

THE arrest of Grassroots organiser Saleem Badat and leaders of the United Democratic Front and other organisations on August 23, must be condemned in the strongest possible terms.

We demand an end to detention-without-trial and an end to all Apartheid laws. We at Grassroots further demand the immediate and unconditional release of our colleague Saleem Badat and all other detainees.



Demonstrators line up at Hewat Training College



Policeman waving quirts chase after the people in Athlone



UCT students and academics march

'FREE MANDDELA'

Thousands take to streets as police break up march

"NO-ONE was safe. Not even old people or our most respected religious leaders."

This comment, by a woman in Belgravia Road, summed up the brutal manner in which the police and army unleashed themselves on thousands of people in Athlone, Bellville and Guguletu on Wednesday August 28.

Thousands of people congregated near the Athlone Stadium on the morning of Wednesday August 28 to join in what would have been the biggest protest march in South Africa's history. They were prepared to march to Pollsmoor Prison to demand the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners.

Thousands more were stopped from joining the march. Trains were stopped on the Southern Suburbs line and police ordered students off. All exit roads to the African townships were blocked off. Students from the University of the Western Cape and the colleges could not leave Bellville because of roadblocks.

Police and soldiers lined Klipfontein Road, from central Athlone to Vanguard Drive. Roads were blocked off in the area and police guarded the entrance to some schools.

Several political activists — mainly from the UDF — were detained on the Friday before the march. A day before the march, Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and UDF patron, was arrested by police at a roadblock in Bellville South.

Louis Le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, warned that the march was "illegal" and would be stopped.

About 10 police rats drove up and down Klipfontein Road. People started singing songs in praise of Mandela. Everytime the



Flashpoints

Louis Le Grange announced that the Congress of South African Students had been banned. Thousands of high school and higher primary pupils in the Western Cape and throughout the country belongs to COSAS.

rats passed, they were booed and the people shouted: "Botha is 'n terrorist" and "Hulle is terrorists".

A group of Muslims chanted: "Allahu Akbar! Allahu Akbar!"

Shortly before 10 am., the police commander gave people five minutes to disperse. About 50 policemen with quirts lined Klipfontein Road and chased people through the side-streets of Belgravia.

One elderly woman, holding a Bible, shouted at police: "You are supposed to be Christians, but look what you are doing. God will punish you for beating our people like this."

A group of church leaders and academics, led by Rev Abel Hendricks, the past president of the Methodist Church, went to plead with the commanding officer not to use violence.

Police broke up a march by about 5 000 UCT students to the residence of the president, Groote Schuur. This was after a mass meeting on the campus.

Police blocked off all access to Guguletu and the other African townships. Thousands of people who wanted to join the march to Pollsmoor were stopped. This gave rise to continued unrest in the area.

"Give us two minutes and we will disperse the people," said Rev Hendricks.

The police officer replied: "Don't worry. We will clean up here soon."

Rev Hendricks said that innocent people's lives were in danger. "What you mean by cleaning up will not bring peace and stability."

The police officer called some of his men and ordered them to arrest Rev Hendricks and other clergy.

The commanding officer, speaking over a loudhailer, continued giving his men orders to charge and beat people.

Within minutes, word spread that people were regrouping at the Hewat College.

Police parked outside the gates, while about 5 000 people met inside the college grounds to decide whether to continue the march. People came close to the fence and sang: "Mandela, Mandela." Many held up posters with

Mandela's face.

A banner held by the people read: "A nation that loves martyrdom cannot be enslaved."

As one, the people shouted: "We want Boesak. We want Mandela."

After a long meeting, it was decided to march. But the people did not come far. Police climbed into the marchers on Kromboom Road.

Priests in their robes, old women, young children, nuns in full dress, shiekhs, imams, teachers, professors — all were beaten with quirts as they kneeled in the streets and prayed for peace and justice.

Sheikh Gamiet Gabier, chairman of the Muslim Judicial Council, was arrested.

Some people managed to make their way back to Hewat. Police surrounded the college and started shooting teargas and rubber bullets.

Angry students, trapped inside the college grounds, responded by throwing stones at the police and at passing cars and buses.

At 2.30 pm the police fired teargas from all around the college. A number of policemen with quirts rushed at the students as they took cover from the teargas.

Local and foreign reporters and cameramen were told to leave if they did not want to get hurt. Some foreign journalists who resisted, were arrested.

Police chased people down Belgravia Road and shot teargas inbetween the houses. We saw a teargas cannister falling under the bedroom windows of one house.

A number of policemen in a Caspir, forced their way through a gate at the back of Hewat college. They cornered a group of students and kept photographers out as they beat the students.

As people starting leaving by 3 pm, police and army vehicles continued patrolling the area, and watched the entrances to Hewat.

BOYCOTTS TAKE OFF

OVER the past few weeks, thousands of people in the Western Cape have shown their support for the schools boycott and the consumer boycott of white businesses.

In almost all areas, thousands of people have streamed to mass meetings to be informed of what is happening throughout the country and to show their support for the boycotts.

On one night (Tuesday August 20 the second anniversary of the United Democratic Front) four meetings were held each attracting between 1500 to 4000 people.

In Mitchells Plain, more than 4000 people attended a UDF meeting at the Rocklands Civic Centre on August 20 to launch the consumer boycott campaign.

On that same night about 1500 people attended a meeting in Lotus River called by a UDF affiliate, the Lotus River and Grassy Park Residents' Association (Logra) and more than 1000 people attended a meeting in Bellville. A new Unity Movement meeting at the Athlone Civic Centre attracted about 3000 people.

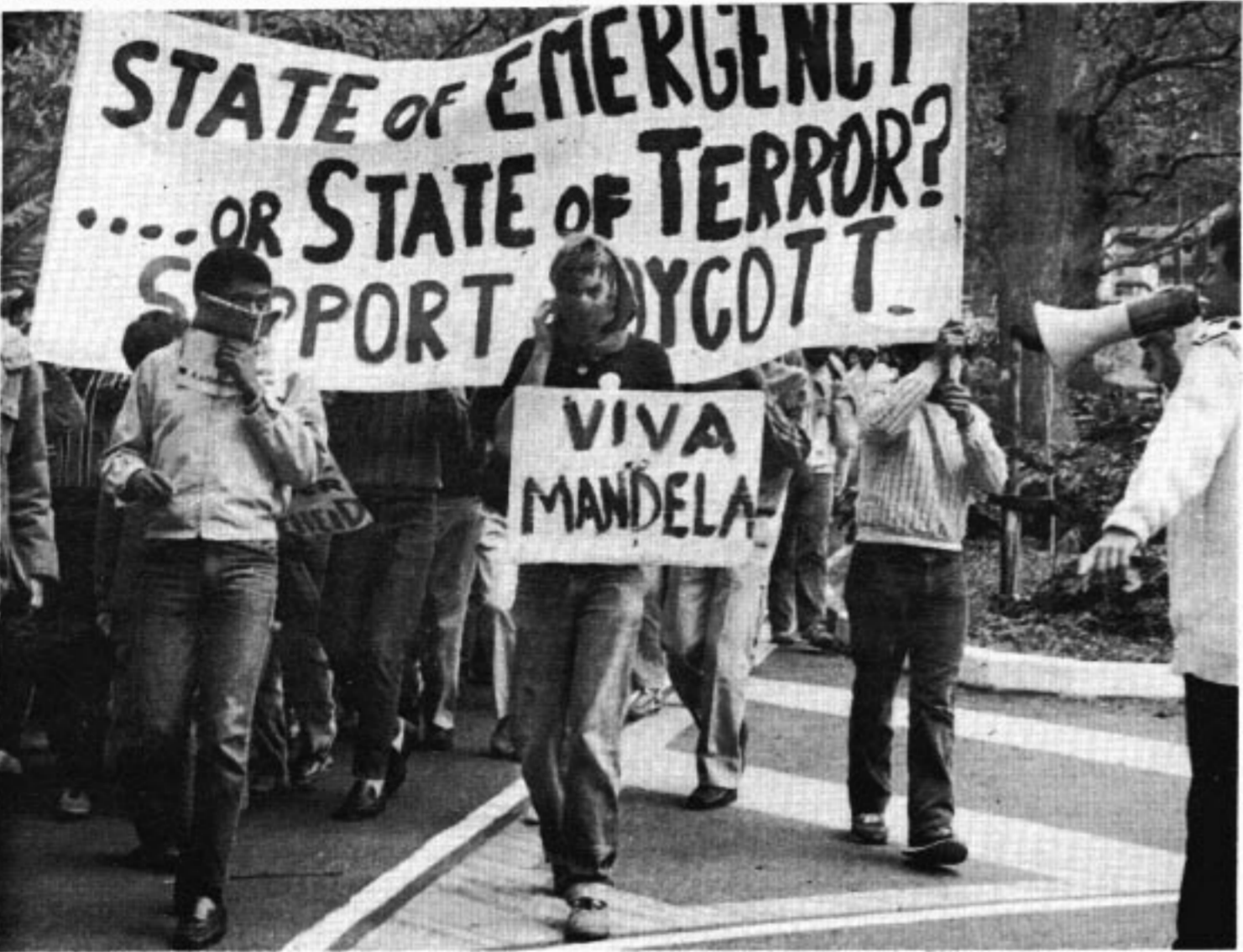
Democratic organisations in the Western Cape are united in their support for the consumer boycott and a Consumer Boycott Action Committee has been formed, consisting of a number of organisations. Progressive unions have given their support to the campaign.

In all areas, organisers have had meetings with traders and in most cases, traders agreed to bring down their prices during the boycott of white shops. In reaction, some white shops, seeing the decline in the business, have also offered many specials to get people to break the boycott.

But the success of the boycott can be seen in some white areas where shops depend mainly on black customers, like Claremont.



Some scenes during the boycotts. Marches: Mitchells Plain pupils (above); UCT students (below). Police in the townships (right) and UWC mass rally (bottom right).



The Diary of Protests

HERE follows an incomplete diary of events in the Western Cape over the past few weeks, related to the schools and consumer boycotts, and the reaction to the government's state of emergency in 36 magisterial districts.

Because of the many things happening, it was virtually impossible to include everything in this diary.

Tuesday July 23: 4 000 students at a mass meeting at the University of the Western Cape decide to boycott as a protest against the state of emergency.

Friday July 26: About 10 000 pupils and students from all over the Western Cape attend a mass rally at UWC. In Mitchells Plain, about 100 pupils from Spine Road High School are brutally beaten by police with sjamboks as they board two buses to take them to the UWC meeting.

Monday July 29: Schools throughout the Western Cape start to boycott. Black students at UCT decide on a boycott. Mass meetings are held at most schools.

Tuesday July 30: Mass meetings at Peninsula Technikon and Bellville Training College attended by about 8 000 students. Awareness programmes are held at schools. Mitchells Plain

students decided to join the Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

Friday August 2: Students rallies are held at Alexander Sinton, Mitchells Plain, St. George's Cathedral. About 7 000 students and pupils attend these rallies.

Monday August 5: 87 percent at Spine Road vote in favour of boycott. Minority joins in.

Tuesday August 6: About 3 000 students attend mass meeting at the University of Cape Town. Students decide to boycott. Mitchells Plain pupils and teachers form liaison committee to work jointly on education programmes.

Wednesday August 7: Alternative programmes are held at UCT attended by about 800 students. Students hold placard demonstrations.

Thursday August 8: About 1 000 UCT students decide to march to the president's residence (Groote Schuur). Police attack students, many arrested. Five schools in Mitchells Plain hold a joint rally at Spine Road. Police shoot teargas and beat pupils at Mondale High, Portland. A teacher at Rocklands High is reported to have pulled a gun

on pupils.

Friday August 9: Western Cape Students' Action Committee (WESAC) meeting at UCT attracts about 5 000 students. Police seal off UCT. Mitchells Plain pupils are chased by police at Aloe High.

Tuesday August 13: About 3 000 Bonteheuvel and Heideveld students attend a meeting at Modderdam High. About 6 000 pupils from Aloe, Spine Road, Springfield, Mondale, Glendale, Portland and Westridge attend a meeting at Woodlands High. Police watch as pupils march back to their schools.

Wednesday August 14: Student rally at Trafalgar High.

Thursday August 15: Valhalla Park High teachers down tools in solidarity with pupils. About 1 000 teachers decide to strike for two days. About 1 000 pupils attend a rally at Wynberg High. More than 2 000 students and pupils attend a Free Mandela rally in Athlone.

Friday August 16: About 4 000 students attend a WECSAC mass meeting in Hanover Park. Police try to keep students out of the hall.

Monday August 19: Teachers

throughout the Western Cape down tools. Police arrest teacher at Westridge High. Teachers go to police station to demand his release. Students meet also at St. Columbus High. Hewat students begin community work.

Tuesday August 20: About 300 teachers and other school staff go to Mitchells Plain police station to demand the release of Barry Crowie and Kevin Bird.

Police informer is discovered and thrown out of teachers' meeting in Athlone. Mass meetings are held in Rocklands, Bellville, Lotus River and Athlone.

Wednesday August 21: About 7 000 pupils attend mass meeting at Spine Road High. 5 000 pupils at Alexander Sinton rally.

Thursday August 22: Students meet at Pentech. Joint Azaso/Nusas/Cosas rally in Athlone attended by about 4 000 students. Teachers meet again to discuss the formation of a trade union or teachers' organisation.

Friday August 23: Mass meetings are held at Glendale in Mitchells Plain (7 000 pupils), Garlandale in Athlone (3 000 pupils) and Hewat.



ADVICE VICTORIES

"WE COME to the advice office, not only to be helped, but also to help others."

These are words of members of the committee of a new advice office in Mitchells Plain.

The committee are all people who have come to the advice office with problems like unemployment, high rents, eviction. Many have been helped and they have decided to help others.

And the advice office, started by the Clothing Workers Union and run from the Portland Anglican Church, DOES help.



"Sometimes we get up to 100 people coming for advice on one morning. In the last three or four weeks we have won rent reductions for 64 residents and we have stopped 14 evictions."

"At least one a week, dozens of people march to the Beacon Valley rent office with their demands."

"When people go on their own they are treated rudely and not helped. That's why we go in a group," said one of the committee members.

Most of the people who come to the advice office are from rent-paying areas like Tafelsig, Eastridge and Beacon Valley.

"The main problems in these areas are unemployment, high rents, water cuts and high electricity bills," she said.

'Dis bietjie baie swaar'

MRS ALIDA JAFTHA, 65, got a house in Beacon Valley in 1981.

"I started paying R51,04 rent, but that time I was still working."

"Now I am on pension. My rent is R99,31. I get pension of R103. I can't cope like this."

"The only other money I get is from my daughter, but she also has a child to look after. My son has had an accident and can't work. I also have to care for the two children of my eldest daughter who has died."

"I have to pay water, lights and rent. Ek kry bietjie baie swaar. Ek saans nie slaap nie."

"I have been to the

Council in Cape Town many times, but to no avail.

"Then I discovered the advice office. Since the end of July I've come to the advice office regularly, not only to be helped, but also to help."

"Since I've come here, I've seen so many people helped."

"I've found that the advice office is a good thing. We get food lunch-time. We get bread to take home."

"The people are now running the advice office ourselves. A committee of residents has been elected. People are learning to give advice to others. I was elected to do the register," said Mrs. Jaftha



SOME of the Committee members and residents at the advice office

'Police must stay away'

MRS GALIEMA RHODA, 61 lives with her husband at his sister's house in Tafelsig. Her children live at her sister's house.

"I applied in 1983. The council said there's no houses. I told them I know where there are houses. I can't continue to pay R50 of my R103 pension to my sister. I also want my children to live with me."

"I have taken both our doctors' papers to the council, but it didn't help."

"I came to the advice office and they've arranged for me to see Mrs. Stott."

"The advice office has helped many people. I have seen many people

whose rents have come down.

"Last Thursday we went to see Mrs Barron at the rent office. The police threw Shahieda (one of the organisers) down the stairs."

"We don't have business with the police. We have business with the council."

"Mrs Rhoda helps in the kitchen at the advice office."

"I have gone around in Tafelsig to tell people of the office. Those people who came have been helped."

"People's rents have been reduced from R127 to R45 and from R96 to R40. This is how the advice office helped."

Woody says No to SA

TOP film director, actor and humorist Woody Allen has taken a strong stand against apartheid.

In his new contract with Orion Pictures, Allen has included a clause which prohibits the release of any of his films in South Africa.

Allen says this is "in an effort to protest against the atrocious racial policies of South Africa."

"I won't overestimate my gesture because it is just a gesture. But if it encourages other filmmakers to speak out or make a gesture, we

could perhaps have some influence," he said.

His films include The Front, Zelig, Love and Death, The Purple Rose Of Cairo, and Annie Hall. His latest film Hanna and Her Sisters, stars Mia Farrow, Michael Cane and himself.

'We'll protest against sell-outs'

THE Victorian West Youth Congress held a meeting with their parents on August 4 to discuss their demands and grievances.

This report was sent to Grassroots by the Victoria West Youth Congress.

The parents said that they are being robbed by the authorities with the rents. One parent said that she is staying

in a one-roomed house and pays ten rand per month. She paid her rent regularly until last month but she still owes R174.

Another parent who stays in a two-roomed house, said: "I last paid my rent in June, yet I am owing R720." The parent, who refused to give her name is very worried because she fears eviction.

There are many

others who are being robbed in the same way and it was decided that the rent should not be paid unless the Director of Labour Affairs come and speak to the people about the robberies.

Demands were tabled and sent to the labour office. They are as follows:

1. We want a recreational hall.
2. We do not want those sell-outs whose houses

have been burnt to come back and live with us, unless they declare that they don't lay charges against those whom they think burnt their houses and our comrades are released from detention.

3. The authorities should stop giving contracts to rebuild the houses of the sell-outs as the money will be subtracted from the people's rent money.

4. Rents to be lowered so that our parents can afford to pay it.

A spokesman for the youth, Justice Faas, said that "the authorities are provoking us by rebuilding the houses of the sell-outs so that they may come and live with us again. I want to express the fact that we do not want those sell-outs between us unless they change their minds and become better people. The authorities only want us to take action again so that they may have an excuse to detain us again."

"We are going to protest against them coming back."

'Let them teach'

PUPILS at the only school in Richmond (Eastern Cape) have been boycotting classes since June after three teachers were dismissed for belonging to Richmond Residents' Association.

Mr W Koyingana, Mr M Zenzile and Mr Velile Harmans were dismissed from their posts at the Richmond Higher Primary School under Article 28b (1) of the Department of Education and Training.

At a meeting, the

three were told by the Director General of Education and Training that they were dismissed for failing to ask his permission to join the residents' association.

The dismissal of the three teachers sparked off a boycott by all 350 pupils — from Sub A to Standard Seven. Pupils have to go to schools in Ciskei and Transkei after Standard Seven.

When they came out on boycott, the pupils were baton-charged and shot with rubber

bullets by the police. The pupils say they will not go back to school until their teachers are taken back. They are also demanding better facilities and more schools.

Richmond is about 185km from Beaufort West and 134km from Graaff-Reinet. Other organisations in the area are the Women Consulted Organisation, Detainees Committee and the Richmond Youth Congress.



Jazz jam

SOME of the top jazz artists in Cape Town will jam together at the University of Cape Town on September 2 to raise money for unrest victims and hunger victims.

The UWC Jazz Group has organised a concert at the UWC Stadium for the even-

ing of Monday September 2.

Featured will be groups like the Tony Schilder Trio, Cliffie Moses and the Four Sounds, Robbie Jansen. The UWC Jazz Group will also do their bit.

Tickets at R2 and it starts at 7.30.

HAPPENINGS

Writers meet

AN evening of women's writing will be held at the Community Arts Project (CAP), Chapel Street, Cape Town, on Sunday September 1. Anyone interested to attend or read their work can contact Anne at 88-1766.

Icy Gumba

Interchurch Youth (ICY) has organised a gumba for September 6.

It will be held at the Lansdowne Civic Centre and the donation is R2 (two rand) a person.

ICY consists of church youth groups throughout the Western Cape.

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Oewies Expelled

Dear Grassroots,

The Domestic Workers' Association wishes to announce that it has undergone certain changes in its leadership.

At a meeting of the DWA Executive committee and the area committees, it was decided to discipline the chairperson, Maggie Oewies (Shongwe).

This follows a number of problems which members have experienced with Ms Oewies (Shongwe). She has been expelled from

office. Her position will be reviewed and finalised at the Annual General Meeting of the Association in October 1985.

Until such time, Ms Oewies (Shongwe) may not represent the Organisation or act on its behalf in any way.

This means that until the October meeting, the Domestic Workers' Association will operate without a chairperson.

The Executive of Domestic Workers' Association.

"Workers robbed"

"WE the unemployed are one with those in the factories. We built everything as far as the eye can see. Why does the system make us suffer?"

This was the question on the lips of the 500 unemployed workers who attended a rally in Langa recently. The rally was organised by the Unemployed Workers Advice Office.

3 Million people are unemployed at present. And thousands of Western Cape workers have been retrenched in recent months.

Mr Joe Marks, ex-vice President of the

UDF told workers: "We built everything in this rich land. But what have we got?" He said workers are robbed by capitalism. "We give them our sweat, but we have nothing to show for it".

Mr Marks called on workers to join the fight for socialism - "a new world where workers may enjoy the fruit of their work".

Unemployed people needing advice or help can contact the Advice Offices in their areas, or the Unemployed Workers Advice Office (UWAO). The UWAO address is Office 1, Hanover Park Town Centre (ph: 638-6084).

UNIONS UNITE IN FREEDOM STRUGGLE

25 UNIONS held an historic meeting in the middle of August to give the go-ahead for the new Federation.

But the unions did not only discuss union business. They met at a time when the struggle for freedom in South Africa was at a high point and when the government had de-

clared a state of emergency.

The unions made it clear that they were part of the struggle for freedom. They condemned the state of emergency and demanded that it be lifted immediately, and that the army and police be withdrawn from the townships. They also demanded the release of all detainees and an end to the treason trials.

More importantly, the unions decided to take action to make sure that these demands are met. They decided

to support and promote the consumer boycott. If the unions get fully involved in the boycott it will become much more effective.

Clearly, the new Federation will not only organise in the factories. The role of the unions in the consumer boycott and in the November stayaway in the Transvaal, makes it clear that the unions will also take up broader political issues. This is to be welcomed as the workers in the unions have a major role to play in our struggle for freedom.

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Clothing worker unfairly dismissed 'Attack on the Union'

"IT's unfair. So many other people have made mistakes without any action taken against them. I feel this is another attack on the union."

This was said by Mrs Carevia Davis, the chairperson of the Clothing Workers' Union. She spoke to Grassroots after she was dismissed from Cape Underwear on Monday August 19. She had worked there for 16 years.

Mrs Davis said she had made a mistake and the bosses decided to hold an inquiry.

"I was allowed one representative from the workers committee at this inquiry."

"I was allowed one representative from the workers committee at this inquiry."

"On Monday the bosses called me in. They said they weren't satisfied with the argument in my defence and they had decided I should go."

"They gave me my pay and cards and I had to sign for it."

"I wasn't allowed to make contact with the other workers. Someone else went to fetch my belongings in the



cutting room and I was herded right out of the factory."

Mrs Davis, 42, has worked in the clothing industry since she was 15 - 27 years. She is a lay maker.

She became involved with Clowu in 1983 at the time of the Cape Underwear strike.

"I used to be a shop-steward for the Garment Workers' Union until I was scratched from their register after the strike."

She was elected as chairperson of Clowu at their AGM in March

"Sifuna umbutho wethu"



"UMVUZO onokuthi usiphilise, ukwamkelwa kombutho wethu i-RAWU". Ezi zezinye zeemfuno zabasebenzi bakwa DairyBelle ezathi zakhokelela kugwayimbo nge 15 zika Agasti xa abaqeshi babekhamba ngawomane, besithi umbutho wethu iRAWU awumelanga sininzi e DairyBelle.

IRAWU imele abasebenzi base zi Deri, iivenkile kunye nemarka. Iqale malunga nokuphela kuka 1983 ukuquzelela aba sebenzi base DairyBelle. Emva ko qwayimbo luka April 1984, iRAWU yafumana isivumelwano esingaphelelanga eDairyBelle. Ngo July ka 1984 abasebenzi baphinda bazibeka phantsi izixhobo zokusebenza ngenxa yokunganeliseki yimpatho nokugxothwa kwabasebenzi ngoongxowa-nkulu.

Ngo June ka 1985 abaqeshi baye basiroxisa isivumelwano phakathi kombutho ne DairyBelle kuba besithi isininzi sabasebenzi asihambisani no RAWU. Oku kwathi kwakhokelela kugwayimbo lwe 15 zika Agasti. Abaqeshi baye bathi kubasebenzi ugwayimbo abazifake kulo alukho mthethweni ngoko ke umsebenzi uphelile. Kodwa kusuku lwesibini abasebenzi babanyanzelisa abaqeshi okokuba bahlale nekomiti yabasebenzi kunye nabaququzeleli bombutho.

Kule ndibano isigqibo yaba sesokuba kubekho uvoto ukuqinisekisa ukuba uRAWU umele isininzi. Okunene ngomhla we 19 ka Agasti uRAWU wabonisa mhlophe okokuba uyakhonya eDairyBelle kuba i 96

"DOMAN MUST GO" - HERALD STRIKE

STAFF at the Cape Herald newspaper went on a five-day strike recently as the management threatened to retrench 25 percent of the staff: nine out of 37 people.

It was the second strike at the paper - the first took place five years ago when staffers protested about working conditions and salaries.

On July 30 this year, The Argus Company management informed the Media Workers' Association of South Africa (Mwasa) and the South African Society of Journalists (SASJ) that it intended to retrench 25 percent of the Cape Herald staff in

an effort to remedy financial problems at the paper.

At a meeting shortly after the announcement advertising and editorial staffers formed the Cape Herald Staff Association and elected a committee to negotiate with management of the The Argus Company, which owns Cape Herald.

The association later presented management with a memorandum in which they called for the resignation of the paper's editor, Mr Ted Doman, and called on management not to retrench anybody at Cape Herald.

The association argued that the editor

was largely responsible for the financial difficulties in which the newspaper found itself, because of his undesirable editorial policy.

Mr Doman later made it clear through Mr Fred Collings, the general manager of the Cape Town Branch of The Argus Company, that he would not resign, but would continue to serve the company loyally.

Mr Collings said that the Argus board was responsible for the appointment of editors and that Cape Town management could therefore not negotiate this particular issue.

The staff made several requests for the Johannesburg-based

managing director of The Argus Company, Mr Hal Miller, to come to Cape Town to negotiate with the staff committee.

After many delays in Mr Miller's visit to Cape Town, staffed down tools to underline the urgency of the situation at the Cape Herald.

The strike lasted from the afternoon of Friday, August 9, to the morning of Wednesday, August 14, when Mr Miller was prepared to negotiate.

In the meantime, workers who broke the strike produced a "scab" edition of the paper.

The striking workers soon brought out a pamphlet and called on

community organisations to boycott the August 17 issue of Cape Herald.

On Wednesday, August 14, the Argus management and the staff committee agreed to have continuing discussions on the future development of Cape Herald.

These discussions could include cost-cutting measures and retrenchments, they agreed.

Miller also said at the time he was instructing the Cape Town management to conduct a market survey to determine what the contents of Cape Herald should look like.

The talks are continuing.

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CONSUMER BOYCOTT GROWS AND GROWS

All over South Africa, people are learning the strength of their buying power. As the boycott spreads, white businessmen are being forced to realise the suffering of the people. On this page Grassroots looks at the consumer boycott.

"No Corner of SA untouched"

Grassroots speaks to a member of the Consumer Boycott Action Committee (CBAC)

GRASSROOTS: What are the demands of the Consumer Boycott?

CBAC The demands of the consumer boycott resolve around the lifting of the state of emergency, the release of all political prisoners and the withdrawal of the police and SADF from the townships.

GRASSROOTS: What are the aims of the consumer boycott?

CBAC The aims of the consumer boycott are probably many.

One of them concerns the fact that white business, especially big business, has been a big supporter of the government and the SADF for a very long time. The consumer boycott draws attention to this fact and links big business with the government. It makes the oppressed people see who are their friends and who are their enemies.

The main aim however, is that the boycott draws the

attention of the oppressed people, that they are the only people who can save themselves. And they must begin to do it now. The consumer boycott is a real way of beginning to take that little step forward which can eventually prove to be a big step.

GRASSROOTS: What potential does the boycott have?

CBAC As a result of the boycott in the Eastern Cape, the Chambers of Commerce and Industries have desperately called upon Botha to meet them. There is no doubt that the consumer boycott has had great effect.

GRASSROOTS: How does the boycott extend our struggle for freedom?

CBAC Until now all our struggles have been contained within the townships and locations where the oppressed live. The rest of white South Africa is entirely happy to have it that way. The SADF and police appear to them to have the sit-

uation under control. Their life goes on as normal. They make money as usual. They go to bed as usual. They go to their parties as usual. What the consumer boycott does is to extend the struggle from the townships to the city, to the length and breadth of South Africa. No corner of South Africa can remain untouched.

GRASSROOTS: Many people are asking: "Won't workers lose jobs if we boycott shops?"

CBAC My answer is that there is always a sacrifice which we have to make in the struggle for freedom.

It is possible that workers may lose jobs. But the question is: haven't workers already lost jobs? Isn't there already vast retrenchments and unemployment affecting millions of black South Africans.

Suddenly, we find bosses very concerned about blacks losing jobs. What nonsense! What the oppressed people are doing are taking a step in the direction of a new society in which unemployment, loss of jobs, bad housing, starvation and gutter education will come to an end.

GRASSROOTS: Will Black traders stand by the oppressed? Will they not increase their prices to make more profits?

CBAC There is no doubt that in the ranks of Black businessmen there are a number of profiteers. They are budding capitalists who would simply like to make profits.

But there are hundreds of little traders who give sup-

Crisis centres for workers

WORKERS who lose their jobs during the boycott of white shops will be helped at crisis centres to be set up in different areas.

Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and UDF patron, told this to a 4 000-strong UDF rally in Rocklands, Mitchells Plain, on Tuesday August 20.

Some white businessmen had warned that workers will lose their jobs if the profits went down.

"They cannot threaten us. We will do everything to protect the workers," Dr Boesak said.

Dr Boesak said many black businessmen had already volunteered to contribute towards such a fund.

NATIONAL ROUND-UP

THE consumer boycott of shops owned by whites and black collaborators, which began in the Eastern Cape on 15 July, is spreading through the country.

Millions of people are estimated to be supporting the consumer boycott which is now in force in over 50 Eastern Cape Towns, East London, part of Natal, large parts of the Transvaal, the South and Western Cape.

Grassroots presents a brief national round-up of the consumer boycott

PORT ELIZABETH:

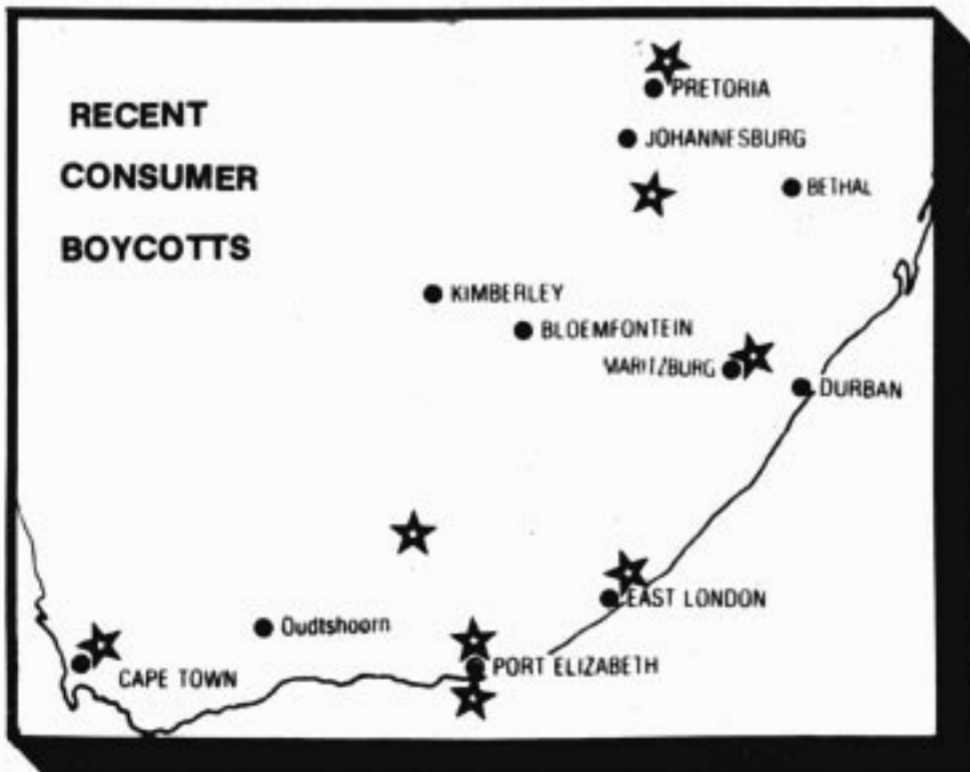
The boycott began on 15 July. It is estimated 1/2 million people are boycotting white shops. Organisers say that it is 100 percent successful. The mayor of Port Elizabeth, Ivan Kinge described the situation as "desperately urgent". He says the boycott "is on our minds all the time". Dozens of small shops have already been forced to close down. A supermarket owner in Commercial Road said he was going on holiday. With only R2.00 takings in a day (on the first day of the boycott), he said there was no point in staying open.

EAST LONDON:

The boycott began on July 29. Over one quarter of a million people support the boycott.

PRETORIA:

Retail shops have reported a 40 percent drop in sales. The city centre is described as being



snow white - no black customers.

PIETERMARITZBURG:

The boycott has been in progress for some weeks. An important demand of the boycott here is that 1000 workers who were fired by BTR Sarmcol must be given their jobs back. The workers belong to FOSATU's Metal and Allied Workers' Union.

CAPE TOWN:

The boycott began on August 12 and is beginning to take effect. Many meetings have been organised in most communities to get support for the boycott. According to OK Bazars, its seven shops in the Western Cape have already lost between 20 to 25 percent of their trade.

VAAL TRIANGLE:

White general traders, but-

chers and bottle store owners say their business has been badly affected.

ADELAIDE:

The boycott began in May. There is a 100 percent boycott. In July local businessmen requested a meeting with community representatives. They pleaded for an end to the boycott.

CRADOCK:

A 100 percent boycott has been in progress since late June. Workers even refuse to buy bread for their lunch in town. The bosses have suddenly become very concerned about the demands of the community.

GRAAFF-REINET:

A 100 percent consumer boycott has been in effect since July.



Banner calling for the boycott at a mass meeting in Rocklands civic on 20th August.

port to students and workers in their struggles. They did this in 1976 and 1980. They did it in the Fattis and Monis boycott.

We must not write off Black traders as enemies. We must win them over and get their assistance wherever possible.

The organisations (unions and civics) must talk to traders. They must inform them of what is happening and get their co-operation.

Remember also, the call is not only for a boycott of white shops. It is also a call for the boycott of shops of collaborators. Where Black traders take advantage of the situation to make big profits, our communi-

ties must deal with them. Profiteering will not be tolerated by our communities.

GRASSROOTS: Some people are asking: "Why a boycott of all white shops. Why not just big shops?"

CBAC There is much to be said for both points of view. In the Eastern Cape, in the heat of the struggle, the consumer boycott arose as a boycott of all white shops. It is not a reaction against white people. It happened because of the fact that white business in general has been the main support base of the present government. As the boycott develops, it may take new forms. We must be flexible about this.

Police hit back

THE success of the consumer boycotts has prompted strong action from the government.

Under the emergency regulations, police can close down a business if they suspect that the business is helping the consumer boycott campaign.

Reports from Graaff-Reinet suggest that police indirectly threatened to close black shops, in an attempt to force residents to buy at white shops.

Residents also allege that many black shopkeepers have been detained.

Progressive whites excepted

THE Watson family is well-known in the Eastern Cape.

Cheeky Watson, a potential rugby Springbok, turned his back on Springbok colours to play nonracial rugby under Kwaru. For this

and for their support of the struggle of the oppressed, their 4 clothing shops have been exempted from the consumer boycott.

This exemption however resulted in police action. Watson

says five uniformed policemen were stationed outside his shop in Uitenhage "with the effect of intimidating black customers into not buying from me". They only went away when he threatened to call local and overseas journalists.

Watson says: "The government is trying to make out that this boycott is anti-white, and that is not true. Blacks still support those who support them."

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Comment

People's struggle will change SA.

Last week P.W. Botha spoke to South Africa. What he had to say was essentially this. There will be no change. Apartheid will remain.

The oppressed people were not surprised. We did not expect anything else. But the day when P.W. Botha can say whether there will be change or not are over. He is not in a position to determine this or anything else. Because just as the sun rises change will come. And in this country it is going to come through the struggle of the oppressed and exploited people themselves.

All around us struggles are taking place. School boycotts, rent boycotts, consumer boycotts, protests, marches and worker strikes. Everywhere students, workers and communities are linking arms and joining the struggle for freedom. An unlike in 1960 the state of emergency is unable to kill this brave resistance of our people.

Today arising out of the depths of our townships and locations is a cry for freedom, justice and peace. The preconditions for peace have been clearly stated. They include the:

- * release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners

- * unbanning of the ANC and other organisations
- * return of all political exiles
- * disarming of the police and army

- * scrapping of the pass laws and all racist laws
- * abolition of all security legislation
- * scrapping of the bantustans
- * scrapping of the apartheid constitution

Beyond this Mandela's recent statement makes clear what the government's role is if it is at all interested in a speedy end to the conflict in our country. As Mandela says "All there is to talk about now is the mechanics of handing over power to the people of South Africa".

The people can govern

Our leaders believe that the people can govern themselves. And our people do.

South Africans speak, write and debate their ideas freely. And decide for themselves who will represent them.

The free exchange of ideas throughout history. Our open and fair elections and our ability time and again to cope with a changing world and right old injustices. This is all evidence that the best rulers are the people themselves.

The idea that liberty and equality were the basis for political union was a revolutionary idea indeed. Many verkrampes doubt that people like us (Africans) can make the decisions upon which good government can depend.

Oppressors fear that equality and freedom would lead to chaos. KANTI HAYI KHONA.

Our own experience and that of other demo-

cracies is that people live best who govern themselves.

This respect for people's right and ability to make their own decisions governs more than our domestic policy (Segregation).

It is the driving force behind our commitment to democracy and human rights all over the world. And our belief in the human dignity of all people is reflected in the Freedom Charter.

And it is up to you, brothers and sisters of South Africa (irrespective of colour) to evaluate the truth of what I have written. And form your own opinions for yourselves.

VUKANI MA-AFRIKA because we are tired of being exploited by foreigners.

It is now time to say farewell to them because they have milked the economy of South Africa for too long.

SIPHO NIEKISO
Mdantsane

Now is the time

I am one of your white readers and I think your newspaper is just what we need in this time and age.

I believe that now is the time for freedom and equality. We've had enough of promises of empty words that don't feed people, don't clothe people, only kill people.

R15 for 15 days, 15 nights

I hereby inform you that I am a UDF supporter. I am doing Standard Six (Form One).

I really want to learn, but because I had no money, I worked for Anver Essop. I worked for 15 days (in his garden) and 15 nights (in his night-club) but he paid me R15 only.

I tried by all means to talk to him for an increase, but he did not want to do so.

Now, I would like to hand it over to your care.

Your comrade indeed.

Martin Nkanyezi
Beaufort West

I as a white person am ashamed of what my people are doing to innocent people. I refuse to see any wrong in sitting next to a black person in school, in a bus, train or any public area.

I have met some black people that are better educated and better mannered than

some whites I know of. I don't see why people should be condemned just because their skin is black instead of white.

Let us all stand together at this time and fight together for freedom and equality for ALL.

Katherine Williams
Cape Town

Dear Grassroots . . .



Viva Grayco!

I would dearly like to congratulate the comrades of Graaff-Reinet for their participation in the struggle for liberation and their commitment in the struggle for a better South Africa and also sympathise with those who have lost their sons and

daughters.

I would like to let you know that your struggle is my struggle, your victories are my victories, your injuries are my injuries.

Viva Grayco. Aluta Continua.

Fuzile Malgas

REPRESSION IN TRANSKEI

I am greatly concerned about the lack of publicity to the brutal repression which is taking place in the Bantustans, particularly the Transkei. It is only when there are intense struggles like Mdantsane bus boycott, or the Umtata bomb blasts that one gets information about the Bantustans.

But our people are entitled to know that our comrades in those areas are not sitting back. They are waging battles against the government-created puppet regimes who have shamelessly joined the ranks of the enemy in this country.

Right now our comrades in the Transkei are confronting the agents of the apartheid regime in various ways. That part of our country is also becoming ungovernable.

If one looks at the security laws of the Transkei one finds that they are even tighter than those applied by the Botha regime. Detention without trial is an order of the day, activists have been banished or deported, all political organizations have been banned, no trade unions are allowed, political meetings are "illegal", chiefs who support the liberation struggle, like Chief Sabata Dalindyebo, have been deposed, and

all educational institutions are under a state of emergency since 1980.

On the 22 July this year a night curfew was imposed and more than 40 people have been arrested for breaking the curfew law. An Indemnity Act (1984) makes it impossible to sue the State for any reason; "Loitering" is an offence; to say Transkei is part of SA is high treason.

Early last year more than 500 men from the district of Engcobo were detained for five months and were released without being charged.

Again late last year more than 200 men from the Tsolo district were detained for more than a month after the death of a pro-Matanzima 'chief'.

In Pondoland the homeland army and the 'Rhodesians' committed acts of terror against our people.

The University (UNITRA) is ungovernable. In spite of all the laws the students are continuing the struggle for academic freedom, the right to have an SRC, meetings and the right to organize on campus and in the community.

At the beginning of this year the SRC was expelled and banned from the campus, many students were not allowed into residence

and members of the staff were threatened with suspension.

When the students boycotted lectures to commemorate June 16, the police entered campus and conducted a raid. However, the boycott continued and the police came again for a raid. This time they arrested more than 50 students and some of those are still in detention.

Those who provide leadership have been expelled after the June vacation. A lecturer, Mr A Mankangu, is also in detention.

On the 25th July a field worker of the Transkei Council of Churches, Mr Bob Hefr, was deported from the Transkei.

On the same day the police and the army rounded up Ezibeleni township, near Queens-town, and conducted a house-to-house raid in which more than 400 people were arrested. 170 of those are to be charged for unspecified crimes.

In July a dictatorial headman, Cromwell Diko (who was also Minister of Agriculture) was shot and killed in Pondoland.

All these and other terroristic acts by the puppet regime are not known by our people.

"Oppressed" University of Cape Town

Working class remedies best

I read with material interest in your August edition Advice Section about Clinics, problems, The Trauma of Asthma. Let me convey to you the plight I was in.

I was working as a carpenter on the Finsch Diamond Mine. When I returned home I had a peculiar feeling in my leg.

I woke up one morning to find myself unable to bend my leg with pain involved in the slightest body movement.

I called in a doctor who told me I had Arthritis. He prescribed tablets which most doctors do (Brufen).

I told him to refer me to hospital as he cannot cure Arthritis.

I entered a Nerve Centre for Arthritis namely Princess Alice in Retreat. I was examined by a Professor whom I was told was a world authority on Arthritis.

He prescribed an operation to bend my leg, also diagnosed Rheumatoid Arthritis. I was in a wheelchair at that stage.

I emerged from the theatre in plaster. After a period in plaster and tablet treatment, I was put in a leg iron and discharged with packets of tablets and told in no uncertain terms "There is nothing more we can do for you."

After that, the following dramatic events took place.

On crutches, I went to Worcester to settle domestic hassles. On the road yo Esselen Park, I met a barefooted haversack-carrying farm-worker.

She stopped and enquired about my illness. She let me on to a herbal inspired potion (Kree-chee-roemyne included).

Two days later I took off my irons plus relief of pain and ability to walk normally.

If I judged a book by its cover, I would never be able to walk today.

Under cross-examination she gave me various herbal remedies for various ailments that the medical profession is at a loss to cope with.

What I have just quoted I can prove beyond doubt by names, phone numbers of people, especially in my area, who were helped by this illiterate farm-worker's remedy.

If I examine doctor's charges for certain ailments regarded as incurable, I frown. Minimal cost to the working class man could put them to shame, especially in this recession and unemployment build-up.

Harold Lotter
(Ex-trade unionist)
Retreat.

Grassroots is wettig!

Gedwing deur omstandighede is ek genoodsaak om hierdie brief aan u te rig. Natuurlik is dit a.g.v. dreigemente deur die veiligheids-polisie.

Ek het die uitgawes van die Grassroots van Augustus van die hand gesit en daar is nog 18 koerante oor. D.w.s. ek het daarin geslaag om 30 eksemplare te verkoop, want ek het net 48 van u ontvang.

Nou wil ek 'n paar dinge van u weet. Is die verspreiding van Grassroots wettig? Is die koerant aanvaar as aanvare publikasie materiaal?

Die rede waarom ek vra is ek het die koerant hier by die skool verkoop en iemand, wie dit is weet ek nie, het sy kopie aan die Veiligheids-polisie gegee en hulle was vandag hier by my.

Hulle wou natuurlik weet wat my verbindings met UDF is en in hoe verre ek skakel met die drukkers van die koerant.

Ek is nie bang om verder te gaan nie, maar ek was daarop gewys dat ek as onderwyser

vir die "staat" werk en afhanklik is van hulle vir my daaglikse bestaan (alhoewel ek hulle gewys het dat God my weg voorspoedig maak).

Hulle (polisie) sal vir my die lewe baie nader maak en dat ek liewer die dinge moet los en dat ek moet kies.

Ek het hulle gesê dat ek dit sal doen op eenvoorwaarde en dit is dat ek weet dat die blad verban of onwettig is.

Nou wil ek u vriendelik vra asseblief ek wil vir die gemeenskap van waarde wees. Stuur asseblief aan my 'n wetlike magtiging of iets in die rigting wat my toestemming gee om die koerant te verkoop. Dan kan ek dit met vrymoedigheid doen.

Help my asseblief ek wil nie nou al in die tronk beland nie. U kan my brief met plesier in die koerant plaas sodat ander ook die vuil spel van die Veiligheids-polisie kan weet.

Baie bekommerd en wagtend.

Die uwe
Mnr A.J. James
Vredendal



Nuus uit die Boland



REUSE SAAMTREK IN WORCESTER

MEER as 2 000 mense het op Sondag 18 Augustus die gemeenskapssaal te Worcester volgepak vir 'n massavergadering van die Worcester tak van die United Democratic Front (UDF).

Die reuse saamtrek was toegesprek deur Dr Allan Boesak, voorsitter van die Wêreld Bond van Gereformeerde Kerke en Imam Hassan Solomons, 'n voormalige lid van die UDF bestuur in Kaapstad.

'n Lid van die Cape Youth Congress (Worcester) het ook by die vergadering opgetree sowel as 'n Bonteheuwel se student en 'n vrou van Mitchells Plain wat gepraat het oor werkloosheid.

Mense van plekke soos Swellendam en ander Boland se gebiede het ook die vergadering bygewoon.

Talle boodskappe van ondersteuning was ontvang van, onder andere, die Nasionale Uitvoerende Bestuur van die UDF, studente organisasies ens.

Die gemeenskapssaal was so vol dat talle mense op die verhoog agter die sprekers moes sit.

Daar was dawerende applous toe die gasprekers Dr Allan Boesak en Imam Solomons kort na die begin van die vergadering by die saal aangekom het.

Dr Boesak en Imam Solomons het 'n beroep op die mense van die Boland gemaak om nie by "witwinkels" in die dorp te koop nie.

Hulle het die mense vertel hoe suksesvol die boikot van "witwinkels" is in plekke soos Paarl, die Oos-Kaap, Oos Londen en Transvaal.



DIE gemeenskap in Worcester was volgepak vir die UDF vergadering op Sondag 18 Augustus.



TEN spyte van sy probleme, sien Oom Hennie nog kans om te glimlag.

'Ek is nou al moeg van wag'

OOM Hennie van Roodewal in Worcester is nou al raad-op oor hoe om 'n ordentlike huis vir sy gesin te bekom.

Hy sê: "Ons woon al nou vir ses jaar so saam in een huis. Daar is sestien van ons en ek

moes hokke buite opslaan om in te slaap. Die huis is in so 'n slegte toestand dan wil hulle nog hê 'n mens moet dit koop. Hoe kan 'n mens dit koop as dit by die huis inreën?

Ek is nou al moeg van wag. Hoe lank moet

ek nog wag? Daar was aan my gesê dat hulle besig is met 'n nuwe uitbreiding. Dis alles net leë beloftes wat nooit nagekom word nie. Ons sal 'n plan moet maak sodat veranderinge kan plaasvind."

"As ons van hulle winkels wegbly, sal apartheid so 'n knou kry, dat hy nooit weer van sy siekbed sal opstaan nie."

Dit was die woorde van Dr Allan Boesak by die UDF massavergadering in Worcester verlede maand.

Hy het 'n beroep gedoen op die mense van Worcester en omliggende gebiede om nie by die witwinkels in die dorp te gaan koop nie. Hy het ook 'n beroep gedoen op die ander winkeliers om hulle pryse af te bring.

Dr Boesak het verwys na die Oos-Kaap, Oos-Londen, Paarl en Transvaal waar die boikot

Gee apartheid 'n knou, sê Boesak

van "witwinkels" baie suksesvol is. In die Oos-Kaap is dit beskryf deur lede van die Consumer Action Committee as "100 persent suksesvol". "As hulle dit kan doen, dan wat is verkeerd met Worcester," het Dr Boesak gesê.

Dr Boesak gaan verder "Ons moet nie by hulle gaan koop nie. As ons ons geld van hulle weghou, gaan dit 'n groot knou wees. Laat

hulle winkels oop wees maar laat hulle so wit wees soos die Boland se berge in winter.

Ons moet beseft dat ons het 'n belangrike verantwoordelijkheid. Die toekoms van Suid-Afrika sal deur mense soos ons beslis word.

Imam Hassan Solomons het ook 'n beroep gemaak vir 'n boikot van "witwinkels". Hulle moet voel hoe miljoene van ons mense voel as ons nie die einde

van die maand ons rent kan betaal nie," het Imam Solomons gesê.

In Worcester is 'n Consumer Boycott Action Committee aan die lewe geroep. Dit bestaan uit lede van die gemeenskap.

Die mense van Swellendam woongebied boikot die winkels in die dorp vir meer as twee weke al. So die effek van die boikot word alreeds in Worcester gevoel.

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IN THE last six years, consumer boycotts have become a commonly used weapon in the struggle for freedom in South Africa. Workers, students and communities have used their buying power to support the struggles of the people and to forward their demands.

In 1979 the people of Cape Town boycotted Fattis and Monis products and forced the bosses to take back workers of the Food and Canning Workers Union. In 1980 there was the Red Meat boycott. And in 1981 many people stopped buying Wilson Rowntree sweets and chocolates. Last year many people stopped buying at Grand Bazaars.

Grassroots looks at the lessons of two of the boycotts: the 1979 Fattis and Monis boycott and the 1980 Red Meat boycott.

1979: FATTIS AND MONIS 'We don't buy Fattis and Monis'

In 1978 the Food and Canning Workers Union began to organise workers at Fattis and Monis factory in Bellville.

In April 1979 the Fattis and Monis bosses fired five workers who were active in the union. In response to this 88 workers went on strike. The workers called on the communities for support in order to strengthen their strike.

The first group to respond were university and college students. Together with the union, the students called for a boycott of all Fattis and Monis products.

The boycott call was soon taken up by school students, other trade unions, SACOS and some churches. Everywhere, on walls, stickers and pamphlets the slogan was 'We don't buy Fattis and Monis'.

The other group to respond to the call of the striking workers were the traders. The Western Cape Traders Association went to the bosses and warned that they would not stock Fattis and Monis products if the workers were not taken back.

1980: RED MEAT BOYCOTT 'We don't eat red meat'

THE red meat boycott in 1980 was also a pressure boycott. It was called by the General Workers' Union which organised workers in the meat industry.

In May 1980 workers went on strike in support of fellow workers who had been fired at Table Bay Cold Storage. Although almost all the meat workers of Cape Town were on strike, the bosses managed to keep meat production going. They got scab labour from rural areas to take the place of meat workers.

The meat workers realised that the strike alone was not enough, and that they had to get support from the community. They decided to call for a boycott of red meat.

Community support for the meat boycott was even stronger than with the Fattis and Monis boycott. The meat boycott was called during the schools boycott of 1980. The students' Committee of 81 supported the meat boycott. So did the Fattis Student Action Committees which were set up in many areas of Cape Town. The support for the meat boycott was also better organised and co-ordinated than before.

But despite the great community support for the meat boycott there were also many problems.

Because of the strong stand and unity of workers, students, communities and traders, the Fattis and Monis boycott was a big success. In 6 months Fattis and Monis profits fell from R363 000 to R186 000. The bosses could not stand this pressure. After six months they agreed to meet with the Food and Canning Workers Union and take back all the workers.

The Fattis and Monis boycott was a pressure boycott. It used the buying power of oppressed communities to pressure the bosses into meeting the strikers' demands.



Firstly, the benches were not very supportive. If they stopped selling meat, the faced bankruptcy. So they were not able to give the support that black traders gave during the Fattis and Monis boycott.

Secondly, many people eat red meat. The boycott was not of just one brand of meat, but all brands. So the boycott called for a great sacrifice and commitment from the community. It seems it was not possible for people to boycott for a long period.

Thirdly, government repression also made things difficult. Meetings were banned and activists detained. This made it difficult to continue organising the boycott.

Although not successful, the meat boycott did bring other benefits. People in the community learned of the importance of trade unions and the struggle in the factories. The boycott also built unity amongst the oppressed people.

Different groups and organisations learnt how to co-operate and work together. Most importantly, the schools and meat boycotts laid a basis for the development of civic, youth, student and workers organisations in the Western Cape.



THE POWER OF THE BOYCOTT

THERE are many types of boycotts.

Some boycotts are a specific type of consumer boycott. They are *direct* boycotts where people fight against something which affects them directly.

In recent years the people of Cape Town have twice fought against high bus fares by boycotting. In 1980, many people stopped using buses for more than three weeks. Last year, when City Transways again put up fares, a less successful two day boycott was held to protest against the increases.

The Fattis and Monis boycott of 1979 and the red meat boycott of 1980 is another type of consumer boycott. They can be called *pressure* boycotts. Here people boycott to support the demands of another part of the community, usually workers.

The boycott is used in an attempt to pressure the bosses to listen to the workers demands.

Then there are the school boycotts. In 1976 and 1980 there were long school boycotts in Cape Town and the rest of the country. By boycotting, students showed their opposition to the racist and unequal education system. They also forced the government to make some improvements in the schools.

In 1984 students in Cape Town again boycotted school. This time the boycott was a political protest against the government tri-cameral elections.

The oppressed people of Cape Town have also used boycotts to protest against, and reject the government's dummy institutions. When the government introduced a management committee and community councils most people rejected them by boycotting the elections.

Most people also boycotted the old Coloured Representative Council (CRC) and the South African Indian Council (SAIC).

The most powerful use of the boycott was during the tri-cameral elections last year. The vast majority of Cape Town's people showed their rejection of Botha's "New Deal" by refusing to vote, by boycotting the elections.

Boycotts raise the awareness of people. It shows the unity and determination of workers, students and communities. In a country where the oppressed and exploited people do not have a voice, the boycott is an effective weapon to pressure the government and bosses.

For as long as oppressed people are denied a voice in running South Africa the boycott is a way in which their power can be exercised. Because of this the boycott will continue to be an important and powerful weapon in the struggle for freedom.



Election boycott: August 1984

SOME BOYCOTTS IN CAPE TOWN

| DIARY OF BOYCOTTS IN CAPE TOWN (1976 - 85) | Year | Boycott |
|--|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1976 | 1981 | Wilson Rowntree boycott |
| 1977 | 1982 | South African Indian Council boycott |
| 1978 | 1983 | Community Council election boycott |
| 1979 | 1984 | School boycott against elections |
| 1980 | | Election boycott |
| | | Bus boycott |
| | | Grand Bazaars boycott |
| | 1985 | Bus boycott |
| | | School boycott |
| | | Consumer boycott |

1959: POTATO BOYCOTT 'Don't eat the blood of a fellow worker'

IN THE 1950's the AINC and its partners in the Congress Alliance organised many important boycotts. There was the famous Alexandria bus boycott. For months the people forced the bosses to run empty until the buses brought the bus fares down.

But one of the most famous and successful boycotts was the 1959 potato boycott.

Conditions on the potato farms in the Transvaal were terrible. Women and young children were forced to dig potatoes with their bare hands. Many workers died from being whipped. People convicted under the pass laws were also forced to work on these farms.

In 1959, to protest against these conditions, the Congress Alliance called for a nationwide potato boycott. At mass meetings and marches the call went up - "If you eat a

potato, you are eating the blood of a fellow worker who has been killed and buried on those farms".

People all over South Africa responded and soon potatoes were piling up in the shops and markets. Many shopkeepers also refused to stock potatoes. Fish and chips shops only sold fish as people refused to eat potatoes. Many shops which kept selling potatoes became the target of the people's anger and were forced to close.

The potato boycott was called off after three months. It was successful in that it exposed the brutal conditions of the potato workers to the whole world. The government was forced to make some changes in the farm labour system, even though the changes were not very great. The white potato farmers could no longer get away with the same brutal treatment of their workers.

Ukwayo Iwandile

Grassroots looks at how boycotts have been used to win demands

Nantshenje sibona ukukwayo izangamangabo ezimbini ezilwe.

Kulokokele sise ngumakholoni eBhayi nase kaladokwe, eRufa, Kati-kati nakwezinye indawo abantu abaphantsi kwengcinaniso buyeli le ukuthenga kwesivile zabandlapha. Bafuna ukuba Ongowenoliso bayaka ukahambisa nalo rholoseno.

"Business and military - same side of bloody coin"

Ukwayo olo lube yimpembele. Ngawo ushila we 15 kaJuli izini yokugala ukwayo lwe sivile eBhayi nani the new. Ngoko iseki zizifasa kusabhe new.

Ukwayo akubhalanga eBhayi kuphela ikhwalidapha zonke zane Mpumalcoeni. Ngoshila we 19 kaJuli abantu basul'ntshi buqula eBhayi. Ngoko izowawisa nase Kwazulu eWorcester nase Kaps.

Ngexxa yokuba indibatho yonke yase Mpumalcoeni izalwe izilimo nasakhaleni izilangano eMpumalcoeni Kwaba yintokolo ukubhazilela olo Ukwayo.

Kodwa abantu baluzana indlela yokukwisa oko. Abantsheni ababazabawana, abantsheni wayo kwizanga ezidibileyo babizana, Yala ngabo abantu ikonzi yokwayo.

Boyala uMkhaweli Jack uPresidenti verobhona eBhayi ukuba abe ndibethi nabo.

Osonobhala abandlapha abonwabanga Errol kweviki uKwayo buqula "Mayor yase Bhayi wazuzana loovonkile zalapho babu athlangano akhwalidileyo nekoni le yokwayo.

Kurba kunjalo uMkhaweli yevile aianto yamko yonxangaphelo. Bonke abaqondisi bokwayo babanjwa uMkhaweli Jack woyakuzifila.

Kurba elipho enlithakalweni wenza izinto kunaphapha-naba. "Makagabikho lathathu-thawo kubabizwa abantu phantsi kwemko yonxangaphelo."

Osonobhala abantsheni babalawoko kaKwayo. Abaqondisi bokwayo bayaka naba zomsonobhala. Osonobhala bavana akathaba amabhe.

Ukwayo [waseMpumaKoleni] ikhwalidapha osonobhala ukuba baye kaRufadokwe.

1. Ukuphela izeko yonxangapho lo
 2. Ukusidala abantsheni weni
 3. Ukukhapha amaqondisi abantsheni
 4. Ukwayo lube yimpembele abantu bamabhe wabantsheni Afrika osonobhala osonobhala.
- Ukwayo olo libantsheni abantsheni ikawo diqamabheyo.

Consumer boycott grows from PE to Soweto to . . .

TODAY we are seeing one of the most powerful consumer boycotts in our history. All over the Eastern Cape - in Port Elizabeth and Cradock, Graff-Reinet, Cathcart and elsewhere - oppressed communities have stopped buying at white shops. They are demanding that the bosses stop supporting the government. "Business and Military - same side of bloody coin" - is the slogan.

The boycott is a big success. On Monday July 15, the first day of the boycott, shops in the city of Port Elizabeth were deserted. Now, 5 weeks later they are still deserted.

The consumer boycott is not confined to Port Elizabeth. In towns all over the Eastern Cape people are boycotting. On July 29 the people of East London began to boycott. And now it has spread to Johannesburg, Worcester and Cape Town. Because all progressive organisations are based from holding meetings in the Eastern Cape it was difficult to make arrangements for the boycott.

The people found a way to get around that problem. Workers whose children were shot by police in recent months got together. It was they who formed the Boycott Committee. They elected Mkhaweli Jack, president of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress, as their spokesperson.

White businessmen are in a panic. A week after the boycott began, the Mayor of Port Elizabeth and the Eastern Cape Chamber of Commerce (which represents white shop-owners) urgently asked for a meeting with the Boycott Committee.

But in the meantime the government declared a State of Emergency. Many boycott organisers were arrested. Mkhaweli Jack went into hiding. From his hiding he made a statement in the newspaper. "No negotiations while the government was detaining leaders under the State of Emergency".

The traders in the black townships have been supportive of the consumer boycott. The boycott organisers went to speak to Black traders. The traders agreed not to exploit the situation by increasing prices. In many cases traders have lowered prices. They can afford to do this because now they have so many customers.

The boycott in the Eastern Cape is a pressure boycott. Its aim is to force businesses to put pressure on the government to:

1. End the State of Emergency
 2. Release all detainees
 3. Get the army out of the townships
- The boycott has been effective because communities have stood united. Today, the communities in the Eastern Cape and Transvaal have a vision for a new South Africa - a future free from oppression, exploitation and injustice.
- The consumer boycott is one of their weapons in fighting for this future.



Using all means . . .

Swaarkry word nou erger

DIE swaarkry van ons mense word erger by die dag. Meer en meer mense word afbetaal, huur en koopryse styg gereeld en ons huise is in 'n baie swak toestand. 'n Vrou van Worcester vertel van haar probleme wat vir haar vreeslik bekkomerd laat voel. Hier volg haar storie.

"Dit is 'n waaghalsige lewe wat ek en my gesin lei. Ek het vyf kinders op skool wat gevoed moet word. My man verdien R49,43 per week. Ek is ongeskik vir enige werk en het reeds 'n sertifikaat by die dokter ontvang maar kleurlingsake weier om my te help. Die een seun werk slegs drie dae per week en kry maar net R20 uit.

My kinders moet mekaar se klere dra en ons moet afhanklik wees van ander mense se hulp. Ek voel ek het ook 'n trots en dit maak my seer om ander mense se hulp te aanvaar.

My begrafnisboekies het ook geval. Ek het skuld by 'n meubelwinkel en die kollektant moet elke keer omdraai. Ek voel ook skaam om in die rondte te hardloop vir help. Ek is verbitterd teenoor almal. Hoe moet ek my kinders grootmaak?

Ek kan nie eens werk om te help om die gesin te voed. Ek weet nie waar dit alles gaan eindig nie? As my kinders net die geleentheid kan gebied word om hul studies te voltooi.

As ek nie binne twee dae my ligte betaal nie, word dit gesny. Waar gaan ek die geld kry? Ek hoop en vertrou net dat 'n organisasie my help kan aanbied want ek is moedeloos. Waar is die mense van die bestuurskomitee? Hulle ken ons net as hulle kruisises agter hulle name wil hê."

Esselen Park studente neem aksie

GEEN normale sport in 'n abnormale samelewing nie.

So voel die eerste span spelers van die Senior Sekondêre Skool Esselen Park op Worcester.

Een van die spelers vertel dat daar drie Federasie spelers in die span is. Aan die begin van die seisoen is daar deur die leerlinge besluit dat die drie spelers uit die span gelaat moet word.

word.

Maar, aangesien die onderwyser self die span kies, kon die leerlinge baie min oor die saak doen.

Verlede maand, toe die skoolboikot begin, het die spelers besluit dat hulle nie meer gaan speel nie. Hierdie situasie sal heers tot die einde van die seisoen tensy daardie drie leerlinge uit die span gelaat word.



RESIDENTS kneel in front of the police after marching to the entrance of the township.

ZWELENTHEMBA RESIDENTS MARCH FOR PEACE



ON SUNDAY 18 August, hundreds of residents from Zwelethemba in Worcester marched to the entrance of the township carrying placards and singing freedom songs.

They stopped close to a police roadblock and all knelt in the road.

The incident occurred after a 20-year old resident was shot dead by police in the township the day before.

The residents, mostly women, were carrying many placards. One read, "We are not fighting, take the police away from the township."

Another said: "Stop the killing."

After a few minutes, heavily-armed

policemen in vans arrived and positioned themselves while spokespersons for the residents and the police were engaged in discussion.

Later the residents of Zwelethemba dispersed peacefully and the police left the scene.

Earlier that afternoon, police prevented Dr Allan Boesak from entering the township. He wanted to visit the family of the youth who had been shot dead the previous day.

At a mass rally in Worcester on that same day, speakers alledged that the police have prevented many of the Zwelethemba's residents from attending the meeting.

Huurstyging: Swellendam inwoners ontevrede

DIE huurders van Swellendam voel baie ontevrede oor hulle huishuur wat onlangs verhoog is.

Een huurder het gesê: "Die pryse van kos is al klaar so hoog en boonop is werk ook nog skaars. Hoe sal ons bykom met die nuwe huur?"

Die inwoners voel ook dat daar te min gedoen word om die

huise behoorlik instand te hou en daar is 'n groot tekort aan belangrike gemeenskapsgeriewe.

Die nuwe verhoging sal mense glad nie kan bekostig nie.

Een man van Swellendam wat voorheen R27 per maand betaal het vir huur, betaal nou R39. Hy verdien R164 per maand.

Die meeste mense het geen verhoging in salaris in die laaste jaar ontvang nie. Baie mense voel dat daar duidelike aksie geneem moet word in die nabye toekoms teen die verhoogde huur.

Verder is daar ook 'n gevoel dat die land al klaar in 'n krisis is en dat hulle ook nou die huurders in 'n krisis wil plaas.

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DETAINEEES SPEAK!

Zou Kota

Q: What was your main concern while in prison?

A: My main worry was Miranda. And unfortunately I don't have children and don't have parents but I'm not a dependent person. I am very very independent so I was mainly concerned about my political activities.

I was concerned about the fact that I am losing in the side of UDF and I don't know exactly what and where the UDF is. And I was actually concerned about what the people were doing.

I did not know what Miranda was doing, if she was being beaten. If I heard anybody crying in the middle of the night, I would sit up, try to hear if it was her.

I was also concerned about the kids who were arrested with me. They were only released the 19th day. They were very young, and crying a lot - it was very emotional.

I heard the cops saying one day: "Almal gaan huis toe, net die twee meisies" - so I knew Miranda was still in.

I was also worried about the organisation - it seemed to me that they were just arresting people. I also wondered why they were picking on me. I was in solitary confinement.

Q: Did you meet other women while in prison?

A: No. I was in solitary confinement. I was given a bible - I was reading about Moses all the time. There was no news about what was going on outside, no newspapers. They did not even let me see a piece of paper when I was interrogated. No nothing.

Q: How did your experience in prison affect your attitude to your organisation and the struggle?

A: When you are in prison you don't think about yourself. You

think of other people.

When you are in prison, the priority is not the get released at the expense of others. They asked me why I was covering up for other people. I just told them I won't tell them stories about anyone.

It is important, people shouldn't just get out of prison for the sake of it. One must be careful how one gets out of prison.

Q: Did your stay in prison strengthen your commitment to the struggle?

Now I'm not scared of being in prison. When I was sitting in jail for 22 days without interrogation they came for me on the 24th day. I tell you, that day I was so nervous, I did not know whether they were going to take me to a wall, to make me jump from it, I did not know what to think. For the first two minutes they interrogated me in a rough way - but I gained strength from it.

Q: What, according to your experience, is the main difference a female prisoner as opposed to being a male prisoner?

A: Well, from my experience, I must say, women are stronger. I think it's because women have such harsh lives. We are therefore able to face even the worst.

Q: Have you, or any other women you know, been sexually harassed or threatened?

A: No I was not. I was not sexually harassed but I was threatened.

Because I'm black, I was told I was barbaric and do not deserve a breathing space. I just needed to be killed.

One day they grabbed me by my throat and threatened to kill me.

I also want to add that people need to be educated about their rights, they need to know what

ZOU KOTA, publicity secretary of the Western Cape United Democratic Front, and joint secretary Miranda Qwanyashe, were released from detention recently.

Grassroots spoke to them about their experiences.

Because of the strict provisions and restrictions of the Prisons Act, we had to cut out many of the things they told Grassroots.

can happen during detention so that they can be prepared if they are detained.

People should be actually strengthened in terms of organisations and should know what to demand when they are prisoned.

Washing itself was an exercise so I enjoyed washing my clothes. And that gave a chance to breathe out of the cell. I was singing freedom songs when I was doing my washing. So I loved doing my washing.

I told my family not to worry about my clothes. I just asked them to send me a reasonable number of clothes.

I had the whole programme of washing. I had to wait for my washing to get dry and iron it as if I am at home.

There is soap but I don't like it. It is prison soap, so you can imagine what kind of soap that is.

Miranda Qwanyashe

Q: When were you arrested?

A: About 11 p.m. in the road when I was coming from a meeting.

Q: How many policemen were there and how did they behave?

A: There were 6 vans, 4 cars and a big van. They were mad, insane, like growling lions.

Q: What charges were made against you?

A: That I was a terrorist, an M.K. I was trained to throw hand grenades.



Zou Kwota (right) and Miranda Qwanyashe at a UWO mass meeting.

Q: Did they have information about you or your organization?

A: As I was not at home when they arrived there, my mother said I was living in the Transkei. They said to her "Moenie lieg nie, ou vrou, jou dogter werk in Hanover Park. As for UWO, oh yes, lots. They don't like UWO. They said "Daai UWO (in Afrikaans, not in English as most of us say) maak moeilikheid. Hulle was die eerste organisasie in Western Cape." They have a geheime file on UWO. They even knew the date I was elected secretary of Guguletu branch.

Q: Women prisoners are more anonymous. Why is this so?

A: This is a reflection of the whole society. Women's role is not seen as important. It is for us as a women's organization to show the importance of women in the struggle. We should also contact women prisoners and publicize their names and conditions.

Q: Did you have any communication with other women prisoners?

A: No, only the policewomen who called us "bombers". They said, "Daai meisies is vol nonsens. Die een drink koffie sonder suiker en die ander flou swart tee". So I knew that Zou was also in.

Q: Were you, or any other women you know, subjected to

sexual harassment or threats?

A: No, I was not sexually harassed but I hardly slept. At night I was so scared that they would rape me or let me sleep with a dog that I never wanted to sleep. I heard this from other women, especially after '76 - how they were raped and some were forced to sleep with dogs.

At night, when I heard keys, they checked every 2 hours, I would sit up straight. They would ask "Is alles reg?" I would quickly answer yes so that they need not come inside to check.

I was also called all sorts of names. They would ask me about UWO and UDF activities. Then I said I was not arrested for UWO nor UDF activities.

When I refused to give information they would say "What type of secretary are you if you don't know what's going on. No wonder UDF is like that with such a stupid secretary!"

I read the bible a lot. When I missed people like Jonathan, I would read that part of the bible. But I must say that this whole experience strengthened me a lot, made me more committed and determined to fight for the struggle.

Q: What were your main worries?

A: First my parents who are very old, as I am the breadwinner and my 5 year old daughter is asthmatic. But I realised my comrades would look after them. I was then concerned about my organization.

Women praise Victoria Mxenge

AUGUST 9 was National Woman's Day. On that day, thousands throughout the country paid tribute to the 20 000 courageous women who marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria on August 9 1956 to protest against passes being extended to women.

On Sunday August 11, a meeting was held in Langa to celebrate Woman's Day. The rally was also a memorial service for Victoria Mxenge, the Durban lawyer and UDF activist who was brutally murdered a week earlier.

Speakers at the meeting, attended by about 400 people, saluted Mrs Mxenge as a mother, a wife, a people's lawyer and a comrade, who was brutally murdered because she dedicated her entire life to the fight for a just and democratic future for our country.

She is the first woman political activist to be killed by an assassin's bullet, the rally heard. Her husband, Griffiths Mxenge, also a lawyer, was also brutally murdered in 1982 after he was missing for a few days. Police say they are still investigating his murder.

Speakers at the meeting said that the message left by Mrs Mxenge is: "Take forward the fight!"

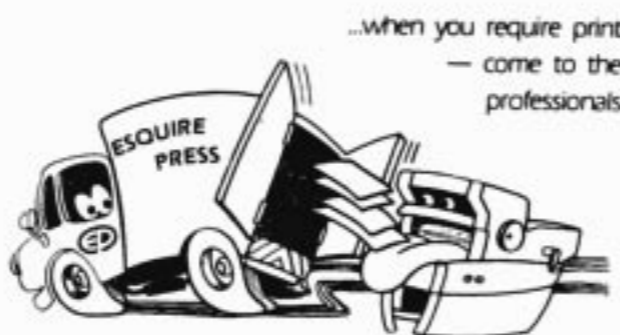
The rally heard that the state of emergency has already come to Cape Town - it is riding in Caspiers, armed

"Botha has declared the state of emergency in 36 magisterial districts but his police and soldiers are enforcing it in all areas. In Bonteheuwel where they sjambokked and tear-gassed students; At Stenbuke's funeral in Guguletu where they baton-charged and shot mourners; In

Worcester where they have sealed off the township.

"The state of emergency will not help Botha. We in the West-

ern Cape will support the students and the consumer boycott. We will support our brothers and sisters in other areas," the rally heard.



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Advice

STUDY WHILE YOU BOYCOTT

Dear Grassroots,
I am a student at UWC. We have been boycotting lectures these last three weeks to protest against the government's actions. Some of us believe that it is important to carry on studying on our own during the boycott. But we have experienced many problems trying to study on our own. Do you at Grassroots Advice have any suggestions for how self-study can work during boycotts?
Thanks for your help.

Maria Jantjies.
Dear Maria
We believe that learning to study on your own should not only be important at times of boycott. Learning to study on your own is important in teaching you to be an independent and critical thinker. It is difficult to learn to study effectively on your own because the education system has taught us all to depend on a teacher or lecturer to tell us what to think. We need to learn to become independent

thinkers.
We do have some suggestions that can help you and your friends to learn to study more independently. Suggestions
FORM A STUDY GROUP of between 3 and 7 people who are doing the same subject. Studying in a group rather than on your own is more effective and more fun.
AT THE BEGINNING OF A COURSE (i.e. before the boycotts) ask the lecturer to provide you with the following aids:

- A clear plan of the entire course. This should include the goals of the course, the main divisions of the course, the relationship between the various sections, and the type of activities involved.
 - IT IS MUCH EASIER TO STUDY IF YOU KNOW WHAT THE OVERALL GOAL OF THE COURSE IS!
 - A detailed breakdown of the main sections of the course. This should include the learning objectives for each section, the main questions you should be asking, and ways of testing yourself.
 - A guide to additional, useful resources for the course — for example films, videos, books, people, outside organisations.
 - Where the lecturer can be contacted for informal help and advice.
- Boycotts are part of a proud tradition at UWC and in the schools. They are part of the struggle for a just society. Learning to study independently in groups is also a part of the struggle. It is part of the struggle to develop an alternative way of collective learning.



Ithuba onokulivalelwa xa Ubanjiwa

NANGO apha akapa ingekho imeko yongxunguphalo, amapolisa abambe abantu abaninzi.
Kubalulekile ukuba niwazi amalungelo enunxanibanjiwe.
Xa sele uphantsi kokubanjwa novalelo amapolisa akufuneki akubethe. Ukuba enza oko, ungawamangalela emveni kokuba ukhushibe.

Kubalulekile kakuhulu ukufumanisa kwi-polisa elikubambayo uku ba likubamba phantsi koMthetho wuphi na. Le nto iya kunceda uwazi amalungelo akho emvenikokuba ubanjiwe — ixesha ekufuneka ulichithile entolongweni nokuba uza kuvunyelwa na ukuba ubone igqwetha nabantu bakho.

UKUFUMANA IGQWETHA: Ewe, ungankho ukulifumana.
UBUDE BEXESHA ONOKUTHI UHLALE UVALELWE: Ama-48 eeyure ngaphandle kokuba amapolisa anemvume esayinwe ngu-Mantyi. Ukuba anayo le mvume isayiniweyo, kufuneka ke ngoku ukhululwe emva kweentsuku ezili-14. Ukuze aphinde akuvalele kwakhona, kufuneka akwenze oko phantsi kwesinye isigqeba somthetho esahlukileyo.

Ngaphandle kokuba umangalelwe okanye ubanjiwe ngokwaphula umthetho, ipolisa malingathathi iminwe yakho, izandla zakho (palm prints) neenyawo zakho (foot prints).
Ngaphandle kokuba uphantsi kovalelo, ipolisa: (a) Malingakunyanzeli ukuba utsalwe igazi. Ukuba uphantsi kovalelo, ngugqirha kuphela, ingelilo ipolisa, elinokutsala igazi lakho. (b) Alinakuthatha ifoto yakho. (c) Alinakuxilonga umzimba wakho. Ukuba uphantsi kovalelo kwaye ungumfazi, kuphela ngumntu obhinqileyo onokuxilonga umzimba wakho.

Ukuba ipolisa lithi ubanjiwa ngokoMthetho weNkqubo yeenkundla zamatyala okona ngokophula umthetho, ke ngoku:
(a) Uvumelekile ubone igqwetha.
(b) Kufuneka uziswe phambi koMantyi kwisithuba seeyure ezingama 48 ubanjiwe. Ukuba ezi yure zingama 48 ziphela ngempela-veki okanye ngeholidi, ke ngoku kufuneka usiwe enkundleni kuku-olulandela iholidi okanye impela-veki leyo.

SECTION 29: ISIZATHU SOKUVALELWA: Igosa lamapolisa elikwisikundla esiphezulu okanye elinye elibizwa ngokuba yi "Lieutenant-Colonel" lingakuvalela ukuba licinga ukuba udibene nasiphina isenzo esinxulumene "nobugrog-risi".
UKUFUMANA IGQWETHA: Hayi akunankho ukulibona. Kodwa ke unqobiselela kuMphathiswa wezoMthetho noCwango ngazo zonke iintsuku ucele ukuba ukhululwe kwaye qho ngenyanga amapolisa kufuneka axelele uMphathiswa lowo ukuba kutheni uvalelwe nje, naye uMphathiswa kufuneka abe unika imvume yakhe yokuba wena mawuginwe eluvalelweni.

Ukuba amapolisa akavumi ukuba ubonane negqwetha, ngokwenza njalo aphula umthetho. Ukuba uvela enkundleni kwaye nangeli xesha akunalo igqwetha, cela uMantyi akufunele igqwetha.
AMAPOLISA NOMANTYI AKASOZE ATHATHHE NGOKUNIKA IGQWETHA - ZICELELE IGQWETHA WENA NGOKWAKHO.

Ukuba ipolisa lithi ubanjiwa ngokoMthetho weNkqubo yeenkundla zamatyala okona ngokophula umthetho, ke ngoku:
(a) Uvumelekile ubone igqwetha.
(b) Kufuneka uziswe phambi koMantyi kwisithuba seeyure ezingama 48 ubanjiwe. Ukuba ezi yure zingama 48 ziphela ngempela-veki okanye ngeholidi, ke ngoku kufuneka usiwe enkundleni kuku-olulandela iholidi okanye impela-veki leyo.

SECTION 28 ISIZATHU SOKUVALELWA: Amapolisa acinga ukuba uyingozi kukhuseleko lwelizwe
UKUFUMANA IGQWETHA: Ewe, ungakufuneka ukuba ulungise inkcazelo yakho ezakuthunyelwa kwi-Bhodi yokuPhonononga olovalolo ukwenzela ukuba uyicele ukuba mayiqwalasele into yokuba ukhululwe.
UBUDE BEXESHA USELUVALELWENI: Amapolisa anakugcina kangangoko efuna.

SECTION 31 ISIZATHU ZOKUVALELWA: Ipolisa / Amapolisa acinga ukuba ungalilo ingqina.
UKUFUMANA IGQWETHA: Akunakho ukulibona
UBUDE BEXESHA ONOKUGCINWA NGALO: Iinyanga ezintandathu ngaphandle kokuba kuye kwamangalelwa omnye umntu wena ke ngoku ube lingqina lenkundla. Ke ngoku kufuneka ukuba ukhushibe ekupheleni kwetyala.

SECTION 50: ISIZATHU SOKUVALELWA: Amapolisa acinga ukuba ubangele unxunguphalo okanye uphazamisela uxolo.

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Advice

HAVING YOUR BABY AT HOME

SOMETIMES women cannot get to the hospital. Maybe there are roadblocks or riots or no transport. Then other women or the father will help with the birth at home.

When any of these things happen, you will know the baby is ready to be born.

- A little blood and sticky mucus comes out of your vagina
- Your "water" bursts — a lot of water comes out
- You feel cramps one after another with the same amount of time in between them. At first they will be more than 20 minutes apart. Later they will become quicker.

What to get ready

- clean sheet
- newspapers, plastic bags cut open

Rate reductions for pensioners

MOST councils give a reduction to their old age pensioners. But the Divisional Council does not do this. Last month the Divisional Council decided again that they will not give rate reductions. They said that it will cost them R225 000 a year, and they can not afford this. But they spend twice this amount every year on breaking down the houses of squatters!!!

People who live in the City Council or Bellville areas can get a reduction on their rates. But the reductions are not the same everywhere.

If you live in a City Council area . . .

You can get a reduction on your rates if you are over 65 years old, for men, and over 60 years old, for women.

But also:
* you must be the owner of your house
* your house must not be worth more than R45 000

* you and your husband or wife together must not earn more than R600 a month.

If you are younger than 60 or 65 years old and you get a social welfare or disability grant, then you can also ask for a rate reduction.

People who earn very little get a bigger reduction:

If you earn under R400 a month — you get 40% off your rates.

If you earn under R500 a month — you get 30% off your rates.

If you earn under R600 a month — you get 20% off your rates.

You must write to the City Council and ask them for an application form. In your letter you must put your rates reference number and your property reference number. You must send the letter to the Rate Rebate Department, Cape Town City Council, Cape Town.

If you live in the

Bellville area . . .

You can get a reduction on your rates if you are over 60 years old. This is for men and women.

Also:

* you must be the owner of your house.

* your house must not be worth more than R25 000.

* you and your husband and wife together must not earn more than R500 a month.

Bellville does not give rate reductions to people who are younger than 60 years old and who only have a social welfare or disability grant.

Bellville also gives a bigger reduction to people who earn less:

If you earn under R200 a month — you get 40% off your rates.

If you earn under R300 a month — you get 30% off your rates.

If you earn under R400 a month — you get 20% off your rates.

If you earn under R500 a month — you get 15% off your rates.

You must write a letter to the Rates Department, Bellville Municipality, and ask for an application form. You must give the same reference numbers as the city council people.

If you have problems writing this letter, go to

your Advice Office and ask them to do it for you.

The parent's creed

AND a woman who held a babe against her bosom said: Speak to us of Children. And he said: your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself. They come through you but not from you, and though they are with you, they belong not to you. You may give them your love but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts. You may house

their bodies but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday. You are the bow from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

Kahlil Gibran



mother's back and comfort her.

The birth

Many mothers vomit and feel restless at the time they feel that they want to push the baby out. When the head starts to come out, the mother must push hard with every strong pain.

When the baby's head is nearly out, the mother must take small breaths and she must not push hard. This helps the skin not to tear.

Don't pull the baby's head out because this can hurt the baby. The baby's body must turn round for the

shoulders to come out.

When baby is born it is still attached to the mother by the umbilical cord. This cord comes from the placenta (afterbirth) which is still inside the mother.

Is baby breathing?

As soon as the baby is born, make sure it is breathing. If baby does not breathe, suck its nose to get out anything blocking it. Then blow very softly into the baby's mouth until it starts breathing.

Care for the cord

After about one minute the cord will stop beating and will become thin and white.

Tie one piece of

string tight around the cord about the length of a finger from the baby's tummy. Tie the other string about the length of a finger nearer the mother. The strings are used so that the cord will not bleed when you cut it.

Cut the cord between the two pieces of string with the boiled scissors or knife.

Wrap the baby in a warm towel and give the baby to the mother straight away. She can give the baby the breast. When baby sucks it helps the womb to get tight and this means there is less bleeding.

The afterbirth

This should come out after 20 or 30 minutes. The mother will feel a pain inside her. The cord will suddenly become longer. Then she must push the placenta out.

When the placenta has come out, rub the mother's stomach a little until you feel the womb inside gets tight and hard. If the mother bleeds a lot, it is very important to fetch the nurse quickly.

Wash the mother and put a clean cloth over the vagina. Give her something to drink. Then let her and her baby rest.

Health care is a right

WHEN one has an illness like high blood pressure or asthma it is very important to take medicines regularly. Medicines, however, are very expensive. We would like to give advice to people, like Mrs Smith in the last Grassroots, who belong to medical aid.

In some cases the chemists charge a fee of five rand for the medicines and then the chemist sends the account to the medical aid.

In other cases the person must pay for the medicines first and then send the account himself to the medical aid. The medical aid takes long to pay the people back.

Try to find a chemist that will send the account straight to the medical aid.

Medical aid schemes are part of the government's attempt to get individuals to pay for their illness. The government tries to get rid of its responsibility for the health care of the people.

Health care is the right of all individuals. Everyone should have access to FREE health care. Health care services are not provided equally for all South Africans. Medical aid schemes are part of capitalism where many

people work, but few people get most of the money.

In South Africa some of the things of capitalism are shown in the health services. Health services are bought and sold by private practitioners,

hospitals and clinics just like clothing, food, furniture and services, like plumbing.

In a capitalist country like South Africa, a doctor is like another shopkeeper. Doctors sell their skills and make a profit out of

the patient's illness.

In some countries the government provides free medical care to all people and health care is seen as a basic human right which the government must provide.

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GRASSROOTS YOUTH EXPRESS FESTIVAL AUG. 9 & 10

YOUTH FOR FREEDOM

The Spirit of Freedom was there — in the trumpets of the Swingsters, in the beat of Amajinqi, in the plays, banners, songs and poetry of the youth. On Aug. 9 & 10, youth from Oudtshoorn, Worcester, the West Coast and Cape Town came together at the Grassroots Youth Express festival. With one voice, they showed that bullets, jails and teargas will never break us. They gave us a vision of a free South Africa - a nothing will stop us winning that!



The Sharptown swingsters at Rocklands Civic on Friday night.



Amajinqi set the beat



Some of the many posters entered into the Youth Express Competition.

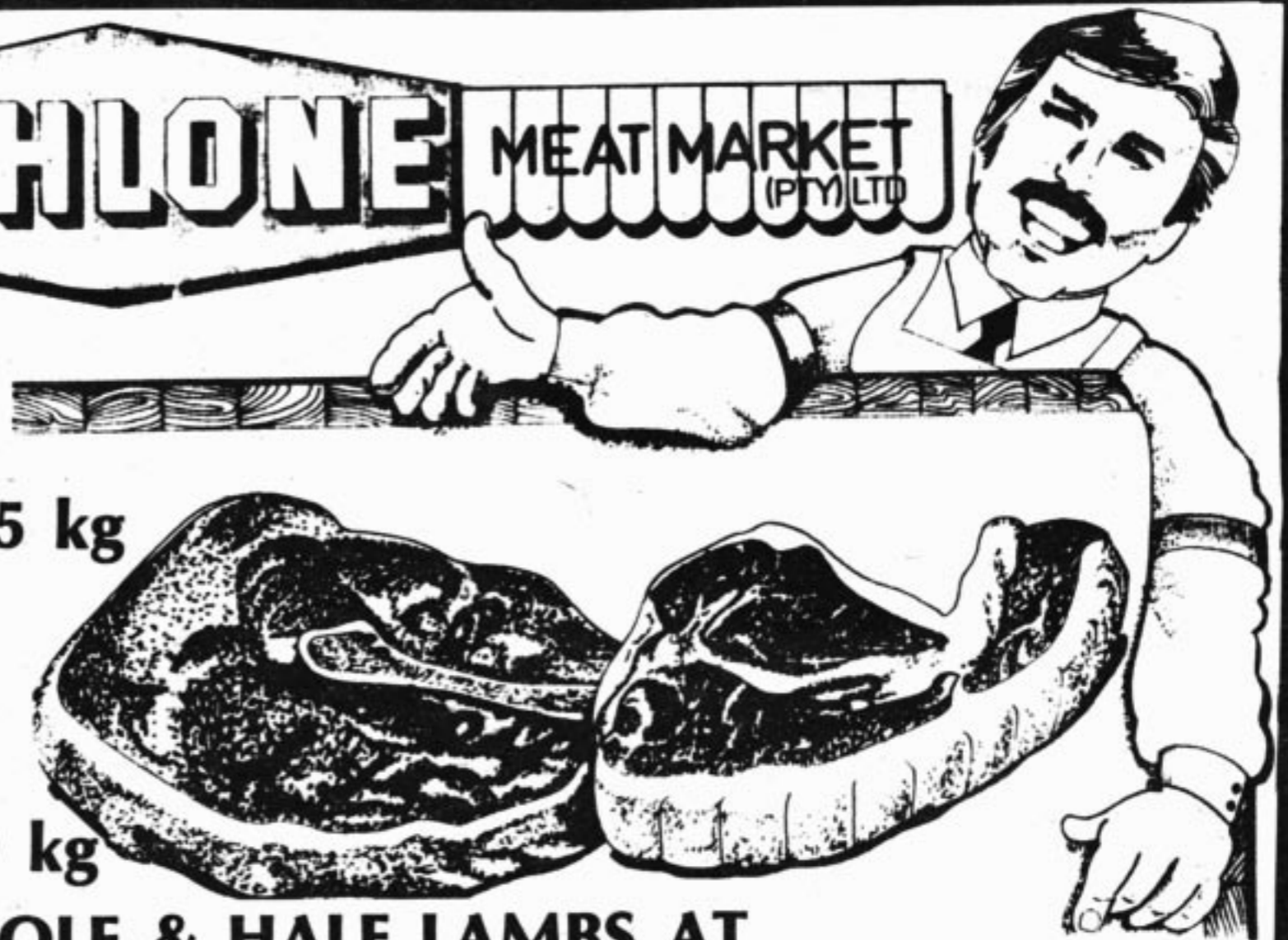


Breaking out in breakdance



Play by Khuvangano Cultural Group from Johannesburg

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JOBLESS MARCH FOR LOW RENTS

ABOUT 40 unemployed people marched to the housing office in Manenberg recently to demand rent reductions.

They were stopped before they could reach

the office, arrested by police and had to appear in Wynberg Court on charges of attending an illegal gathering.

The decision to

march was taken when a speaker from the Manenberg Advice Office spoke to unemployed workers on Tuesday August 13 about their rights

The next day unemployed workers gathered at the advice office to discuss how they could put pressure on the council to meet their demands.

The unemployed workers agreed to march to the housing office with placards reading: "We're unemployed, We want low rent and we need jobs".

The march started about 12 o'clock with 15 adults and children. Along the way pamphlets were given out and the marchers increased to about 40 when they neared the rent office.

As they were about to cross Manenberg Avenue, police stopped them. They were not asked to disperse and told to stay in position while police reinforcements were radioed. A police video unit recorded what happened.

An army Caspir arrived a few minutes later and eleven people - three women, eight men and two children (aged four and five) were ordered into the vehicle.

Some of the men had not eaten for two days and were disgusted at the way they were treated.

Later the arrested people were transferred to Wynberg Magistrate Courts and charged under Section 57 of the Internal Security Act which deals with illegal gatherings.

At the courts the prosecutor asked if they had money for bail. They replied that they are unemployed and did not have any money; that because of their unemployment plight, rent arrears, hunger, they went to the rent office to ask for a rent reduction.

They were released without bail and will have to appear on 27 September 1985.

The next day they went back to the rent office to finish their plan of action and were told to report back for results on 19 August. The victory was planned and carried out with determination by the unemployed workers of Manenberg.

Workers strike SAAWU grows

ABOUT 1 000 Murray and Roberts workers went on strike recently in support of demands for the recognition of the South African Allied Workers' Union.

The strike took place on Monday August 12 after a meeting at the workers' hostels the previous night.

The strike ended when management agreed to meet SAAWU representatives to discuss the grievances.

The workers' demands are:

- The recognition of their union, SAAWU;
- Management must dismantle the liaison committee system and replace this with a workers' committee which is democratically elected;
- Workers must be involved in all issues that affect them in the running of the hostels.

At the meeting, agreement was reached and Thursday August 15 was chosen as a day to prove the membership of the union.

Meanwhile, SAAWU has signed its first recognition agreement in the Western Cape with Continental China Black-



THE Murray and Roberts site in Cape Town where the workers went on strike recently.

heath on the 9.8.1985.

The agreement covers working conditions, grievances, disciplinary, dispute, retrenchment, and maternity procedures. This followed a three week strike which workers had won.

SAAWU has de-facto agreements at Con-

tinental China in Atlantis, 3M Atlantis, Ala-Amien Meat Products, Pretoria Portland Cement and Sundance Pools.

"There are many more to follow as SAAWU is in demand," says a SAAWU organiser.



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Students in previous courses have come from diverse fields of work including community organisations, health education, industrial training, adult education centres, literacy programmes, tertiary institutions, the Church, careers counselling and parent education.

The course is open to anyone with the minimum qualification of a two-year post-matriculation certificate.

Further details can be obtained from the Professor of Adult Education, Centre for Extra-Mural Studies, University of Cape Town, Private Bag, Rondebosch, 7700. (Telephone (021) 69-2805 or 69-2904).

The closing date for applications is 31 October 1985.

Advice Forum holds 1st AGM

"THE easy part is now over. We know how to set up an office, how to run an office, how to run workshops . . . Now we will have to ensure that the organisation enables us to respond to the developments in the broader struggle against racism and against capitalism."

These were the words of Ms M Naidoo during her address to the First Annual General Meeting on Saturday 17 August 1985. Ms Naidoo spoke about the strengths and the weaknesses of the organisations and the year ahead.

Mr Meyer of the Manenberg Advice Office was elected chairman of the organisation for the next year.

Mr J Patel of the Unemployed Workers' Union in Durban told the meeting how the Union have succeeded in mobilising groups of unemployed around their legitimate demands.

Mr D Grootboom was re-elected Secretary. He too reflected on the problems that occurred during the past year.

"We can say without fear of contradiction that the forum has managed the respect of other people and organisations, especially activists, of whom some were fairly sceptical about the concept of advice offices."

Throughout the day there was a great spirit of Unity among the people from the different areas. The meeting also condemned the present state emergency.

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WHO WILL TAKE THE CHALLENGE CUP?

TALK that all the Virginia soccer titles are going to PROVINCE, that's the Kensington-based WP Football Association, rang clear when three Province teams qualified for the quarter-final round of the Challenge Cup.

Unfortunately, two of them, Saxon Rovers and Norway Parks meets in this round — so one will be eliminated — but Facticeon United have an easier passage.

Province have already regained the major Virginia inter-union title which they last won in 1982.

And here the scoring feats of Joe Juta, Johnny Schroeder's leadership and the steady play of Deon Warely hardly went unnoticed. How Juta and Schroeder pull Saxon Rovers back into contention for the honours in group two of the Virginia inter-club competition is also keenly awaited.

Rovers lost 2-1 to pacesetters Matroosfontein for whom Andre Daniels scored in reply to Juta's

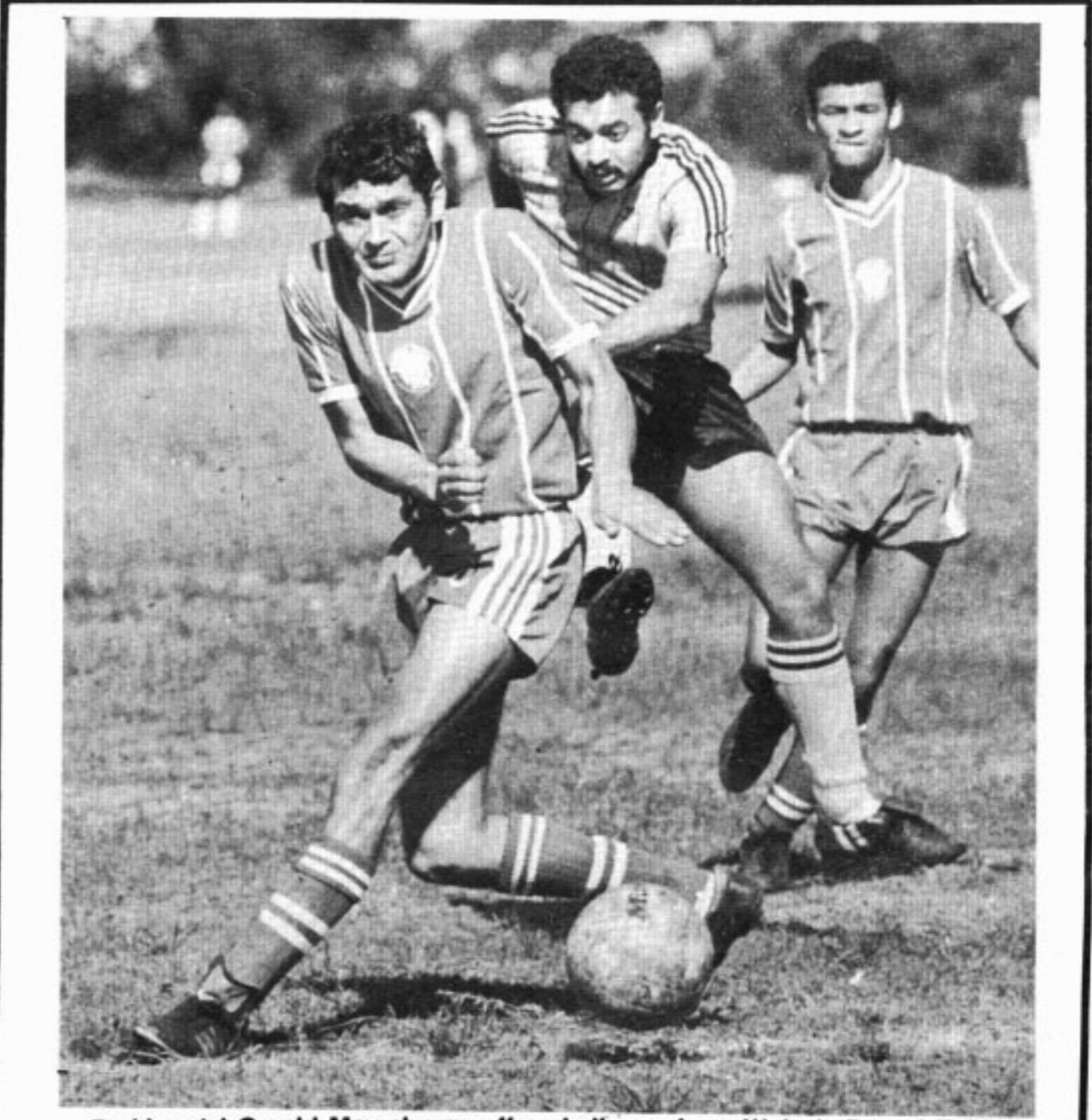
customary goal. At this stage Rovers, with a match in hand trailed Matroosfontein by three points.

If Province reach their goal they'll emulate the feat of Cape District FA who made a clean haul of the Virginia titles with the aid of top club Battswood in 1983 and '84.

Battswood are in line to win group two of the inter-club league in spite of suffering their first defeat against Thornhill in the competition last week.

But not forgetting Mitchells Plain FA who still have Westridge AFC and Liverpool AFC in the quarter-final round of the Challenge Cup.

It's the furthest Mitchells Plain clubs have progressed in the competition and association chairman Ebrahim Parker has promised to provide incentives for the club to succeed and bring home the honours.



Parkhursts' Gerald May shrugs off a challenge from Wolves' Russel Tobin in a Virginia challenge cup Match at Turfhall. Wolves won 4 - 2

W.P. set to keep SA Title

WESTERN Province face Transvaal in the 1985 SA Soccer Federation inter-provincial finale at the Athlone Stadium on Sunday October 6.

And on current form it looks like unbeaten WP the holders of the title will not be stopped.

WP, who have an outstanding match against OFS at Athlone on Sep-

tember 22, have already won their section of the competition following wins over Southern Natal, Border and Northern Natal. Transvaal beat nearest-rivals Eastern Province in order to qualify.

The Western Province Football Board's other aim is to retain the SA inter-

club title, and Everton United meets Blackpool of Eastern Province at the Athlone Stadium on Sunday September 1.

Everton eliminated Battswood, the SA inter-club holders for the past two seasons, and the inclusion of Eugene Agulhas in the provincial side should boost his morale for the big match.

VIRGINIA CHALLENGE CUP

THE Western Province Football Board Virginia Challenge Quarter Final fixtures to be played in September with venues still to be announced.

QUARTER FINALS

Westridge v Aurora (1)
Saxon Rovers v Norway Parks (2)

SEMI-FINALS

Winner game 1 v Winner game 2
Winner game 3 v Winner game 4

Liverpool v Wolves (3)
Peninsula United v Facticeon United (4)

FINAL
Winner game 1 or Winner game 2 v Winner game 3 or Winner game 4.

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