

**Police move  
in on KTC**



# WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED

THEY demolish the shacks. They burn the building materials. Then they came in 45 vans and arrested more than 250 people.

This is the story of the KTC squatter camp, where hundreds of homeless people have tried to set up shelters.

But the authorities won't allow this. They are desperate and broke down the people's homes.

But the people have stood united in their struggle. When the police raided the KTC camp on Friday 25, all the people got into the vans. They just handed themselves over to be arrested. They refused to be divided. They were determined to stand by those who are supposed to be there "illegally".

At the Langa Commissioner Court they were charged for failing to show passes and

for being in the area illegally. All the cases were postponed, some to the 10th March. When the KTC people's lawyer asked for bail for mothers with young children, bail was refused. The Commissioner said: "Women and children would be better off at Pollsmoor than in the bush."

The struggle at KTC will not be stopped.

When the police moved in to demolish the 1000 shacks at a steering committee had already been set up. This body was elected to speak for the people.

The KTC people have also gained strength and support from the United Women's Organisation, Western Cape Civics and of all people in the townships.

On Friday 25, when the police raided the camp, 9 members of the KTC Steering Committee was arrested. But this did not stop them. New members were soon elected to help.

On Monday 28, Bezuidenhout said: "I am trying to get the co-operation of the squatters. I want them to immediately accept the 200 sites."

The people of KTC refuse to negotiate with the authorities until those arrested have been released. Many are still in jail, and some have been there for up to two weeks.

One resident said: "This is no peace with the Board (Western Cape Administration Board). They say we can stay here but they make it as difficult as possible for us to stay. Perhaps they hope we will give up and go home."

But they won't. The KTC people are determined that they will not move until their demands have been met.



You are invited to the opening night of the AGM March 18 1983.

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# 'Union wants recognition'

FOR MORE than a year now, workers at the Allied Publishing plant in Paarden Eiland have been struggling to win a recognition agreement with Allied management. The majority are members of Mwasa, the Media Workers Association of South Africa.

These workers who do the daily newspaper deliveries to shops, news vendors and subscribers, are hard hit by low wages and are underpaid for overtime hours worked. Workers here can work up to 7 days a week, and still find it difficult to pay their rent at the end of the month.

The signing of an agreement will offer some protection to workers as they will be able to make demands to management through the union. Management will be forced to reach an agreement on overtime pay for Mwasa members.

Twelve union members were elected to speak on behalf of the Allied workers at the recognition talks. But these workers felt that without proper training, they did not have much hope of getting an agreement which would benefit the Allied workers. Because of this the Mwasa workshop was planned. In fact, a demand to management for two days paid time off for workers to participate in the workshop was won.

On the first day, the team, lead by union organisers, went through management's proposals step by step. They discussed each clause and how it would affect workers - eg. discipline, retrenchment, wages. They soon realised that there would be little gain for union members if the team agreed to management's proposals. Many clauses had to be changed or thrown out

completely, if workers needs were to be satisfied.

On the second day, workers took part in a role play on retrenchment (the laying off of workers when work is slack). Two organisers played the role of management, while the team argued the union's point of view.

Some arguments were that many workers had worked for Allied for 20 to 30 years and had made Allied rich. Allied should thus provide for these workers when times were hard. No boss would want to employ an old man, but we cannot allow him to starve, while we have work.

The team felt that work should be shared by everyone at the plant. If everyone took home less wages one week, there would still be enough bread to go round.

Workers who took part in the workshop said that they felt much more confident about the talks after these discussions. The team now

faces weeks of talks and a hard fight with management.

But they know that the workers on the shopfloor are giving their full support and waiting for management to make one wrong move.

# Protection against being laid off

WORKERS at a Bellville engineering firm, Dorman Long Swan Hunter, have decided to take long periods of unpaid leave to protect workers from being laid off.

Last year, management announced that about 40 workers would lose their jobs. The workers, all members of the General Workers Union, then suggested that they all take a turn to three

months unpaid leave.

But, after all the workers had gone out on leave, the company was still not able to provide work for everyone. Now 62 workers have to take a second round of unpaid leave. All together about 100 workers are now out of work.

A General Workers Union spokesperson said many of the workers had only worked two months out of the last six.

The Union has managed to find 18 of the men casual jobs at another engineering firm. Workers then decided that those who had worked for the least amount of time over the past months should take the jobs.

Mr Sophangisa, secretary of the GWU factory committee, said: "It is extremely hard for workers to be out of work for so long, but we have decided that it is better for all of us to take unpaid leave than for some of us to lose our jobs."

"It is difficult for workers to get jobs once they have been laid off. Maybe you stay out of work for one or even two years. When we are on unpaid leave, we try to look for casual jobs, even though it is difficult."

Mr Sophangisa has just started his second round of leave. He has only been at work three months. He said: "Before we joined the Union, there was just a liaison committee. Management could lay off workers when it wanted to. Now, at least, they discuss these things with us."

Another worker, Mr Philip Ntsabo, was back at work for three and a half months when he was put on unpaid leave again. Mr Ntsabo, who lives in New Crossroads, has four children, two of whom are still at school.

He pays a fairly high rent of R35,41 a month. He said it was very difficult for him to buy school uniforms when he was on unpaid leave. His whole family was dependent on him.

"If we don't pay rent for three months, you are just taken out of your house. They (Administration Board) say we don't want to pay rent, but they don't know what difficulties we've got."

It is the same with furniture which most of us workers buy on hire purchase. If I'm supposed to finish paying off my furniture by a certain month, then I must pay, otherwise they'll just take it away. The months I've paid already are not counted," said Mr Ntsabo.

## Chemical workers attack union

WORKERS at the AECI factory in Somerset West last month stopped the activities of the South African Chemical Union at the factory.

They found that new members of the union were paying higher membership fees than they were required to pay.

The general secretary of the union, Mr Dan Tau, denied claims that money had been stolen but admitted there was an error concerning the way money was collected from members.

Those workers who felt they had been overcharged could be refunded if they came forward, he said.

Mr Tau accused "someone of instigating the workers against the national executive."

The workers said when Mr Tau addressed them at the factory he could not say why new union members had been overpaying their membership fees since the union started operating at the branch in 1980.

About 400 angry workers forced a man from Durban claiming to be Mr Tau's secretary to leave the meeting. They criticised Mr Tau for talking to management at the factory before he addressed the workers. They made sure he left Somerset West before a scheduled meeting with management.

The workers demanded that union organiser, dismissed by the national executive, address them before the union's activities were resumed at the factory.



## Union condemn KTC raids

CAPE TOWN trade unions and women's organisations reacted with anger to what happened at the KTC squatter camp where the Western Cape Administration Board broke down about 600 shelters last month.

The Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association (CTMWA) described the actions of the Board as "totally inhuman".

"The Board has no feelings for the people forced to live under these conditions," said the CTMWA.

The General Workers Union (GWU), which has more than 10000 African members said, "the true face of the Presidents Council proposals were to be found in KTC."

The Union accused the Government of trying to "buy off the Coloured and Indian people while being harsher with the Africans".

"The Coloured and Indian people have shown clearly they will not be bought off by the crumbs offered in the PC. The events in KTC will result in a united and angry response from the majority of people in this country," a union spokesperson said.

The United Women's Organisation (UWO), which has 23 branches in the Western Cape condemned the Western Cape Administration Board.

"It is the responsibility of the Western Cape Administration Board to provide housing for residents in the area. How can they shrug off homeless people in this way," a UWO spokesperson said.

"The UWO condemns the conditions under which people are forced to live and raise their children. We cannot stand by and allow this attack on humanity to go unchallenged."

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*These women are planting cabages on a farm near Somerset West.*

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# Rights for all

IT is not by chance that the Constitutional Proposals (PC) and the Koornhof Bills have appeared at the same time. These Bills are just different sides of the same coin.

The community, worker and student struggles over the last five years have shown that the people can be united and strong.

The PC and Koornhof Bills are both trying to break this strength and unity. It divides our people into Africans, Coloureds and Indians, Legal and Illegal Africans.

It makes different laws for different groups. It gives some the "vote" — a vote that will not change Apartheid, the Group Areas, high rents. It gives some the right to live and work in

South Africa.

It brings more laws, pass fines, more imprisonment, poverty and hardship. It makes us believe that we have political rights in the homelands.

In this way, it tries to break our struggle into smaller, separate struggles. But, all over South Africa, the people's demands are the same.

In KTC, in Mannenberg, in Soweto, the people call for equal rights for all. Housing for all. Jobs and decent wages and the right to vote for all.

The fight against the Bills is the fight against the PC. It is the fight against Apartheid and oppression. It is the fight for a united, free and democratic South Africa, where all can live in comfort and security.

## 2000 send delegation to demand housing



"MANY of us were born on this land, but we have no place to stay. If they take these houses, we will build others until they give us a place to live".

This is the cry of the people of KTC. In one week, thousands have come to build their houses. As the government pulls it down, the people build more. They have nowhere else to live.

At first, there were only six families. They were told to demolish their houses. They went to the Community Council. All that they did was to delay the demolition for seven days.

But, a week later, there were 1000 shacks. A small city of houses made from Port Jackson bushes and plastic sheets had grown almost overnight. A steering committee was elected to speak for the people.

Then, the police moved in. "The police with machine guns and tanks are here. The dogs are biting the people". The WCAB (Western Cape Administration Board) hired unemployed youths to demolish the shacks, and to harass the residents.

A youth and child were injured. One resident said angrily, "they can arrest us, its alright,

we are going to stay together".

By Wednesday 14, all the shacks had been demolished. The KTC steering committee, United Women's Organisation and the Western Cape Civic Association called a meeting.

The hall was packed with 2000 people.

The meeting decided that their problems should be brought to Parliament. A delegation was sent to Mr Bezuidenhout of the WCAB. He said, "I will give 200 families houses. Only the most desperate will get houses".

But the steering committee replied angrily, "we are all desperate. We will not be

divided — the 'legals' and the 'illegals', the section 10's from the migrant workers."

Finally, Koornhof bent under the pressure. He announced in Parliament that 2500 service sites would be available.

The people started rebuilding their shacks.

Now they are waiting. Waiting for Koornhof to fulfil his promise. The residents are determined not to move.

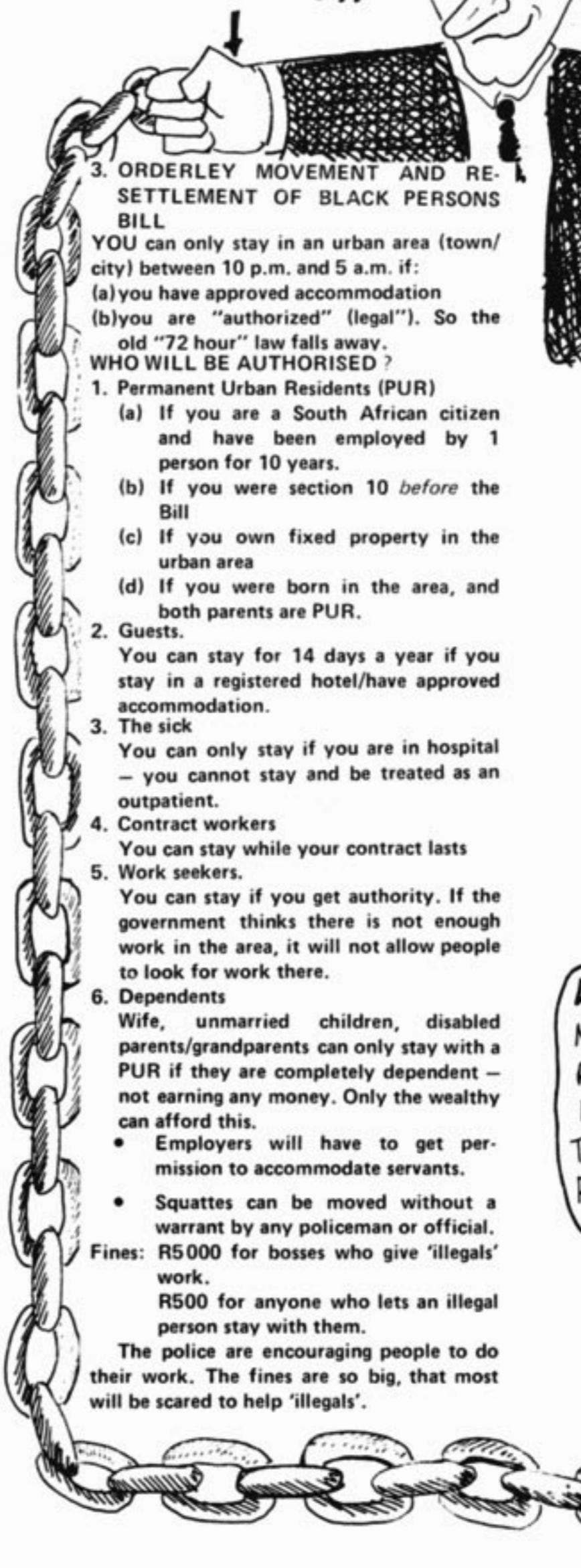
"No matter you are chasing us. No matter if you shoot us. But, myself, I am going to stay here. I am not moving anywhere else until you give us accommodation", said a committee member.

## 'Reject divisions'

This was the resolution taken at the meeting on Wednesday, 14th.

- We, the Western Cape Civic Community, support the struggle of the KTC community.
- We are opposed to the violence of the authorities. In their use of dogs and tanks against people. In the destruction of shelters.
- Koornhof will be given one week to clarify the government's position. There is no rush to meet Koornhof. It is better that we are organized and united. We must stay at KTC and not forget the lessons of Crossroads.
- We reject the divisions of the authorities between legals and illegals. Let lodgers join the people of KTC in their demand for houses.
- We reject all charity. Any donations must be distributed through the Steering Committee.

## REPRESSION



### 3. ORDERLY MOVEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT OF BLACK PERSONS BILL

YOU can only stay in an urban area (town/city) between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. if:

- (a) you have approved accommodation
- (b) you are "authorized" (legal"). So the old "72 hour" law falls away.

WHO WILL BE AUTHORISED?

1. Permanent Urban Residents (PUR)
    - (a) If you are a South African citizen and have been employed by 1 person for 10 years.
    - (b) If you were section 10 before the Bill
    - (c) If you own fixed property in the urban area
    - (d) If you were born in the area, and both parents are PUR.
  2. Guests. You can stay for 14 days a year if you stay in a registered hotel/have approved accommodation.
  3. The sick. You can only stay if you are in hospital — you cannot stay and be treated as an outpatient.
  4. Contract workers. You can stay while your contract lasts
  5. Work seekers. You can stay if you get authority. If the government thinks there is not enough work in the area, it will not allow people to look for work there.
  6. Dependents. Wife, unmarried children, disabled parents/grandparents can only stay with a PUR if they are completely dependent — not earning any money. Only the wealthy can afford this.
    - Employers will have to get permission to accommodate servants.
    - Squattes can be moved without a warrant by any policeman or official.
- Fines: R5000 for bosses who give 'illegals' work.  
R500 for anyone who lets an illegal person stay with them.
- The police are encouraging people to do their work. The fines are so big, that most will be scared to help 'illegals'.

## "REFORM"

1. Black Local Authorities Bill gives a few extra powers to the community councils. These will be elected by permanent urban residents.
2. Black Community Development Bill. These bills are trying to put the Permanent Urban Residents on the side of Government — to turn them against contract workers and migrants.



## 'We stand in unity'

TRADE Unions, Community Organisations, Social Service Groups and the Churches have condemned the actions of the Western Cape Administration Board at the KTC camp recently.

The United Women's Organisation has issued the following statement in solidarity with the struggles of the KTC community for decent housing and the right to live and work where they choose.

"We give our full support to the resolution taken by the KTC community at a mass meeting on 14th February.

We condemn the attempts of WCAB and the Department of Co-operation and Development to divide the people. We further condemn the violence — the use of teargas, dogs, guns, batons, saracens — used against defenseless and homeless men, women, mothers and children.

We support the brave attempts of the people to organize in the face of such callous attacks by WCAB.

Together with other peoples' organizations in the area we stand in solidarity with the people of KTC."

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THERE are 3 Koornhof Bills. Two of them are "reforms". They will give the dummy community council bodies a few more powers — but will not help most people at all.

The third one — the Orderly Movement and Resettlement Bill will make the lives of the people much, much harder.

It will be even more difficult to find work, or a place to live. If the government does not need you to work in the town, you will be sent to the bantustan wastelands to starve.

# Petrol price down but busfares up

HOW can City Tramways increase their busfares when the price of petrol is coming down? Shouldn't Tramways be bringing down their fares?

This question was asked by the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee. CAHAC was responding to the latest application by the bus company for a 12 per cent increase in fares.

Mitchells Plain and Atlantis Bus companies have also asked for increases of up to 25 percent.

All these companies belong to Tollgate Holdings.

Cahac said the bus companies were using increased costs to conceal their greed for profits.

They said the application showed that a public bus company should be run of a non-profit service.

"If City Tramways says that licence fees are to be increased,

it is up to them to sort it out with the Government.

"They cannot use the argument that their number of passengers will be decreased due to unemployment, because it is absurd to suggest that the unemployed should bear the burden by paying higher busfares.

"Again we are faced with increases as winter approaches. It seems to be an annual event to increase busfares when people need public transport most.

"It is up to the National Transport Commission to decide, even without a hearing, whether there is any ground for an increase when the general state of the economy is one of mass unemployment and increasing cost of living"

In the past, Cahac has led the people's organisations to protest against busfare increases.

## CAHAC NEWS IN BRIEF

### Afdakkies torn down

KENSINGTON residents are complaining that their afdakkies are being thrown down. A few months ago, council agreed not to do this after the association in the area protested. Now we see this is happening again.

When the Kensington Factreton Ratepayers and Tenants' Asso-

ciation went back to council this week the council said they knew nothing about the afdakkies.

They told the association that they will investigate the matter.

If you are having problems, contact the secretary, Mr T Manuel at 5 1-4930 or write to P.O. Box 12 Woltemade.

### Family fun

THERE is fun for the whole family once a

month in Lotus River. Darts, dominoes, scrabble and refreshments. The Grassy Park/Lotus River Residents Association organises a social evening for all their hard-working members, at the centre once a month. The centre is in 1st Avenue between Lake and Zeekoe Roads.

If you would like to become a member, contact the secretary at 73-6685.

# Grassroots third AGM calls for discussion and direction

GRASSROOTS Publications holds its third annual general meeting on 18, 19 and 20th March.

More than 100 delegates have been invited from civic, youth, worker and women's organisations based in the Western Cape.

At the congress we hope to look at our gains, our problems and plan for the new year. It is also time for us to look at the role that Grassroots has played over the past three years and to carve the way forward.

As Grassroots is a community newsletter, aiming at being the voice of the people, it is fitting that we report back to the people after a year's work.

The congress will help us to come closer to the people who write, distribute and read

Grassroots. In this way we can strive towards producing better issues in the future. But this can only take place with the full participation of all the people. Grassroots wishes to thank all the organisations for their hard work and dedication in making the paper such a success over the past year.

### Strengthen

We hope that the congress will be an inspiration to all to recommit ourselves to strengthen Grassroots in the future.

The Congress will be opened on Friday, March 18th at St. Marks Hall, Church Street, Crawford.

Samson Ndou, who is organiser of the General and Allied

Workers Union in Johannesburg and Della Omar, a Cape Town lawyer, will be the guest speakers.

This session is open to members of the public. All are welcome.

### Report back

The sessions on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20 March will be open only to invited delegates from organisations associated with Grassroots.

We hope that delegates will take this opportunity to express their views. They will be expected to report back to their organisations.

We hope that the congress will be an inspiration to all to recommit ourselves to strengthen Grassroots in the future.



# Areas form committee to fight for electricity

PEOPLE living in Bishop Lavis, Bellville South, Grassy Park and Valhalla Park have for a long time now complained about the lack of electricity in certain sections of these areas.

All four areas have a common problem.

The various civic organisations of these areas then decided to come together to work out ways of tackling this problem.

The Bishop Lavis Action Committee (BLAC), the Lotus River and Grassy Park Residents' Association (LOGRA), the Bellville South Action Committee (BSHAC) and the residents association of Valhalla Park have together formed a temporary Electricity Installation Committee to look at how they could work together to

handle the electricity problem.

The Committee held a workshop on Saturday 12th February in Bishop Lavis. This was the first joint programme the committee has worked on. About 150 people from

the four areas attended.

The workshop was held to work out ways the four organisations could work together on the campaign for electricity. They also discussed how the campaign could be coordinated.

Two of the ideas that came up at the workshop are a letter to the Department of Community Development or a delegation with petitions. The four areas are now thinking of how these ideas could be implemented.

# Wynberg children's day brings women together

EVEN rain could not dampen the spirits of the 100 children and their parents who were at the games afternoon and cake sale organised by the Wynberg Branch of the United Woman's Organisation last month.

The kids had a ball as they were treated

The children were given packets of fruit and cool drinks while their parents bought cake which was sold by members of Wynberg UWO.

with a puppet show, played various games and listened attentively to Molo Songololo telling stories.

The rain only came down at the end of the afternoon but this did not detract from the enjoyment the kids had.

Through the activity the UWO came into contact with many women in the Wynberg area. A few have indicated they are interested in joining the group.

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Francis Baart - trade unionist, women's organiser.....

**STILL A FIGHTER AT SEVENTY**

ONE morning in 1948 as she walked to work, Francina Baard saw men lying in puddles of water because they had nowhere to sleep. "I wept and resolved that something had to be done," she remembers. From that day onwards she worked hard to help people to fight their problems together - both in their working places and in their homes.

Francina Baard - trade unionist, women's organiser, leader of the people. She believed that people had the power to change their situations, and she fought to encourage people in the same belief. She was a fighter.

And though she is getting old now, at 70 she remains a fighter.

She spoke about how she first got involved in organising workers.

It started when she was working in a canning factory in Port Elizabeth.

"Well, like any other worker, you know, we worked in a factory, and conditions were not right . . . many trucks used to come a day, and then we had to work until they were all finished. We started about 6 o'clock in the morning, and we worked till about ten o'clock at night. We had to work until we finished those things, because the next day, more came in."

Many of the workers were women, and they had a hard time, working long hours, and trying to look after their families as well. Then a woman called Ray Alexander came to Port Elizabeth and spoke to them about trade unions. Francina was elected as organising secretary of the union they set up. But the union had problems, as she said:

"The Minister of Labour was always telling us that she's going to bleed the African worker's unions to death. And that's why the police didn't give us a

chance. But we managed to organise the workers."

Francina also believed that women had the power to change their situations. She joined a women's organisation and became an active women's leader.

In 1956 the government made a law telling black women to carry passes. On the 9th August, 20 thousand women from all over South Africa met in Pretoria and marched to see the Prime Minister to protest.

The women chose twelve women to represent them. One of them was Francina Baard.

Because of her organising ability she was detained and arrested. She was one of the 160 people charged in the Treason Trial. Like others she was finally acquitted. She told workers, "No matter where you work, unite against low wages . . . unite into an unbreakable solidarity and organisation."

The government banned her in 1962. Later that year they came to arrest her in the middle of the night.

"The day they caught me, I left my children . . . and they came in the middle of the night to search my house . . . So they just took me, and the children came with me as far as the gate, and my heart was just as if it would fall down - it was too pathetic to leave children at that time of the night, alone in the house. And I left . . ."

She spent a year in solitary confinement before her trial.

"I think they were trying to kill me somehow, but my spirit was too strong, they couldn't."

She served five years in prison. When she was released, the government would not allow her to return to Port Elizabeth.

They forced her to go and live in Mabopane - thousands of miles from her home.

"I found nothing in the house. I had nothing with me. It was a bitterly cold night and I had to sleep on the floor dressed only in my dress and jersey."

It was almost ten years later till she could get back to Port Elizabeth to find out what had happened to her children and her belongings. Her belongings had long since disappeared but she found her children. Her family was scattered because when she had been sent away, the children had all been evicted.

There was no home left in Port Elizabeth and she then made her home in Mabopane.

From her home here, this fighter still calls on all workers to unite.

To the women she says:

"The women must learn everything. They must also have something to do, they must know that they know something. They must not leave everything to the men, the women must learn to do everything."

**'Remember, women fighting for a better life'****INTERNATIONAL**

Women's Day is on 8th March. On this day we think of women all over the world who have fought and are still fighting for a better way of life for all. This is the day when women all over the world show that they are against war, oppression and injustice.

But how did this day come about?

The idea started at an international women's congress in Europe in 1910. It was held to discuss how women should be allowed to have a say in the government of their countries.

Women from all over the world attended and called for a day of action in every country. They felt that the vote for women too would be important in the struggle for a just and democratic society.

**Response**

The response to the call for a day of action was fantastic. In Germany and Austria the women set up committees of different women's organisations. They gave out pamphlets. They held meetings, organised demonstrations and even put out a women's newspaper.

One of the women described what happened on that first international women's day:

"Germany and Austria . . . were one seething trembling sea of women. Meetings were organised everywhere - in the small towns and even in the villages. Halls were packed so full. This was certainly the first sign of mili-



tancy by working women. Men stayed at home with the children for a change. Their wives went to meetings."

From that time on women have gathered together on the 8th March to discuss the problems of women and the problems of the communities they live in.

In 1913 in Russia the Tsar's government

banned meetings. But International Day was too important for the women to stay at home. They organised a 'teach-in' to teach women the importance of organising women to change their conditions. Some were arrested, but others fought on.

In 1917 there was a massive demonstration on the 8th March in Russia. Women demanded: "Bread for

our children" and "Return our husbands from the trenches". Women went on strike. Thousands of workers joined the women to fight the food shortages and high prices.

The workers were encouraged by the success of these protests. So, the next day more and more workers refused to go and work. This soon led to even bigger demonstrations

**Women in focus**

These pictures were taken by a famous South African photographer; George Hallet. The pictures were displayed at a women's conference in Harare, Zimbabwe.

The conference was held to discuss the problems facing women in Southern Africa. The pictures tell the story of a typical scene from District Six and a mineworker from Lake Kariba.



of the workers' strength. This began the 1917 Russian Revolution.

How have we in South Africa celebrated International Women's day? As early as 1931 women were told to: 'Organise! Don't let your menfolk keep you back!'

Over the years these celebrations have always brought women

from all different organisations together: Child Welfare, League of Women Voters, Women of the SA Indian Congress, Womens' League and the Federation of South African Women.

In 1956 women in towns all over South Africa came to meetings on 8th March and discussed the most important issue of that time - passes for Afri-

can women. From March onwards, the Federation of South African Women organised women on this issue. On 9th August 1956, 20000 women stood outside the Union Buildings in Pretoria and sang Nkosi Sikelela Afrika while the women leaders took petition forms inside. This day, 9th August is now recognised as SA National Women's Day.

# COMMENT

PLASTIC and Port Jackson bushes are the homes of close to 500 people at the KTC camp in Nyanga. Over the past few weeks, the government has declared war on the people of KTC.

The people's demand for housing has been met with force by the government. Men, women and children have been arrested. Officials have demolished shacks under the protection of guns, army trucks and police dogs, injuring many and leaving hundreds homeless.

The memory of Nyanga Bush, Crossroads, Unibell and Modderdam is still fresh in the minds of many. The people have not forgotten how ruthless the government can be in enforcing its laws. The failure of the government to provide housing, security and comfort for all South Africans is a sad fact. Yet, this failure is being laid fully at the feet of the people.

The people of KTC have so-called rights to be in urban areas. They live in overcrowded conditions in the townships. There are no houses because the government has refused to build more houses in African areas. The government says that the Western Cape is a Coloured Preferential Area, and that Africans have no rights here.

## Right to housing

But, the people say, we have a right to housing and to live and work where we choose. That South Africa belongs to all who live and work in it.

The people of KTC have organised themselves. At mass meetings attended by over 2000 people they have condemned the government's actions. They have rejected the community councils and their hand and glove game with the Western Cape Administration Board. The people know who their friends are - genuine people's organisations.

KTC says to all of us that the Homelands policy has failed. That the pass laws and migrant labour are there to provide cheap labour for the bosses. That unemployment is rising and the jobless cannot be walking the streets of South Africa. The government is trapped in a corner, it cannot solve the serious problems facing it.

## Raids continue

All this is happening at a time when the government is speaking of great changes - of giving Coloureds and Indians a vote in a separate three chamber parliament. At a time when they are trying to find a 'solution' to the problem of 'urban Blacks'.

On the one hand, the government is saying, Coloureds and Indians, you come into the white laager. Africans, you have your political rights in the homelands.

But what do we do with those 'Blacks in urban areas'?

Lets give them a say in local government. Lets give those who earn more money the right of homeownership. Lets control the inflow of Africans from the homelands with an iron fist - stricter pass laws, the Orderly Movement Bill is the answer.

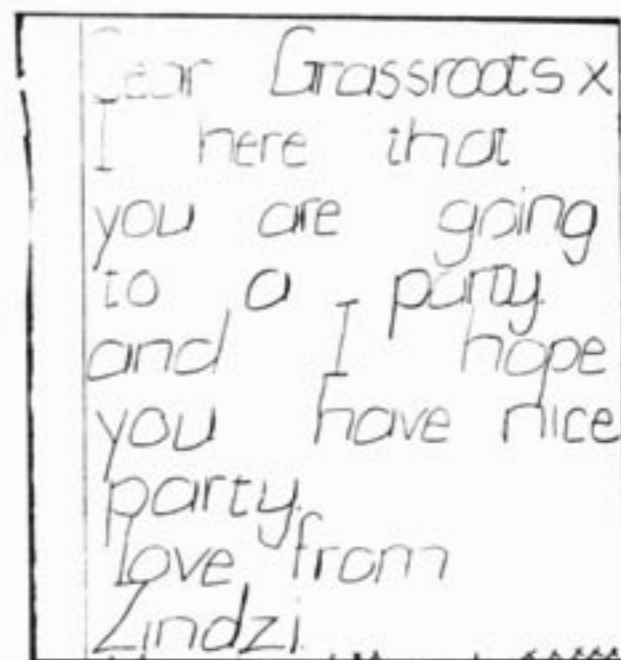
## Reject proposals

And, when opposition was increasing to this Bill, they decided to shelve it. But the raids, the harassment and pass laws continue. The government fears the unity of the oppressed. They are saying, we must split this unity. Coloureds and Indians, legals and illegals, authorised and unauthorised persons. Parents and children.

These are the government's plans. The President's Council proposals and the Koornhof Bills are there to divide the oppressed and to buy some of us off. But, the people of KTC are saying - no. All over South Africa, the people are saying no. We will not be divided.

Today, we fight for housing. Tomorrow we fight the PC and the Koornhof Bills. It is a fight against oppression and exploitation - against Apartheid.

We cannot do this alone. We must build the unity of the oppressed. We need to create a broad front to reject and resist the constitutional proposals and the Koornhof Bills. These are the lessons of the struggles of the people of KTC.



# Unjust detentions condemned

Dear Grassroots,

AS a member of the Hanover Park Civic Association and its Youth wing, I want to condemn the unjust detention of two of our members. They are Headley King and Michael Coetzee, who have done a lot of work in our community.

They have always had the people's interests at heart.

The detention of two other persons who are also members of CAHAC is an attack on our people's organisations. It seems that the Security Police wants to break our organisations.

After reading what happened to Dr Neil Aggett in detention, I am deeply concerned for the safety of those who are in detention.

I want to call on the

Minister to release them. These laws are barbaric and unjust. The government wants to make us believe that we will have a vote. Yet, they detain people all the time. We must not accept this.

I think all our organisations should call for the immediate release of all political detainees in South Africa.

Concerned Hanover Park resident

# "We must chuck out these stooges"

Dear Grassroots,

EVERY householder has received a pamphlet on the PC proposals that was distributed free and in English and Afrikaans.

Now, in many issues of Grassroots, the whole evil thing of the PC has been explained. Many community newsletters like the Federation of Cape Civic Associations, Kuilsriver Civic, Thornhill Residents Association, has showed us that the PC, the Management Committees, the Koornhof Bills are not for us.

That only the organisations of the people can win a struggle for freedom and democracy.

From about May last year, our people rejected the PC. Only now, at the beginning of January, the Labour Party has a conference. It is only after the conference, and after accepting the big fraud, that they are going to "explain the PC" to the people!

## Stooges

Where ever we find ourselves we must chuck out these stooges. They cannot get fat and rich while riding on our backs.

Already the Labour Party has had a meeting in Bishop Lavis - did they contact the Bishop Lavis Action Committee? No.

They have no standing with anyone. They work with the boss-boys. We must not be fooled by their sick game. Stand together. Work together. Let us tell the truth about PC.

Mev. Ann Mitchell

Crawford

# 'Grassroots is 'n puik korantjie'

Liewe Grassroots, EK het per toeval Grassroots in die hande gekry. Ai, het ek dit geniet. En, dit is hoe-kom ek toe somer my skryf goed gryp.

John van Belhar se brief het my hart gebreek. Grassroots hier is my storie.

Ek is a weduwee. Ek bly alleen en my enigste inkomste is 'n staats pensioen. Nou wil ek so

graag in 'n council huis gaan bly maar ek is te bang want die council is so wreed.

Ons moet so baie betaal vir rent, water en lig. Grassroots vertel my tog asseblief watter soort mense is hulle? Waar kom hulle vandaan? Wat maak hulle met so vreeslik baie geld?

Kyk, as 'n huis klaar gebou is en dit word

verhuur, dan is daar mos nie meer onkoste nie. Maar die council kry elke week, elke maand klompie geld vir dieselfde huis, jaar in en jaar uit. As jou man of kind 'n wage increase kry, dan sê hulle bring dit hier.

Die huise is warm in die somer en koud in die winter. Oo, die huise is ook so vrot, daarom is ons arme

mense so siek. Ek is baie bang en baie eenzaam. Publiseer asseblief my brief.

Grassroots is 'n puik korantjie. Ek hou nog al baie daarvan. Nou, ja, hou maar aan, dit doen my ou eensame hart goed om te kan weet dat daar koranjies is aan wie jy jou griewe kan uitlaat. Baie Dankie.

# PC - the new face of Apartheid

THERE is so much noise about the President's Council proposals. When we open the newspaper, we see PC. When we switch on the radio, we hear PC. When we switch on the TV, we see and hear PC.

Many of us cannot understand what is going on. Nothing is properly explained. There is just so much noise. . .

On this page, Grassroots will try and explain the PC proposals.

We will look at what the PC is, why the PC has come about, what it means and what PC will do to us. This is the first article in a series.

## WHAT IS THE PC?

It is a body formed by the government in 1980. Its job was to plan a new system of government for South Africa. It has done this to try and solve the crisis the government faces at this time. As it will affect all of us, it is very important for us to know all about the PC.

The government has come up with this plan so that we can be divided. If this does not succeed, the heavy boot will be used to crush us.

LET us see what the proposals are at the central government level:

1. There will be three separate voters rolls - one for whites, one for coloureds and one for Indians. All people over the age of 18 will be registered on their separate voter's roll.
2. Three separate chambers of parliament will be elected by the voters. The ratio of members elected will be 4:2:1. In other words, for every Indian that is elected, two coloureds

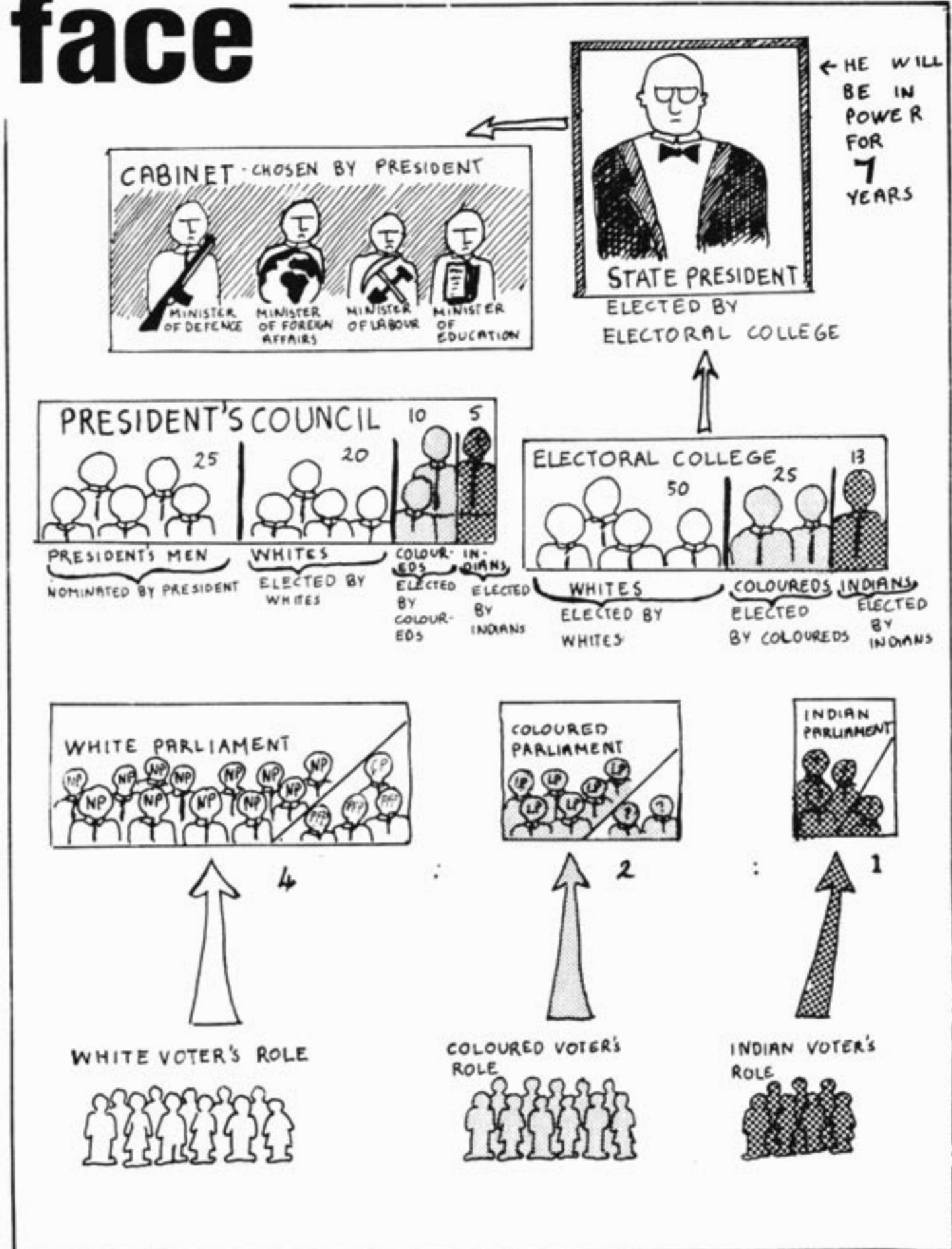
and four whites will be elected.

3. The parties with the most seats in each chamber will elect an electoral college. This is a body set up to elect someone. This body will consist of 50 whites, 25 coloureds, and 13 Indians (again the ratio will be 4:2:1).
4. The electoral college elects the Executive President. He will be elected for seven years. The Executive President will have the power to dismiss the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, the President's Council and Parliament. No-one can dismiss him. He can also stop any law. He will appoint the Prime Minister and the Cabinet. The Prime Minister and the Cabinet do not have to be members of Parliament.

5. Another very powerful part of the government will be the President's Council. This Council will consist of 60 persons. The President's Council will partly be elected by the parties with the most seats in parliament and partly be appointed by the Executive President. The majority party in the white chamber will elect 25 members to be on the President's Council, the majority party in the coloured chamber 10 members and the majority party in the Indian chamber 5 members (again the same ratio 4:2:1). The remaining members will be appointed by the Executive President.

## WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN?

1. Power will still remain in the hands of whites.
2. Blacks have been entirely left out from the central government.
3. The Executive President can



dismiss anyone. Nobody can dismiss him. He can also stop any legislation before it becomes law. He appoints the Cabinet and nearly half the President's Council, both of which are the most powerful part of government. The Executive President has dic-

4. The Cabinet and the President's Council are not necessarily members of parliament. Thus the new system of government allows for bringing in people who are not elected into the most powerful government positions.

**NEXT ISSUE: How the central government will work**

# Labour Party "hiding behind words"

THE Labour Party has agreed to go in with the government's new constitutional deal. They want us to believe that they are doing this to fight for change in South Africa.

They make radical speeches about fighting from within the new parliaments, about how they smashed the Coloured Person's Representative Council and how democratic they are.

The University of the Western Cape Students Representative Council (SRC) believes that the Labour Party is hiding behind words. And that they are really betraying our struggle for a democratic South Africa.

On this page Grassroots puts forward a student viewpoint. This is a summary of a statement issued by the U.W.C. SRC.

IN recent years there has been a growth of civic, trade union, student political, youth and women's organisations. These organisations grew out of the 1976 uprisings.

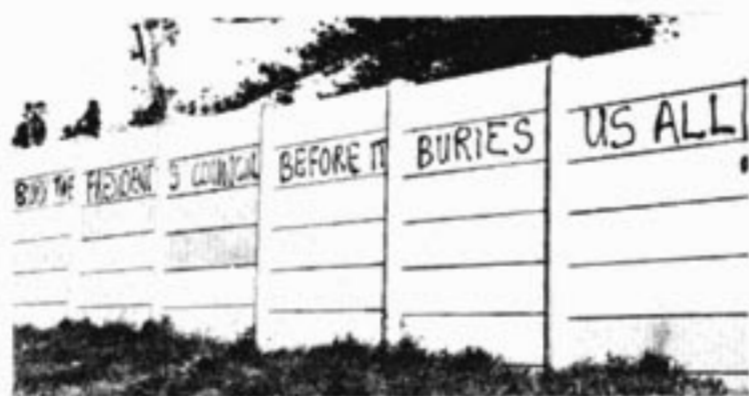
From our experiences in 1976 and in 1980 we learnt that it was important to organise the masses of our people. This is what these organisations have done.

They are the voice of the people. They speak of high rents, low wages, high bus fares,

high food prices, pass raids, detentions and gutter education.

These organisations like CAHAC, UWO, General Workers Union, Food and Canning Workers Union, Media Workers Association of South Africa, COSAS AZASO and others do not need to force their decisions down our people's throats. They act on our behalf. The Labour Party does not do so.

It is the strength of our peoples' organisations which has forced



the government into a corner. The government's response to our struggles is the constitutional proposals.

These proposals put forward three separate parliaments for Whites, Coloureds and Indians.

## Group Areas

The Labour Party wants to fight for change in a parliament that cannot remove the Group Areas Act, the pass laws, the bantustans and the Race Classifications Act. The government is not prepared to remove these laws.

The Labour Party wants to fight in a parliament where there will be 4 whites for every 2 coloured mem-

bers. If we enter this parliament we will be taking a step back instead of marching forward.

Real change in South Africa will not be brought about by constitutional committees or commissions of inquiry. It will be brought about by the unity of the oppressed and exploited, by our own actions and organisations.

Community and worker organisations have won many victories over the past few years. They did not need management committees and workers liaison committees to do this.

David Curry of the

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THE Labour Party has always claimed to fight for our rights, for the right to stand and be elected to ONE parliament for all South Africans. In this way, it claims to represent our demands.

But when Grassroots spoke to the people, many expressed doubts. Many said that the Labour Party is a very weak party. That it has failed us in the past, and that it will fail us again. Why is this so?

The Labour Party was formed in 1965, at a time when the government had clamped down on all political organisations. Through banning, detentions and imprisonment, the government made it clear that organisations must accept

its rules if they wanted to be involved in politics. The Labour Party accepted these rules and that was its first mistake.

This gave rise to another weakness. Many people asked, "How can we fight the enemy on the enemy's terms?" And so they refused to join the Labour Party.

But others said, "Let's give them a chance. They say they will fight apartheid. Let's see whether they will keep their promises." And so they voted for the Labour Party.

This brings us to the question - how do we judge a political party? How do we know whether it is a good or bad organisation?

Firstly, the organisation

must keep its promises. In 1969 and 1975, the Labour Party asked for our vote in the CRC elections to show the government that we hated apartheid. They promised us that they would resign after the elections. But they lied to us. They went into the CRC and accepted the high salaries and big cars that the government gave them.

Again, in 1980, they said that they rejected the PC because it excluded Africans and did not do away with the Group or Mixed Marriages. They said only one man one vote would satisfy the people. Why then do they accept the P.C. now?

Secondly, a party must lead the struggles of the

people. But where was the Labour Party when the Group pushed us out of our homes or when our students were expelled from UWC in 1973? They were not there!

Thirdly, a party must fight to improve our daily lives. It must lead in struggles around housing, working conditions and wages. This the Labour Party never did, because it was never where the people were.

So, although the Labour Party was weak when it started, it got even weaker.

Then, in 1976, our children fought for a better education. In Elsie River, in Lavender Hill, in Retreat, they were gunned down like cattle in the abattoir.

Where was the Labour Party then?

Our people were angry. The Labour Party sensed this anger and before it could be directed at them, they closed the CRC down! By then, we had lost all hope in the Labour Party. They had been in the CRC for 10 years and what had we got - NOTHING! We realised that we, ourselves, must work hard to change our lives. So we started our residents associations, our youth movements, our women's organisations to take up our problems and fight for us.

And again, where was the Labour Party when the EPC led the people of Mitchells Plain to demand a change in the due date?

Where was the Labour Party when CAHAC took more than 40 000 petitions to the Minister of Community Development, demanding that we could afford? Unashamedly, it sat behind the Minister!

After the CRC had been closed down, the Labour Party was left voiceless. Now with the P.C. the government has offered them a new voice. But it is not the people's voice. Our voices are the civics, trade unions, student and youth groups.

As someone said "Our people belong with our organisations, not with the Labour Party. The Labour Party stands for apartheid. It must reject the Labour Party and the P.C."

**We speak for ourselves**

Grassroots spoke to shoppers and workers on the Grand Parade. This is what they had to say.



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"We want complete change in the system. We don't want the P.C. proposal!"  
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# Whose side are you on?

**NO, MR CURRY...**

<p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>Those who oppose us are simply boycottists... Change will not come through boycotting. We need to work actively to bring about change.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>We believe PW Botha is genuinely interested in reform. The fact that he was prepared to split his own ranks to give in to a vote is sufficient proof.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>We wrecked the CRC. We closed it down. We split the Nationalist Party.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>If the government does not give us what we want, we will wreck their PC as well.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>Through the CRC we managed to win real benefits for the people - like schools, hospitals and better facilities.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>We also do not accept the proposals. We will join together with the PFP and others to outvote the Nationalists.</p>	<p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>NO, Mr Curry. We, as our civics, trade unions, student and youth organisations have joined together to fight oppression wherever it is. Through our organisations we have rejected the PC. Yet you did not talk to our organisations. It is not we who are boycottists. It is you who have boycotted the people!</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>As Minister of Coloured Affairs in the fifties, PW took the vote away from us and gave us Group Areas. How can we trust him now? He also said in 1982 that the PC is not an end to apartheid; that he will never do away with separate schools or Group Areas. His proposals make apartheid stronger - why else will whites have double the amount of representatives in the new system? We do not see that PW is genuinely interested in doing away with injustice. All we see are more KTC's, higher rents and food prices, detentions...</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>You did not do this. It was the actions of our children in 1976 and 1980. It was our resistance in the factories and schools that gave the government a fright.</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>The new system is not like the CRC. You will be just one cog in the wheel. The government has made sure that it can carry on functioning without you.</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>We do not see any improvements over the years. All we see is that our families are hungry, that our houses are badly maintained, that our rents are high, that there are not enough schools for our children, that in many places we do not even have electricity. Where are all the things you claim to have done for us?</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>This will not be possible. The government had made sure that it will always have a majority.</p>
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WHOSE side are you on? This is a question facing our people. It is a choice that we are asked to make.

The Labour Party and the Government are selling a 'new deal' to our people. At meetings in the West Cape and Transvaal, the people have said no. After meetings at Venter, Bredasdorp and Stellenbosch, the Labour Party was forced to pack its bags. In the Transvaal, the message was no different. The Labour Party will be back. Are we going to become the partners of Apartheid? On this page Grassroots gives people's point of view. Read these pages and decide for yourself. "Whose side are you on?"

## Communities reject Labour

AT a Labour Party meeting held in East London, a worker held up a poster which read: "MR HENDRICKSE, YOU ARE GUILTY OF SELLING THE PEOPLE. YOU HAVE NOT COME HERE TO EXPLAIN YOUR DECISION, YOU HAVE COME TO DEFEND YOUR STAND."

This has been the tone of almost every meeting held since the Labour Party's decision: \*

In uitenhage, where once thousands used to attend Labour Party meetings, only 400 people turned up.

In Bredasdorp, the people walked out.

In Vredenburg too, more than 300 workers walked out after the Labour Party had refused to listen to criticisms.

The Stellenbosch meeting was even worse, and fights broke out between

those who against the Labour Party and those who were in support of it. At the Stellenbosch meeting, a worker held up a poster which read: "MR HENDRICKSE, YOU ARE GUILTY OF SELLING THE PEOPLE. YOU HAVE NOT COME HERE TO EXPLAIN YOUR DECISION, YOU HAVE COME TO DEFEND YOUR STAND."

At the meeting, Mr Curry was an old man who was reading Grassroots "Wat les jy - skouskousers op." The man replied, "Hak wag nie in die goewer nie maar julle wil al vir ons at wat ons mag lies en wat ons mag nie les nie."

It is these statements which tell us what the anger which has led to the disruption at Labour Party meetings. And it is the Labour Party which must take the blame.

But still the Labour Party will not listen. They are prepared to go ahead. Indeed, now they hold secret meetings with their supporters rather than risk the people's anger. Jac Rabur, leader of the Labour Party in the Transvaal, even suggested that they form a "military wing" to silence those who dare to criticise their decision.

Mr Curry, it was you who said: "We must stand before the people and ask their permission to fight on their behalf." The people have given their answer.



## Labour - "betrayed the trust of the people"

"THE Labour Party has betrayed the trust of the people. They are now part of the enemy" a former leader of the party told Grassroots.

Mr George Bhowes, Cape Peninsula chairman of the Labour Party until 1972, hit out at Hendrickse and Curry for accepting the government's new proposals.

"The Labour Party makes promises and says sweet words. But for the last 10 years they have filled their pockets while the people of our country suffered," he said.

Grassroots spoke to many former members of the Labour Party to get their views. Mr Bhowes was bitter when he told us how the Labour Party fooled the people over the years.

"The Labour Party was very undemocratic. They made no attempt to meet the needs of the people", Uncle Willie from Mitchells Plain said.

Uncle Willie who was a member of the Bellville branch explained how the members had to do door to door pamphletting alone.

"The leaders only come when they had to speak at mass meetings," he said.

"Today, the Labour Party is working for the

**CAHAC**

CAHAC: WE strongly condemn and reject the Labour Party decision to participate in the government's new constitutional proposals.

We believe this decision does not represent the views of the majority but only a tiny fraction of the so-called coloured community.

**UWO**

UWO: UWO condemns the Labour Party decision. The Labour Party has chosen to become the junior partners of apartheid - they have chosen to help the government in their policy of divide and rule.

Anyone participating in these plans has taken a very big step away from the people. The Labour Party cannot claim to have the interests of the people at heart.

**FCWU**

FCWU: THESE actions show in the clearest manner that the Labour Party cannot even pretend to represent the coloured people. We cannot fight for the unity of all workers and allow a constitutional dispensation which discriminates against people of different races and excludes the majority.

**FOSATU**

FOSATU criticised the Labour Party for "opportunism" and rejected the "racially divisive" constitutional proposals.

**CTMWA**

CTMWA: "THE proposals are designed to divide the oppressed people in general and the working class in particular."

**The Churches**

"APARTHEID is a sinful contradiction of the Gospel and is an ideology which the church rejects as heresy.

The P.C. is part of the total onslaught by the government. We believe in a single democratic South Africa." - Methodist Church

Other churches who have rejected the P.C. proposals and apartheid are:

- United Congregational Church
- Anglican Provincial Synod
- Reformed Presbyterian Church
- African Methodist Episcopal Church
- South African Council of Churches
- Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Dr Allan Bosvak (Pres. of World Alliance of Reformed Churches)



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# Whose side are you on?

**NO, MR CURRY...**

<p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>Those who oppose us are simply boycottists... Change will not come through boycotting. We need to work actively to bring about change.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>We believe PW Botha is genuinely interested in reform. The fact that he was prepared to split his own ranks to give in a vote is sufficient proof.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>We wrecked the CRC. We closed it down. We split the Nationalist Party.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>If the government does not give us what we want, we will wreck their PC as well.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>Through the CRC we managed to win real benefits for the people - like schools, hospitals and better facilities.</p> <p><b>Labour says:</b></p> <p>We also do not accept the proposals. We will join together with the PFP and others to outvote the Nationalists.</p>	<p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>NO, Mr Curry. We, as our civics, trade unions, student and youth organisations have joined together to fight oppression wherever it is. Through our organisations we have rejected the PC. Yet you did not talk to our organisations. It is not we who are boycottists. It is you who have boycotted the people!</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>As Minister of Coloured Affairs in the fifties, PW took the vote away from us and gave us Group Areas. How can we trust him now? He also said in 1982 that the PC is not an end to apartheid; that he will never do away with separate schools or Group Areas. His proposals make apartheid stronger - why else will whites have double the amount of representatives in the new system? We do not see that PW is genuinely interested in doing away with injustice. All we see are more KTC's, higher rents and food prices, detentions...</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>You did not do this. It was the actions of our children in 1976 and 1980. It was our resistance in the factories and schools that gave the government a fright.</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>The new system is not like the CRC. You will be just one cog in the wheel. The government has made sure that it can carry on functioning without you.</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>We do not see any improvements over the years. All we see is that our families are hungry, that our houses are badly maintained, that our rents are high, that there are not enough schools for our children, that in many places we do not even have electricity. Where are all the things you claim to have done for us?</p> <p><b>People reply:</b></p> <p>This will not be possible. The government had made sure that it will always have a majority.</p>
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WHOSE side are you on? This is a question facing our people. It is a choice that we are asked to make.

The Labour Party and the Government are selling a 'new deal' to our people. At meetings in the West Cape and Transvaal, the people have said no. After meetings at Venter, Bredasdorp and Stellenbosch, the Labour Party was forced to pack its bags. In the Transvaal, the message was no different. The Labour Party will be back. Are we going to become the partners of Apartheid? On this page Grassroots gives people's point of view. Read these pages and decide for yourself. "Whose side are you on?"

## Communities reject Labour

AT a Labour Party meeting held in East London, a worker held up a poster which read: "MR HENDRICKSE, YOU ARE GUILTY OF SELLING THE PEOPLE. YOU HAVE NOT COME HERE TO EXPLAIN YOUR DECISION, YOU HAVE COME TO DEFEND YOUR STAND."

This has been the tone of almost every meeting held since the Labour Party's decision:

- In Uitenhage, where once thousands used to attend Labour Party meetings, only 400 people turned up.
- In Bredasdorp, the people walked out.
- In Vredenburg too, more than 300 workers walked out after the Labour Party had refused to listen to criticisms.
- The Stellenbosch meeting was even worse, and fights broke out between

those who against the Labour Party and those who were in support of it. At the Stellenbosch meeting, a worker held up a poster which read: "MR HENDRICKSE, YOU ARE GUILTY OF SELLING THE PEOPLE. YOU HAVE NOT COME HERE TO EXPLAIN YOUR DECISION, YOU HAVE COME TO DEFEND YOUR STAND."

At the meeting, Mr Curry was an old man who was reading Grassroots "Wat les jy - skema-gemors op." The man replied, "Hulke sig nie in die goewer nie maar julle wil al vir ons at wat ons mag lies en wat ons mag nie les nie."

It is these statements which tell us what the anger which has led to the disruption at Labour Party meetings. And it is the Labour Party which must take the blame.

But still the Labour Party will not listen. They are prepared to go ahead. Indeed, now they hold secret meetings with their supporters rather than risk the people's anger. Jac Rabur, leader of the Labour Party in the Transvaal, even suggested that they form a "military wing" to silence those who dare to criticise their decision.

Mr Curry, it was you who said: "We must stand before the people and ask their permission to fight on their behalf." The people have given their answer.



## Labour - "betrayed the trust of the people"

"THE Labour Party has betrayed the trust of the people. They are now part of the enemy" a former leader of the party told Grassroots.

Mr George Bhowes, Cape Peninsula chairman of the Labour Party until 1972, hit out at Hendrickse and Curry for accepting the government's new proposals.

"The Labour Party makes promises and says sweet words. But for the last 10 years they have filled their pockets while the people of our country suffered," he said.

Grassroots spoke to many former members of the Labour Party to get their views. Mr Bhowes was bitter when he told us how the Labour Party fooled the people over the years.

"The Labour Party was very undemocratic. They made no attempt to meet the needs of the people", Uncle Willie from Mitchells Plain said.

Uncle Willie who was a member of the Bellville branch explained how the members had to do door to door pamphletting alone.

"The leaders only come when they had to speak at mass meetings," he said.

"Today, the Labour Party is working for the

**CAHAC**

CAHAC: WE strongly condemn and reject the Labour Party decision to participate in the government's new constitutional proposals.

We believe this decision does not represent the views of the majority but only a tiny fraction of the so-called coloured community.

**UWO**

UWO: UWO condemns the Labour Party decision. The Labour Party has chosen to become the junior partners of apartheid - they have chosen to help the government in their policy of divide and rule.

Anyone participating in these plans has taken a very big step away from the people. The Labour Party cannot claim to have the interests of the people at heart.

**FCWU**

FCWU: THESE actions show in the clearest manner that the Labour Party cannot even pretend to represent the coloured people. We cannot fight for the unity of all workers and allow a constitutional dispensation which discriminates against people of different races and excludes the majority.

**FOSATU**

FOSATU criticised the Labour Party for "opportunism" and rejected the "racially divisive" constitutional proposals.

**CTMWA**

CTMWA: "THE proposals are designed to divide the oppressed people in general and the working class in particular."

**The Churches**

"APARTHEID is a sinful contradiction of the Gospel and is an ideology which the church rejects as heresy.

The P.C. is part of the total onslaught by the government. We believe in a single democratic South Africa." - Methodist Church

Other churches who have rejected the P.C. proposals and apartheid are:

- United Congregational Church
- Anglican Provincial Synod
- Reformed Presbyterian Church
- African Methodist Episcopal Church
- South African Council of Churches
- Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Dr Allan Bosuak (Pres. of World Alliance of Reformed Churches)

# We must carry on the work of Aggett and Mpheta

## Neil Aggett - symbol of unity

HOW did Dr Neil Aggett die?

This question was asked on February 5 at memorial services in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

Dr Aggett was the secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union in the Transvaal. He was found hang-

ing in his cell at John Vorster Square on February 5 last year. A court later found that no-one was to blame for his death. The people rejected this finding.

More than 1000 people packed the Athlone Civic Centre on Saturday, February 5

to pay tribute to Dr Aggett. They also spoke about 73-year-old Mr Oscar Mpheta, the union's national organiser, who is on trial in the Cape Town Supreme Court for murder and terrorism.

Speakers called on trade unions and community organisations to stand together.

One speaker said that 100000 people supported a work stoppage after Dr Aggett's death. 15000 people attended his funeral. The workers played a decisive role in South Africa, he said.

The father of one of the Mpheta accused said they were struggling to make ends meet. Many parents could not afford to visit their children at Pollsmoor.

"Detentions will not stop now because the Government is facing the biggest crisis. The people are taking things into their own hands. They are realising that freedom is not given to you as a gift. You must fight for it," said another speaker.

In Johannesburg speakers called on people to continue the work done by Dr Aggett.

"Neil Aggett has become a symbol of unity", speakers said.



## What resources can health workers offer us?



HERE are some of the comments from people who attended the Health Worker/Community meeting a few weeks ago:

"Our area is planning a survey on residents' feelings about the blocked drains; after that we would like to do a screening of child-

ren's health."

"In our area we have just completed a ten week programme about common illnesses such as TB, varicose veins,

high blood, etc. We are now assessing the problems and the strengths of that programme."

"What resources do the health workers have to offer us for the Health Day we are planning?"

"We read about the CHILD-to-child programme in Grassroots and would like to know more about it."

It was a good opportunity to find out what health projects other groups are doing and to get ideas about organising around health issues.

After the discussion about ongoing projects, some of the health workers presented a few new ideas and resources.

There was a slide show about all the things which affect people's health. Groups can borrow these slides from the Health Care Trust.

There are also some new pamphlets and cartoons about alcohol and drugs, and a snakes and ladders health game. Something which really grabbed people's imagination was the CHILD-to-child programme.

People at the Health Worker/Community meeting said that they found it useful, and another meeting was planned for the 17 March.

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# Molo crawls onto our walls

MOLO Songololo is a children's magazine which was first started in April 1980. All children are encouraged to send in little poems, letters and drawings.

Towards the end of 1982, the people work-

ing on Molo Songololo discussed how they could get all the drawings, statements and poems the children had made together. They wanted to put all into a pamphlet or booklet of some sort.

They then decided to bring out a calendar which would serve the purpose. The children could also put up the calendar on their walls. It is not often that the children can see their own things on their walls or on a calendar. Molo thought that they would all enjoy that.

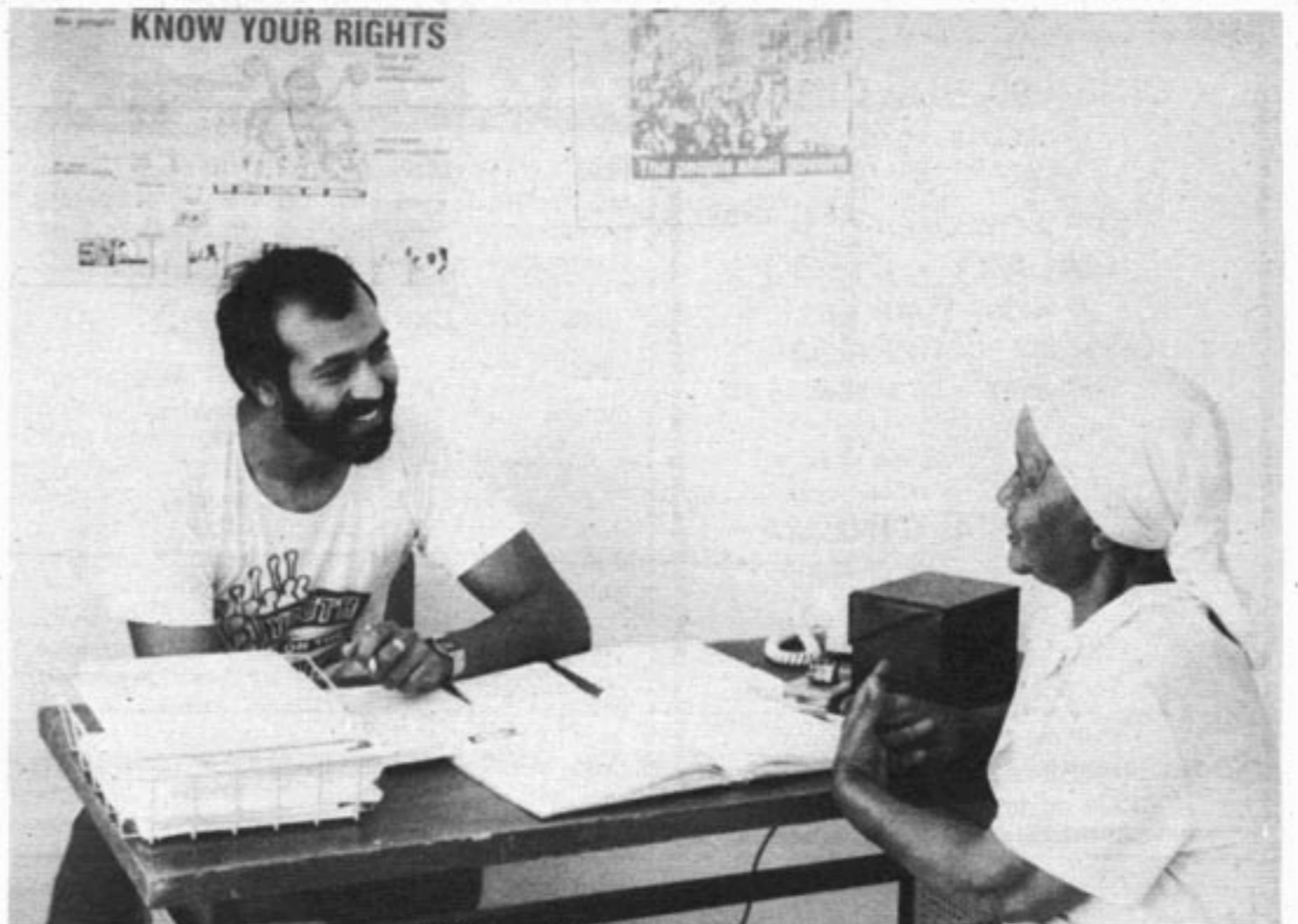
### Library

Molo Songololo also had the idea of a library for children.

These books could also be used by people involved with children and who are interested in developing them.

The books are mainly non-racial and non-sexist. In this way Molo hopes to encourage these values in children.

If you are interested in making use of these books, you can contact Molo Songololo at 401 Atlantic House, Corporation St., or phone 22-2224. Get your Songololo calendar at soon as possible.



Getting help from the Heideveld Advice Office.

## Advice office for Bonteheuwel

DO you have any problems with unemployment benefits, old-age pensions or grants?

The Bonteheuwel Advice Office opens every Saturday morning from 9 in the morning till 12 noon to advise you on these problems.

Come to Room 13, Town Centre, Bluegum Ave., Bonteheuwel.

The Bonteheuwel Civic Association (BCA) started the advice office earlier this month. The association saw that many people needed advice on their rights.

The Advice Office is run by social workers from Bonteheuwel, members of the BCA and students. In this way it is a service to the people of Bonteheuwel by the people from the area.

Money was needed for the rent of the office, furniture and other equipment. This was a big problem.

Members of the BCA asked shopkeepers for donations. But this was not enough. If you have an odd piece of furniture that you want to throw away, do think of us.

# Advice service to build unity

HEIDEVELD has its very own advice office. Aunty Beaty who is a member of the advice group spoke about the project in the community.

"I think the office is a good thing because we need not travel far. I have already told many people about the office and the help that it offers to our people."

The advice office has received support from the community and churches.

Late last year, a survey was done in the area by concerned people. They found that many people needed assistance with hire purchase, documents, legal problems, unemployment, medical aid and so on. The idea of an advice office was born.

House meetings were held to canvass the views of residents. They all supported the need for such a service in the community.

A member of the advice office said, "I think problems should not only be handled at the office. It could be worked on with people at their homes - individually and as groups."

"The office should also serve the community to help build unity of the people in the area. It could bring residents together and put them in contact with other areas."

Members involved with the Heideveld advice project also hope to run educational programs. A house meeting was held in Betsy Court and an advice committee was started.

Recently, the Advice Committee published a newsletter to advertise the advice office.

Come to the Heideveld Advice Office. It is open on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Heideveld Town Centre, on the corner of Heideveld Road and Ascention Road. You can also telephone them at 63-82535 to ask for assistance.

# Woodlands starts a Roots Brigade

WOODLANDS Action Committee starts a Grassroots Brigade for the purpose of mainly selling Grassroots. The WAC has started a junior youth group which is called GR Brigade.

It is intended for children both boys and girls ages from 7 to 13 years. With the assistance of people who know the word, GR Brigade was printed on white sweaters which each member brought from home. Other aims of the GR Brigade would be to organise cultural and sporting activities for the children in the area. We have already had one outing to Mnandi beach last Sunday morning. The members are looking forward to selling the next issue of Gr.

### Outing

WAC organised an outing at the beginning of this year. The outing was quite successful and it did enable us to come together other than in a meeting situation. It was an outing for the whole family. Each member brought his whole fam-

ily, husband, wife and children.

### Mud and Sand

WAC is still busy working on the mud and sand issue in the area. A delegation has been to see DIVCO and City Council. DIVCO has admitted that there is lots wrong in Woodlands - the only area in Mitchells Plain under

their control.

There has been talk for a long time the CC is going to take over Woodlands. WAC however, made it clear to DIVCO that the residents pay rent to DIVCO and hold it responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of Woodlands. Work on the issue is continuing.



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# ADVICE

FOOD is the energy supply for the body. If you eat more than your body can use up for energy, the extra food turns to fat. Anybody can become overweight, some more easily than others.

## THE PROBLEMS OF BEING OVERWEIGHT

"It's so depressing when you look at the models in the magazines, the advertisements on T.V. and the beautiful thin actresses. Why can't I look like them?"

People, especially women, are made to believe that everyone must look like these "beautiful thin people". This is not necessary. It can even be unhealthy to try to get too thin.

BUT it is also unhealthy to be overweight. Too much fat helps cause diseases like high blood pressure, heart disease, strokes, gallstones, diabetes (sugar sickness), and arthritis. If you already have any of these diseases, extra fat can make you feel worse. Being overweight means that you get tired more easily. It may even be an effort to bath and get dressed. Your favourite clothes may not fit when you are overweight or you may get so overweight that it will become difficult to find clothes that fit.

## WHY DO PEOPLE EAT TOO MUCH AND BECOME OVERWEIGHT

"I don't only eat when I am hungry. I eat because I enjoy food. Sometimes I eat when I am sad or angry and then I feel worse because I have eaten too much and will put on more weight."

"My husband's wages are very low and the rent is high. We have 4 children and the sister and her 2 children in our house. Everybody is hungry. The main food we can afford is bread, cheap fatty meat, other fatty goods and sugar." Although these foods make you feel full and are high in calories, they contain very little protein or vitamins. Proteins and vitamins are necessary to keep you healthy and fight colds, T.B. and diarrhoea.

## HOW TO BEAT OVERWEIGHT AND DIET

Find a diet to suit your way of life, your work and your family AND find one you can afford. It is difficult to fight this problem on your own. You may need the support and help of others with similar problems. Groups of three or more can be formed to help each other lose weight. Share a bathroom scale for weekly weighing. Exchange recipes and helpful tips.

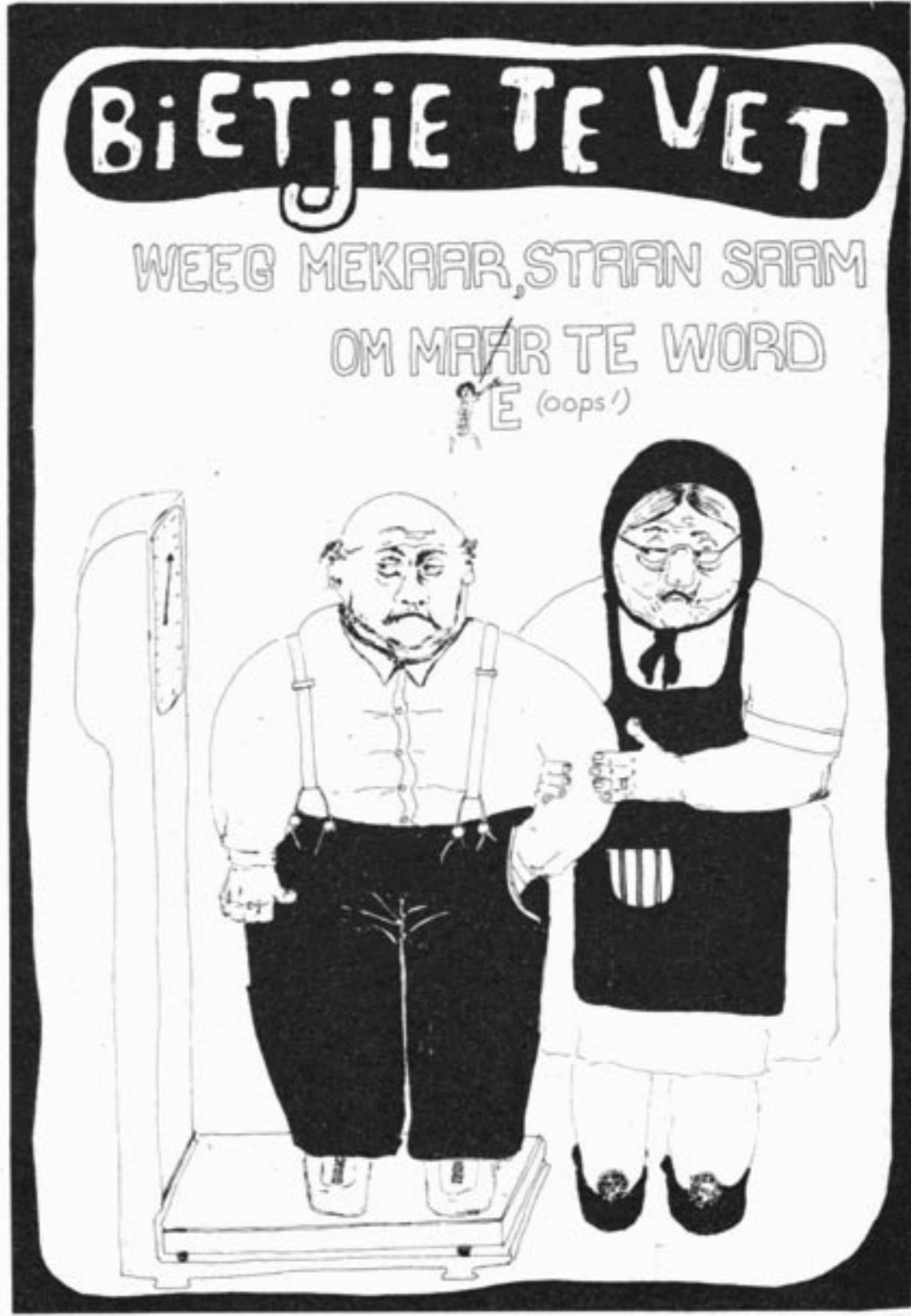
## AN EXAMPLE OF A DIET USING BREAD AS THE MAIN FOOD

You must use WHOLEWHEAT bread rather than brown bread.

BREAKFAST	Calories
(2 slices of bread— no margarine)	(120)
2 slices of bread with margarine	200
+ Peanut Butter	50
	250

LUNCH	Calories
4 slices of bread with margarine	400
Peanut butter/jam/cheese	50 - 100
	450 - 500

# Fighting the kilo's the Grassroots way



SUPPER	Calories
Fish (normal helping)	120
or Chicken (normal helping)	(200)
or Beef, lamb, pork (normal helping)	300
2 potatoes (boiled)	120
1 cup rice	(140)
1 cup samp	280
Any amount of Orange/Yellow/Green Vegetables	
SUPPER	340
LUNCH	500
BREAKFAST	250
	1090
You may still have 3 fruits	150
	1240
You may have tea and coffee with NO SUGAR and LITTLE MILK.	

GRASSROOTS advice pages are meant to assist people and their organisations. In the next Grassroots we will be having articles on Workmen's Compensation, how to get birth certificates and other papers, and many other advice stories. You can get in touch with our advice committee by 'phoning the Grassroots office at 43-2117.

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**ADVICE**

# New names for old laws

AS long as there is injustice in South Africa there will be resistance. And as long as there is resistance, there will be detentions.

The government does not want to listen to the people's demands. So it tries to silence the people by detaining individuals. But we will not be silenced until our demands for a free and just society have been won.

Now the government has created "new" laws - the Internal Security Act of 1982. This has not changed detention in any important way. The names have changed, the laws remain the same.

## 1. DETENTION OF WITNESSES

*Old Law:* Section 12b of the Internal Security Act of 1950.

*New Law:* Section 31 of the Internal Security Act of 1982



This law allows the attorney-general to order the detention of anyone who the police think could

be a *state witness* in a political trial.

The detainee can be refused permission to see a lawyer and family. Detention is for up to six months (180 days) or for as long as the trial takes. Once a detainee is released he/she can be re-detained.

Many detainees refuse to give evidence against a friend. If they refuse, they can be jailed for up to 5 years.

## 2. "SHORT TERM" DETENTION

*Old Law:* Section 22 of the General Law Amendment Act of 1966 (14 days)

*New Law:* Section 50 of the Internal Security Act of 1982



A police warrant officer can detain anyone whom he thinks is contributing to a state of public disturbance, disorder or riot.

If the policeman wants to detain a person for more than 48 hours, he must get signed permission from a magistrate.

This detention is for 14 days. The order can be renewed or the detainee could be re-detained under a different section.

This type of detainee has the same rights as an awaiting trial prisoner - he has the right to see his/her lawyer.

## 3. DETENTION FOR INTERROGATION

*Old Law:* Section 6 of the Terrorism Act

*New Law:* Section 29 of the Internal Security Act of 1982



A policeman can detain anyone whom he believes is connected with "terrorism" or "subversion". This could mean almost any activity which does not support the government.

There is no time limit on this type of detention. Some people have been detained for 2 years.

Detainees have no right to see a lawyer or their families. Every month police have to tell the Minister why they are detaining a person.

The Minister must give his consent if the

police want to continue the detention.

## 4. PREVENTIVE DETENTION

*Old Law:* Section 10(1) (a)(bis) of the Internal Security Act of 1976

*New Law:* Section 28 of the Internal Security Act of 1982



The government can put people in jail because it thinks they *might be dangerous* to the "security of the State".

People who made speeches about the grievances of the students in 1980 were detained under this law.

They can be kept in jail as long as the Minister likes. This type of detention is usually used only when the government is *not* going to charge the detainee in court.

It allows the state to take a person from the organization in which he/she is active.

These Section 28 detainees can see a lawyer only to help them write an appeal for their release to the Minister. This appeal is heard by a 'review board' but the final decision stays with the Minister.

Note that:

- \* Each of these detention sections can be renewed or a detainee can be moved from one section to another.

- \* No court in South Africa has any power to question a detention or to judge whether a detainee should be released. All the decisions are taken by the government.

- \* Magistrates, district surgeons and another state official, the 'inspector of Detainees', have to see to the health of detainees. But the new law does not give them powers which can stop police treating detainees badly.

The government tries to use detention to destroy peoples' organisations - trade unions, youth and student organisations, civics. Detention can silence individuals, but it cannot break organisation.

For everyone detained, there are many others to take their place. Every detention makes people more determined to build their organisation and to fight injustice and oppression.

1950



1967







1982



19-?



## YOUR RIGHTS IF YOU ARE ARRESTED

<p><b>If you are questioned</b></p>  <p>a. A policeman may ask any person to give his/her full name and address if the policeman thinks that person has any information about a crime.</p> <p>b. If asked, you must give your name and address.</p> <p>c. You do not have to answer any other questions. It is your right to remain silent. If asked to go to the police station to make a statement, you may refuse.</p>	<p><b>When can a policeman arrest you?</b></p> <p>a. The purpose of arrest: A person may only be arrested if he/she is to be taken to court to be charged. A policeman may not arrest someone to frighten them, or for any other reason.</p> <p>b. Warrant of arrest: This is the paper which allows the arrest of a person. It must be signed and stamped by a magistrate or police officer. It must be shown to the person who is being arrested.</p> <p>c. Arrest without a Warrant: A policeman can arrest someone</p>	 <p>without a warrant if he thinks that person has committed a crime, or is about to commit a crime.</p> <p>The policeman must have a good reason to believe that the person has committed a crime.</p> <p>d. Method of arrest. A policeman can use force to make an arrest and can shoot you if you try to escape.</p> <p>After he/she has been arrested, a person may be kept at the police station for 48 hours before being brought to court.</p>	<p><b>If you are arrested</b></p>  <p>a. An arrested person has the right to refuse to answer any question asked by the police. All he has to tell them is his name and address.</p> <p>b. You can demand to see a lawyer before making any statements.</p> <p>c. If you cannot afford a lawyer, you may contact the Legal Aid Board for assistance.</p>	<p><b>Your rights in court</b></p>  <p>a. The first time you are in court, you will be charged.</p> <p>b. You do not have to plead guilty or not guilty, and you can ask the court for a remand until you have seen a lawyer.</p> <p>c. The magistrate may ask questions about the charge. You may refuse to answer until you have seen a lawyer.</p> <p>You <b>MUST</b> ask for bail. You will not be given bail unless you ask for it.</p>
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- Etc., Etc.

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# UWC: SRC to take up issues facing students

MEMBERS of the SRC of the University of the Western Cape decided to be on campus two weeks before it was to reopen for the new year. They did this to get together to properly plan for the orientation programme for 1983.

Members ran around contacting speakers, getting drama and singing groups together and getting films.

The final programme was as follows:

Monday 7th February - Dr. Alan Boesak, speaking on student involvement

Tuesday 8th February - The different structures of the SRC explained to students.

Wednesday 9th Feb. - Film Show.

Thursday 10th Feb. - Focus on Education with speakers S. Mati (Cosas) and B. Gonzalves  
Friday 11th Feb - Cultural Day: Music, poetry readings by James Mathews and Hein Willemse.

But this was only the first of many projects that the SRC plans for the coming year.

A women's committee has been set up on campus. On the 25 February "Women in Focus" was held. In this programme they looked at the position of women in society and on campus. They plan film shows, visits into the community and more discussions to involve women on campus.



pus. They plan film shows, visits into the community and more discussions to involve women on campus.

The SRC also plans to do something about the issue of squatter students at hostels. They

will have a campaign where they will look at the reasons for this problem. Some of the reasons are high hostel fees, and high supplementary exam fees.

A faculty board is going to be set up, which

will deal with the academic problems of students. Other problems which students experience such as open hostels and high food prices in cafeteria will be worked on.

Another aim for the SRC's members to work towards is the setting up of AZASO on campus.

The SRC of 1983 look forward to a year of a good working relationship with students. They hope that they will be able to involve as many students as possible this year. They look forward to a year where the SRC will be struggling together with the students of UWC and the community to fight oppression in our country.

## STUDENT FOCUS

### Programmes geared to welcoming new students



AZASO UCT branch introduced themselves to students coming to university for the first time by organising an orientation programme. The programme was held from the 14 - 17 February. Over 150 students attended the programmes.

On the first day a speaker gave a short talk on Azaso. Students then saw a slide-tape show on the history of resistance in South Africa. Through this students learnt how the oppressed people in this country have fought oppression all their lives and how students too could play a part in the fight for liberation in our country.

The next day the film *Djamelah* was shown. The film looked at how women took part in the struggle for freedom in Algeria. Students found it to be a very moving film, because it had significance for oppressed women in South Africa as well.

The third day was a

focus on the problems of domestic workers.

It had been arranged to go with a talk by a person from UWO. However, because of the evictions of people from the KTC camp, the UWO speaker was not able to attend.

The last programme was a talk by a representative from the General Workers' Union. He spoke about the role of trade unions in the liberation struggle. He also spoke about the relationship between workers and students' struggles and how students could support workers in their struggle for a better life.

Members of Azaso UCT branch plan to follow the orientation week programmes with weekly programmes. These will consist of seminars, talks, films, videos and slide - tape shows.

All students are welcome to attend. The programmes will be held every Friday afternoon on campus.

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# Play on Dollar...

**DOLLAR BRAND** (Abdullah Ibrahim) is a truly South African musician. A line from his best loved composition *Mannenberg*, says it all: "Jy kan maar New York toe gaan. Ek bly hier in Manenberg."

Dollar has gone to New York. And to Holland, to England, but his heart stays here. And wherever he goes, he takes the message of

South African townships.

Dollar grew up in District Six, Cape Town. His big break came in 1962, when he was asked to play in Kieppie Moketsi's band, as their pianist had disappeared. A master on keyboards, Dollar also plays the sax and penny whistle.

Together with Moketsi, he created a music true to South African townships.

## There's a message in your music

Their music speaks of the ghetto, of the dusty streets of Hanover Park, of the hardships and laughter of Soweto.

Dollar has strong feelings about the people's struggle in South Africa. He has not forgotten his roots. In his own words: "Some say an artist

is separate from the people. They say an artist cannot be involved in the community.

This is wrong. I know the people. I am the people. I play the music of the people and try in my way to speak up against injustice."

Dollar does more

than speak up. He often plays to raise funds for the struggle in South Africa. At one such concert, he sang the following song:

*There's a new world coming  
Falsehood will all be gone  
They'll come a marching  
into town at dawn.  
Singing songs of freedom,  
and laughin in the rain  
Gone will be this old world,  
things won't be the same.  
Tula, dubula, there's no  
need to hear much more,  
We've heard all those lies  
before  
It's all over now with their  
lying  
In the township afternoon,  
songs of their impending  
doom,  
The racists and their  
puppets are dying.*



Dollar Brand is a truly South African musician.

### Poet's corner

## The worker fights for freedom

I arise  
I look through the window of my bedroom  
And I say,  
It's time . . .  
The clearness of the growing day  
is the end of my joy!  
Because I know to whom the day belongs.  
More than a drop of my blood will be sucked,  
because I know who profits from my work -  
And my money, paid in taxes  
will be used to buy more guns  
more grenades  
to assassinate my People,  
to oppress my People,  
to impede me when I say I'm exploited,  
to force me to pay more taxes  
ahhh. . .  
I'm a peasant  
from the rising to the setting of the sun  
in the black dust of the exploited earth.  
I'm a worker  
I'm a fighter for freedom  
I'm a poor worker.

Joaquin Vilanculos

## Community drama to tell our story

FOR too long drama has been removed from the people. We have to pay a lot of money to see it. Trained actors are seen as experts. We do not have a say in what is presented to us. This must be changed.

Everyone must take part in making and shaping of drama. Drama skills must be made available to all. Community drama should do all these

things.

Many youth groups in the Cape have been using community drama. But they wanted to know more about how community drama could be used in these groups.

Representatives from 18 youth groups throughout the Western Cape attended a drama workshop last month.

"The members in our youth group include high school students and working youth. Can drama be used to involve everyone?" the representative from Heideveld asked.

"How can we organise a full evening of drama" asked another.

### New ways

Mitchells Plain had a different problem. "We have already used drama. But we need more ideas."

The drama workshop discussed these problems and tried to work them out practically.

All shared ideas, discussed common problems and discovered new ways of using dramas.

The workshop was from the Friday to Sunday.



On the Friday evening, all were involved in drama games to help them get to know each other better. Soon, a healthy relationship existed in the group.

Many said it was often difficult to get people to take part in drama because some were shy and did not talk much. They worked out ways to encourage people to take part and how things can be used to encourage drama activities.

Music, little objects like bus tickets, news-

paper reports and photographs could all be used.

The people got together and worked out little sketches which were shown to the rest of the group and discussed. Ideas were not only talked about but also acted out.

They looked at video recordings of drama. Using the things they had talked about previously, they criticised each, on whether or not it was an example of community drama.

On the last day they had an assessment of the workshop. People felt they enjoyed themselves and picked out new ideas, which they could try in their youth groups.

"We were all sorry that the weekend had to come to an end. But we all learnt how to look more critically at drama that we find around us in the theatres, bioscopes and on TV. With this new understanding, we can work towards changing this," one member said.

## Transvaal Episode: The people's struggle

THIS is a story about a small town in the Transvaal in 1952. It is about the whites, who are small-minded and racist; and the blacks, who work for the whites, and are controlled by their laws and police.

Into this town come two people: Du Toit, the location superintendent, and his enemy, Mabaso.

Du Toit sees himself as the 'father' of the location. He thinks that the blacks are like small children, that the white man's laws are for their own good. He is the most hated man in the location.

Mabaso is an organiser, who worked in the Defiance Campaign. He comes to help the people organise, to build unity, to help them fight the laws that control their lives. He brings a new spirit of resistance to the township.

Life in the township is changed overnight when Du Toit tells the people that now black women will also have to carry passes. That any women who are not working will be thrown out of the location.

Mabaso is pushed forward as the voice of the people. He asks Du Toit how women can work when they must also look after their families; how Du Toit has the right to throw them out.

Du Toit cannot answer. The people cannot control their

anger about the new law. They smash the administration building. They burn Du Toit's car. They destroy everything in the location that reminds them of the white oppressors.

The whites go mad with fear and anger. People are arrested who were not even in the location on that day. Many are gunned down by the police.

The police make up lies about the riot. They try to show that the blacks are 'savages', led by the violent criminal, Mabaso.

Du Toit suddenly begins to understand many things. That the police "do not represent law and order. They represent crime and violence," that he "was little better than the police. Both did the same work in different ways. Both had the same aim - to keep the location in suppression".

Mabaso knows that he will be arrested. But he is glad that there are many to take his place in the struggle. That his son might grow up to know a free South Africa. That his own years of hardship and sacrifice have not been a waste.

Transvaal Episode is not a "true" story. But it describes the life of millions of South Africans - the daily hardships, the losses and the victories. It describes how life was then, and how for many it still is today. It is an important book for every South African to read.

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# A West Indian in disguise.....

FOR the first time, we can reveal how Sacos infiltrated the West Indian cricket tour of South Africa. It is a tale of three brave men who posed as honorary whites in order to blow the lid off normal sport. Their story will shock the world.

PLAN X was first hatched on a deserted stretch of beach near Strandfontein by five, all similarly dressed in long overcoats and balaclava caps.

The men, members of Sacos's Committee for Counter-propaganda (Cocoprop), whispered to each other as they

walked slowly along the beach. (In troubled times like these even sanddunes have ears).

"Curse the West Indian sell-outs," said their leader, a man known only as "Boss".

"Obviously we can't stop the tour now. The only thing we can do is discredit it," he said.

He added: "I have a

plan. But it will mean getting somebody into the tourists' party when they arrive in Cape Town."

"Mmm," said one of his companions, a man called "Deep Throat". "Sounds like a job for our agent in Crossroads."

Twenty-four hours later a carrier pigeon scratched on the window of a house deep in the Crossroads bush.

A young man (whose name cannot be released

for security reasons) quickly removed the note attached to the bird's leg and started reading.

"Something interesting for a change," he said to himself.

He dressed quickly, then he went to a house three doors away where he spoke to two other men.

"Gentlemen," he said, "something interesting has come up. I have to disguise myself as a West Indian - you

are to be my assistants."

"From now on, my name is Cillis Kong. We go into action tonight.

That night, three men hiked up Klipfontein Road to Mowbray station where they boarded a train to Cape Town. They sat in the "whites only" compartment where they turned on the volume of their tape recorder to full blast.

Enter two ticket examiners: "Wat de... " said examiner number

one.

"Hi, I'm Cillis Kong," said the Sacos agent. "And these are two of my friends from L-a-ang-u-h."

The ticket examiners looked at each other - momentarily shocked. Finally they withdrew up the aisle to discuss the ticklish problem.

"Mr Kong, you can stay, but your friends will have to go to the non-white compartment."

"What did he say?"

asked the Sacos agent.

"Oh, he said, 'come gentlemen I'll take you to your seats,' said examiner number one.

The three friends finally arrived at the hotel where the tourists were staying and had little difficulty in mingling with the crowd.

A newsman approached him: "Hi, I'm Owen Michael-Smith - what do you think of Cape Town.

"I hate apartheid," Kong growled.

"Dammit, you're not supposed to say that," Michael-Smith retorted. You're not supposed to make any political statements.

For the rest of the night, white South Africans virtually queued up to shake Kong's hand.

And he was given a crash course in South African politics.

After it was all over, he said to his friends: "I know such a little about this country. Tonight I heard how backward blacks in South Africa were, I discovered that we are virtually begging to go to the homelands, I learnt that the homelands have the most fertile soil in South Africa.

"But what I'll remember most of all is that there are no racists in South Africa. That, I was told, is a rumour being spread by the Communists to discredit our beautiful country.

## AN OPEN LETTER TO THE REBEL WEST INDIAN CAPTAIN

Dear Mr. Rowe

We believe it to be our duty to bring to your notice facts that your hosts, the South African Cricket Union (SACU) and the South African Government have probably not revealed or disclosed to you.

DO YOU KNOW?

- That while your host Mr Pamensky (President of the White SACU) is free to propagate his views throughout the world, the head of the non-racial South African Cricket Board (SACB), Mr Hassen Howes, is denied a passport (like many other non-racial sport administrators) and is thereby prevented from expounding the views of the non-racial cricketer internationally.
- That the majority of Blacks do not play cricket under Mr Pamensky's Union (SACU) because they are not prepared to be granted honorary White status (as you have) only for a few hours of a weekend when cricket is played.
- That almost all White-controlled municipalities provide vastly inferior facilities for their Black citizens, thus making merit selection meaningless, as Black players do not have an equal opportunity to learn and practice their skills.
- That in the average Black school sports facilities are virtually non-existent, while the average White child enjoys facilities of the highest quality.
- That this discrimination of ..... to the child's academic life as well, making a mockery of any mention of merit selection in the teams that you play against.
- That for every hour that you spend in South Africa five (5) Black children die of malnutrition in this country.
- That in terms of the Immorality Act and Mixed Marriages Act your wicketkeeper, Murray, would not have been able to marry and live in his own country.
- That unless you obtain a permit from the State you cannot enter any White hotel, restaurant, cinema, swimming pool, beach, bus, taxi, hospital, university, school or sports clubhouse.

HAVE YOU WONDERED WHY?

- Kalicharran is able to live in a White suburb, while any other Black is prevented from doing so in terms of the Group Areas Act.
- The majority of Black cricketers play under the non-racial SACB rather than in Pamensky's Union, in spite of the fact that the facilities are far better on Pamensky's side.
- The State spends R91.00 per annum on the education of the average Black child but R1 169.00 per annum on the average White child.
- Do you now see, Mr Rowe, how politics has interwoven itself into the life of the ordinary sportsman and why normal sport cannot be played in an abnormal society.

We trust you will inform your "professional" colleagues of the contents of this letter.

Yours faithfully

### ANTI-WEST INDIAN TOUR COMMITTEE (PIETERMARITZBURG BRANCH)

Comprising the following non-racial, democratic Sports and Community Organisations:

1. Maritzburg District Cricket Union; 2. Northern Natal Soccer Association; 3. Pietermaritzburg Athletic Club; 4. Northern Natal Darts Union; 5. Maritzburg Football Association; 6. Northdale Football Association; 7. Northern Natal Women's Hockey Union; 8. Anti-SACU Committee (Pietermaritzburg Branch); 9. League for Students in Need; 10. Virelkanda Girls' University Mission of South Africa; 11. Pietermaritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness; 12. Maritzburg United Football Club; 13. West Indian Congress (Pietermaritzburg Branch); 14. Democratic Lawyers' Association; 15. Northern Natal Table Tennis Union; 16. Pietermaritzburg Ad Hoc Breed Committee; 17. Young Men's Muslim Association; 18. Black Student Society; 19. Northdale Tennis Union; 20. Be Bala Foundation of Pietermaritzburg; 21. Northern Suburbs Darts Union; 22. Hindu Young Men's Association; 23. PNB Traders' Association; 24. Nazama Muslim Society; 25. Devereux Cheer Society; 26. Madiba South Muslim Madrasa Management Committee; 27. Pietermaritzburg Combined Rate Payers' Association; 28. United Churches' Community Care Centre; 29. Young Christian Workers; 30. Maritzburg Ajax Football Club; 31. Maritzburg Sports Ground Association; 32. Black Sea Natal Midland

## Who will be the next champ?

THOUSANDS of high school students will pack the Athlone Stadium in the next three weeks for the annual sports meetings organised by the Western Province Senior Schools Sports Association (WPSSA).

This year there are 70 schools participating in seven sections - a, b, c, d, e, f and g - and like previous years, our athletes are expected to produce excellent performances.

The public will not be allowed to attend the sectional meetings but can attend the semi's and the 'champs'. There are about 60000 students at the 70 schools which are members of the Western Province Senior Schools.

The WPSSA is affiliated to the South African Senior Schools Sports Association (SASSSA) which is one of the strongest affiliates of the South African Council on Sport (Sacos).

The WPSSA was formed in 1955 and has grown from strength to strength over the years.



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