grassroots that they had decided to move because they had little choice.

Nsopeyi said: "Khayelitsha will be better than police raids, teanga and no shelter. It will be better than all the families sharing one dark, silted beehive. But it is not a house for us."

"We are not happy in going to Swartklop. But we are harassed so much at KTC - we cannot live like that."

"There are no shops to buy from at Swartklop. If our children get sick, who will look after them? They want us to move to a place where there is nothing. Our children will have to take buses to get to school and they will have to walk for miles."

Khayelitsha is more than 30 km from the city centre. The site is in between masses of soft sand and bushes. The nearest railway station is 4 km away in Mitchell's Plain.

Those who have little choice but to move will face further hardships. But there are many who loudly say: "We will not move."

It started with 1913 Land Act

IN 1913 - exactly 70 years ago - the Government passed the Land Act which stated that Africans could only live on 10 percent of the land.

This was to lead to much greater suffering and hardship for the African people.

Before this law was passed, Africans could live and farm anywhere. They did not own the land but could farm on land owned by whites.

But at this time the mine bosses needed workers. Because the Africans could farm land, they did not want to work on the mines.

The mine bosses thought that the only way to get the Africans off the land was to take the land away from them.



Change these evil laws

TWO million people are under threat of removal in South Africa. They are people living on farms, in towns and cities and even in the homelands.

Many of them live in small communities - maybe one or two families on a farm. They have little chance of fighting their removal. They are far from towns and newspapers. They have no rights on the farms. When the farmer tells them to go, they must pack and leave.

Other people live in larger communities.

They have lived these more than 70 years and they do not want to move. Government policy says they are living in white areas and they must move to homelands.

They will lose their houses, their cattle, their fields and their schools. They will have to move to the homelands and share what little the people have there.

Most will not get fields and not be allowed to keep cattle. These are the people who are standing together to fight their removal.

When Dr Koorndorf said in 1981 that there would be no more forced removals, many communities wrote to tell him that they did not want to move. His reply was they could not break the law.

The people say change the law. They have lived for generations on their land. They love it and want to bring their children up there in peace.

Communities have held meetings. They have presented petitions. They have invited Dr Koorndorf and

the press to visit their areas. They are talking to other communities with the same problems.

They feel that they are so far from where everything is happening. Transport costs so much. Their news is seldom in the newspapers. Not many of them ever read newspapers anyway.

They depend on visits from migrant workers for news. But they are not asleep. They are struggling to stay where they are and keep what little they have.



Whenever we have local population in our border and rural areas we will have to secure their loyalty, goodwill and co-operation against the insurgents. Where this is not feasible, we will have to move them out of the critical areas and resettle them elsewhere. It is essential that we have a white local population the white border and rural areas." (Brigadier Lloyd to Urban Foundation, 1979 -)



PLEMENT IN GRASSROOTS
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR
CAPE AREAS HOUSING ACTION
COMMITTEE (CAHAC). JUNE 1983

Advice centres tackle our daily problems

... hire purchase, un-
... t, and grants are some
... blems which we face

... e my rights when the
... nts to put me out of my
... is it taking so long for
... t my unemployment
... en do I qualify for a

... e the questions people
... y. But we don't always
... go to for assistance.

... year many organisat-
... ng to Cahac felt it was
... start advice centres
... nts could be assisted
... blems.

Preparing

... isations are from Bel-
... der Hill, Steenberg,
... k, Eastridge and Wor-
... of the organisations
... opened the advice
... ers are still hard at
... preparations.

... advice offices is no
... residents have to find a
... funds and learn about
... g, grants and many

... ents who give advice
... erts'. They have to
... advice. They also have
... blems as all the other
... ident who comes into
... even give them advice.

... e offices are for the
... nd run by the com-
... organising committee

... is assisting these areas to start the
... advice offices. Where they have al-
... ready been set up, the organising
... committee will also give assistance
... to ensure that the advice offices
... function well.

... The organising committee is
... having a workshop where residents
... will come together and discuss the
... daily practical problems experi-
... enced in the running of advice
... offices.

... Steenberg residents can go to the
... Steenberg Advice office which is
... open from 9 a.m. to 12 noon every
... Saturday. The office is at the
... Retreat Library in Concert Boule-
... vard.

... The advice office was started
... after many house meetings were
... held in Steenberg. Almost all the
... people at the meeting supported
... the idea of an advice centre.

... They said that through the
... advice centre people can be inform-
... ed and assist one another to work
... out ways of tackling their prob-
... lems.

... At the centre, advice is given on
... problems related to unemployment
... money, sick benefits, maternity
... benefits and workman's compen-
... sation — when people are injured at
... their places of work.

... Advice is also given on hire pur-
... chase, life insurance, etc.

... The advice office is still growing.
... For it to be a success, it is important
... that more people in the area
... become involved in it.

Increases again in spite of low wages, unemployment

High rents misery

"EVERYDAY when we open the newspapers, something has gone up. The bread, unemployment, busfares. The only thing that never goes up is our wages."

This was how Mrs Jansen of Lavender Hill reacted when she heard that rents, water and electricity costs were going up in July.

The Council is again snapping and growling around our feet like a hungry dog, demanding more rent money. Nobody is really sure of how big the increases will be in Divisional Council areas. In City Council areas, it will go up by nearly 20c for every rand we presently pay.

For Mrs Jansen, this will mean an extra R7 on her R35 rent.

"How can I afford an extra R7? My husband is unemployed and I only earn R40 a week as a garment worker. On this money, I must pay everything. The food, the rent, the busfares.

Costs

The Councils say they have extra costs. 'What costs, I want to know? Who fixes the houses, not them.'

For thousands of people in Cape Town and all over South Africa, the problem is the same. It seems as though the Government and the councils really don't care. They know our children are hungry, that everyday the struggle to survive gets harder for us. And yet they carry on eating more and more of our monies.

We have also now heard that the Govern- ment wants to sell 500 000 houses. Are we expected to buy these broken houses, some of which are falling apart. Are the rents, water and electricity costs being increased to force us to buy their houses. In many cases, we have already paid for the houses over and over again.

We were moved out of areas like District Six, Constantia and Good- wood where we had homes. These homes were broken down. We did not ask to be moved. Why must we pay?

In January last year the rents also went up. People protested in every part of Cape

Town. Forty organi- sations came together under the banner of Cahac and organised a campaign against the high rents. "We want rents we can afford," was the demand of the people.

40 000 people signed a petition objecting to the increases. 3 000 people went to a mass meeting in Mitchell's Plain to show their anger. And in February we held a day of action, demanding that the Government listens to our problem.

Many of us marched onto the local rent offices during the day of action.

The Minister, Mr Pen Kotze had first refused to speak to the people.

But after the Day of Action, he panicked and agreed to meet with the people.

Pen Kotze insulted us. He said the petitions had been signed by schoolchildren. He dared to say that many of us only pay R7,50 rent. He said we should be grateful for the Group and the houses he built for us.

"As ek iemand uit 'n krot haal en in 'n ordentlike huis sit, moet hy bly wees en vir die huis betaal," he said.

Many of us were shocked and angry by the Minister's response. We could refuse to pay the rent. But when we discussed it, we felt we were not yet strong enough to do that.

But people also said that we must not just stop there and accept the situation. We must work hard in our areas and make our organi- sations strong. In this way we would one day be strong enough to say: "So far and no further. We will not pay the increases."

Response

Now, 18 months later, we are again faced with increases. How should we respond this time.

Already three areas in Cape Town — Factre- ton, Avonwood and Valhalla Park — have held mass meetings to discuss the problem. People are also meeting and talking in other areas.

Soon the whole of Cahac will sit down to decide how we can re- spond. Meanwhile, we must carry on discuss- ing the issue, in the busses and with our neighbours and friends, to see how we feel about the increases. To- gether we should try and work out what can be done.

CAHAC AGM

Sun 17 July 83

CAHAC will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on July 17. Members of Cahac affiliates are welcome to the the AGM.

At the AGM, essentially three things will be discussed. Firstly we will talk about all the activities in which the organi- sation took part in or helped to organise. We will also speak about what went right or what went wrong, but especially the mistakes.

We will do this so that we can ensure we do not make the same mistakes again in the new year.

At the AGM, we will also discuss Cahac's views on various laws that affect our lives. This — the policy — is used to guide us on what to do about them.

We will also examine the way Cahac is organised to see if the structure and constitution needs to be changed.

Finally we have to look at how the officials elected at the last AGM have served Cahac. In talking about this, we try to find the people best equipped to serve Cahac in the new year.

To prepare members of affiliates for the AGM, Cahac organised a workshop for June 19.

Strong civics are the key

Built on people

CAHAC is baie belangrik omdat dit mense bymekaar bring.

Dit is die woorde van Mr N Christiana, 'n lid van die Bellville South Housing Action Committee (BSHAC).



Die BSHAC is een van die meer as 20 lede van CAHAC. "Dare is 'n verskillende alreë werk en saamwerk met ander organisasies," het Mr Christiana gesê.

Hy gaan verder en sê: "Ons het baie probleme gehad toe ons alleen in die area gewerk het. Mensie het te veel staat gemaak op die komitee. Nadat die mense van alle areas begin bymekaar kom, het hulle besef dat hulle nie alleen werk nie."

"CAHAC bestaan uit die mense. CAHAC is die fondasie en die mense is die siel."

Furtherers unity

Mr Simon Magalie van Elsies River sê ook dat CAHAC is die mense se organisasie. "CAHAC is 'n organisasie wat die mense organiseer en die belang van die mense op die hart dra."



Mr Magalie sê dat dit belangrik is vir CAHAC om te bestaan omdat CAHAC omheid onder die onderskeide bevorder. Hoe meer organisasies gesig word, hoe beter is dit vir ons," het Mr Magalie gesê.

Fights for vote

Mr Ismail van Bonteheuwel sê dat CAHAC is die mense en die mense is CAHAC.



"So CAHAC is die organisasie van die mense," sê Mr Ismail, 'n lid van die Bonteheuwel Civic Association. Hy sê dat die doel van CAHAC is om vir mense te organiseer. "Maar CAHAC veg ook vir die strengste vir almal! En dat almal moet in eenheid leef. "Dit is omse wens en al omse wens my."

IN the past three years, the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (CAHAC) has grown from strength to strength. It has fought against problems facing the people in the townships of the Cape. It has fought against high rents and bus fares, had maintenance and many other daily problems of the people.

But who or what is CAHAC? This is perhaps best explained in the words of a Steenberg resident who at CAHAC's protest meeting last month is one, die Council mense se opinie.

CAHAC is made up of men from local bodies and residents committees all over the Western Cape.

The CAHAC general body meets every three weeks. Two delegates from each area attend to discuss problems in their area, and building strong organisations in their own areas.

Although CAHAC does not meet every day, its members meet every day.



Bonteheuwel residents confront council about bad maintenance.



The people of Factreton march to rent office to demand that their rights be put on.

work every day. In Hout Bay, Worcester, Hanover Park, Bellar and all the other areas, CAHAC members work tirelessly to build strong organisations.

A few weeks ago, the Hout Bay Action Committee led a march of 150 residents to the offices of the Divisional Council.

The residents of Factreton recently marched to the local rent office demanding that their lights be put on. When the officials saw the people were united, they immediately put their lights on. The march was organised by the Kensington/Factreton Ratepayers and Tenants Association.

The Steenberg Residents Committee is presently hard at work to form a residents association in the area.

In Elsies River, Avondale residents are demanding that the office hours at the rent office be extended for week days.

CAHAC can only be strong if its affiliates are strong.

And for the affiliates to be strong, all residents in those areas must work hard to strengthen their affiliates.

It is only through unity that we can fight high rents, water and electricity costs, and other problems facing us daily.

After out of many years Town saw it's campaign by a community organisation.

The people demanded that the Minister of Community Development, Mr Poo Kotze does something about the increase. He refused. Again the people took action.

They went to the City Council and told them in their own words.

In the parents of Hout Bay, they went to the Council. They went about the conditions in their area. The City Council forced to listen.

Then it also other about organisations they were all unconnected.

It was only when the community newsletter Grassroots was started in 1980 that people from different community organisations could sit together and share experiences.

Later, rents were increased. It was at this time that areas began to come together. The anti-racist Rents Committee was formed.

In September 1980, this became CAHAC.

In April 1981, the first steering committee was elected. CAHAC had 15 affiliates at this point.

So, when the City Council decided that they would not repair people's houses any more, CAHAC took action. People decided to call a mass meeting and that Bonteheuwel lead the campaign.

The mass meeting on July 5 1981, CAHAC's first, was attended by 1 500 people. The campaign which followed in Bonteheuwel was as successful.

In July, City Transport applied for an increase in bus fares.

Again, CAHAC responded. CAHAC, together with many other organisations objected to the increase.

A petition was signed by 25 000 people. The people came in great numbers to state their case to the Transportation Board, and the increase was stopped.

The hard work taking place in all communities led a strong foundation for future work.

When Councils decided to increase rents on January 1, 1982, they faced anger in every community.

This anger came from the different organisations which had united under CAHAC as the Rents Action Committee (RAC).

The people demanded that the Minister of Community Development, Mr Poo Kotze does something about the increase. He refused. Again the people took action.

Tenants in 15 different areas organised protests on the same day. The Minister panicked. He decided to meet the representatives of CAHAC.

In this way CAHAC and its work became known to all the people of Cape Town.

"Yes," said the people, "We are CAHAC and we want to be part of CAHAC."



"We demand proper lights" was the call from Hout Bay residents when they marched onto the local Divisional Council office.

Cape Areas Housing Action Committee

DIARY OF ACTION

- AUGUST 1980 - Rents Action Committee formed to fight rent increases. It was out of this campaign that CAHAC was born.
- JULY 1981 - "Die Council vir ons geld, hulle moet die mense se huise instaan." This was the call of 1 500 residents at a CAHAC mass meeting in Bonteheuwel.
- AUGUST 1981 - 25 000 sign petitions in protest against increased bus fares. CAHAC affiliates, trade unions and women's organisations object to the Road Transportation Board.
- OCTOBER 1981 - Victory for the people. Transportways loses its application to increase bus fares.
- DECEMBER 1981 - 12 to 16 percent rent increase announced. Forty community organisations, unions and churches start a rents campaign under the banner of CAHAC.
- JANUARY 1982 - 3 000 attend rents protest meeting.
- FEBRUARY 1982 - Poo Kotze refuses to speak to the people and their organisations. The fight for rents continues.
- MARCH 1982 - CAHAC launches a Day of Action. Fifteen areas protest at local rent offices. Kotze meets with CAHAC but refuses to lower the rents.
- APRIL 1982 - The rents campaign is called off. CAHAC says "our struggle is a long one."
- JULY 1982 - First Annual General Meeting. 24 affiliates attend.
- AUGUST 1982 - Bus fares are up again. CAHAC leads walk-out from bus fares hearing.
- MAY 1983 - 2 000 attend housing protest meeting in Hanover Park. Resolutions condemn the government's plan to sell council houses; the Constitutional Proposal and the latest rent increases.
- JULY 1983 - Second Annual General Meeting.

Ben out of struggle

After out of many years Town saw it's campaign by a community organisation.

The people demanded that the Minister of Community Development, Mr Poo Kotze does something about the increase. He refused. Again the people took action.

Tenants in 15 different areas organised protests on the same day. The Minister panicked. He decided to meet the representatives of CAHAC.

In this way CAHAC and its work became known to all the people of Cape Town.

"Yes," said the people, "We are CAHAC and we want to be part of CAHAC."

JAFFERS' MOTORS

VICTORIA ROAD, GRASSY PARK
PHONE: 72-8269

SERVICE STATION
& HIGH CLASS
WORKSHOP REPAIRS

LET TIFFANY'S JEWELLERS

OF DISTINCTION
BE YOUR JEWELLER

Metro Cinema Complex
Symphony Walk
Town Centre
Mitchells Plain

&

Athlone City Centre
Athlone
Phone: 67-4718

MABOYS

ELSIES RIVER

PEOPLES
JOB LOT
CENTRE
MAD, MAD
LOW PRICES

• 43 HALT ROAD •

SUPER FISHERIES

KLIFFONTEIN ROAD, ATHLONE

Wishing all Customers
well over the Fast
and a
Happy Eid Mubarak

Stockists of variety of:
FRESH FISH & FRIED FISH & CHIPS

COSY CORNER

RESTAURANT AND TAKE-AWAYS
Now also open in Mitchell's Plain



Our Oriental dishes
are known throughout
the country.
For something different
and delicious.

ALL FOODS HALAAL

PHONE: 77-2196

119 OTTERY ROAD, WYNBERG

Tru Sew Garment Outfitters

We have a fantastic range
of Eid Specials
for the Whole Family

NYLON FLORAL KITCHEN
CURTAINING from (150cm) — R1.49
ROOF HIGHT CURTAINING
(280cm) from — R5.99 metre
KITCHEN FRILL CURTAINING
(90cm & 120cm) from — R2.99 metre

We wish our Muslim Customers
a Happy Eid Mubarak

348 Halt Road, (opp. Day Hospital),
Elsies River. Phone: 98-4891

30 Klipfontein Road, Athlone
(opp. Police Station) Phone: 67-9461



The every day store at your door
Open till 9pm
Seven days a week

PETER PAN VIDEO FUN

(Now at QUICKTRIP SUPERMARKET)

Full feature films — only R3.00

CONSTANZ MUSLIM BUTCHERY

SYMPHONY AVENUE, STEENBERG

Top Grade Lamb's from R22.00 each

Thick Sausage R2.99 kg

Whole French Polony R1.79 each

Beef Ribs R2.59 kg

A Happy Eid Mubarak to all
our Muslim Customers.

Strong civics are the key

Built on people

CAHAC is baie belangrik omdat dit mense bymekaar bring.

Dit is die woorde van Mr N Christiana, 'n lid van die Bellville South Housing Action Committee (BSHAC).



Die BSHAC is een van die meer as 20 lede van Cahac. "Dare is 'n verskillende tipes mense wat saamwerk met ander organisasies," het Mr Christiana gesê.

Hy gaan verder en sê: "Ons het baie probleme gehad toe ons alleen in die area gewerk het. Mensie het te veel staat gemaak op die komitees. Nadat die mense van alle areas begin bymekaar kom, het hulle besef dat hulle nie alleen werk nie."

"Cahac bestaan uit die mense. Cahac is die fondasie en die mense is die siel."

Furtherers unity

Mr Simon Magalie van Elsies River sê ook dat Cahac is die mense se organisasie. "Cahac is 'n organisasie wat die mense organiseer en die belang van die mense op die hart dra."



Mr Magalie sê dat dit belangrik is vir Cahac om te bestaan omdat Cahac omheid onder die onderskeide bevorder. Hoe meer organisasies gesig word, hoe beter is dit vir ons," het Mr Magalie gesê.

Fights for vote

Mr Ismail van Bonteheuwel sê dat "Cahac is die mense en die mense is Cahac."



"So Cahac is die organisasie van die mense," sê Mr Ismail, 'n lid van die Bonteheuwel Civic Association.

Hy sê die doel van Cahac is om vir mense te organiseer. "Maar Cahac veg ook vir die strengste vir almal! En dat almal moet in eenheid leef. "Dit is omse wens en al omse wens my."

IN the past three years, the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (CAHAC) has grown from strength to strength. It has fought against problems facing the people in the townships of the Cape. It has fought against high rents and bus fares, had maintenance and many other daily problems of the people.

But who or what is Cahac? This is perhaps best explained in the words of a Steenberg resident who at Cahac's protest meeting last month is one, die Council mense se opinie.

Cahac is made up of men from various bodies and residents committees all over the Western Cape.

The Cahac general body meets every three weeks. Two delegates from each area attend to discuss problems in their area, and building strong organisations in their area.

Although Cahac does not meet every day or every week, its members meet every day. In Hout Bay, Worcester, Hanover Park, Bellar and all the other areas, Cahac members work tirelessly to build strong organisations.



Bonteheuwel residents confront council about bad maintenance.



Worship housing; was the demand of 1500 people who attended the CAHAC protest meeting.

Ben out of struggle

AFTER six of many years Town saw it's campaign by a community organisation's.

The people of Bonteheuwel don't an infl area. They met and told the council in their area.

In the month of March, the council was informed of the council. They met about the conditions in the area. The City Council forced to listen.

So, when the City Council decided that they would not repair people's houses any more, Cahac took action. People decided to call a mass meeting and that Bonteheuwel lead the campaign.

The mass meeting on July 5 1981, Cahac's first, was attended by 1500 people. The campaign which followed in Bonteheuwel was successful.

In July, City Transport applied for an increase in bus fares. Again, Cahac responded. Cahac, together with many other organisations objected to the increase.

The people demanded that the Minister of Community Development, Mr Poo Kotze does something about the increase. He refused. Again the people took action.

Tenants in 15 different areas organised protests on the same day. The Minister panicked. He decided to meet the representatives of Cahac.

In this way Cahac and its work became known to all the people of Cape Town. "Yes," said the people, "We are Cahac and we want to be part of Cahac."



"We demand proper lights" was the call from Houtbay residents when they marched onto the local Divisional Council office.

Cape Areas Housing Action Committee

DIARY OF ACTION

- AUGUST 1980 - Rents Action Committee formed to fight rent increases. It was out of this campaign that Cahac was born.
- JULY 1981 - "Die Council vir ons geld, hulle moet die mense se huise instaan." This was the call of 1500 residents at a Cahac mass meeting in Bonteheuwel.
- AUGUST 1981 - 25 000 sign petitions in protest against increased bus fares. Cahac affiliates, trade unions and women's organisations object to the Road Transportation Board.
- OCTOBER 1981 - Victory for the people. Transport loses its application to increase bus fares.
- DECEMBER 1981 - 12 to 16 percent rent increase announced. Forty community organisations, unions and churches start a rents campaign under the banner of Cahac.
- JANUARY 1982 - 3000 attend rents protest meeting.
- FEBRUARY 1982 - Poo Kotze refuses to speak to the people and their organisations. The fight for rents continues.
- MARCH 1982 - Cahac launches a Day of Action. Fifteen areas protest at local rent offices. Kotze meets with Cahac but refuses to lower the rents.
- APRIL 1982 - The rents campaign is called off. Cahac says "our struggle is a long one."
- JULY 1982 - First Annual General Meeting. 24 affiliates attend.
- AUGUST 1982 - Bus fares are up again. Cahac leads walk-out from bus fares hearing.
- MAY 1983 - 2000 attend housing protest meeting in Hanover Park. Resolutions condemn the government's plan to sell council houses; the Constitutional Proposal and the latest rent increases.
- JULY 1983 - Second Annual General Meeting.

JAFFERS' MOTORS

VICTORIA ROAD, GRASSY PARK
PHONE: 72-8269

SERVICE STATION & HIGH CLASS WORKSHOP REPAIRS

LET TIFFANY'S JEWELLERS

OF DISTINCTION BE YOUR JEWELLER

Metro Cinema Complex
Symphony Walk
Town Centre
Mitchells Plain

&

Athlone City Centre
Athlone
Phone: 67-4718

MABOYS ELSIES RIVER

PEOPLES JOB LOT CENTRE

MAD, MAD LOW PRICES

• 43 HALT ROAD •

SUPER FISHERIES

KLIFFONTEIN ROAD, ATHLONE

Wishing all Customers well over the Fast and a Happy Eid Mubarak

Stockists of variety of: FRESH FISH & FRIED FISH & CHIPS

COSY CORNER

RESTAURANT AND TAKE-AWAYS
Now also open in Mitchell's Plain

Our Oriental dishes are known throughout the country. For something different and delicious.

ALL FOODS HALAAL

PHONE: 77-2196
119 OTTERY ROAD, WYNBERG

Tru Sew Garment Outfitters

We have a fantastic range of Eid Specials for the Whole Family

NYLON FLORAL KITCHEN CURTAINING from (150cm) — R149
ROOF HIGHT CURTAINING (280cm) from — R5.99 metre
KITCHEN FRILL CURTAINING (90cm & 120cm) from — R2.99 metre

We wish our Muslim Customers a Happy Eid Mubarak

348 Halt Road, (opp. Day Hospital), Elsies River. Phone: 98-4891
30 Klipfontein Road, Athlone (opp. Police Station) Phone: 67-9491

QUICKTRIP SUPERMARKET

The every day store at your door
Open till 9pm
Seven days a week

PETER PAN VIDEO FUN
(Now at QUICKTRIP SUPERMARKET)
Full feature films — only R3.00

CONSTANZ MUSLIM BUTCHERY

SYMPHONY AVENUE, STEENBERG

Top Grade Lamb's from R22.00 each
Thick Sausage R2.99 kg
Whole French Polony R1.79 each

Beef Ribs R2.59 kg

A Happy Eid Mubarak to all our Muslim Customers.

WORKING TOGETHER

CAHAC was formed so that organisations in different areas could come together and tackle their problems jointly.

When the rents went up in January last year, all the areas took action. The people planned together and acted together.

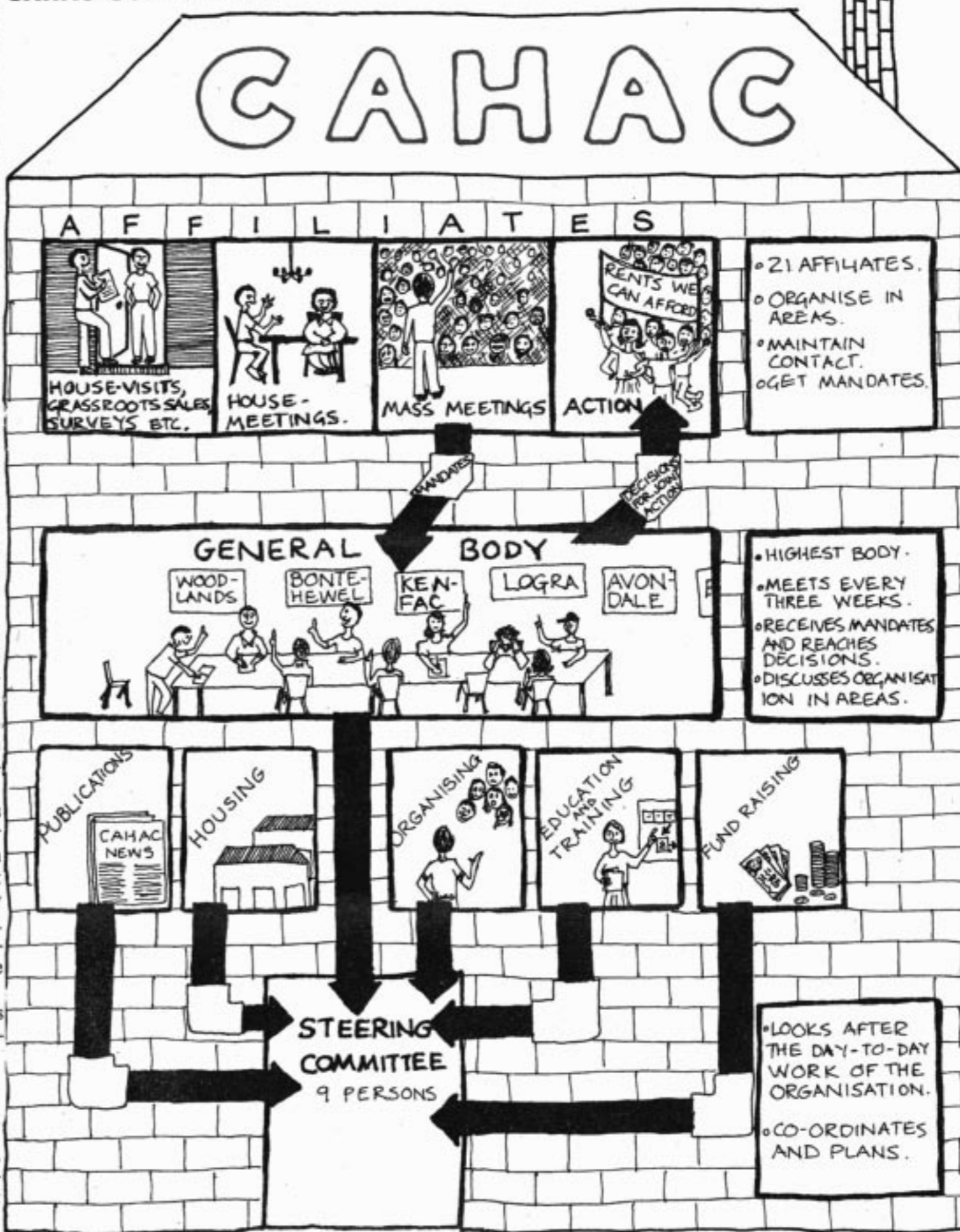
But, different areas experience different problems. Some have electricity problems, others have difficulties with sewerage. And, others are fighting council to repair their homes.

Because of this, Cahac has formed a number of sub-committees. They talk about their problems and to share ideas on how the areas could work together.

The sub-committees bring people together so that they can plan united action against the problems that they face in their daily lives. In this way, more people take part in the activities of Cahac.

In Cahac, there is also an organising sub-committee.

It also helps to build strong organisations in the different areas. If your area needs help, the organising committee is where you must go.



Soccer Jerseys
NETBALL UNIFORMS
 ★ MADE TO YOUR DESIGN
 ★ QUALITY GEAR AT LOW PRICES
 ★ QUICK DELIVERY

DON RICHARDS SPORTS
 GATESVILLE CENTRE, GATESVILLE
 PHONE: (021) 67-9544

For the Games People Play

WILSONS

SILENCERS & EXHAUSTS
 For the Best Service in Town

FACTURAMA OFF JOHNSON RD. ATHLONE

OPEN BOOKS

FOR NEW AND SECOND HAND BOOKS

389 MAIN ROAD OBSERVATORY
 PH 47-5345

Unity must be built

CAHAC sees it's main task as uniting the people of the Western Cape. This unity will not happen if Cahac says to the people, "you must all unite".

Cahac sees that unity will be built. It will be built by the people working, discussing and acting together on problems they face in the community.

Unity can mean different things to different people. Even P W Botha talks of the im-

portance of unity. Cahac's idea of unity is, of course, different to that. It has decided on four beliefs which will guide it in its work. The beliefs are called the 'guiding principles'. They are:

- We believe that all people must have the right to live where they choose, to be decently housed and to raise their families in comfort and security.
- Rents, rates, water and electricity charges

must be determined by what the people can afford.

- The organisations of the people must be consulted. We therefore reject all forms of dummy representation including management committees and community councils.
- We believe we can only achieve this, if all people have a say in the laws that affect their lives. This means representation for all in the central Government

and all other levels of Government.

Now we can look at all of Cahac's work and the work of its affiliates. We will see it is covered by our beliefs.

From the first principle, we draw our slogan Houses, Security and Comfort. It shows our rejection of the evil Group Areas Act. Our principle tells us we must be decently housed, and we must fight for decent houses which are properly

maintained.

Our second principle would guide us when 'we demand rents we can afford.' It guides us in our fight against high electricity bills and rates increases.

Also, we are guided by our beliefs in our stand on the PC Proposals and the Koornhof Bills. Our belief points the way to a non-racial democratic South Africa. We therefore reject the proposals as they would divide the people.

DOENIE'S DRAPERS
 33B HALT ROAD, ELSIES RIVER
 PHONE: 98-2182

Also at Digger's Factory Shop
 1st FLOOR, 89 CHURCH STREET, CAPE TOWN
 (Next to Lovell Procter) PHONE: 22-4825

SPECIALISTS IN MENS:
 Suiting, Trimmings, Buttons, Linings and Trouser Lengths

STOCKISTS OF:
 Large selection of Local and Imported Tweeds

A SPECIAL SALE NOW ON AT DIGGERS FACTORY SHOP ON ALL TWEEDS TROUSERS LENGTHS AND SUITINGS

CINE 400 BUILDING
 COLLEGE ROAD RYLANDS ESTATE

NOW OPEN GALAXY - DISCO
 PHONE: 67-9132/3
 "OPEN SIX NIGHTS A WEEK"
 MONDAY - SATURDAY

ALSO

CINE 400 CINEMA
 PHONE: 67-9027/8, 67-5391

FULLY AIR CONDITIONED LUXURY CINEMA FOR THE BEST IN CINEMA ENTERTAINMENT
 TELEPHONE BOOKINGS ACCEPTED
 DAILY 10.30 A.M. - 7.30 A.M.

HANOVER DRAPERS
 WOODLANDS SHOPPING CENTRE

MIRGAGE CONES — R3.29
 only for two weeks

BOYS & GIRLS CORDROY SLACKS — R3.99
 all sizes

MEN'S TROUSERS — R19.99
 bury one and get one free!

KIDDIES WELLINGTON BOOTS — R2.99

BOYS JOGGER VESTS — 19c

TRAVELLING BAGS — 4.99

CHILDREN RAIN COATS — R3.99

PHONE: 31-4310

WANT TO WORK FOR THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

We are looking for a person to fill the position of administrative assistant. The job includes office work, typing, book-keeping and assisting in the general Grassroots operation. Organisational experience a recommendation.

INTERESTED?
 phone: 43-2117
 before June 30, 1983.

PROTECTED

Seventy years of removals

Khayelitsha not a home for us



NKOSI Ncapayi lives in a village in the Transkei. The homelands is overcrowded and poor. People cannot grow enough food to live. There is no work.

Nkosi has to go to the city to find work. The bosses need workers for the factories. So the Government lets Nkosi come to the city.

He cannot take his family with him. He must live in the compound. If he loses his job, he must go back to the homeland.

Nkosi's wife, Ntombi is left behind with her family. She cannot find food for her family. Nkosi sends money but it is not enough. Ntombi misses him very much.

So she decides to go to town to be with Nkosi. There are no houses for them. Already thousands of families are on the waiting-list for a house.

Nkosi and Ntombi are then forced to build a shack at Crossroads Squatter camp. There are many other people like them at the camp.

But things were to become worse. Nkosi loses his job. The bosses don't need so many workers any more and many people are laid off.

The Government does not want unemployed people in Cape Town. They want them to go back to Transkei. They break the shacks at Modderdam. The Ncapayi's build another shack at Crossroads.

The bulldozers come again. The family move to Nyanga Bush. Then to KTC.

At last the police arrest them and force them to go back to the homeland. But if they stay in Transkei long, they will starve. There is even less land than before.

Soon they will have to come to Cape Town again. In town they can be thrown into jail at any time. They have nowhere to live. But it is better than dying in the homelands.



KHAYELITSHA means "our new home". Many people would look forward to moving into a new place.

But for the people of Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga, Khayelitsha, the new township being built on the outskirts of Mitchells's Plain, can only bring more hardship and suffering.

Many people are angry and say they will refuse to move. They say they were first dumped in Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga and now the Government wanted to dump them even further away.

Conditions are bad in these townships but in Khayelitsha it will be much worse.

A Langa resident said: "The Government forced us out of Crawford, Elsie's River, Athlone and many other areas. They put us in tents and dumped us into Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu.

They put us into hovels with very little protection. We sacrificed a lot to make these houses comfortable. Now that we have renovated the houses, we are to be dumped somewhere else. We will not move."

Some of the KTC squatters who lived in Nyanga Beerhall have already moved to Khayelitsha. One of the women told Grassroots that they had decided to move because they had little choice.

Nondumiso said: "Khayelitsha will be better than police raids, teargas and no shelters. It will be better than all the families sharing one dark, airless beerhall. But it is not a home for us."

"We are not happy to be going to Swartklip. But we are harassed so much at KTC - we cannot live like that."

"There are no shops to buy from at Swartklip. If our children get sick, who will look after them? They want us to move to a place where there is nothing. Our children will have to take busses to get to school and they will have to walk for miles."

Khayelitsha is more than 30 km from the city centre. The site is in between masses of soft sand and bushes. The nearest railway station is 4 km away in Mitchell's Plain.

Those who have little choice but to move will face further hardships. But there are many who loudly say: "We will not move."



It started with 1913 Land Act

IN 1913 - exactly 70 years ago - the Government passed the Land Act which stated that Africans could only live on 10 percent of the land.

This was to lead to much greater suffering and hardship for the African people.

Before this law was passed, Africans could live and farm anywhere. They did not own the land but could farm on land owned by whites.

But at this time the mine bosses needed workers. Because the Africans could farm land, they did not want to work on the mines.

The mine bosses thought that the only way to get the Africans off the land was to take the land away from them.

In 1913, the land was taken away from them. Africans could only live on 10 percent of the land.

Africans could only farm in the reserves. Because there was little land, many African men were forced to look for work in the mines. But even the farmers, who had



1913 Land Act - less than 10% of the land for black ownership.

made a good living before the Act was passed, were forced to the cities to look for work.

Family life was destroyed. The mines and factories became richer, the reserves poorer.

Today Africans live in different homelands. Some of them are "independent". The people who live there have lost their South African citizenship.

Now many wives and children come to the cities to join the husbands and fathers. The Government tries to force them back to the homelands.

They soon return to the cities and towns. There is nothing for them in the homeland.

Change these evil laws

TWO million people are under threat of removal in South Africa. They are people living on farms, in towns and cities and even in the homelands.

Many of them live in small communities - maybe one or two families on a farm. They have little chance of fighting their removal. They are far from towns and newspapers. They have no rights on the farms. When the farmer tells them to go, they must pack and leave.

Other people live in larger communities.

They have lived there more than 70 years and they do not want to move. Government policy says they are living in white areas and they must move to homelands.

They will lose their houses, their cattle, their fields and their schools. They will have to move to the homelands and share what little the people have there.

Most will not get fields and not be allowed to keep cattle. These are the people who are standing together to fight their removal.

When Dr Koornhof said in 1981 that there would be no more forced removals, many communities wrote to tell him that they did not want to move. His reply was they could not break the law.

The people say change the law. They have lived for generations on their land. They love it and want to bring their children up there in peace.

Communities have held meetings. They have presented petitions. They have invited Dr Koornhof and

the press to visit their areas. They are talking to other communities with the same problems.

They feel that they are so far from where everything is happening. Transport costs so much. Their news is seldom in the newspapers. Not many of them ever read newspapers anyway.

They depend on visits from migrant workers for news. But they are not asleep. They are struggling to stay where they are and keep what little they have.

to secure their... we will have to... we have a white... foundation, 1979 -



"I cannot talk about the future. The future means death. I don't have a future. When one says future, you mean you have a job and that means children. You see your children growing up and then again their children, your grandchildren... At the beginning we cried but crying doesn't help. I would have been better if I had been an animal. A man suffers when he is taken away from his land. After a while you think that God must take you as well."



"People must know our problems. We are still struggling here until everyone has rights and houses. Other communities? They must stand together, then they will win. They mustn't allow themselves to be separated, then they won't win."



Naboomkoppe - children queue for water, with only one tap per street after nearly 20 years. - September 1982.

Since laws were passed restricting Africans to small parts of the land, the government has moved millions of people. Settled communities are uprooted and the residents relocated in areas far away. This happens throughout the country, and brings hardship and suffering to thousands of families. On this page we look at the reasons for relocation and resettlement, and the effects it has on the people.

THE forced removal of Africans from the cities and towns of "white" South Africa and their relocation in the homelands, is part of the Apartheid policy.

In the last 30 years, 30 million Africans have been uprooted from their homes and dumped in the overcrowded homelands. There they suffer hardship and poverty.

The Government's laws say Africans may only live in the homelands. These homelands make up only 13 percent of South Africa. The land is badly eroded and the people cannot make a living from the land.

In the 1950's, the Government decided that each ethnic group must have its own homeland. Xhosa were to live in Transkei and Ciskei; Zulus in KwaZulu and so on. Today, there are already four homelands with more to come.

They also introduced pass laws. All Africans over the age of 16 have to carry passes. The passes are used to control the movement of the people between the cities and the homelands.

So Africans may only come to the cities and towns to work for the bosses of the mines, factories, shops and farms. Otherwise they must remain in the homelands.

Because there is no work in the homelands, many families move to cities like Cape Town to look for work and security. Sometimes the father or husband is already working in Cape Town as a migrant worker. The rest of the family come to Cape Town so that they can live together.

Other African families have rights to live in Cape Town. The Government is not happy with large numbers of Africans living in the cities permanently. It refuses to give rights to the

people and build houses for them. So, thousands of African families - those with rights and those that the Government calls "illegal" - have to live in shacks.

This is the reason why Modderdam, Unibell and Crossroads grew. In 1981 it was Nyanga Bush. Today it is KTC.

In the mid 1970's, Unibell, Modderdam and Westgate were destroyed. Thousands of families lived there. Bulldozers, guns and dogs were used to force the people back to the homelands.

In 1981, the police forced the women and children of Nyanga Bush on to buses and dumped them in Transkei.

Today the people of KTC are harassed and put in jail.

Two years ago Koorhof said that no one would be forced to go to the homelands. Nyanga Bush and KTC show that he is lying.

Besides using direct force, there are other methods the government can use. It can put up the rents. Or it can close down the schools, shops and stop services in the camps. In this way, the people are still forced to move.

The PC and Koorhof Bills will not put an end to the removals. The PC says the homelands are here to stay. The Koorhof Bill says that only a small number of Africans should live permanently in the cities and towns.

It introduces harsh new laws against squatting and heavy fines for the people who are in the cities illegally.

So, if the Government has its way, even more people will be uprooted and removed to the homelands.

A CRIME TO BUILD SHACKS?

THE Government says the people of KTC will now have to live at Khayelitsha in Swartklop. The KTC residents are scattered in many places. Some are in Polhemmer, some are living in bombsites and others in Church halls.

Over the past few months they have suffered a lot. Arrested, beaten, sleeping in the cold and rain. Sharing their humble shelters broken down almost every day by the police and the Western Cape Administration Board officials.

A few of the students spoke about their hardships at the camp.

One woman said: "I have been on the housing waiting list for the past twelve years. My husband, my two kids

and I were staying with his family. But my marriage broke up because I could not get on with his family."

"I went to stay with my family in Guguletu. There were already eight people staying in my parents' four-roomed house."

"When I heard there was a site at KTC, I rushed there. Everyday I came from work, I built my shelter. Every morning the kids and I would get up very early to take down the shel-

ter."

"The Board came at about 7.30 in the morning. They later we went to jail. It is a crime to build a shack on an empty lot in the township!" she asked.

Another resident said: "We at KTC are mainly from the Western Cape. We have tried the so-called legal channels. We have been to the Board's office many times. Many of us who are on the waiting list have been bypassed. We are fed up."

Another man, Mr. Thembu, also spoke about his last few weeks at KTC.

"We have no shelter, only fire. Now we are digging holes to sleep in."

Ten or twelve people fit into each hole. We cover the holes with use. The police cannot take the holes away."

The people of Guguletu have also suffered because of the police raids.

One township resident said: "From the beginning we have supported KTC. We all know the Government has not built houses for the people. The houses which we have are overcrowded. What the police came with the teapots, the gas was carried to us."

"Our eyes were running. I saw someone run and fall because she could not see."

UPROOTED

Seventy years of removals

Khayelitsha not a home for us

KHAYELITSHA means "our new home". Many people would look forward to moving into a new place.

But for the people of Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga, Khayelitsha, the new township being built on the outskirts of Mitchell's Plain, can only bring more hardship and suffering.

Many people are angry and say they will refuse to move. They say they were first dumped in Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga and now the Government wanted to dump them even further away.

Conditions are bad in these townships but in Khayelitsha it will be much worse.

A Langa resident said: "The Government forced us out of Crawford, Elms River, Athlone and many other areas. They put us in tents and dumped us into Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu."

They put us into hovels with very little protection. We sacrificed a lot to make these houses comfortable. Now that we have renovated the houses, we are to be dumped somewhere else. We will not move."

Some of the KTC squatters who lived in Nyanga Bush had already moved to Khayelitsha. One of the women told Grassroots that they had decided to move because they had little choice.

Nondumiso said: "Khayelitsha will be better than police raids, teapots and no shelter. It will be better than all the families sharing one dark, silted bombsite. But it is not a home for us."

"We are not happy in going to Swartklop. But we are harassed so much at KTC - we cannot live like that."

"There are no shops to buy from at Swartklop. If our children get sick, who will look after them? They want us to move to a place where there is nothing. Our children will have to take buses to get to school and they will have to walk for miles."

Khayelitsha is more than 30 km from the city centre. The site is in between masses of soft sand and bushes. The nearest railway station is 4 km away in Mitchell's Plain.

Those who have little choice but to move will face further hardships. But there are many who loudly say: "We will not move."



NKOSI Nsoyayi lives in a village in the Transkei. The homelands is overcrowded and poor. People cannot grow enough food to live. There is no work.

Nkosi has to go to the city to find work. The bosses need workers for the factories. So the Government lets Nkosi come to the city.

He cannot take his family with him. He must live in the compound. If he loses his job, he must go back to the homelands.

Nkosi's wife, Ntombi is left behind with her family. She cannot find food for her family. Nkosi sends money but it is not enough. Ntombi misses him very much.

So she decides to go to town to be with Nkosi. There are no houses for them. Already thousands of families are on the waiting-list for a house.

Nkosi and Ntombi are then forced to build a shack at Crossroads Squatter camp. There are many other people like them at the camp.

But things were to become worse. Nkosi loses his job. The bosses don't need so many workers any more and many people are laid off.

The Government does not want unemployed people in Cape Town. They want them to go back to Transkei. They break the shack at Crossroads. The Nsoyayi's build another shack at Crossroads.

The bulldozers come again. The family move to Nyanga Bush. Then to KTC.

At last the police arrest them and force them to go back to the homelands. But if they stay in Transkei long, they will starve. There is even less land than before.

Soon they will have to come to Cape Town again. In town they can be thrown into jail at any time. They have nowhere to live. But it is better than dying in the homelands.



It started with 1913 Land Act

IN 1913 - exactly 70 years ago - the Government passed the Land Act which stated that Africans could only live on 10 percent of the land.

This was to lead to much greater suffering and hardship for the African people.

Before this law was passed, Africans could live and farm anywhere. They did not own the land but could farm on land owned by whites.

But at this time the mine bosses needed workers. Because the Africans could farm land, they did not want to work on the mines.

The mine bosses thought that the only way to get the Africans off the land was to take the land away from them.

In 1913, the land was taken away from them. Africans could only live on 10 percent of the land.

Africans could only farm in the reserves. Because there was little land, many African men were forced to look for work in the mines.

But even the farmers, who had



10% of the land reserved for Africans in 1913.

made a good living before the Act was passed, were forced to the cities to look for work.

Family life was destroyed. The mines and factories became richer. The reserves poorer.

Today Africans live in different homelands. Some of them are "independent". The people who live there have lost their South African citizenship.

Now many wives and children come to the cities to join the husbands and fathers. The Government tries to force them back to the homelands.

They soon return to the cities and towns. There is nothing for them in the homelands.

Change these evil laws

TWO million people are under threat of removal in South Africa. They are people living on farms, in towns and cities and even in the homelands.

Many of them live in small communities - maybe one or two families on a farm. They have little chance of fighting their removal. They are far from towns and newspapers. They have no rights on the farms. When the farmer tells them to go, they must pack and leave.

Most will not get fields and not be allowed to keep cattle. These are the people who are standing together to fight their removal.

Other people live in larger communities.

They have lived these more than 70 years and they do not want to move. Government policy says they are living in white areas and they must move to homelands.

They will lose their houses, their cattle, their fields and their schools. They will have to move to the homelands and share what little the people have there.

Most will not get fields and not be allowed to keep cattle. These are the people who are standing together to fight their removal.

Other people live in larger communities.

When Dr Koorhof said in 1981 that there would be no more forced removals, many communities wrote to tell him that they did not want to move. His reply was they could not break the law.

The people say change the law. They have lived for generations on their land. They love it and want to bring their children up there in peace.

Communities have held meetings. They have presented petitions. They have invited Dr Koorhof and

the press to visit their areas. They are talking to other communities with the same problems.

They feel that they are so far from where everything is happening. Transport costs so much. Their news is seldom in the newspapers. Not many of them ever read newspapers anyway.

They depend on visits from migrant workers for news. But they are not asleep. They are struggling to stay where they are and keep what little they have.

They depend on visits from migrant workers for news. But they are not asleep. They are struggling to stay where they are and keep what little they have.

They depend on visits from migrant workers for news. But they are not asleep. They are struggling to stay where they are and keep what little they have.

They depend on visits from migrant workers for news. But they are not asleep. They are struggling to stay where they are and keep what little they have.



Whenever we have local population in our border and rural areas we will have to secure their loyalty, goodwill and co-operation against the insurgents. Where this is not feasible, we will have to move them out of the critical areas and resettle them elsewhere. It is essential that we have a white local population the white border and rural areas." (Brigadier Lloyd to Urban Foundation, 1979 -)

Poet's Corner

Ons mekeer
nog die vote

Suid-Afrika daar wag 'n nuwe bedeling of so lui die '77 reling

Een parlement vir bruin, indiër en blank
O watter vreeslike stank
G'n wonder Treurnicht het bedank

Dus beslis 'n afwyking
Tref Treurnicht die vergelyking
PW se die oorspronklike bedoeling
was 'n rasseskommeling

To hell met Afrikanernasionalisme
Daar's nie meer tyd vir die soort rassisme

Maar Mr PW sal ons oor die grenslyn kan trou
Beslis nie! — dit sal God's skepping verbrou
En vir morele kodes is dit 'n wrede knou

Power sharing — a step in the right direction
But Mr PW just one more question
Won't this cause a lot of dissatisfaction
Ofcourse there'll be some radical leftist action
and the solution is obviously more oppression
That's why I'm sure of winning the next election

Nou weet ek wat's "powersharing" se fout
Ons mekeer nog die vote

Escape into the happy-ever-after life

HIS strong hands pressed into her spine and hurt her most pleurably, and she cared not a jot for the rasping harshness of the grit which clung to his lips . . ."

Mills and Boon is a publishing company which pumps out 1 000's of romances a year. Many people read them all over the world. Get onto a train or bus and you are sure to spot someone reading one.

Fantasy

One reason they are so popular is because they are cheap. But the main reason is because these stories take us away from the problems of our own lives for a while. We are in a fantasy world where we don't hear of problems

of high rents, high electricity or unemployment. All the stories end happily. The heroine in Mills and Boon romances won't fall pregnant. Her future husband never has job worries. In fact, the stories are nothing like our own lives at all. Yet people read them one after the other, even when they admit they are all the same.

There are 3 main characters. There is the heroine. She is always white, pretty and kind.

Our hero is rich and powerful. He owns hotels, aeroplanes and even islands. He is always white, tall handsome and powerful.

Then we have the glamour girl. She is expensively dressed, with painted face and nails. She is hard and jealous, and is after our hero for his money and power.

Tame

When our hero and heroine meet for the first time they hate each other. She thinks he is arrogant and cruel.

"You," she shouts at him, "are the most abominably rude and self-opinionated man I've ever had the misfortune to meet . . ."

Our rich, powerful hero



right words, but was determined to make him say it just the same.

This is the fantasy world of Mills and Boon. They live happily ever after, even though they hardly know each other. Their love will last forever.

Dream

We read these to escape from reality but they influence our own desires and dreams. We search for our own impossible Mills and Boon romance. But is this romance really so wonderful? The man is the masterful boss. She is the contented housewife waiting for him with a loving kiss at the door. He is the breadwinner. They are isolated from other people — they are the rich.

Mills and Boon are meant to make us escape from our real lives, because while we escape we will do nothing to solve our problems.

isn't used to this. He is excited and wants to tame her. She has to know who is boss.

In Mills and Boon the man always has power over the woman. He is the doctor, she is the nurse. He is the boss, she is the secretary

After various clashes, they avoid each other. Then our heroine realises that she is in love with him. But then the 'glamour girl' enters the scene. What is our heroine going to do?

Luckily, in a Mills and Boon, it is not necessary to do anything. Something will happen. After trials and tribulations everything

is smoothed out. They tell each other how much they are in love.

"To hell with Marlene and all the others! Amanda, would you . . . could you possibly . . .?"

"Yes?" She felt a rush of tenderness at his faltering for the

Ocean View talent

THE tiny, lonely township of Ocean View has many talented artists.

In March this year, the UWO branch and the Ocean View Pencircle held a cultural event. Community members brought their art, poetry and music, so that the people of Ocean View could see this talent.

The programme started with the writers. Some were well-known but others were new. Their work was about the situation in the country for men and women.

The audience saw the work of sculptors and painters. Everyone had heard of Peter Clarke's

graphic art, but were impressed by the work of others as well.

Musicians included a classical guitarist and rhythm, blues and folk singers. The programme ended with a song from the film 'Midnight Cowboy'.

Afterwards, with tea and cake, people discussed the effort. Everyone wanted more cultural functions.

The Ocean View Pencircle wants to publish a cheap booklet of poetry so that community members and students can buy it.

When they saw Ocean View's talent, they were very excited. Maybe we'll see their booklet soon.

Town Centre Moslem Meat Market

MICHELL'S PLAIN, PHONE: 32-1630

Quality meats at low prices.

VARIETY OF PLAIN & SMOKED POLONIES

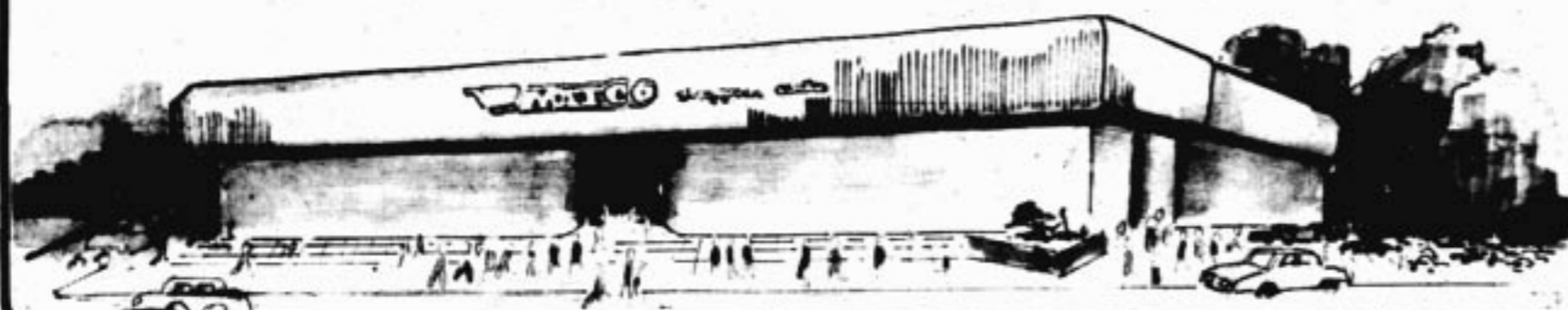
To all our Muslim Customers
a Happy Eid Mubarak

MATCO Supermarket

ELSIES RIVER
Cor Halt and Owen Roads

SHOPPING HOURS
MON — THURS 8 — 7 pm
FRI 8 am — 8 pm
SAT 7 am — 5 pm

BIGGER PRICE CUTS IN BREAD & BUTTER LINES



PARKFAIR NATIONAL DISTRIBUTORS (PTY) LTD.

COLLEGE ROAD, GREENHAVEN
PHONES: 67-0019, 67-9112/3

CIGARETTES & TOBACCO
DISTRIBUTORS
GENERAL WHOLESALE
MERCHANTS

Support for KTC squatters

"I will never go back to the homelands. There are no jobs there. My family will starve. The government has torn down my shack. I will have to go and live in the bush."

These words were spoken by a man from the KTC squatter camp. He was speaking to an audience of 400 people at St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town.

The meeting was called by the KTC Support Committee. The people gathered to show solidarity with the thousands who suffered at KTC.

A speaker from Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (CAHAC) said:

"We are very worried about the KTC people. The conditions there are very bad. Our people are sick and dying."

"The Government wants to use the PC to divide us. They want brothers and sisters to fight each other. But we must not allow this. Ons moet een taal praat - SAAMSTAAN."

"We must work together for our freedom. We want a South Africa free of KTC, group areas and division."

Most of the people at KTC were women. A speaker of UWO said: "We Black women are

the most oppressed, humiliated and exploited people in South Africa.

"These injustices will only stop when we can choose our own government."

Steenberg forms civic

MORE than 400 residents of Steenberg and Retreat met on Tuesday June 14 to form a civic organisation.

The Steenberg and Retreat Residents Association was formed after many weeks of preparation by the Steenberg Residents Committee, an affiliate of CAHAC.

Two speakers from CAHAC addressed the meeting on the many problems facing residents, like poor housing, high rents and bad maintenance.

"It's time we said

Mpetha judgement

IN October 1980, close to thirty people were detained in Crossroads, Nyanga, Guguletu and Langa. This was the start of what has become known as the trial of "Oscar Mpetha and 19 others".

It all started with the bus boycotts in 1980. Busfares went up. The people were angry. For months they

walked and boycotted busses. The police would baton-charge the people. There were many arrests of taxi-drivers and workers. It was a time of unrest.

Violence erupted in Crossroads. Some were injured and others died.

These were the events which led up to the trial. Oscar was found guilty of terrorism. Ten of the other seventeen accused who faced charges of murder and terrorism, were found guilty. And, seven were found not guilty of any of the charges.

There were also those who became state witnesses. As in many political trials, the state's case depends on the evidence of state witnesses, who had spent months if not years in prison.

In this trial, a state witness gave evidence of what Oscar was supposed to have done on 11th August, 1980.

This was the day when the people remembered the children who were shot in Cape Town in 1976.

Using this evidence, the judge said that Oscar stopped his car near the march. He gave a black-power salute and told the children to sing a freedom song. The judge said Oscar's action was intended to endanger law and order. This made him guilty of terrorism.

The following young men were also found guilty:

M.Makubala, P. Kube, J. Hlapo, B.Mapondo, P.Nongwane, C.Sparanyi A.Sabuwa, J.Baardman, V. Diba and A.Tshangana.

DON'T YOU WANT A GRASSROOTS T-SHIRT? COME & BUY ONE FROM THE 'ROOTS OFFICE ONLY R5.00!!

AND THE MONEY HELPS OUR PEOPLE'S PAPER!!

Small medium and Large!

come to:
401 Atlantic House, Cnr Shortmarket + Corporation st

Rangers get stronger

IN the last seven years, the Mitchell's Plain Football Union rose from two clubs to one of the biggest affiliates of the Western Province Football Board.

One of those first clubs was Rangers. Together with Westridge they provided the nucleus for the giant non-racial body which exists today.

An official and founding member of the club further explained: "The club was formed in 1976 and our members consisted of people that had lived in areas such as Manenberg and District Six."

There was nothing to do in this place. In fact there were virtually

no recreational activities. So we formed the club. Since then it has grown from strength to strength.

Although the club has won a number of trophies, they don't regard these as being their major achieve-

ment. "The fact that a number of our founder members are now either top players or play a major role in other Mitchell's Plain clubs, is very satisfying to Rangers," said another official.

Lucky winner

THE Western Cape Amateur Swimming Association held a motor car competition early this year, to raise funds to promote non-racial swimming in the Western Cape.

The winner of the competition was Mr K Nordien of Crawford, who is now the owner of a Datsun Pulsar 1400 de Luxe.

The Association thanks the public for their support which contributed towards making the effort a success.

LOOKING FOR WORK?
LET US HELP YOU - call at

CAMINPLOY

STAFF SERVICES

You need to bring with you

YOUR IDENTITY CARD, BOOK OF LIFE OR REFERENCE BOOK

A TESTIMONIAL or REFERENCE from your previous employer

30c TO COVER COST OF CONTACTS

SCHOOL LEAVERS WELCOME 49 LANSDOWNE ROAD CLAREMONT

AKROVISION TV

GUARANTEED VIDEO & TV REPAIRS AT LOW PRICES

SHOP BLOCK 9/4 GATESVILLE CENTRE PHONE: 67-3270

64 GORRIDON ST STELLENBOSCH PHONE: 74225

... when you require print - come to the professionals

... we give you the best of both worlds - speed and quality ...

ESQUIRE PRESS (PTY) LTD.

VANGUARD DRIVE, ATHLONE INDUSTRIA 7764. PHONE: 67-1260/1

LITHOGRAPHERS • RUBBER STAMPS • PHOTO-TYPESETTERS

* *

Grassroots Community Newsletter is published by Grassroots Publication of Atlantic House, Corporation Street, Cape Town

This Newsletter is printed by Esquire Press (Pty.) Ltd., Vanguard Drive, Athlone Industria, from artwork supplied by Grassroots.

* *

Bambi

BANDERKER'S BUILDING, 786 KLIPFONTEIN ROAD
ATHLONE, CAPE, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
PHONE: 67-5647

★ FOR BABY AND JUNIOR WEAR ★

Try us first for Eid Lay-byes

To all our Muslim Customers
a Happy Eid Mubarak

عيد مبارك

ONE STOP INSURANCE CONSULTANTS, LIFE, PENSIONS HOME & CAR

Stan Abrahams Brokers Services

216 BUITENKLOOF CENTRE
CNR. KLOOF & BUITENCINGLE STREET
CAPE TOWN
TELEPHONES: (021) 22-2434, 43-2584