

~~POVERTY~~ POVERTY — GENERAL
1991

Rural poverty poses major tragedy ^{2/11/91} Operation Hunger

MARCIA KLEIN

SA COULD be on the threshold of a major tragedy in terms of rural poverty as a result of the recession, higher unemployment and the drought, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman warned at the weekend.

Operation Hunger has budgeted for expenditure of R27m this year compared with R22m in 1990. Perlman said there had been requests to feed another 250 000 people in the Transkei and the Ciskei.

She said she could already see a situation where Operation Hunger would have to feed up to 2-million people by the end of 1991 in order to be effective.

The organisation — which spent about R1.2m a month on food — was helping between 1.5-million and 1.6-million people. There had also been a huge increase in urban feeding, with requests in the Witwatersrand area almost doubling over 1990. *6/10/91 MK*

Perlman said the scrapping of the Land Act — mooted for some time — was the only way to realistically fight possible disaster in the rural areas in 1991.

About 58% of the black population was still living in the rural areas.

Perlman said she had been told that with the scrapping of the Land Act as many as

6-million hectares of land would become available for immediate use if capital was found.

Unemployment in SA was "terrifying", she said, suggesting that about 50 000 more people could lose their jobs between now and July (more than 50 000 people were retrenched by mines alone in 1990).

The implications of the movement of thousands of people into the cities would be massive squatter sites and a rise in unemployment.

In an informal survey, Operation Hunger found that 58% of the people interviewed said that if they were given land or the opportunity to utilise land for farming, they would prefer to return to farming and would be in a better position by doing so.

Money required to re-establish a subsistence farmer would be much less than money spent on continually feeding people.

Perlman said one of "the miracles" of Zimbabwe was that malnutrition was brought down to as low as 6% at one stage "because the state went all out to reinstate the subsistence farmer", while SA had only managed to bring malnutrition down to a low of about 20%.

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman speaking out, during an interview on Friday, on the potential threat to SA's rural areas
Picture CATHERINE ROSS

Scrap Act to fight hunger

- Perlman

Star 8/1/91
By Shirley Woodgate

The scrapping of the Land Act is the key to combating the major problem of chronic persistent hunger in South Africa while helping blacks to play a part in a capital-intensive economy, says Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman.

Speaking ahead of the possible repeal of the 1913 law in the coming parliamentary session, she said this single move would enable thousands of people to return to the land, heralding a partial return to the subsistence economy of the 19th century

Vulnerable

Mrs Perlman said Operation Hunger planned to push the concept that of those who died of hunger and hunger-related causes, only 10 percent of deaths were due to famine. The rest were due to chronic persistent hunger.

"The vital move is getting that law off the statute books if we are to have a realistic chance of getting people back on to the land."

Condemning the blanket acceptance of urbanisation as a norm of the '90s, she stressed "About 80 percent of the rural population is totally vulnerable - depending on income from outside, from men and women who work in the cities.

"We find with thousands of unmarketable people streaming into these urban camps, 70 to

80 percent of them are functionally illiterate with no role in a capital-intensive economy, except at the lowest level

"According to surveys in Vlakfontein, Botshabelo and Khayelitsha, 58 percent of the people said they would return to the land if provided with funds to re-establish themselves. The only exceptions were former labourer-tenants on white farms who existed in the 'ja-baas/slave' situation"

Mrs Perlman insisted that moving the focus from urban squatting to resettlement on the land should not be implemented as imposed programmes but as schemes done in consultation with the people concerned.

"With 12 sq m we can get a man to survival level. Nobody pretends this will be enough, but with 24 sq m he can treble his income with money over for education

"If this bold back-to-the-land plan is carried out properly it could herald the beginning of the end of hunger, which could be largely wiped out within 10 years. But if this is not introduced, the next couple of years could become a horror story."

She had no doubt money was available for the new focus.

"There is currently enough land available in white areas without expropriation to get a lot of people going fast.

"I believe there is about 6 million ha lying unused at this moment, not all of it prime land, but usable agricultural property. The type of ownership is irrelevant, whether it be leasehold or freehold, that is for the politicians to decide."

CAPE TOWN
Tuesday, January 16 1991

Govt plans drive on poverty

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The government has begun a major inquiry into poverty which could have substantial policy implications, possibly as soon as in the next budget.

In September the cabinet briefed a committee to produce a policy position on poverty. The full report will be completed only by April 1992, but interim findings could be implemented in this year's budget, said an informed source.

More social spending is/likely, while spending on capital projects will be cut back.

It is understood that the committee will use the World Bank's poverty alleviation programmes and its World Development Plan on Poverty as basic

material. The bank is expected to begin researching South Africa's economy this year.

This will be the first involvement of the bank with SA since the mid-60s.

The essential features of the World Bank approach are that the main economic policy must be growth-orientated, that programmes should be aimed at job creation, and that there should be balanced spending on social services.

"The World Development Report provides a useful blueprint, but will have to be modified to meet the needs of SA's diverse population," the source said.

The World Bank report said rapid and politically sustainable growth had been achieved by a strategy which promoted the use of the poor's most produc-

tive asset, their labour. A second phase was to provide basic health care, family planning, nutrition and primary education.

It also emphasises expansion of agriculture.

Poverty in SA has been an area of neglect by the authorities. Signs that this was to change emerged in the last budget. Finance Minister Mr. Barendse said the economy had to be restructured to raise the standards of all, and R2bn was allocated to help remove socio-economic backlogs.

The ANC has put poverty alleviation high on its agenda and its economic policy document produced in Harare says satisfying basic needs by growth through redistribution is essential. The document identifies the budget as a major instrument for achieving this goal.

Bushmen resettled after years of poverty

Staff Reporter

A GROUP of Bushmen who wandered in the desert for years, were given a new lease of life yesterday when they were moved on to a game reserve near Ceres

A local farmer, who was moved by their plight after seeing a television programme, came to their assistance

The leader of the 28-strong group, Mr Dawid Kuiper, 56, said that he and his family had lived in abject poverty at Vanzylsrus, near the Botswana border

After working for a tour operator at the Kalahari Gemsbok Park for three years, he was paid only R800 The

family survived on tips from tourists

After the family had featured in a film, Mr Kuiper had been given a R3 000 cheque, which was later dishonoured. He has only R1 in his savings account

Mr Peter De Waal, part-owner of the Kagga Kamma game reserve near Ceres, said that the men would be trained as guides on the reserve and the women would make traditional handicrafts and beads

"We are on the brink of World War III, with nations poised to destroy nations. Yet paradoxically we are trying to re-establish a nation," said co-owner Mr Piet Loubser

Major poverty probe launched

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B/Dam 16/1/91

KEVIN DAVIE

GOVERNMENT has begun a major inquiry into poverty which could have substantial policy implications, possibly as soon as in the next Budget.

In September Cabinet briefed a committee headed by the Finance Department's Estian Calitz to produce a policy position on poverty. While the full report will be completed only by April 1992, interim findings could be implemented in this year's Budget, said an informed source.

More social spending is likely, while spending on capital projects will be cut back.

It is understood that the committee will use the World Bank's worldwide poverty alleviation programmes as basic material, and in particular its World-Development Report on Poverty, published last year.

Staffers of the bank, the world's primary development agency, are expected to begin researching SA's economy this year. This will be the first involvement of the bank with SA since the mid-60s.

Government's inquiry is likely to use the World Development Report guidelines, but modify these for application to the local situation.

The essential features of the World Bank approach, as outlined in the World Development Report, are that macro-economic policy must be growth orientated, that programmes

should be aimed at job creation, and that there should be balanced spending on social services.

"The World Development Report provides a useful blueprint, but will have to be modified to meet the needs of SA's diverse population," the source said.

The World Bank report said rapid and politically sustainable growth has been achieved by a strategy which promotes the use of the poor's most productive asset, their labour. A second phase is to provide basic health care, family planning, nutrition and primary education.

The report also emphasises expansion of agriculture as a key to poverty-reducing growth in rural areas.

Poverty in SA has been an area of neglect by the authorities. Signs that this was to change emerged in the last Budget. Finance Minister Bar-end du Plessis said the economy had to be restructured to raise the standards of all South Africans and R2bn was allocated to help remove socio-economic backlogs.

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● See Page 6

THE World Development Report, published last year, is a no frills approach to tackling poverty. It assesses international poverty alleviation programmes and produces a coherent policy to help the poor.

Classifying as poor those who earn less than \$370 annually, the bank says its strategy could reduce worldwide poverty by about 400-million people by the end of this decade — down from about one billion now.

Policies must be tuned to three broad tasks: encouraging rural development and urban employment, increasing the poor's participation in growth by improving access to land, credit and public infrastructure and services, and facilitating migration from resource-poor areas where poverty and environmental degradation are interrelated.

Agricultural reform is identified as the driving force behind effective rural development, laying the foundation for growth which reduces poverty. Agricultural growth also boosts the entire economy. Countries with rapid agricultural growth typically have rapid industrial growth.

South Africa is about to embark on a major rural reform programme. This year, the land Acts, which have prevented blacks owning land in "white" South Africa, will be repealed. This could bring large numbers of small-scale farmers onto the land, easing pressure in resource-poor areas. Development Bank studies suggest moreover that these units can be highly productive and easily financed.

The report says that countries which have performed well agriculturally are those which tax moderately and provide strong supportive state programmes. Policy should not be biased in favour of large farmers. In Zimbabwe, for instance, when the bias towards large farmers was redressed in the 1980s, smallholder maize and cotton production grew dramatically.

Growth in urban employment and wages is a second determinant of poverty reduction, both through cre-

infrastructure and services, including agricultural extension programmes.

Urban infrastructure, including access to public utilities, are important determinants of growth. In many cases roads, water, sanitation, and services such as electric power help small businesses because many informal businesses are based in the home. Studies have shown that access to utilities is essential for small business. Eskom's drive to electrify townships is appropriate here.

The areas of health and education also get the World Bank's attention. With a burgeoning population, SA faces major challenges in these areas. Worldwide the supply of public funds for social services is being squeezed as the population grows and ages, the report says. Slow economic growth, tight budget constraints and increasing demands on government's purse mean that priorities must be examined carefully.

The report recommends a shift in the allocation of funds from higher-level services to basic health and primary education, improving both efficiency and equity. The case for the state being the sole provider of curative care is weak, the report adds, arguing for state intervention only where the private sector cannot deliver.

It says government spending on social services is often inefficient. A case in point is that health budgets usually favour hospital care, while preventive and community services are far more effective in reducing the morbidity rate and mortality.

On education it says governments in middle-income countries have been able to build enough schools and train enough teachers to make universal primary education possible. The public sector is likely to remain the dominant supplier of primary levels of education, although there is more scope for private provision.

The report is certainly not tailor-made for SA, but presents a strategy based on decades of experience at the rockface. It provides a point of departure, meaning that SA does not have to repeat the mistakes of others.

Using World Bank strategies to tackle SA poverty

B. Davy 16/1/91

Government plans to use the World Bank's World Development Report on Poverty as the basis for formulating its own policy. KEVIN DAVIE reviews the report's possible applications in South Africa.

ating more opportunities for the urban poor and through increasing migration by the rural poor, the report says. This is especially important in middle-income countries such as South Africa.

Governments can play an important role by providing, or failing to provide, adequate urban infrastructure. To date the SA government has failed here. It has also put in place a maze of bureaucracy and regulations preventing blacks getting shelter and homes.

But there are signs that this is changing. A White Paper on housing, which observers believe will substantially deregulate the housing process, is scheduled for publication in months.

SA can learn much from the World Bank's experience in providing shelter schemes. The bank's shelter strategy relies on policies which the Urban Foundation and the Development Bank have been pushing for some years. The World Bank's site-and-service projects were designed to reorient typical public sector housing programmes which had benefited middle-income households, but not the poor.

In these projects land equipped

with rudimentary urban services were made available to people who either constructed their own dwellings or contributed to the construction. In Zambia's case this affordable housing approach provided homes at 20% of the cost of the least expensive government-subsidised houses. The strategy, the bank's report says, showed that housing the poor was possible.

Industrial protection often reduces both the level and growth of labour in the formal sector. As a rule, the report says, the greater the degree of protection, the greater the capital intensity of production. More neutral trade policies therefore increase the demand for labour.

Trade and protectionism are both under review in South Africa. A new commitment to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT) will reduce tariff barriers, while government has embarked on a major re-evaluation of protectionism, in order to formulate a policy for the whole economy, rather than its previous ad hoc approach. In-

formed sources say the policy under consideration would reduce protectionism and increasingly demand that SA industries be competitive.

Social security taxes, labour regulations and high wages all tend to raise the cost of labour in the formal sector. So do minimum wage and job security regulations, leading to a reduction in the demand for labour.

Studies in Zimbabwe found that job security regulations reduced the long-term demand for labour by 25%, says the report.

The SA government's ability to introduce changes in this sphere would be limited by the strength of the unions.

The report also identifies the informal sector as an important provider of employment and income, estimating that it accounts for 75% of urban employment in many sub-Saharan countries. But the report warns against attempts to protect the informal sector. Where credit subsidies have been earmarked for small businesses they have often led to small firms to adopt relatively capital intensive techniques.

Cheap credit programmes have not helped the poor. The report says public funds are better spent on in-

Fighting a different kind of war

WHILE war rages in the Gulf, Father Heinz Werner Schneider, Roman Catholic priest and a member of the Schoenstatt Fathers, continues to fight his own battle against poverty and disease in the community at Site B, Khayelitsha.

Father Schneider came here nearly 28 years ago from Germany. He is quietly spoken, but it is a voice that is heard when he fights an injustice. In 1979, Father Schneider was well known to the Catholic community of Constantia where he was one of the founders of the Constantia Country Fair, held annually for charity.

Father Schneider felt the call to serve in the impoverished black areas, in keeping with the philosophy of the Schoenstatt Fathers.

At that time (1981/82), it was necessary to go to

DIANE CASSERE

interviews people from all walks of life, people who are making headlines or quietly benefiting the lives of others



~ KALEIDOSCOPE ~

Crossroads After 1985, however, Father Schneider and his team were transferred to Site B, Khayelitsha, a poverty-stricken area with shack housing and widespread unemployment.

"We are still trying to establish a church there, but we can't get a site. The residents have given

us part of their shacks to establish two soup kitchens," says Father Schneider.

Every day, the soup kitchens feed between 400 and 500 people. The price for the bread alone every day is R100 and the annual cost of the venture is R75 000 a year. Funding comes from many sources, including Father Schneider's relatives in Germany.

Father Schneider also sees his role as helping people to build and obtain their own houses and assisting with education.

"I started a fund for 36 families five months ago and they pay R50 regularly. They say there is no danger of them not paying as long as they are involved themselves."

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19/1/81
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FOCUS 3

Worshipping the same God but worlds apart

Too often farm labourers are exploited and without a voice to demand a humane deal while their employers reap the benefits of their labour. Now there is a glimmer of hope in the legislation to be tabled in parliament early this year.

Weekend Argus Reporter JOCELYN MAKER toured the wine farms of Simonidium and De Doorns and found the grinding cycle of hopeless poverty and hunger had become as firmly established as the handsome homesteads.

On Sundays in Simonidium the voices of brown and white churchgoers drift across the beautiful landscape in praise of the same God.

This hamlet, eight kilometres south of Paarl, is a place of stark contradictions hidden by neat farmlands, tall trees and stately homes.

For many of the farm labourers who express suppressed emotions in the singing of hymns there is no harmony in this tranquil setting.

While they plead with God to help them endure exploitation and poverty, down the road their "masters" and "baas" give thanks.

The labourers know they must keep their mouths shut about their plight, the pittance they are paid and the appalling conditions in which they live, or they will lose even that.

This fear is a legacy that has been passed down from generation to generation.

The workers see no hope of the "new South Africa" they hear about on the radio. For them this is another promise never to be kept.

Not all the farmers in the area exploit their labourers. Many have made a huge effort to upgrade living conditions, salaries and health.

On the farms that have caring owners, the wellbeing of labourers has improved dramatically. Those who still live in squalor under a "kwaai baas" see the difference and it hurts.

FOR more than 37 years Anna and Gert (not their real names) have worked the same farm. "My children were born in this house. It's

falling to pieces. We never broke anything — it is just so old," says Anna. "I dig in the land, prune vines and am a picker. I work for R40 a week and my husband gets R50. When he first started here he got R3 a week."

"It is my old fingers which look after the vines and pick the grapes that make my master rich. When the wine leaves the farm sometimes one bottle is sold for more than I earn in a week. This makes my heart heavy with pain. Maybe my master does not want to think about this."

"We work from 6am to 6:30pm. It's hard work and when it rains we are not allowed to stop. We have 45 minutes for lunch. The young people can manage but our bones are old and we are very tired."

In the old days, the farmer used to give them bread. The dop system has been done away with.

"Now we get nothing and the little money we earn cannot feed us. Most of us buy our food from the one shop in Simonidium but they are so expensive. One tin of condensed milk costs R1,90."

Her old dilapidated three-roomed home is in the middle of a row of others. All are surrounded by squalor. Dirtbins overflow and there is a stench from burning garbage and an open drain in front of the houses.

"The children are always sick. Many have died. The mothers try to keep the flies away from the babies but when their noses run it is difficult. The open-hole toilets stink and the

flies come to this."

For about 150 people there are only two taps and even on cold winter mornings they have to queue.

If only the baas would listen to us. If we were paid more money we would be able to look after ourselves a lot better.

"Something is gone from the hearts of our people. They have become sick with what is happening to them and what they have seen happen to their parents."

"We cannot complain to the baas, he will chase us away. Many times he has promised he will fix our houses but we are still waiting."

A clergyman who begged not to be named for fear that he would not be allowed back to help labourers, said the situation was bleak.

"The labourers work very long hours for very little money. The wages vary from R16 to R40 a week. There is no interaction between parents and their children who have to stay at home alone with no one to feed or look after them properly."

"Alcoholism is rife. Few farmers still have the dop system. Some still give alcohol on Friday nights in exchange for a R5 drop in salary. Labourers' children, some as young as 13, are also working on the lands. The need to help the family financially keeps them out of school."

"If they would stop employing them, the children might have a chance of getting an education. Within a short while of working these youngsters begin drinking as well. The whole vicious circle goes around again."

MANY of the farmers in Simonidium are very conservative. For them there is only the old way of treating their workers, yet it has no place in what is happening in our country now."

The exploited workers speak about the "new South Africa" but do not believe it will happen in their lifetime.

"They see one farmer caring for his labourers while another abuses. They see the poverty they live under and the grand homes farmers live in."

"Sadly it's the same age old story, but when will it stop? Some of the farmers know their workers' children are being fed during the week at school yet they will not pay their parents better wages."

Miss Sandra McAllister, Cape Regional director of Operation Hunger said that all the 630 pupils at the Simonidium primary school are being fed by her organisation.

"Fifteen percent of these children have been stunted due to chronic malnutrition. These figures show how bad the situation is."

The clergyman said there are many social problems in Simonidium such as child abuse, wife battery, assaults, stabbings and the breakdown of family units.

"I have very many good caring people in the congregation who try (to help) but they are up against problems that cannot be sorted out unless certain farmers upgrade their living conditions and salaries."

"History will continue to repeat itself and the hopelessness will remain."

Bitter Harvest in Bitter Valley

THE sweltering summer heat which hangs over De Doorns plays havoc with the festering sores and infected ears of the township's malnourished children.

When it is bitterly cold and the rain turns the dusty streets into mud pools, the children endure the severe weather and the pain of hunger bites deeper. For the elderly, many of whom have never left the valley, going without food for long periods is a hardship they accept.

In all the years they have worked on nearby farms they have never earned enough to save for their old age. It was impossible they say as they were paid so little.

Now they see the situation repeating itself. They listen as their sons and daughters complain bitterly about their low wages and their exploitation at the hands of some farm owners and employers.

When the elderly queue with the children for a cup of soup from Operation Hunger, their hearts break as they watch the trembling little hands hold out mugs, jugs and bottles for their only daily meal.

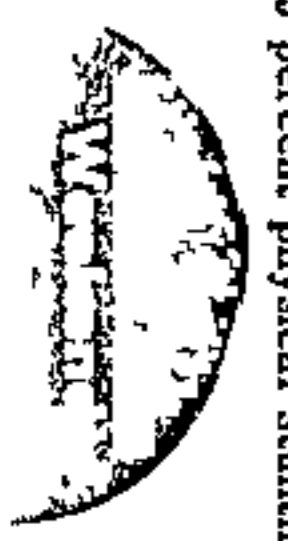
ACCORDING to the Cape regional director of Operation Hunger, Miss Sandra McAllister, there is a very high rate of malnutrition in the valley.

At the F. J. Conradie Primary School there are 995 children of whom 948 are fed each day by Operation Hunger.

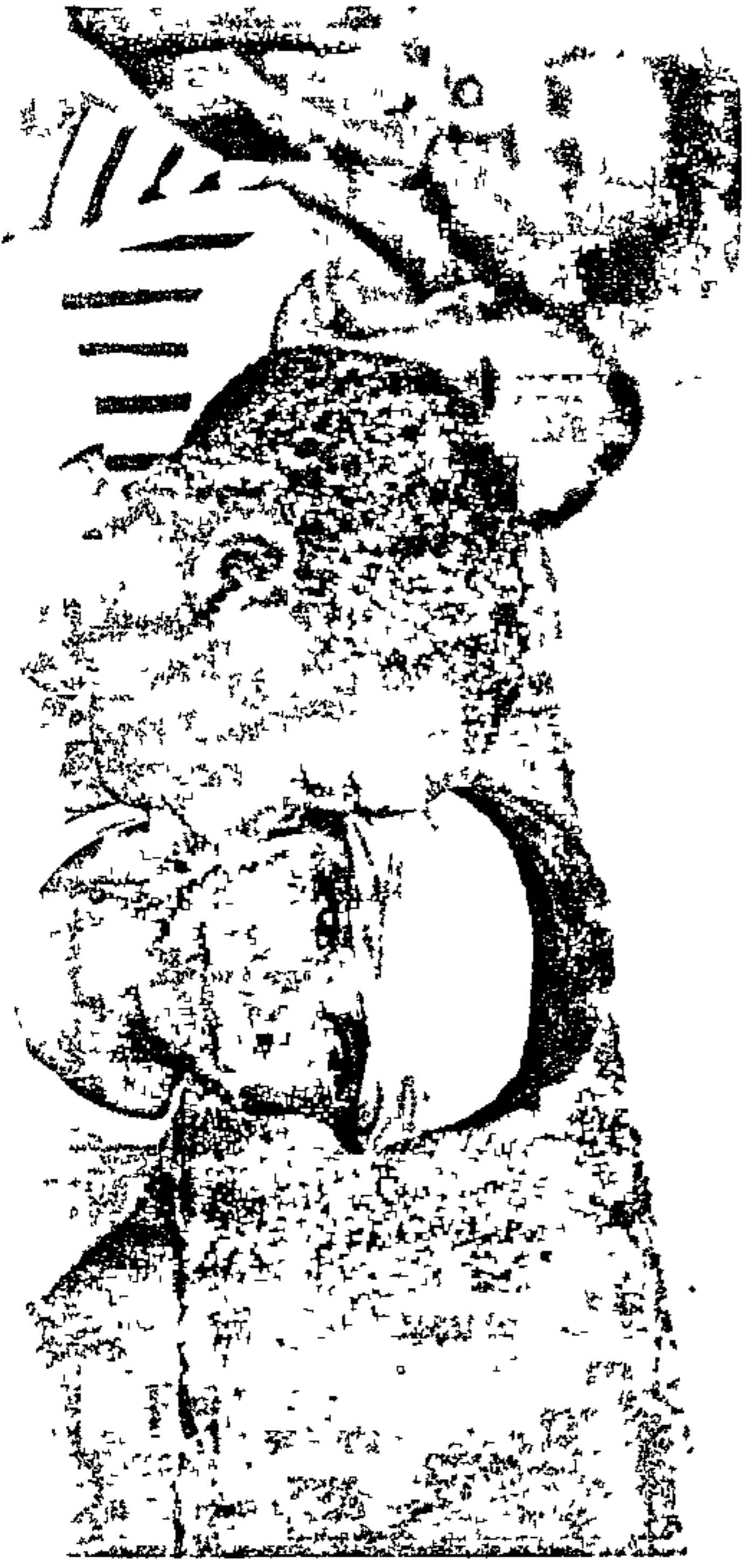
At this school 20 percent of the children have been stunted in their development. It is a large number and is a very good indicator of a long period of chronic malnutrition.

"At Orchard Primary School also in De Doorns, the situation is worse. This school has 672 children. We provide a daily meal to 650. They have a 35 percent physical stunting rate which is extremely serious.

A church group that is helping the community says life in the township is at an all time low.



Right: Dompie's pus-encrusted ear which drives



Below: He refused to speak, the pain of deprivation is etched on his small face. Friends said his father had left him and all he gets to eat is a cup of soup which Operation Hunger provides every day in the township of De Doorns.

Picture: JOCELYN MAKER

A church group that is helping the community save life in the township is at an all time low.

We will speak about what is happening but cannot allow our names to be used or that of our church," a spokesman said.

It's a sensitive situation. The farmers and the white community across the railway line will label us as troublemakers and this will hamper our work.

The spokesman said the main problem was unemployment, followed closely by the low wages paid to workers.

"Some of the community work for the municipality. They clean the streets and toilets and do other menial jobs for which they earn up to R35 a week.

Others who work for Spoornet are luckier. They earn between R400 to R600 a month.

"Many of the mothers are domestic servants who get about R35 a week. They work from 6am to 7pm. Often these women are the only breadwinners in a family or their husbands work only during the picking season from October to May.

"The whites of De Doorns are mainly very conservative and treat their workers as if we were still living in the Dark Ages," the church spokesman said.

THIS week the trial of a De Doorns farm manager who allegedly assaulted a labourer, leaving him partly deaf, was postponed to January 30 after a preliminary hearing in the Worcester Magistrates' court.

No charges have been put to Mr Jacobus Lotter, 48 of the farm Immanuel Orchard.

According to the church spokesman physical assault on labourers is common in the area, but most of the workers who are beaten refuse to come forward as they know they will never find employment in the area again.

"It's a never ending problem, the unemployed are trapped. Family units are breaking down. The worst part of all is that it is the children who suffer. We have a huge 73 problem and many of the youngsters are



infected with sores. Their hair is falling out and they are listless. Hunger does this to them.

The church also deals with the labourers working on the farms.

"Obviously it is not on every farm that the people are living in hovels and being treated so badly, but there are many who still do and this has to be stopped.

When we arrive at their cottages many of the labourers will not allow us inside as they are so ashamed of them.

"Some of the farmers still have the dog system which is ruining the people. During the picking season children also work back-breaking hours, but they get involved in drinking and within a short time they become dependent on the stuff.

"A married couple living on one farm were almost thrown off recently. The husband was too old and frail to work so he stayed at home during the day while his wife went out to work on the lands.

"When the farmer caught him collecting wood for the family he was told to leave. His wife asked the farmer why this had happened and the farmer told her that because her husband was not employed by him, he was not allowed to collect his wood. Now the wife has to do it every night after she gets home.

"Another man who was born on a farm and had been there for 61 years had a young son who went off to try to get himself educated. The boy came back to visit and while he was there the farmer heard about it. He came to the old man and told him that if his son did not work on the farm he would have to leave.

"The son refused, saying that he was only visiting, but the farmer would not listen and both father and son were told to leave."

Enforcement of rights 'a major problem'

A MAJOR problem of protecting farmworkers under the Basic Conditions of Employment Act will be enforcing these rights, a member of the National Manpower Commission's farmworkers' sub-committee has warned.

Legal expert Mr Davie Bosch said Manpower officials needed to be given more power and that civil recourse for farmworkers should be made more accessible.

He was commenting on the NMC's proposals for the extension of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act (BCEA) published last month.

Amendments based on the proposals as well as extending the Unemployment Insurance Act to farmers, will be tabled during

the coming parliamentary session.

They will affect an estimated 65 000 farmers employing 1,3 million workers.

"Under the Act, employers will be required to keep wage records. If a worker complains to a Manpower Inspector that he is not receiving the salary he is supposed to then the records can be called for.

"It is so seldom that the inspectors check on this. If the records are not available they usually do not pursue the wage claim. If the labourer also knows that there are no records he drops the matter.

"This is an area that has to be looked at. Enforcement is vital."

OTHER proposals are:
■ A 48-hour working week, with the

Right
Dompie's puscruised ear which drives him to distraction and his sister Dompie's sores, which refuse to heal, are the signs of chronic malnutrition of many children in De Doorns.



Left: Screaming in fear of strange white faces, the only playground this three-year-old Simondium child knows is the muck of an open drain and the fifth of poverty which surrounds his delapidated home.



possibility of a further four hours by agreement for not more than three months in a year and a corresponding reduction later in the year.

The SAAU argued that the seasonal nature of farming ruled out the BCEA's current 46-hour limit.

■ One day's unpaid leave in return for Sunday work and double time for more than five hours' work on Sunday.

■ Reasonable notice for a fired worker on cancellation of housing or land-use rights. These commonly form part of a farming wage package.

■ A ban on victimisation of workers who discuss conditions with others or refuse an order in breach of the Act.

■ The NMC accepted on Cosatu's urging that discrimination should also be outlawed, but decided that the issue required further investigation.

It was also split on Cosatu's call for a ban on unilateral changes in employment and dismissals in anticipation of new law.

■ The payment of piece work at permanent worker rates. This clause was resisted by the SAAU which argued for regulation by private agreement.

■ The registration of farm labour contractors. Such registration is only provided for under the Labour Relations Act.

■ Civil remedy for breaches of the Act which currently provides only for prosecution.

Committee completes its report on a food strategy

~~General~~ (241)
B/Dam 21/1/91

A GOVERNMENT committee studying a comprehensive food and nutrition strategy for southern Africa has completed its report and will hand it to government later this month.

The Committee for the Development of a Food and Nutrition Strategy for Southern Africa was commissioned two years ago by the former ministers of National Health and Population Development and Agriculture.

The present ministers, Rina Venter and Jacob de Villiers, will be handed the report on January 23.

The aim of the study was to develop a dynamic food and nutrition strategy for government.

The ministers said in a statement. "Such a strategy must be aimed at assisting and influencing the food producing, processing and distribution sub-systems to such an extent that an adequate nutrition level of an acceptable quality can be maintained within reach of the most vulnerable consumers."

The need for the strategy resulted from increasing demand for food in

PATRICK BULGER

southern Africa, nutritional problems experienced by groups within the community and the rising cost of protein supply.

The four-man committee was headed by Dirk Smith, formerly Agricultural Economics professor at Pretoria University and later, before his retirement, Free State University's Institute for Social and Economic Research director.

MARIETTE DU PLESSIS reports that Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman has warned that SA could be on the threshold of a major tragedy in terms of rural poverty because of the recession, higher unemployment and the drought. The organisation helps between 1,5-million and 1,6-million people. ||

An Institute for Race Relations spokesman quoted Medunsa Community Service professor P W Coetzer as saying that about 61% of deaths among African children were due to malnutrition, prematurity and related infections

Huge boost for social spending on the cards

Political Staff

HUGE increases in social spending are on the cards in the parliamentary session starting tomorrow, the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, has announced.

The government had to act if the imbalances in South African education, health, housing and pensions were to be overcome, he said.

Mr Du Plessis, who delivers the Budget on March 20, was quoted in the National Party mouthpiece, Nationalist, as saying the large, low-income part of society should be incorporated with all speed in the numerically small modern sector.

'Worst case'

"Steps must be taken to remedy not only absolute and severe poverty but also perceived relative deprivation," he said.

In terms of an international formula measuring unequal income distribution, South Africa was almost a "worst case".

While South African blacks were markedly better off than most in sub-Saharan Africa, they ranked badly domestically.

Mr Du Plessis said the fact that income disparities were linked to colour and non-participation in central government made the South African situation worse.

He said a shift in income distribution should ideally occur through economic growth. But the economy had in the last decade not been able to address these inequities.

The government recognised that deliberate action was necessary — both to accelerate the generation of work and income among the have-nots, and to channel the fruits of growth into creating the balance.

Mr Du Plessis said there was an unacceptable face to capitalism. In every civilised country today there was some form of redistribution of income and opportunities on the path to a more just and stable society.

Policy statement

He said rising spending in this area would, besides being financed by added revenue through economic growth, have to be off-set by a reduction in expenditure in the more traditional areas of the budget.

● Mr Mike Ellis, Democratic Party spokesman on health, is expecting President De Klerk to make a major policy statement on Aids when he opens parliament.

"I think the government is going to pay great attention to the Aids crisis this year — and it is going to come from the State President down.

"I believe that the State President himself must become involved in this problem," Mr Ellis said.

W/EARLUS 2/2/91 (B/S/01) (24)

NEWS

Left, a roadside fruit market at Biyela.

The bull calf, below right, looks like an indigenous Nguni but is half Jersey. At Nansindlela the Institute of Natural Resources is trying to breed a cross which would combine the tick-resistant hardiness of the Nguni with the milk and cream production of the Jersey.



Learning to farm for a profit

JOHANNESBURG — A group of scientists believe they have discovered a practical model to revitalise South Africa's impoverished black rural areas and to slow down the flow of migrants to the urban squatter camps.

The answer is to persuade rural communities to convert from subsistence peasant farming — where they use traditional methods and consume what they produce — to small-scale commercial farming, where innovative programmes and methods can produce significant cash profits.

The model is based on experimentation over a nine-year period, using the small land units blacks are allocated in the homelands. It would be equally applicable if present white farmland were to be sub-divided into smaller units for blacks after the repeal of the Land Acts.

Badly eroded

Nine years ago the Institute of Natural Resources (attached to Natal University) established a 16ha experimental farm at Cato Ridge, midway between Maritzburg and Durban.

Nansindlela ("This is the way") duplicated conditions in Kwazulu. It sloped steeply and was badly eroded. Today it has pastures, a dairy unit, a pig unit, broiler chicken units, an egg unit, crops, vegetable gardens and timber.

Each unit operates at a profit, with meticulous attention to costing. Each is on the same sort of hectareage which would be available to a black farmer in the homelands. The technology is essentially Third World.

The difference between this and traditional peasant farming is in approach. Basic soil conservation is practised. Pastures are planted and animals do not graze on the open veld. Basic hygiene and veterinary principles are observed in handling livestock. Innovative crops are chosen. The enterprise is market-orientated.

Nansindlela makes profits. It also takes in a regular flow of trainees from the rural areas who wish to learn "hands-on" how to run a broiler

HANDS-ON TRAINING FOR NATAL'S PEASANT FARMERS

unit, a small dairy or one of the other operations. They handle the cash themselves, record the costs and experience what it is to make a profit.

About the same time Nansindlela was established, the INR began preliminary work on a pilot project at Biyela, a 23 000ha region covering three northern Kwazulu tribal authorities. (More recently another project has been set up at Nhlanguwini, far to the south.)

Biyela (much of which slopes steeply) was closely studied for natural resources and land capability. The INR established which sectors were best suited to crop production, timber or other uses.

Interest groups and local development committees were encouraged among the community. In 1988 the pilot project moved into second phase with the Biyela Integrated Rural Development Programme, community-based but with the INR's Facilitation Group playing a key role, with various government agencies.

In 1989 the Ndundulu Service Centre was built to serve as a focal point for communal activity and provide premises for the INR, government departments and a private sector timber company, as well as a clinic and training facilities.

Staff housing is being built at

Ndundulu and population is beginning to converge on the complex. It is expected to become the nucleus of a spontaneously established village, where small industry and services will complement agricultural activity.

The principles established at Nansindlela are applied at Biyela. Today 19 different interest groups co-operate, their activities ranging from poultry, livestock, forestry, dryland cropping and community gardening through to sewing and crafts.

Produce — mainly fruit — is sold at roadside markets and 29 people are involved in broiler chicken production, each raising between 200 and 500 birds every four weeks and selling them at a net profit of between R1,75 and R2 a bird.

One plotholder has established pastures and a herd of five Jerseys which can produce as much as 24 litres of milk a day each (against 2 litres from traditional cows grazing on the veld). He sells the milk to the surrounding community at R1 a litre.

Forestry

But perhaps the most spectacular advance at Biyela is in forestry. Farmers are planting their steep hillsides with gum, assisted by Mondi Forests who buy the timber at the normal commercial rate.

To create an incentive, Mondi makes interim payments year by year — subject to satisfactory performance by the grower — and pays him the balance when the trees are eventually felled for milling, usually after six or seven years.

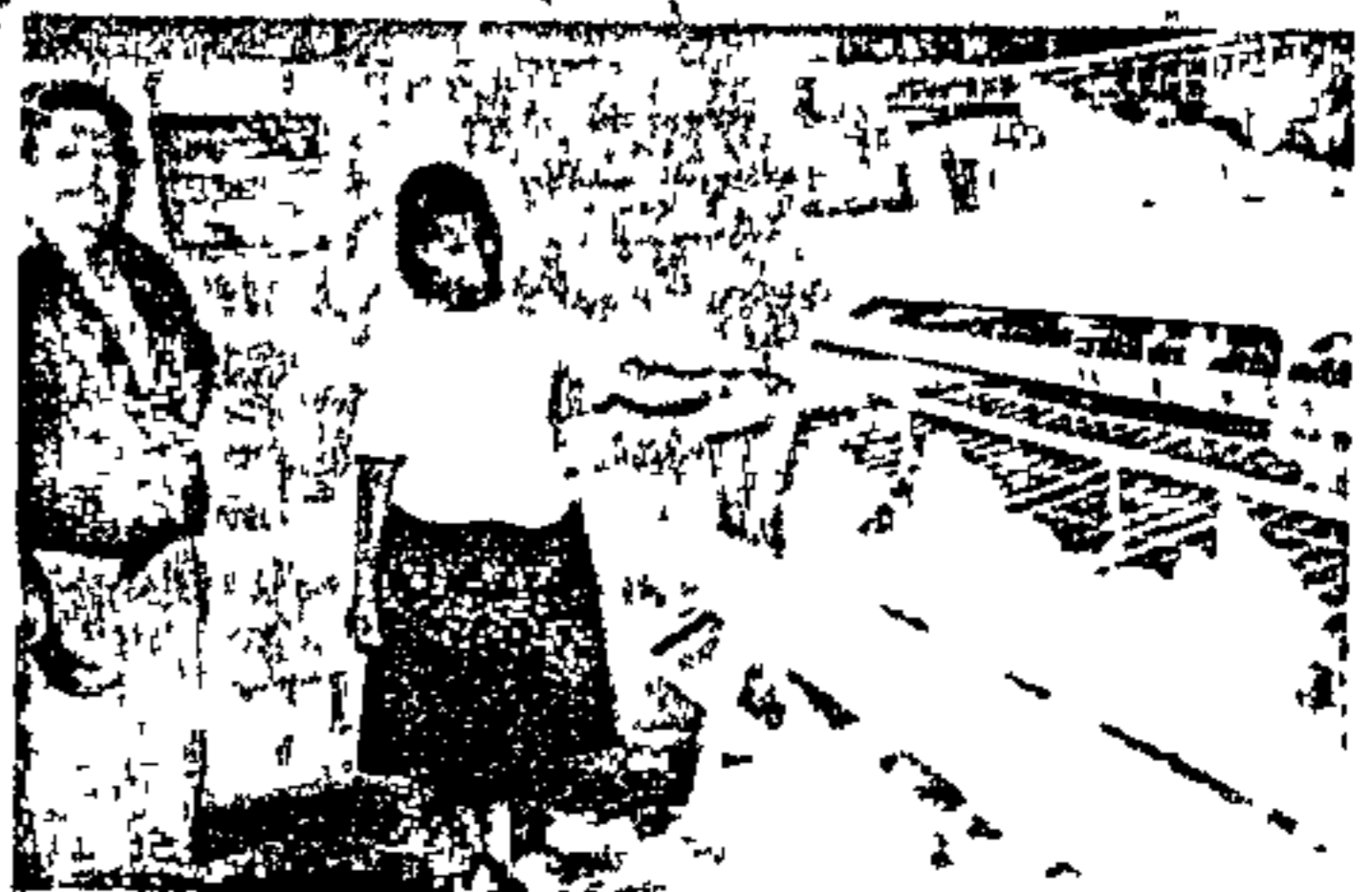
Afforestation has a twin effect. It prevents hillside erosion caused by cattle grazing. And it generates a cash income from land which was previously unproductive, the quality of grazing above the timber line being very poor.

Biyela is, of course, no more than a pilot project sponsored by a non-government organisation. INR staff believe, however, that it is a model for application throughout South Africa's densely populated homelands.

Report: GRAHAM LINSOTT
Special Correspondent



Mr John Khoza and Mr Gavin Pote, of the INR Facilitation Group at Biyela, in a nursery of gum seedlings.



Nansindlela farm manager Mr James Rankin with an egg production student.

W/EARLUS 2/2/91 (241)

NEWS

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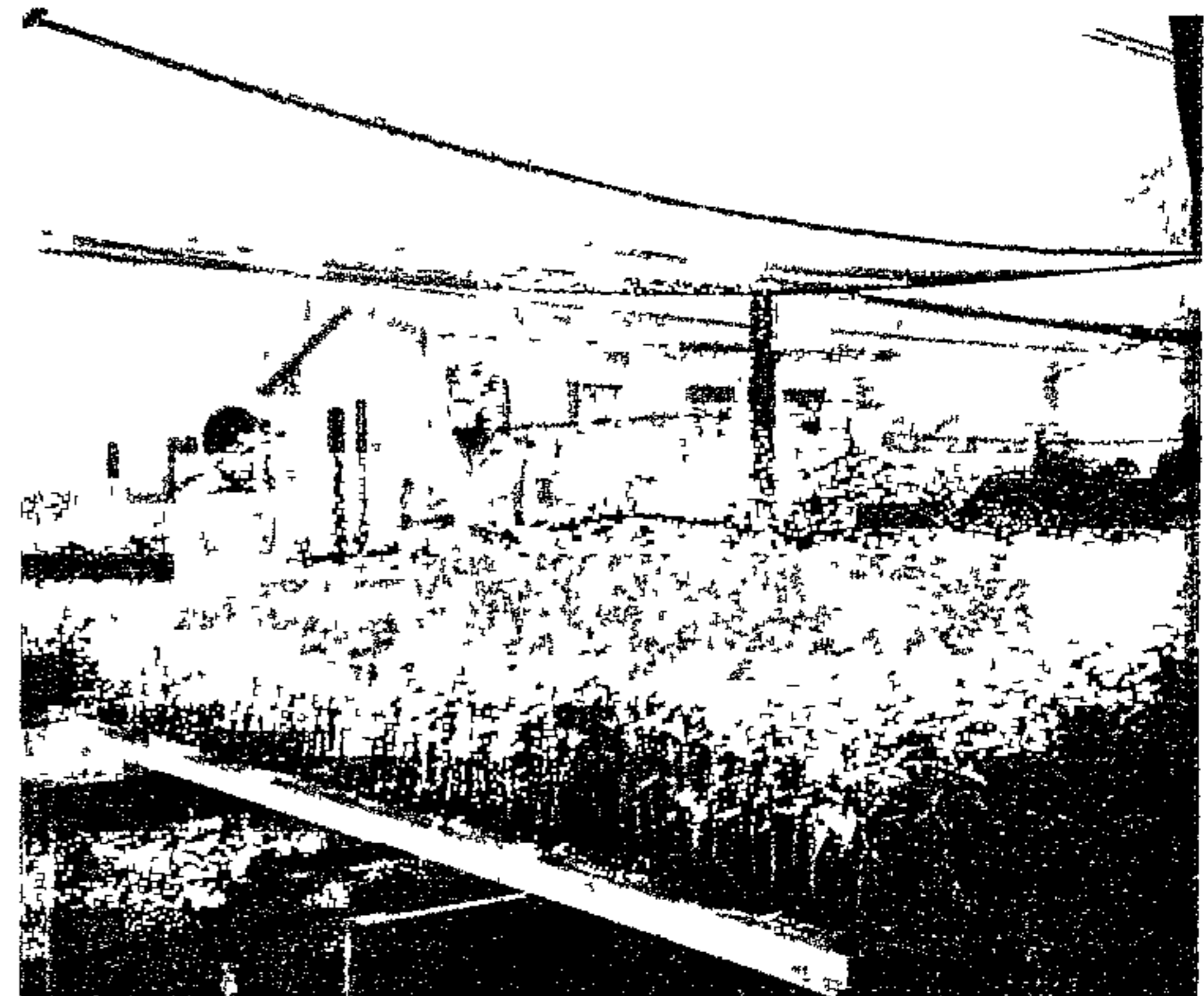
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□ Nansindlela farm manager Mr James Rankin with an egg production student.

Aussie move unsettles SA wool sector

DURBAN — SA wool growers accused the Australian government of throwing the market into confusion by scrapping the floor price scheme.

National Wool Growers' Association (NWGA) president Peter Kingwill said the Australian decision to suspend the reserve wool price until June 30 had dealt a blow to the SA industry.

"That wool prices here will also be adversely affected is undoubtedly true, but to speculate where the market is going to find its level is almost impossible," Kingwill told an NWGA congress.

Sales in Australia have been suspended since February 4 until at least February 25 as a result of the scrapping of the 17-year-old floor price scheme, which currently marks wool at a minimum of 700c/kg.

Kingwill warned that a lowering of the wool price would result in disaster for SA growers unless the SA government contributed to the stabilisation of the industry.

He said government intervention would probably have to be only temporary as wool stocks would quickly become depleted.

Market analysts expect the price of Australian wool to halve to around 350c/kg in an unregulated market.

The SA Wool Board said last month it would market more aggressively abroad, particularly in countries in Eastern Europe which had hitherto been inaccessible.

— Reuter.

Call for EC rescue plan

ROME — Inkatha Freedom Party president Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday asked Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to urge the EC to consider a Marshall Aid plan for poverty-ridden SA.

In his memorandum, Buthelezi asked Andreotti — whose country currently chairs the EC — to thank the community for its decision to lift restrictions on new investments in SA, and warned of the "radical left" which he said was trying to capitalise on poverty.

Thousands upon thousands of blacks were living in squalor around every urban centre, he said, and they had great destructive potential.

Warning about the rise of the extreme right, Buthelezi said: "Unless we really deal with white fear, we will end up with accomplished change that will be destroyed by events which will make any attack by a Unita or a Renamo on a government seem child's play by comparison." — Sapa.



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DV1005

Govt 'safety net' for the very poor

B/day 13/2/91. ~~241~~ 241

GOVERNMENT is to unveil a major plan to combat poverty

Next month's Budget speech will include an announcement of direct government assistance to 2-million critically poor people

It is understood that at least R600m could be allocated for direct aid to the poor, over and above any other social spending programmes. The allocation will follow an urgent government investigation into poverty, headed by Finance deputy director-general Estian Calitz.

Reuter reported that Finance Minister Barend du Plessis said yesterday he would unveil a "life net" strategy for the country's most underprivileged people.

"I have appointed a committee to conduct an in-depth investigation into the poverty problem in SA," he said.

The exemption of foodstuffs from GST is calculated to have saved the poverty-stricken about R600m — an amount that will be given back after the introduction of VAT, scheduled for October.

Calitz declined to confirm the amounts involved, but noted "The introduction of VAT has given further impetus to the need for a programme of action to combat poverty. But the idea extends beyond just compensating for VAT, since government has a certain responsibility towards the destitute

GRETA STEYN

in any case"

The committee had considered various options, including subsidies on brown bread and maize, food programmes at schools and clinics, and cash, Calitz said. Calitz acknowledged that about 16-million people lived "below the breadline", but said government was at this stage looking only at people at the very bottom end of the scale. It was unlikely government would be able to guarantee them a minimum living standard.

Another major focus of the Calitz committee's investigation is the state's role in job creation. The committee had studied a Development Bank proposal that government spending be used to help create jobs.

The bank found that consultants "notoriously" tendered designs that were capital intensive because their fees were derived as a percentage of a project's total value. This culture had to be reversed and projects involving high degrees of employment should be adhered to.

Although private sector academics and the Development Bank were represented on the committee, there were no ANC or other extra-parliamentary members. But it is understood government wants to "consult the communities we want to help"

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Britain gives R3-m

BRITAIN will allocate an additional R3 million over three years for rural development projects in South Africa.

British Overseas Development Minister Lynda Chalker announced the planned donation at a meeting with officials of

Operation Hunger yesterday. (241) ~~Operation Hunger~~

The assistance is designed to help Operation Hunger support small-scale black farms on newly available land and self-help projects in the rural areas. - Sapa.

14/2/79
Soweto

R20-billion a year needed to close living standard gap

AGUS 15/2/91

241

NOW that the death knell has tolled on apartheid, under international as well as internal pressures, the main focus has turned to the political chess tournament between partisan alliances

Beyond the political rhetoric, however, vital questions are being posed that bring much of the bluster down to earth

DEVELOPMENT

How much cash will have to be ploughed into socio-economic programmes to bring about the transformation to the promised land of the "New South Africa"?

Where will all the funds come from? Who pays the bills? How soon — especially in view of the way expectations have been pitched so high?

The answers coming out may not always be palatable to reformers in a rush.

For example, one of the first shocks for the politicians was an assessment from the SA Chamber of Business (Sacob), which calculated the basic costs of remedies to racial inequities at R52-billion

Affordability

Sacob has cautioned that it would be hopelessly beyond economic reach to provide all the remedies at a single stroke

Far better, it has argued, would be to face blunt economic realities and seek agreement on socio-economic programmes that may need to be spread over the next 10 years to meet the acid test of affordability

The deeper the economic researchers probe, the bigger the problems that emerge — and the higher the cost of solutions

From new masses of research, Dr Azar Jammine, head of the reputable Econometrix think-tank, puts the overall costs at R20 to R30-billion every single year over the next decade to start closing the gap in black/white living standards

It makes the R2-billion special fund handed over to former Urban Foundation boss Jan Steyn to launch the Independent Development Trust last year — with the task of setting the wheels in motion toward black upliftment — look like a drop in the ocean

Econometrix looks first at black housing.

The shortage of formal housing alone stands anywhere between 800 000 and two million — and that covers no more than black families with incomes large enough to cope with the high de-

mands of a formal building society mortgage

Dr Azar Jammine of Econometrix estimates it will take R20 to R30-billion every year over the next decade to start closing the gap in black/white living standards. MICHAEL CHESTER reports from Johannesburg.

Still to be counted are 7,4-million black people crowded into 460 000 squatter shacks — an average of 16 to each shack

Even the provision of basic housing structures to eliminate shortages by the turn of the century would cost over R5-billion a year — based on the provision of 250 000 modest new homes every year from now until the year 2000 and allowing for high population growth

Next comes the acute shortage of electric power lines to black homes

A nationwide count, taking rural as well as urban areas into account, shows a phenomenal four out of every five black households are still without electricity. That is about 20-million South Africans without even an electric light — let alone fridge, cooker or TV set

Based on conventional connection costs, to link all the households to the power grid would take R14-billion — R1,4-billion a year if tackled in a 10-year programme

Health services have also left black families way behind

Dr Jammine point out the shortage of hospital beds for black families is so acute that even if all 11 700 unused beds in white hospitals were made available to all population groups it would hardly make a dent in shortfall — though it would cost an additional R700-million a year just to provide the extra staff

The full scale of the problem comes into perspective with estimates showing that infant mortality in Soweto, at 80 to every 1 000 newborn babies, is no less than four times higher than the average white rate — and is even worse in rural areas

The astronomical cost of solutions is one huge question mark

Next come the education disasters caused by apartheid

Econometrix estimates no less than 45 percent of the black population have not been taught to read or write

Among black workers in actual employment, 30 percent have never been to school at all 36 percent never went beyond primary school. Only 31 percent had at least some sort of secondary school education

The shortage is put at 33 000 classrooms. If mobilised to take in black

pupils, the 7 400 white classrooms standing empty at a recent count would cover no more than one-fifth of total requirements

The new studies quote government estimates that spending on black education alone to bring about black/white parity would need to soar from a current R5,4-billion to at least R21,7 billion

The Human Sciences Research Council calculated that if spending on black and white education had been levelled out in 1990/91, the overall cost would have been R37-billion

Dr Jammine says the crisis in education over the past 15 years has already left in its wake what he calls "a lost generation of young blacks"

He refers to United Nations research that ranked all countries with a population of more than one million in what it called a "human development index". In terms of gross domestic product per capita, even bringing white affluence into the count, South Africa was slotted as low as 48th down the ladder

Staggering

Even worse, when items such as literacy and life expectancy were added, South Africa slumped to 62nd. The only countries ranking any lower were the 48 other countries in Africa and a handful of impoverished Asian and Central American countries.

In terms of literacy, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Lesotho and Botswana all ranked above South Africa

When all the factors are combined, Econometrix comes to the conclusion that the only conceivable route is to spread an action programme over the next 10 years. Even then, the bill would be a staggering R20 to R30 billion a year — equal to a 30 to 50 percent increase in the annual national budget

Optimists who believe a magic wand may be waved to call a halt to unrest and tensions on the sub-continent may point to the vast potential savings that could be made by slashing expenditure on defence

Also at hand may be huge savings by the elimination of the duplications and triplications of all the bureaucratic machinery that has been needed to sustain the apartheid system

Dr Jammine estimates all those possible savings at around R8 billion — a significant figure but nowhere near large enough to solve budget headaches

Steyn's trust offers helping hand to exiles

CAPE TOWN — Jan Steyn's R2bn Independent Development Trust (IDT) has agreed to consider providing assistance for "very poor" political exiles returning to SA

Responding to a comment on Friday by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee that exiles could be in line for IDT assistance, an IDT spokesman said the trust would consider ways of drawing impoverished returnees into some of its socio-economic programmes

8/10 am 18/2/91
"No approach has been made to us on this matter. But if we are asked to help, and assuming that the returnees involved fit into the category of being "very poor",

LESLEY LAMBERT

we will certainly look at ways of assisting them," the spokesman said

"This would be done either within our existing projects or in new programmes such as the allocation of R600m to give poor people ownership of land," he said

The number of SA exiles has generally been estimated at about 40 000. A weekend report quoted Home Affairs Minister Gene Louw as saying that 1 092 exiles had been re-admitted to SA and that funds for re-settlement ran low, while a spokesman for the multiparty National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South

241 African exiles said about 500 exiles had already returned.

Assistance from the IDT could cover a range of developmental areas. Apart from the R600m programme to provide land and basic shelter for almost 1-million poor South Africans, the IDT has also allocated R200m for a range of other projects

Coetsee's comment about the IDT's possible involvement was made at a news conference on Friday at which government announced the agreement reached with the ANC on the issues of violence, the release of political prisoners and the return of exiles

● See Page 2

Blacks replace whites, but poor get poorer

241

MATIGARI has a pertinent message for the liberation movements in colonised South Africa.

The story is set in Kenya, which went through a bloody freedom struggle that failed to deliver the fruits of freedom.

It is a memorable satire on the betrayal of human ideals and relates the bitter experience of the post-independence Kenyan society.

No wonder President Daniel arap Moi's government has banned the book

Matigari tells of a man with superhuman qualities who rises to renew the freedom struggle through the use of arms.

The parallels with Jomo Kenyatta and his Mau Mau is too obvious to miss

The post-colonial society established in Kenya with the help of the British imperialist government did not change the structures of oppression in colonial Kenya.

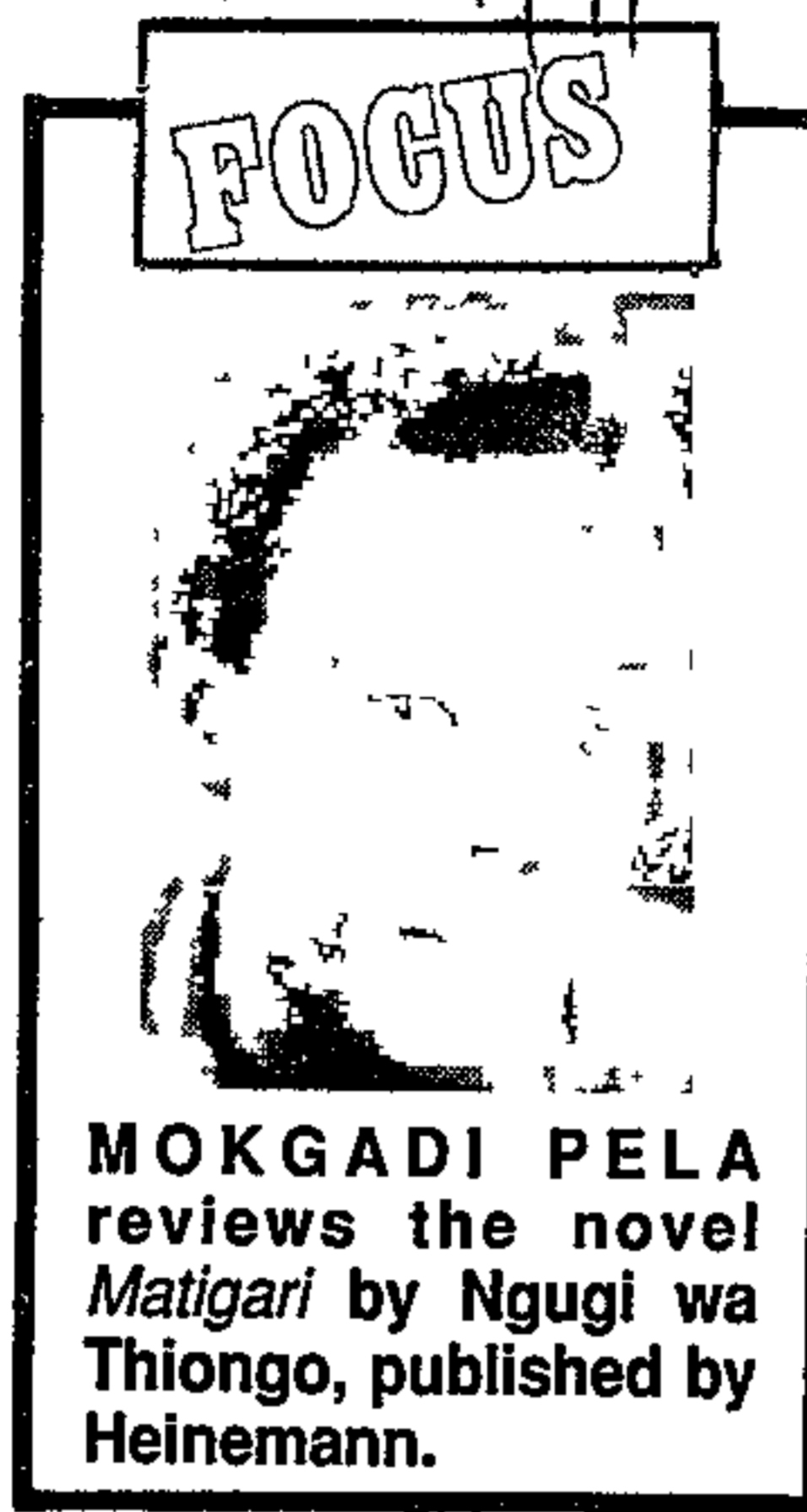
The structures remained the same while the aspirations for freedom of the masses of Kenyans were left hanging.

The lesson for South Africa is that we must guard against mythical heroes with perceived superhuman qualities emerging in our struggle for liberation.

We must also jealously guard against our efforts going down the drain as has happened in many parts of Africa

White skins were replaced by black skins but no changes in socio-economic conditions for "the wretched of the earth" came about.

Sowetan 19/2/91



It is therefore the duty of the masses to analyse and observe cautiously the actions of political organisations such as the Azanian Peoples Organisations, the African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress and their leadership - represented respectively by Pandelani Nefolovhodwe, Oliver Tambo and Clarence Makwetu.

It is the duty of the masses to call these leaders to order where they go wrong because no individual or organisation is greater than the people's struggle

These days when there is so much talk about "negotiations" and a "constituent assembly" it is clear that people should understand and scrutinise these concepts

And leaders should remember the words of Amílcar Cabral, who led Cape Verde

Islands and Guinea Bissau to independence from Portuguese rule. "Tell no lies, claim no easy victories and hide nothing from the masses."

Kenya went through a negotiated settlement in the early sixties after a bloody war.

Only after independence in 1963 did people realise that their leader Kenyatta was to become an instrument of imperialism

Kenyatta agreed to a neo-colonial sellout solution and betrayed the cause.

In one part of the book, the Kenyan government is dealing with a worker dispute

Before the workers can speak a government official says:

"The ruling party is our party, therefore this company has given shares to the nation.

"This is capitalism with a socialist face - or socialism with a capitalist heart."

He said "Now even if you were the one arbitrating between the company and the factory workers, you would see that the dispute has now been resolved more or less

"From now onwards, anyone who goes on strike against this company will actually be striking against the government"

He orders workers back to work and asks that everyone except the ringleaders be rehired.

In reply to this, *Matigari*, the protagonist, says:

"The house is mine because I built it

"The land is mine too because I tilled it

"The industries are mine because my labour built and worked for them.

"I shall never stop struggling for all the products of my sweat

"One day the land will return to the tiller and the wealth to those who produce it.

"Poverty and sorrow shall be banished from our land."

Matigari pointed at the company directors and said: "And you imperialist and your lackeys, ministers and leaders of the police force, the army and the courts - your days are numbered!"

Matigari's is declared insane and is hospitalised with other leaders.

There he remembers that justice comes from a sharpened spear and not from words alone and he escapes.

In his classic, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, Dr Walter Rodney, a Guyanese academic and Black Consciousness exponent, wrote

"The presence of African sell-outs is part of the definition of underdevelopment.

"Any diagnosis of underdevelopment in Africa will reveal not just low per capita income and protein deficiencies, but also the gentlemen who dance in Abidjan, Lusaka, Kinshasha when music is played in Paris, London and New York."

This message is well illustrated in *Matigari* and anyone interested in understanding how imperialism uses blacks against the black revolution should read it.

uesday, February 19 1991

SA reserves sold to cover social needs

Political Staff

THE Minister of Finance, Mr Bar-end du Plessis, has confirmed that the government is selling off stockpiles of strategic resources to raise funds for socio-economic development.

Details of what was being sold and how much was being raised could not be established, nor could it be confirmed if the resources included oil.

In response to inquiries last year, Mr Du Plessis said it would be highly irresponsible to sell off the country's oil reserves.

He told parliament yesterday that the R319,4 million spent in buying land for black urbanisation and education had come from the National Supplies Procurement Fund.

He said the change in international attitudes towards South Africa had reduced the need for strategic stockpiles.

Minister of Trade and Industry Mr Kent Durr said non-oil items were being pared down.

However, Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs Dr Dawie de Villiers, who is responsible for oil, could not be reached for comment last night.

It had been intended that socio-economic spending would be met through privatisation, but no progress had been made towards this end.

Mr Du Plessis said that last year he had expected R1 billion from privatisation for social spending. This was to have been used to eliminate backlogs in education and buy land.

Only R319,4 million had been spent. If the balance was used in the coming year, it would be covered by the Additional Appropriation for 1991/1992.

State debt, which already exceeded defence spending in the budget, had increased more than had been expected.

Of the R479,1 million that exceeded the Contingency Reserve, R418 million was the result of servicing public debt.

However, no extra taxes would be imposed or loans raised.

Mr Du Plessis said that although parliament had passed an extra R2,8 billion yesterday, it was expected that departments would surrender R250 million in unused funds from their budgets.

The Democratic Party's spokesman on finance, Mr Ken Andrew, said the Additional Appropriation was a failure in terms of Mr Du Plessis's yardstick of reducing spending.

"The 1990/91 budget has been overspent by R2,8bn or 4% — the worst performance in at least three years and not a good omen at a time when pressures to overspend are going to be greater than ever."

NEWS

20 000²⁴¹ refugees are facing starvation

By Winnie Graham

More than 20 000 Mozambican refugees in a squatter settlement known as H'lupekane ("the place of suffering") in Giyane, Gazankulu, are facing starvation because they are not receiving aid, says John Welch of the Anglican-run St Anthony's Rural Relief Project.

He claimed refugees at a larger settlement on tribal lands near Punda Milia were receiving "one kilogram of mealie meal per family a month"

Mr Welch was reacting to a report in The Star on February 14 which said the spectre of famine was hanging over central Mozambique

"People are starving in this country," he added "They are prepared to accept any jobs which will give them money to buy food for themselves and their children"

The Mozambican women at H'lupekane sometimes found work at R3 a day but refugees near Punda Milia had no opportunity of supplementing their meagre rations, he said

Resentment

A problem in the area was the growing resentment of the Mozambicans by the local residents.

He claimed full-scale victimisation was only being avoided because the Mozambicans were known to be masters in witchcraft

Mr Welch said St Anthony's had started a school and clinic at H'lupekane

The refugees had organised their own committee and were trying to become self-reliant through projects such as precast brick-making

"They are so keen to establish a secure and stable community," he added.

He paid tribute to the Muslim community of Pretoria who had raised R100 000 to help the refugees.

"What the people need, however, is ongoing relief," he added. "They are slowly starving"

Pressure on insurers to help the poor

By TOM HOOD
Business Editor

THE government will be under great pressure to intervene and use the billions in the coffers of the life insurance giants unless the industry devotes funds to help the less developed parts of the economy.

This is the view of Dr Simon Brand, executive head of the Development Bank of Southern Africa

Speaking at Sanlam's annual meeting in Bellville today, he said the private sector had a fundamental role in the upliftment of the less-developed sectors and should do something about it timeously.

New demands made on companies by the political process of change need not be seriously undermining, provided the business sector recognised the opportunities arising from the changes and reacted constructively.

Dr Brand said Sanlam's wide spread of assets and profits among all its policy-holders and the strong growth of premium income from black policy-holders was a strong defence against criticism against large groups like Sanlam that may be expected "in certain circles in South Africa"

Private enterprise was recognising to an increasing extent the need to correct the imbalances between the developed and underdeveloped parts of the economy.

FACTORY SITES

Institutions such as life insurers could invest in not only the already developed urban areas but also in factory sites and buildings and similar business facilities in less-developed cities.

"In this way a material contribution could be made to improve the quality of life and develop more diversified economic activities in those cities and towns"

"If this is not initiated by the industry, the government would be under great pressure to intervene in the utilisation of savings, be it by means of prescribed investments or even more drastic ways."

Dr Brand said the Development Bank was convinced that the less-developed sectors of the community had sufficient business potential to make it worthwhile for the private financial institutions to make this change in the direction themselves

"Who knows of the poor whites?" asked Kleintjie Pereira, director of "Werk en Oorleef".

"Who knows of the four people that had to live in a chicken coup until they could find better accommodation? Who knows of the many families that live in other people's garages using mattresses for beds?"

"Who knows of the luckier ones that manage to find a space with three or four other families in some small house?"

"These people don't want their names revealed", she says "because then they will be evicted. They know they are breaking the municipal rules but they don't have anywhere else to go."

Mocked

"They also don't want their photographs taken, because their children get mocked at school for living in garages or on top of each other — often as many as 12 people in a 3-bedroom house."

Some of them work as domestic servants for other white families — often for as little as R400 a month. They are the ones now occupying the servant's quarters — that little outside room traditionally reserved for their black compatriots.

"We have provided over 1,5 million meals to poor whites. We have also provided clothes. Few people realise the extent of the problem," says Eugene TerreBlanche, leader of the AWB.

It seems as if there is nothing new under the sun. The hungry sup-

Right is keen to help

THE world knows much about the suffering of black South Africans: poor living conditions and low wages. What the world does not know about is the suffering of poor whites. While poverty is rife among the black community, the sight of indigent whites is somehow less familiar. But this group is steadily growing and its members are almost exclusively Afrikaners, reports LAURIE ACKERMAN.

port those who feed them. And this is one of the reasons poor whites support organisations such as the AWB.

Small wonder then that the basis of rightwing support comes from blue-collar workers and poorer Afrikaners. "The desperate whites" is a phrase often heard in rightwing circles.

For many, the only means of survival is charity.

Claremont Community Centre in Johannesburg feeds between 60 and 70 needy families a month. "Werk en Oorleef", a non-political organisation based in Pretoria North, feeds 4 500 families on a regular basis. All of them are white. And their numbers are growing.

Mrs Pereira, is desperate. "We don't have money. Funding is a problem. We have no state subsidy."

"The pensioners, the young, the illiterate and the literate together — for without the little mealie-meel and soup which we give them, they cannot survive."

"They have lost everything" she says, "including their pride. Often they will have to walk home with a bag of mealie-meel. Some are lucky enough to go by bus."

Growth of the desperate whites

SH 23/2/91

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Growing

Mpho Mashumani, deputy director of Operation Hunger, is equally concerned. "Before October last year we were supporting 8 000 (white) families nationwide. Today the figure has risen to 12 000, and is growing."

White poverty in South Africa has a long history.

Immediately after the Boer War the Afrikaner was destitute. The scorched earth policy and subsequent urbanisation led to a generation of impoverished Afrikaners. The plight of the Boers was taken up by the newly formed Broederbond.

By the time the National Party came to power in 1940, the upliftment of the Afrikaner started in earnest. Jobs were created in government departments and were secured by labour reservation.

Today these people live in different times. Social and political changes are taking place at breathtaking speed, inflation is rising and the economy continues its nosedive. At best they have a tenuous hold on jobs which their parents took for granted. Many of them are struggling, some have given up.

Oscar Hartung, leader of the far-Right organisation Magsakste Afrikaner Nationalisme, says the people are desperate. "We have nothing more to lose, our people are not afraid to be shot. They have lost their jobs. They have lost everything".

Apportioning blame for poverty seems to unite the normally splintered Right.

Reneged

"The Broederbond made a deal with their people and reneged on this deal," says Professor Alkmaar Swart, co-leader of the Boere Bevrydingsbeweging. "The nation's interest was replaced by their personal interest".

According to Robert van Tonder, leader of the Boerestaat Party, the Broederbond did much to help the poor Afrikaner, but with the advent of the "professional politicians", such as John Vorster and P W Botha, the "Volk" was left to starve.

The Broederbond is now despised by right-wingers

What remains to be seen now is whether the Right can uplift poor whites without making the same mistake that the Broederbond made, advancing the interests of their own people at the expense of others.

IMF to help govt with 'life net'

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Finance officials are to meet IMF representatives in Pretoria today to discuss the implementation of government's "life net" strategy for the poor, a finance source said at the weekend.

Government is to announce direct aid of at least R600m to the poverty-stricken in next month's Budget after an urgent probe into poverty by Finance deputy director-general Estian Calitz. Calitz, who could not be reached for comment yesterday, is expected to attend the meeting with the IMF officials who arrived in SA a week ago.

It is believed finance officials have identified key problem areas in implementing the plan to combat poverty, and that these could be ironed out with the help of the IMF. They want to establish the most effective way to reach the 2m people they regard as critically poor.

It is understood government would

prefer existing development agencies and independent welfare organisations to distribute the aid rather than to handle the practical implementation itself — a move which raises the issue of accountability. Representatives of these organisations are expected to attend today's meeting.

Government does not want to appear to be forcing its plans on to communities without consulting the people involved, and the issue of consultation with the ANC and other public representatives is likely to be discussed. Securing the goodwill and cooperation of the communities involved is understood to be a priority.

Finance officials want to keep the administration costs and "leakages" to those who do not need aid to an absolute minimum.

Methods of providing subsidised or free food to the poor will be discussed, including school feeding schemes and providing help through health clinics.

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CMF TWS

25/2/91

Govt might allow relief groups to distribute R600m

Bl Day 26/2/91

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GOVERNMENT could make use of up to 2 000 non-government organisations (NGOs) to distribute R600m in poverty relief to millions of South Africans.

The role of the NGOs was discussed at meeting in Midrand yesterday between government officials and poverty alleviation organisations such as Operation Hunger and World Vision.

Another issue discussed was the possibility of applying a zero-rating on foodstuffs when VAT is introduced later this year.

While government initially insisted that there would be no exemptions, there are now signs that it might be prepared to allow zero ratings on some food items.

The senior IMF delegation which is in SA to advise government on the implementation of VAT, also attended yesterday's meeting.

One participant said the IMF seemed to be stressing that it was not desirable to set up a new bureaucracy to provide aid to the poor.

"Government doesn't have the infrastructure, so NGOs will have to be used," another said.

Government apparently does not have any qualms about using political organisations. The test will be whether the NGO can service the poor, and whether it is financially accountable.

Another criterion will be whether the NGO runs programmes which can provide upliftment. The idea is not simply to provide handouts if this can be avoided.

The meeting follows the completion on Cabinet instruction of an urgent investigation into poverty in SA. An interim report has been handed to the Cabinet.

Sources say that government is

KEVIN DAVIE

likely to vote at least R600m this Budget for two million critically poor people. These are families which do not have a single person with access to an income.

Government was represented by Finance deputy director-general Estian Calitz and the IMF by senior staffer Ved Ghandi.

Calitz heads the committee instructed to investigate a poverty alleviation or "life net" strategy for SA.

World Bank

The committee summarised the extent of poverty in SA by drawing on major reports, including those by Francis Wilson (the second Carnegie report), the Bureau for Market Research, the Development Bank and the Food and Nutrition Strategy for Southern Africa.

In formulating its approach to poverty, the committee is understood to have drawn heavily on World Bank research, particularly the World Development Report published last year.

Sapa reports that Finance spokesman Fred Browne confirmed the meeting. He said the IMF had been invited to submit recommendations on the new tax system.

"We have invited the IMF to study our proposals and assist us in devising a system which will not affect the poor," Browne said.

Estimates are that besides the estimated two million who have no fixed income, about 40% of the population earn less than internationally accepted minimum wage levels.

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Govt may use NGOs to distribute R600m

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Levenstein (left) forecasts sales of more than R5m for the current financial year. Other directors are, from left, Russell Stromin, Eunice Codd and Brad Codd.

Deregulation doubles blacks' spending power

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Business Editor

WELL meant attempts to advance blacks in the same way that poor white Afrikaners were helped in the 1930's might have the effect of holding them back, Leon Louw, executive director of the Free Market Foundation, warned yesterday.

He said at a breakfast organised by the Free Market Foundation, Juta and the Pam Herr Organisation, that black spending power had suddenly doubled in the 1970's when deregulation began.

It had been static for the previous 70 years. The change had begun when they were given leasehold rights and were able to own businesses.

"This tells us that all we need to do is liberate them. A little

freedom did wonders — a lot of freedom would be even better.

"We must not make the mistake the Americans did and make them recipients of charity. They are far better off on their own, making use of their proven abilities."

Louw said that when "American apartheid — the Jim Crow laws" were repealed black incomes in the US quickly rose by half.

Then a programme of affirmative action, to help blacks, was introduced. And black American progress stopped dead in its tracks.

With the exception of a few highly educated individuals, black Americans ceased to make progress as soon as the Government tried to help them.

"There is an unholy alliance between Left and Right to spread the belief that blacks in SA own nothing. But in the measured, formal economy they have leaped forward."

"There is an idea that we should use the same methods to help them that were used here in the 1930's to help poor whites."

"But the fact is that the blacks have made more progress in the past 20 years, with a little freedom, in spite of apartheid than the Afrikaners did in 60 years. The Afrikaners would probably have done better without help."

Discussing redistribution of wealth, Louw said many people would be surprised if it were worked out what blacks already owned. This included 60% of membership of pension schemes.

Govt may use NGOs to distribute R600m

Cap + Trip 26/2/91 241

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DARIUS SANAI

(24) More whites join food-handout lines

MORE and more whites are asking charities for food as SA suffers its "worst malnutrition problem in 10 years", says Operation Hunger director Ina Perlman.

The organisation was feeding 20 000 whites across the country, Perlman said yesterday. *blom 2/12/91*

West Rand Christian Centre director Rita Rogers said that on the West Rand the number of whites seeking food handouts had doubled since the start of the year.

Among them were "better-class whites" who had been retrenched.

About 50 whites go to the centre each Tuesday to receive pilchards and brown bread, she said.

Almost 4 000 white families receive food at the Werk en Oorleef centre in Pretoria.

The centre's director Kleintjie Perriera said "The situation is getting worse, with people being laid off."

Three or four new families were asking for help each day and funds were running out.

Perlman said about 1,8-million blacks received food aid from Operation Hunger.

And with the layoffs predicted in the retailing industry, she expected another 50 000 people of all races to turn to the organisation for food.

44% of population living in poverty, says report

Blomay 28/2/91

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MORE than two out of every five South Africans live in poverty and one in 16 lives in extreme poverty, it was disclosed yesterday.

The findings, released in the Vatcom report, are the first official estimates of the extent of poverty in this country

The report said 16,3 million South Africans (44,5% of the population) were living below minimum living levels and 2,3 million were in dire need.

The findings indicate levels of poverty that are far worse than ever officially acknowledged before and as bad as those in many poor African countries

They also emphasise the urgent need for massive social spending to alleviate poverty

The report said a recent study found that in SA and the TBVC countries (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) there were 16,3 million people living below the minimum living level

Political Staff

The Development Bank has estimated that in 1989 the total population of SA, including the TBVC areas, was 36,6 million and therefore the 16,3 million living in poverty constituted 44,5% of the population

Malnutrition

"The minimum living level differs depending on region and family circumstances, but roughly speaking it is people whose total family income does not exceed approximately R600 per month," the Vatcom report said

"The study showed further that using anthropometric criteria, 2,3 million of the 16,3 million people, mainly pre-primary and primary children and lactating mothers, are in the dire need of nutritional support to combat malnutrition

"Quite obviously these people and those living below the minimum living levels are deserving of the first

call on any assistance"

It added that addressing the problem of poverty in SA was outside the scope of Vatcom's mandate, but government had appointed a working group on poverty under the chairmanship of E Calitz. Included in its terms of reference was the effect on the needy of the introduction of VAT on foodstuffs

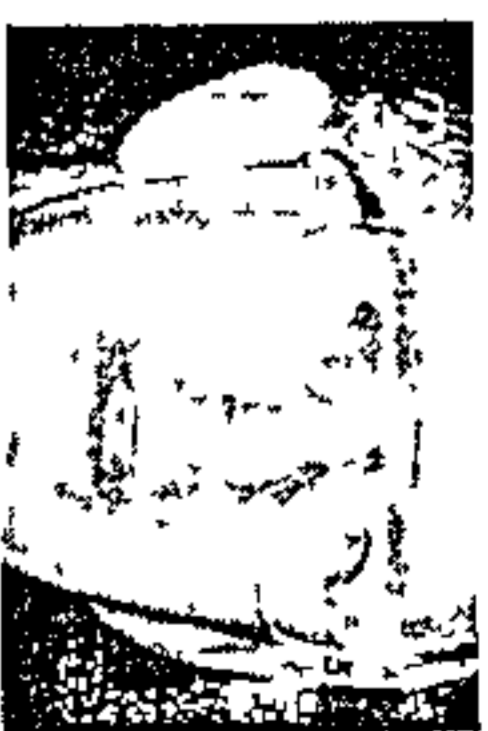
The report recommended that the Minister of Finance be empowered to provide appropriate relief on a limited number of goods which were at present exempted from GST

Direct budgetary assistance could also be provided to the needy outside the tax system, which would compensate them effectively for the increase in costs as a result of the introduction of VAT.

"The assistance outside the tax system to those persons in the welfare system could best be achieved by increasing social pensions, grants and subsidies to compensate them for the effect of VAT," the report said.

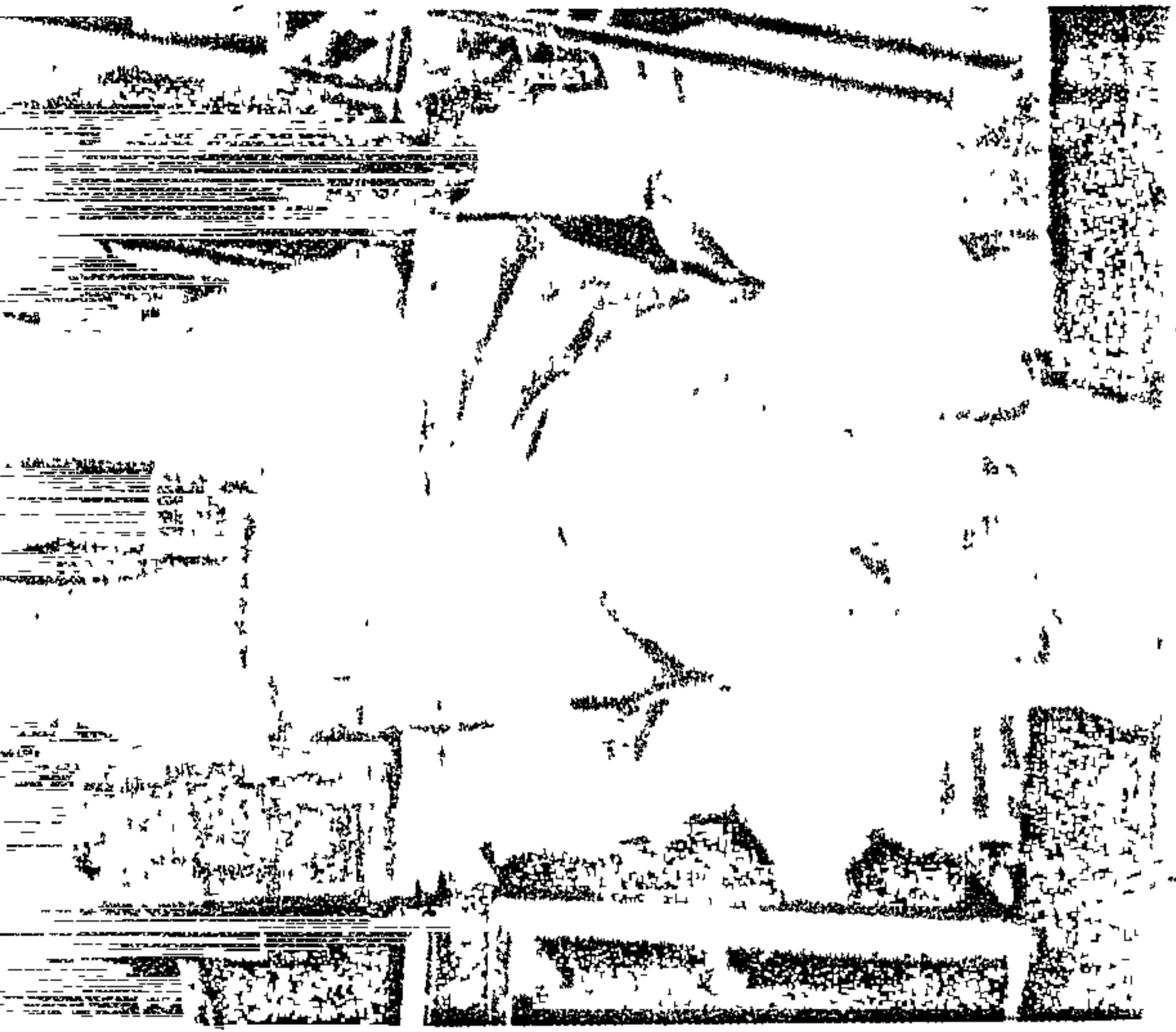
Barend's Budget to signal massive boost in welfare spending

BILLIONS FOR THE POOR



BAREND DU PLESSIS preparing a package of food assistance programmes

Fergie thighful banned



TV Puffing
in Puff
the Puff
in Puff

By **DOUGLAS GORDON**
 TV Correspondent

THE SABC is threatening to replace Currie Cup rugby coverage with soccer and films unless the row over the R9-million price tag for TV rights is settled.

M-Net has already put up R4.5-million for half of this season's 24 matches — but the SABC has refused to pay its share.

One SABC insider said: "It's a high-stakes poker game but we hold the ace."

"The TV audience is bored with Currie Cup rugby every Saturday. We lose the female audience the children and most of the men — except for die-hard fans dreaming of Test matches."

"We'd rather spend the money on movies. We'd boost the viewing figures and make some money for a change."

Fee

TV underline its view.

By **MIKE ROBERTSON**
 Political Correspondent

A **R7-BILLION** increase in social spending can be expected when Finance Minister Barend du Plessis unveils his Budget on March 20.

The government is also set to allocate hundreds of millions of rands in subsidies and food assistance to the poor to offset price rises caused by Value Added Tax.

The huge increase in social spending follows pledges by President F W de Klerk and top ministers that alleviation of poverty must be a priority of the Budget.

Deputy Finance Minister Org Marais confirmed in an interview this week that the percentage of total Budget spending allocated to social projects could be expected to grow from last year's 38 percent to 42 percent in the coming financial year.

Assuming an increase of 13 percent in total government spending — Mr Du Plessis has undertaken to keep increases in government spending to below the inflation rate — this would mean an increase of R7-billion in spending on education, health, shelter and welfare.

And, according to Dr Marais, there will be even more social spending on top of this following the Cabinet's acceptance in principle of the VAT Commission report made public this week.

Subsidise

The government, as this weekend studying an International Monetary Fund report on how best to subsidise food for the poor. The IMF report was commissioned by Mr Du Plessis in anticipation that the present General Sales Tax exemptions on most basic foodstuffs will be removed when VAT is introduced on September 30.

Dr Marais said a Cabinet sub-committee headed by Finance Deputy Director General Estian Cahitz had already submitted a recommendation to the Cabinet on food subsidies and aid.

Who knows



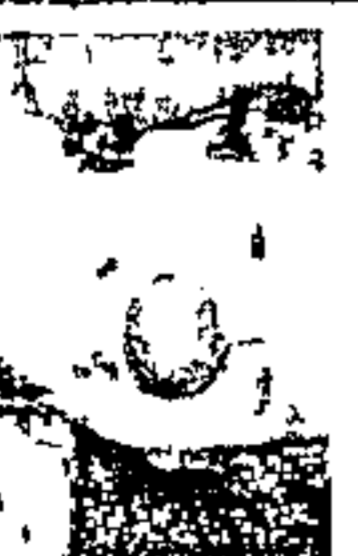
whose nose



is behind



the Red



Noses? P3

Divorce party ends in horror murders

By **BILL KRIGE**

A **CRAZED** father burst into a party and shot dead his nine-month-old son and estranged wife before killing himself.

Horrified guests watched as security guard Barry Bridger, 26, of Port Elizabeth, shot his wife Antonette, 22, and his son, Leroy, at Mrs Bridger's new home in Uitenhage.

Yesterday, Mrs Bridger's brother, Frans Barnard, 23, described the killing.

"We were having a braai to celebrate Antonette's move and pending divorce I don't know how he found out where she was, but just before midnight Barry drove up. He seemed totally mad."

Crying

"He ran indoors waving his pistol and shouting: 'Where's my son?'"

The boy woke up and was crying in his father's arms when he was shot in the back of the head.

Antonette was in the kitchen when she heard the shot. She ran out crying, "Oh God, my child!" When she saw what had happened, she collapsed on the bed in a faint.

"Her husband shot her in the head and then put the gun to his chin and pulled the trigger."

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Dr Marais said a Cabinet sub-committee headed by Finance Deputy Director General Estian Calitz had already submitted a recommendation to the Cabinet on food subsidies and aid.

This would be studied in conjunction with the IMF report, Dr Marais said.

Recent reports have speculated that up to R600-million could be provided in food assistance to the poor.

Dr Marais said the assistance could take the form of either subsidies on certain basic foodstuffs, such as maize, or feeding schemes at schools and clinics.

VAT exemptions on certain basic foods might also be considered as an interim measure if the government could not find enough money in this year's Budget to introduce a meaningful food assistance programme.

Bread

"It will depend on how quickly we can introduce food programmes targeted at the poor," said Dr. Marais.

He indicated that maize products were most likely to be exempted as statistics showed that 90 per cent of white maize was consumed by blacks.

White maize is also the most likely food product to receive a subsidy. This, however, would be controversial as the government is busy removing the bread subsidy scheme because it is considered an ineffective means of providing assistance.

Dr Marais said that in addition to considering food assistance, Vatcom had also taken great pains to ensure the introduction of the new tax did not affect the poor in other essential areas, such as transport, housing and medical services.

Dr Marais said the government would prefer to introduce VAT at 10 per cent, but this would mean phasing in credits for capital equipment purchases — thereby undermining the boost which scrapping GST could give exporters.

Noses? P



after action



alive with flavor

The best taste

RIGGIO TOE

LEX 684/EU

20 000 SA whites dependent on charity for food

Copy Times 6/3/91 24

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A record number of whites are asking charities for food as SA suffers its "worst malnutrition problem in 10 years", says Operation Hunger director Mrs Ina Perlman.

The organisation is feeding 20 000 whites across the country, Mrs Perlman said.

On the West Rand, the director of the West Rand Christian Centre, Ms Rita Rogers, said "Both lower-class and better-class whites who have been retrenched have started to come in"

Almost 4 000 white families currently receive food at the Werk en Oorleef Centre in northern Pretoria, the centre's director Ms Kleintjie Perreira said

"The situation is getting worse, with people getting laid off," she said

Funds to cope with the three or four new families asking for help each day have almost run out.

About 1,8m blacks receive food aid from Operation Hunger, Mrs Perlman said.

She said that with the predicted layoffs in the retailing industry, she expected another 50 000 people of all races to turn to the organisation for food

She said retrenched miners were returning to KwaZulu in droves resulting in 200 000 people in some areas needing food from Operation Hunger

Poor

By Peter H. Rafter

WERK en Oorleef does not look like a poor white's charity hostel. Sitting on a quiet street corner in Pretoria North, being gently mocked by the grocery store next door with its brash hoardings, it looks like another sleepy junk shop in another sleepy suburb.

But a junk shop it isn't. On any weekday, Werk en Oorleef (Work and Survive) contains human beings, sitting among the rubble of old clothes and old memories fathers wondering how they will afford their sons' school clothes, children staring bemused, wondering why mummy says she can't afford fruit any more.

Kleintje Perreira, the organisation's sharp-witted director, started the shop in September 1984, after working as a factory manager.

"There was an economic downturn then, and many people lost their jobs. We thought it was only temporary. We were wrong."

She says the hostels only for white people in need of help. "Of course, we don't turn anyone away, but that's how it works out."

About 4 000 jobless families visit Werk once every month to receive basic food rations — supplied by Operation Hunger — and to see if Kleintje knows of any jobs in the area. The answer is almost always "no".

When I walked in, there were about 15 people sitting on the benches and chairs inside the small front parlour that combines as an office, waiting area and clothes outlet (two rails of stiff second-hand shirts

As recession continues to bite, more and more white families face the spectre of poverty. **DARIUS SANAI** visited what has become the last bastion of hope for many Pretoria families who cling to life below the bread line.

and skirts line the back wall).

Three pretty blonde children were sitting quietly by their mother's knees. A tubby youngster was grappling with his distraught mother's handbag, and a dignified looking old man was chatting silently to a young woman I avoided the stares of the others.

Michel Britz was the first to volunteer to talk. A quiet, well-groomed man of 35 with a trim beard and soft, ginger hair, he had a sad face and the gentle manner of a priest.

Britz worked for 17 years as a salesman for Toyota, Nissan and VW before being retrenched last year.

"I just don't know what I'm going to do," he says. "Jobs are so difficult to come by I don't care about myself I can go a day without food. But the children need to eat, they need their daily meals. They need to go to school."

The Britz family moved from its town house to a rondavel on the edge of Pretoria. He has sold all his furniture and most of his other belongings. He has no

Whites join the bread line

savings left. "Finding a job seems impossible," he says.

There were others who talked, and all had different stories. Some just seemed hopeless cases the illiterate children of farmers, their existences made redundant by new machinery or drunken husbands, or by economic downturns under governments they did not understand. Others were simply unfortunate, speaking, like Britz, of the agony of the decision to go to Werk and receive charity.

There was Richard de Beer, the sprightly 68-year-old who drove the Pretoria-Johannesburg bus for 20 years, still fit and strong. De Beer is still looking for work — "I would do anything just to get a little extra money" — but he knows deep down that he won't be employed again.

Anna Scheepers, a white-haired 47-year-old with clear, child-like azure eyes set in the haggard face of an old woman, her silent 20-year-old daughter next to her is crippled by asthma and is unable to work. Her first husband died, her second has been in jail for five years.

"You will try and help me? You will?" she pleaded as I left.

But there is little help for these people, beside the monthly food parcel. Families and friends are either suffering similarly — all of De Beer's eight children come to Werk — or, in cases like Britz's, have become distant and closed.

"As long as you have money, you are welcome," says Britz with no trace of bitterness, only sadness.

"Now, I'm not — not any more."



Doing some shopping at Werk en Oorleef in Pretoria

Picture: DARIUS SANAI



ECONOMY

State hamstrung in bid to help poor — Syfrets

By TOM HOOD, Business Editor
GOVERNMENT plans to look after the needs of the less privileged sector of the economy are hamstrung by the constraints placed on it by revenue limitation, says Syfrets economist Elmien de Kock

"It is only when significantly higher levels of economic growth are achieved, effectively broadening the tax base, that these constraints will be lifted"

The major issue which marked last year's Budget was the notice of intent given by the government to redirect public expenditure into areas which would most benefit the majority in South Africa, she writes in Syfrets' latest quarterly newsletter *Money Matters*

Mrs De Kock suggests that what now needs to be addressed when dealing with redistribution is not where to spend the money — education, health and housing have already been identified — but rather where the money will come from, when the effects are likely to be felt, and the overall implications for the economy

"The effects of improved education will be more of a long-term nature, and health care more of an indirect 'upliftment' in terms of economic growth" Housing, however, could have an immediate impact, providing a substantial kick-start to the economy

The big problem is when this stimulus will take place

"The Independent Development Trust has been unable to spend the R2 billion allocated to it. As in the past, the problem does not lie with the theory of public finances, but with the inadequacies of our political and administrative system when it comes to distribution

"In terms of the approaching Budget, it is unlikely that substantial additional amounts will be allocated to housing until existing funds have been unbundled and effectively channelled"

She says the effects of a booming housing sector will only materialise in 1992 and, if effectively done, significantly improve the current forecasts for pedestrian growth next year

The underlying assumptions made about redistributing government revenue are that there will be a change in spending priorities and there will be no problems as to how these expenditure programmes will be financed.

"It is, of course, commendable that the Treasury has declared that fiscal discipline will be exercised over government expenditure, and that spending priorities will tend more towards social needs than, for example, to defence allocations

"The trouble is this will not bring about an automatic change to the real growth patterns in the country. The problem here lies in the indisputable fact that South Africa remains a highly taxed society, and the level of fiscal drag that exists acts as a brake on any sort of growth potential, particularly in an economy where resources of all kinds are under-utilised

"Economic growth is severely hamstrung in a society where the tax basis is structured as if the economy were functioning at full capacity, when in fact it is not"

DP budget 'rids SA of poverty'

CAT 745 14/3/91

POW 241

Political Staff

THE DP unveiled its "alternative budget" yesterday, putting forward proposals on eliminating poverty, improving social and economic stability and raising living standards.

DP finance spokesman Mr Ken Andrew said previous budgets had been designed to provide for the needs of five million whites, but the priorities had to be reassessed.

He said the budget had to reflect the rapid changes taking place in South African society.

The DP budget relies heavily on the guidelines of the DP's social market economy proposals adopted last year. It suggests defence spending be slashed by 9% (20% in real terms), own affairs be scrapped, the SA Police staff be doubled over five years and apartheid be ended immediately.

Mr Andrew said R2 billion of unused education resources in white schools had to be made productive.

He said the government and the private sector had to be encouraged to look at using labour-intensive small businesses.

The DP proposals form part of a longer-term development plan in which other key socio-economic targets are that

- Education spending be increased over five years to 25% of the budget,

- Housing backlogs be eliminated within 10 years,

- Health spending increase to 4,5% of GNP over five years, and

- Pensions parity be introduced immediately.

The proposals are based on estimates that real GDP would decline by 0,9% in total over 1990 and 1991 and that inflation would average 14% a year over the same period.

The 1991/92 budget should show no real growth.

Food relief schemes must be in place before VAT on previously exempted foodstuffs is collected and the finance minister must report annually to Parliament the estimated amount of VAT collected on foodstuffs exempt from

GST

The import surcharge should be repealed with immediate effect.

Other savings and extra expenditure measures proposed include

- A lottery which could raise R500m,

- All Ministers' Councils and own affairs be abolished (a R690m saving),

- The Bureau for Information be abolished (R47m saving),

- A 43% rise in foreign affairs spending,

- Public service salaries be increased by 12%,

- Trade and Industry be cut by R189m by stopping industrial decentralisation schemes,

- Education get an extra R854m, health R551m, housing R500m and local government R100m,

- Agricultural spending be cut by R160m by rationalising the own affairs departments, and

- An extra R400m be set aside for feeding schemes, channelled as far as possible through existing private sector charities.

DP budget advocates more social spending

B/Day (4/3/91)

CAPE TOWN — The DP unveiled its "alternative budget" yesterday, putting forward proposals on eliminating poverty, improving social and economic stability and raising living standards

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Andrew said R2bn of unutilised education resources in white schools had to be made productive

He said government and the private sector had to be encouraged to look at using labour intensive

BILLY PADDOCK

and/or small businesses

Developmental spending should focus on investment where possible, rather than on welfare spending

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- Education spending be increased over five years to 25% of the Budget,
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Growth

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South Africa

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ANC, Inkatha back multi-million rand upliftment projects

Breakthrough!

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

THE Independent Development Trust has won the backing of the ANC and Inkatha for wide-ranging multi-million rand upliftment projects in housing, health and education.

The accord, announced in Cape Town today by the chairman of the trust, Mr Jan Steyn, is seen as a major breakthrough in securing the support and involvement of the black community.

ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi signed the historic agreement separately in Johannesburg and Ulundi in the past two weeks

Both major black groupings have pledged support for direct involvement in helping to identify and implement projects. Wherever possible, projects will be undertaken jointly by the trust, ANC and Inkatha

Advice offices

In a particularly significant development, both the ANC and Inkatha have agreed to ensure that joint upliftment projects are supported by their organisations, are not subjected to "extra-judicial" action such as bond or other boycotts and protected as far as possible against vandalism and "other acts of violent damage".

The trust, which has a fund of R2-billion for upliftment programmes, has agreed to set up advice offices and legal support structures to protect less well-informed communities against exploitation and finance a legal support service

It will also train ANC and Inkatha officials to help implement the provisions of the agreement

Joint statement

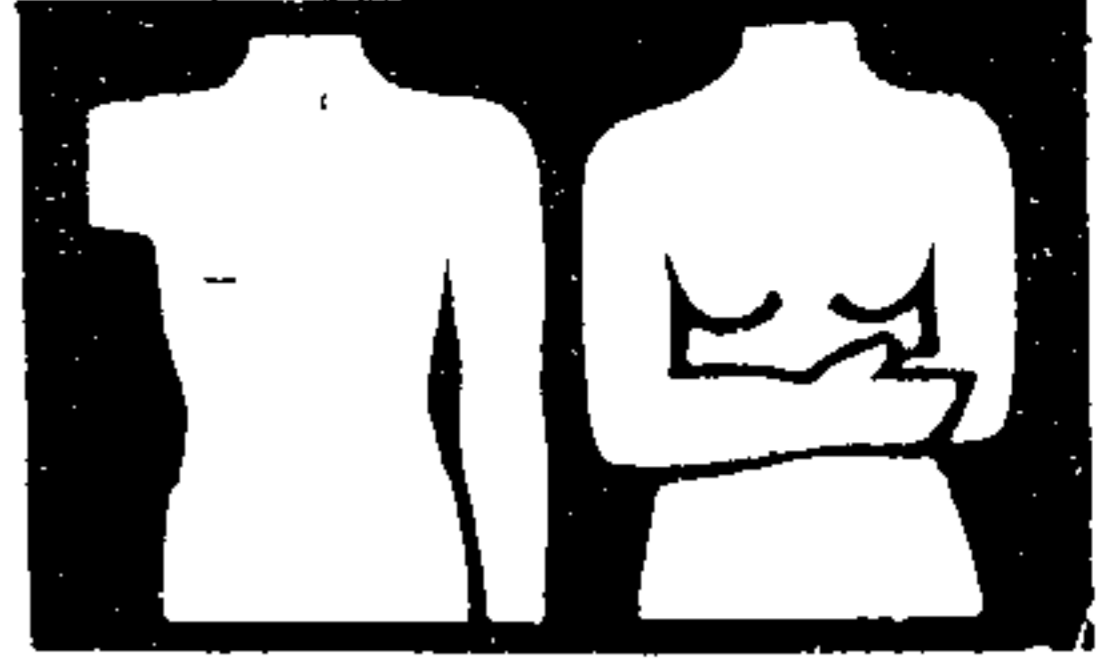
Mr Mandela and Dr Buthelezi emphasised in a statement the need for non-partisan development to "reduce the potential for violence". Both highlighted the need for the upgrading of hostels in the Transvaal and Natal

They said: "The programme must give priority to refugees and displaced persons arising from the violence and take all steps to peacefully and effectively re-integrate divided communities"

The trust, established as an independent agency to help to break the cycle of poverty and deprivation in South Africa, is expected to make a major contribution to helping black people to own and develop land

Following its historic agreement with the ANC and Inkatha, the trust has now set itself the task of broadening support for its projects among other key actors and their supporters

KNOW YOUR BODY



Health in the city Progressive participatory research: stress factors in Manenberg



New Nation (Hearty Nation)
15/3 - 21/3/91

This article has been adapted from one which originally appeared in Critical Health No. 28 in October 1989. It was written by members of OASSSA and the Manenberg Research Group. If you want to subscribe to Critical Health, you can write to them at P.O.Box 16250, Doornfontein, 2028.

Manenberg, 20 km from Cape Town, houses about 60 000 people whom the state has classified "coloured". The highly politicised Manenberg community is amongst the poorest in the Western Cape. In late 1986, churches and community organisations took up the challenge of dealing with the consequences of the wave of political repression experienced between 1984 and 1986. Together they launched a project to build a Manenberg People's Centre where those working to empower the community could be united under one roof. It was suggested that a facility be included to address the psychological impact of stressors (factors causing stress) in the community. After consultation with progressive psychologists, it emerged that psychology offered few interventions that are appropriate for South African working class communities. It was from this realisation that the Manenberg Research Project was born.

Life stressors and coping strategies: central themes

1. The consequences of poverty

Poverty combined with unemployment and the high cost of rent and electricity, constituted the major stressors for the community. 29% of potential wage-earners were unemployed. But, even amongst those who were employed, 46% of the average-sized households, consisting of six to seven people, lived on incomes below the 1985 poverty datum line of R345.00 per month. Ten percent of households were totally dependent on small state pensions and grants, and only 13% earned over R801.00 per month. The generally low levels of formal education decrease the chances of residents being employed in positions that pay a living wage. On average, 17% of the people had only primary school education and nine percent were illiterate. Only two percent had received education at the tertiary level (i.e. college or university).

Just over half the residents (52%) dealt with the consequences of poverty by appealing to government authorities for assistance, for example the Rent Office, the City Council and the Department of Coloured Affairs.

2. The "deprived" environment

The second major stressor noted by 88% of those interviewed was termed "the dangerous environment". This included high levels of gangsterism, crime and violence, which made residents fear for their personal safety. The illegal sale and abuse of alcohol and drugs was named by 68% of people interviewed as the third stressor of major concern to the community.

This was followed by the problem of grossly inadequate community facilities and the deprived physical environment such as poor roads and street lighting and the lack of medical and child care facilities.

78% of residents interviewed said that they did not have a way of dealing with these stressors and only 11% said that they turned to the police for assistance with crime. 46% of residents coped with substance abuse (i.e. drugs and alcohol) by speaking to a minister, a doctor, a social worker, a school principal or a trusted family member.

3. Interpersonal conflict

In addition to the community stressors already mentioned, 33% of residents felt that the most serious problem facing their families was conflict within the family and between marital partners (i.e. husbands and wives). Overcrowding is one of the negative consequences of the housing shortage in Manenberg and it makes worse the conflict within families. On average, two to three people occupy each room (including those not designed for sleeping purposes) in each dwelling. 16% of residents said that the housing shortage was a severe stressor.

44% of residents turned to a minister, a doctor, a social worker, a school principal or a trusted family member for help with family conflicts. 93% approached government authorities for help with overcrowding.

Once the survey responses had been analysed, a workshop was held with community organisations to evaluate the research process and its findings. It was felt that the only major problems that had not been revealed in the survey were those of incest, child abuse and spouse battery.

The central lesson of the research project

For progressives in the social sciences, perhaps the most important lesson to be learned from the research project is that South African working class communities see social science research as both exploitative and irrelevant. Their experience of researchers in general, seems to have been that of privileged academics intruding on economically deprived communities, invading the privacy of residents to collect information which is neither useful nor meaningful to those being studied. More often than not researchers benefit, not those whose participation makes the findings possible. But only in the last nine months of this 30 month research project, was there unified acceptance of the value of this kind of work.

What makes research progressive and participatory?

Accountability

Accountability to those being researched and to the broader democratic movement is generally accepted as being the essential element that distinguishes progressive research from traditional research. Clear structures must be set up to ensure that accountability operates in practice.

The very first task of the research group



was to define the ways in which each group involved in the Manenberg People's Centre project was to be accountable to the others. The research group was directly accountable to the body representing the community organisations coordinating the development of the centre. This involved progress reports at all meetings of this body.

The research group was to be accountable to the broader community by actively involving the community in all stages of the research, by trying to resolve conflicts and queries through workshop discussions and by sharing the findings which were useful to the community.

Relevancy

Although the initiative for this project came from some members of the community itself, the usefulness of the research was debated throughout the project. This proved to be an essential test of the relevance of the research and a process through which people could work through their doubts about social science research.

It was only while interviewing residents that members of the community organisations realised that the research had value. They came to understand that even progressive organisations could be out of touch with the very people they aimed to represent. Interviewers reported that when listening to people's responses they really came to understand the severity of the stress factors affecting the residents of Manenberg. The Civic Association found the results to be important, reporting that such findings are a means of bringing attention to the plight of the oppressed to the attention of the public and particularly, the authorities. Organisations planned their own research for a variety of purposes.

A workshop was held to evaluate the project and the overall feeling was that it had shown the value of this type of social science research.

Participation, active sharing and non-exploitation

Residents were involved in all phases of the research, from problem definition and

planning, to interviewing and evaluating the findings. Research skills were redistributed to the community through the training of the people who participated in the research process. Volunteers were trained in survey methodology and interviewing skills. Many reported that the research skills they developed have been valuable in organisational work.

The findings were made accessible to the community through workshops in which written reports were presented and discussed thoroughly. The main findings of the door-to-door survey were written up as a pamphlet and distributed throughout Manenberg.

Skills and experience were not shared in a top down manner from researchers to the community. Those residents who participated in the research continually evaluated the research methodology, as well as the findings. This break from a fixed research design required in traditional social science, to a dynamic, method informed by practice and feedback, was one of the greatest strengths of the project.

A decision was taken to prevent any research group member from gaining financially from the research project and it was agreed that no member could use the research to achieve an academic qualification. The research group had to be consulted and a mandate obtained before any information related to the project could be published and, where possible, papers would be written and published as a collective.

From the strategies outlined here, a model for progressive participatory research emerged and was tested.

Concluding comment

There is power in knowledge. Just as social science research has been used to enhance the power of the privileged, it has the potential to empower the oppressed.

The Manenberg Research Project demonstrated the tremendous potential of research that is conducted according to the principles of accountability, relevancy and the active sharing of skills and experience.

POVERTY

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AN ESTIMATED 44,5 percent of South Africans (including those in the "independent homelands") are living in poverty, including six percent living in extreme poverty, according to a report by the government's Vatcom, released last month. The report said that 16,3-million South Africans (out of a Development Bank estimate of 36,6-million) were living below the minimum living levels and 2,3-million were in "dire need".

W/mon 1513-213191

Homeless get R750m for land

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By BARRY STREEK
A MAJOR boost to housing — a R750 million Independent Development Trust (IDT) grant to poor people, a new government scheme for higher income people and a major new private sector financing project — is on the cards.

The IDT plan to assist 100 000 poor families with grants of R7 500 to buy land and build houses was announced yesterday by its chairman, Mr Jan Steyn.

Mr Steyn said at a press conference: "We understand the government will shortly be

announcing a similar initiative which will also provide for those in higher income brackets and will be making allocations for this purpose as soon as resources permit."

He also revealed that the IDT would release details in about ten days' time about the private sector scheme to assist the financing of home-building.

Earlier yesterday, Mr Steyn released the text of an agreement between the IDT, Mr Nelson Mandela of the ANC and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of the Inkatha Freedom Party for joint initiatives in the areas of housing,

education and health.

Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi agreed that joint projects would be supported by their members, would not be subjected to unlawful and extra-judicial action such as unjustified refusal to meet lawful obligations and, as far as it was in their power, be protected against vandalism and other acts of violence."

Mr Steyn said all the parties he had spoken to saw the IDT initiative as a way development could be depoliticised very considerably.

Although the IDT's housing director, Mr Ben van der Ross, conceded there could be "serious problems" of politicisation and patronage in housing development at the local level, a clear strategy of building thousands more homes and getting support from all parties for this initiative had developed.

Mr Steyn said the IDT had received more than 500 applications, at an estimated cost of R7 billion, within the broad housing ambit, but it had been decided to allocate the R750m to secure land for poor people.

Land would be secured as a key component of the whole development process of poor people as the basis for providing security for them so that they gain upward mobility.

Purchasers would have to be over 21, be dependants living with him or her, have maximum monthly income of R1 000, not receive other housing subsidies from the state and be first-time property owners.

If the selling price of the site was more than R7 500, the balance would be paid by the purchaser.

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Peace will elude SA if poverty is not checked prof

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bl Day 20/3/91

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Peace and reconciliation in SA would be beyond reach unless aggressive policies to attack poverty were instituted, Unisa's professor of economics Stef Coetzee said last night.

In his inaugural lecture he said the situation of the poor had been aggravated by increasing capital intensity in the formal sector and the high level of unemployment since the mid-70s.

The average labour absorption capacity of the formal sector had declined from 73,6% between 1965-70 to 12,5% for the period 1985-89.

This implied that only 125 of every 1 000 entrants a day to the labour market could be accommodated as full-time employees during this period.

Upswings

Between 1974 and 1989 the formal sector created only 1,2-million jobs while the labour force increased by 4,7-million.

Coetzee said the percentage of the labour force outside the formal employment sector had risen to 41,9%.

"Unemployment has continued to rise during upswings in the business cycle which strongly indicates unemployment has assumed structural characteristics," Coetzee said.

Urban Foundation research indicated the metropolitan population would increase from 12-million to 32-million between 1980 and 2010, while the total number of (metropolitan) blacks would quadruple from 6,6-million to 23,6-million over the same period.

Coetzee said the foundation also estimated that 42% of the black population would be in the under-14 age group, and that some 7-million were already living

under informal housing conditions — 2-million in the PWV area.

He said the SA economy had shown persistent decline in growth since the 70s and was characterised by a highly unequal distribution of wealth and income, rising unemployment, poverty and socio-economic imbalances and backlogs.

The economic growth rate measured by the GDP declined from an average of 5,5% between 1960-74 to 1,8% in the 1975-88 period. During this period per capita income declined by 1% a year.

The attack on poverty would have to go beyond the efficient allocation of scarce resources. It would have to address issues such as access to and control of resources backed by changes in the economic, social, political and institutional mechanisms to bring about a rapid improvement in the living levels of the poor.

Coetzee said the costly duplication of apartheid structures had a negative effect on the economy.

Government interventionist policies, such as those aimed at promoting strategic industries and import substitution, had also served to undercut efficiency.

"The plethora of legislation to keep the political system intact has had a severe impact on the control over resources and access to opportunities."

In addition, Coetzee said, government expenditure had favoured the affluent minority leading to a skewed allocation of resources.

He stressed a political settlement would not be a panacea for the country's development problems.

It could be regarded as necessary but not sufficient condition to resolve conflict in SA.

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R220-m boost for the needy

Sowden 21/3/91.

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AN amount of R220 million would be set aside in the Budget for aid programmes for the needy, Minister of Finance Mr Barend du Plessis said yesterday.

He said in his Budget speech that the Government had a special responsibility to help provide the most basic needs of the "outright impoverished".

The Government's Task Force on Poverty was investigating the combination of programmes required to target one or other form of food aid and would consult widely to ensure the correct package of measures.

Because of high and rising unemployment the position of those suffering extreme privation was a cause for great concern. This problem might even worsen in the transitional phase of economic

restructuring

"It is therefore imperative that, within the constraints of affordability, there be an appropriate expansion of the safety net to assist the needy."

"The planned introduction of a broadly-based VAT lends this still greater urgency," Du Plessis said.

The Government believed that any relief action should supplement the improvement in income of people through economic growth and job creation.

Of greatest importance was the community's involvement in relief schemes, with maximum linkage to development and job creation activities.

The task force's investigation thus far had shown that the really

vulnerable segments of South African society were pre-school children and expecting and nursing mothers.

Others were children in the six to 12 age group, the aged, other social dependants and certain classes of the unemployed.

There was evidence that undernourishment had already assumed critical dimensions in some cases.

However, acute poverty was not confined to food. The more pressing requirement ranged over a wide spectrum of basic living needs, such as basic medical services and clean water.

The R220 million would be made available to Government departments or non-government organisations after "further urgent consultations".

Du Plessis also said that while higher economic growth and job creation by the private sector was the only viable path for a meaningful longer-term attack on the country's poverty problem, the Government also had a responsibility to provide social infrastructure and services such as education and health care and to help provide the most basic needs of the poor.

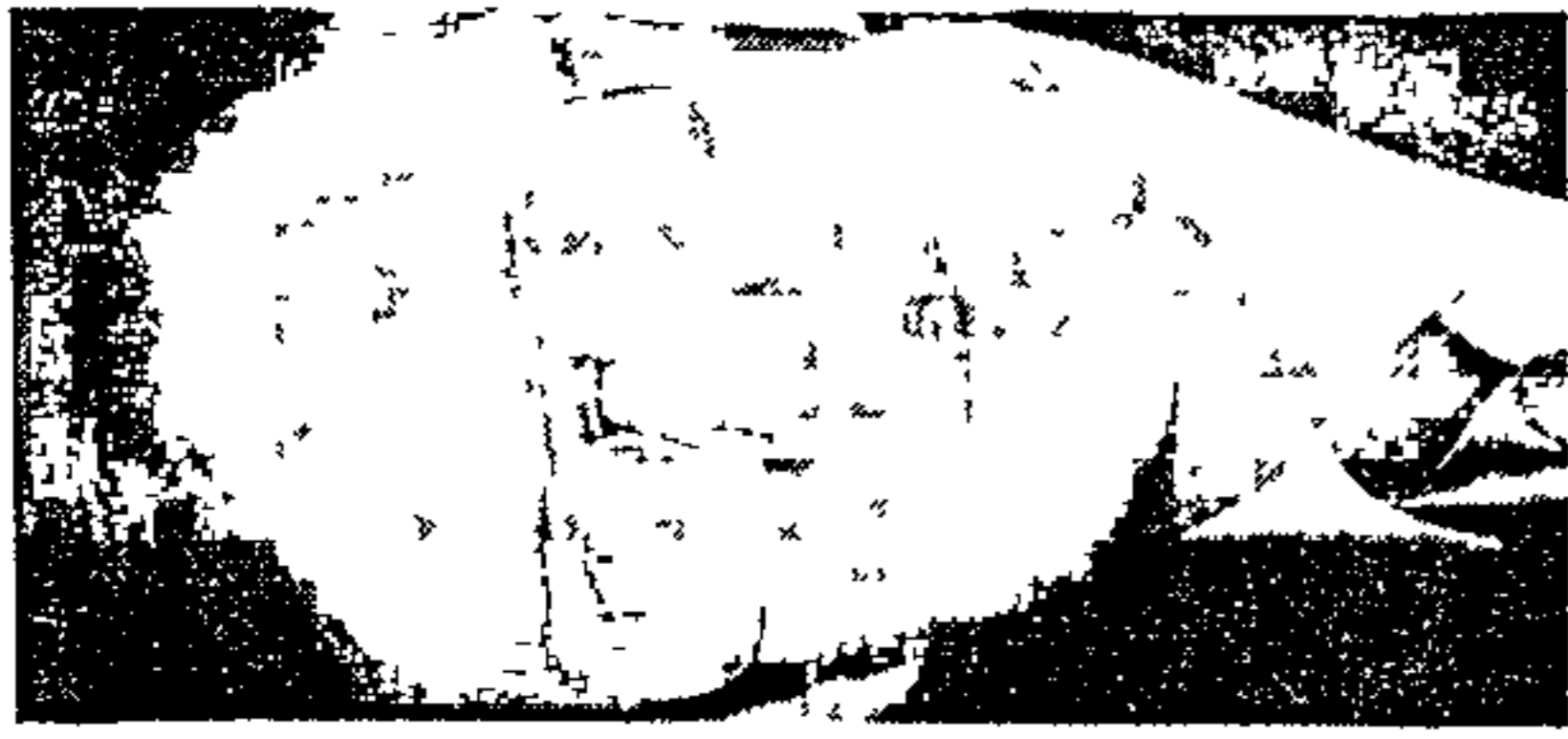
He said 38,2 percent of the total Budget would be spent on social services.

Socio-economic development and creation of equal opportunities could be achieved only through a combination of higher economic growth and reallocation of public funds. - *Sapa*

Barend tries to make Up

Sowetan 21/3/91

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DU PLESSIS

'Redress Budget' to uplift the poor

THE hallmarks of the Budget for next year are attempts to redress political wrongs of the past and the upliftment of the poor.

Black housing and education get the biggest shares of the social spending announced by Minister of Finance Mr Barend du Plessis in his Budget speech in Parliament yesterday.

Thirty-eight percent of the Budget will go towards social spending and about 20 percent of this will be on education, with black education receiving the biggest cut of the education budget.

Of the R16 billion allocated to education, R6,8 billion - a 27,4 percent increase on last year's amount - will go to black education.

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

An amount of R5,9 billion (6,2 percent up on last year) will go to whites, R2,3 billion (13,9 percent more than last year) to the "coloured" and R1 billion (18,9 percent up on last year) to the Indian education departments.

However, defence was allocated a massive 9,187 billion and the police R5,1 billion.

• See also Pages 13-19

Health will receive about 10 percent of the social spending budget, social assistance and welfare seven percent, housing 1,6 percent and recreation and culture about .5 percent.

Black pensions will be brought to within 20

• To Page 2

UP	DOWN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beer - 3 cents for a 340ml bottle • Spirits - 1,5 cents a tot or 37,7 cents for a 750ml bottle • Cigarettes - 6 cents for 20s • Cigarette tobacco - 3 cents for 50g • Pipe tobacco and cigars - 25 cents a kilogram • Fortified and sparkling wines - 1,8 cents a 750ml bottle • A further sharp increase in education spending • Special relief programmes for the destitute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Price of petrol - by 5 cents a litre • Price of diesel - by 4 cents a litre • Price of paraffin - by 9 cents a litre • The maximum marginal tax rate for married men has been reduced from 44 percent to 43 percent

Huge share for black education

From Page 1

percent of those of whites but there are no signs of equality in the near future.

Housing gets a whopping R1,3 billion, with black housing receiving the lion's share of R1,2 billion.

The defence budget has been slashed by R3,6 billion but instead of this being taken into socio-economic spending a large part of the reduction was allocated for law and order "to reduce the exceptionally high incidence of violence and crime", Du Plessis said.

An additional R20 million from the extra R269 million set aside for urgent capital requirements has been allocated to "efficient policing and the need for more emergency police stations".

"Once greater internal stability is achieved a downscaling in the growth of spending on protection services (security) should eventually create budget room for more social development," Du Plessis said.

Total expenditure for 1991/1992 adds up to R84,9 billion, including a reserve of R1,2 billion. The new Budget is 13,7 percent bigger than last year's.

Barend's Budget seen as robbery of the poor

Sowetan 22/3/91

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AZAPO, the ANC, and Cosatu slammed the Government's Budget this week, with Azapo saying the decision to impose new VAT on basic foods except mealie-meal and bread was "highway robbery".

Azapo deputy president Dr Nchaube Mokoape said Finance Minister Barend du Plessis's Budget was far from impressive, and he would not even describe it as "a step in the right direction".

In a statement prepared long before the Budget was announced, Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) publicity secretary Barney Desai said the PAC did not recognise the Government and therefore did not expect anything positive from it.

In its initial response last night, the ANC - which said it would "provide a more detailed response later" - said the fundamental flaw of the Budget was that it was formulated and introduced in a context where there were no "democratic institutional mechanisms to ensure an equitable allocation of resources".

This was compounded by the apparent lack of an over-arching national development strategy. The ANC said social

spending on housing, special and programmes and pensions was "hopelessly inadequate", arguing the Government should have brought immediate parity in pensions to alleviate poverty.

Also criticised by the ANC were the lack of a special provision for electrification and land reform, and the fact that the effectiveness of the sum provided for education would be hampered by the multiplicity of education departments

The ANC slammed the 12percent rate at which the new VAT tax will be introduced, saying it was "far higher than all reasonable expectations". With limited items exempted from the VAT, the new tax would cause extreme hardship for the poor and the special aid programmes for the poor proposed in the Budget would be insignificant

"This inadequate so-



Azapo's Dr Nchaube Mokoape

cial expenditure was not as a result of insufficient overall revenue but rather reflects ongoing apartheid budget priorities. Defence expenditure, for example, remains excessive. Most countries not in a state of war spend proportionately half of what was allocated in this years budget," said the ANC.

"The poor do not need food aid," Dr Mokoape said, "but they need land they can work upon it to feed themselves. Giving them handouts is of very little significance and it will insult their dignity". The Azapo leader said "it was absolutely ridiculous" that blacks, whose contribution to the country's wealth was enormous, had been given small pensions all along. His anger was far from being assuaged by the 20 percent readjustment



PAC's Barney Desai

to expect from the regime's Budget. Our position is crystal clear: we do not recognise them as a legitimate authority and do not expect, nor are grateful for, any largesse from that source through a Budget.

"The imposition of the VAT tax on all basic foods is pure highway robbery. We have always said that no sales tax should be levied on all foods, books and medicines. These things are very basic in life," Dr Mokoape said.

In his response yesterday, the PAC's Barney Desai said: "We have no input to make as to what

on the way out and we say the sooner the better."

Cosatu also expressed disappointment at yesterday's Budget speech and described it as yet again protecting the white minority interest.

In a statement, Cosatu said the only beneficiaries were the "big business and apartheid bureaucrats."

For the disadvantaged majority Minister du Plessis's speech was a "Rubicon".

Racial

There was nothing which indicated that the gross racial discrimination which had characterised previous Budgets had been removed, nor was there no movement towards removing duplication of expenditure on apartheid structures and the apartheid bureaucracy remained fat and well fed, the statement added.

"The Budget failed to

create parity in social spending between black and white. The exact figures have still to be revealed, but there is little doubt that massive racial disparities still exist in social spending.

"The Minister seems quite proud of the fact that discrimination between black and white pensioners is only 20 percent less than it was. Apart from the obvious racism in this approach, how does he justify this continued discrimination when his own Commission recommended racial parity in pensions?"

"The promised massive 'social upliftment programme' didn't materialise. Far from social spending dramatically increasing as a proportion of the Budget, it in fact remains at the same percentage as last year.

"The apartheid security forces continue to drain the resources of the country. What has been taken away from SADF has simply been given to the SAP.

"The Budget is yet another apartheid Budget. It directs State resources, which belong to all South Africans, into the hands of the minority, it makes the rich, richer, and discriminates against blacks in general." - Sowetan

Correspondents

T has become common to see people at street intersections holding placards that bear the plea:

"Please help! I have not had food for three days."

And their numbers are growing every day.

You cannot dismiss these people as hobos, who may be irresponsible or addicted to liquor.

Most of them are able-bodied adults who genuinely cannot find a job.

Many cannot recall the last time they were employed.

Some say they were retrenched, others tell you they have given up hope knocking at the door of every factory in Johannesburg only to be told there is no work.

"I'm prepared to do any kind of job. I need food for my children," is the message that comes across.

You don't have to go to Hillbrow or other high-density areas to see the hungry. Recently, the ranks of the unemployed have swelled alarmingly.

They are prepared to accept anything you give them — dry bread, cold drinks, anything. But what they want is work, any

MY WAY

With Khulu Sibiya



Give jobless place in sun

When 24/3/91



kind of work to earn a living, they say.

I have often wondered how many people who drive past these supplicants have ever imagined themselves in the other's shoes.

Do they know what it feels like to be without food for three days? To have no roof over your head?

I once overheard a motorist — who looked rich, judging by his car — telling one of these pitiful beggars:

"Why don't you go and ask (Archbishop Desmond) Tutu and (Nelson) Mandela to give you food. They are the ones who have called for sanctions." The beggar was

obviously puzzled.

What have Tutu and Mandela got to do with asking for food or a job?

The man had probably heard about Tutu and Mandela, but it would be unlikely that he owned a radio, a TV or could afford to buy a newspaper that could inform him about sanctions.

Bread and butter issues are more important to him.

How can a wealthy, highly-industrialised country like South Africa have such high numbers of people begging for a place in the sun.

Why do we have so

many homeless people and so many others who live in shacks?

Are we going to be able to redress the disparity between rich and poor in a new South Africa?

Last weekend I attended the wedding of Cleopus Nyembe in Duderza near Nigel. Cleopus and more than 100 of his colleagues were retrenched almost a year ago, but nothing could stop him from celebrating his marriage to his childhood sweetheart.

It was a real spread — food, drinks and music galore.

More than half the guests were unemployed. The master of ceremonies —

also unemployed — asked that the wedding presents from the unemployed be separated from the others. I was impressed to see that the unemployed had more to offer the bridal pair than those who were employed!

Cleopus said hardship had taught them to stick together and "help mekaar" in times of need.

"We have learnt to share whatever we have. We unemployed are more unified than those who are employed because they seem to look only after their own interests."

Finance Minister Barend du Plessis has not addressed the problems of the unemployed. Unless all political movements take a critical look at job creation in a new South Africa, unemployment will continue to rise.

A hungry stomach, the old adage says, knows no law.

A new government will have serious problems in maintaining law and order unless people are given proper houses and employment in the transitional period.

Govt's role is to uplift the poor, says EAC

GOVERNMENT'S economic responsibility is to promote socio-economic development, says the State President's Economic Advisory Council (EAC) (241)

Its revised long-term economic strategy released at the weekend stresses the need for upliftment, saying policies must be implemented to meet the needs of the poor.

The EAC adds the importance of socio-economic development to its existing positions of increasing long-term economic growth and reducing inflation

Government, says the EAC, should concentrate on providing services for the really needy on an affordable equal basis and should meet infrastructural needs in edu-

KEVIN DAVIE

cation, training and health.

The revised strategy also stresses that government should assist in deregulation so that unnecessary restrictions are eliminated and opportunities created

But the EAC sees a reduced role for government. It says its share of gross domestic product has increased substantially over the past six years, and that this trend should be reversed.

It says a credible socio-economic development programme is necessary to improve international perceptions of SA, and

□ To Page 2

Poor ^{26/3/71}

suggests new investment will flow if these programmes are seen to be successful

The EAC says government spending will have to be channelled to development and that private contractual savings may possibly be easier to reallocate to upliftment than discretionary savings. Government can play a role in encouraging this investment by providing institutional investors with risk guarantees, it adds

Another key area for government is to

(241) (241) □ From Page 1 ensure there are no impediments to making land available for shelter

The report also gives detailed attention to industrial development. It says an export culture in SA will have to be promoted and that current tariff protection policy is subject to serious shortcomings which require fundamental reform

It says high import tariffs which increase the domestic cost structure and impede exports will have to be lowered



Midweek Politics
By ANTHONY
JOHNSON

THE hundreds of researchers involved in the Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty in South Africa during the first half of the last decade must be feeling sick to the stomach after the delivery of last week's Budget speech in Parliament.

In his Budget address, Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis provided the most frank official acknowledgement of the extent of poverty and inequality in South Africa

After a government dismissal of this country's most comprehensive probe into poverty back in 1984 as an unwelcome attempt to place pressure on South Africa, Mr Du Plessis told Parliament this week that South Africa has one of the most unequal distributions of income in the world.

Steadily increasing

He then noted: "But still more disturbing are the millions of South Africans who make do with pitifully low incomes" There are about 16 million people on "very low" incomes at the moment.

"And there are similar disparities in the ownership of assets," he acknowledged

The Budget review, or expanded version of Mr Du Plessis's speech, went on to note that the extent of poverty in South Africa — which it characterised as "extremely great" — had in fact been steadily increasing over the past 15 years

Implicitly denied

What a turnabout from the response of President Botha and members of his Cabinet when the findings of the five-year Carnegie study were released at a conference in Cape Town seven years ago At that time Mr Botha scornfully dismissed the work of academics, researchers and professionals attached to 30 universities across the political spectrum in southern Africa and beyond as an attempt to put South Africa under political pressure

The State President snidely remarked during the debate on his Budget vote in the House of Assembly that it was strange

Budget calls back a sad piece of SA history

CMM-Trans
27/3/91
241

that a conference was being held in Cape Town when the rest of Africa was starving

After papers delivered at the conference revealed that 80% of people in the homelands were living below the breadline, Mr Botha implicitly denied that there was a problem by arguing that the New York-based Carnegie Corporation should rather host a conference to discuss hunger in the rest of Africa

Even after the New Republic Party's leader and super-patriot Mr Vause Raw told Parliament that the Carnegie conference had brought to light facts and information "of which no country can be proud", the Minister of Health, Dr Nak van der Merwe, remained unmoved, implying that the findings were biased

In a similar vein, the Department of Community Development slammed criticism of the government's low-income housing policies as an attempt to bolster organised resistance

Significantly, the First Carnegie Enquiry into Poverty in South Africa, which largely concentrated on the plight of poor whites during the depression years, drew a very different response

That enquiry led to rapid action, with the active support of the churches, to uplift impoverished whites

But the Government's response in this year's Budget showed that, as the days of exclusive white rule are drawing to a close, the authorities are finally admitting that something has to be done about the awful poverty in this country

With the realisation dawning that whites might soon be on the receiving end of government policies not framed by them, it is no longer sufficient to dismiss evidence about grinding poverty with the tired argument that blacks in other African countries are worse off than those in South Africa

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Poverty seen as threat to SA accord

THE political settlement South Africa needed could not be realised if poverty and inequality were not seriously addressed, the ANC director of foreign affairs, Mr Thabo Mbeki, said in Somerset West

He was addressing international and South African economists, financiers and bankers brought together last night by the University of the Witwatersrand's School of Economics

He said the process of arriving at what South Africa needed to do economically had to be speeded up

The country needed to play its role on the African conti-

ment, which needed to be stable, democratic and reflect an absence of wars and Aids South Africa could, however, not be part of realising this because it had not solved its own problems

Africa had to address collectively the issue of democracy and human rights and secondly the issue of security

Whenever there was a violation of human rights, the tendency internationally was to identify it as an African problem collectively rather than attributing it to an individual country Likewise, wars and the enormous refugee problem were recognised by the world

as an African problem

Turning to the economic situation, he said everyone knew what the problems of South Africa's economy were

"In a broad sense all of us are participating in the process of what needs to be done to take it out of the crisis — getting rid of the racial inequalities

"Isn't it time to translate these broad perspectives into something more concrete? Hasn't the time come for all actors to come down more concretely to development needed in terms of rands and cents?"

"What will it cost? Who is going to do what?" — Sapa



The wolf is at the door . . . Operation Hunger needs R21,7-million this year to prevent a major catastrophe. ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

Feeding scheme needs millions

C/Pres 31/5/91

(229) (225) 241

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE flow of Mozambiquan refugees to Gazankulu is continuing to put a tremendous burden on relief assistance offered by Operation Hunger

The organisation is presently providing relief assistance to 82 000 refugees in Gazankulu, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said this week

"In Winterveld where there is a very high rate of unemployment the organisation is feeding 11 000 people consisting of local families and refugees," she added

Perlman highlighted the plight of very young children and said there were areas where an urgent intervention was necessary to feed children

She said Ingwavuma had about 6 000 children with visible malnutrition that need urgent help

"When I visited the area a few weeks ago, my reaction was total disbelief, as I had not seen visible malnutrition in children since 1986

"Mosvold Hospital in Ingwavuma



Ina Perlman

malnutrition admissions last year"

Perlman added that in the Hewu district more than half the children were malnourished - an increase of 26 per cent over figures of two years back

"In 1991 the countrywide economic catastrophe has sent rural unemployment soaring and reduced the regular migrant cash flow to an irregular trickle in most areas," she said, adding the organisation needed R21,7-million to prevent a major tragedy in South Africa

"This year is indeed much worse than in 1981-82 when the drought escalated and increased the chronic poverty, the severe malnutrition and the endemic child death rate

However, Perlman said self-help literacy programmes and the repeal of the Land Act would help "communities face the future positively and with increasing confidence as they move from survival to true subsistence agriculture"

Going out to play . . . boys and girls at the Refenghotso nursery school leave the classroom after lunch.

By Winnie Graham

It was lunchtime at the Refenghotso nursery school and the tiny boys and girls hungrily opened their bags.

Like all small children after a busy morning, the youngsters were ready for their meal.

They sang grace, then settled down on the cement floor of the church to eat their food which, in virtually every case, was a small lump of dried pap or bread accompanied by a little bottle of black tea.

Sister Elizabeth Porogo who, with Sister Harriet Mokoena, runs a clinic close to the Refenghotso squatter camp, watched sadly.

"We should be giving the children at least one hot meal a day but we need gas stoves and money to buy

food," she sighed. Refenghotso is about 100 km south of Johannesburg. The corrugated-iron shacks are miles from anywhere, and no obvious job opportunities exist other than on adjacent farms or in the nearby little village of Denysville.

Yet people from as far afield as KwaZulu, Transkei and the northern Transvaal have made their home here. Many earn just R50 or R70 a month with others bringing home a bag of vegetables each month.

Roughly 95 percent are un-

employed and malnutrition is responsible for the death of between 25 and 30 small children every month. Kwashiorkor, marasmus and pellagra — all diseases of severe malnourishment — take a daily toll. Tuberculosis is another problem.

Bewitched

Even conflict in the squatter camp is caused by malnutrition, Sister Porogo said. "Sometimes, when a child dies, the family will blame someone for witchcraft," she said. "They don't understand

that the lack of proper food can cause death.

"Just the other day I stopped a group from pulling along an old woman whom they said had bewitched a child and caused her death. I had to explain how the child came to die of malnutrition."

The infant mortality rate, coupled with the large number of teenage pregnancies and the high rate of sexually transmitted diseases (running currently at at least 40 percent), has prompted the community to ask the Leadership Institute for help in acquiring a proper clinic

Rural folk hope to break shackles of poverty, hunger

Picture: Stephen Davimes

The Kellogg's Foundation has made a grant of R900 000 available over three years to fund a primary health care facility. The State has added a further R137 000 to this.

This will be followed by the establishment of a job creation project and the establishment of an agricultural smallholding for the growing of vegetables.

The community also wants to establish a proper day care centre for the small children.

Stan de Klerk, executive director of the Leadership Institute, a community-based developmental training institute, said "We helped by structuring a committee, identifying potential sponsors and devising an action plan to combat the many problems in the area."

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GOLD AND EMPLOYMENT

A SAD STOPE OPERA

241
FMS/4/91.

INSISTENCE ON HIGHER WAGES COULD HAVE DAMAGING SOCIAL EFFECTS



Retrenchment is one of the unavoidable consequences of the gold industry's efforts to stay viable over its present crisis — described by Chamber of Mines president Clive Knobbs as the worst ever. But the

loss of jobs is hammering already impoverished rural areas of southern Africa.

The sagging gold price is a primary cause of the industry's problems. Anglo American's decision to halt drilling in the Potch Gap area (see *Fox*) casts a pall over future prospects for what after all remains a primary source of SA's wealth. The number of gold mines which will *not* now be developed in the Nineties increases political pressures on government in an era when it must take serious stock of black aspirations for the redistribution of wealth and the creation (and retention) of jobs.

The longer-term consequences of large-scale retrenchment of mineworkers include increased migration from rural areas to the squatter camps building up around the cities and, because there are no jobs available in the cities either, a likely increase in crime.

Towns traditionally dependent on the gold mines for their existence — like Welkom and Virginia — are also being hit by a loss of residents and business and sharp drops in property values. The town councils are putting a brave face on the situation, Welkom has researched what new businesses could flourish in the city and set up a special team to attract them to the area. But the primary problem may be insoluble.

Black miners come predominantly from rural areas because of the lack of other employment opportunities there and because most urbanised blacks are simply not interested in working on the mines — even if they

cannot find jobs elsewhere.

The industry's recruiting arm, The Employment Bureau of Africa (Teba), has reached into the most remote parts of the country and neighbouring states, where its recruiting stations offer the only alternative to subsistence agriculture.

The cash flows involved are enormous. In terms of governmental agreements, Teba is required to pay a portion of miners' earnings directly to his country of origin. The miners can claim these earnings when they return home on leave or at the end of their contracts.

In the case of Lesotho, the agreed portion was 60% of total earnings until last month, when it was reduced to 30%. The amount involved was R472m in 1990 (1989 R408,4m) while in the case of Mozambique the portion is 50% which was worth R139m last year (R114m). That's a sore point with Mozambican miners because they get paid out at home at the official exchange rate instead of the far more attractive black market rate.

The biggest earner after these countries is Transkei, where the remissions are voluntary, but Teba still directly paid out R101,5m in the area during 1990 (R81,3m). Transkei also provides the best example of what's happening in the rural areas because it has been the worst hit by industry retrenchments.

Teba statistics show a 14,4% drop in migrant workers employed on the chamber's gold mines from an average of 476 127 in 1987 to 398 773 last year. Over the same period, the number of Transkeians employed has fallen 23% from 128 513 to 99 492, while the number of Ciskeians is down 24% from 12 249 to 9 289. In comparison, the Mozambique labour contingent has dropped just 6% and the Lesotho contingent is only 7% lower.

Teba points out that it recruits as required by the individual mines and the controlling mining houses which determine the ethnic mix of the workforce. The reason for the pattern reflected in the statistics is not hard to work out.

Xhosa workers from the Transkei and Ciskei, who traditionally support the ANC, have the reputation of being notorious troublemakers on the mines — often for political issues not directly related to industrial relations matters.

Chamber senior GM Johann Liebenberg estimates each black miner supports up to 10 dependants through the traditional African extended family. What then happens if their cash-flows dry up? They starve — and so do their families.

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman says her organisation supported about 250 000 people in the Transkei region last year. Since December, the charity has started feeding an additional 150 000 people there and it estimates that a further 150 000 are waiting to join the feeding schemes which consist of soup kitchens and monthly rations for family units.

She attributes the bulk of this to retrenchments in the mining industry, saying another badly hit region is the Ingwavuma district of Kwa-Zulu.

How many workers have been forced out of the gold mines into unemployment is difficult to pin down because of transfers of redundant workers to other mines in the same group. Retrenchment agreements negotiated by some mines with the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) have also included provisions for extended periods of unpaid leave in an attempt to save jobs.

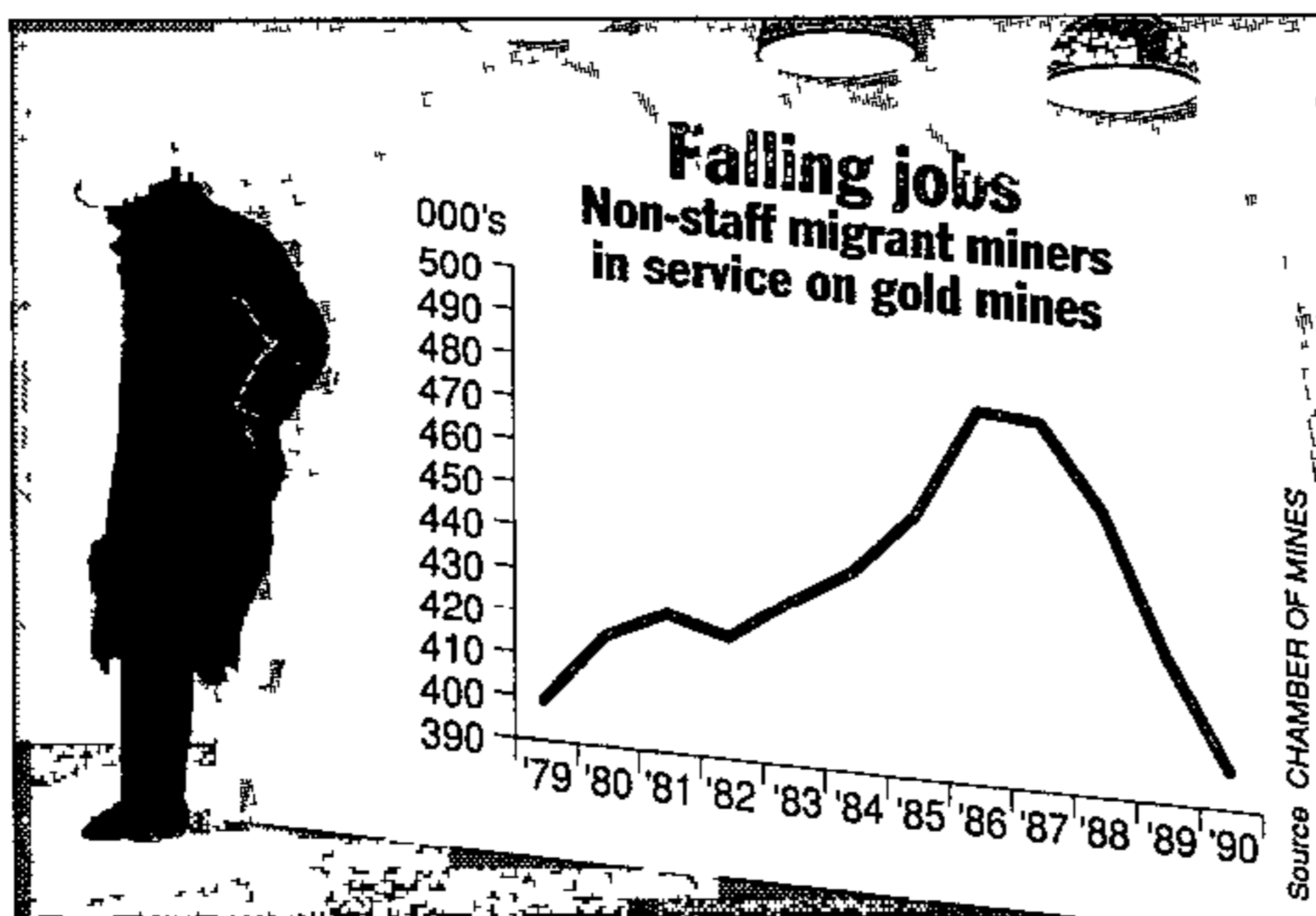
In January, Liebenberg estimated that during 1990 there were 27 000 actual retrenchments on the gold mines. He has since revised that figure to 40 000 and the chamber has drawn up its 1991 budget on the estimate that between 40 000 and 45 000 more workers will be laid off.

The hard fact is that 40% of SA's gold is produced at a loss at a price of R30 000/kg and the unprofitable mines employ about 190 000 people. That is the result of Reserve Bank policy to maintain the value of the rand, whereas in the past the currency was simply allowed to devalue to compensate the gold mines for lower dollar gold prices.

A contributing factor to this new hard-nosed policy appears to be the declining importance of the gold industry to the SA economy. Bank statistics show that in 1983, gold exports of R9,93bn constituted 42% of total exports and service receipts of R32,6bn. However, in 1990, gold exports of R18bn amounted to only 25% of total exports and



Perlman



THE ECONOMY

79 FM 5/4/91

MAKING DO WITHOUT GOLD

There's no denying the tribulations of the gold mining industry (see *Leaders*), nor minimising the impact of the present price and cost structure on its future (see *Fox*). Gold has been the mainstay of the economy for a century and in the past repeated gloomy predictions of its demise have always been premature.

But if the metal has indeed at last lost its safe-haven status, and the authorities are no longer going to allow a steady depreciation of the currency to protect exporting industries, life after gold is no longer a distant prospect.

The consequences this will have on employment, export revenues and the fiscus are substantial. But it's pointless jobbing backwards, we must rather plan for what lies ahead.

In this regard, it's worth bearing in mind that we have already made considerable progress. The Eighties saw a structural shift in the economy whose extent barely seems to have penetrated the popular consciousness.

The gold mines are expected to contribute only R630m in tax and lease payments in the new fiscal year, just under 1% of total tax revenue. As recently as 1987-1988, they contributed R2,65bn of total revenue of R34,3bn, or almost 8% — and that already represented a steep drop on previous years.

Equally, gold is a falling contributor to exports. The slack

has partly been taken up by other mineral exports — such as diamonds and the new granite industry — but even more by manufactured goods, and that despite the generally wrong-headed policies followed towards secondary industry.

Ten years ago it would have been inconceivable that we could run the sort of balance of payments surplus we achieved last year, and should achieve this year, with such a low contribution from gold.

Of course, this is not to say that we must write gold off. The mines are looking for more effective ways of exploiting their resources, and while the number of mines and jobs at risk is high, relative to total gold production it's less significant. Most of the big producers are still highly profitable, and should remain so.

And it is to be hoped that the international gold market will recover at some stage — an event from which we will benefit considerably.

But the point remains that, in the face of international trade and financial sanctions, we have already taken major steps in diversifying the economy away from gold. There is a long way still to go, but what we have achieved so far is a substantial plus factor. We are entitled — for once — to give ourselves quite a large pat on the back for it. ■

THE CLIMATE OF VIOLENCE

274 FM 5/4/91

DON'T LOOK FOR A THIRD FORCE

The weekend meeting between Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Nelson Mandela, to discuss ways of curbing violence, is excellent news — up to a point. Mandela has been on holiday out of the public eye for some weeks, during which the Inkatha-ANC "peace" pact began to look like a sick joke.

Obviously, while every incident of conflict has particular causes, the war in the townships is aligning itself along party lines — in fact, along tribal lines, a dire portent — and increased visibility of the leaders is one important way of preventing an escalation into civil war.

The constant attempts, particularly by the ANC, to pin the blame on some third or fourth force do not so far amount to more than hearsay. Nobody believes that the police are angels in such situations, but the solution to the police problem lies in the long-term upgrading of their personnel, resources and sense of professionalism. They need to feel responsible to the community rather than being typecast as its enemies.

Any attempts to create an alternative force for law and order in the townships will fail and probably lead to more massacres. There needs to be fewer arms in the black areas, not more, and the utmost scrutiny of police behaviour is essential if rumour and hearsay are not to proliferate. For

their part, the black groups must cease to gather in large numbers to foster hatred of each other.

Buthelezi's proposal that he, Mandela and President F W de Klerk should comprise a watchdog committee on factional violence — and other urgent issues — will come to little unless each exerts strong influence on those directly responsible for violence. De Klerk will be expected to take seriously complaints of police misbehaviour which reach him through this committee, the black leaders must, somehow, make their desire for peace felt in the streets.

Since the growth of factional violence is probably the major deterrent to satisfactory and stable negotiations, the best thing Buthelezi and Mandela can co-operate on to spread the message would be to tour the townships in company with each other, restating to the various communities the direction in which they are being led. If what we are witnessing is alienated tribalism — wars over influence and turf, revenge killings — a sense of common purpose needs to permeate every stratum of society.

Like the reform of the police, the inculcation of such a sense will take time. Horrible things will occur along the way — but without it, the decay and desperation will increase monstrously. ■

service receipts of R71,3bn

Knobbs accepts the need to fight inflation but questions whether the price being paid is not too high, given the country's social and political circumstances "Opinion in the mining industry is split on this issue but many of us feel there is room for a trade-off here between fighting inflation and fighting unemployment. Increasing unemployment is not a good background against which to negotiate a new political dispensation."

Frankel Max Pollak Vinderine economist Mike Brown prefers to assess the industry in dollar terms and — assuming a flat US\$350/oz gold price over the next two years — foresees, at worst, the loss of 150 t of annual gold production, but a better view is the loss of about 90 t of annual gold production.

He estimates that losing 90 t of gold production annually would mean a decline of 0,5% in real SA GDP, a drop of R2,55bn in foreign exchange earnings and the loss of 75 000 jobs.

Just how high must the rand gold price be to materially help the industry? Over the past few weeks, the rand has weakened sharply against the surging dollar from a rate of about \$1/R2,52 to the current \$1/R2,72. The gold price is currently around R31 000/kg but that compares with the average of just under R32 000/kg which has ruled for the past three years.

Knobbs says a look at the spread of individual mine working costs, including capital expenditure, indicates that a price of R33 000/kg would put all but some six mines into the black as about 15 mines showed break-even costs between R30 000 and R33 000 for the December quarter.

In the absence of an improved gold price the level of wage settlements this year will be crucial to the number of retrenchments. Mining industry executives draw a direct link between the level of pay awards and the

number of workers they can afford to employ with labour amounting to 50% of working costs.

Ever higher wages are becoming unsustainable.

The NUM has achieved real increases in wage levels after inflation for each of the past three years. Liebenberg reckons the union started to show some appreciation of the realities last year

when it settled for lower pay increases on the gold mines than on the coal mines, which were perceived to be able to pay more.

However, initial indications for this year's bargaining are that the NUM remains set on its goal of pushing mine wages into line with the higher rates paid in secondary and manufacturing industries. Yet, on the other side the mining house executives are talking in terms of holding pay increases to a bare minimum.

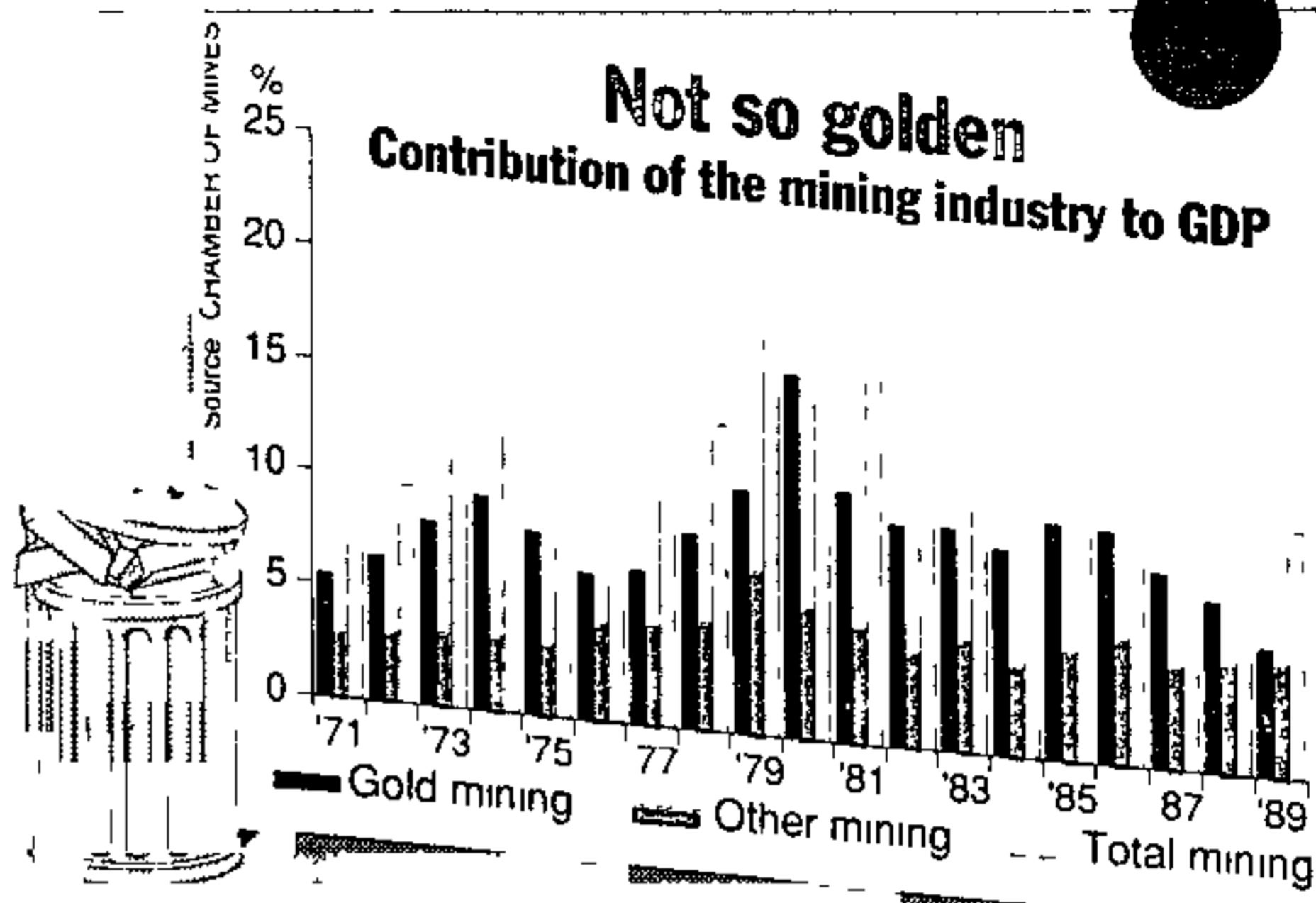
Brown points out that the critical issue is that mine wages are still only some 60% of the average levels for semi- or unskilled labour in

other sectors of the economy.

NUM press officer Jerry Majatladi does not accept that wage restraint would definitely result in greater employment, saying the general tendency of the capitalist system is to replace workers with machines.

He feels the long-term solutions to the industry's labour problems will only come when the gold mines are nationalised.

When the *FM* raised the issue of the Zambian copper mines as an example of what normally goes wrong with nationalised



Knobbs

mining industries, Majatladi rejected the comparison out of hand, considering it to be "racist".

The *FM* does not consider it racist to point out how jobs can be lost permanently by nationalised industries which cannot remain economically viable.

Brown comments "What appears to be driving the nationalisation campaign is the fear of mine job losses and the NUM's concern about the erosion of its power base. The NUM believes that the social security system of the mining industry falls far below acceptable norms and that a State-controlled industry is a prerequisite for ensuring better treatment of workers, proper development of human capital and improved retrenchment packages.

"For this reason, the union is ignoring the economic reasons against nationalisation in favour of social arguments for it."

Mining house executives remain confident about the long-term future of the industry which has a "third wave" of new deep-level gold mines ready for development which would boost employment by the industry. But for these to get the go-ahead, ring-fencing will have to be dropped and a much higher gold price is required. One recent estimate by Gengold MD Gary Maude put it at \$700/oz. Perhaps executives have to dream, just as workers do.

Brendan Ryan

exempt as well as taxable supplies, with the consequent need for the systems to identify and apportion input tax credits

The price of non-compliance is severe, says Coopers Theron Du Toit partner Bronwyn Allan. There is a penalty of 10% for late payment, plus interest at a rate set by the Minister of Finance (with the initial rate set at 2,5% per month in the draft Bill). Commerce and industry have not taken seriously enough government's stated intention to introduce VAT in October.

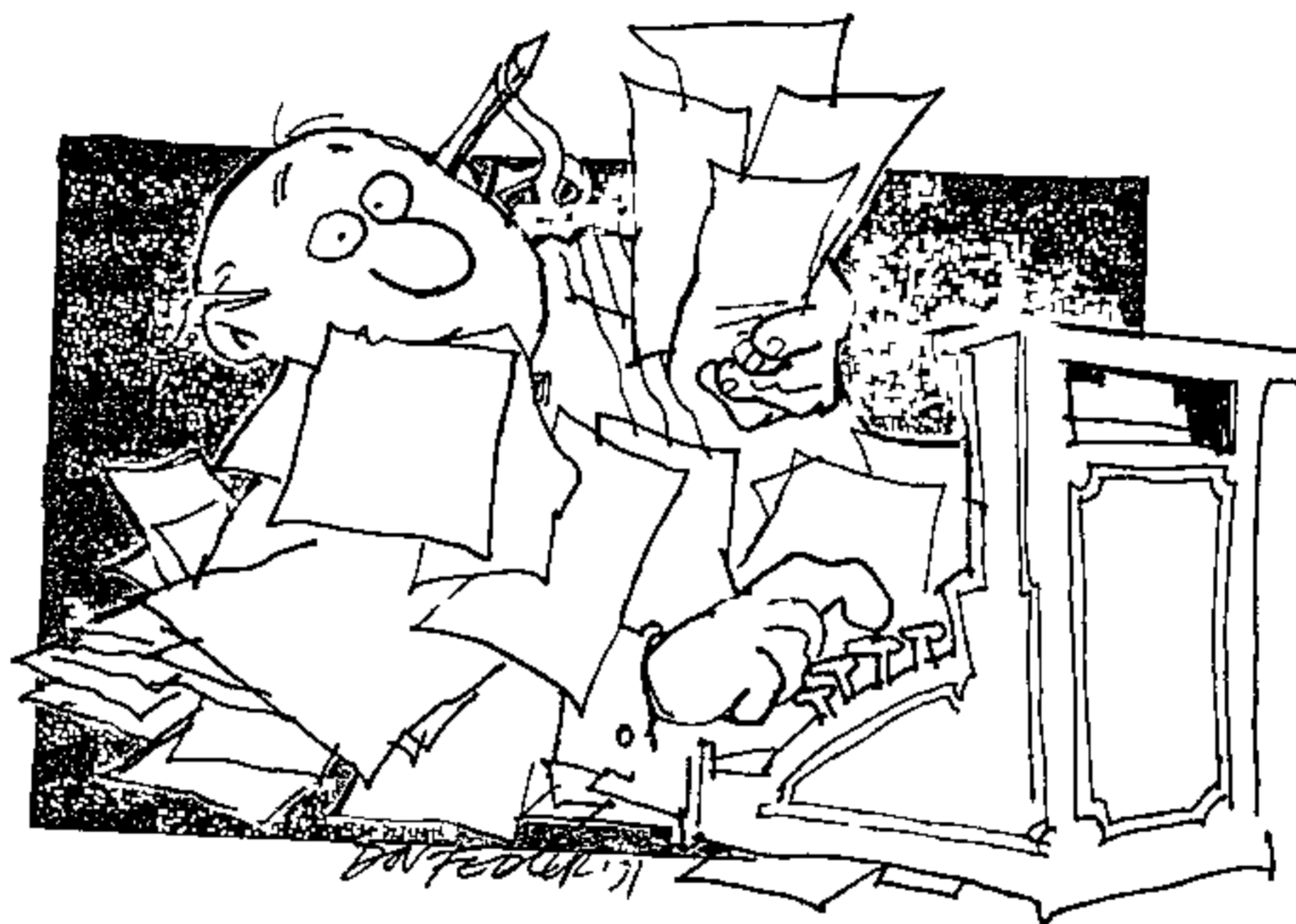
A late start to altering systems has also affected software houses. Even if a company dependent on packaged software makes its moves now, it may still be in trouble. Remember, too, that the Bill also provides that documents containing accounting procedures as well as all the relevant software must be kept available for VAT audit.

To make matters worse, the Bill makes no provision for transitional procedures, which means that failure to comply will, from the inception, expose business to the full rigour of the penalties. It is true that the Bill provides a discretion to the Commissioner to waive penalties if he is satisfied there was no intent to defraud — but to take advantage of this implies that the penalised firm must pay first and apply later for a waiver.

Inevitably, the transition from the GST system also requires some special provisions. Errol Danziger, tax consultant at Kessel Feinstein, says the Bill provides that some vendors registered under the Sales Tax Act but who do not make taxable supplies for VAT purposes — or because they fall below the compulsory registration level of R150 000 of turnover per year — will not be required to register

materials, which they may recover when the goods are withdrawn from stock. Alternatively, if they have no records relating to the withdrawal of goods, they may do so over a two-year period in equal instalments.

Danziger says vendors in the construction industry who were not registered for GST will have to ensure that they are registered



for VAT, so that they can recover GST paid. By ensuring that an effective "stock withdrawal" accounting procedure is in place, they can speed up GST refunds. Smaller businesses, such as plumbers and electricians, will have to search for records of GST paid to get a refund.

Deloitte Pim Goldby director Des Kruger draws attention to an important rethink on VAT on fuel. The draft Bill provided for an input tax credit for fuel but made no adjustment for the fuel levy paid on the purchase of petrol or diesel.

This implied that VAT would be imposed on the current petrol or diesel price, including the fuel levy, which amounted to a serious case of double taxation.

Vatcom recommended

will businesses be required to bear the additional fuel levy recently announced, they will not receive any VAT relief.

Aiken & Peat tax consultant André Meyburgh is particularly concerned with the decision that imports from Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia will attract VAT on the value for Customs purposes, irrespective

of the purpose of use. The Commissioner of Customs & Excise will appoint officials to determine what the value for Customs purposes would have been if cleared.

Kruger asks whether the benefits to manufacturers from immediate access to an input tax credit on capital and intermediate goods will really be passed on to consumers, as there has been a severe strain on profits over the past few years.

Danziger notes that the turnover level qualifying for payment of VAT on a cash basis has been increased from R500 000 in the draft Bill to R1m.

This concession will alleviate the cash-flow problem of invoice (that is, accrual) basis accounting for VAT, which will now apply only to businesses with a turnover above R1m. Professionals, who are particularly tardy in collecting debts, will benefit notably.

Role of agents

Kruger foresees serious problems with the basis on which agents acting on behalf of their principals must account for VAT. Under the Bill, agents will not be permitted to account for output tax or claim an input tax credit in agency transactions, which only the principal may do. The UK approach — which permits agents to operate on this basis — is much more in touch with the real business world.

The Bill also prohibits group registration for VAT purposes, which would have greatly simplified accounting procedures within large businesses. Official fears about group registration appear to be unfounded in the light of other countries' experience.



Village in food-aid tussle

City Press 3/14/91.

By SOPHIE TEMA

A CHIEF from a village near Pietersburg has been accused of attempting to thwart Operation Hunger food aid to villagers who have not paid their annual levies to his tribal authority.

Women from Bochum village have also accused the chief, Stanford Lehawa Manhata, of refusing to give them land to start communal gardens, while some villagers have accused him of turning down applications by the aged for social welfare pensions.

Villagers said when the youth heard about this, they confronted the chief and accused him of abusing Operation Hunger aid to collect levies.

After meeting with Manhata the youth told villagers they did not need the chief's permission to get emergency rations.

When *City Press* questioned the chief he denied the allegations and said some people in the village were trying to discredit him and his councillors.

"All the people in the village know annual levies have to be paid, but I have never put any pressure on them to do so.

"The claim by the women that I refused to give them land to start communal gardens with the help of Operation Hunger is not true.

"A delegation asked me for land and I discussed the matter with my council. We found we did



Women from Bochum village near Pietersburg stand in line for Operation Hunger food aid. They claim their chief tried to thwart this aid.

Picture: EVANS MBOWENI

Chief ⁽²⁴¹⁾ denies he used rations to get levies

not have any land readily available, but promised that when we found space we would give it to them."

Chief Manhata also denied that he had turned down applications by the aged for pensions. Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perلمان told *City Press* that if there was any truth in the allegations, "it was mind-boggling that a chief — who should be the caring father of his tribe — could be so exploitative."

However, she said there was no evidence to indicate that any such alleged attempt had succeeded.

Information from Operation Hunger field-workers indicated a huge increase in the number of families receiving aid.

The organisation is now feeding about 160 000 people in the area.

This week thousands of women gathered at the Fatima Mission Church in GaManthata and pleaded with Operation Hunger to help them start self-help projects.

“Perlman told them: “While feeding is a vital part of rural development, it is also the organisation’s primary aim to help rural communities to develop revenue-earning communal enterprises to help them earn enough money to feed themselves”

C. Press -
7/4/91
241

1760

Food aid for Orania families

3 Swan 9/4/91 (20) (104)
ORANIA's last 11 coloured families, forced to move to Warrenton in the Transvaal from the Afrikaner-only town in the north-western Cape at the weekend, were given a month's supply of food by welfare workers.

However, all 11 family heads are unemployed and have 'no cash' to start looking for jobs, pay rent or renovate the core housing they were assigned.

Jan Stellenberg, spokesman for the 11 families, said the houses were not complete inside (24)

"We left fully completed houses, whereas these are merely shells with bathrooms. And what will we use for transport money to go job-hunting, or pay the rent with? All of us are quite desolate."

The community has approached Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) in Kimberley for financial assistance.

Afrikaner Volkswag head Prof Carel Boshoff said "We offered to let them (the families) stay until the end of March, and also offered to help them move, which we have in fact done. We do not believe that it is correct to blame our organisation." — Sapa

8 Day 10/4/91

Du Plessis slammed over relief schemes

LESLEY LAMBERT (24)

CAPE TOWN — Finance Minister Barend Du Plessis demonstrated "callous disregard" for SA's poor by saying government would not replace the bread subsidy with another relief programme and did not know how to target aid, DP Finance spokesman Ken Andrew said yesterday.

Responding to Du Plessis's reply in Parliament to questions on starvation, Andrew said government had phased out bread subsidies worth hundreds of millions of rands on the basis that targeted aid was more effective than subsidies.

"A child dies every 20 minutes from starvation in SA. This is totally unacceptable and it is a disgrace that food subsidies have been eliminated before relief programmes are in place," he said.

Du Plessis said state funds had been used over the past 28 years for the prevention of protein-energy malnutrition among children aged between one and five years.

A total of R350 000 a year had been allocated over the past two years. Increased assistance to the severely indigent had been announced and the Finance Department was investigating poverty.

BRAKLAAGTE villagers near Zeerust taking refuge in seven churches in the Ika-geleng township, are experiencing a critical shortage of basic living amenities.

The 3 000 villagers were caught up in a whirlwind of violence towards the end of last year, following fighting which broke out between residents and the Bophuthatswana police

They fled their homes in Braklaagte, after violence erupted when they protested Braklaagte's forced incorporation into the independent territory

Refugee villagers in desperate need

A statement released by the Mafikeng Anti-Repression Forum, who is aiding the refugees, said despite regular deliveries of miele meal and soup powder from Operation Hunger, there was still a shortage of basic food-stuffs
Milk, sugar and baby food is urgently needed

Babies in the refugee camps are living on breast milk and adult food

Firewood, the only source of heating, is scarce
Water and electricity are often cut off as

The bills cannot be paid
The refugees owe R300 for the repair of a generator, and R87 for the electricity supply in one of the churches, the Forum said
Blankets are needed

Southern 25/4/91

among the residents.

Some villagers have returned to Braklaagte, but reports of harassment are still being received

Braklaagte's argument for reincorporation into South Africa comes before the Appellate Division in Bloemfontein next month - *Sapa*

241

Ranks of destitute whites swelling

Star 25/4/91

At least 20 000 Afrikaner families are destitute in Pretoria alone, a welfare organisation for Afrikaners, Werk en Oorleef (Work and Survive), estimates.

The organisation has nearly depleted all its cash and food resources to alleviate the urgent plight of newly impoverished, jobless whites in the Pretoria region.

Kléntjie Pereira, who has run the shop-front welfare office in Pretoria North for six years without any Government subsidies, says six or more newly destitute families now approach them for help each day.

She estimates that at least 20 000 Afrikaner families are destitute in the Pretoria region — although the families are often supported by their employed relatives.

Laid off

Werk en Oorleef prefers to encourage destitute Afrikaners to take jobs offered through the organisation.

These usually involve temporary repair or building jobs, but often they also become "scab" labourers during strikes. When the strikes end, they are laid off again.

"Many of these men are skilled artisans, former mineworkers and railway employees who were retrenched.

"The level of destitution among these Afrikaners in Pretoria is becoming very critical. We used to feed and provide clothing to between 600 and 800 families, but have been experiencing an alarming increase recently."

While most of the needy approach the organisation for jobs, others, usually pensioners, also fetch basic foods and second-hand clothing from the shop.

— Sapa.



A group of mothers and their undernourished children receiving treatment at Ingwavuma's Mosvold Hospital. — PHOTOS BY ANDRÉS MORALES

Social workers in drought-stricken Ingwavuma, in the remote corner of rural KwaZulu that borders Swaziland and Mozambique, say there are at least 6 000 people in the region suffering from poverty-related diseases. Drought, violence and unemployment have contributed towards the area's big killer — malnutrition. Senior reporter DERRICK LUTHAY visited the area this week, and gives a first-hand account of conditions.

SUFFERING CHILDREN

Starvation ravages the forgotten folk

FIVE children suffering from malnutrition died at the Mosvold Hospital in Ingwavuma last month. Malnutrition has become the biggest killer disease in Ingwavuma, situated in the remote corner of rural KwaZulu near the borders of Swaziland and Mozambique. Two of the children died on admission on April 26.

Both were suffering from kwashiorkor, their bodies green and full of sores. They were vomiting blood.

The sweltering heat over the drought-stricken area plays havoc with the festering sores and infected ears of the malnourished children.

Many of whom have never left the area, going without food for long periods is a hardship they accept.

The hands of the little ones tremble as they hold out mugs, tins and small dishes for their only daily meal.

Social workers estimate there are more than 6 000 cases of malnutrition, kwashiorkor, pellagra and tuberculosis (TB) in the area.

Operation Hunger has stepped in with supplies of meal-meal and soup parcels to help feed hundreds more who face the same fate.

Operation Hunger's senior fieldworker said the first time he arrived in Ingwavuma he found small groups of seriously malnourished children at the roadside, pointing at their stomachs while begging for food.

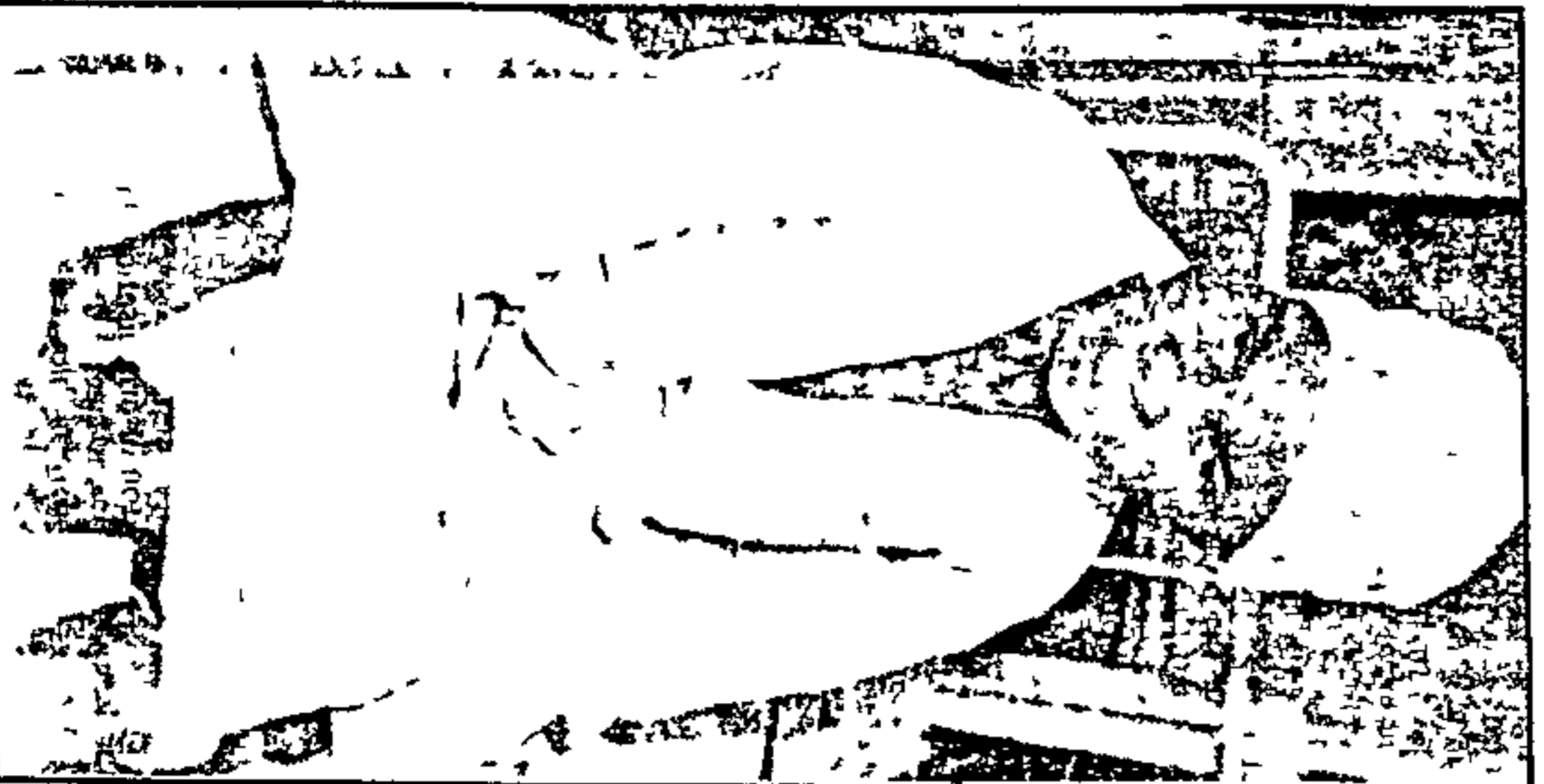
Maureen Ruth Myeni told City Press that admission figures of patients, mainly children suffering from malnutrition and kwashiorkor, had dropped slightly since Operation Hunger moved in to assist with food parcels and self-help projects.

Drought, violence and unemployment have greatly contributed to the misery.

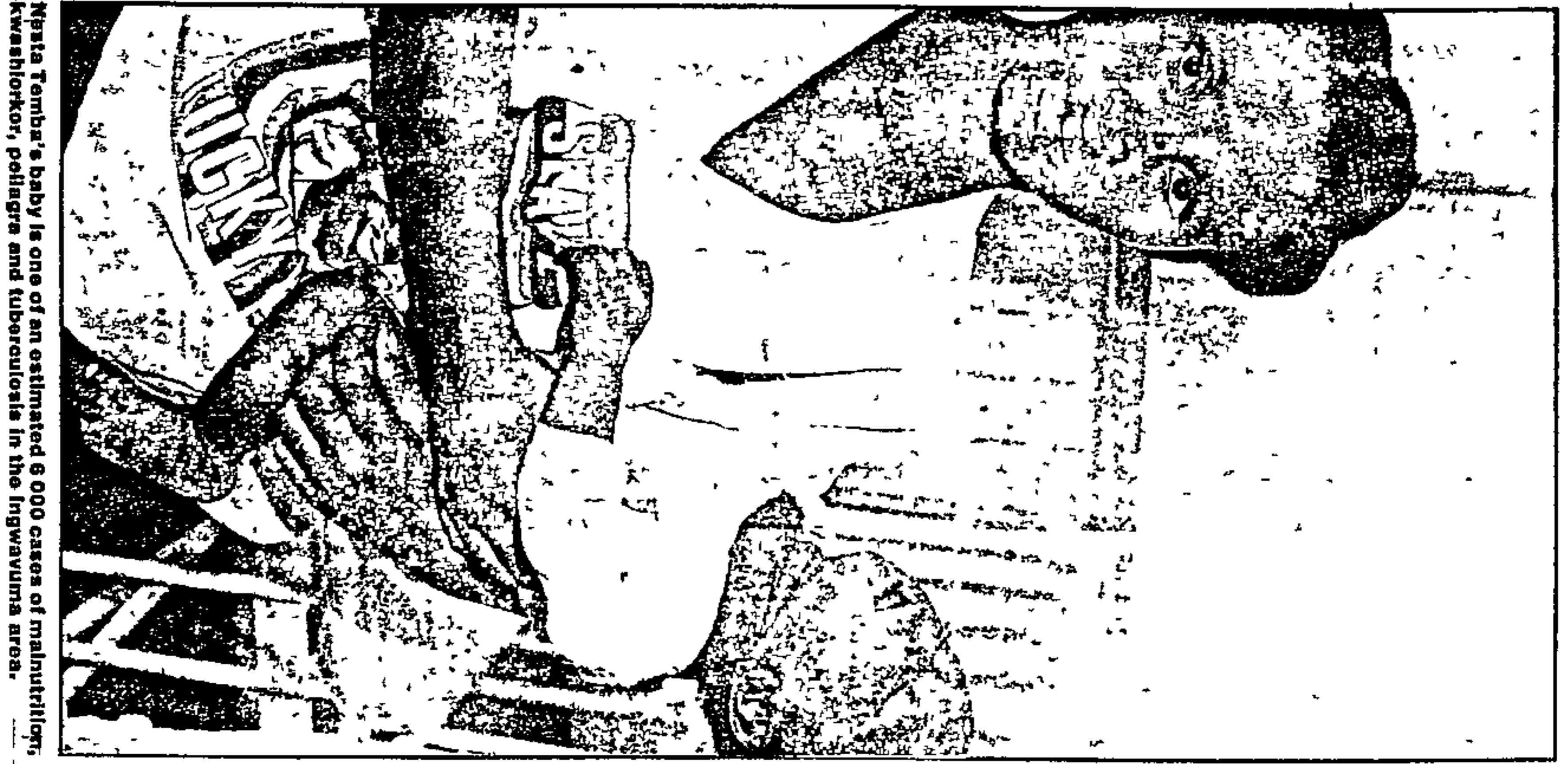
Other poverty-related diseases such as TB and pellagra are also increasing.

Myeni said there were 36 children, 13 women and 25 men in the TB wards — all the result of malnutrition.

She said there had



Young and old are hit by the lack of proper nourishment. — PHOTOS BY ANDRÉS MORALES



Myena Tembwa's baby is one of an estimated 6 000 cases of malnutrition, kwashiorkor, pellagra and tuberculosis in the Ingwavuma area.

Mokaba too old for youth league?

CAP TINTS 10/8/91
Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — ANC Youth League president Mr Peter Mokaba and half his provisional leadership could find themselves without jobs if the ANC's proposed new constitution is adopted in July — because they are not youthful enough.

The constitution — to be proposed for ratification at the ANC's consultative conference in Durban — states that membership of the league should be open to people between the ages of 14 and 30.

The league's assistant secretary-general, Mr Billy Masethla, said the question of the maximum age was a matter of "strenuous" debate among league and ANC members.

About half the 25-member provisional leadership group was over 30, he said.

Mr Mokaba, whose taste for designer shirts and militant style have made him a high-profile and popular figure among the youth, is 33.

The Youth League's current maximum age is 35, and this age limit would be adhered to until a final decision was taken, Mr Masethla said.

Ciskei children dying of hunger

CAP TINTS 10/8/91
24/1

Own Correspondent

EAST LONDON. — Almost 24 000 people in Ciskei's Hewu district are being fed daily by Operation Hunger, yet children there are still dying from malnutrition.

The organisation is feeding 85 000 in the homeland daily and another 60 000 had applied for help, according to the Border regional director of Operation Hunger, Mrs Glynis Baer.

Organisations involved in the region blame South African and Ciskei government incompetence and insensitivity as the cause of the deaths.

"There is no doubt we have a problem," said Dr Vincent Shaw of the paediatric ward at Hewu Hospital, who said 17 children died of kwashiorkor, resulting from long-term malnutrition, in March.

While no accurate figures of the infant mortality rate in the area were available, a survey in Oxton, a village in the district, revealed that 60% of respondents had lost one child or more, while 30% had lost three children or more.

Mrs Baer said the malnutrition problem was exacerbated by a shortage of food and water and by the area's geographic isolation.

● Africa famine warning — Page 5

Khans and can'ts of petty apartheid

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

APARTHEID is still pecking fit and taking flight in a bird park, a Ravensmead man found while holidaying in the Transvaal.

On Sunday — two weeks into his "very expensive" Transvaal sojourn — Mr Abdulla Khan and his companions visited Hartebeespoort Dam where he was handed a handbill advertising the Makapani Bird Park and Picnic Resort.

Excited by the thought of picnicking to the twitter of 1 000 exotic birds, Mr Khan drove to the spot and was told it was "for whites only".

Mr Khan was told by the manager that the resort was in a "CP and AWB area and the people would not like it if Indians, coloureds and blacks were allowed in".

But an apologetic manager did allow Mr Khan to see the birds — which "I thanked them for".

Mr Khan said he was so disillusioned by the incident that he and his wife packed their bags and cut short their holiday.

The manager could not be reached for comment last night.

Mystery disease ravages Natal's village of hunger

By DERRICK LUTHAYI

Press
12/5/91

TWENTY-four-years ago Nomusa Tembe was born a normal, healthy child.

She spent her childhood as all little girls do - playing at being a normal adult and dreaming of a family of her own

But unlike most other normal girls, Nomusa's dreams were shattered at the age of seven by a mystery disease that left her a cripple.

Today Nomusa must use a stick to keep herself upright and even so cannot walk more than five metres without a rest.

"When I move my joints become painful. Sometimes they are so sore I have to crawl about," Nomusa told *City Press*.

Nomusa is one of about 2 000 women in the northern Natal village of Mseleni afflicted by the mystery disease - aptly named Mseleni Joint Disease (MJD) by the doctors at Mse-

leni hospital.

What baffles hospital doctors is why the disease affects women more than men, and usually those aged from five to 20. People affected by it cannot walk upright or forward. They can only walk sideways like crabs

Hospital superintendent Dr VG Fredlund said the disease was first noticed in the "early 1960s, when girls aged 14 to 16 primarily were afflicted"

He said the disease has been diagnosed as a form of arthritis affecting the joints - mainly the hips.

"Research so far does not show us a cause for it. We do not know why the disease is confined to the Mseleni area. There is no trace or history of it in other parts of the country.

"There are many patients in an advanced stage of the disease and we cannot keep them all in the hospital. Because of this we have set aside special days for treating them as out-patients.

"We are trying to get hip replacements, but because of financial problems we can only manage an average 24 operations at R1 500 each a year.

Fredlund is worried there may be a connection between the disease and the high rate of malnutrition in the area.

"We are exploring trench gardening for vegetables and we have introduced a pilot scheme to use waste water so villagers can grow vegetables at their homes."

Fredlund said at some homes the scheme was being "hindered by a lack of manpower due to the number of family members suffering from MJD and consequently unable to plough"

Social worker Mandla Djudlu said many people were "eating wild plants because of the food shortage."

"Many would have died of starvation already had Operation Hunger not come to the rescue," he said



Suffering ... Nomusa Tembe is one of 2 000 women crippled by a mystery disease found only in the Natal village of Mseleni.

THOUSANDS of black people who have lost their jobs on white farms in the Free State are living in abject poverty, while their children are being ravaged by malnutrition

Several children have died of starvation in Daleside, Hoopstad, Steynsrus and Botshabelo

The families have moved from white farms to nearby towns and are living in squalour in the most unhygienic conditions

Hoopstad community worker Matso Mathibe wept after visiting several poverty-stricken families and listening to their pitiful stories

In several of these areas residents are also suffering from poverty related diseases, which include mental illnesses and blindness

They are all unemployed and while some have to make the most of their meagre monthly pensions, others have to scavenge to exist

They have no proper furniture, clothes or blankets and sleep on the bare floor, even on icy cold nights

Those who do have blankets have very few, but they are all worn and scanty

An urgent appeal has been made to Operation Hunger to help them

This week, *City Press* visited a shack settlement in "Phumasibethane" (come out let us fight one another), near Hoopstad in the Free State

Green Tshawe is the head of a family of 14 adults and children which includes his daughter-in-law, children, grandchildren and nephews

The family's only breadwinner is his nephew, Petrus Ngubeni, who earns R80 a week as a mechanic's assistant

Two of the children, Aletta, 10-months, and Johannes, 2, are showing clear signs of undernourishment - potbellies, puffed cheeks and swollen feet

The family has very little clothing and almost no blankets

Tshawe's daughter-in-law, Elisa Jack said

"The nights are very cold in the Free State, and we keep the children warm with our body heat"

Annie Jonata is a 70-year-old pensioner who has to fend for six other people - her daughter and five grandchildren

Annie says that from her meagre pension of R175 a month she can only afford a bag of mealie-meal

She cannot afford meat, as the rest of the money goes on her grandchildren's books, clothes and school fees

"I can hardly afford to buy a bar of soap. When the bag of mealie-meal is finished we have nothing to live on

"We sometimes go to bed with our stomachs empty.

"There are days when my daughter and her children have to dig into dirtbins at local factories for food," she

Little hope

in Hoopstad



Blind pensioner Sinah Nkomo and her husband, Office, sit disconsolately among the squalor of the Phumasibethane settlement near Hoopstad. They say their children take their pensions, leaving them destitute. ■ PICS: EVANS

said

Sinah Nkomo is a blind pensioner. She and her husband, Office, live alone and have nobody to wash or cook for them

They both get a pension, but claim that as soon as they receive their money, their children come and take it from them, leaving them with absolutely nothing

They depend on handouts from community worker Mathibe

Mathibe told *City Press*

"It is sad because many of the children in the area are undernourished and the chances are that they might die if nothing is done to save the situation

"We have already buried several children. A recent case is of one baby who was buried about two weeks ago"

The begging-bowl whites

SITimes 12-15-79

(241)

By HERMAN JANSEN

AT least four families a week are joining the breadline at a sombre brown building in Pretoria North which stands between more than 20 000 whites and destitution.

This is the headquarters of Werk en Oorleef, a private charity founded six years ago to assist white families in need of food and clothes.

Headed by Kleintje Pereira — known to those she helps as Moeder Teresa — "Work and Survive" is apolitical and inter-denominational.

"We will help any white

families — and we don't ask whether they support the AWB, the ANC or FW de Klerk," said Mrs Pereira.

The number of whites needing aid is growing "alarmingly", she says.

"Retrenchments have taken a heavy toll on the Afrikaner working class. Last week, we had four Free State miners who had been laid off arriving on our doorstep with their families.

"They come to Pretoria because they believe they will find jobs here. It's a

myth," she said. Werk en Oorleef tries to find temporary employment for the most deserving cases. But even this isn't easy.

"Among the jobs that come up from time to time are those for painters and gardeners. Sometimes, when there is a strike on, our people act as scab workers but, once the strike is over, they are laid off," said Mrs Pereira.

"Women are taking jobs as housekeepers, maids and nannies — sometimes on farms far from their own families — just to get some money to send home.

"It's as bad as anything that happened during the Depression."

Werk en Oorleef gets a supply of basic foodstuffs — mielie-meal and soup powder — from Operation Hunger, but occasionally there are luxuries too.

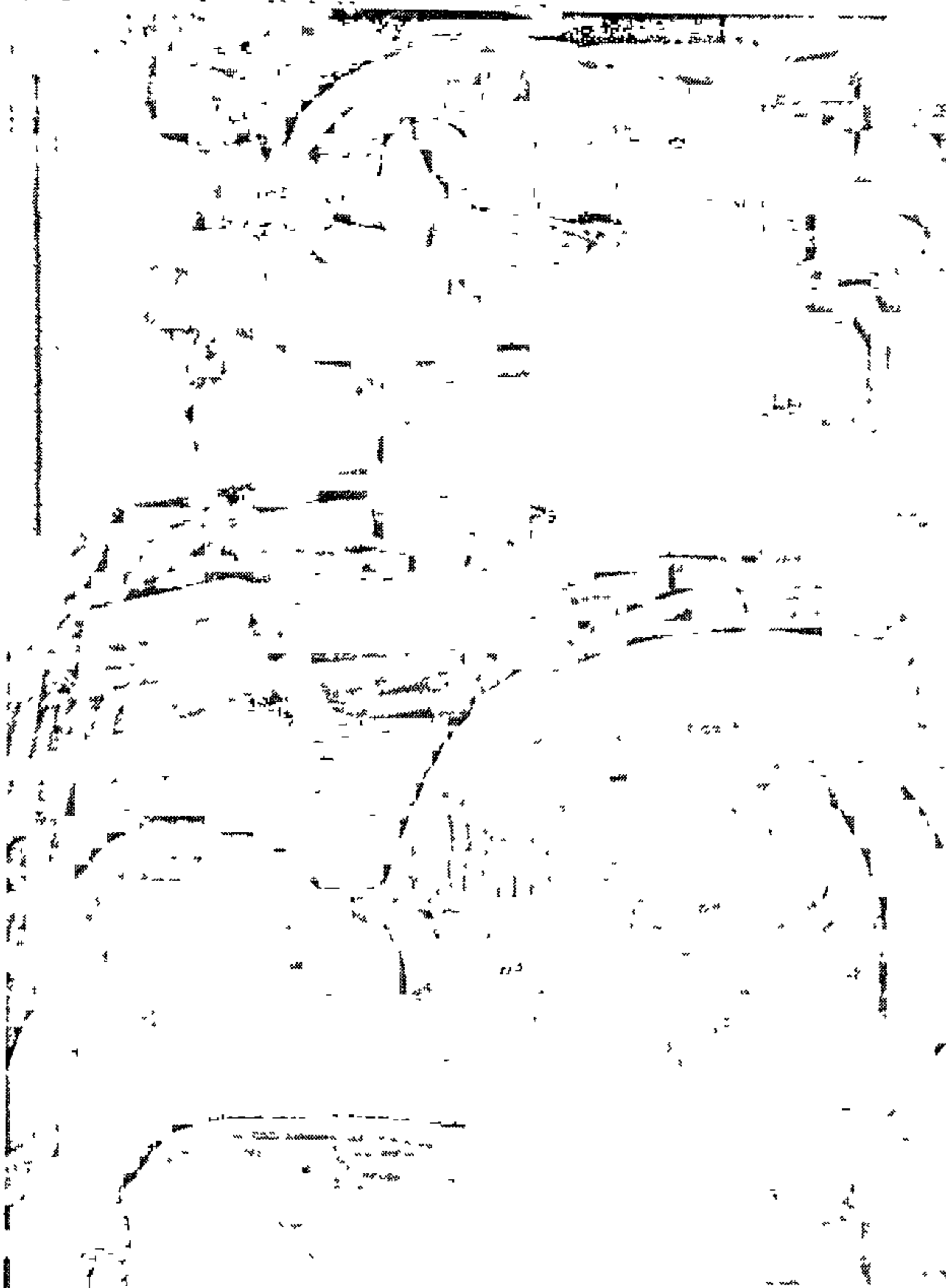
Humiliation

Said Mrs Pereira "Sometimes we get extras like mayonnaise from Operation Hunger. People go crazy for it. They spread it on bread, put it in stew, anything to make their meals a little more tasty."

In addition to food, Werk en Oorleef provides second-hand clothes.

Among the 4 000 families on its books is that of Kobus Coetzee, 44, of Danville.

A qualified motor mechanic, he is unable to work because of a permanent back injury. His wife, Dina, and their daughter, Antoinette, 18, get R375 from the state welfare department each month.



MOEDER TERESA ... Kleintje Pereira provides second-hand clothes.

Picture: COBUS BODENSTEIN

This is the family's only steady income. Son Dirkie, 21, has not been able to find a job since completing his national service last October, and lives with the family in their subsidised house in an area known as "Little Japan".

Rental on their modest house is R63 a month, while lights and water — already two months in arrears — cost another R80. Occasionally, Mr Coet-

zee is able to supplement the family's meagre income by doing casual mechanical jobs. He also scrounges for pieces of aluminium and copper to sell as scrap metal.

"The other day I collected 4kg. They pay good money for it," he said. Mr Coetzee was among hundreds making their monthly pilgrimage to the Werk en Oorleef building this week to collect food

ration. A meticulous record is kept of food and clothes handed to the needy and, before qualifying for aid, applicants must provide proof of their situation, such as pension payment slips or welfare cheques and a statement of essential monthly expenses.

Recipients of aid walk several kilometres each month to collect their rations at the building.

of having to accept hand-outs is clearly evident.

Well-dressed women whose husbands have lost their jobs avert their eyes while picking up food parcels, then leave in a hurry.

Said a 26-year-old West-Indische park divorcee and out-of-work secretary who gave her name only as Ellen:

"It takes a lot to come here. You basically beg — receive hand-outs. But I

- additional remuneration in the execution of their duties during unrest-related situations, if so, (a) on what basis is or was this remuneration paid and (b) on what date was this system initiated,
- (2) whether this system still applies, if not, when was it discontinued,
 - (3) whether a similar system applies to members of the Police involved in the combating of non-political crime, if not,
 - (4) whether he is considering introducing such a system, if not, why not, if so, as from what date?

B956E

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

- (1) Yes

(a) and (b)

Members who perform duty permanently at Riot Units and who are utilised solely in unrest and riot situations, have received a special allowance since 1 December 1990 as they must perform duties at irregular hours and the nature of their duties, to a large extent, exposes them to injuries and even loss of life

- (2) Yes
- (3) No
- (4) No, already since 1 April 1990 improved Police allowances have been paid to all members of the South African Police to provide for, *inter alia* general occupational risks as a result of potential or actual confrontation with dangerous situations, and continual contact with undesirable elements and criminals

Assistance to the poor: committee

*13 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Finance

- (1) Whether a committee has been established by his Department to investigate ways of targeting assistance to the poor, if so, (a) what are the terms of reference of this committee, (b) who are its members and (c) when does he expect to receive a report from the committee,

Bombing of certain premises: persons convicted and Order

*14 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Law and Order

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 28 of 27 March 1990, any persons have been (a) detained, (b) arrested, (c) charged and/or (d) convicted in connection with the bombing of certain premises, particulars of which have been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, if so, (i) what are the relevant details in regard to each of the bombings and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B959E

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

- (a) and (b) Yes

(i) Only one person was questioned in connection with the explosion at Khotso House

(ii) 12 April 1991

- (c) and (d) No

(i) Fall away

(ii) 12 April 1991

NOTE All the incidents to which the hon member refers, are still being investigated

Police on duty incidents/crimes

*15 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Law and Order

In respect of 1989 and 1990, respectively, (a) how many complaints were laid against policemen and policewomen arising out of incidents that occurred while they were on duty, (b) how many policemen and policewomen were prosecuted for crimes committed whilst on duty and (c) (i) how many policemen and policewomen faced disciplinary hearings and (ii) how many of those who faced such hearings were dismissed from the Police Force?

B960E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

I refer the hon member to my oral reply to Question No 9 in the House of Assembly on 7 May 1991 and I am of the opinion that the furnishing of further particulars of this nature

may not only prejudice the individuals involved, but also the South African Police as a whole

Disciplinary procedures in the South African Police are a domestic affair and I do not regard the publicising thereof to be in anyone's interest

I am, therefore, not prepared to furnish the information in public except to say that 219 members were dishonourably discharged from the Force in 1989 and 291 members in 1990. I am, however, prepared to inform the hon member personally and confidentially in this regard

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament

Hillbrow police station staff/vehicle statistics

*16 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) What is the estimated population served by the Hillbrow police station over the latest specified period of five years for which information is available,

(2) whether he will furnish details on the staff and vehicle complement at the Hillbrow police station, if not, why not, if so, (a) what was the (i) staff and (ii) vehicle complement at this police station as at the latest specified date for which information is available, (b) (i) how many of these policemen were (aa) White, (bb) Coloured, (cc) Indian and (dd) Black and (ii) what were their ranks in each case and (c) how many policemen are on foot patrol in Hillbrow (i) by day and (ii) at night,

(3) whether it is envisaged to increase the complement of policemen at the Hillbrow police station in 1991, if so, what percentage increase is envisaged?

B961E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

- (1) 1987 — 138 080
- 1988 — 136 974
- 1989 — 138 482
- 1990 — 140 026
- 1991 — 141 609

(2) No, it is not in the interest of the members at the relevant police station, and policing

Thousands need public warmth to beat the cold

Star 141591

241

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Economists have predicted that South Africa will ease out of the recession towards the end of this year

But for the moment, many are suffering financially, particularly the thousands of people who have been retrenched from the mines. Hundreds find themselves not only jobless, but homeless and without food too.

Two such victims are Robert and Matilda Hawthorn, originally from Stilfontein where Robert worked as a painter on the mine until three months ago.

Since then, the couple have travelled 6 000 km in search

of work and ended up at a Christian mission in Brixton where they are being given food and shelter.

When he was retrenched, Robert (53) was given a month to vacate the mining house he and Matilda (40) had lived in, and they had to return all their furniture to the stores where they had bought the goods on hire purchase.

After a fairly comfortable life on the mines, this couple suddenly found themselves destitute.

They slept under bridges, begged at grocery shops for over-ripe vegetables, scratched in dust bins for scraps of food, and soon only had the clothes on their backs after giving all their possess-



ions away in exchange for food.

Robert and Matilda are more fortunate than many. They have been helped by an organisation called the Manger Mission before the cold weather sets in.

Based in Benoni, the mission under the leadership of Gus Teitge helps down-and-out drug addicts, alcoholics and destitute people.

He has more people than he can cope with, though, and if Robert and Matilda remain in the mission's dormitory in Brixton, they will have to spend the whole of the winter sleeping on the floor.

Mr Teitge is in desperate need of blankets to keep his wards warm this winter, and your donation to Operation Snowball can help him. The Star hopes to raise R300 000 this year to buy blankets for hundreds of people.

Please send your contribution to Operation Snowball, Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000.

Poverty-aid project ready this year

Political Staff

THE departmental committee investigating ways to assist the poor was expected to complete its work during the current financial year, the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said yesterday

The cabinet decided on September 12 last year that a project on poverty should be undertaken under the leadership of the Deputy Director-General in the Department of Finance, Mr Estian Calitz.

As part of the investigation recommendations had to be submitted on "an appropriate approach to the poverty question" as well as a strategy on a "food intervention programme", he said in reply to a question tabled by Mr Jasper Walsh (DP, Pine-lands)

In the meantime implementation of the special assistances, for which R220 million had already been budgeted, would continue, Mr Du Plessis said

'Quiet catastrophe' in health care

B 10cm 1615791
PRETORIA — SA was facing a "quiet catastrophe" as child mortality rates continued to soar and nutritional problems worsened, National Health and Population Development director-general Coen Slabber said yesterday

Speaking at a forum on primary health care, Slabber said another aspect of the catastrophe was an increasing incidence of diseases of poverty. One example of this was tuberculosis, he said.

He said SA had the means to combat these problems.

Slabber said it was children who bore the heaviest burden of poverty.

This was happening because progress was slowing down.

"This last decade of the 20th century has for many become the decade of despair," he said.

GERALD REILLY

Pitfalls that had plagued efforts in the past had to be avoided.

The major pitfall was trying to develop communities without their participation and involvement.

Slabber warned that if a significant proportion of the SA population was consigned to continuing poverty, frustration would cast a long shadow of violence and tension over the entire country.

He also warned that health care resources would remain limited.

To be successful, a primary health campaign had to be backed by adequate housing, basic education and literacy programmes.

What was needed were achievable, large-scale, low-cost, high-impact and politically attractive plans, he said.



Starving on our doorstep

But help is at hand for mums and children

Southern 16/5/91

ONE-YEAR-OLD Cynthia's thin arms were wrapped possessively around her mother's neck.

Unlike many children her age, who are full of life and grab at anything with interest, she looked tired and unresponsive.

Her eyes lacked the sparkle and mischief common to most children. On picking her up she was as light as a baby half her age. In fact Cynthia weighed only 6kg, the weight of a normal six-month-old baby.

She and her 18-year-old mother have just been admitted to the Gold Field Nutritional Unit in Pretoria for a week of rehabilitation.

Cynthia, like most of the children in this wing of Medunsa University, is suffering from malnutrition.

Her problem arises from what was described by the supervisor of the unit, Mrs Lizzy Dikobe, as incorrect feeding.

"Many of the children we admit suffer from kwashiorkor caused by lack of body-building food which results mainly in loss of energy," she said.

Methods

"However, there are some babies who become malnourished because of wrong feeding methods, such as the 'mpea' method common in Shangaan and Tswana society.

"Such babies are force-fed by pouring food into their mouths.

"This is not only wrong it is also dangerous because the baby can choke."

The existence of the Gold Field Unit is an admission that malnutrition is a reality, not only in Ethiopia or Bangladesh, but in our own backyard.

Operation Hunger, which runs one of the largest nutritional schemes in South Africa, estimates that by the end

BY PHANGISILE MTSHALI

will be feeding more than 1,5 million families.

Most of them will be from the Free State, where there are 71 000 families on the list.

In Hammanskraal alone, Operation Hunger feeds more than 4 500 underweight children under the age of five. They have started a feeding scheme for 12 000 children.

In Winterveld 11 000 local families and Mozambican refugees are fed. In the Mmabatho and Rustenburg areas, Operation Hunger feeds 26 000 children in 88 schools. In Rustenburg 500 families are on the waiting list.

In the Western Cape Operation Hunger runs about 230 schemes - most of them during winter.

Changes

In the Eastern Cape about 240 000 people are now being fed, with a further 210 000 on the waiting list.

"There is no improvement in the situation, the only changes are for the worse," said Operation Hunger director in the region Mrs Glynis Baer.

"Feeding figures are soaring and formerly 'breastline' people have moved into the ranks of the desperate ones.

"Thousands have returned from the mines (Transkeians in particular)

programmes in the Eastern Cape provide soup kitchens in schools, creches, clinics and the community."

Natal is faced with "chronic malnutrition" among young children, according to Operation Hunger worker Mr Anderson Mkhize.

"There has been a remarkable shift from family feeding to child feeding and soup kitchens," said Mkhize.

Feeding

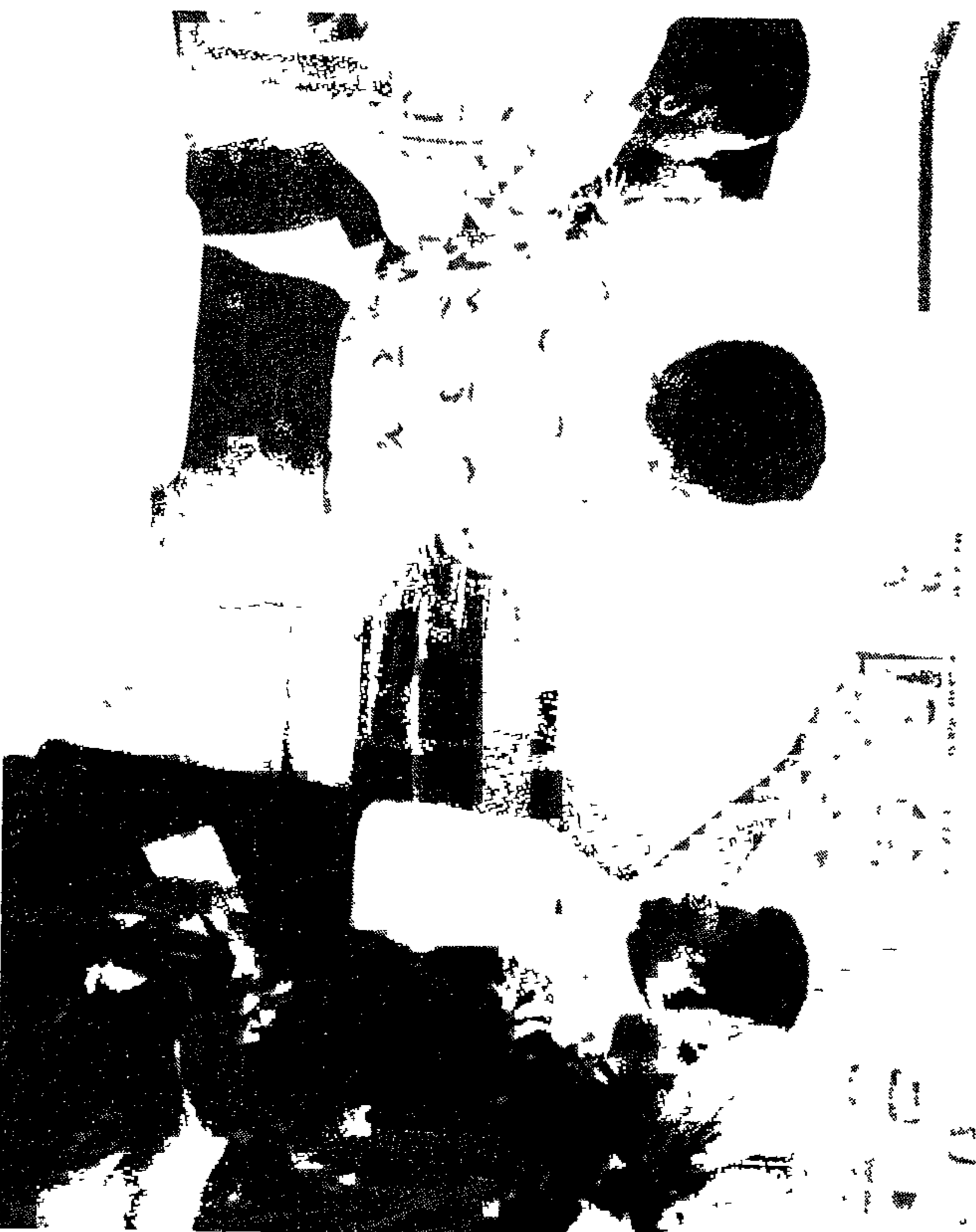
"Family feeding has been decreased by 50 per cent. We are now feeding more than 70 500 people and appeals from Ubombo, Ingwavuma, Nseleni and Ngquthu are pouring in daily."

The Gold Field Nutritional Unit is the result of research done in paediatric wards of Garankuwa hospital, which found a lot of patients were malnourished, according to Dikobe.

Treated

Since the unit opened three years ago it has treated more than 2 200 babies, most of whom spend a week as in-patients with their mothers.

"The main cause in the increase of our patients is attributed to a complex transition from rural-tribal culture to urban-industrialised society. It is a miserable infant



Mrs Lizzy Pico, a trainee at Gold Field Unit, gives lessons to the in-patients.

feeding methods, lack of resources, poor personal and environmental hygiene, family disruptions and poor baby care because of working mothers," she said.

The maximum time for treatment and training mothers about baby care and feeding is a week.

There are also mothers who only come in during the day.

History

Workers at the unit interviewed the mothers to find out the cause of malnutrition, the medical and diet history of the baby and about its immunisation.

"Some babies become malnourished because of taboos and beliefs," explained Dikobe.

"In some cultures people believe babies should not eat eggs because it will cause some type of allergy.

"Some speak against meat, saying it will cause

"We try to give mothers emotional, spiritual and moral support. If we can, we re-establish breastfeeding and give self-reliance skills," she said.

Malnutrition, like many disease arising from socio-economic difficulties, is seen as a shame on the family.

"We have had problems trying to get many mothers to admit they have the condition," said Dikobe.

"They always argue that they are feeding their babies daily and correctly. The unit, which also provides practicals for student doctors and paediatricians, may have to cut down its services as Medunsa is going through a financial crisis.

"If the unit closes due to financial problems experienced at Medunsa, what would happen to these kids," asked Dikobe.

Lending helping hand to the needy

to the needy

BY PEARL MAJOLA

A GROUP of four men has invaded what in most communities is regarded as women's territory.

The four, Mr Stettin Mofafi, Mr Lali Mashile, Mr Lulu Makola and Mr Thabo Boleo, have started a project to help underprivileged families in Waitville, Benoni, under the banner of the Waitville Underprivileged Families Co-ordinating Group

The project only got off the ground in March, but already the four long-time friends, who all hold fulltime jobs, have distributed clothing they collected to six needy families identified by the township's welfare department.

"When we started, we felt we needed the help of the welfare department because they are familiar with the needs of the community," said Mashile, a spokesman for the group.

Sowetan 16/5/91

come out and ask for help if they need it. One would think that we are living in a sort of problem-free Lower Houghton

"We also want to teach people that it is alright to ask for help. They should not be ashamed of being poor because there are people like us who care about them and are willing to help," added Boleo

"The social workers have been very cooperative and we are going to be working with them until we have established ourselves and are able to do our own research," he said.

The project was initiated by the group about two years ago, but was delayed by lack of interest.

Desperate

"According to the welfare department, there are only six desperate families here but we believe there could be more, especially with the growing number of squatters in this area," explained Mashile

"The problem is that people have their own pride and are ashamed to

Involved

You might wonder where the women of this community are and why it is not them who took the initiative

"We don't know why the women did not start a similar project before but our wives are very involved in this venture.

"For instance, if the clothes we are collecting are torn they mend them and wash them if necessary," said Mofafi, who is the chairman of group.

The organisation is set to grow and cater for a wide range of community



Thabo Boleo, Stettin Mofafi, Lulu Makola, new member Pona Malaka and Lali Mashile all care needs other than food and clothing.

"We hope that as people see our work we will get support and be able to help the community in other ways, like arranging bursaries for our youth whose parents may not be able to send them to relevant academic

"We are busy trying to get a fund-raising number which will enable us to raise adequate funds so that we can do more than just distribute clothes."

"Membership to Wucgro is open to anyone There is a lot of work and as time goes on we might not be able to handle it on our own"

They all belong to the Lutheran Church and are ardent jazz followers belonging to the local jazz club where they spend most of their leisure time if they are not practising with the church choir or making plans for Wucgro

Further details about Wucgro can be obtained from Mashile (011) 915-2382.

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Thousands starving in Eastern Cape

By SOPHIE TEMA

OPERATION Hunger, which feeds millions of hungry and destitute people, has received an urgent appeal from the Eastern Cape's drought-stricken areas.

Thousands of hungry people there — mostly children — are staying on abandoned farms. Scores of farms are up for sale because of the drought, and Operation Hunger has been inundated with pleas for food.

C1 P 202 1915791

Hundreds of farm labourers are moving to towns and cities, where they hope to eke out a living

Eastern Cape manager for Operation Hunger Glynnis Baer said the drought, which is worsening, has forced people to move to cities and towns.

The land has turned arid and is no longer productive.

One local farmer said the plight of the destitute families had now reached

critical proportions and there was an urgent need for food, clothing and money.

She said the situation was desperate and that about 8 000 people, mostly children, were without food or clothing.

Several residents in the poorest areas said some children had been seen drinking mud from the bottom of dams because boreholes had dried up, leaving them without clean drinking water.

Others, dressed in only rags, were often seen begging for food.

However, some children are flocking to farm schools where Operation Hunger has set up feeding schemes, in the hope of getting something to eat.

This had placed a burden on school principals and teachers who have to travel long distances to collect food to distribute to hungry children and destitute families. Some teachers are said

to have been buying food out of their meagre salaries because they cannot stand the sight of starving children.

One school principal who asked *City Press* not to publish his name said: "There are farmers who are still able to help and are doing so, but it is pathetic to think that those who were forced to leave their farms are now even unable to assist their own labourers who now have to cope on their own."

In many areas the soil on the farms is red or grey, and without any sign of life. Windmills are standing still and even prickly pear plants have died

Nine places have already been declared drought disaster areas — Cradock, Aberdeen, Graaff-Reinet, Jansenville, Kirkwood, Somerset East, Pearson, Steytlerville and Uitenhage — and qualify for government assistance



One man, one share — Wits prof

By Thabo Leshilo

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20/5/91

Experts at a conference in Johannesburg at the weekend agreed that the huge challenge of bridging the gap between rich and poor and ensuring food, shelter and jobs for all in South Africa requires much more than slogans, wild promises and unrealistic expectations.

The two-day meeting in Joubert Park, which had the theme "Redistributing wealth, not poverty", attracted top academics, writers and activists.

Speaking on the political psychology of redistribution, University of the Witwatersrand Centre for Policy Studies director Professor Lawrence Schlemmer said expectations for wealth improvement were unrealistically high among black people.

The State, he said, was under immense pressure to provide work, housing, free medical care, jobs, official minimum wages and price controls, and to heavily tax the rich.

Given the expectations, it was unreasonable to expect the ANC to scale down demands for more State welfare. However, it was difficult to expect business to deviate from its logic.

Professor Schlemmer urged leaders to help to moderate their followers' expectations and encourage self-reliance.

The dean of the Wits faculty of economics, Professor Duncan Reekie, said nationalisation and traditional privatisation were not appropriate solutions to the problem of social inequality.

The absence of incentives in nationalised economies led to economic decline and "greater equality of poverty, not of wealth" while "traditional privatisation increases the cake but redistributes inequality".

The solution, he argued, lay in the State giving away equal shares to all. Such shares could be put in a huge unit trust which would efficiently invest the units to create more wealth.

Economic and political author Don Caldwell suggested that a price tag be put on any redistribution policy, referenda be held on tax increases and that all Government spending, taxation and public spending be decentralised.

pollution control officers to monitor this matter properly. It is also important for me first to give hon members a survey of how many monitoring units there are and what the strategy of the department is, because the hon member made an allegation here that we had no plan or strategy to deal with this matter. That is not correct. At the moment an entire monitoring network has been deployed in the whole of the Eastern Transvaal to deal with this matter.

† I should like to respond to the hon member for Bryanston. I cannot argue the issue of the pollution. What we have to control is the effect that it has on the health of the people. I can give the hon member the information which the monitoring stations are giving me. They show clearly that levels are within acceptable limits.

* I cannot give hon members facts other than that the monitoring work which is being done shows us that levels are within [Interjections]

* The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon Minister may complete the sentence

* The MINISTER Levels are within acceptable limits [Time expired]

* Mr J CHIOLE Mr Chairman, environment affairs throughout the world today revolve around the scientifically researched factual awareness that mankind is involved in one of the most deadly periods of survival in its history, that is to restore the dynamic chemical balance of the atmosphere which mankind itself has disturbed as a result of ignorance, lack of information and incompetence. Now, merely the fact that the hon Minister of National Health is dealing with this interpellation is confirmation of the CP's criticism of the Government on the fragmentation of environmental conservation in South Africa.

Then she comes forward and plays down the true situation as it exists. Here we are saddled with one of the greatest atmospheric pollution problems in the world. Up to 57,5 tons of sulphur dioxide rain down annually on certain square kilometres in the Eastern Transvaal Highveld, almost twice as much as the 30 tons per square kilometre of East Germany. We have measured rain with a pH value of 4, which is almost a concentrated acid. Boundary fences on farms last for only two years, but this hon Minister's department deals with atmospheric pollution and

then they withhold the full facts on what is taking place.

On the other hand we see that the hon the Minister of Environmental Affairs' Committee for Environmental Management is sitting there, the environmental watchdog of South Africa and they do not even function. I want to tell the hon the Minister that this problem is so serious because her Government is too incompetent to do anything about it.

* An HON MEMBER Hear, hear!

* Mr J CHIOLE She has only eight inspectors for atmospheric pollution in the Department of National Health, not even enough to look at Vanderbijlpark, but she has to control South Africa.

Now the hon the Minister wants to lead us to believe that there is no adverse impact. No annual reports are issued by her on this subject. Meanwhile disturbing fish deaths are already occurring in the Olifants River, which is one of the arteries to the Kruger National Park, as a result of acid water and water pollution. The maximum fine for that type of pollution of the atmosphere is still only R500.

I want to ask the hon the Minister, whose health services are collapsing in consequence of a shortage of money, how much more she has budgeted for research into atmospheric pollution this year [Time expired]

* Mr C B SCHOEMAN Mr Chairman, I want to tell the hon the Minister that, if there was one prosecution after 2 000 permits had been issued in respect of toxic and offensive gases to firms who release them, this is very tragic. Then we are really living in a fool's paradise. Nowadays we are so obsessed with the idea of a new South Africa that the actual South Africa, which has to feed and carry us all, will already have been destroyed under this Government before that phantom of theirs is ultimately realised.

One point that emerged very clearly in this short debate today is the fact that South Africa can no longer afford a fragmented environmental management system. Not one of the various departments which have to deal with environmental management can manage its task thoroughly owing to a lack of either the necessary funds, expertise and the ability to monitor it effectively or the necessary control and law enforcement

There is only one solution for South Africa and that is a national environmental management system with centralised management and responsibility [Time expired]

* The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH Mr Chairman, I gain the impression that hon members of the CP would like to take the credit for the Government's introduction of one system for environmental management [Interjections]. That is true. The Government has already had this investigation undertaken by the President's Council. The Department of National Health supports the principle of atmospheric pollution control and waste management being combined in a new plan. We are waiting, however, for the recommendations of the President's Council, after which we shall come forward with a clear, new system of management for environmental affairs.

The hon member made out a case here for prosecutions. Nevertheless I think he knows that the department has the power to close a factory if it considers that to be in the interests of the health of the population of that area. We shall exercise this option. Surely one cannot institute a prosecution when one takes a measurement and the emissions of that factory comply with norms that are laid down. This is specifically one of the points of departure in pollution as a whole behind our monitoring. The hon member is working on assumptions which are not based on scientific research.

* Mr C B SCHOEMAN It comes from this annual report!

* The MINISTER Yes, show us the results that come from these gauging instruments. Show us what the monitoring stations have to say about atmospheric pollution. At this stage we have a comprehensive report. I want to mention only a few statistics. At the moment lead and sulphur dioxide monitors are operated at 150 sites by 37 local authorities.

The hon member wants to make the point that we have only eight atmospheric pollution control officers. He does not know how the system works. It is carried out by local authorities. Motor vehicle exhaust fumes are measured by five local authorities on 10 sites [Time expired]

Debate concluded

Poverty, hunger and unemployment

2 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Finance

- (1) Whether the Government intends taking immediate steps to combat poverty, hunger and unemployment, if not, why not, if so, what steps, (24)
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE Mr Chairman, poverty and hardship in South Africa basically manifest themselves in the following two ways, firstly through insufficient income and, secondly, through insufficient access to certain basic services for which governments normally accept responsibility.

Although an element of cyclical unemployment may occur, unemployment, and therefore poverty, has largely embedded itself as a structural problem in the economy for which there is no short-term solution. A comprehensive multifaceted development approach has therefore been adopted to combat the problem of poverty.

Alleviation is dealt with at the following three levels—firstly, the restructuring of the economy to increase the growth, income-earning and employment potential, secondly, the addressing of urgent socio-economic development problems, including the human capital dimension, and thirdly, the implementation and extension of an appropriate safety net to assist vulnerable groups in society who do not benefit from the economic restructuring programme in the shorter term.

As far as the implementation of a safety net is concerned, the following measures have already been announced in the 1990-91 Budget. Firstly, there is a zero-rating of VAT on maize meal and brown bread. Secondly, the following amounts have also been voted for the improvement of old-age assistance allowances, namely R820 million, which represents an increase of R28 per month, for all population groups, from 1 April 1991, R155 million in order to remove the disparity between Blacks in the RSA and self-governing areas and R505 million to advance closer to the equalisation of old-age assistance allowances of all population groups—roughly 20%.

Thirdly, R220 million has been allocated for special assistance schemes to the acutely distressed, in respect of which I have already answered several questions in this House. The following measures will also, directly or indirectly, make a contribution towards the long-term alleviation of poverty. Firstly R75 million for the SBDC, secondly R1 billion that is to be invested by the IDC and the Development Bank of Southern Africa during the next two years, thirdly, a further amount of R269 million that was proposed in the supplementary budget for special socio-economic capital projects, fourthly, certain other VAT measures which will particularly benefit the lower income groups, such as the measures in respect of commuter services, welfare organisations, etc, fifthly, the amount of R1 billion that was announced by the hon the State President on 29 April, part of which will be allocated to special programmes and projects to improve adverse living conditions. This amount will be financed from a reduction in the levels of strategic oil supplies.

I do not intend making a further statement in this regard at this stage, I do not deem it necessary. As I have said in previous replies, we will keep hon members informed as progress is made by the Calitz Committee [Time expired] (24)

Mr J J WALSH Mr Chairman, may I just say at the outset that one of the problems I believe we do have is largely an administrative one, and that is that a lot of the assistance the hon the Minister has mentioned is either off-budget or on-budget or coming from various sources. I think it is very important that this must all be brought together, as I believe there is confusion.

I want to make a point about what immediate steps are being taken to alleviate the situation. Quite correctly, the hon the Minister has listed a number of projects involving heavy expenditure, and he has also referred to the longer-term requirement of economic growth to provide employment opportunities. South Africa appears at the moment to be heading for an economic disaster, and I just want to ask whether enough is being done in the short term to avoid the consequences of that economic disaster [Interjections]

Already we are experiencing that. I do not have to remind hon members of the situation pertaining to violence in our country and the deaths occurring through malnutrition.

I am sure the Government has a standing committee which thinks up and implements failures, because this is the only way the Government could have succeeded in pauperising an economically prosperous country within the space of a few years. Increased training, education and home-ownership as a means towards social upliftment have never yet succeeded anywhere in the world. There is only one way the Government can make a contribution to social upliftment, and that is by way of a production-oriented budget in order to create jobs, and in this respect, too, the Government has failed dismally [Time expired] (24)

The MINISTER OF FINANCE Mr Chairman, I differ with very little as far as the general outlook of the hon member for Pinelands is concerned. However, we have this dual challenge in the Budget. On the one hand the tax load should really be lowered in order to generate economic growth. We have succeeded in maintaining the tax load at the previous GDP percentage level. On the other hand the demands for further State expenditure are by far exceeding our abilities.

The other day I mentioned in public that if it had not been for the capital outflow from South Africa over the past six years—even if we do a single calculation and not a compound one—this year we could have had a GDP of at least R20 billion more, and if we take 24,9% of that as the tax load, then we could have had at least R5 billion more to spend.

This is, of course, arithmetic which those poor CP members will never in their lives be able to understand [Interjections]

The simple truth is that one cannot print dollars. One cannot print money for oneself on a printing machine. Economic growth is dependent on one's international position.

Mr S C JACOBS There the teacher is emerging, and presently the clergyman will take the floor.

The MINISTER All I can say is that the hon member spoke about a multifaceted [Interjections]

Oh, keep quiet, man! [Interjections]

That hon member spoke about a multifaceted approach, and in that respect I want to refer him

to what I said earlier. We have, indeed, a multifaceted, multidimensional approach, and it is our intention not only to combine the efforts of the Public Service as such, but also to combine with the private sector.

*With reference to the poor hon member who stood up and spoke such a lot of nonsense about the economy, I should just like to hear from the CP one day what would happen to an economy if it had a constant outflow of capital [Interjections] [Time expired]

*Dr F HARTZENBERG It is your politics that has done this! [Interjections]

*The MINISTER OF FINANCE It is your policy, you silly thing (*You dom ding*)! [Interjections]

*The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

*Mr S C JACOBS Mr Chairman, on a point of order I submit that the remark the hon the Minister has just made, referring to the hon member for Lichtenburg as "you silly thing", is not in order [Interjections]

*The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! Could the hon member just inform me what the remark was?

*Mr S C JACOBS Mr Chairman, the remark made by the hon the Minister of Finance, with reference to the hon member for Lichtenburg, was that he was a silly thing [Interjections]

*The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! I do not think the general sense in which the hon the Minister made the remark was necessarily derogatory, but I nevertheless want to caution all hon members to moderate their language [Interjections]

Mr G C ENGEL Mr Chairman, in this year's Budget the hon the Minister of Finance provided R220 million for direct short-term relief aid to the poor, or 0,25% of his Budget for our 7 million citizens considered extremely poor. This amounts to R31,43 per person per annum, or R2,61 per month in this year.

Then he created 510 000 new low-income taxpayers in this Budget by reducing the primary rebate, which will only increase wealth discrepancies between the haves and have-nots. This

new category of taxpayer will fund R76 million in the hon the Minister's Budget of the R220 million that he has given out

(241) This drop in the ocean will not solve many problems. Identified delivery systems of relief and aid are clearly not yet in place, and it would be true to say that the conditions for the average Black South African are even worse today than they were 16 months ago when the transition process started. The underprivileged are fast losing hope, and to this extent I wish to put forward several constructive proposals to help restore personal dignity and our social fabric.

Firstly, the State should create new employment programmes to create site-and-service stands, housing, electricity and other infrastructural projects. This could be handled by the State or tendered out to private enterprise. Prescribed asset requirements may be necessary to fund such projects. Although this is not an optimal situation, it is certainly the lesser of evils, as our tax base, as the hon the Minister has already said, is too small because of years of low economic growth. This type of programme was successfully introduced during the Great Depression in both the USA and in this country, and it could be started virtually immediately. Only the State has the resources to kick-start such a programme. [Time expired]

Mr J J WALSH Mr Chairman, the hon the Minister correctly referred to the restrictions placed on him as far as the tax base is concerned, but I believe we need to be constructive and look for alternative forms of financing. This party, earlier in the session, raised the whole question of a State lottery, which I believe, as a matter of grave importance, should be looked at and a decision taken.

Secondly, we as a party have for many, many years been critical of the own affairs. Administrations and the duplications, of facilities in that area. Yesterday the hon the Chairman of the Ministers' Council indicated that there was scope for rationalisation, and we would ask. Is now not the time to look at that rationalisation very carefully, saving expenditure where we can. Admittedly many, many staff members are involved, but maybe we should be looking at

of no avail whatsoever without very rapid return to high economic growth [Time expired]

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

General Affairs

State President

Day of peace and reconciliation

*1 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the State President

Whether the Government will consider designating a special day in the near future, after consultation with religious leaders, to be known as a day of peace and reconciliation in South Africa, when churches of all denominations and women's, youth and other community organisations will be asked to arrange prayer meetings to be held throughout the country with a view to mobilising all citizens of goodwill to join in an endeavour to end the violence and to seek peace and reconciliation, if not, why not, if so, when?

B998E

†The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT (for the State President)

The custom in South Africa has been for many years that churches take the lead in setting aside special days of supplication, and that they then submit a request to that effect to the Government.

Since we are on the eve of a Conference on Violence and Intimidation, which is to be held in Pretoria on 24 and 25 May 1991, and which will be attended by key leaders from church circles of various denominations, that would be a good opportunity to make such a request to the Government, which would be sympathetic towards it in principle.

Mr D H M GIBSON Mr Chairman, arising out of the reply by the hon the State President I would like to ask whether the Government is aware that ordinary people in South Africa are desperate to find a solution to the violence in South Africa and that they believe that people of

goodwill must take the initiative and, if the initiative has not come from anybody else, that the Government must take the initiative.

In this regard I would like to ask whether the hon the State President would consider placing the matter on the agenda at the peace conference himself, as a matter that could be discussed.

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I would like to make it very clear that the Government shares the concern of all responsible South Africans about the tragic and shocking level of violence, of death and of damage that is taking place. [Interjections]

The Government, on the other hand, has never in the past taken initiatives with regard to religious matters. It has relied on the leadership of the churches in that respect, and I am quite sure that at the forthcoming conference the churches will take the initiative. If they do not, I am sure that all of us who may be in the privileged position of attending would certainly promote that idea very strongly.

Ministers

Exiles: number returned to SA

*1 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Home Affairs †

How many members of the ANC, the SACP and other previously prohibited organisations that were banned from South Africa or that fled or left South Africa after these organisations had been declared prohibited, (a) returned to South Africa in the 1990 calendar year, (b)(i) may still apply to return to South Africa and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (c) what are the names of the other previously prohibited organisations?

B936E

†The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(a) The Department has no record of members of previously prohibited organisations that returned to South Africa on their own on an individual basis. No members returned to South Africa on an organised basis during 1990.

(b) (i) and (ii) There is no definitive indication of how many exiles there are aboard and how many of them would

Development aid has for too long been distorted by rivalry between two big power blocs, reports *The Economist*

How to sweep real-life disasters off the screens

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NATURE predetermined that, one day, a cyclone-driven flood and tidal surge would sweep over the silt islands of the delta that is Bangladesh. The country's rulers knew that, and awaited the inevitable. They could neither prevent poor people from squatting on that fertile soil, nor afford to ensure their safety there. This month the great waves came. Nobody yet knows how many people died, up to 200 000, some think. Disease and hunger ravage the survivors.

How can the compassionate re-spond? A few can do a great deal — doctors and bridge-builders and speakers of obscure languages, prepared to work for little credit and less cash, far from home in dangerous circumstances. But the world is not made of highly-qualified heroes, far from it. The rest must send cheques or run fund-raising rock concerts.

Floods and earthquakes are pure disasters. It seems that only nature is to blame. Yet competent governments, given foresight and funds, can build defences against them. In June 1990 an earthquake struck the sparse villages of northern Iran, killing more than 40 000 people. The previous year an equally fierce tremor, striking the packed city of San Francisco, killed fewer than 100 people.

Public investment and public compulsion saved the Californians. Taxpayers paid for their reinforced highways, regulators ordered that their highrise buildings might twist but would not collapse. Rich and powerful states can defend their people, in peace as in war.

But most disasters are no accident. They are made by misgovernment. Far more Africans have died from the hunger that follows avoidable civil war than by that which follows drought. In Zambia and Peru it is feckless misrule that causes needless deaths. Decades of it drove the people into cities without providing clean water there, so the cholera came. Private charity may alleviate the consequences of bad government. To eradicate its causes, public action is needed.

Development and has for too long been distorted by rivalry between two big power blocs, reports *The Economist*, which paid too little attention to the needs of the recipients or the use to which they put what they were given.

With the end of the Cold War, that distortion should end. Other preconditions for disaster are on their way out too. Those who advise dictators — even well-meaning ones — dare not tell them when their regimes are going wrong. Now many poor countries are abandoning autocracy. Poor

Bangladesh's elected government (given a bit of help) is by its very nature better fitted to protect its people than its military precursor.

Political reform is often a forerunner of social and economic reforms. So are money and foreign skills. If people in rich countries want to sweep real-life disasters off their screens, they must vote for governments ready to back the emerging democracies with long-term aid for development. — The Economist □

Garden project boosted

By Mark Suzman

National Beverages Services (Natbev) yesterday presented the Food Garden Foundation with a cheque for R25 000 at one of the charity's projects at Kliptown squatter camp outside Soweto.

The Food Garden Foundation is a non-profit organisation that operates throughout southern Africa by supplying seed and providing training for underprivileged people to grow their own food.

The donation, made as part of Natbev's social responsibility programme, will be used to help expand the foundation's activities.

Accepting the award, foundation director Pauline Ra-

phaelly said "Our aim is not to provide a handout but a hand-up, and it is only through corporate donations like this that we can do so"

Speaking at the squatter camp's small but thriving food garden, Natbev social responsibility programme manager Eunice Sibiyi said the programme was a worthy one and she hoped that the example of a successful vegetable garden in the squatter camp was one that would be emulated in other areas.

"A project like this serves two purposes — it teaches people to support themselves and it helps individuals to regain human dignity and self-pride," Mrs Sibiyi said.

These people need help

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SF
21/5/71



Homeless Manfred
sleeps in trains

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Temperatures have plummeted in the past few days, and none are feeling the cold more than people with nowhere to shelter when the chill sets in at night

Manfred (54) — he would not give his surname — is one of those without a home, bed or blankets. He sleeps in railway carriages at the Johannesburg station

"We're not allowed to, but we take chances anyway," he said

With dirty hair combed over the back of his head, and two rotten teeth protruding from his bottom lip, Manfred was dozing in the sun on a Joubert Park bench last week

He said he had last eaten a few days ago, but he preferred not to remember exactly when, since it only made him



**The Star
Operation
Snowball**

more hungry

Manfred came to South Africa from Germany in 1953. He worked on the mines until two years ago when he was retrenched. He has not been able to find work since

He has no family in South Africa, although his children live in Namibia — he does not know where, exactly

"I walk alone, I am alone," he said

Please spare a thought for people like Manfred this winter. There are thousands like him who are without blankets to provide warmth, and they need our help

If you would like to help The Star to relieve the plight of the needy by providing them with blankets, please send a donation to Operation Snowball, Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000

ARGUS 23/8/91

Save the Food Fund

By SHARKEY ISAACS
Staff Reporter

THE Argus Food Campaign, which has fed more than a million hungry mouths in 4½ years, is nearly broke.

Unless there is a huge injection of funds soon it will close.

City medical officer of health Dr Michael Popkiss said the campaign had reached "the point of closing down" when funds dropped to less than R10 000 this week.

"The fund, which has been suffering from malnutrition of the money kind for some time, is famished.

"We had to stop deliveries of food parcels this week because we can't operate like a bank and resort to an overdraft to continue functioning.

"Its survival has been precariously in the balance since last month when funds dwindled to R23 900.

"Although Argus readers helped the campaign keep its head above water with regular money gifts, large contributions from businesses were hardly forthcoming.

"Efforts by Argus readers to help thousands of destitute people dependent on the fund to stay alive were clearly not enough."

Municipal health department staff this week delivered the last food parcels for the time being and the campaign will wind up tomorrow with a delivery of dried fruit for tuberculosis patients at a clinic in District Six.

The campaign was launched in association with the Mayor's Relief Fund in October 1986, when economic recession and unemployment drove thousands of Cape Town families into penury.

Readers and big business responded immediately to an initial contribution from The Argus, opening their hearts and pockets to the plight of the city's poorest people.

Since then parcels of samp, beans, rice, tinned and frozen fish and meat, fresh vegetables and other basics have been handed out at 19 distribution points weekly.

In many households this was the only food people had to eat.

The campaign also supported a soup-feeding programme for hundreds of tuberculosis patients.

This week, the feelings of 240 people queuing for rations at the Guguletu Clinic were summed up by 62-year-old grandfather Mr William Msoli, who said: "We would be starving if we did not get our weekly food parcel."

Mr Msoli stopped working a few years ago because of ill health. He supports his wife Nowelile and three of his grandchildren on a meagre pension.

"We have barely enough money for essential foods and have almost nothing over to buy clothes or pay our rent," he said.

"We look forward to our weekly food parcel. We like especially the trotters, samp and the vegetables."

Also in the queue was Mrs Rebecca Magqashela, 43, a mother of two. She said she had been living on the breadline since her husband disappeared during faction fights at KTC in 1986.

"It's been very hard to make ends meet," she said.

Mrs Constance Gshuman, 58, of NY 77, Guguletu, who is rapidly losing her sight through a deteriorating diabetic condition, said she queued regularly for her food parcel and was more than grateful for her weekly gift.

"It helps to feed me and my foster child. I don't know how I would get by without it," she said.

● Cash contributions should be sent to The Argus Food Campaign, Box 15399, Vlaeberg, 8018, or Box 298 Cape Town, 8000. Cheques must be made out to the Mayor's Relief Fund. Offers of food may be made to the office of the MOH at 210 2882.

A multimillion rand programme is being launched to tackle the problems of rampant unemployment and inadequate education in Alexandra township.

The programme, called Education for Employment, is a joint venture involving a coalition of groups from Alexandra and Sandton.

"The programme is a positive attempt to reduce poverty, unemployment and crime in the communities of Sandton and Alexandra" says Holly Luton, chairman of the AlexSan Kopano Educational Trust, which is organising the initiative.

"We are all concerned about the increasing rate of crime in Sandton, but building higher walls around our properties and installing ever more costly security systems really isn't a long-term answer," she says. "The problem has to be tackled at its roots, providing unemployed Alexandra youth an alternative to crime — skills that will enable them to get and keep decent jobs."

The Education for Employment programme has three legs:

- Job training and assistance for the so-called "lost generation" and for unemployed adults, so that they can either find full-time or part-time employment in the formal sector or start their own businesses.
- Improvement of school facilities, teacher training, parental support and student motivation at Alexandra's schools.
- Management training for the leaders of Alexandra's community organisations.

The programme is under the direction of Dave Jackson, an experienced education and development consultant. "Most whites are unaware of the true situation in Alexandra" he says. "It's a city with a population of about 280 000 — no one knows exactly how many people — of whom more than half live in shacks with a single outside tap, bucket toilet and shower

Joint plan to fight poverty

Star 27/5/91

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shared by between 70 and 80 people."

About 47 percent of the employable adult population is without work and among the youth the figure is far higher.

The organisers of the programme believe the success of the Education for Employment depends as much on the people of Sandton as much as it does on the people of Alexandra.

"It's got to be a joint effort," says Salina Serote, one of the trustees. "Sandton and Alexandra are two parts of a single community. The people of Sandton benefit from the labour the people of Alexandra provide — and they are affected by their problems. That's why we coined the word AlexSan."

"People in Sandton have the money, the expertise and the contacts — the people of Alexandra need their help to enable them to develop long term self-sufficiency."

The programme is estimated to cost more than R26 million over the next three years. Most of the money will go into creating jobs.

A world-wide fundraising appeal has been launched. The organisers are relying on large corporate donors and foundations in South Africa and abroad to come up with the big donations. However, people of Alexandra are also contributing and the intention is to make the programme increasingly self-financing.

"If we're going to make the new SA happen we have got to take a personal responsibility for bringing about change in our community," says Mr Jackson.

Readers wanting to know more about the campaign or wanting to offer their help should contact Dave Jackson at (011) 783-8130.

A worrying sort of TV programme is becoming more frequent, writes Angela Lambert

The pornography of poverty

Skew-4/6/91

DO THE desperate, negative images of starving children and poverty-stricken people that are coming out of Africa degrade their subjects — victims first of famine and then of the camera lens — thereby doing more harm than good?

That was the question posed by Oxfam last night in a BBC-TV programme, "Framing the Famine", which challenged the media's approach to the problem.

Commentators questioned the value, even under the guise of information, of programmes that suggest millions of Africans have no place or power in the world, except as bearers of a begging bowl proffered towards the West. Such programmes may extract a few hundred thousand pounds, just as charity concerts and telethons extract a few million, but this is small help beside the vastness of the need.

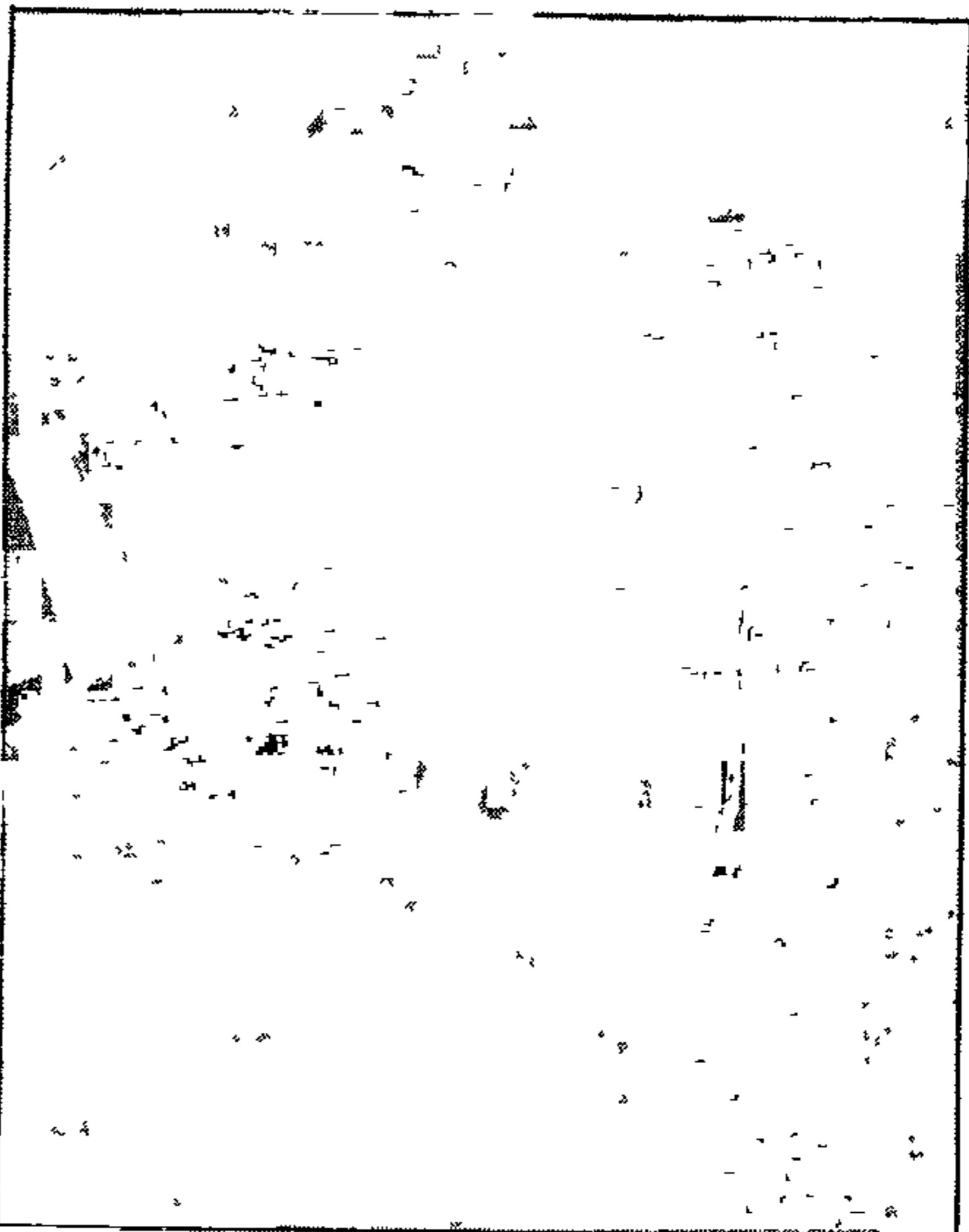
It serves to salve the conscience of the givers, but does nothing to alleviate long-term economic change. Can concerts or images — especially beautiful, harrowing images

— ever change anything? And if you reply that is not the job of the media, it is up to the politicians/aid agencies/charities/charities to change, I would answer. In that case, why show such programmes at all?

Even if we accept the need for news reports about Third World catastrophes, many documentaries move swiftly beyond information to an indulgent and inappropriately aesthetic exploitation of those they purport to pity. In much the same vein, a new and worrying sort of programme is becoming more frequent.

A recent film about street violence in Brazil was one particularly horrific example among many. Blurred as "a disturbing documentary journey through poverty, crime and violence", it had little commentary, offered no hope and no conclusion, and seemed merely to cater to the "there but for the grace of God go I" mentality.

Viewers comfortably ensconced on their sofas at home were regaled with photographic details of the visceral brutality of the lives of Brazil's urban poor.



Famine . . . an Ethiopian child suffering from malnutrition

Behold — cue for close-up — this 12-year-old's amputated leg. See this emaciated dog in its death throes. Observe the moment

of decapitation as a bullock is sacrificed. Shudder at the faeces-filled streams that run through the shanty town, displayed in a

lingering, arty camera shot

These programmes do not appeal for my help, either in purse or person. They offer no solutions, and, indeed, it is impossible to think of any. The lives depicted are usually the inescapable result of overcrowded cities, over-fertile families living in slums without access to family planning, low or non-existent incomes leading to high crime rates, poor educational facilities leading to a thriving drug culture, drugs and crime both producing a gun-toting underworld, the whole producing police brutality.

At what point can this vicious circle be interrupted, least of all by me? Will they be seen by the police or politicians of these tortured communities? You bet your life they won't.

What, then, is the purpose of these beautifully filmed programmes about street crime in Buenos Aires or Rio de Janeiro, prostitution in Bangkok or the Philippines, beggars in Bombay? Can it be that viewers revel in the smugness of knowing they belong to the fortunate quarter of the globe? Is it to indulge our prurient

fascination in the antics of transvestite prostitutes or go-go dancers rolling their perfect, globular buttocks?

In my case, the only consequence is guilt. For having watched, and more importantly for being helpless.

I cannot affect these lives, no unless I abandon mine and travel to countries whose languages I do not speak and whose customs I do not know. I cannot even affect, by more than a handful of small change, the lives of London's street poor. Am I any the better for knowing that a child dies violently — was it every 90 seconds or every 90 minutes? — on the streets of Rio?

This guilt merely blankets me in impotent despair. I can support Amnesty or Oxfam or the Red Cross, I can educate an orphan child or two. But these programmes do not solicit such actions. They are not polemical, political, or ideological. They are nothing but the pornography of poverty. I resolve not to watch any more. — The Independent News Service

'Lost generation' a challenge for future

Sowetan 6/6/91



SOUTH Africa's so-called "lost generation" comes under the spotlight in a conference tomorrow at the Alpha Training Centre at Broederstroom

Conference co-ordinator Mrs Sheila Sisulu said the event would discuss black youth marginalised by apartheid and condemned to long-term unemployment and poverty

The fate of the youth is one of the major issues facing any government in a post-apartheid South Africa, she said

Productive

"The real test for a future government will be whether this generation can be reclaimed as productive citizens within mainstream national life," said Sisulu

The conference is co-hosted by the South African Council of Churches' Joint Enrichment Project. Experts in education, unemployment and psychology are to attend.

Black Sash official and SACC deputy president Mrs Sheena Duncan will open the event

The main address will be delivered by University of Cape Town deputy vice-chancellor Dr Mamphela Ramphele.

Other participants include South African Catholic Bishops Conference general secretary Brother Jude Pieterse, Wits education department's Mr Ken Hartshorne, Natal University's Mr Blade Nzimande, and Education Development Trust director Ms Ivy Matsepe-Cassaburi



Conference co-ordinator
Sisulu

SHEENA
DUNCAN

In the past decade, thousands of township youths have taken to crime and drugs in the face of a decaying social fabric caused by disruptions in education, endemic violence and lack of regard for authority.

Sisulu said black youths were

beset by a series of socio-economic factors including a collapsing education system and very slim chances of long-term employment

At the same time, township life had been militarised by successive

states of emergency and brutalised by the wave of violence

"These socio-economic and political factors can combine to produce psychological alienation based on the realisation by the individual that he or she has been marginalised by society itself, which makes the turn to violence, drugs and criminal behaviour easier," she said.

In a reflection of public concern over these troubled youth, a group of businessmen this week took out an advertisement in 10 national newspapers demanding that the ANC find a way to "re-civilise the lost generation of township youths who have become the victims of the 'liberation before education' cliché".

Potential

Ramphele said the increasing concern was "mostly based on the recognition of the potential of this sector of the South African population to destabilise the country, regardless of the political settlement achieved"

The concern was limited, she said, because it failed to locate the problem of alienated youth as a symptom of a deeper malaise - the rapid downward spiral towards total disintegration of the fabric of the black community.

"An important starting point is to recognise the residual capacity within the black community to respond to positive intervention. This capacity resides in individuals, support groups and organised pressure groups," she said.

She said the churches, civics, women's organisations, youth groups across the socio-political spectrum, professional organisations and other support networks including stokvels, burial societies and neighbourhood groups could be used in the restoration of hope - *Sowetan Correspondent*



No buildings, no books, no food. But the children of Qoqizwe are, against all odds, being given the best education – and food – principal Richard Selana and his teachers can supply.

Starving kids of Qoqizwe

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE principal and 20 teachers at Qoqizwe School at Orange Farm are feeding some of their 500 pupils at their own expense after many fainted from hunger during lessons.

Each teacher feeds four or five children every day.

Most of the pupils come from east of Orange Farm and have to walk for hours to get to school because they cannot afford the R1,20 bus fare.

Some leave home without breakfast and have no money to buy bread for lunch.

This week I saw principal Richard Selana help a small boy on the verge of collapsing from

hunger. He took the child to a hawker and bought him a bunny chow.

The child gobbled down large hunks while some of his pals stood around looking hungry. They too, showed signs of hunger. Their lips had turned grey.

"Seeing children in this condition is not unusual. It happens most of the time," said Selana.

Qoqizwe – which means "unite the nations" – is a combined school which takes pupils from Sub-Standard A to Std 8.

Because the building cannot hold all the pupils, some classes are held in the open in winter, while in summer pupils shelter under trees.

When it is very cold, or when it rains, the smallest children are sent home, while those in higher standards squash into a disused garage.

The school, founded several years ago on Weilers Farm by squatter community leader Olga Lutu, moved to the area when the squatter families were resettled at Orange Farm. The squatters had to start from scratch in the whitewashed building which once served the community as a shopping centre.

"I know about the problems. When I started the school I realised education was the only way to help the children and that is what the school is still trying to do," said Lutu.

Let's get reform back on course

IT IS 16 months since the State President, Mr F W de Klerk made his momentous speech in Parliament but, for at least the last six months, the reform process has been seriously off course and could soon end up in a cul-de-sac



Viewpoint
by **SAMPIE TERREBLANCHE**

What we need is a comprehensive War on Poverty programme. As soon as the organisational framework can be created, the government should spend at least R10 m annually on such a programme and present it as part-and-parcel of restitution.

A naive acceptance of the government's propaganda about its alleged breakthrough could prove to be dangerous. It is not too early for serious soul-searching. What has gone wrong with the seemingly promising transition strategy announced at the beginning of 1990?

Could it be that the so-called transition strategy was too hasty and ill-conceived and therefore doomed to fail? Or was it a well-thought out and brilliantly executed masterplan to disrupt the liberation movements, to "normalise" South Africa's international relationship and to regain sufficient legitimacy to perpetuate the white power monopoly — both in the political and economic arenas?

In explaining his government's transition strategy, Mr De Klerk often told audiences during his foreign tours that South Africa would soon reach the point where the process of constitutional negotiations and the attainment of a high economic growth rate would prove to be mutually reinforcing processes.

We will be fortunate if we get to the point where we have succeeded in putting both these processes in full

debate about the trade-off between "efficiency and equity" the government is inclined only to emphasise efficiency, while the liberation movements are mainly concerned with equity while displaying a serious lack of efficiency. The government should know better and realise that long-term efficiency is not attainable without compassion.

When the government announced it intended to abolish apartheid, this abolition was not meant to be an isolated event. It was supposed to be an important opportunity not only to terminate a horrible system but also to implement a policy of social upliftment to reverse the terrible suffering of the poorest third of the total population on whose shoulders the apartheid system has put — directly and indirectly — an almost unbearable burden.

The abolishment of apartheid should have happened in such a humane way and in such a spirit of generosity that it could have been an occasion for rejoicing and festivities with prayers of thanksgiving at special services in every church and denomination. It should have been possible for Mr Mandela and other leaders to praise and thank the government for its humanity and its repentance.

Unfortunately the golden opportunity it is removing the so-called last pillars of apartheid from the statute books in an atmosphere of growing animosity between the movements. The accusation is not without force that the legalistic manner in which the last pillars are being removed is nothing but a clever and "efficient" ploy to continue apartheid and to continue white power and privileges. It is a face to implement a policy of land reform without a land redistribution policy to compensate for the deprivation caused by the Land Act over 78 years

President De Klerk's unwillingness to acknowledge the truth about the exploitative and immoral nature of apartheid and to make a confession of guilt is inexcusable. Is this unwillingness due to a lack of understanding or a determination to defend the vested interests of his bourgeois constituency?

It is unrealistic to think that it will be possible to build the mutual trust and the social stability necessary to create an atmosphere suited to negotiations and economic growth without a preparedness to show repentance for apartheid. It is also an indication of hard-heartedness.

How on earth can anyone deny the deliberate exploitative and immoral nature of apartheid? The NP government has used all kinds of arguments to build a collective (white) conscience about the alleged moral justification for apartheid. Why is the NP not now prepared to take part in a campaign to build a collective (white) conscience about the worldwide ac-

Without compassion for the harsh fate of these poverty-stricken victims of apartheid, the government's reform policy cannot succeed. The time for a confession of guilt by the government for its apartheid misdeeds and for a commitment towards (reasonable) restitution is long overdue.

knowledgeed immoral character of apartheid? Before we can hope to experience the benefits of negotiations and economic revival, we should take full cognisance of the devastating effects apartheid and sanctions are still exerting on the lives of the majority of the black population and especially on the 15 million living in abject poverty.

Restitution
Since 1974 South Africa has experienced creeping poverty. Given the power structures institutionalised in our political and economic systems, the greater part of this "creeping poverty" has been "shifted" on to the lower half of the black population.

Without compassion for the harsh fate of these poverty-stricken victims of apartheid, the government's reform policy cannot succeed. The time for a confession of guilt by the government for its apartheid misdeeds and for a commitment towards (reasonable) restitution is long overdue.

But, above all, it could prove to be invaluable in building the trust and the social stability be essential for success in constitutional negotiations and economic revival.

□ Professor Terreblanche teaches economics at the University of Stellenbosch.

LETTERS
Capitalists v
From GRAEME BLOCH
WASN'T it ironic that Joe protect Joe Slovo from the lions and heckling of the



POLITICAL and legislative liberalisation which is in vogue in SA has opened the floodgates for newer forms of struggle in and around the country's cities. Basic needs such as jobs, shelter and food have increasingly become the focal point around which urban struggles revolve.

Those in the public and private sectors entrusted with the professional responsibility of promoting development (including rural development) will be hampered as long as they do not become sensitive to the essence of community struggles.

Professionals can establish the linkages between these struggles and their work. A point of departure could be an attempt to reach a common understanding or definition of development with the poor. Meaningful development for most black households can be appreciated only in terms of practical alleviation of the daily miseries caused by poverty.

Firstly, grand theories of economic growth and the "trickle down" effects of accelerated growth are not easily understandable to communities that for years have been at the receiving end of political and economic discrimination.

In dealings with these communities, development practitioners must not only understand the gravity of the situation facing the poor but should also step down from their academic pedestals and literally mingle with communities and literally learn from them.

Development theory in SA can be advanced by tapping the wealth of information stored in the experience of black people, this can then be codified into a useful body of thought in development theory.

Apartheid has, ironically, produced ingenious, skilful and resourceful people in the black community. The '70s witnessed genuinely

Renewal strategies must draw on the black experience

17/6/91
XOLELA MANGCU

community-based projects in black areas — poultry farming, health clinics, educational initiatives, maternity homes and many others. These attest to how an oppressed community can deal with adversity.

Development institutions should benefit from this local experience, instead of religiously and uncritically searching for international models. A caveat is that not all white people suffer from this limitation of their perceptions, nor are these perceptions the exclusive preserve of black people. A sizeable number of black professionals have been groomed to accept, without question, anything that emanates from the recognised institutions.

Secondly, in tandem with the current political climate the country is witnessing the mushrooming of coalitions between the government and civic associations to address development issues. The prevailing view in government circles and in some sections of the "left" (as in left of government) is that investment in development should be channelled

through "people's organisations".

The Interim Measures for Local Government Bill has been introduced to give legal sanction to these coalitions. This Bill allows for government structures to exercise local options in negotiating local dispensations and agreeing on plans of how to run the urban areas.

The ANC is, however, suspicious of government's intentions, arguing that this is an attempt at pre-empting the creation of a new system of local government arising from national negotiations.

The new thinking (even if it was a result of national negotiations) could go awry because of a lack of understanding, or a complete disregard among the politicians, of the dynamics operating beyond political facades and gamesmanship.

The danger is a dictatorship of the elites, which eschews meaningful debate with the poor whose perceptions

of development are based on real-life experiences.

The result would be that in discussing projects, the well-intentioned government official and "progressive" development practitioner would assume, unwittingly sometimes, that they know all and would not pause to learn from communities.

Communities also would not see it proper to question the academics. As Steve Biko once commented "You may be intelligent but you're not as articulate. You are forced into a subservient role of having to say 'yes' to what they are saying, even when talking about what you have experienced, and which they have not experienced, because you cannot express it so well."

This could capture the future relationship between government officials, civic leaders, development consultants, and practitioners on the one hand and client communities on the other.

Thirdly, if development institutions are to be effective agents in

tackling the country's development problems, fundamental changes in their outlook and *modus operandi* have to be introduced. Programmes which would aid this process of change include:

□ Seminars and workshops designed to reorientate development thinking in tandem with broader political changes in SA.

□ Bridging the gap between the largely academic development world and the communities they are supposed to serve through the identification of initiatives taking place in the black community. This might include exchange programmes whereby members of mainstream development institutions work in the "alternative" institutions on secondment, and vice versa, and

□ Massive investment in technical and development education at tertiary level. Schoolchildren from the poor black community should be trained in approaches to development that are relevant to their experiences.

However, investment in tertiary education should not in any way perpetuate existing elitist recruitment policies. There are many development fieldworkers in the community who do not satisfy the tertiary qualification requirements of development institutions. This may provoke the ire of those who argue for maintenance of standards simply to exclude others.

A balance between levels of educational achievement and practical community work experience should be what makes the development practitioner in the "new" SA.

□ Mangcu is an urban specialist with the Development Bank of Southern Africa. The views expressed here, however, are his own.

VEGETABLE gardener Selina Moshala grows the finest beetroot and the best spinach in the northern Transvaal

Subsistence farming is the name of the game

She is one of the lucky 8 per cent in Sekhukuneland who have land for farming, and one of the 30 illiterate and enumerate subsistence farmers whom Operation Hunger has put into business in a far-flung place called Moshala, near Jane Furse

To quote Operation Hunger chief Ina Perlman "Once she was a person who did not raise her eyes much Today she walks tall"

Before Operation Hunger established its resource centre in Lebowa in the drought of 1983, Selina and her family relied on handouts for their meagre existence

Today she not only runs her own business, but has money in the bank from the R300 to R400 she earns from the sale of vegetables after she has fed her family

It is all done without Government subsidy, merely with Operation Hunger expertise, which teaches people to become economically viable — the kind of activity which Minister Kraai van Niekerk went to Kenya to see last week

At Jane Furse, Selina and her colleagues were each allocated about a hundred 2 000 sq m plots to launch their market-garden operations

As part of the organisation's aim to teach self-sufficiency on its 800 community gardens countrywide, the project started at the bottom

The women were taught by Johann Rissik to construct concrete furrows to irrigate by hand pumps — which they could repair themselves — from one of the 100 boreholes sunk by Operation Hunger in the area

They enclosed their gardens with fencing produced by two local women, watered their plots with cans devised by George Makunyane, and transformed their surplus spinach from a cash crop by preserving patties in locally built solar driers

The multi-purpose *leucaena leucocephala*, a plant similar to an acacia, was grown between the beds as a substitute for expensive shade cloth

After 18 months they stripped the side-branches of the fast-growing trees for firewood and used the leaves for animal fodder

Mr Rissik said the aim was to plant 500 000 of the trees a year.

Simple farming saving the day

~~SEEN~~

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Reaping the profits . . . less than a decade ago, Selina Moshala of Lebowa was destitute and queuing for food.

Once the vegetable gardens had been established, the focus moved to the lack of protein and dairy products in the people's diet

Meat was virtually unheard of in diets in that part of the world, but two pregnant nannie goats imported from Operation Hunger's centre in Namaqualand set the ball rolling, providing slaughter stock and milk

Chickens were expensive to feed, so they settled for rabbits, which eat vegetable matter and

provide a meal-in-a-pot.

Today the people in the valley below the 70 ha donated by the Anglican Church, and assisted by the Donaldson Trust, buy bricks from the brick-making group at the resource centre and sell their handwork through Operation Hunger outlets.

It is hardly life in the fast lane, but it is a minor miracle. People have had their pride restored, their stomachs filled and their pockets lined through their own efforts □

New era, old land

The role of established white farmers in SA is being severely questioned. In 40 years their numbers have fallen from 120 000 to 50 000. SHIRLEY WOODGATE investigates the role that "new" black farmers could play

IF BLACK farmers were given half the assistance handed over to their white counterparts, they would repeat the achievements of black agriculturists in Zimbabwe. Operation Hunger chief executive Ina Perlman believes *Star 17/6/91*

Recalling the threat which black farmers had posed to whites in the Cape and Natal in the 19th century, she said it was ironic that their success had led to the enactment of the 1913 Land Act

A far cry indeed from the halcyon days before the fall of this country's white farmers from grace — and favour — when they enjoyed top-dog status both politically and financially

That was when the black farm labourer "knew his place" and unquestioningly performed his role as a hewer of wood and tiller of soil

But times, and the fortunes of the farmers, have changed

Now subsidised to the tune of R17 billion (of which a third was allegedly squandered on items totally unrelated to agriculture), the number of white farmers has dwindled from 120 000 in 1950 to about 50 000

Says Professor Eckard Kasier of Stellenbosch University "We could quite easily lose a third of those remaining without any production problems"

Former Minister of Agriculture Jacob de Villiers told farmers this year that in the future they would have to join the queue for State aid

This was followed up by Barlow Rand economist Piet Haasbroek saying decades of bad agricultural policies were at the root of current farming blues



Hand on the land Johann Rissik aims to have about 500 000 trees planted every year

He added that a sad result of the subsidy was that it did not benefit the small farmer it was intended to help

But worse was in store for the white commercial farmers with the scrapping of the 1913 and 1936 Land Acts

In the Transvaal alone, 95 percent of the farmers voted to retain the legislation. When nobody listened, many of them took to their tractors and trucks to join countrywide protests against the repeal of the laws

Last week, as the Acts were abolished, the Transvaal Agricultural Union labelled the repeal "a declaration of war"

Then the South African Agricultural Union mouthed alarm over reports that the Government had appointed an advisory committee on land allocation

And if the writing were not yet clearly on the wall, Minister of Agriculture Kraai van Nierkerk returned last week from Kenya to claim that more than 50 percent of that country's



Essential ingredients a Mohlala subsistence farmer, watering can and a twig from a shady leucaena tree

agricultural produce was supplied by small farmers — something which South Africa could learn a lot about from that central African country

Now hundreds of thousands of blacks are waiting to see whether the Government will make it possible for them to return to the land they were forced off because it fell within white areas

Mrs Perlman has urged the authorities to move fast to allocate about 3 million ha of avail-

able land immediately

"My fear is that time will be wasted while people posture politically. Some 58 percent of blacks are still in the rural areas and our unemployment figure stands at 6 million

"The urgent need is for funds to be made available for land development. This will be part of the answer to poverty and also the squatting problem near major cities. These people could easily be made self-supporting on their own land," she said □

has a big story to tell about democracy. He now wants to know how many NPs have been nominated by the farmers' unions, but if democracy always triumphs, why does he not want to accept that? What kind of democrat is he then? What kind of person is he?

As a Deputy Minister he should rise above petty politics to some extent, but he is not capable of doing that. He is still burdened by it. [Interjections] I want to point out to him that he said—I heard this with my own ears—that he would rather live next to an ANC member than a CP member. That is why the farmers out there have no respect for his behaviour and that is why he is jeered at and chased out of meetings.

He said again today that he would rather live next to an ANC member than a CP farmer. He should show that he has backbone. He did say this, and today he must show that he has backbone. He should not run away again. He stood up here bravely and said that he would not take this any more, that he was not scared. The hon the Deputy Minister is a big gun here, but when he is among the farmers it is a different matter.

This is how we operate in the Free State. We ask a farmers' union to nominate a farmer who is actively farming, a man who is not so old that he would stay in town as a retired farmer, but who can make an active contribution to farming. Then we send the names through. We also did this in Bothaville. We asked who they were going to appoint. It was not our first or second choice, but our third choice, and he was appointed for only one reason. He is a prominent member of the Broederbond, and the other two are not members of the Broederbond. [Interjections] I can give hon members his name. [Time expired]

*Mr C H PIENAAR Mr Chairman, when I mentioned the name of Mr Janne Els, the hon member for Vryheid said he was infected with scab. I want to tell that hon member that I can see why he is sitting in the "reject" front benches of the NP, why he did not become the leader of the NP in Natal and why they had to choose a Sap to become the leader of the NP. It is because he is too pathetic, as his remark has shown.

ies? I knew there were hon members of the CP at that meeting, and I can name them. [Interjections] I therefore reject these things. [Interjections]

I want to ask if we are prepared to admit this afternoon that politics plays a role in the Transvaal Agricultural Union. [Interjections] Does politics play a role or not? [Interjections] I want to tell hon members that it is because politics is practised in that province that we are so careful when it comes to the appointment of members. [Interjections]

Would the hon member for Lydenburg admit this afternoon that Prof Frans Steenkamp is a member of the CP? When was he appointed? Let us look at Ellisras. When was Mr Steenkamp appointed there? Is he a member of the CP? [Interjections]

What are we doing in Alexandra? [Interjections] [Time expired]

Mr J H VAN DER MERWE Saved by the bell! Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Steps to alleviate economic distress

*1 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works

- (1) Whether he is taking any additional steps to alleviate the economic distress amongst
 - (a) the recipients of social and military pensions, (b) those in receipt of welfare aid and (c) the unemployed, if not, why not, if so, what additional steps in each case,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B1194E

*The MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS

- (1) Economic distress goes hand-in-hand with poverty and the Government is giv-

ing serious attention to the problem of poverty. Recently, two working groups were appointed to investigate and make recommendations on certain aspects of poverty.

* The Calitz Committee, which was appointed in terms of a Cabinet decision dated 12 September 1990. It is to investigate and make recommendations on suitable measures to alleviate poverty and to determine the Government's responsibility in this regard. This Committee will also give special attention to targeted food assistance programmes in view of the prospective inclusion of all basic foodstuffs (except white maize meal and brown bread) in the VAT system.

* The Robson Committee, an inter-departmental working group in the Administration House of Assembly, appointed by myself to investigate poverty and the role that housing plays. The working group will undertake, for example, a systematic evaluation of all welfare and housing measures to alleviate poverty, administered by the departments in the Administration.

(a) Recipients of social and military pensions

An amount of R73 138 000 has been made available for the 1991/92 financial year to adjust social pensions and allowances. This allocation made it possible to increase all pensions and allowances by 10% as from 1 April 1991.

To stay on par with the increase, the income leg of the means test has been increased by the same percentage. The maximum monthly payments are as follows:

- Old age and disability pensions as well as pensions for the blind R304

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1963

TUESDAY, 18 JUNE 1991

1964

- War veteran's pensions R320
- Foster parent allowances R212 per child
- Maintenance allowances R304 per parent
- Child allowances R92 per child

In addition to the increase in basic pensions it has also been decided to increase the attendance allowance paid to people who need the assistance of a second person for their daily needs, from R26 per month to R50 per month

I am not responsible for military pensions

(b) *Persons in receipt of welfare assistance*

The Department of Health Services and Welfare, Administration House of Assembly administers a social relief scheme where short-term help is given to a person or family to overcome a temporary need. In terms of this scheme the following amounts are payable for food assistance:

- adults and children — R20,40 per 10 years and older week
- children below the age of 10 years — R14,00 per week

An increase in these tariffs is being considered at present

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! It appears to me that the hon member for Pinetown, who put the question, is not interested in the answer

Mr R M BURROWS Mr Chairman, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that I am holding this earphone close to my ear in an attempt to hear while all this noise is going on. The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! At the same time the hon member for Pinetown is carrying on a conversation with another hon member across the floor of the House! The hon the Minister may proceed

The MINISTER In addition to assistance with food, this scheme also makes provision for financial assistance regarding housing, transport and other necessary expenses [Interjections]

(c) *The unemployed*

During 1985 the said Department introduced a special scheme to provide relief to unemployed persons and their families in

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

1965

TUESDAY, 18 JUNE 1991

1966

newal Strategy to which my Department contributed. The extent of rationalisation is *inter alia* influenced by the availability of funds. The programme will therefore not be cancelled, but if circumstances allow, it could be amended

(2) A statement has already been made on the situation in Natal. No further statement is contemplated

For written reply

General Affairs

TBVC countries/independent Black African states aid

348 Mr L F STOPFERG asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(a) What (i) financial and (ii) development aid was granted by the South African Government to (aa) each of the TBVC countries and (bb) each other independent Black state in Africa in 1988, 1989 and 1990, respectively, and (b) what amounts were involved, in each case?

B932E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

(a) and (b)

The South African Government's aid to the TBVC States for the financial years 1988/89, 1989/90 and 1990/91 is set out in schedules 1-4, whilst aid to other independent African states during the aforementioned financial years is set out in schedule 5

SCHEDULE 1

AID TO TRANSKEI

	1)*	1)*	2)**
	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91

A DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Budgetary Aid	711 769 680	875 320 000	1 076 109 000
Incentive scheme for industries	21 332 370	25 327 100	20 753 976
Non recoverable financial assistance	—	—	—
Relief of distress	—	—	—
Special Job creation	4 484 056	6 517 000	—
TOTAL	737 586 106	907 164 100	1 096 862 976

B TRANSFER PAYMENTS

Tax compensation	157 273 476	192 301 965	253 000 000
Customs union	458 231 000	548 915 000	502 084 000
Common monetary area	17 676 587	24 202 900	29 489 027
TOTAL	633 181 063	765 419 865	784 573 027

C Loans from RSA (Project Aid)	6 699 904	4 177 602	9 351 000
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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Future of black farming

If black farmers were given half the assistance given their white counterparts in South Africa, they would repeat the achievements of black agriculturists in Zimbabwe, according to Operation Hunger.

Chief executive of the organisation Mrs Ina Perlman, recalling the threat which black farmers had posed to whites in the Cape and Natal in the 19th Century, said it was ironic that black success led to the enactment of the 1913 Land Act which restricted black access to land.

The state of the country's agriculture has changed dramatically from the days when white farms enjoyed top-dog status both politically and financially.

That was when the black farm labourer "knew his place" and unquestioningly performed his role as a heaver of wood and tiller of soil.

Now subsidised to the tune of R17 billion, white farmers have dwindled in number from 120 000 in 1950 to about 50 000 today.

Says Professor Eckard Kassier of Stellenbosch University "We could quite easily lose a third of those remaining without any production problems."

Queue

Former Minister of Agriculture Mr Jacob de Villiers told farmers this year that in the future they would have to join the queue for State aid.

Decades of bad agricultural policies were at the root of current farming blues, said Barlow Rand economist Mr Piet Haasbroek

Sowetan Correspondent

He said massive Government subsidies did little for those they were intended to help - small farmers.

White commercial farmers were also in for a hard time with the recent scrapping of the 1913 and 1936 Land Acts.

In the Transvaal alone, 95 percent of farmers voted to retain the legisla-



INA PERLMAN

Kenya and Zimbabwe point way to success

Sowetan Correspondent

When nobody listened, many of them took to their tractors and trucks to join countrywide protests.

Last week, as the Acts were abolished, the Transvaal Agricultural Union labelled the repeal "a declaration of war"

Alarm

The South African Agricultural Union has also voiced alarm over the Government's appointment of an advisory committee on land allocation.

And if the writing was not clearly on the wall, Minister of Agriculture Mr Kraai van Niekerk returned last week from Kenya reporting that more than 50 percent of that country's agricultural produce was supplied by small farmers.

He said South Africa

could learn a lot from Kenya's example.

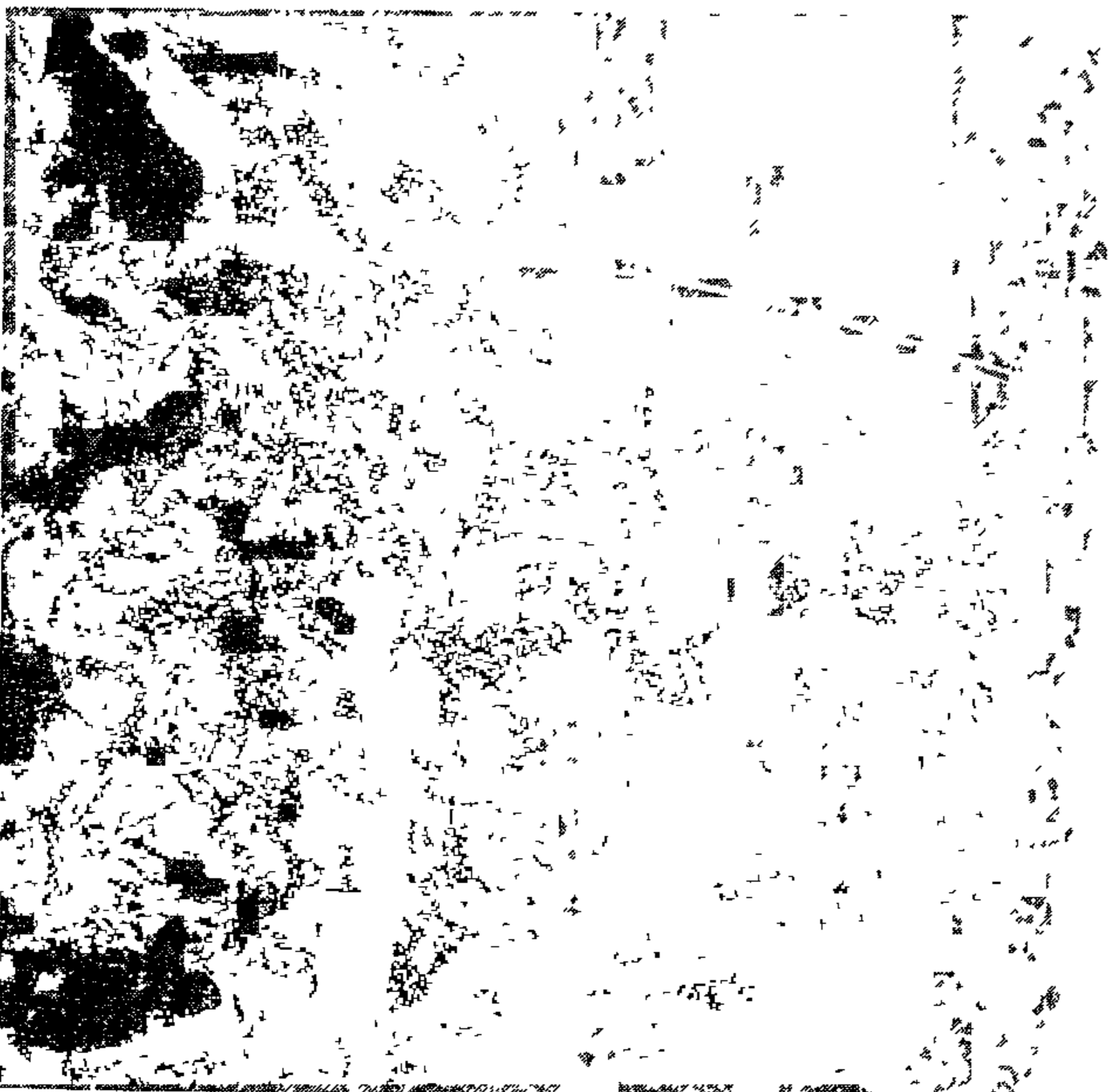
Now hundreds of thousands of South African blacks are awaiting to see whether the Government will make it possible for them to return to the land they were forced off.

Perlman has urged the authorities to move fast to allocate about 3 million hectares of available land immediately to blacks.

"My fear is that time will be wasted while people posture politically."

"Some 58 percent of blacks are still in the rural areas and our unemployment figure stands at 6 million."

"The urgent need is for funds to be made available for land development. This will be part of the answer to poverty and also the squating problem near major cities. These people could easily be made self-supporting on their own land."



REAPING THE PROFITS: Less than a decade ago Selina Moshala of Lebowa was destitute and queuing for food.

Minor miracle on small farms

Sowetan 19/6/91

VEGETABLE gardener Ms Selma Mohlala grows the finest beetroot and the best spinach in the Northern Transvaal

Subsistence farming is the name of the game.

She is one of the lucky eight per cent in Sekhukhuneland who have land for farming.

She is also one of the 30 illiterate and enumerate subsistence farmers whom Operation Hunger has put into business in a far-flung place called Mohlala, near Jane Furse.

Said Operation Hunger chief executive Mrs Ina Perlman "Once she was a person who did not raise her eyes much Today she walks tall."

Before Operation Hunger established its resource centre in Lebowa in the drought of 1983, Mohlala and her family relied on handouts for their meagre existence.

Today she not only runs her own business, but has money in the bank from the R300 to R400 she earns from the sale of vegetables after she has fed her family.

Subsidy

It is all done without Government subsidy.

Operation Hunger teaches people to become economically viable

At Jane Furse, Mohlala and her colleagues were each allocated about a hundred 2 000sqm plots to launch their market-garden operations.

As part of the organisation's aim to teach self-sufficiency on its 800 community gardens countrywide, the project started at the bottom.

The women were taught by Mr Johann Rissik to construct concrete furrows to irrigate by hand pumps - which

they could repair themselves - from one of the 100 boreholes sunk by Operation Hunger in the area.

They enclosed their gardens with fencing produced by two local women, watered their plots with cans devised by Mr George Makunyane and transformed their surplus spinach into a cash crop by preserving patties in locally built solar driers.

The multi-purpose leucaena leucocephala, a plant similar to an acacia, was grown between the beds as a substitute for expensive shade cloth

After 18 months they stripped the side-branches of the fast-growing trees for firewood and used the leaves for animal fodder Rissik said the aim was to plant 500 000 of the trees a year

Once the vegetable gardens had been established, the focus moved to the lack of protein and dairy products in people's diets.

Meat was virtually unheard of in diets in that part of the country, but two pregnant nannie goats imported from Operation Hunger's centre in Namaqualand set the ball rolling, providing slaughter stock and milk.

Chickens were expensive to feed, so they settled for rabbits, which eat vegetable matter and provide a meal-in-a-pot

Today the people in the valley below the 70 hectares donated by the Anglican Church, and assisted by the Donaldson Trust, buy bricks from the brick-making group at the resource centre and sell their handwork through Operation Hunger outlets.

It is hardly life in the fast lane, but it is a minor miracle. People have had their pride restored, their stomachs filled and their pockets lined through their own efforts - Sowetan Correspondent.

2m in SA face starvation — prof

Staff Reporter

CT 19/6/91

HALF the population of the country is living in a state of poverty and two million South Africans are facing starvation, industrial sociologist Professor Duncan Innes said yesterday

Motivating his argument in favour of black empowerment as an affirmative action that would encourage economic growth in the new South Africa, Prof Innes said it would take "many decades" of training and created opportunities to bridge the gap between black and white wealth, which had reached "crisis proportions"

"Affirmative action is the alter ego of discrimination. Just as black unions demand an end to racial discrimination, so will they demand affirmative action and black advancement programmes within the firm," he said

Prof Innes was addressing the Innes Labour Brief in a city hotel yesterday

The wolf is at the door in the Free State

By SOPHIE TEMA

CP Press
23/6/91

AS recession continues to bite, more black families face the haunting spectre of poverty.

In many villages, particularly in the Orange Free State, Operation Hunger has become the last hope for many starving families who live off rubbish dumps

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman this week announced the establishment of 12 new soup kitchens in several areas in the Free State to feed 38 940 people

The areas are Theunissen, Ficksburg, Steynsrus, Excelsior, Tweespruit, Bethlehem, Dealesville, Hob-

house, De Wetsdorp, Wepenet, Laidybrand and Fouriesburg

Previously, 21 715 people in the Free State were fed at soup kitchens while 32 130 were fed through family feeding schemes.

A City Press investigation showed that in most of these villages the heads of families were unemployed after being retrenched from nearby farms

Anna Bodibe lives several kilometres from Botshabelo in a dilapidated mud house.

She and her husband T who has since died - worked as farmhands for a white farmer in Verkeerdelei, near Thaba' Nchu

Four years ago they were ordered off the farm and told by the owner to fend for themselves as he could no longer keep them on his premises.

"We moved to where we are now and found this mud house

"After almost two years the owner showed up one day and wanted to know how we came to be there

"We told him how we got here. He felt pity for us and allowed us to stay on condition we did not invite other people to move in with us.

"I am not working and my husband was also not working when he died. He left me in poverty.

"Now winter is here again, and for me this means bitterly cold nights

and going to bed hungry most of the time.

"Jobs are difficult to find and I live by searching for food on the rubbish heaps."

I asked Bodibe to take me to one of the heaps, where I found several women and children jostling with goats for scrap food

The women, children and goats were all ying for discarded chicken pieces, dumped on the heap by nearby chicken factories.

While the goats chomped away at pieces of plastic and paper, the women bundle them up, saying they were for making fire to cook their evening meals.

GROUP-based lending schemes, with democratic control by the community, feature strongly in the Independent Development Trust's funding of shelter for the poor.

The schemes are proposed in a draft document outlining the lending criteria of IDT subsidiary the Independent Development Trust Finance Corporation (IDTFC).

The draft document, drawn up by the IDT's Franz Pretorius, disclosed that the AECI Pension Fund, Fedlife, Metropolitan Life, the Mine Officials' Pension Fund, Old Mutual, Sanlam, Southern Life and Syfrets Managed Assets have invested in the R120m issue of Collateralised Housing Investment Paper (Chips).

Group schemes are seen as offering two particular advantages over more conventional methods. Firstly, individuals with low incomes normally do not qualify for the traditional forms of loan finance.

Secondly, group pressure, similar to that which operates in stokvels, is expected to ensure that each member repays the loan. Group pressure is brought to bear on stokvel members in that they are expected to attend meetings and contribute to the pool of funds.

Other group schemes such as the Cape Town-based Group Credit Organisation, which has as yet had no bad debt experience — have found that the failure to pay debt is a sufficiently great source of embarrassment in the community to ensure that loans get paid.

In a speech last week, IDT chairman Jan Steyn stressed the need for local community-level involvement in development projects. He suggested that development pacts involving "the very local level leadership" of competing factions might have a role to play in working for peace.

The democratic thrust of the scheme is evident in the requirement that the ultimate decision-making structures of the group credit organisations (GCOs) which will administer IDTFC loans, must be representative of the communities and groups it serves, and must have borrower representation.

"Here the emphasis is on the legitimisation of the GCO as a dedicated financing resource owned by bor-

group, and that the maximum loan period be five years.

Borrower groups must demonstrate cohesion and stability before loan advances can be made. A minimum of 10 members per group and a maximum of 20 is recommended.

The document distinguishes between emergent GCOs and those with proven track records.

In the case of the latter, lending will be on an unsecured, direct basis except for the outright cession of a GCO's loan book and a pledge of its deposits. For emerging GCOs, the IDTFC will jointly manage the organisations for a short while.

To be eligible for IDTFC finance, a GCO will have to have acceptable levels of profitability and be able to completely recover its operating costs. The IDTFC will not prescribe the lending rate applied by GCOs and will encourage competition among the various organisations.

The document proposes a performance bonus — to be paid for from a GCO's reserves — for each

IDT promotes 'group loans'

LINDA ENSOR
in Cape Town

rowers for the benefit of borrowers and not serving any other interests," the document states.

Also, the group is responsible for vetting borrowers within each group, a GCO's role being to inform group members of its borrowers' eligibility criteria.

A fundamental condition of IDTFC financial support to a GCO is that group collateralisation must form the basis of the GCO's loan finance. It is proposed that each group of borrowers be required to make a minimum 10% deposit towards loans to be advanced which a GCO must then pledge to the IDTFC. The document recommends that an initial credit limit of 30% of the maximum loan amount per individual member be set by a GCO for each

borrower group which repays its loan, saying that the "unproven aspect of this initiative remains the unwillingness of borrowers to repay once loans have been fully disbursed. It remains essential that incentives be created to entice borrowers to service their obligations to the GCOs."

As an incentive for GCOs which have demonstrated a high level of debt recovery and management of arrears, it is proposed that the IDTFC will offer an incentive in the form of a reduction in the cost of borrowing in respect of its overall debtor book.

The appointment of an independent ombudsman to protect consumers is recommended.

To raise finance from the private sector for its housing initiative, the IDTFC issued R120m in April in the form of Chips with a seven-year term as a first tranche under a private placement of R500m to institutional investors. This paper is partly underwritten through the provision of collateral security in the form of an asset-based guarantee of R46,6m.

Also, there is a cession to investors of up to 10% of loans advanced to financial intermediaries by the IDTFC and cash deposits held by it

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25/6/91

LETTERS

Debt relief for poorest nations

Sowetan 27/6/91. (241) (AP)

LONDON - Western nations will announce a R42 billion debt relief programme for the world's poorest countries at next month's economic summit in London, the *Guardian* newspaper reported yesterday.

It said the scale and timing of the programme were regarded as a breakthrough in attempts to co-ordinate Western aid to sub-Saharan Africa, seriously hit by drought and famine.

The deal could be seen as a diplomatic coup for Prime Minister John Major, who launched the idea last year when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, the paper said. Britain is host for the annual summit of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations, beginning on July 15.

The *Guardian* said Major called for the doubling of official debt relief, stretching repayment periods to 25 years and conceding a five-year grace period during which low-income nations would not have to pay either interest or principal on borrowings. Sapa-Reuter

Don't ignore the poor

2491
Sowetan
28/6/91

SOMETHING can be done to help the needy this winter.

All you have to do to keep the less fortunate warm is donate either cash or clothing to see them through the cold days and nights.

Remember, it could be you.

Keep in mind, as winter gets colder, our Winter Warmth campaign in co-operation with the OK and Radio Metro.

At all the OK branches listed below baskets are provided for you to make donations to those not as lucky as you are this winter, those too poor to be able to afford to keep warm or even feed themselves.



All contributions are welcome, from blankets to cash.

And you can be sure that what you give will find its way to where it is most needed.

The OK branches which are part of the campaign are those at Brits, Cresta, Eloff Street, Hillbrow, Kempton Park, Pretoria North, Randburg, Randfontein, Rosebank, Rustenburg, Sunnyside, Van der Walt Street, Village Court, Alberton City, Brakpan, Carletonville, Germiston, Westgate, Klerksdorp, Krugersdorp, New Sasolburg, Palm Springs, Potchefstroom, Roodepoort, Southdale, Southgate, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging, Bloemfontein, Kroonstad and New Welkom.

More whites lining up for food

Star 2/7/91
By Helen Grange

As the economic recession continues to bite into individual budgets, an increasing number of formerly independent people are finding themselves joining charity feeding-queues

Charity organisations have expressed concern at the level of poverty now beginning to affect people who were previously wage-earners in the lower-income brackets

Salvation Army assistant public relations secretary Captain Barry Schwartz said there was a definite increase in "middle-class people" resorting to Salvation Army centres in the Witwatersrand

Inflation and unemployment were forcing people to become dependent on charity.

"We are starting to cater for people who have been forced out of their homes because they simply can't keep up with payments — people who had credit facilities and were able to sustain a financially independent lifestyle," said Captain Schwartz.

The situation was reminiscent of the economic crisis five years ago, when sanctions were first imposed and workers were losing jobs on a large scale, he said

Whites looking for shelter at Salvation Army centres were, however, in a better position than blacks, whose main need was food and clothing

Operation Hunger head Ina Perlman has said the number of whites joining food queues has increased by 100 percent in Pretoria and about 60 percent in Johannesburg

However, the highest demand came from black squatters near urban areas

"The appeals are pouring in. In March, we budgeted for 50 000 in the Free State. We have had to add 38 000, and this is not the end

"People are destitute," said Mrs Perlman

If maize meal were taxed, about 20 percent more people would be thrown below basic survival standards, she added

"In Botshabelo, near Bloemfontein, we discovered that between 70 and 80 percent of people's earnings is spent on maize meal. Milk, eggs and even bread are luxuries"

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund and Educational Trust approved grants of R56,7-million for community development last year, according to a newspaper report this week. (200) (241) Wilman 5/7-11/7/91.

The report said 50 percent went to secondary and tertiary education while a further 13 percent was committed to primary education.

(241) ②
**Hunger soars
in SA, warns
relief agency**

By Dan 10/3/79
MALNUTRITION among SA blacks had risen sharply because of the country's economic slowdown, Operation Hunger's Ina Perlman said yesterday.

Perlman, director of the relief agency, told a news conference Operation Hunger expected 2-million blacks to seek emergency food aid this year, compared with 1.6-million last year. The total black population is around 35-million.

Unless Operation Hunger could raise R21.7m this year, SA faced a major tragedy, she said.

"Every gold miner who is laid off has an average of nine dependants. So the 27 000 miners laid off last year means 240 000 extra people to feed," she said.

Operation Hunger, set up 10 years ago to provide food and development aid through private funding, estimates only 8% of rural blacks are self-sufficient. The rest depend on money remitted by wage-earners in the cities.

"Every day brings new appeals and frightening stories," Perlman said.

She said 26% of all black deaths were children under the age of five, mostly of malnutrition.

One hospital in KwaZulu had reported a 400% increase in malnutrition cases last year, Perlman said.

Star 10/7/91

Operation Hunger faces crisis

By Louise Burgers (24)

Within the next couple of months, up to 2 million people in South Africa could need assistance with feeding — the most in Operation Hunger's 10-year history, director Ina Perlman warned yesterday

Speaking at the launch of Gold Rush 11, Mrs Perlman blamed high unemployment and the retrenchment of almost 30 000 mineworkers last year as reasons for the increase in poverty.

The organisation had already exceeded its feeding budget, compiled in March, by 20 percent in most areas
Mrs Perlman said she had

had to instruct her staff that no new appeals could be accepted until Operation Hunger had greater financial security.

Mrs Perlman said she had urged the Ministers of Finance and of Health and Welfare to become personally involved in the situation

The organisation had set up 1 400 very successful self-help projects.

With Gold Rush 11, sponsored by First National Bank, there will be a free ticket with every R10 ticket bought.

The latest competition will culminate at Turffontein race course on November 30, at the FNB 1 600 m sprint

THE R2bn allocated to Jan Steyn's Independent Development Trust (IDT) last year for the removal of socio-economic backlogs and upliftment of people disadvantaged by apartheid is a fraction of the amount needed to address SA's developmental needs. How far can it stretch?

When Steyn launched the IDT he stressed that the funds would be used as levers to mobilise additional funding rather than handouts, to ensure that the process was sustainable and replicable on a large scale. The trust would give its recipients fishing rods and instructions on how to use them, rather than baskets of fish — to borrow an old metaphor.

But these kinds of visions are not planned in a day, and the delay in publishing a shopping list exposed the IDT to the scrutiny of taxpayers, who were hardened by years of imprudent government spending, and potential recipients who were understandably suspicious of the motives and efficacy of state-funded aid.

But Steyn stood his ground. He insisted, firstly, that he was his own man, not his donors' or the ANC's for that matter and, secondly, that every investment would be preceded by painstaking research and wide consultation, and that it yielded the best possible return.

A portion of the funds would be issued in the form of loans which could be recycled, the bulk would be given out in the form of grants which would give impoverished people and communities a stake in the economy through land ownership, leaseback infrastructure, skills and jobs. The rest would be used as leverage for more funds from both public and private sectors.

It was clear from the start that Steyn had set the trust a dual task to establish the framework for an acceptable and economically sustainable developmental process and to unlock the massive funds of the "First World" economy and channel them — at an acceptable rate of return — into the reconstruction and development of the "Third World" economy.

It is almost a year since the IDT took transfer of the R2bn. Since then, R1.5bn has been allocated, while only R200m has been disbursed. Under

Steyn's trust will not be too hasty in spending billions

By Peter 11/7/91

LESLEY LAMBERT in Cape Town

professional management, the funds are earning about R1m a day in interest, which means they have attracted an additional R300m plus. It will take another two years to spend the full amount which means it will be some time before there is conclusive evidence that it is achieving its goals.

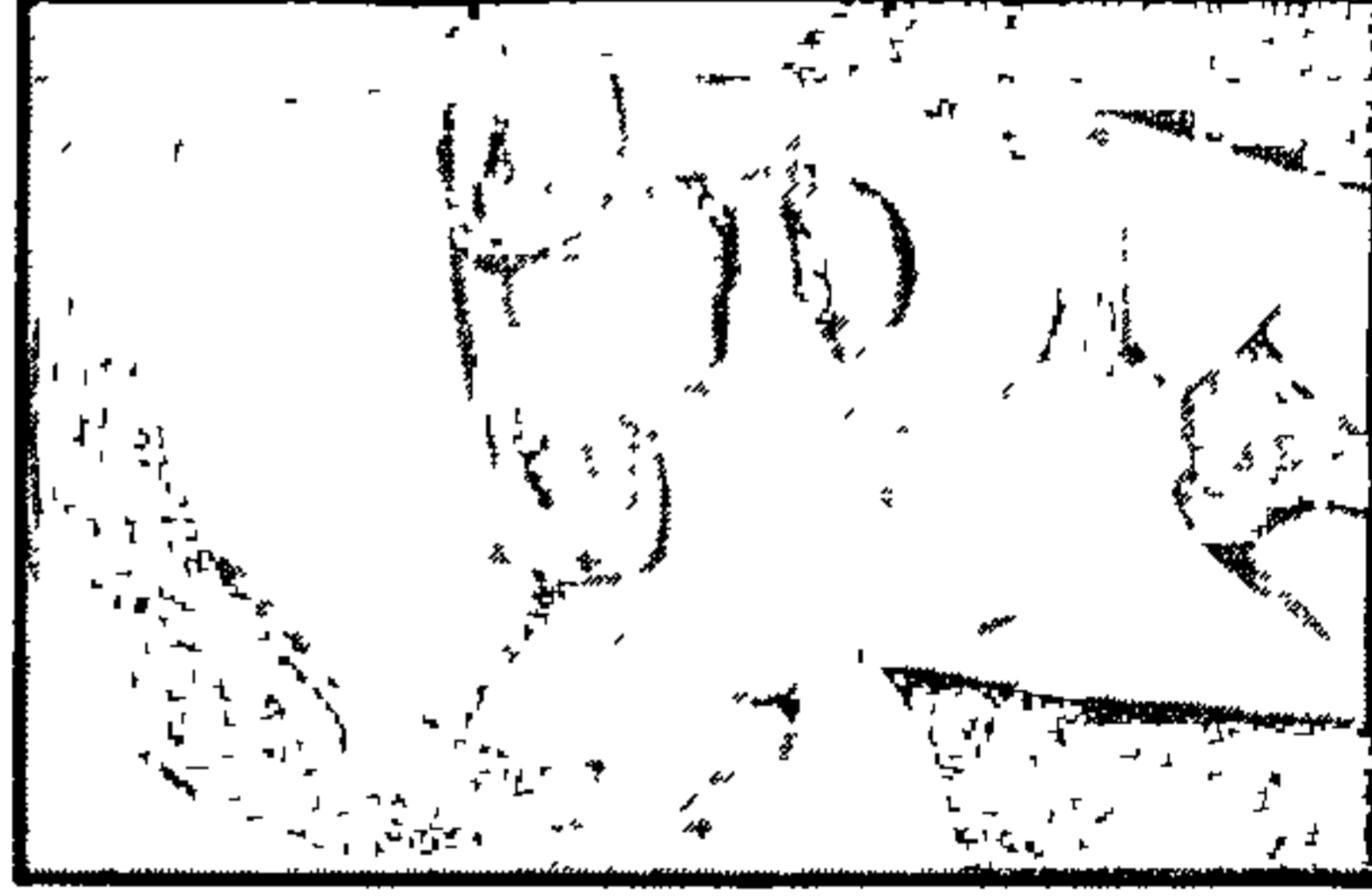
The trust aims to uplift the poorest of the poor. Its main priorities are housing, education and health which receive 45%, 30% and 20% of the funds, respectively.

Two projects form the hard core of the investment portfolio: the R750m capital subsidy scheme for 100 000 serviced sites which would provide shelter for about 750 000 people later this year, and the R300m programme to build 50 000 primary school classrooms over the next three or four years.

For the provision of low-cost homes and serviced sites, the IDT has allocated R70m to the Urban Foundation and funded a joint housing agency with the foundation's approved projects to provide bulk services in areas identified for residential development. In an effort to reconstruct violence-torn areas in Natal and the Transvaal, it has made provision for the upgrading of squatter camps and conversion of township hostels into housing units.

Education projects are based on a policy of reconstruction rather than renewal. They range from the upgrading and expansion of pre-school

facilities, for 1.2-million of the estimated 3.5-million impoverished young children in SA to the improvement of teaching skills. Large amounts have been allocated for building new classrooms and rebuilding schools destroyed in unrest, and the trust has backed numerous projects emphasising literacy, the upgrading of maths and science skills in high schools and the funding of university education. It recently



□ STEYN

approved a R42m loan to finance 15 000 small sugar cane growers.

Health projects, many of which are yet to be announced, focus largely on primary health care and preventative medicine.

Underpinning these are national strategies, backed up by developmental and financial agencies which will co-ordinate, sustain and perpetuate the projects. A range of disparate organisations recently agreed on a national pre-school education strategy to ensure effective management of the IDT's R70m campaign. The housing agency will provide the bulk serviced sites funded by the subsidy scheme, while a system of back-up loans and financial guarantees will hopefully attract investment funds from financial institutions and the private sector in general.

The trust's lifespan is uncertain. When it was established last year, Steyn was appointed chairman for a three-year term. Some of the projects approved so far extend to five years which implies the need for an administrative and monitoring function beyond three years.

But if it is to be more than just a transitional agency used to get the process going, it will have to convince future donors that its efforts are actually making a difference.

No provision was made in the last Budget for additional state funding. There have been no obvious signals from other potential donors although IDT spokesman Jolyon Nuttall says there have been "encouraging noises

from foreign banks and governments in the EC, US and Eastern bloc, while the SA government is obviously waiting to see how well we handle the first R2bn."

Nuttall says the IDT's most valuable contribution, at a macro level, is as a creative pressure group. It has made important breakthroughs in its negotiations with communities and political and professional groups involved in the projects it is backing.

The most notable are agreements in which the ANC and Inkatha have undertaken to co-operate in initiating and implementing non-partisan reconstruction programmes in areas devastated by violence.

IDT trustees, all heavyweights in their areas of specialisation, have the difficult task of creating education and health models on the eve of negotiations for national policies. But, they point out, their models are the result of wide consultation.

They will be subjected to tough scrutiny. Already the mainstream housing subsidy scheme has been criticised by the World Bank which argues that the grants are too big and will not provide assistance on the scale needed to make a difference.

All of this underscores the need for co-operation between the various participants in the developmental process. There appears to be less agreement, though, on the need for, or composition of, an umbrella body to guide the process.

The IDT's view on the matter is fairly clear. Steyn has supported proposals for co-ordination and the IDT has established joint projects and strong links with agencies such as the Development Bank of Southern Africa and the Urban Foundation.

But it is unlikely that institutions such as these and the Kagiso Trust and Private Sector Initiative, for example, would be happy about merging their operations or reporting to a central authority now or in a new political dispensation.

Most argue that the loss of independence would undermine the credibility earned in individual constituencies. On the other hand, the prospects for formal ties with the ANC and other leading black political movements are strongly linked to the negotiation process and may be forged only once there is agreement on future constitutional and economic policies.

50% / 10 unemployment in
Alexandra, study finds

MORE than half of Alexandra's adult population is unemployed, according to a recent survey.

The survey by the Education for Employment Campaign (EEC) also found that the township's population had risen by about 30% during the past year to 320 000

EEC director Dave Jackson said only one-fifth of Alexandra's children of school-going age were at school.

The remaining 76 000 children were turning to crime

"Many unemployed people, including children, when asked how they survived, replied 'We have to steal - how else do you expect us to live?'" Jackson said

The EEC seeks to train township residents in practical matters and is funded by the Independent Development Trust, local industries and foreign interests, including the European Community (EC)

Jackson said that 90% of Alexandra's population pinned their hopes for the

future on the education of their children. But certificates of education were virtually useless if the holder could not speak English well, he said.

"There are people out there with BSc degrees who are not able to communicate properly in a factory and therefore cannot find jobs," he said

The EEC programme aims to upgrade school facilities, provide training, counselling services and employment facilities for the unemployed and management training for community leaders.

The latter was vital to help defuse tension between rival township political groups, Jackson said

The programme is being set up initially in Alexandra.

The EEC hopes to provide the service in other townships as well.

DARIUS SANAI

Farmworkers victims under law report

SUSAN RUSSELL

THE exclusion of farmworkers from industrial and labour legislation made the law a weapon in the hands of farmers, according to a report published by the Black Sash and the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac).

University of Witwatersrand researcher Lauren Segal, the author of the report, said the relationship between farmers and labourers operated along the lines of a medieval master-serf relationship rather than according to contractual principles.

"With no written obligations to bind him, the farmer is free to dismiss his worker for whatever reason he wishes and to decide on his own terms," she said.

"SA's 1,3-million farmworkers are not legally protected and conditions on some farming operations have revealed that there is no bottom line to how bad such conditions may be under the law."

She said farmworkers were excluded from the Labour Relations Act, the Wages Act, the Unemployment Insurance Act and the Factories Act, and had no right to public holidays, sick pay or leave pay.

There was no legal limit to working hours or any statute compelling farmers to pay overtime and as there was no minimum age for farmworkers, child labour was endemic, she said.

Legislation which could be used against farmworkers included the Illegal Squatters Act, the Trespass Act and the General Law Amendment Act, she said.

Soweto 'gives most support to govt'

GOVERNMENT has a higher level of support in Soweto than any other political formation, according to a survey of township residents' political attitudes

The report, by the University of Witwatersrand's Centre for Policy Studies, found that Soweto residents were "very moderate" and gave government a higher level of support than they did the church, trade unions, the ANC, employers and Azapo

The survey, of 905 township residents across SA, showed 80% of respondents were satisfied with the leadership of De Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela, but in Soweto De Klerk got 20% more support than the ANC.

The ANC would, however, get the votes

of 60% of all township residents nationally in a general election

Civic associations, street committees, the SA Communist Party and Cosatu enjoyed lower levels of identification in Soweto than in other townships

On the East Rand, virtually all political formations had a lower endorsement than elsewhere, except for Inkatha

Inkatha had "overwhelming support" among hostel dwellers, who gave positive ratings to both the state and employers

Most striking about hostel dwellers, the researchers said, was that they rated all other agencies and movements, including the church, relatively poorly

JONATHAN REES

Bookmakers probably have no official status

OPERATION Hunger's executive director, Mrs Ina Perlman, has lashed out at the Government for not consulting welfare organisations in the planning of a major national relief network.

Speaking at the launch of Gold Rush 11, Perlman said although the Government had promised to provide aid to welfare organisations at the beginning of the year, it had not yet consulted or made contact with any of the welfare organisations

"Nobody has asked us whether we would accept State funding. It puzzles one why the people running effective welfare organisations are not being consulted about what we could do to contribute in

Government under fire over welfare relief

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Sowetan
18/7/91

By PEARL MAJOLA

the plans to set up a major national relief network," she said

"I suggest that the Ministers involved (Health and Finance Ministers) must personally intervene and see to it that something is done fast because the next three months are going to be critical.

"They have to move now because the elastic is already at maximum stretch. We are at the limit of what we can manage in terms of funding from the private sector. We are giving a bag of mealie meal where we should give two," she said

Operation Hunger has established 1 400 self-help projects countrywide

in the past 10 years. Presently the organisation is responsible for feeding 1,6 million people of all races

Starving

According to Perlman, this requires the organisation to spend R1,6 million a month to feed the growing number of starving people in this country.

"Everyday brings new

appeals, frightening stories of deterioration in child health, hugely increased malnutrition figures and soul-searing increases in the ultimate finality - child death," she said

Gold Rush 11, sponsored by First National Bank, will culminate at Turffontein Racecourse on November 30 where the FNB 1600m race will determine the instant winner of the R1 million

Gold Rush 10 netted more than R5 million

Tickets cost only R10 and for every ticket bought, First National Bank have pledged to give a free ticket, which increases the holder's chances of winning.

The face of hunger

Starvation and death in Africa's richest country

TWO-YEAR-OLD Mpho Mameela faces death in Africa's richest country because her family has run short of food

The black child's fight for life in a shabby hospital ward is testimony to the yawning disparity in living standards in white-ruled South Africa

Her irritable crying, swollen belly, discoloured ginger hair eye cataract and skin ulcers stem from the malnutrition that affects an estimated three million children in rural areas

Poverty is spreading in the countryside because of redundancies in mines employing rural workers, overcrowding overgrazing, deforestation and general lack of development

Operation Hunger, a private welfare group that feeds 1.6 million people daily and promotes self-help development, estimates three people die of hunger-related disease every hour

Favourite

"The favourite white South African saying is 'But look at the rest of Africa,'" says Operation Hunger director Ina Perlman

"Well, Zimbabwe's and Botswana's infant mortality rates are way better than ours, with nothing like our GNP (Gross National Product)," she says, citing United Nations figures

"In any case why the hell should a black South African look at the rest of Africa? His standards of comparison are right here, and should be right here," Perlman said in an interview

In a country where company directors can earn more than R30 000 a month, 12 million people or almost half the black population earn less than R100 a month needed for a family of five to survive Operation Hunger says

Another two million have no measurable income whatsoever

Witwatersrand University researchers say per capita black income is a tenth that of whites - about the same as it was 70 years ago - or 13 percent if informal earnings are included

The worst poverty is in the 10 tribal homelands where most blacks live. The areas - apartheid creations untouched by recent reforms - are overcrowded dustbowls where families depend on cash from migrant workers in 'white' South Africa

Destitute

Mpho's swelling has eased in the month she has been in Jane Furse village in the Lebowa homeland in the Northern Transvaal

Doctors say she may survive but will be blind in one eye for life and a question mark remains over her mental development

Mpho's mother said she fed her family only maize meal and water after employers sacked her husband and money ran out

Such a starch diet leads to kwashiorkor, or chronic lack of protein, common among the destitute who make up a third of all people fed or aided by Operation Hunger in Lebowa

Fees

A Jane Furse doctor said the hospital treated only the "tip of an iceberg" of malnutrition-linked kwashiorkor, measles, tuberculosis, gastroenteritis and bronchitis as many Lebowans could not afford the nominal registration fees

Around Jane Furse, people live in mud or zinc huts without electricity or sewerage. Water comes from streams or sporadically from communal taps. People burn wood or aloce for energy. Many roads are dust tracks along rain-eroded hills

Operation Hunger field worker Frans Themba estimates 40 percent of the people he helps have no cash in-



PERLMAN Our country is a bloody disgrace

come and 70 percent of adults are unemployed

"Sugar, tea, fruit and vegetables are luxuries and we don't even talk about milk," said Themba

He said many women were abandoned by migrant worker husbands who took second wives in urban areas and ceased remitting money

Over in Schoonoordt, along a bumpy dirt road crevassed by soil erosion, orphans Anna (16), Tiya (11) and Gertrude (8) live in a corrugated iron hut on a windswept hillside where dust from exhausted, overgrazed fields silts up at their door

Listless

Barefoot and listless, they said they lived off maize meal and protein soup delivered monthly by Operation Hunger

In Glen Cowie shantytown, mother of eight Maria Mopotho laughs when asked how often she eats meat

"How can you ask such a question?" she said through a interpreter

"Sometimes I am frustrated because I don't

know what to do to survive," she said. Crippled by asthma, she does not have the energy to try to plant vegetables around her mud hut

"In know life is different in Soweto," she said. "There is meat to eat. People have good clothes. But I would need taxi fare to go there. And without a place to stay and a job it would be worse than here."

Reforms

Asked what she would like from President FW de Klerk's reforms, she replied "I want land and money to work it"

Aid workers estimate a quarter of all deaths in the black community are malnourished children under five

Perlman said that unless aid groups received money to feed two million people by August or September that figure could rise to half. The Western norm is about eight percent.

"It's a bloody disgrace in a country of our wealth," said Perlman. Sapa-Reuters



EMPTY BOWL AND HUNGRY LOOK More than three million children in South Africa's rural areas are affected by malnutrition

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Subsidy for 100 000 poor families

SOME 100 000 low-income families are soon to become land-owners, according to the Independent Development Trust (IDT).

The IDT said yesterday that nearly 100 000 subsidised serviced sites across South Africa would be made available soon, to heads of households earning less than R1 000 a month.

"At a special meeting in Cape Town, the trustees of the Independent Development Trust gave approval in principle to 108 applications involving 99 800 sites," a statement said.

"This decision will enable poor people to acquire ownership of a serviced stand to which an Independent Development Trust subsidy of R7 500 will be attached. However, conditions on which these approvals are to be based will still have to be negotiated with the successful applicants."

Because of the potential for disputes in the event of these conditions not being met and an application failing, specific details of approved projects would be made public only when contracts were signed.

Apart from the income ceiling, those who would qualify to acquire

the land must be over 21, have dependants living with them, be first-time property owners and receive no other housing subsidy, it said.

"A massive exercise unique of its kind in South Africa — was mounted in recent weeks through the deployment of 83 hand-picked consultants across the country to evaluate the applications," the statement said.

"Technical and financial assessments were made to check whether development proposals were implementable, and social assessments done on whether they were desirable.

"The scheme seeks to give very poor people access as fast as possible to the housing process in a way they can afford and in areas which are likely to become economically sustainable communities."

IDT chairman Mr Jan Steyn said, however, that the IDT grants were only a beginning in impacting on the problem of homelessness.

"We must remember that the backlog are enormous. The large numbers of unplanned, spontaneous, informal settlements are the best evidence of this fact. Our present effort will probably address only 10% of the problem."

Mariké SA's case

PRETORIA — The SA President



Door to the promised land about to open for the poor

New plan will benefit 100 000 families in SA

THE DOOR to land-ownership is about to open for some 100 000 low income families in the country, according to the Independent Development Trust.

In a statement yesterday the IDT said nearly 100 000 subsidised serviced sites across the length and breadth of South Africa will become available shortly to heads of households earning less than R1 000 a month

"At a special meeting in Cape Town, the trustees of the Independent Development Trust gave approval in principle to 108 applications involving 99 800 sites," the statement said

"This decision will enable poor people to acquire ownership of a serviced stand to which an Independent Development Trust subsidy of R7 500 will be attached. However, conditions on which these approvals are to be based will still have to be negotiated with the successful applicants."

Disputes

Because of the potential for disputes in the event of these conditions not being met and an application failing, specific details of approved projects would be made public only when contracts were signed.

"The allocations consume all but a tiny residue of the R750 million earmarked by the IDT for the capital subsidy scheme," the statement said

Apart from the income ceiling, those who will qualify to acquire the land must be over 21, have dependents living with them, be first time property owners and receive no other housing subsidy, it said

A total of 66 percent of the applications were linked to city en-

vironments and 34 percent to smaller towns

Some 65 percent were new sites and service projects, while the balance involved the upgrading of existing informal settlements.

Of the 108 developers, 37 percent were public authorities (including parastatals), 34 percent were community trusts, 20 percent were utility companies and nine percent were private developers

In all, 404 applications involving 640 000 sites were submitted by land developers to the IDT

Evaluate

"A massive exercise - unique in South Africa - was mounted in recent weeks through the deployment of 83 handpicked consultants across the country to evaluate the applications. Technical and financial assessments were made to check whether development proposals were implementable and social assessments done on whether they were desirable"

The project is headed by the IDT's director of housing, Mr Ben van der Ross, who appointed two co-ordinating consultants to work with a network of experts all over South Africa

"The scheme seeks to give very poor people access as fast as possible to the housing process in a way they can afford and in areas which are likely to become economically sustainable communities."

The chairman of the IDT, Mr Jan Steyn, in releasing details of the initiative, said that because the need to relieve the country's acute housing problem was so great,

"we have had to move with almost abnormal speed in implementing our capital subsidy scheme," according to the statement

"An extraordinary process had to be developed in order to apply the criteria which we set while still achieving our objectives within such a narrow timeframe," he said.

He emphasised however, that this was only a beginning in impacting on the problem of homelessness.

"We must remember that the backlogs are enormous. The large numbers of unplanned, spontaneous, informal settlements are the best evidence of this fact. Our present effort will probably address only 10 percent of the problem. An ongoing sustained process is essential to resolve the issue."

The statement said the consultants entered into a painstaking process of talking to a wide cross-section of the communities from which applications had come

Strategy

"The consultants also interacted with the applicants themselves. They will be advised of the outcome in writing within a week"

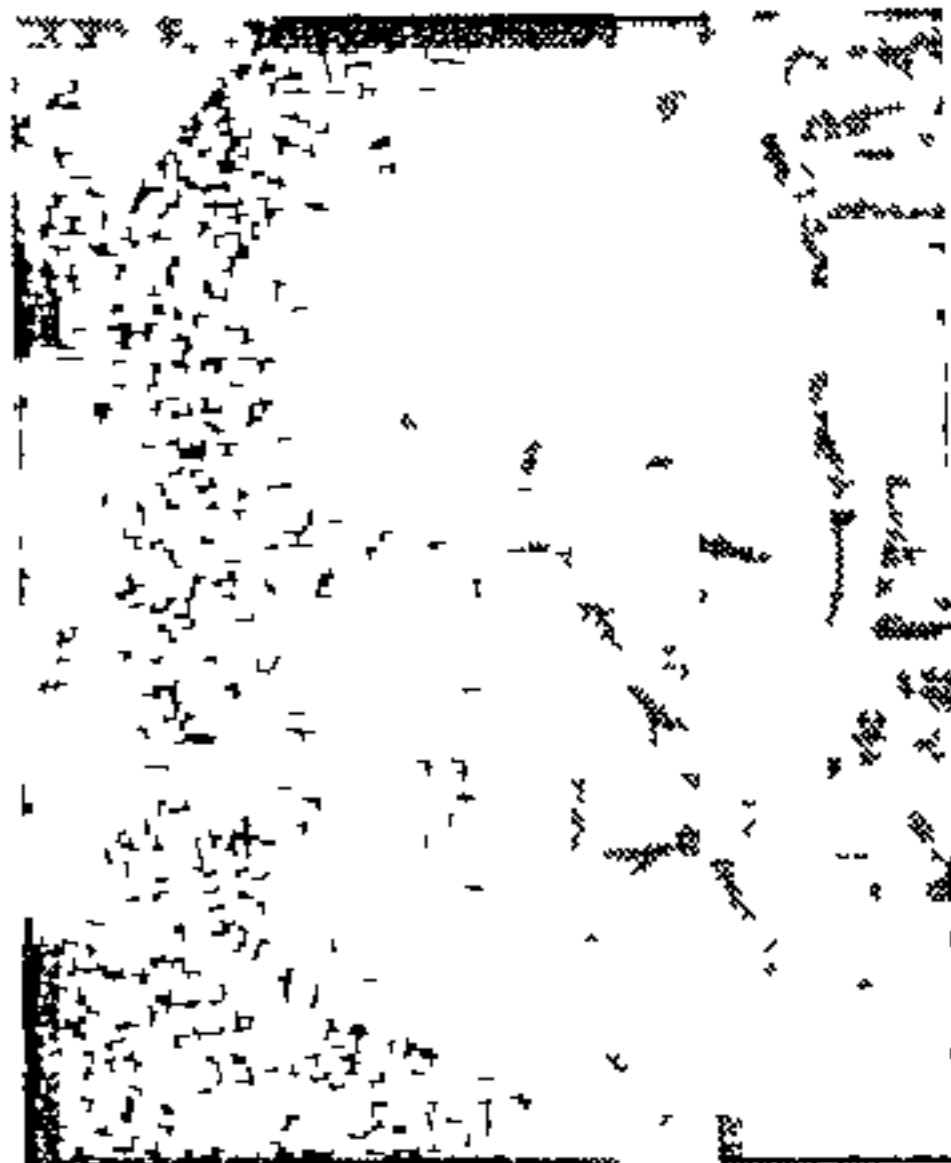
Applications approved in principle would now be subjected, among others, to the following assessments before final endorsement was given

* A projected programme of activity in completing the development;

* Details of a monitoring process to be applied to that programme,

* The developer's policy in allocating sites to individuals,

* A commitment to community involvement,



JAN STEYN

* An agreed strategy for advising the public and potential beneficiaries that subsidies have been granted

The process of allocating R750 million had already had positive spinoffs in the housing field, according to Van der Ross

"Many actors have been attracted into the process through the opportunity to gain access to our resources," he said on Saturday. This must increase the country's capacity to deliver suitable and affordable housing projects to the very poor.

"Secondly, the limits we set have compelled many proposers - both the authorities and communities - to accept the inevitability of lower standards

"Thirdly, we know of many instances where previously hostile communities and authorities have co-operated in developing proposals.

"Also, our criteria have forced many developers to come to grips with the concept of community participation for the first time. Thus, even where applications are unsuccessful, we feel that this experience will influence them positively in future," Van der Ross said - Sapa

White cash to aid the poor 'a myth' (24)

Star 23/1/91
The uncomfortable reality for those who believe poverty can be relieved by a redistribution of wealth is that the "haves" simply don't have enough to improve the standard of living of the millions of "have-nots", according to Market Research Africa's 1990 Sociomonitor

Its survey shows that about 20 percent of South Africa's urban white population have a net worth of less than R10 000. And more than half the white population have net assets of under R100 000.

MRA chairman Clive Corder said "The reality which has to be faced by those politicians who believe they can relieve the poverty of their supporters by a redistribution of wealth is that South Africa is a relatively poor country."

"But a fair proportion of the population are extremely materialistic and like to display their well-being, even though their cars, houses and boats are not their own."

"This leads to the impression that all whites are well-off" — Sapa.

Ex-chief minister joins trust to aid very poor

Argus 24/7/91

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Political Staff

MR Enos Mabuza, former chief minister of KaNgwane, and Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, principal of the University of Transkei, have been appointed additional executive directors of the Independent Development Trust

Their appointments bring the number of IDT executive directors to eight. The trust administers the R2 billion given by the government last year to address the plight of the very poor

Mr Mabuza, a business consultant, will join the IDT in August and will be based in Johannesburg

IDT chairman Mr Jan Steyn said "We shall be seeking to benefit from Mr Mabuza's considerable experience, judgment and knowledge in many fields which are relevant to the work of the IDT"

Professor Nkuhlu, already an IDT trustee, will spend a year's sabbatical from the university, starting in January next year, to work as executive director of project development

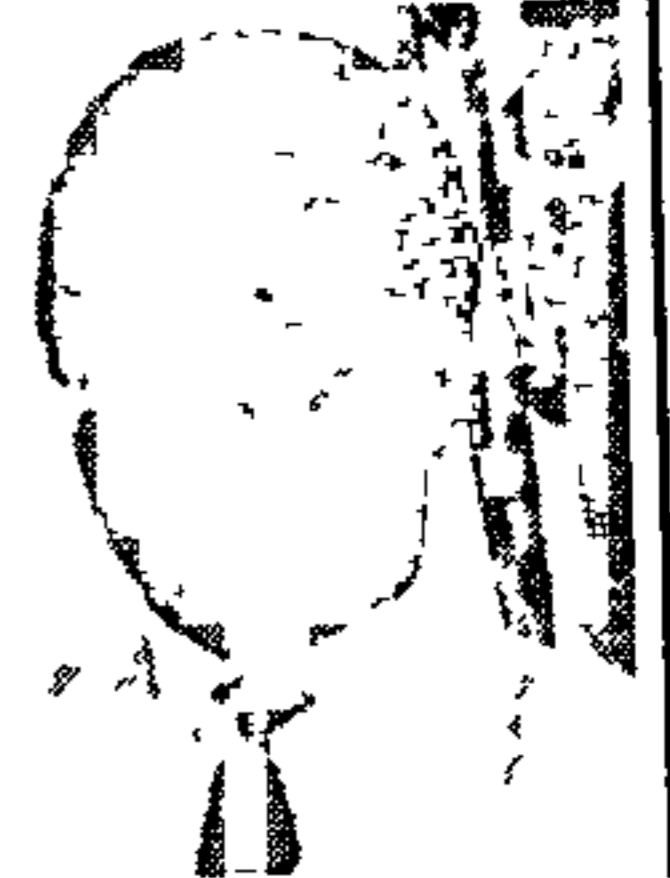
He will work in the education portfolio in the planning and evolution of a national community learning centre programme with special responsibility for implementing community trusts

Professor Nkuhlu will also be involved with the IDT's health portfolio in the planning and evolution of a national clinic-building programme which will have links with the school-building project

The first black chartered accountant in South Africa, Professor Nkuhlu worked at the Loraine Gold Mines from 1965 to 1967



Mr Mabuza



Professor Nkuhlu

C

Poverty blamed

CIPRES 28/7/91

for family death craze



SURVIVOR... Jeremiah Makola escaped the burning frenzy.

By ELIAS MALULEKE

IS Odi bewitched?

Or is stress and poverty to blame for spouses and lovers burning each other - and those close to them - to a cinder

This is the big question posed by residents of the Bophuthatswana area following the alarming trend

The deeper tragedy, however, is that most of the victims of this family madness are children

Inyangas have shied away from answering the question for fear of being accused of being a witch and torched

Most of the victims have been reduced to ashes after relatives showered paraffin on them or their homes before striking a light

Three people died in this terrible manner this week in GaRankuwa, bringing the number to six since the beginning of the month and 10 since June

Eight children and four adults are known to have died after being set alight during family disputes. One child was just a month old

Areas affected include GaRankuwa, Mabopane and Boukenhout

Bophuthatswana police liaison officer Col Dave George said a family quarrel apparently led to the killing of three children this week

He said a lovers' tiff led a man to pour inflammable liquid over an outbuilding of his in-laws in GaRankuwa and set it alight

"The adults managed to escape, but three children were trapped in the

house and burnt to death," he said

The orgy of death started when the wife and child of a Mabopane businessman were burnt to death in his four-roomed house in stand No 2413, Block B, Mabopane

It has not yet been established how the two died and police are still investigating

Then Sana Maluleka had a row with her husband and let him go to bed before she poured paraffin over him and their two-year-old child and set them and herself ablaze in their wooden shack in Boukenhout

In the same month and not far from her home, the son of a landlord allegedly poured a bucketful of paraffin over the year-old child of a tenant and burned him to death

In early July, three people died in a shack on stand No 3277 after Phillip Mahlangu went berserk with rage and set his backyard room alight

Minutes before that, the 32-year-old hawker displayed indescribable cruelty when he repeatedly battered his beloved two-year-old toddler Lebogang and month-old infant Thoko

Jeremiah Makola luckily escaped one of the attacks, but his shack was razed

"A senior police officer in Odi said there were indications that lovers' betrayals were to blame

But why take it out on the kids?

Social worker Tebogo Sompane said stress, the high rate of unemployment and jealousy were the major factors



We don't like double-speak!

ON THE MARCH... Johannesburg city centre came alive this week when close to 20 000 railway workers marched to Transnet headquarters to protest against the management...

NEWS

Big fundraising project for poor sets R6-m target

By Stan Hlophe

One of the biggest fundraising projects yet undertaken in the country, with a target of R6 million, was launched in Johannesburg last night.

Millionex 5 chairman Abe Krok said that at a time when South Africa was going through dynamic changes, it was opportune to launch a massive project in view of the alarming crisis in welfare.

Mr Krok praised the community and the media, both of which he said had played a major role in making Millionex successful.

He said the Government could not keep up with the demands of the needy and urged the private sector to play a greater role in uplifting the underprivileged.

Mr Krok said the need for the Millionex project was more important than ever and, with more than R3 million to be donated, it was a worthy cause.

He said prize money would be more than R2,3 million with a first prize of R1 million.

He was optimistic that

Millionex could reach a target of R10 million in spite of the recession

Other prizes would include a trip to Rio de Janeiro and two motor cars. The draw will take place in November.

The Star's assistant general manager, Peter Sullivan, expressed his gratitude for the role played by Millionex in alleviating the plight of the needy over the past five years.

Mr Sullivan said The Argus Group and The Star in particular had supported the project because it benefited the community.

Radio 702 promotions manager Rick Emden said the project had become part of the life of his radio station and urged the media to help promote the cause.

Beneficiaries of Millionex 5 will include welfare organisations, community organisations, educational and church bodies.

Another feature of the project is the facility whereby shareholders can nominate an additional beneficiary.

This will ensure the optimum spread of Millionex funds to as many worthy causes as possible.

Star 1/8/91
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HAVING A BALL ... It's hard to believe UCT student Norma Mduke was cavorting around in her swimsuit in this weather, but we thought you needed a reminder of summer. ■ Pic: FANIE JASON

Despair ends a life

CP Correspondent

POVERTY and false promises by a man led a young mother-of-four to kill her youngest baby and bury the corpse in the sand, the Venda Supreme Court heard this week.

In the dock before judge JC van der Waltd, Khensani Gladys Musimeki, 21, of Dazhana village pleaded guilty to murdering her eight-month-old, Nkhetheni, on March 6, 1989.

Moseneki told the court she was working at a tea plantation, earning R90 a month. Of the amount, R40 went towards a babysitter.

She said the child's father Daniel Negota had promised her "heaven and earth" while she was pregnant. After she had delivered, he took to the hills

and never supported the baby.

She told the court that she had met Negota on the day of the incident

She had asked him for R2 50 to take the baby to her home, but he had refused and a quarrel ensued

She had stopped on her way home and killed the baby while breast feeding him.

Passing judgment, the judge said he understood the circumstances which the accused found herself in, although he did not condone it.

"When a defenseless child who never asked to be brought to this world, is killed by his mother who is supposed to love and protect him, the crime becomes more serious" the judge added

He then handed down a suspended sentence of five years.

'Aid will defuse VAT opposition'

B/day 8/8/91

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SUSAN RUSSELL

SACOB has warned government that unless it provides a R1,2bn aid package to assist the poor with basic foodstuffs after the introduction of VAT, opposition could be such as to threaten the implementation of the new tax.

This follows growing opposition to government's handling of VAT which comes into operation in eight weeks' time. The DP has called for its implementation to be postponed.

Sacob's recommendation of a R1,2bn aid package is contained in a memorandum sent to Finance Minister Barend du Plessis and National Health Minister Rina Venter last week, just days after Cosatu announced it would use mass action to oppose the tax.

"Unless a suitable programme is announced for the alleviation of extreme poverty, the implementation of VAT stands under threat," the memorandum warns.

The business community is concerned that if government does not accept its recommendations, the VAT issue would become politicised and the whole system be derailed.

In its memorandum Sacob said it believed measures should be taken to offset the immediate short-term disadvantage of VAT.

It proposed a food assistance programme be set up, initially in rural areas where the need was greatest. School feeding and food stamp schemes also could be phased in.

The chamber emphasised that the estimated R1,2bn needed would cover an entire fiscal year.

Therefore, launching the pro-

gramme in what remained of the present fiscal year should be possible with the R220m allocated as a "safety net" in the March 1991 Budget.

A reassessment of funding needs would have to be done in 1992/3

Such a scheme "to an extent would defuse some of the opposition that is building up toward VAT", Sacob said

Meanwhile DP leader Zach de Beer reiterated yesterday that while his party supported the introduction of VAT, it felt the rate of 12% was too high. Not enough had been done to alleviate the burden the system would place on the poor, he said.

The Vatwatch organisation is being flooded with calls from the public, reporting suspected cases of misleading advertising and alleged incidents of unwarranted VAT-related price increases, Sapa reports

Vatwatch chairman Prof Louise Tager said on Friday Vatwatch — the independent body set up to monitor the effects of the introduction of VAT — had already referred a number of cases to the Advertising Standards Authority.

In all cases consumers were being encouraged to "buy now, before VAT", implying that prices would rise after September 30. This would be unnecessary for products already carrying GST, as the VAT rate was lower than that of GST.

Tager said some complaints had also been received from business people alleging their suppliers were increasing prices and blaming the imminent introduction of VAT

Sacob offers plan to offset VAT impact

By Sven Lunsche

The SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) has proposed an annual R1,2 billion package to help alleviate the impact of VAT on the poor.

In a memorandum to the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Health Sacob said it was essential that a suitable poverty relief programme was in place before VAT was introduced in October.

"Unless a suitable programme is announced the implementation of VAT stands under threat."

The relief package could be accommodated in the current fiscal year within the R200 million allocated to poverty relief in the Budget. After that about R1,2 billion a year should be set aside.

The need for a safety net for the poor arose largely out of the extension of VAT to food, previously excluded under GST.

Vulnerable

"The fact that the poor spend such a large proportion of their income makes them vulnerable to any setback in their ability to obtain it."

Sacob said it opposed general food price subsidies, such as tax exemptions, as they permitted anyone to benefit from such measures and instead favoured a targeted approach to food aid.

Two specific measures deserved attention in a poverty relief package.

- A food stamp programme targeted initially at the poor in the rural areas, which could embrace some 11,4 million people. If assistance of 25c a day was given it would cost about R1 billion a year.

- A school feeding programme, targeted first at primary schools in the rural area, but then extended to schools in other needy areas. Financing food for a million black primary school children at a cost of 20c a day would entail R160 million a year.

For both programmes, delivery system would have to be devised in conjunction with the communities concerned.

"The announcement of such an assistance scheme would be highly visible and to an extent would defuse some of the opposition that is building up towards VAT," Sacob said.

the ship's sinking was not

and crew were rescued now

the ship was

SA Navy in Muslim mercy mission

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The navy supply ship SAS Drakensberg is delivering relief aid to Bangladesh, Turkey and Sudan

The goods were collected by South African Muslims.

The mission is being seen as a breakthrough and combines diplomacy with mercy

It is possible that on the return leg of the seven-week trip the ship will pay a goodwill visit to Kenya

Details of the mission — which establishes a diplomatic foothold in previously hostile Muslim countries — were embargoed by the De-

partment of Foreign Affairs and the navy until today.

Yesterday the Drakensberg left Chittagong in Bangladesh, after offloading the bulk of the relief material during a triumphant three-day visit.

A South African diplomat said the Drakensberg "was received with full naval honours on arrival in Bangladesh and was given an appreciative farewell".

The Drakensberg is expected to reach the Suez Canal on August 16 on her way to Mersin in Turkey. The Suez passage is a first for a South African Navy ship since World War 2

In Mersin more aid, including four 10-ton lorries and medical supplies, will be handed to help the Red Crescent Society improve the lot of Iraqi Kurds on both sides of the Turkish-Iraqi border.

The Drakensberg then sails back through Suez into the Red Sea and is expected in Port Sudan on August 25. Food, clothing and medicine will be given to famine-stricken Sudan

The Drakensberg left Simon's Town on July 15 for Cape Town where more than 30 tons of food, medical supplies and clothing were loaded. The balance of more than 1 000 tons of relief material

SA Navy in Muslim mercy mission

was loaded in Durban and the Drakensberg headed for Bangladesh

The supplies were collected by the Islamic Relief Agency (Isra), an umbrella body of religious, cultural and welfare organisations. Their effort was sparked by the cyclone in Bangladesh and repeated storms which killed more than 100 000 and left many more homeless, hungry and ill

The mission was the result of weeks of secret negotiations initiated after Dr Imtiaz Sooluman, a national coordinator of Isra, contacted the Department of Foreign Affairs

SA 'relief effort' slammed

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SOUTH African Muslim leaders this week slammed the collaboration between the Islamic Relief Agency (Isra), the South African Navy and the Department of Foreign Affairs in the relief effort to Bangladesh

Sheikh Nazeem Mohamed, president of the Muslim Judicial Council, said while relief aid to Bangladesh was supported, he was appalled by the South African government's attempt to use it for diplomatic gain

The SAS Drakenberg's voyage to Bangladesh, Turkey and North Africa was this week hailed as a "diplomatic

breakthrough" *Sunday 8/8-14/8/91*

Permission for South Africa to pass through the Suez Canal further enhanced the relaxation of relations between Cairo and Pretoria

Dr Rafiq Khan, of Isra's Western Cape office, said he had "a very strong reserve" about the matter. He stressed that Isra in the Western Cape was autonomous from Isra in other parts of the country.

"We distance ourselves totally and completely," he said

He also dismissed reports that more than 30 tons of food, medical supplies

and clothing were given as aid to Bangladesh as a "hopelessly inflated figure".

Khan said it was curious the South African government "only released the news after the ship had left Bangladesh and after the Inkathagate affair"

He said several mosques in Cape Town had boycotted the call by Isra to support the venture

The organiser of Isra's aid programme for Bangladesh, Dr Imtiaz Soolman of Durban, could not be reached for comment

Operation Hunger faces R1m crisis

Monday 16/8/91

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VERA VON LIERES

OPERATION Hunger will have to suspend all feeding operations in September and October unless it raises R1m this month. Executive director Ina Perlman said yesterday the organisation had already exceeded its feeding budget — compiled in March 1991 — by 20% in most areas.

"I have had to instruct my staff that we cannot take on new appeals until we have greater financial security; in other words, assured cash flow in every new area we investigate," she said.

She urged the public to support Operation Hunger to "stave off a potential national tragedy".

Perlman said the organisation was expecting a major German grant by the end of September. Meanwhile it was facing a crisis.

Incidence of clinically diagnosable malnutrition had increased dramatically in the Free State, Natal and KwaZulu, Winterveld and Hammanskraal, the Eastern Cape-Border region, and squatter areas in the PWV area.

In some areas of the Free State between 50% and 80% of people were malnourished.

Giving the poorest some place to live

THE Government announced in 1990 that it would allocate R2 billion to address social inequities.

The areas identified in the Budget for urgent attention were health, housing and education

Recognising that it would not be acceptable if the Government decided how to spend the money Mr Jan Steyn, a former Supreme Court Judge, was invited to establish a trust Under his chairmanship the trust would decide how the money should be spent.

Steyn accepted the invitation but made it clear that the trust must be independent of Government and that, once the money was handed to the trust, the trustees would be responsible for deciding how the money should be spent

In other words, the Government would have no say in how the money was spent

Developers

This condition was accepted by the Government and the funds were transferred to the trust in the middle of 1990

Since then the staff of the Independent Development Trust have been evaluating proposals and deciding how best to use the money at their disposal

Recent announcements detail the decisions they have taken, which involve contributing to more than 100 projects designed to help uplift the poorest in the land

The biggest single allocation is an amount of R750 million for capital subsidies for the provision of serviced sites. This is land bought by a developer,



JOHN WEAVER, chief executive officer of FHA Homes, looks at how the poorest people in the land benefit from a trust set up by the Government.

broken up into small sites with basic services installed and then made available to the public

Once the land is transferred into the name of the purchaser, he or she may erect any form of shelter or proper house What is important is that the site belongs to the purchaser to develop or sell as he or she sees fit

The money set aside by the IDT is to help the very poor buy these sites and this will be accomplished by what they have called the Capital Subsidy Scheme The scheme works as follows:

Developers (such as FHA Homes, local and provincial authorities, community trusts and private developers) find suitable land and then make an application to the IDT for a site-and-service subsidy

If the developer's application is successful, he is required to put up the working capital to buy the land, have it proclaimed as a township, design and provide graded minor access roads and tarred main roads, instal running water and a toilet connected to water-borne sewerage on each site

When these works are complete and sites are transferred to

the name of the new owner, the IDT will pay the developer R7 500 a site This means that the IDT has effectively bought the site on behalf of the individual who takes possession of this serviced piece of land.

Not everyone qualifies to buy these sites To ensure that only the most needy benefit, the IDT has laid down qualifying criteria that require the applicant be

- At least 21 years of age,
- Living with dependents (mother, father, children, etc),
- Not to have been granted any other housing subsidy from the Government,
- Earning less than R1 000 a month, and
- A first-time property owner

Projects

But the IDT has thought beyond simply giving poor people their own sites They also recognise the importance of support and participation by the community in the development of a successful site-and-service scheme Developers therefore have to advise the IDT what they will be doing to ensure that the community is involved in the development and how they will in-

itiate what the IDT calls consolidation

In the words of the IDT "Consolidation is the process of upgrading informal communities in both physical environment and socio-economic terms As consolidation proceeds, housing is upgraded from informal structures, infrastructure services are improved, public and private sector community facilities are provided, commercial enterprises are established, skills of the community are improved, thus facilitating income-generation in the community"

Emergency

The IDT received hundreds of applications from developers after the scheme was announced at the start of 1991 At the end of June 1991 developers were advised by the IDT that their proposals for 108 projects for a total of 99 800 sites had been accepted in principle

The IDT is now formalising agreements between it and the developers so that they each know their rights and responsibilities It is expected that the first serviced sites will become available in the last few months of this year

The IDT capital subsidy scheme should be seen as an emergency measure to provide basic health, safety and security of tenure to the poorest people in our country It is hoped that either the IDT's funds will be topped up by Government to enable more capital subsidies to be provided, or alternatively that Government will change its current subsidy policies to provide capital subsidies on a broader base

A step away from the breadline

Star 14/8/91

BRENDAN TEMPLETON 241

MAJOR cities have a new problem emerging with the dawn of the "new South Africa" — a growing number of poor whites

Pretoria, the capital of Afrikanerdom, has a burgeoning destitute white problem in suburbs in the west and north. Right-wing welfare organisations report that up to 600 families are dependent on their feeding schemes

Johannesburg, the City of Gold, has white unemployed people whose plight has become so desperate that they have turned the rural-urban demographic trend on its head and are now looking to farms for employment — as domestic workers and odd-job men

And the Mother City, Cape Town, this week gave birth to an almost biblical tale of an unemployed white carpenter who has taken to living with squatters because he cannot find work

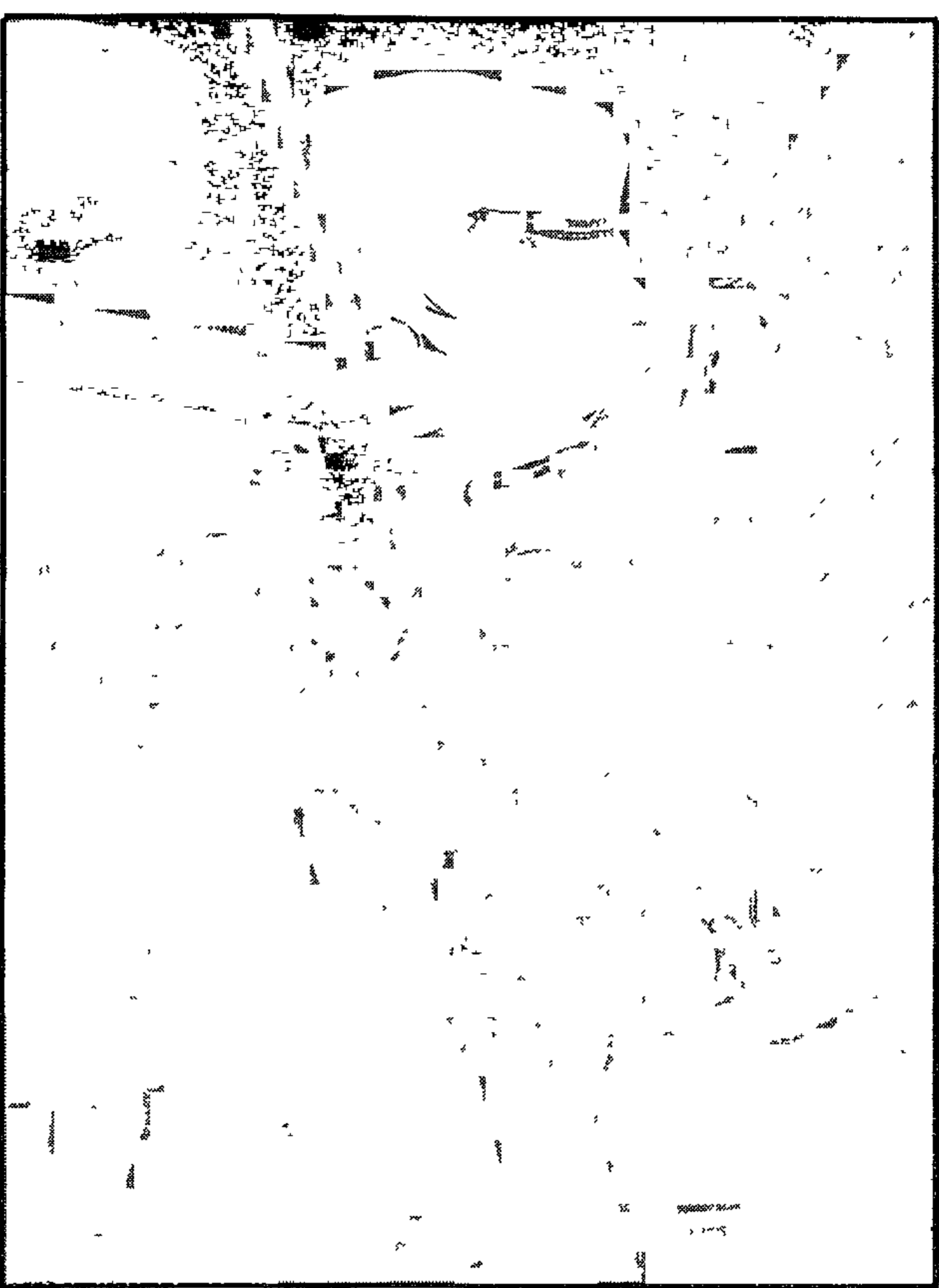
Sharing his problem

According to Sapa, Hendrick Wegewarth turned to the Maroon Beam squatter camp, near Milnerton, outside Cape Town, where he was welcomed with open arms

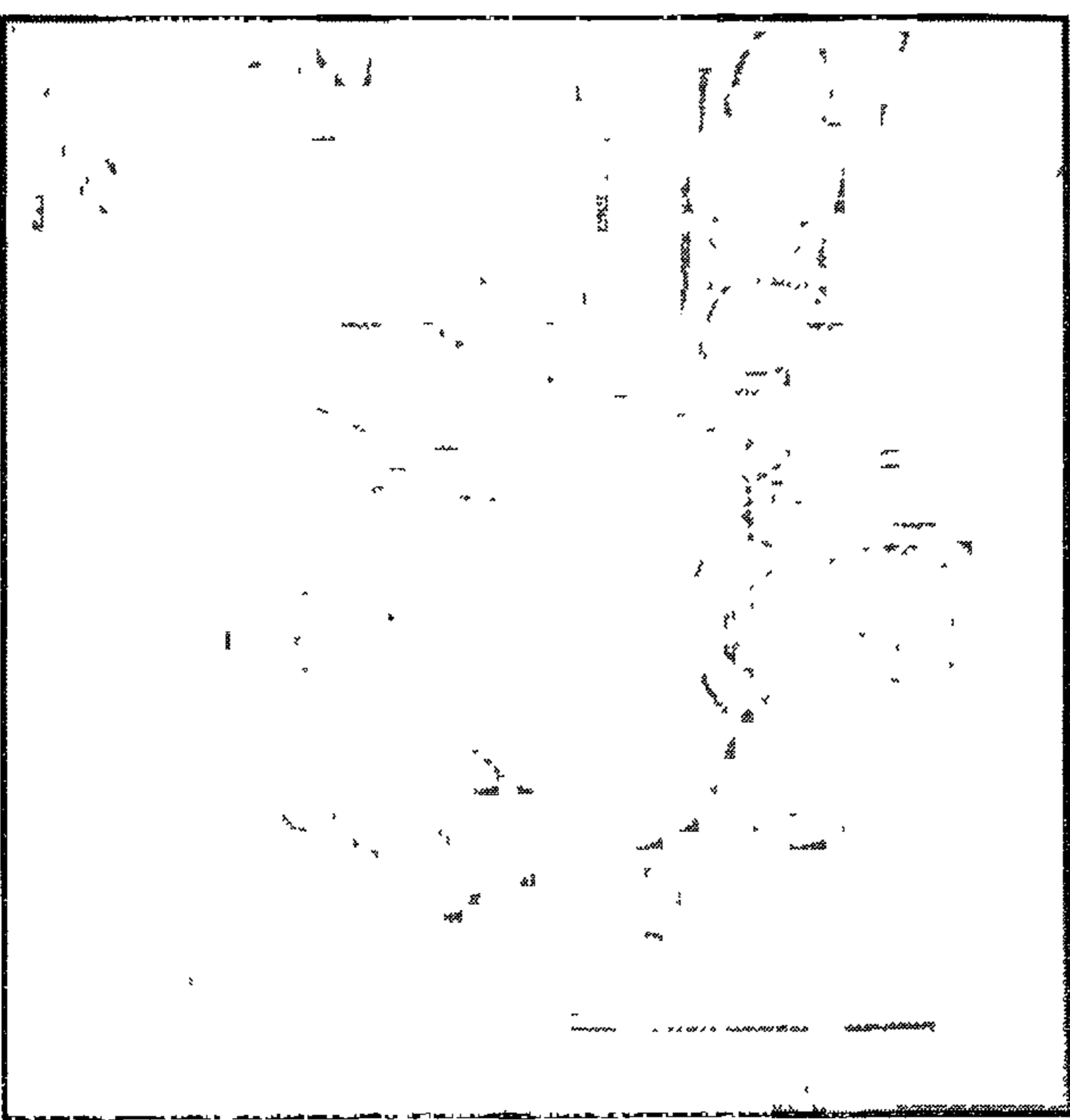
He says his skin colour has made no difference to the community, which has many people sharing his problem — he has been without work for six months and drew his last unemployment cheque on Monday

With nowhere else to go, Mr Wegewarth claims to have settled down to a simple lifestyle surrounded by friends "I don't care what other people say; I live here because I can't afford to live anywhere else," he says

In Pretoria, the poor-white problem has assumed embarrassing proportions. The Saturday Star was directed there by Conservative Party organising secretary Wouter Hoffman with the impassioned plea "Please,



OFF TO THE COUNTRY . . . Michael Plint is looking forward to moving to a farm where his mother Doreen will be a domestic, and his father Victor a handyman ● Photograph: BRENDAN TEMPLETON



NEW SQUATTER Hendrick Wegewarth stands in the wood and plastic shack that has become his home ● Photograph ASSOCIATED PRESS

type of financial difficulty, but the income my husband brings in was just enough to live on. We didn't have enough money for the little extras," she said

Her pay varies according to the size of the house and the time takes her. She is paid between R25 and R30 home

"For the amount of work you are doing, don't think you can expect more. It would be a different situation if you worked the whole day"

She had not encountered anybody who looked down on her for being a domestic. "I tell you something, it's super. People treat you like one of the family. I haven't had anybody who has been surprised that I'm white, I have started doing this. Many are pleased because I will treat their home as if it was my own. My husband is happy about it. Put it this way, if I'm happy, he's happy"

"My children accept it. I haven't had any reaction from them at all"

Struggle

She tried selling a range of cosmetics about a year ago, but did not do well because she could not afford the clothes and car that were necessary for the job.

Three of their children are at boarding school in Pietersburg. Their schooling is subsidised by welfare, but they still struggle to make ends meet.

"We are spending R700 a month alone on the things we need, and that's scraping the bottom of the barrel. There are no luxuries at all," she says.

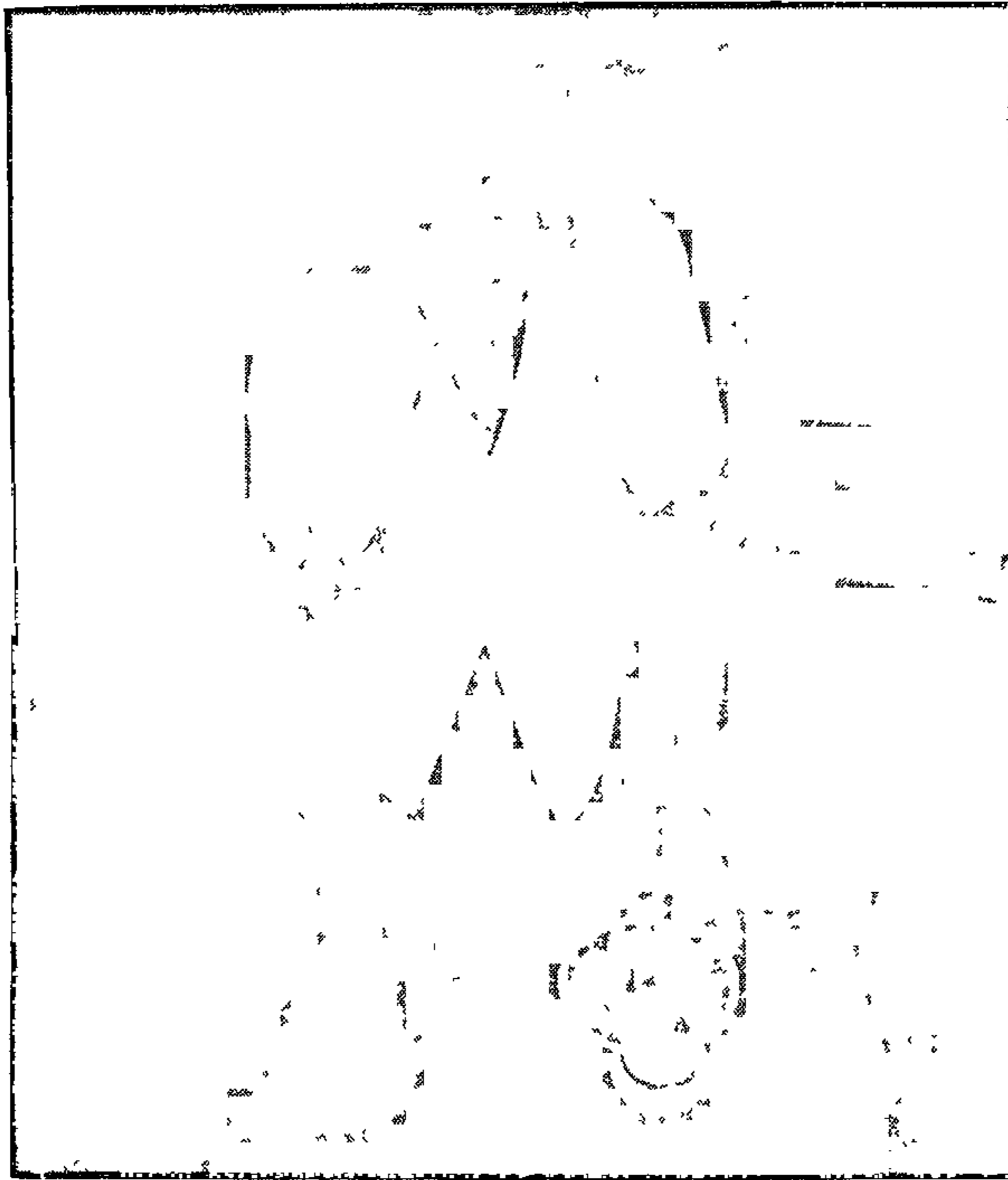
Future prospects are not rosy — she passed Std 8, and her husband "about the same". The couple are "helping out" a family in which the daughter was raped by the grandfather, but "we are experiencing problems with them because they drink and smoke dagga, which I don't approve of. But I might as well talk to a brick wall."

It seems that alcohol and dagga are common problems in "Klein Japan", as the council housing scheme is known.

One house down from Mrs Niewenhuis, Christine Holthouse was visiting her brother, Smartryk, "Swaarkry" Venter. He had been unemployed for more than a year. During his working days he could throw a dab piece of plaster against a wall, but now he cannot find work.

The father of seven complained that he did not get welfare money, while less-deserving cases did.

While we chatted, his nephew, Willem Stoltz, arrived with a gas cy-



A CLEAN SWEEP . . . Elaine Lemmer says employers treat her like one of the family when she cleans their houses. ● Photograph: BRENDAN TEMPLETON

linder, Smartryk said he could not afford to pay for his water and lights which were cut off four weeks ago. He was also behind with his rent by more than R400. Asked how he got by, he said "There's no work and you 'sukkel'."

His more vociferous sister interrupted "What must a man do? He is prepared to do any kind of work, but he has not got the brains that everyone has. So why does the welfare pressurise him like that?" She did not explain what she meant by "pressurise".

She made it clear she did not have time for Cabinet Ministers or welfare workers. "I'm bitter, very bitter, about these Ministers. They are pigs and kaffir-boeties."

"The Afrikaner is pushed down. There are plenty of people here who struggle, but where must they get work? Ons Boere is niks (we Afrikaners are nothing)," she said.

She proudly declared that she threw welfare workers out of her house then they tried to visit her. "What do these young things know about bringing up children? They are not even married. Me, I have brought up 14 children."

"I'm dead honest with you. Why don't they stand

'I'm bitter, very bitter, about these Cabinet Ministers. They are pigs and kaffir-boeties. The Afrikaner is pushed down. There are plenty of people here who struggle, but where must they get work? Ons Boere is niks.'

up for the whites? I want to know why. They don't take away the blacks' children," she exclaimed indignantly.

In Johannesburg, some couples intend taking their youngsters and themselves to rural areas where they have been promised work.

Behind the development is a determined woman, Babette Schoe-

man, who is organising work for the "children of God" — who are all white, she insists.

She describes herself as an Israelite, a direct descendant of the lost tribes of Israel who had been called by God to save His children (whites only) from poverty.

One of her schemes is to channel families to rural areas where sympathetic farmers have agreed to take them on.

Another scheme is to provide white women with work as "household assistants".

She sees nothing shameful about whites doing a job which has been the domain of blacks and points out that it is common practice overseas.

She found work this month for Elaine Lemmer, who came to the Transvaal when she and her husband ran into financial difficulties farming in the eastern Cape.

"We weren't in that

How about charging her husband for the housework she does at home? "I suggested it the other night, but it didn't work," she laughed.

Her Boksburg employer, Annetjie Schenk, offers a koeksister and beams with delight at Elaine's progress. "I am very happy with her and hope it won't ever be necessary to employ a black woman again."

"I'm not discriminating against blacks, but I would rather employ a white. I had problems in the past with blacks," she said, adding "I have encouraged other people to take on white domestics."

In Claremont, Johannesburg, Victor and Doreen Plint are looking forward to the move away from their dingy council flat to a farm in the Magaliesberg. They have been promised a cottage and a combined income of R800 a month. They have an eight-year-old son, Michael.

Victor, a former mechanic and panelbeater, has been without work for more than two months. Doreen has never worked. Friends from their church have helped them following their recent conversion, but they struggle to pay their son's school fees and the R185 rent.

"It's going very hard, but we survive. There are a lot of people around here who feed us," Doreen said.

Describing what it feels like to be unemployed, Victor said "Man, you feel down because you aren't used to it. If you haven't got money, you are down. You walk around and see what you can find. Every time you go to look for a job, if they hear you come from Claremont they close the door in your face."

In the same building is Bettie Jacobs, who is also heading for a farm, compliments of the Illawn agency. She has three school-going children and is divorced.

The only income she receives is from the welfare department — R188 every two weeks for three months. For her the rural life will be a welcome relief. Yes, she says, she is looking forward to it.

Poor whites now growing urban class

Whatever you do, don't mention the suburb's name — people around there are worried the real estate value will fall.

"And please, be considerate. Hey, these are people's feelings you are dealing with."

Driving through the suburb, we were directed to two streets parallel to each other where cheap council housing is available at R109,40 a month.

Small brickwork houses with low, flat, zinc roofs

huddled behind sagging wire fences. In some doorways, curious housewives in cheap print dresses watched the car go by.

"Oooh nee No, not a 'damer' Hulle wil alweer kom krekies neem (they want to come take pictures) to show the world poor little (she names the suburb) and how poor its people are. Isn't that so?" a

woman demanded

Her thinning hair was unbrushed. She was still wearing her slippers, at 12.30 pm. Slashing her finger about in the air, she

roundly condemned the press and insisted that neither she nor her companions would talk to the Saturday Star. Ten minutes later, after some coaxing, they were

chattering away about this or that person who was always drunk, and the man who raped his daughter, and the welfare wanted to take her away.

They admitted that many people were having a hard time, "but not as bad as you press people make out". After more coaxing, they pointed out a few

houses where people were willing to talk. "Go to that woman's house. She's always wanting to put her face in the papers," the woman with the thinning hair said.

We knocked on the door of Julie Niewenhuis (34), who arrived in South Africa from Zimbabwe with her husband David (37) in 1987. "All we had was our

cases, our kids and our clothes," she said, spreading her ample body over a sofa.

Husband David is a security guard for a food chain store, and struggles to support Julie and five children on R1 000 a month.

Julie intends becoming a writer and has subscribed to a writing school. She is dreaming of better things. "This isn't our kind of world. We are more kind of middle class."

By LULAMA LUTI

COLD winter days without enough blankets or clothes are a thing of the past for more than 50 Soweto children who were this week presented with blankets, trousers and shirts

The needy children, all pupils at Mzamo Lower Primary School in Orlando West, were given the blankets and clothes by Soraya Hassim of the Fordsburg-based Islamic Relief Fund *C/Press 18/8/91*

Mzamo principal Caroline Mause said a bread and soup scheme was initially intended for children from poor families but had since been extended to other children

"Most of the children for whom the scheme was intended are orphans. Some live with their pensioned grannies or in some cases the parents are unemployed.

"For those who live in shacks, the soup kitchen has been a blessing, especially during violence," she said

Mause said Hassim was doing wonderful work, especially for children from Mzimhlophe

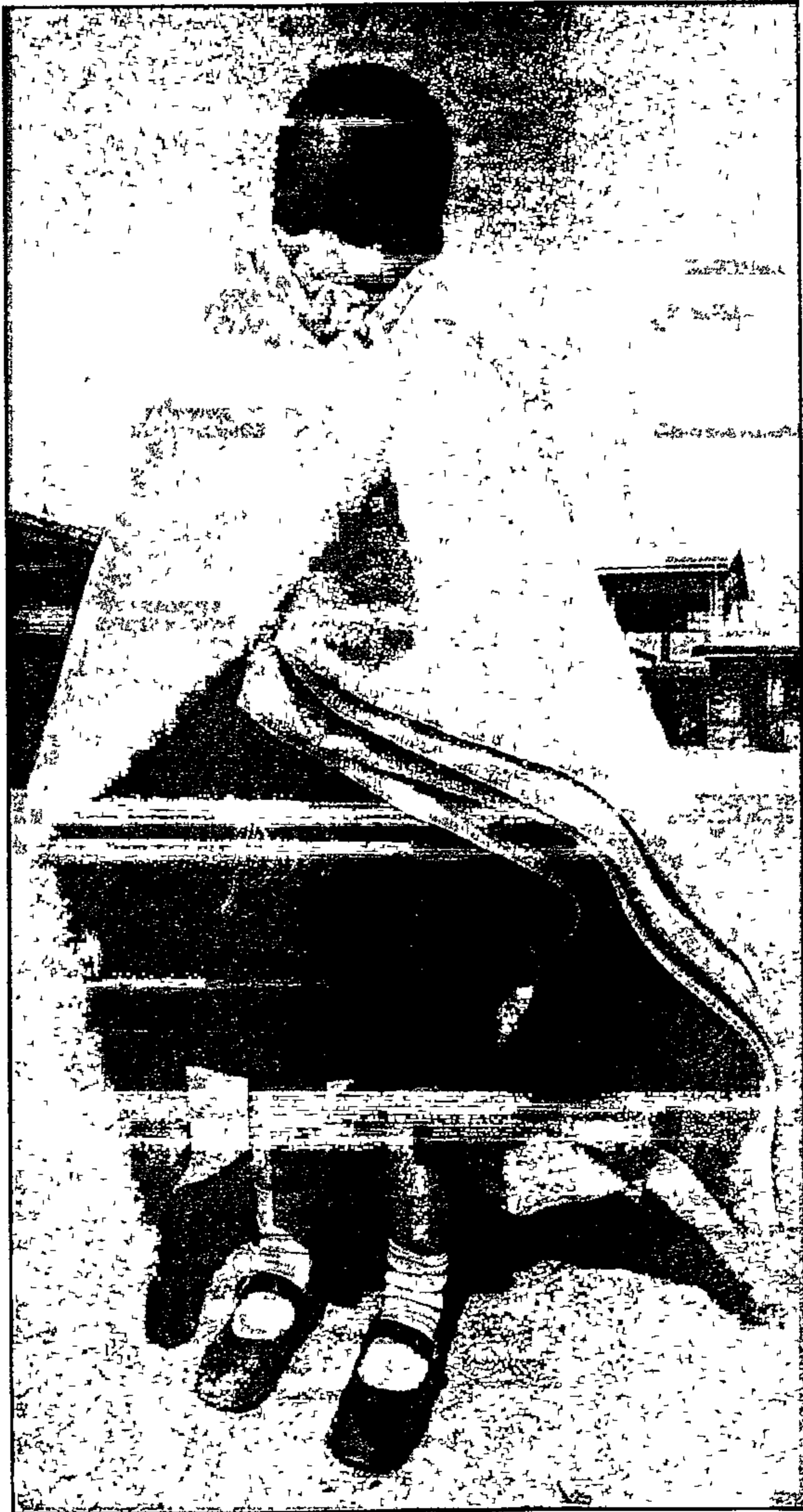
Community worker Hassim said her organisation has been involved in providing relief schemes to people throughout the PWV region and the scheme covers more than 30 000 children

Among the areas in which the organisation operates are Orange Farm near Evaton, Zonk'izizwe in Katlehong, and the squatter camps in Soweto

"We have been running soup kitchens for schoolchildren and the elderly

"The services are concentrated mainly in the squatter camps where people live in terrible conditions. We believe it is our duty to try to bring whatever comfort we can to them," said Hassim. She added that the or-

Hot soup keeps the cold at bay



A little girl from Mzamo School with her blanket. ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

organisation was largely dependent on donations by, and support from, the Muslim community.

"The clothes and blankets are collected from schools and churches

who have been very generous and without whose help and support the project would not have been possible."

She said the organisation, together with the

Islamic Medical Association, also ran a mobile medical unit in the squatter camps, where elderly people were examined and provided with medicine

Venter defends VAT aid

IN AN attempt to deflect the furore over VAT, National Health Minister Rina Venter last night reiterated government's R220m commitment to food aid which she said was only one element of a comprehensive safety net

Venter appealed to fund-raising organisations involved in food assistance to apply to the Health Department for financial backing.

She said clinics would extend feeding programmes to include energy-rich staple foods instead of just milk powder.

At a forum on September 5 and 6 a committee would be elected to draft and manage a long-term development programme to address SA's undernourishment and malnutrition problems.

All interested parties were invited to attend, said Venter.

Organisations, including Cosatu and the ANC, have said VAT will hit poor people hard and have called for more basic foods

TANIA LEVY

to be exempted from the tax Finance Minister Barend du Plessis has promised to reply this week to growing criticism of VAT.

The poverty safety net was detailed in the 1991 Budget, which also included the zero-rating under VAT of maize meal and brown bread, as well as the allocation of R820m for improving old age pensions, R660m to eliminate pension disparities and R50m for job-creation, Venter said.

GERALD REILLY reports the distribution of poverty relief is likely to be handled by established welfare organisations.

Sources said it would be a major task to deal with aid applications and sort out the deserving from undeserving.

The R220m is only to cover needs for five months from October to the end of the current financial year.

● Comment: Page 8

16/8/91
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Aid body tied up in govt red tape

B/D Day 20/8/91

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DARIUS SANAI

WORLDVISION's managers were redirected to eight different government offices yesterday when they tried to find out how to take up National Health Minister Rina Venter's weekend offer of cash aid for poverty relief.

The community development organisation said this highlighted government's inability to properly co-ordinate the scheme that it had proposed.

Other welfare and medical groups condemned government's attempt to soften the effects of VAT as "inadequate and archaic".

Operation Hunger spokesman Ina Perlman said she was concerned that the R220m earmarked by Venter for food aid would never reach its intended targets.

Worldvision director John Allwood warned of a "bureaucratic bungle" that would shift money from one department to another and never benefit those suffering from the effects of VAT.

Government's implementation of VAT showed a distinct lack of forethought and planning, Allwood said.

He said the introduction of the tax was an ideal time for government to work out an innovative system of welfare aid that would directly benefit those in need, instead of operating through a government bureaucracy.

He approved of government's decision to exempt bread and maize from VAT, but another Worldvision spokesman said yesterday "man does not live on bread alone".

Perlman said VAT would have a "terrifying" effect on the ability of

most South Africans to buy basic foodstuffs.

She said government food aid would not be enough, and called for it to make more details of the scheme known.

The scheme, which requires welfare organisations to apply to government for financial backing, could have a "horrendous impact on cash flow" as organisations would presumably have to wait several weeks before receiving rebates on their outlays, Perlman said.

Inadequate

Meanwhile, Sapa reports the National Medical and Dental Association (Namda) said yesterday the aid programme was inadequate.

In a statement, Namda said the measures were "inadequate to alleviate the effects of VAT on previously GST exempt foodstuffs".

It said the aid was an "attempt to buy political acceptance for VAT without making any real impact on the problem".

Namda said it was estimated VAT would increase the burden on the consumer by R1,5bn on food prices alone and called for VAT on medical supplies and basic foodstuffs to be zero-rated.

However, the National Council for Child and Family Care issued a more positive statement yesterday, welcoming Venter's scheme.

Joan Oberholzer, national director of the council, said it was running at a R33m deficit this year.

Food for the poor - Venter

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Sowetan 20/8/91

Sowetan Reporter
THE Government is ready to provide "immediate targeted food assistance" for underprivileged, the Minister of National Health, Dr Rina Venter, has said.

In a statement released on Sunday night Venter said organisations which provided food to the underprivileged and undernourished South Africans had to apply to the Department of Health for financial backing

Earlier this year the Government made available R200 million in the current Budget as a "safety net" to deal with the consequences of poverty

Budget

"While the amount of R200 million has been emphasised here, it represents only a single element of a comprehensive, multifaceted safety net detailed in the 1991 Budget

"Other elements include, inter alia, the zero-rating of maize meal and brown bread which will apply under VAT, R820 million for the improvement of old-age pensions, R660 million for the elimination of disparities

in old-age pensions and R50 million for special job creation actions and the maintenance of existing programmes," Venter said

Venter also announced that her department was extending its own spending schemes.

"The targeted food assistance programmes administered by the clinics of local authorities to combat malnutrition would be extended

"Where in the past

skimmed milk powder only was made available to identified cases, additional staple and energy-rich foods will in future also be provided

"The contents of food parcels will be determined by qualified dieticians," Venter said

She said about 2 000 clinics will benefit from the new scheme

Welfare organisations were not contacted as they would be invited to attend a forum on September 5

and 6 in Pretoria, Venter said

"In order to provide immediate targeted food assistance, I appeal to all registered fund-raising organisations which are currently providing food assistance to apply for financial assistance from the Department of National Health without delay

"Organisations which provide food assistance and which are not registered can apply immediately for registration or

channel their applications for financial assistance through registered organisations

"The criteria according to which applications will be expeditiously considered and processed are available on request from the Department," Venter said

The announcement is seen as an attempt to deflect the burgeoning opposition to VAT

Dissent

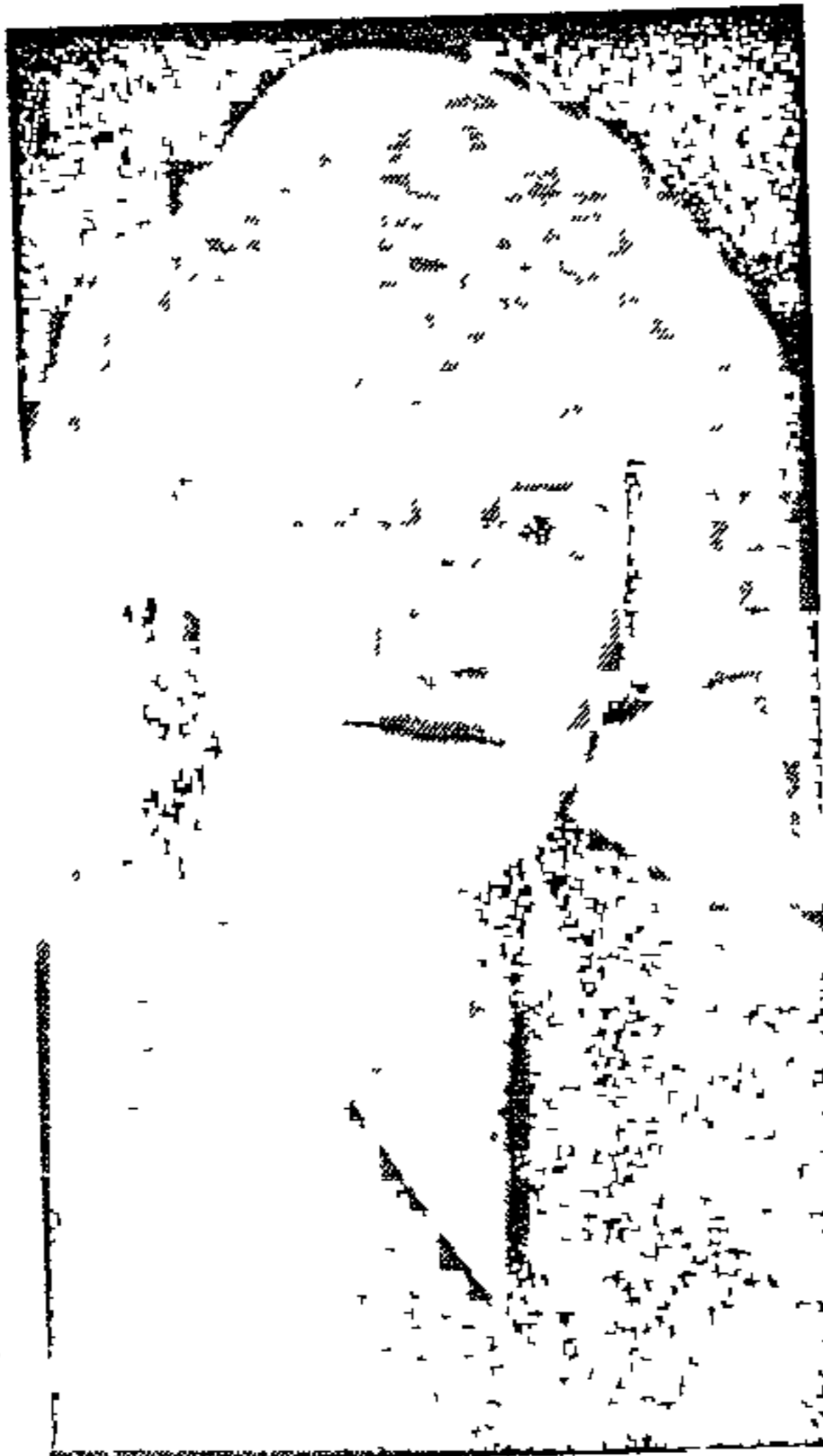
Organisations across the spectrum, including the ANC have said that VAT will hit poor people hard and have called for more basic foods to be exempted from the tax

However, the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, has said that the implementation of VAT could not be postponed

He was reacting in a television interview on Sunday night on the growing dissent over the imminent change from VAT to GST

Venter said she would not for the time being ask the Minister of Finance to exempt perishables and other necessary foods

The idea was not to make food cheaper, but to make Government money available for the needy, Venter said



RINA VENTER



BAREND DU PLESSIS

Education solutions may be on horizon

By Phil Molefe and Peter Fabricius

The solution to the education crisis may be in sight following far-reaching proposals between the Government and a broad grouping of educationists for the formation of a "Patriotic Front of Education" to work towards the transformation of the education system in South Africa.

Government representatives led by President de Klerk yesterday met the educationists to discuss the report-back of the Joint Working Group on Education (JWG) which was set up on February 25

On that occasion a delegation led by ANC president Nelson Mandela met Mr de Klerk and

various education Ministers in Cape Town.

Following the February meeting at Tuynhuys, the JWG met six times and a report on its activities was tabled and discussed yesterday at the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

University of the Western Cape vice-chancellor Professor Jakes Gerwel, who led yesterday's delegation in the absence of Mr Mandela, said the meeting had noted in principle the urgency to "set up a truly representative forum to work out a new education system"

Professor Gerwel said the envisaged patriotic front would have an important role to play in the country's education system.

He said the forum, which was still to be formed, would intervene in situations of crisis in education, address aspects of transforming the education sys-

tem and reflect on the governance of education in the new South Africa.

Broad issues came under the discussion of the JWG meetings, including: the delivery of text books; repairs to damaged schools, the need for more classrooms, provision of essential facilities such as libraries and laboratories, and the improvement of the teacher-pupil ratio.

The educationists included Dr Neil McGurk of the SA Association of Independent Schools, Professor Chabani Manganyi, vice-chancellor of the University of the North; John Samuels, head of the ANC's education department; Ihron Rensburg, general secretary of the National Education Co-ordinating Committee (NECC); education authorities from mission schools, and the Lebowa and Transkei education departments.

The consensus was that some progress had been noted at yesterday's meeting but a lot still had to be done.

Minister of Education and Training Dr Stoffel van der Merwe said at a separate press conference that members of the JWG would now go back to seek approval from their constituencies for the two key proposals

They were the formation of a body representing all educationists (the "Patriotic Front of Education") and, in the meantime, the appointment of a broad grouping of educationists to advise the Government on problems in black education

But in an interview afterwards, Dr van der Merwe indicated that he did not think yesterday's meeting had convinced the NECC to call off its campaign to occupy empty white schools.

Southern suburbs feel pinch

Staff Reporter

The effects of the recession are spreading more and more into Johannesburg's "white" suburbs.

A growing number of pupils in Government schools in Johannesburg's south-eastern areas have been receiving free soup this winter through a scheme run by the local chapter of Lions

The organisation operates a soup kitchen feeding scheme to about a quarter of the pupils at five schools in the region, says Lions member Ronnie Wood.

Also in this issue of Southern Focus

● The monster on the hill turns out to be good news.

● Pictures a-plenty of the champion schools rugby side, Marais Viljoen Tech of Alberton.

● Karaoke comes to the South, and much, much more

● Southern Focus is free with The Star in editions delivered to and sold in the south, including Alberton.

If you are unable to get your Southern Focus, copies of the The Star with the Focus are available at the CNA Southgate Mall and The Star, 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg, today and tomorrow.

Venter promises to cut red tape hindering poverty aid

GERALD REILLY

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PRETORIA — Red tape and bureaucratic delays would be eliminated in the distribution of government's R220m poverty relief fund, National Health Minister Rina Venter said yesterday

She was responding to criticism that poverty relief workers had been shunted from one government office to the other when they tried to apply for an aid allocation

Venter said in an interview she had stressed inquiries should be made direct to her department or its regional offices

With only a few weeks to go before the implementation of VAT, the poverty relief project was being treated with the greatest urgency

Venter said the department's head office in Pretoria and its regional offices had been inundated with phone inquiries about the allocation of the R220m

Funds would be allocated to welfare and other organisations based on their existing programmes and on their ability to distribute the money

All being well, she said it would take no longer than two weeks after the receipt of an application for funds to be channelled

Feedback from the organisations would be closely studied during the first six months and adjustments made to improve the infrastructure of the project

The feedback would enable an assessment of how many families and individuals needed poverty relief

This would be used as background in determining the extent of the budget allocation needed in the 1992/93 financial year

Monday 21/8/91

ABBEY MAKOE

THE belief that all people are equal before God has led Koos Nel to give up many luxuries — including three Mercedes-Benz cars — to help the destitute

The money raised from the sale of his possessions was poured into a project to provide food and shelter for the less fortunate.

Since that decision four years ago, Mr Nel has provided help for people from all walks of life

He hired premises — similar to a mine hostel — from a company near Edenvale on the East Rand for R1 500 a month and renamed it Refuge in Christ (RIC)

The shelter now houses a variety of people, including former prisoners, former drug abusers and young people who have been abused by family members

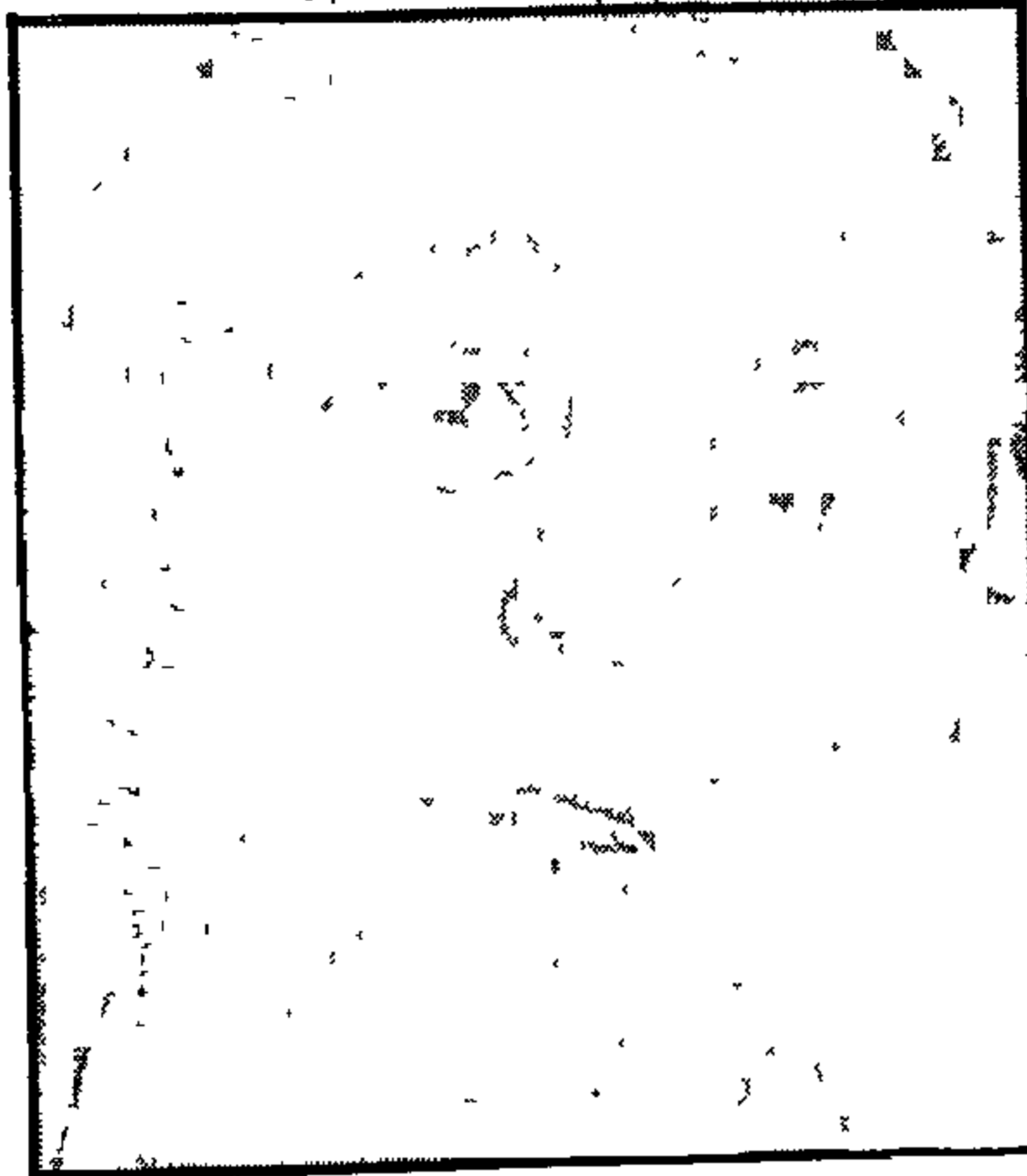
Eighty-nine people are living there, but the number fluctuates, according to Mr Nel. The centre's children attend local schools.

A pastor by profession, Mr Nel — initially reluctant to grant an interview because "I owe it to God and not the public" to help people — said his Christian values had forced him to change his way of life.

He said he had discovered that politicians had ruined many a life of the innocent through laws they had implemented

The man who gave up all to help the poor

Star 24/8/91



KOOS NEL: Sold his possessions to start a shelter for the destitute. ● Photograph: ABBEY MAKOE

He did not regret abandoning almost everything he owned to follow his heart, although his loss in possessions had been great a huge house and seven cars.

Mr Nel, who is divorced, said he had spent more than R70 000 on the Edenvale shelter and on other people from the

Vaal Triangle area

He said helping the needy was a demanding task

"You ought to be with them every hour, showing and stressing to them that God is on their side"

Mr Nel stays in the same yard as those he is helping, sharing his house with his four

school-going children, the last of whom was adopted

Mr Nel plans to buy a huge farm and build a multi-storey building that will house at least 1 000 needy people

In an effort to find employment for people staying at the shelter, Mr Nel has appealed to local companies for help

The people are encouraged to bank the money earned, after a deduction of 25 percent, which goes towards the running of the shelter

In lean times, when few shelter residents are able to find work, Mr Nel said it was difficult to make ends meet

As he was detailing to the Saturday Star the problems faced at the shelter, a woman arrived with an electricity bill for R6 559, dated two months ago

Mr Nel became defensive when questioned about "good Samaritans" who sometimes donated food, blankets, clothes, used furniture or money to the shelter.

"The social welfare departments and some other people in authority will take us to court," he explained

"They maintain we cannot go out asking for donations because we are not registered as a fundraising organisation

"We struggle here. Very few people know about us

"But, God willing, we shall survive."

to stop having children unless she could care for them. Sapa

R100 million for electricity. Explaining the boycott, a spokesman for the Soweto Civic Association said

the Soweto Peoples L... "The three council without the SCA/SP said

R1 000-m lifeline

THE Government has made available R1 000 million for social and economic upliftment and job creation projects - and poor people will benefit the most from this

This was revealed in a document released in Pretoria yesterday by the Department of Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprises

While 73 percent of the money (R742 million) is aimed at reducing the backlogs in the socio-economic field, a massive 40 percent (R408 million) will go towards easing the problems in squatter communities and for creating rudimentary infrastructure to house about 270 000 people

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

The R742 million has been freed from the contingency funds that were created to beat oil embargoes against the country

The Department of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing will, on a site-and-service basis, prepare 53 770 sites for this purpose

The Department of National Health and Population Development has been allocated

To Page 2

From Page 1

R31 million for the upgrading of 15 hostels around the country and another R84 million for strictly health matters, such as building 141 new clinics in underprivileged areas and their staffing.

The Department of Education and Training will receive R138 million, most of which will go towards building about 1 900 new classrooms.

Other projects include the building of 64 creches, 34 community centres, two centres for the aged, three workshops for the disabled and two children's homes

Squatter communities and underprivileged communities around the country will also get basic sports facilities in the form of 83 soccer fields, 39 netball courts and 12 rugby fields.

The Government will also provide drinking water to 53 communities in the self-governing states

The security services will be bolstered by the creation of 50 satellite police stations and 250 police contact points - both of which are aimed at placing the police in greater and more immediate contact with communities

Roads will also be improved through an injection of R204 million for the purpose of road building, maintenance and upgrading

Housing, jobs for the poor

About 18 500km of the country's roads will be improved

Altogether 667 projects were approved by the Cabinet for funding after proposals amounting to more than R8 000 million were studied

A spokesman from the Central Economic Advisory Service told *Sowetan* yesterday the recent petrol price increase had had no influence on the freeing of oil reserves.

The decision to free the funds was taken by President FW de Klerk on April 29 - four months before the price hike

Last week's price increase was "tax increase" to cushion the impact of the reduction of VAT from 12 to 10 percent, the spokesman said

When De Klerk announced earlier this year that he would release funds from the oil reserves, he said the money would be used in the interest of economic restructuring "in a way which will ensure the greatest possible contribution to the promotion of

economic growth and job creation".

In this regard, the Government will channel funds into projects which will provide jobs for about 59 000 people for a period of about 15 months

Many of the people, like nurses or teachers, who will get jobs made possible by the new money, will be retained by the Department of Health or Department of Education

There will, therefore, not be 59 000 people unemployed at the end of the 15 months, the Minister of Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprise, Dr Dawie de Villiers, said in Pretoria yesterday

He said that unemployment in South Africa had serious negative effects on the economic potential of the country and that there was an "inverse" relationship between the extent of unemployment and the level of social stability and order within communities.

The spending of the money will be carefully monitored.

Govt to give out R1-bn to uplift the poor

Star 28/8/91

241

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

The Government is to plough R1 billion into 667 socio-economic projects countrywide over the next six to 12 months — with most of the money being spent on rudimentary services in impoverished communities.

Announcing the allocation of the Government's donation to the poor, Minister of Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprises Dr Dawie de Villiers said yesterday that the process could, if warranted, be repeated next year by selling off more of the country's oil reserves

Of the current R1 billion, R408 million is to go towards infrastructure (rudimentary services), R204 million is to be donated to transport (roads) and R138 million is for education

Health services are to get R84 million, police R62 million and 15 hostels will be allocated R31 million for upgrading. Other projects include welfare services (R15 million), community facilities (R8 million), special job creation programmes (R20 million) and sports facilities (R16 million).

The total announced yesterday amounts to R986 million, with the remainder of the R1 billion allocated to other unspecified projects

According to Government estimates, about 866 000 man-month employment (one man employed for a month) opportunities would be created or maintained by the projects. This would represent employment for about 59 000 people for 15 months

The funds for education will pay for nearly 1 900 new classrooms.

Basic infrastructure provided will include the creation of about 53 770 sites which will accommodate the housing needs of about 270 000 people

The provision of community facilities includes community centres, centres for the aged, workshops for the disabled, libraries and pre-primary schools

Consistently potable water to 53 communities in self-governing states will also be provided.

Because motorists contributed substantially to the funding, roads have been given special consideration. The allocation is aimed at the maintenance and upgrading of secondary roads to satisfactory standards by labour-intensive means

However, the allocation represents only a 10th of the funds required for the maintenance of secondary roads

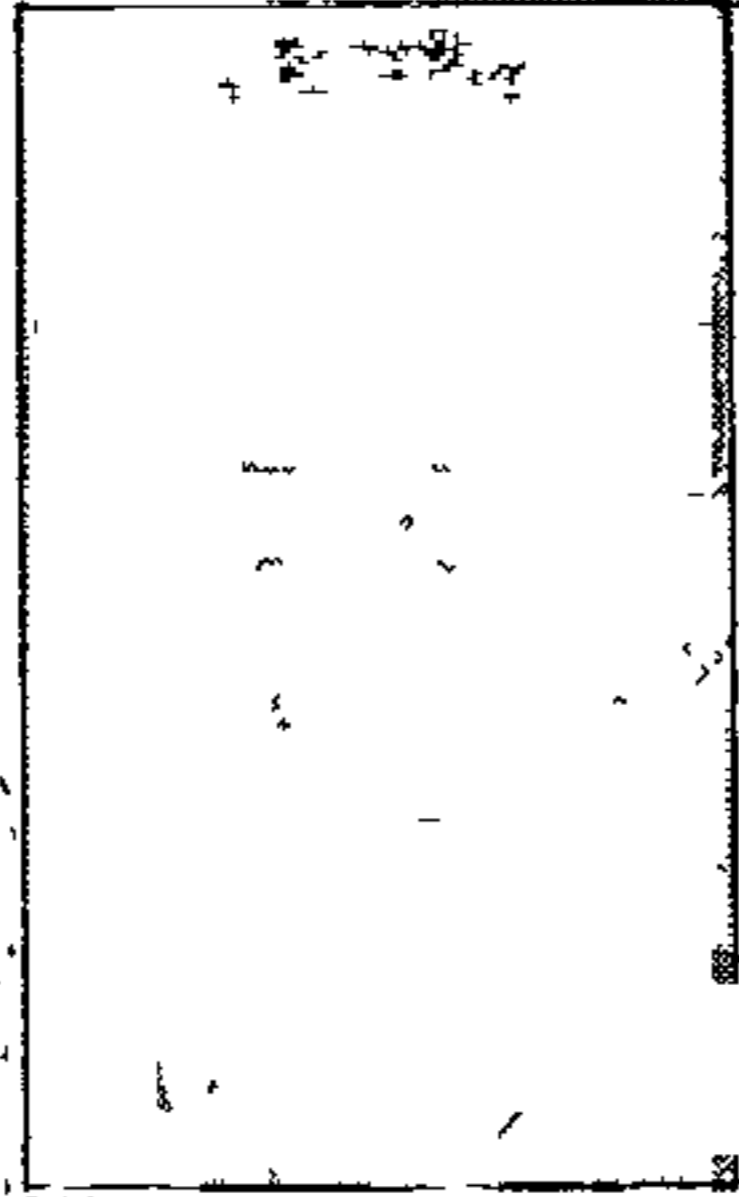
The R62 million allocated to the police is largely intended for the construction of 59 satellite police stations and 250 police contact points, with a view to improving the service and protection function of the SAP and increasing police visibility at all levels.

Dr de Villiers said the Government was mindful of the damaging effects of "handouts", and had therefore structured the fund in such a way as to improve productivity

Reacting to the announcement yesterday, most organisations welcomed the injection of funds, but many were critical of the ad hoc nature in which they claimed the funds had been allocated.

Consultation needed, says DP ~~Sapa~~

Stein 28/8/91



Ken Andrew . . . negotiate for maximum yield.

Millions of rands would end up wasted if there were no consultation over the way in which the R1 billion set aside to eliminate socio-economic backlogs was to be spent, Democratic Party spokesman on finance Ken Andrew said yesterday.

He said in a statement that the allocation was welcomed and that the proposed projects seemed appropriate at first sight.

"It must be recognised, however, that in-

tensive negotiation at national, regional and community level is essential if the money spent is to yield maximum dividends. ~~Sapa~~

"Gone are the days when a white central government can tell the majority of the population what is good for them or what their priorities should be," he said.

241

There was no plan to eliminate backlogs in a systematic way, Mr Andrew added. — Sapa.

R1-bn handout the wrong approach, says business

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

star 28/5/91

The Government's allocation of R1 billion to alleviate poverty has been cautiously welcomed among beneficiaries — although the business sector has spoken out over the "ad hoc" manner in which the handout was planned.

Dr Ben van Rensburg, chief economist at the SA Chamber of Business, said the Government's action had been an "ad hoc" approach when the country's need for social upliftment least needed such an approach.

"It should have been strategised along the lines of a social accord,

which would have defined and calculated the needs over a specified time period

"By throwing amounts of money out, expectations are not going to be toned down, as they should be

"It is only when everybody understands the degree and size of the problem relative to what is affordable that people realise the earnest attempts made to address the problem. The fund should have been planned with broad consultation among the various bodies concerned," Dr van Rensburg said.

Democratic Party spokesman Louis de Waal said the funding

was a very positive move and the various allocations seemed to constitute a good mix. He added that this type of funding would undoubtedly be an ongoing feature of Government spending.

It was known that with the impact of VAT, there would have to be considerable amounts channelled into community projects — although a lot more was required.

Conservative Party spokesman on trade and industry Daan Nolte said it was unfair and economically absurd that the Government had sold its belongings to provide a R1 billion donation to the poor. "They are only

doing this to win the support of the ANC."

The ANC's economic officials were still analysing the allocations yesterday afternoon.

Sam van Coller of the Urban Foundation said the money to be spent on housing sites was welcome and desirable, but emphasised that the issue of location of the sites as well as the question of ownership was important.

The Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut said it particularly supported the proposal to spend about half the amount in the current financial year and the creation of 59 000 jobs over 15 months.

South Africans are losing their jobs, homes and in some cases even hope as the recession bites

Pleas for help to feeding schemes and even suicide help-lines have soared as the recession tightens its hold.

Relief organisations report a flow of people from rural areas into the cities in search of jobs

Association of Consumer Credit Bureaux president Rowan Haarhoff said bad debt judgments for the period March to May 1991 leapt by 34,7 percent to a huge R395 million

"These figures are distorted to an extent, however, by mortgage bonds where judgment is taken for the full bond amount and not just the arrears"

One food programme in Hillbrow alone, St Francis of Assisi, served 110 000 meals from April 1 to the end of July, according to organiser Brother Giovanni

"What we have found is a great number of semi-skilled and skilled people flooding in to Johannesburg from the rural areas," he said. "The sadness is that these people come here hoping there will be work. They can't find any and end up on the streets."

'Invisible'

The numbers of "invisible people" who slept on the streets of Johannesburg had increased "very much" over the past few months

Hillbrow Twilight Centre manager Sabera Bobat said there had been a notable increase in the number of street children who joined the centre recently.

According to Operation Hunger executive director Ira Perlman, 1991 has been the organisation's most testing year yet

In her latest report, Mrs Perlman said the country-wide economic catastrophe had sent rural unemployment soaring and had reduced, in the majority of areas, the regular migrant cash flow to an irregular trickle.

Operation Hunger deputy director relief and development Mpho Mashinini said black and white families were looking to the organisation for help.

"Even though political changes are underway, the economic situation worsens and there is a demand for us to assist many more people," he said

"In the PWV area unemployment is increasing every day Operation Hunger has had to increase its feeding by 2 000 families," Mr Mashinini added

Retrenchment of farm workers and the closure of mines in the Free State and north western Cape meant

● To Page 3 ■

Charities battle to cope with armies of jobless and hungry

Poverty crisis grips SA

By Paula Fray
and Abel Mushi

Star
28/8/91

Operation Hunger dilemma: 'We need to find R200 000'

VAT axe poised to fall

South 28/8-4/9/91

241

By Thoraya Pandy

VAT will hit its feeding capacity Executive Director Ms Ina Perlman said this week Operation Hunger will have to cut back its feeding programme if the government takes more than 30 days to refund VAT paid by the agency.

OCTOBER'S VAT attack threatens food for 94 000 Western Cape people who depend on Operation Hunger. Already cash-strapped and buying food on credit, Operation Hunger fears

the food it buys, the organisation has to pay tax to suppliers and apply to the state for a refund.

"This causes great worry because it is not clear how long the government will take in refunding the money," said Perlman.

The tough alternative would be to

find R200 000 a month in bridging finance

Perlman criticised the government for setting aside R220 million for food relief, while at the same time planning to collect R500 million in tax from 40 percent of the lowest income group.

"I cannot see the logic of implementing a system that will push more people down the poverty line," she said.

"Already 90 percent of the black population have an income of R900 and 84 percent an outrageous income of R600 a month.

Her agency also had to register in order to qualify for the refund system, but had not yet received a response from the government.

"I just hope this does not mean we will have to pay tax until the registration comes through," said Perlman.

Operation Hunger is already feeling the pinch as it tries to feed up to 1,8 million people nationwide.

Overspent

The organisation has overspent its annual budget by 20 percent in most areas and only credit from its suppliers has kept it from suspending its feeding operations for September.

Perlman also said the government's decision to earmark R220 million for feeding schemes was "general and not very specific".

"We are unclear of the nature of the government's venture, so it is difficult to even take it to our constituency, whom we have to consult before taking a position," Perlman said.

In the Western Cape alone, 94 000 people are fed every day, with more than 72 feeding applications coming in from communities on a monthly basis.

"The situation is deteriorating and 80 percent of the 94 000 we feed only have one meal a day (a bowl of soup) that we provide," said the agency's regional director Ms Sandra McAllister.

Among the most needy are people in the drought-stricken areas of Beaufort West, Nelspoort and the West coast. "Farmers are just packing up and leaving people without any money or food," said McAllister.

Operation Hunger's budget for next year has "sky-rocketed" to R37 million.

● See Pic Page 3

Challenge 'is to help poor'

Staff Reporter

CT 29/8/91

THE challenge to the community will be to continue the business of assisting destitute and homeless people in need of physical assistance, chairman of the Haven Night Shelter Mr Sam Gross said last night

Delivering his report at the organisation's AGM held at Claremont Civic Centre, he said that with the current recession, more unemployment could be expected "and thus more evidence of vagrancy"

As the recession bites

Sowetan 20/8/91
Sowetan Correspondent

SOUTH Africans are losing their jobs, homes and in some cases even hope as the recession bites.

If pleas for help to feeding schemes and even suicide help-lines have soared as the recession tightens its hold

Relief organisations report a flow of people from rural areas into the cities in search of jobs

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Johannesburg from the rural areas,” he said

“The sadness is that these people come here hoping there will be work They can't find any and end up on the streets ”

The numbers of “invisible people” who slept on the streets of Johannesburg had increased “very much” over the past few months.

Hillbrow Twilight Centre manager Sabera Bobat said there had been a notable increase in the number of street children who had joined the centre recently

Operaton Hunger

According to Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman, 1991 has been the organisation's most testing year yet

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majority of areas, the regular migrant cash flow to an irregular trickle.

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“In the PWV area unemployment is increasing every day Operation Hunger has had to increase its feeding by 2 000 families,” Mashinn added

Retrenchment of farm workers and the closure of mines in the Free State and northwestern Cape meant families who had coped previously could now barely survive

Urgent intervention in Ingwayume in Natal for 6 000 children with visible malnutrition since 1986 was needed after pleas for help.

While the economic situation meant an in-

creased demand for and the groups were also faced with a cut in their donations as a result of the recession.

Johannesburg Child Welfare Society head Dr Adele Thomas said some of their donors had written to say they would not be able to make their usual donations due to financial restraints.

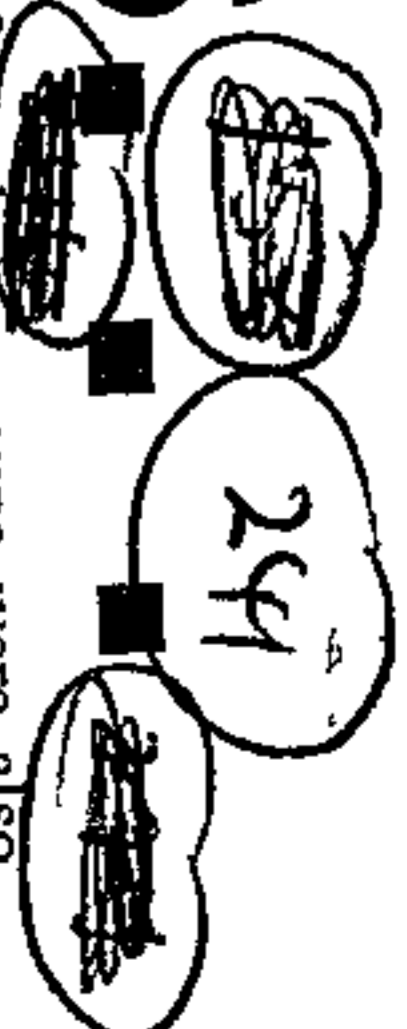
Suicides Anonymous, run by Sam Bloomberg, has found more and more people calling in

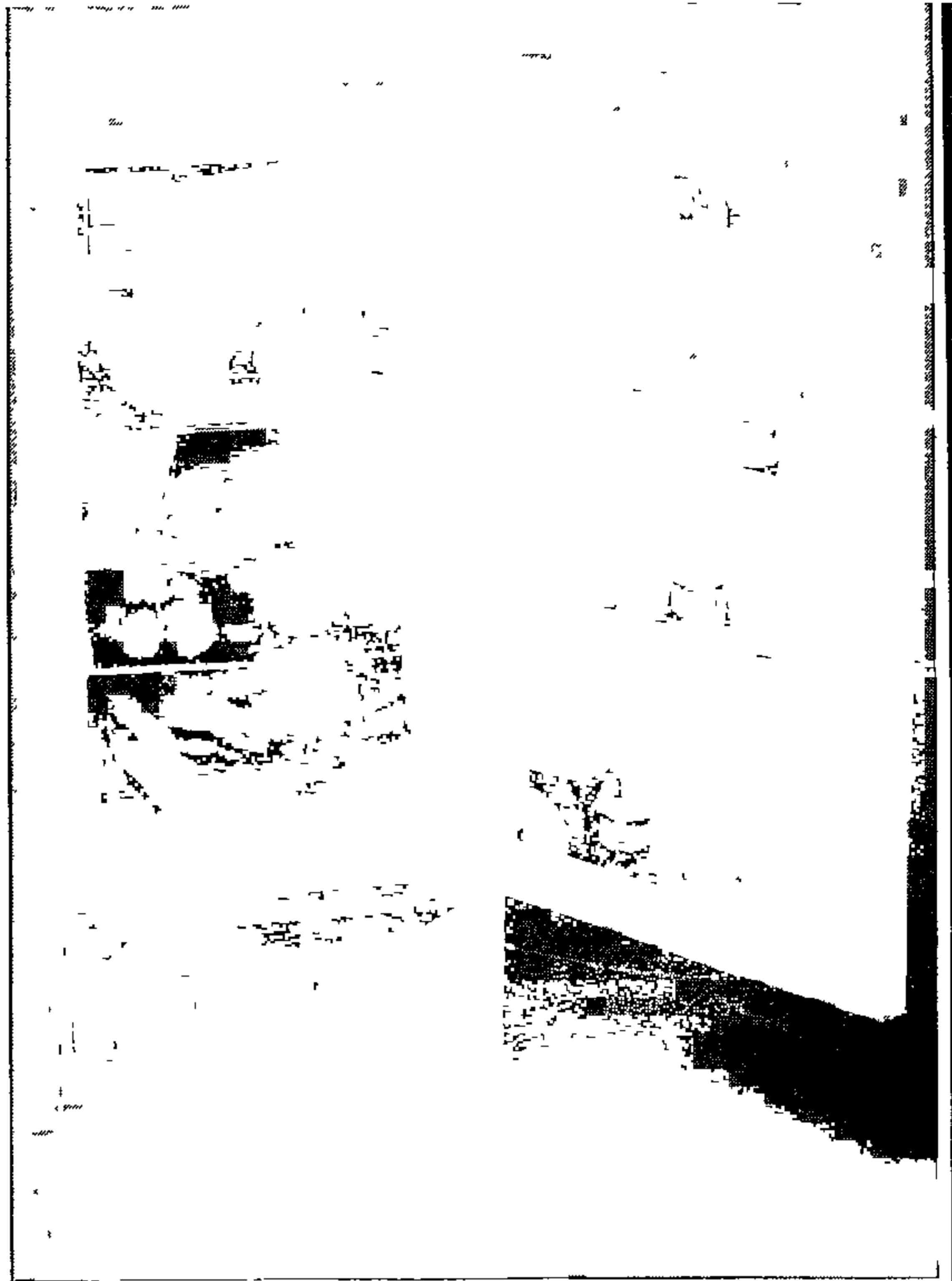
“There are a multitude of causes - but the humiliation of not being a breadwinner is high among them,” he said

“People are told to provide for their old age when they can't even provide for today,” he said

Employment agencies have been inundated with people looking for work

Drake International branch manager Yvonne Allen said the unemployment situation was “very bad”





WELL STOCKED ... Plenty of food in this fridge, but how will the poor manage when more items are taxed?

Helping the poor cope with costs

WHEN designing South Africa's VAT system, the Inland Revenue Department took into account the fact that under GST many foodstuffs were exempt from tax.

An investigation into the effect VAT would have on the needy showed that the GST exemption on food was an ineffective way of helping the poor. *cl/ren 11/9/91*

When you exempt an item with the intention of helping the needy you cannot, at the same time, prevent those who do not need help from enjoying the same benefit.

In a full year, South Africans buy more than R19-billion worth of tax-exempt food. The GST which the government foregoes on this food purchase is R2,4-billion.

But, the poorest people of South Africa – some 12 million living below the minimum subsistence level – enjoy only 18 percent of the food tax exemption.

Clearly, a tax system is not meant to help the poor, so it is better to tax everybody fairly and uniformly and

find other ways of helping the poor.

The same argument applies to home-building. To help the needy, we at present have a GST exemption on the labour cost involved in building a house. *(241)*

But it means that the wealthy home-builder who can afford to pay tax, gets a far bigger concession than the poor. *(242)*

This argument, however, does not apply to commuter transport. By making these services free of tax, the government is making a direct concession to people who need help.

The tax-free goods and services under VAT are tram, bus and taxi transport, education, and certain foodstuffs – brown bread and maize meal. *the power of Gov...*

Other VAT benefits, from which the needy will benefit are the lower tax rate – 10 percent against GST's 13 percent – the elimination of tax fraud, slower price hikes and a reduced inflation rate thanks to the reduced cost of business.

Chronicle of desperation — and dignity

THE COLD CHOICE. PICTURES OF A SOUTH AFRICAN REALITY by Struan Robertson (David Philip, R65)

EVEN with the hype about the new SA, people are still hungry, starving and without homes and basic medical care. Photographer-writer Struan Robertson's chronicle of squalor, desperation, dignity and courage is a timely reminder lest, flushed with our newly found good intent, we forget this

This is a story of people, non-productive Bantu superfluous in the labour market (Bantu Commissioners' General Circular 26 of 1968) who were "dumped in the veld to remove them from white SA", and of Operation Hunger's response to requests from these communities

It is a story told matter-of-factly through pictures, fragments of conversation and with little emotion. It is an indictment of possibly one of the "worst social experiments of the 20th century"

The publication of this book marks the 10th year of service of Operation Hunger (one would hardly call it an anniversary). Even though Operation Hunger is not a charity feeding scheme, Robertson admits to being a



□ Newly arrived Mozambican refugee, Gazankulu

reluctant author. He carries with him the memory of the demoralising effects of food handouts in Botswana, and in any event the action in the early '80s was, to put it bluntly, all in the townships

But he eventually gave in to that formidable force, Ina Perlman, executive director of Operation Hunger. Cold Choice is a record of six years spent travelling with Operation Hunger through rural black SA, photographing and recording.

Robertson's camera captures the confusion of the dislocated in an exceptional portrait of a young woman, a Mozambican refugee, the hurt of a betrayed Padstow farmworker, the speechless fear of a woman dying from asbestosis in northern Lebowa. He records pitiless stretches of barren veld, tin shacks, tents, infant graveyards but also some of the triumphs

Having meticulously guided his readers through Sekhukhune land, which for most white South Africans is little more than a name in the weather forecast, Robertson returns some years later to record the community's successes. One of the most memorable shots is that of three women carrying aloft plastic crates of homegrown spinach. The countryside is still as wretched as it ever was, but the camera catches the deep gloss on the spinach leaves and the grace of the women who grew it

ANTHEA BRISTOWE

Rules of SA markets made simple

THE REGULATION OF FINANCIAL MARKETS by I Goodspeed, H B Falkena, P Morgenrood and R K Store (Southern Book Publishers, R60)

WITH topics like the deregulation of the JSE, the formalisation of the bond market and the future of the derivatives market firmly on the public agenda, this book hits the shelves at just the right time.

Written by well-known minds in the industry, it goes a long way to explaining the ins and outs of financial regulation in local markets. It is particularly useful in placing the SA market in an international context.

How the JSE could be opened up and harmonised with the bond and

futures markets is examined in the light of experience of other world financial markets. The book makes clear that there is no single solution to the problem of obtaining an open, competitive financial market.

The common view in SA that Big Bang in London failed comes across as spurious — a bit like saying Thatcherism failed. While issue can be taken with the speed and manner in which these phenomena were enacted, their inherent soundness, as a principle has never really been brought into question.

The legal structure of financial markets, ethics, accounting and taxation are also covered.

ROBERT GENTLE

Fascinating and fun alternative to chess

KRIEGSPIEL CHESS by Geoffrey Wallis (Jason Systems, R42,50)

THE chess variant, Kriegspiel chess, had its origins in Germany around the turn of the century.

The basis of Kriegspiel chess is that the two contestants do not see one another's moves.

Three boards and sets are required, together with screens which are placed between the boards. An

umpire sits at the centre board to check that moves are legal.

Kriegspiel chess is a fascinating alternative to normal chess and is a lot of fun. Wallis presents an excellent explanation of its intricacies.

The book can be found at Adams & Company, West Street, Durban or it can be ordered from 43 Seabrook, 107 Smith Street, Durban 4018.

PATRICK FOLEY

Desperate as recession bites

Forced into tiny council house

PETER Wessels life fell apart when the recession forced him out of a job

Due to financial difficulties, his firm retrenched him two months ago and he has been unable to find work since

He has had to sell his home and move his family into a tiny council house in Jan Hofmeyer, adjoining Brixton.

A fitter and turner of 20 years' experience, Mr Wessels said he had never experienced difficulty before in getting work, although he is dear

Humming

"But now it's very difficult and hundreds of tradesmen can't get jobs. All the companies are retrenching people, not hiring them, because the economy is very bad," he said.

Life was humming along smoothly for him and his wife, Susan, and their two young daughters

With careful budgeting, scrimping and saving, they managed to buy their first home in Vereeniging.

Their savings account was looking healthy and they were even planning a holiday

Life was looking good

Then, the recession started to bite and his firm was forced to retrench dozens of men, including Mr Wessels.

"We were given a month's salary and told we no longer had jobs," he said.

Every day Mr Wessels went out searching for work.

He went door to door. He telephoned every company he could think of. But everyone told him the same thing: "Sorry, the economy is too bad to employ people. We're trying to cut down on staff."

When his savings were used up, he was forced to sell his home to feed his family

"It was the very last resort but I had to do it to survive," he said.

They have now moved into a council house — and are very grateful to have a roof over their heads

Instead of driving off to work every morning, he now hangs around the house, painting and cleaning up

He continues looking for work but is beginning to get desperate

Their only source of income is his deaf wife's small disability pension. But with inflation, it doesn't even cover basic necessities. □

The recession is biting deeply — statistics show that more people are out of work, more are joining food queues and more are falling into debt. MONICA OOSTERBROEK and ABEL MUSHI investigate



Feeding scheme squatters collect mealie meal at Vlakfontein

Picture Alf Kumalo

Now they must join food queues

RECSSION in the townships and squatter camps of the Reef often means joining charity food queues to supplement the "piece-job" payments with which so many eke out an existence.

Feeding schemes are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain sponsorships

Once a breadwinner with a family of six to feed, 37-year-old Joseph Mavhungu has joined the queue at the collection point of Operation Hunger's feeding scheme at the Vlakfontein squatter camp near Emmerdale outside Johannesburg.

Survived

This handout — which affords his family a 12.5 kg bag of mealie meal, five cups of soup powder and a tin of fish — comes once in a month

The recently retrenched Mr Mavhungu, with no skills, said he survived by doing gardening in the neighbouring suburbs and selling imitation jewellery

"I'm keeping on trying to find a job but there's just no hope. More and more people are losing theirs, and the competition keeps getting tougher," he said

Frans Muthali (57) sells vegetables and firewood since the

engineering firm he worked for was forced to close

"These people are doing a wonderful thing," he said, adding that the rations were of great help to himself, his unemployed wife and their five children

And while 30-year-old housewife Rosina Musekwa collected a ration for her five-member family, her husband was job-hunting in Johannesburg

A fixed total of 185 bags of mealie meal — "nowhere near enough" — were distributed monthly at the squatter camp, said Jabulani Mkhize, the man in charge of the feeding scheme

"There are so many new people joining the queues that we have to use scheme membership cards for control," Mr Mkhize told The Star

Soweto's well-known community leader, Masechaba Mabaso, hands out food packages in Soweto every week, and this year the demand has risen dramatically

"Township violence was at its worst this year and many households who lost their breadwinners are depending on feeding schemes," she said.

Her scheme, which gets its food from the Feed-The-Poor organisation and private sponsorships, has more than 50 distributors in Soweto □

Now they must join food queues

241

Star 3/9/91

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Frans Muthah (57) sells vegetables and firewood since the

engineering firm he worked for was forced to close.

"These people are doing a wonderful thing," he said, adding that the rations were of great help to himself, his unemployed wife and their five children.

And while 30-year-old housewife Rosina Musekwa collected a ration for her five-member family, her husband was job-hunting in Johannesburg.

A fixed total of 185 bags of mealie meal — "nowhere near enough" — were distributed monthly at the squatter camp, said Jabulam Mkhuze, the man in charge of the feeding scheme.

"There are so many new people joining the queues that we have to use scheme membership cards for control," Mr Mkhuze told The Star.

Soweto's well-known community leader, Masechaba Mabaso, hands out food packages in Soweto every week, and this year the demand has risen dramatically.

"Township violence was at its worst this year and many households who lost their breadwinners are depending on feeding schemes," she said.

Her scheme, which gets its food from the Feed-The-Poor organisation and private sponsors, has more than 50 distributors in Soweto. □

The recession is biting deeply — statistics show that more people are out of work, more are joining food queues and more are falling into debt. MONICA OOSTERBROEK and ABEL MUSHI investigate.



Picture Alf Kumalo

Feeding scheme . squatters collect mealie meal at Vlaktfontein

Killer mine's owners sought

Sowetan 5/9/91

241

OPERATION Hunger yesterday appealed to journalists to help locate owners of an asbestos mine responsible for the outbreak of the deadly disease asbestosis among GaMathabatha residents near Lebowa.

Mrs Ina Perlman, executive director of the organisation, said of the dying GaMathabatha residents: "There are men, women, and children.

By MZIMASI NGUDLE

"They have no compensation, they are destitute. In the two years I have visited the area, eight have already died. There are another two, at least, who will not see out this year

Women

"Initially I could not understand why the women were so often the

worst affected, because they were not the miners," Perlman said, "until I realised that asbestos is mined in slabs and that the women were employed to chip at these slabs and reduce them to fine powder in this process.

"We cannot track down the owners of the mine and, therefore, cannot get information on their employment records."

Union warns

MINING



Poverty relief fund to be doubled

8/10/91 5/9/91
GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Finance Minister Barend du Plessis had undertaken to double the current R220m poverty relief fund in the 1992/93 financial year, National Health deputy director-general planning Hans Steyn said yesterday.

Government previously indicated it intended increasing the allocation.

To date, he said, the department had received only two direct appeals for aid, although many inquiries had been referred to regional offices.

The extent of the actual need had not yet been established, so it would be difficult to estimate just how much would be needed.

Asked whether international or-

ganisations or the UN would be asked to assist financially, Steyn said a committee was planned to function as a trust that would be charged with accepting donations.

Steyn said a provisional list of qualification criteria for aid had been compiled and would probably be approved at a meeting today.

Initial sifting of applications would be done by social workers, dieticians and other experts.

The nutrition sub-directorate in Pretoria would then screen applications again and make final recommendations to the envisaged advisory committee of 11 members.

Operation Hunger 'is struggling'

TANIA LEVY (241)

OPERATION Hunger came perilously close to having to cut back on its rations last month, but had been helped out by public and corporate donations, executive director Ina Perlman said yesterday. B1000

5/29/91
She told a news conference in Johannesburg the German government had confirmed it would donate 4 500 tons of maize.

Operation Hunger would still "do a cliffhanger" on fortified soup, and would probably be unable to assist about 50,000 people on its waiting list for aid.

Perlman also said Operation Hunger would take legal action against anyone who spread rumours that it gave money to anything other than its feeding operations.

Poverty relief fund to double

PRETORIA — Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis has undertaken to double the current R220-million poverty relief fund in the 1992/93 financial year, National Health deputy director-general of planning Mr Hans Steyn said yesterday (24) 07519191

To date, he said, the department had received only two direct appeals for aid, although many inquiries had been referred to regional offices.

The extent of the actual need had not yet been established, so it would be difficult to estimate just how much would be needed, he said

We'll sue slanderers, says Perlman

By Shirley Woodgate

Operation Hunger yesterday warned that a summons for malicious slander would be issued against anyone involved in the current "structured and scurrilous" smear campaign being waged against the organisation

Denying any links with the Mandela family or the ANC, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman disclosed fears that persistent rumour-mongering could irreparably damage the image of the country's biggest relief and development project

241 Star 5/19/91
She claimed that a year-long campaign, originally conducted in high circles, included rumours that Operation Hunger had paid for surgery to Nelson, Winnie and Zinzi Mandela, paid the electricity bill in the new ANC offices, and footed the bill for the sound equipment at the ANC's recent Durban congress

In an attempt to halt the slander, Mrs Perlman provided a report by auditors Fisher Hoffman Stride, which established the beneficiaries of all Operation Hunger cheques, as well as letters of denial from the Mandelas' lawyer, Ismail Ayob, and Mr Mandela's doctor

Villagers stricken by deadly asbestosis

AFRICA

By Brian Sokutu

241

At least 100 residents of Ga-Mathabatha, a village near Chuneespoort in Lebowa, are suffering from the deadly disease asbestosis which has claimed the lives of eight people in two years, according to Operation Hunger.

The organisation's executive director, Ina Perlman, described her visit to the area last week as "one of the worst days I have ever spent"

"It was a day when I came home convinced that the greatest sin of all was greed," Mrs Perlman said.

She said there were about 100 people in the village and a nearby squatter camp, who came from the now closed Bewaarskloof mine, "dying of or who will probably die of asbestosis"

The families, among them children, were destitute, had no compensation and depended on minimal rations from Operation Hunger, she said *Star 5/9/91*

Mrs Perlman said earlier she could not understand why women were the worst affected although they were not miners

"It was until I realised that asbestos is mined in slabs and that the women were employed to chip at these slabs and re-

duce them to fine powder in the process Children who played around while their mothers worked were exposed to the dust they inhaled"

Among the victims was a woman whose husband died of asbestosis a month ago

"She is already too weak to walk and fetch water from the tap The village children fill up tubs of water for her once a week In exchange she gives them a pigeon, one of the remaining from the flock that was her husband's pride and joy"

The owners of the mine have not yet been reached for comment

JX 4005

DBUHLE TOWNSHIP

HAGE

Leakages in aid provision must be plugged — Alant

PRETORIA — It was vital that leakages of aid to those not in need should be plugged and target groups be indentifiable and reachable, Deputy Finance Minister Theo Alant said yesterday.

Elaborating on government's broad policy to establish a food assistance scheme for the poorest people, Alant stressed handouts should be limited to avoid the development of a dependency culture.

He said at a food aid discussion forum at the Human Sciences Research Council that although government accepted responsibility for dealing with the consequences of poverty, the introduction of VAT made the need for further steps more urgent.

Because more than 80% of benefits of all GST exemp-

241
BIDay 6/9/91
GERALD REILLY

tions went to those not in need, it was necessary to target assistance to those really in need

Government had set aside R220m for poverty relief this financial year

Poverty was dealt with at three socio-economic development levels — increasing economic growth and job creation potential, tackling urgent socio-economic development problems and widening the implementation of the safety net

Inflation had to be combated, personal savings promoted and higher productivity achieved

Alant listed some of the measures aimed at alleviating pressing socio-economic problems

They included the R75m allocated to the Small Business Development Corporation, the R1bn transferred from the Industrial Development Corporation to the Development Bank for Southern Africa, and R1bn to improve living standards

National Health Minister Rina Venter told the forum targeted food assistance was part of a primary health care programme to address poverty

She said it was alarming that 44% of SA's population and the TBVC states lived below the minimum subsistence level, and that 40% of all infant deaths could be ascribed to malnutrition

An advisory committee would be nominated by the forum to plan long-term strategies to deal with poverty

Venter said food relief funds would be made available to the department's regional offices to be channelled to authorities who had the infrastructure to handle an extended feeding programme



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marked by a high rate of



Death mine's owners sought

By SOPHIE TEMA

HUNDREDS of people in the Northern Transvaal are dying from asbestosis while the owners of an asbestos mine, which is allegedly responsible for the disease, cannot be traced

Operation Hunger this week appealed to the media to help track down the owners of the Bewaarskloof Mine, which closed in

1978, leaving the affected workers destitute

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said this week "There are men, women and children left with no compensation

"They are destitute and totally dependant on the minimal rations Operation Hunger can provide

"In the two years I have visited the area, eight of these people have

already died There are another two, at least, who will not see out this year "

More women than men were affected, she said, although they were not miners

"I could not understand why women were so often the worst affected, until I realised that asbestos was mined in slabs and that women were employed to chip at these slabs and reduce them to

a fine powder form in the process," said Perlman

"They and the children who played around them while they worked were therefore maximally exposed to the fatal dust they inhaled

"It is imperative that we track down the owners of the mine, because at present we cannot get any information about the people's employment records," she said

Little joy for 'outcasts'

APR 15 1919

By SOPHIE TEMA

THEY are hungry, cold, dirty and sickly. They are society's outcasts.

Pavements have become their homes and dirt bins provide them with their daily meals.

These are God's forgotten creatures, South Africa's vagrant and homeless people. During the day, all they do is bask in the sun and to them bread and milk — let alone meat — are a luxury.

Any morsel of food will do for a meal, and to them the word hygiene does not exist. So they ruin the city's dustbins.

While legend has it that the streets of Johannesburg are lined with gold, for these miserable people, life is a perpetual struggle to keep the wolf from the door.

City Press set out to talk to some of these people. Some claim they were once employed, but ended up in the streets after losing their jobs.



HOME SWEET HOME . . . A bed for this woman is a few blankets on the pavement.

Last week a group of women working towards combating the problem of the "pavement people" summoned an ambulance to remove about six of them, lying on the verge of death in a park on the doorstep of a luxury hotel.

They were taken to hospital. A pungent smell hung around them. Among them was a young man who complained that his feet and eyes were sore. An ambulance man found that his

feet were swollen and his eyes infected with conjunctivitis.

Jacob is also one of the pavement people and walks on crutches. He complained about the police who raid them at night and sometimes spray them with teargas to get them off the pavement.

"They harass us in the middle of the night and forget that we have no other place to hide."

Louisa Tshvhasa is a kind-hearted woman who sacrifices her time and money to feed the pavement people.

Every day she prepares a huge pot of soup, bread and cold meat at her Alexandra home and takes the food to Joubert Park to provide the vagrants with a daily meal.

She has no sponsors and buys the food with her own money.



LUNCH TIME . . . A piece of meat scavenged from the dustbin is better than nothing for this youngster.

■ PICS: SIPHIWE MHLAMBI

Why poor eat less

S/Times 15/9/91

A MARKED drop in the sale of maize and maize products since May this year indicates that poorer people are eating less

Premier Food Industries chief executive, Mr Willem de Kok, said one of the reasons for the drop — which could be as high as eight percent — could be blamed on the economic recession and rising unemployment.

A statement from Premier said there was "abject poverty and burgeoning unemployment throughout the country" which indicated that people at the lower end of the market were eating less

Maize Board spokesman Peter Cownie said sales had dropped by 11 000 tons during

May, June and July compared to the same period last year. However, he noted that sales frequently dipped at this time of the year

Tiger Oats spokesman Patrick McLaughlin said his company had experienced a "marginal drop" in recent weeks

"There has been a downturn in manufactured foodstuffs generally — from wheat and maize products to rice and pasta.

"Times are tight, we anticipate that the food industry will be going through a difficult time for quite a while yet

"It seems that people, particularly those at the bottom of the economic ladder, are eating less," he said

Plea for more farming land

S Times 15/9/91
OPERATION Hunger executive director Ina Perlman this week made an impassioned plea to the government to allocate portions of SA's three-million hectares of available land to subsistence farmers — and to do it fast.

"The hunger situation is now too big for any private organisation to handle I pray that government does something fast," she said

Her appeal comes in the face of soaring unemployment, a burgeoning squatter population and rampant malnutrition throughout the country.

The charity organisation, which feeds 1,3-million people daily, is receiving a record number of appeals for emergency feeding each week.

Part of the answer lies in the government making land and funds available for development, she said

"It is time to stop the political posturing and get on with allocating what is available. Even if it isn't the best land in the country, people can get cracking and can easily be made self-supporting on their own land," said Mrs Perlman

"I know the long-term outlook for subsistence farming is not good, but our people need it as a survival mechanism

(241)
"It will provide an interim breathing space for the huge clump of people who are under-educated and will have no place in a new capital-intensive economy. It will give us the 20-year breathing space we need to achieve a turn in the economy"

By establishing six groups of subsistence farms in various parts of South Africa, Operation Hunger has rehabilitated 38 376 people

BY BRIAN POTTINGER

THE poor get poorer and the rich get richer — or so goes the old adage.

Not necessarily true, reveals an important new Urban Foundation survey of income patterns among South Africa's racial groups

Estimates by economist Charles Simkins show that economic growth improves the position of black communities more than it does for whites

The proportion of black households living in poverty, has diminished over the last five years. The proportion of poor white households has increased

Higher growth rates — 2.5 percent for example — lift more urban black households out of poverty. And at a four percent growth rate, the endemic rural poverty is also reduced

The white poor, on the other hand, will experience hardly any improvement in their position, estimates Professor Simkins. The number of whites living in poverty will stay constant at about 200 000 people — even at four percent growth rates

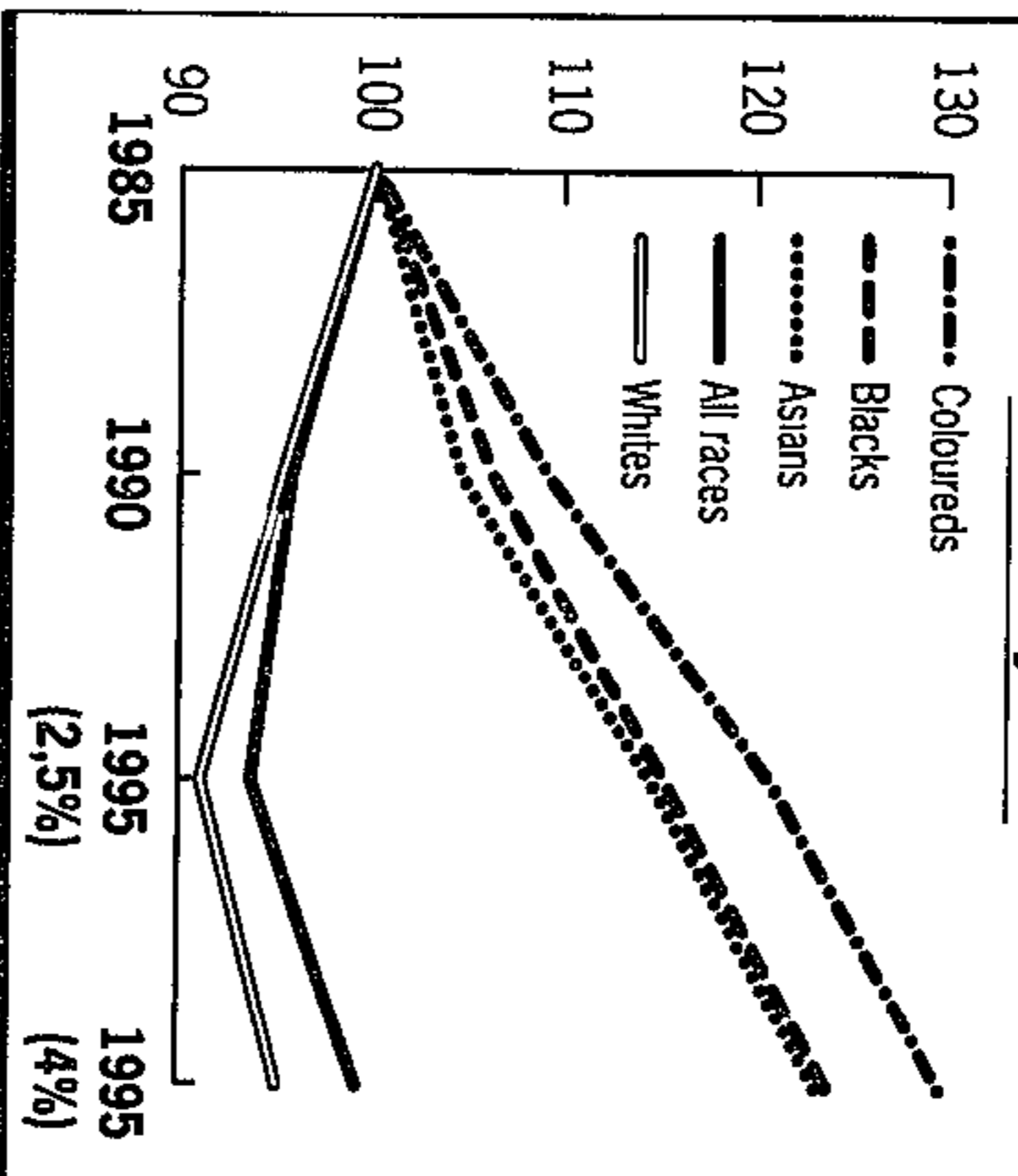
The conclusion economic growth rates will continue the process of income redistribution away from whites towards blacks

Professor Simkins' model shows that the white share of total personal income has been falling sharply. Six years ago whites earned nearly 59 percent of all personal income in the country. Last year the figure had dropped to below 54 percent

THEIR MYTH: Growth makes whites richer

Stivers 22/9/91

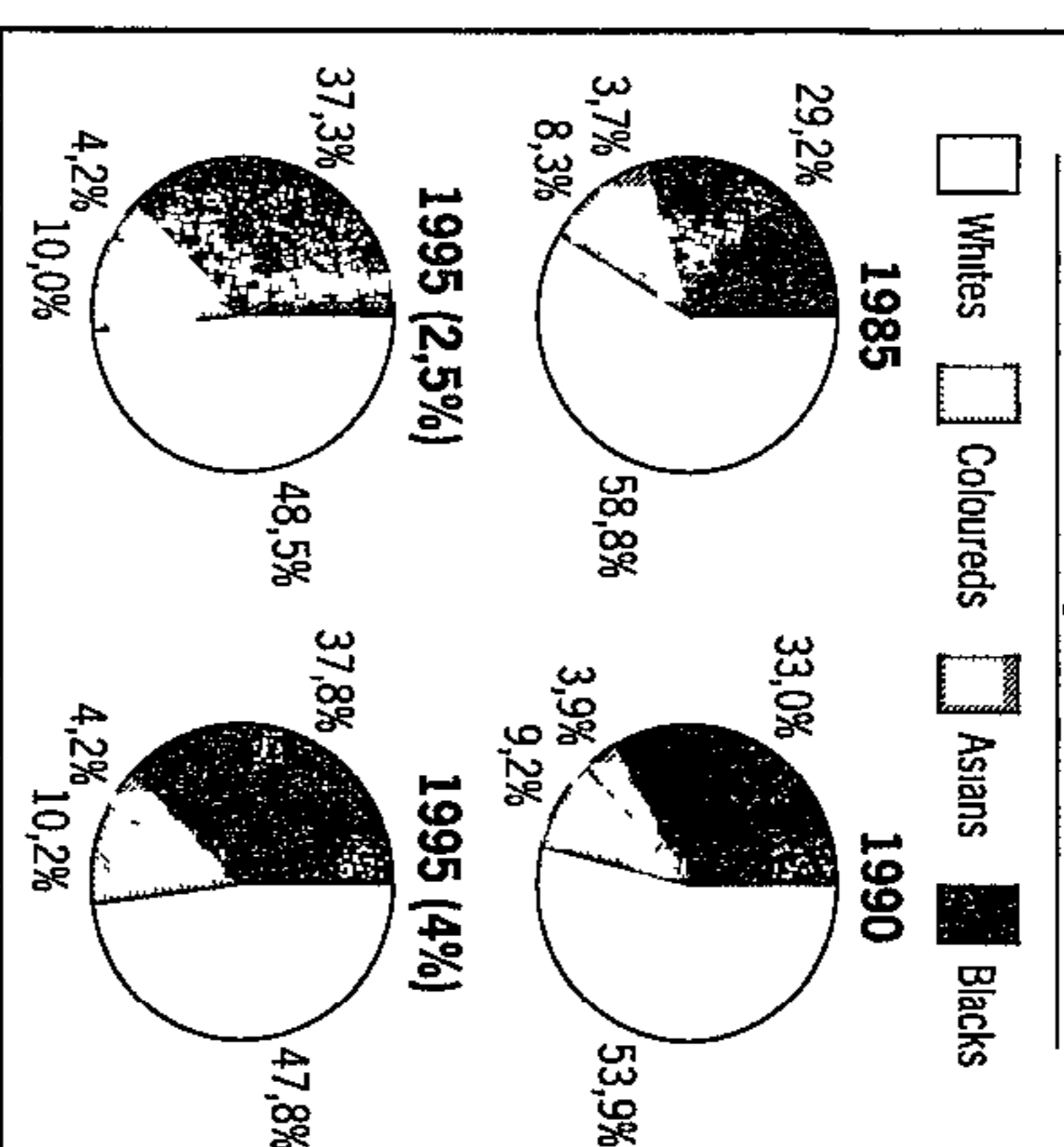
Indices of per capita personal income by race



Graphic: FIONA KNISCH Source: URBAN FOUNDATION

A projected lowering of the white per capita income

Racial shares of personal income



Graphic: FIONA KNISCH Source: URBAN FOUNDATION

The growing black share of personal wealth

THE FACT: Growth makes blacks richer

If one uses a baseline of 100 in 1985, the following has happened

● White per capita income had dropped to 95.8 points by 1990 while black incomes went up to 106.3.

● At a 2.5 percent growth rate white incomes will be at 93.7 points in 1995 while black incomes will be 115.3.

● If we assume a four percent growth rate, white incomes will have

that South Africa is the most unequal society in the world

This is not true: the Gini Coefficient has become one of the most used, and abused, terms in the country

What are the facts?

The Gini Coefficient is measured on a scale of 0 to 1. At 0, a mythical figure, there is complete income equality among all people. At 1, also mythical, one person has everything and every-

body else nothing. The claim that South Africa has the worst Gini Coefficient in the world is probably based on a paper presented to the Second Carnegie Inquiry into poverty in South Africa in 1984.

The authors, De Lange and Van Sevier, in fact, never claimed that South Africa's Gini Coefficient was the worst but that it was the worst of the countries for which such information was available. Data from only 57 countries was available and that had been

recovered to 99.3 in 1995 while black incomes will have risen to 123.8

There are two reasons why the racial share of personal income is changing: the black component of the total population is increasing and per capita income of blacks is increasing in real terms while white income is decreasing

"Both these trends are working in the same direction to redistribute

collected from 1948 to 1971

Notable by their absence were the oil-producing countries and places like Zaire where the income differentials between kleptocracy and citizens would put South Africa in the shade.

Even then, later research by Gary Field, a World Bank economist, has thrown up the uncomfortable fact that at least four other countries have higher Gini Coefficients than South Africa.

income away from whites towards coloureds, Asians and blacks," says Professor Simkins

The Simkins model suggests that the number of South African households living in poverty (the uses for his definition the Minimum Living Level which is described as the minimum income required for subsistence in the short-term), has declined in the last five years from 42.8 percent to

41.9 percent of all households

At a growth rate of 2.5 percent, the model suggests, households in poverty drop to 40.1 percent and at four percent it is 37.9 percent

About one-third of black households in cities live below the MLL, though this proportion rises to just over 50 percent on the fringes of cities under homeland jurisdiction. Poverty levels in smaller towns are slightly higher

But the incidence of poverty is still enormous among rural black communities

The homeland rural poor benefit the least 84 percent were termed "in poverty" in 1985, 82.6 percent were still there last year. 80 percent will be there in 1995 on a 2.5 percent growth rate and 77.2 percent in 1995 at a four percent growth rate

The total number of people living in poverty (as opposed to households) has also increased

In 1985, 15.5-million people were considered poor. Last year there were 17.1-million. By 1995, with a 2.5 percent rate of economic growth, the number of poor would still have edged up to 18.4-million. It is only with a growth rate of four percent that the corner is turned in that case the number of people classified as poor by 1995 would drop back to 17.4-million

Mossgas

What would it cost to bring all South African households to the MLL?

Professor Simkins assays some figures. In 1985 it would have cost R6,7-billion. Last year it was R13,8-billion (the estimated cost of Mossgas). In 1995, at a 2.5 percent growth rate it would take R14,6-billion and at four percent it drops back to R13,8-billion (in 1990 prices)

The conclusion, says Professor Simkins, is that income inequality remains unequal along racial lines, although in "rapidly diminishing measure"

Even with the low rate of economic growth between 1985 and 1990, the proportion of households in poverty has dropped

"Unless economic growth drops to even lower levels, further progress against poverty can be expected during the first half of the 90s," he says.

They are Jamaica, Bahamas, Honduras and Sierra Leone

Brazil, Mexico and Malaysia are all at roughly the same stage of development as South Africa and all have roughly comparable Gini Coefficients.

South Africa, unlike many other countries at similar stages of development, is slowly improving its record. Research between 1970 and 1980 suggested a declining Gini Coefficient.

OTHER COUNTRIES MORE UNEQUAL THAN US

THE Gini Coefficient sounds like the title of a Robert Ludlum novel but it is in fact the most widely used measure of economic inequality within a particular society

South Africa does not do well in terms of that definition. It is in the top quarter of the most unequal societies in the world for which data is available

But some people — the SA Communist Party's Joe Slovo is one — insist

Fall

If South Africa maintains a 2.5 percent growth rate for the next four years (current growth rate is about -1 percent), white share of personal income will fall to 49 percent. If the country can achieve an economic growth rate of four percent, white share slips another one percent

What then happens to black South Africans' share of personal income?

The Simkins model suggests that at a four percent growth rate, black share of personal income would have risen from 29.2 percent in 1985 to 37.8 percent in 1995

Real per capita income has also shown some interesting changes in the last decade

Op Hunger to appeal to Govt for aid

By Brian Sokutu

241

Operation Hunger, South Africa's largest food-aid organisation, desperately needs more funds and will ask the Government for assistance

Executive director Ina Perlman said last night that Government aid would be the only way Operation Hunger could avoid suspending feeding programmes in some areas for the next two months.

Addressing the organisation's national annual general meeting in Johannesburg yesterday, Mrs Perlman said that the country faced 47 per cent unemployment, coupled with a high illiteracy rate

"This is our most testing year at Operation Hunger I can't see how the illiterate will benefit from a new improved economy because they are people born earning a living by working on the mines," Mrs Perlman said

"Every day brings new appeals, new heartbreaking statistics on child health, escalating malnutrition, escalating disease and child deaths



Ina Perlman . . . "It's the only way to avoid suspending feeding schemes in some areas."

"My reaction when we first heard of the Government's proposed safety net for the poor was one of huge relief, of gratitude that there would be another player, that the Government was now prepared to shoulder the responsibility that had fallen solely and squarely on the private sector up to now."

Although applying to the Government for assistance would mean a major departure for her organisation, hitherto funded by the private sector, Mrs Perlman said there was no alternative.

"Statistics on malnutrition, hunger and death are soaring, and our constituency cannot wait," she said.

Mrs Perlman commended Bernd Dreesmann, secretary-general of the Holland-based EuronAid (the European Association of Non-governmental Organisations for Food Aid and Emergency Aid), whom she said spearheaded Operation Hunger's campaigns for funds in Europe.

In his address, Mr Dreesmann warned that a 10 million-ton food shortage in Africa last year would increase to 15 million tons by the year 2000.

"To avert this crisis, Africa's population, especially in war-torn countries like Mozambique, Angola and Ethiopia, will have to decrease And agricultural productivity will have to double from 2 percent to 4 percent annually," he said.

Mr Dreesmann said he observed "a huge unemployment and visible poverty in South African streets," and urged Operation Hunger to step up lobbying for funds abroad.

SURVEY

INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Breaking the cycle of poverty

Sowetan 26/9/91

241

R2-Billion to be spent

The Independent Development Trust (IDT) set aside nearly R1,5 billion for about 150 projects in its first year of operations which ended on July 31 1991. A total of R2 Billion of taxpayers' money was entrusted to the IDT

AMONG THE MAJOR ITEMS WERE

- R750 million to a capital subsidy scheme for the development of nearly 100 000 sites to accommodate about 700 000 people
- R300 million to the building of 50 000 new classrooms to serve as learning centres for various sectors of the community.
- R70 million to set up a major pre-school educare programme for under privileged children
- R47 million to create a finance house for home loans for people who are too poor to borrow from building and banks in the usual way
- R12 6 million to an AIDS education and health care network.

Although large sums of money have been made available, the IDT is very careful about how it spends or invests its funds. It has therefore earned good yields on its money in the money markets in an effort to make its funds go further. This earned the IDT an additional R350 million in interest in 1990/91. The IDT has also begun a concerted effort to raise more development money abroad. IDT executives have warned that what seemed like "an enormous sum of money" a year ago, has shrunk in

AMONG THE IDT'S SPECIAL PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS HAVE BEEN

- creating a new low-risk stock called a Collateralised Housing Investment Paper which will bring in money for shelter for the poor
- the signing of a support agreement with Nelson Mandela and Mangosuthu Buthelezi which links peace with reconstruction and commits both their organisations to help the IDT which is hoping to use development projects to support peace pacts

IDT CHAIRMAN JAN STEYN HAS IDENTIFIED SOME OF THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE IDT'S METHOD OF OPERATING

- remaining a small unit, so that the greatest amount of money possible could reach its target — the 10 million poor people in South Africa,
- aiming most of the money directly at the poor,
- reaching as many poor people as possible,
- being consistent and fair in allocating funds,
- making sure the community is involved in every aspect of a project's development and building, wherever possible,
- a multiplier factor into



The Board of Trustees of the IDT. From left back row: Johan Moodman, former business executive; Professor Wiseman Nkhalha, principal of the Univ. of Transkei; Dr. Dwaar van der Walt, president HSRC; Patrick Naylor, consulting engineer; Bob Tucker, former MD of the Farm and now a business consultant; Sam Motswenyane, Middle row: Professor Len Konar, head dept of accountancy; Univ of Durban Westville; Sam Motswenyane, president of Nafco; Mike Roskoff, former chairman, Barlow Rand and chairman Urban Foundation. Front row: Dr. Mamphele Ramphele, deputy vice-chancellor UCT; Jan Steyn, IDT chairman; Professor Harriet Ngubane, professor of social anthropology, UCT; Absent: Len Abrahamse, vice chairman of Old Mutual; Dr. Simon Brand, executive chairman, Development Bank of Southern Africa; Professor Jerry Coovadia, head of dept of parasitology and child health, Univ of Natal; Dr. Stanley Mogoeba, Presiding Bishop, Methodist Church of Southern Africa.

investments, ie seeing that investments are made in such a way that other funds and efforts are attracted to a project, so that it grows even more. Steyn said he had been disappointed by the fact that some businesses did not seem to want to think creatively and invest risk capital for the sake of national, and therefore business, interests in the years to come. He welcomed, however, the contribution of visionary business leaders, especially those who supported the R500 million Private Sector Initiative under the leadership of Mr. Mike Roskoff. He criticised so-called "gatekeepers" who he described as often self-appointed and who demanded that they should have the power to approve new programmes in the community. He distinguished between them and genuinely committed workers at grass roots who selflessly devoted themselves to the needs of the poor, and thanked them for supporting the work of the IDT and other development agencies. Steyn said the pressure to move fast had been enormous, but that the IDT had felt it necessary to move carefully and sensitively in all its projects. He warned that the IDT would not allow itself to be pressured for the benefit of interest groups, either business or political.

“The Independent Development Trust has earmarked nearly R1,5 billion, or 75% of the money entrusted to it by South African taxpayers in 1990, for development projects for the poor. The IDT aims to help South Africa's poorest citizens break the cycle of poverty, and is attacking backlogs in housing, education, health, and community and rural development.”

SMALL LOANS FOR THE VERY POOR

Sevetan 26/9/91
The IDT Finance Corporation has been set up with initial capital of R120 million to help finance shelter for the very poor

The IDTFC will make small loans to low-income borrowers for housing. Money will be lent, at the usual interest rates, to small groups of township borrowers whose sense of group responsibility and trust ensures that most members make their repayments regularly.

The IDTFC's start-up capital has been put up by the AECI Pension Fund, Fedlife, Metlife, the Mine Officials' Pension Fund, Old Mutual, Sanlam, Southern Life, and Syfrets Managed Assets.

The IDT has provided R46,6 million to guarantee their investments.

The IDTFC will lend money to community-based financial intermediaries known as Group Credit Organisations (GCOs). The GCOs will lend the money on to groups of borrowers.

Groups will allocate five-year loans of no more than R5000 to each of their members — people who cannot borrow money for building homes in the normal way.

Each member of a borrower group stands surety for the others. Loans are paid out to each person a bit at a time, instead of in a

lump sum, over the first two years. ~~241~~ ~~241~~

The demand for this sort of funding could be as much as R500 million a year, say the IDTFC's managers. They hope to raise it by getting investors to place their funds into specially structured securities that give investment houses the opportunity to invest in development. ~~241~~

The IDTFC believes these investments should be secure because the IDT has provided collateral. Research shows that in this sort of township borrowing scheme, the vast majority of borrowers pay the money back.

Solar energy: Bringing power to the people

WHILE the nation looks eagerly toward a "new South Africa", the situation in the "real South Africa" is very bleak.

Some 20 million people still live in Third World conditions with no electricity and no running water.

The vast majority of these are rural communities which are unlikely to gain access to power lines within the foreseeable future, if ever.

This is because the supply of electricity, through a grid of power lines, is uneconomical because of distances involved and extremely small loads.

For these disadvantaged communities - whose main priority is quality electric lighting and the ability to power their television sets - candles, paraffin and car batteries are a way of life.

Sowetan 26/9/91

Emphasis

While great emphasis is placed on provision of housing - we pat ourselves on the back when basic structures are provided - no thought is given to providing basic services.

These townships soon develop into modern slums, a legacy of what we call "social upliftment".

Guilt is local authorities, municipalities and black workforce employers.

Everyday we create new slums where we cattle-herd people into train type "houses" or matchbox-like structures.

But every night these people have to collect their water from a single tap on

241 By JOSHUA RABOROKO

the street corner in their township which is blacker than hell.

In their homes, children vainly try to study by the flickering light of a candle. In the next room, if they are lucky, a black and white TV runs from a car battery that had been lugged many kilometres to be recharged (R8 a week - plus transport).

These people spend a minimum R50 a month for these primitive, yet basic necessities.

What is the answer?

If these were installed at the time of constructing the house, monthly repayments would amount to less than half of what they currently spend on the degrading practice of using candles/paraffin/car batteries that have to be recharged constantly.

Solar power is safe, clean, quiet and reliable. There are no moving parts and no running costs.

A solar panel is mounted on the roof. The panel is connected to a battery. During daylight hours the solar panel transforms into electricity. The electricity generated is then stored in a battery.

The BP Teletite which works on the above principle can power up to six 15-watt fluorescent light while also servicing a black and white TV.

Solar electricity is ready to be used to light up townships into a brighter South Africa.

See more on this at the Golden Highway Housing Expo.

Making a living... Alex style

Sowetan 26/9/91

533

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EVER thought about how unemployed people survive in this severe economic recession?

A study done on 900 people in Alexandra, where 55 percent of the population is unemployed, has come up with some startling revelations.

On the question "how do you survive", the most frequent answer is: "Stealing from the wealthy northern suburbs of Johannesburg."

Running an informal business comes second.

By DON SEOKANE

Then follows gambling and robbing people in the township.

Other answers, according to their order, are: Doing odd jobs, begging, being supported by the family and selling liquor.

Scrap

Scavenging and doing temporary work are last on the list of the 10 most frequent answers.

The survey was conducted by Education for Employment, a joint

project by Alexandra and its neighbours to provide jobs skills training and work opportunities.

Other ways of earning an income mentioned are selling scrap, washing taxis, prostitution, drug-smuggling and selling jumble.

Mr Dave Jackson, director of Education for Employment, says it must be recognised that the situation is desperate and unlikely to improve in the short term.

"Unless businessmen;

in co-operation with responsible community leaders, look seriously at what can be done to create job opportunities, crime will become an acceptable part of urban life in South Africa."

Youth

Jackson said the Education for Employment was also providing improved schooling and Pre-schooling Educare.

Parental education and youth counselling including community leadership programmes are

also offered to the Alexandra community."

Jackson is to address a meeting of business executives on "The unemployment crisis - implications and practical options for business" at the Sandton Sun on October 3. Businessmen willing to attend should contact Mrs Barbara Holden at 706-1436.

The meeting is to be hosted by Mr John Hall, president of the South African Chamber of Commerce.

Govt is paying millions to poor

241

Star 26/9/91
By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

The Department of National Health has already paid out R5 million of its R220 million budget for the poor and underprivileged — and is currently processing R10 million to be paid out to local authority clinics

Scores of organisations running projects and programmes focused on alleviating poverty have applied to the department's regional offices country-wide for assistance — and requests amounting to about R16 million are in the process of evaluation, a department spokesman said

A proposed application for State assistance from Operation Hunger, South Africa's largest food-aid organisation, would also be considered according to guidelines if and when it was received, the spokesman said

Operation Hunger's executive director, Ina Perlman has stated that she will ask the Government for assistance as the only means to avoid temporarily suspending feeding programmes in some areas

The organisation had been funded by the private sector, but now it was obliged to seek State funds in the wake of the alarming increase in demand for food

SMALL LOANS FOR THE VERY POOR

The IDT Finance Corporation has been set up with initial capital of R120 million to help finance shelter for the very poor

The IDTFC will make small loans to low-income borrowers for housing. Money will be lent, at the usual interest rates, to small groups of township borrowers whose sense of group responsibility and trust ensures that most members make their repayments regularly.

The IDTFC's start-up capital has been put up by the AECI Pension Fund, Fedlife, Metlife, the Mine Officials' Pension Fund, Old Mutual, Sanlam, Southern Life, and Syfrets Managed Assets

Soweto 26/9 - 2/9/91
The IDT has provided R46,6 million to guarantee their investments

The IDTFC will lend money to community-based financial intermediaries known as Group Credit Organisations (GCOs). The GCOs will lend the money on to groups of borrowers.

Groups will allocate five-year loans of no more than R5000 to each of their members — people who cannot borrow money for building homes in the normal way.

Each member of a borrower group stands surety for the others. Loans are paid out to each person a bit at a time, instead of in a

lump sum, over the first two years.

The demand for this sort of funding could be as much as R500 million a year, say the IDTFC's managers. They hope to raise it by getting investors to place their funds into specially structured securities that give investment houses the opportunity to invest in development.

The IDTFC believes these investments should be secure because the IDT has provided collateral. Research shows that in this sort of township borrowing scheme, the vast majority of borrowers pay the money back.

THE FIRST YEAR

The New Faces



26/9-2/10/91
ENOS MABUZA, former chief minister of Kwa-Ngwane, and Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, principal of the University of Transkei, have agreed to join the Independent Development Trust as executive directors

Their appointments mean there are now eight members of the IDT executive committee. Mabuza stepped down as chief minister earlier this year and now serves as a director of several large companies. He started with the IDT in August and is working from its Johannesburg office.

He will play an important part in the IDT's top level negotiations, and in its programme of communication with groups and organisations.

PROF WISEMAN NKUHLU is already an IDT trustee. From January 1, 1992, however, he will use a year of sabbatical leave from the University of Transkei, to take up a job as Executive Director of Project Development for the IDT.

He will be working in two of the IDT's main areas of operation, education and health. In education, his main job will be to plan a national programme to set up community learning centres. An important part of this will be the setting up of community trusts to run the centres.

In the health area, Nkuhlu will be working on a national programme for building clinics. This programme, and the clinics, will be linked to the IDT's project for building schools.



FUNDS ALLOCATED TO PROJECTS

Housing	R 898 738 044
Education	R 414 814 637
Health, Rural and Community Development	R 135 515 852

A NEED FOR SELF-RELIANCE

24/9-2/10/91
 The IDT's approach to development strongly emphasises self-reliance — which is very important in view of the rapid and alarming breakdown of black community life, says IDT trustee Dr Mamphele Ramphela.

Ramphela, a sociologist and deputy vice chancellor of the University of Cape Town, says this breakdown can be seen in many aspects of black life.

Families break up. Many people are without jobs, and many others simply do not have the skills to get jobs even if jobs were available. Drugs and liquor are abused. Crime rates soar. Skilled successful people, who set a good example in their neighbourhoods, leave the townships.

Generally, despair grows until people believe they are victims who can do little or nothing to help themselves. Thus they lack the will to come to grips with these tough challenges, says Ramphela.

Ramphela makes two points. First, one finds similar situations among white working class people in Ireland and the United Kingdom. Pockets of this sort of breakdown can be seen in India. And in South Africa these conditions are found among many poor whites.

Secondly, it's not just an economic problem. Other factors include

- the growing number of people living in the cities,
- how badly off people think



Dr Mamphele Ramphela

they are, and if they think they have been exploited, their belief that the government, or the rich, "owe" them a better life.

Ramphela calls this "the culture of entitlement", and notes that it has thrived on the huge gap between rich and poor in South Africa.

All of this was made worse by the strategy of "making South Africa ungovernable", which relied on mass mobilisation, school and consumer boycotts, people's courts and other alternative structures which depended on force and intimidation to get people in line.

For "victims", the "victim" image has been an important way of surviving, even though it created problems. But many aid and development agencies, although they meant well, added to the problem by supporting the "victim" approach.

Blacks are social victims of racist policies that deliberately made them poorer and reduced their life

chances, says Ramphela. So the argument that they are "entitled" is a strong one.

But the problem of how to make up for these policies is a hard one, the demands are huge, and the resources to meet them limited.

Ramphela also points to the danger of "victims" coming to see society, rather than themselves, as the factor which counts most in improving their situations. Such people have to accept, says Ramphela, that they themselves will have to play a very big part in making a success of their lives.

The IDT and others involved in development must start, says Ramphela, by recognising that black people are still able to respond to properly thought-out plans to help. "This capacity resides in individuals, support groups and organised pressure groups. There are also safety nets which people have developed over the years which can benefit from being strengthened."

A conscious effort to invest in the black community — as a way of breaking with the past — will strengthen these groups, says Ramphela. The aim should be the development of people, and every people have to be involved every step of the way.

Choosing strategies and projects that are important symbolically, and that also have spin-offs that produce other benefits, "would go a long way to restoring hope and trust", says Ramphela.

NEW STUDIES by the Independent Development Trust show that the Government will need to go on ploughing at least R500 million a year into subsidy schemes to make even a dent in the black housing crisis

That is the estimate of essential funds needed to maintain the momentum of the black advancement programme launched by the IDT

Research has revealed that far fewer than a million black families are struggling to survive, with no chance of affording even a simple house plot without subsidisation

Fresh cash injections will soon become urgent as the first R2 billion runs out. Almost R1.5 billion has already been spent or committed on scores of projects aimed at improvements in many spheres, from housing to education and health

All they want is a roof

Star 30/9/91

services

Appeals for more funds are now reaching out to international investors. The first cash injection by foreign investors — a significant breakthrough as the IDT spreads word of its dilemma — may be imminent.

Top United States investment banker J.P. Morgan of New York has confirmed that it will take the lead in seeking a substantial loan for the IDT on the Eurromarket.

IDT chairman Jan Steyn has plans to visit London, Zurich and Frankfurt in the next few weeks to seek the support of prominent European bankers

and financiers.

Observers have taken note that Mr Steyn has also visited Brussels for talks with top officials of the European Community — no doubt putting out feelers about the chances of more EC funds flowing into socio-economic projects.

The first foray into the international money market will aim to raise at least \$100 million (R280 million), and the total could be higher if there is a good response.

"All the signals look good," says IDT communications director Jolyon Nuttall. "We're very optimistic about the out-

The R2 billion fund used to launch the Independent Development Trust is nearing exhaustion. The hunt has started for more cash, reports MICHAEL CHESTER.

come. We're busting a gut to find new sources of funds to keep the wheels turning. More money must be found."

The Eurodollars have been earmarked primarily for such projects as new rural water systems, new schools and more clinics.

But IDT housing director Ben van der Ross believes that re-

sponsibility for funds to be ploughed into housing subsidies for the poorest layers of black society must be shouldered by the State.

"It would be a total disaster if the Government failed to follow through with pledges of more State funds in the 1992 Budget," he says. "It's going to need repeated injections of at

least R500 million a year to meet demand."

The phenomenal dimensions of demand has emerged as the IDT presses the buttons to launch its R750 million scheme to provide homeless families with at least the basic requirement of serviced house sites which they can claim as their own, and on which to build when cash becomes available.

Even seasoned experts have been alarmed by the evidence that has emerged of the scale of poverty.

IDT executives have worked out a basic profile for each homeless family able to qualify

for a R7 500 capital subsidy to cover the cost of a small house stand on which they can construct shelter of some sort, and improve on it as and when they can afford to do so.

It is a profile of utter poverty — trying to maintain a family — an average of seven — on a total household income of less than R250 a week.

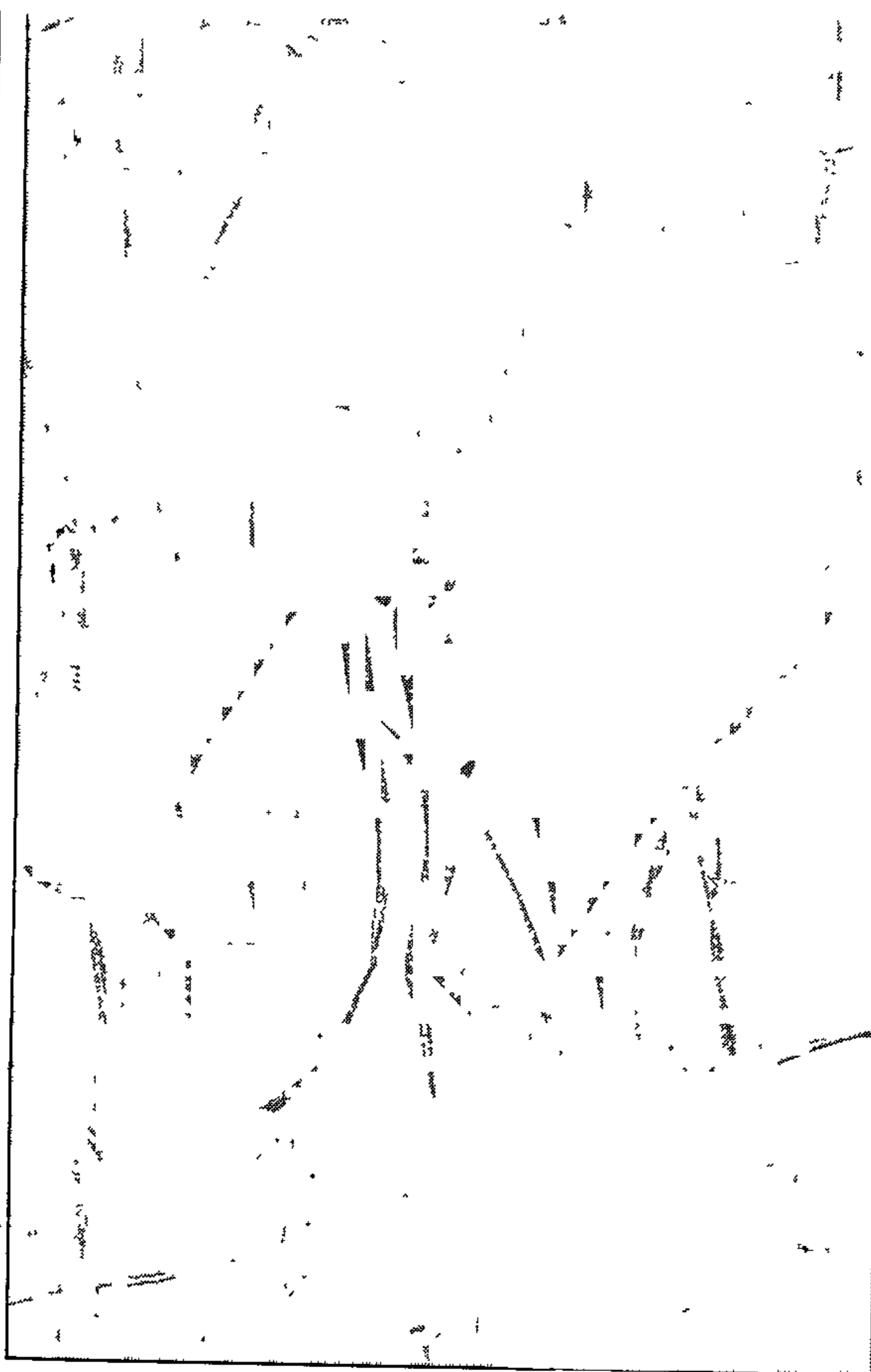
The IDT was overjoyed to find that the R750 million scheme promised house sites for no less than 100 000 families — meaning about 700 000 people, on the basis of the average size of black households. The sting has come with dis-

covers about precisely how many more families fit the profile of impoverishment. Applications have already soared above 640 000 — and new estimates put the potential total as high as 1 million.

"That means the first phase of the programme can reach barely 10 percent of all the homeless families that deserve assistance," Mr van der Ross points out.

"Fortunately, even the most cynical taxpayer knows that it's essential to solve the problem, and feels no resentment about seeing the Government reaching into the State coffers for such an exercise.

"Home ownership is critical to any strategy aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty and giving hope to the poorest and most desperate layers of society at family and community level." □



Little hunter Obakeng Seoka used to kill birds with a catapult, but since it broke he has been luring them into a trap to provide food for his family.

Picture: Alf Kumalo

Where feeding schemes are the only salvation

By Jacqueline Myburgh 1/10/91

Obakeng Seoka is a real provider he catches dinner for his mother and siblings every day

The sad thing is, dinner for 10 is usually a tiny bird that he lures into an old rusted bird cage with a sprinkling of mealie meal, and Obakeng is five years old

"Actually, he's probably seven years old, but he looks so small because he has been undernourished all his life," says Judith Mokhetle, national co-ordinator relief and development at Operation Hunger

Destitute

Obakeng is the second-youngest in a family of 10 that relies on Operation Hunger and the local Catholic mission for their monthly ration of mealie meal, protein soup, soya mince and milk powder.

He is also one of thousands of destitute Winterveldt residents who have no work, no income, and probably no chance of a change in fortune

These are the hungry of South Africa and, according to Miss Mokhetle, the Ethiopia scenario is upon us

"You just don't see it because of our intervention," she says.

live in a semi-desert. Almost every tree has been burnt for fuel, and Mother Nature hasn't helped either there is no surface water, and residents have to buy water from their landlords at 45c for 20 litres

The ground is barren because no rain has fallen in the Winterveldt for months and residents have not been able to cultivate their small patches of land this year

Apart from the unemployment, there is another element in the Winterveldt that adds to the poverty and hunger, but community workers discourage people from talking about it fleeing from poverty and war, more than 80 000 Mozambican refugees have settled here and they live in permanent fear of arrest and intimidation by Bophuthatswana authorities, says Miss Mokhetle.

"They board up their windows because they don't want to be seen, but as a result one can spot a Mozambican house a mile away," she says

Lena Khoza is one of these refugees. An elderly woman, she looks after her Mozambican grandchildren

One of her chores is to collect the round nuts that lie in the bush around her house and grind them into a powder. This is cooked up and served with mealie meal provided by Opera-

cellent source of protein, says Miss Mokhetle.

The other angels of mercy in the Winterveldt are the community workers from the local Catholic mission. Under the leadership of Sister Joan Pearton, they care for the hungry and the sick

"Three-quarters of the babies born in the Winterveldt are underweight. Often the mothers are malnourished, so they do not have the milk or the energy to feed their children," Sister Joan says

Her workers are faced with cases of cerebral palsy, epilepsy, brain damage and physical deformity, and not only among children.

"Basically they are all apathetic and are just waiting to die," Sister Joan says

Starving

Like all relief operations, Sister Joan's mission is finding it more and more difficult to raise funds

Miss Mokhetle says overseas donors want their money to go only towards development of the community, and not food

"But there's no point in developing people who are starving," pleads Sister Joan.

"They don't have the energy or the will to do

NEWS IN BRIEF

~~News~~

Food shortages loom

ONE in 10 summer grain farmers had gone to the wall, the National Maize Producers' Organisation (Nampo) said yesterday, adding the plight of a large number of them threatened platteland economies and raised the spectre of food shortages soon ~~soon~~

An executive member said unless government extended its aid schemes, a further 15% would be forced off their farms. (241)

13/p. ay. 9/11/97

Suspected fraud sum 'rising'

THE suspected fraud at Sage Holdings subsidiary Financial Planning Services (FPS) now involves about R14m and looks set to escalate, according to well-placed sources. The figure initially mentioned was R10m.

Attorneys acting on behalf of a Johannesburg businessman, whom they say stands to lose R2,3m, claim the FPS consultant involved in the case has put a substantial amount of money into a luxury yacht in Cape Town.

However, attorneys have so far been unable to link outright ownership of the yacht with the consultant, whose name is known to Business Day.

Sources said FPS had also taken steps to sequester the estate of the suspected consultant.

Sage director and FPS spokesman Bernard Nackan refused to comment yesterday, saying only that in-depth investigations were continuing.

He said as far as FPS was concerned the

BRENT VON MELVILLE

matter was sub judice and mere "speculation" could not be commented on.

Police liaison officer Capt Eugene Opperman said a case had been opened, and that investigations were continuing.

He said he could not confirm whether a warrant had been issued for the FPS consultant, who is thought to be in London.

Sources add that aside from Randbond Investments, which says it has claims against the consultant for R2,1m, there are at least two other private clients with claims said to involve more than R4m.

A lawyer said it was "more than likely" that FPS would be liable for debts incurred by the consultant.

He said there was a 1989 case on record where FPS was legally obliged to pay for a fraud perpetrated by its consultant.

The newly formed banking group Absa holds 49% of FPS

Free State files global flight plan

LINDEN BIRNS

SA's latest hopeful international airline, African International Airways, yesterday began recruiting air hostesses for flights it plans to operate from a base in the Free State.

A newspaper advertisement yesterday said only Asian and Chinese hostesses aged between 18 and 25 should apply. They would be required to move to the central Free State immediately.

According to the advertisement, the airline will fly to southern African destinations and "internationally".

One of the airline's owners, Sonja Delpert, last night declined to elaborate on the company's plans, but said a full media briefing would be given once all operating details were finalised.

Sources said African International Airlines would use Boeing 707s and BAC1-11s. *B/day 4/10/91*

Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA) chief director Japie Smit last night confirmed that an application had been lodged with his department, but said the airline had applied only for a freight charter service licence.

According to a recent Government Gazette, the airline would use two Swazi-registered Douglas DC-8 cargo aircraft and had applied to base its operations at Jan Smuts Airport.

Several second-hand Boeing 707s, Douglas DC-8s and BAC1-11s are on sale in Africa. The latest Avmark world aircraft pricings lists 707s at between \$1m and \$5m, DC-8s between \$1m and \$18m, and BAC1 11s at between \$0,6m and \$1,5m each.

It is not known which institution will finance the airline's acquisitions.

Security group starts feeding scheme

THE security organisation Neighbourhood Watch has started a feeding scheme for underprivileged communities in a bid to curb rampant suburban crime.

Marius Wessels, the organisation's convener, said yesterday increasing poverty in squatter areas had forced people to resort to theft for a living.

He said the non-profit project had been started in Durban and would be extended throughout the country.

ANTHONY NDLOVU

"Many of the people in these camps are living on the breadline; they spend the little money they have buying food with low nutritional value, at exorbitant prices," said Wessels.

Neighbourhood Watch, whose members carry arms while on duty, is putting together special food packs for distribution to squatters.

A survey will be conducted

to ensure that the contents of the packs meet people's daily dietary requirements.

Wessels believes the scheme will go a long way to furthering safety and security in SA.

"It would be short-sighted for us to barricade our neighbourhoods without addressing the cause of the problem," he said.

He said the Department of Health was approached for further assistance and he was awaiting a response.

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Maria's boy child

(241)
REG 5/10/91

When you've got nothing, a little is a lot

NICOLA BAJT
Weekend Argus Reporter

A BATH in the sunshine in a homemade bucket is more than enough to make you smile when you're just two years and nine months old — especially after you've survived the wettest September in 50 years, sleeping rough on the Cape Town foreshore

Little Asera Isaacs is a beautiful child who can still find pleasure in the simplest things. He hasn't quite reached the stage of registering just how tough life can be as one of the youngest in the lost community of Cape Town's 1000 or more street people. But he's learning fast.

His mother Maria points to her slashed face and tells how "skollies" sometimes fight her and her husband Ronald. "God helps me, and when I fight Asera helps. 'I want to help you', says Asera. I tell him 'I don't want you to help me'. Then he cries. I don't want him to grow up that way. People cut me, I think only about my son."

Maria, like her husband Ronald, is ravaged by alcohol. She says "A doctor at Lentegeur Hospital told me I must stay in hospital, but I can't leave my son. The doctor said my liver is black and I mustn't drink any more. I don't now."

The Isaacs's world revolves around hanging on to their old supermarket trolley and the grubby blankets they lay out on the rough, littered waste ground each night for a communal bed.

They stayed with Maria's stepsister before she asked them to go, says Maria. So then they moved on to the foreshore. A social worker at Mannenburg tried to help with getting Asera into a creche — but he needs a birth certificate and book of life before his existence is officially recognised.

Ronald is unemployed. Maria collects newspapers to sell for food, mainly for her child. "I don't like to ask people for money. If someone offers me work I do it."

Sometimes, she says, she makes between R4 and R7 from newspapers. Then she buys bread, coffee and a cool drink for Asera. There's not much money for the fruit and milk the little boy really needs.

When it's very cold the door of the gym across the way offers the luxury of shelter. "The boss knows us," says Maria. When she cleans there her family can sleep in the doorway.

"The boss and the police know us. They don't bother us. I put all our things in the drain near the gym. People at the gym let us use it. Once they bought us a blanket."

"The police tell me my father lives in Boksburg. His name is Ivan Africa. I asked this guy to help me. I gave him my father's name to phone the police in Boksburg to find out if he's there. Nothing happened. When I think about it I want to cry."

"One day my father tried to find me. He knows I live in Cape Town but he doesn't know where I was sleeping in a parking lot. Afterwards people told me my mother and father were looking for me and my mother was crying 'Where's my daughter?'"

"I try not to think about it but when I stay with my parents I can see my life. It's better when me, my husband and Asera are together. We don't worry about other people. We're only three — alone."



Pictures: KAREN BRINER.

JOY: Even if it's just a bucket for a bath in the spring sunshine, little Asera Isaacs has the innocence to be contented.

□□□□

HOME: An old supermarket trolley, grubby blankets and the bare ground for a bed — the home comforts of Maria and Ronald Isaacs.

Duduza makes history

WOMAN

Sowetan 8/10/91
By BULI SIWANI

A CLINIC constructed out of tin containers, the first of its kind in the Southern Transvaal has been opened in Duduza, Nigel.

A group of local businessmen who call themselves Corporate Outreach Trust, donated the containers towards the clinic's construction.

Dr Rina Venter, Minister of National Health Services and Welfare officially opened the clinic which is situated in the middle of the township's informal housing sector.

She spoke of the poor socio-economic conditions and how they lead to consequent health problems in poverty-stricken communities.

"The rapidly increasing

urbanisation process has had vast implications on the health situation of communities living in informal housing around our cities," Venter said.

"The prevailing poor living conditions and unemployment in the areas have also led to the lowering of the standard of living and consequent health problems in these disadvantaged communities."

She said that provision of primary health services helped to prevent unnecessary deaths and alleviated much human suffering.

Primary health care services entail health education on many aspects of health, as well as a healthy life style, advice

on nutrition, mother and child care including family planning, immunisation and the treatment of diseases that are common in the community.

Venter said the Government, health authorities and the private sector could only be defined as facilitators and that without community participation it was unlikely that primary health services would succeed.

"Although the Government is responsible for ensuring that health ser-

vices are available, it does not mean that the Government has to render the health services on its own.

"We have evidence of community participation through the involvement of the Duduza Town Committee," she said in praise of the association.

Dr W Clewlow, of Barlow Rand Limited and a member of Corporate Outreach Trust, said it was sheer ingenuity on the part of Duduza businessmen that they had the vision to convert the containers into something.

Businesswoman Angie Makwetla presents a cheque for R200 to Buli Siwani of Sowetan Woman. The cheque will go to the Sowetan /DMZ Relief Project. Makwetla has challenged all businesswoman to equal or exceed her donation to the project which will benefit victims of the recent spate of violence in the Reef.



IN THE deeply divided society that South Africa is and will realistically remain for years to come, major tax reform is even more problematic and controversial than usual. The current controversy around VAT is very unlikely to be the last of its kind.

However, leaving aside the peculiarly South African socio-political emotions that tax reform will inevitably stir up, it allows at least the opportunity to pose two important questions:

First, in introducing a VAT system is SA in or out of line with current tax practice and the lessons of recent tax reform in other middle income, semi developed countries? secondly how is tax relief to the poor handled in these countries?

The research conclusions contained in comparative international tax studies focusing on the experience of developing countries is particularly relevant in the SA fiscal debate.

Many local actors still suffer badly from another apartheid legacy — comparing ourselves with First World, high income countries such as the UK, Germany or the US instead of with our real peers, the middle income countries of Brazil, Mexico, Columbia, Korea, Turkey and many others.

Hence some major findings of three recent tax studies are briefly highlighted below.

International tax expert Richard Bird, reflecting on the experience of tax re-

VAT can work for poor in SA



Dr JOHAN VAN ZYL, taxation and development consultant to the Department of Finance's tax research unit, examines the causes of the controversy surrounding VAT — and forecasts there will be more dissent

forms in Latin America in the 80s, concludes that the value added tax currently plays a central role in most large-scale tax reforms.

There is, furthermore, much greater awareness of the practical constraints imposed by administrative capabilities. This has, in fact, led to a major shift in tax policy.

It is proclaimed at present (rightly or wrongly) that the sharply progressive 'global' personal income tax that once constituted a key instrument in the tool kit of every

tax reformer can no longer be regarded as administratively feasible, even in the most sophisticated of countries.

The rise of VAT has therefore been accompanied by a move away from progressive income taxation.

Another highly respected researcher, Wayne Thirsk, comes to similar conclusions in examining recent tax reform in 10 mostly middle income countries all over the world. He notes more generally that much less emphasis is currently being placed on

achieving a redistribution of welfare through the tax system.

A correspondingly greater emphasis occurs on the goals of revenue generation, economic neutrality and simplifying the tax system in accordance with realistic administrative capabilities.

In Thirsk's view, the goals of tax reform in middle income developing countries are now more modest, but perhaps also more realistic, than they were. It is widely felt that the tax system is likely to work much better if the aim is to achieve a measure of rough justice rather than some ideal but administratively hopeless objective.

Keep-it-simple rules and procedures may ignore the fine distinctions that some equity considerations demand. But the greater efficiency in handling vast numbers of people also serve the broader interest of tax equity by encouraging better compliance with tax laws and making evasion more difficult.

versions of it have been an outstanding success in raising additional revenues and reducing the economic efficiency costs of taxation.

The report does warn explicitly, however, that one serious weakness associated with VAT is its inherently limited ability to deal with equity issues. In consequence, these will have to be addressed in the larger tax system and ultimately in the Budget as a whole.

Such a system wide approach is indeed essential if a sound overall balance is to be found between efficiency and equity considerations. Focusing on VAT alone to obtain wide-ranging equity would be much akin to flogging a dead horse.

Current 'best practice' in tax systems suggests three mechanisms to lower the burden on the poor. Firstly, some goods — such as unprocessed foods, which account for a significant proportion of the budget of the very poor — should be exempted from the tax base.

Secondly, excluding a portion of personal income (on the order of twice to three times per capita GDP) from the income tax base would help much in removing the burden of taxation from the poorest groups.

Finally, selective excise taxes on luxuries and non-essentials can enhance the revenue take as well as the progressivity of the tax system as a whole without significant economic efficiency losses.

It should be noted that the above tax relief measures are aimed at 'the very poor' or 'the poorest groups'. Not significantly at 'all of the poor' and certainly not generally at those who can still find employment in the formal sector of the economy, represented in SA by well organised unions.

Such an apparently minimalist approach is conditioned not by a callous disregard for poverty in general (as suggested in some non-establishment circles) but rather by much hard practical experience.

The preferred route of attempting to reach the poorest groups in society via the expenditure side of the Budget is very difficult to achieve and/or cost ineffective in execution.

Handouts

Tax concessions tend to amount to little more than handouts. And handouts generally have a very weak record of stimulating the real development of people.

Thus the SA government of the day should rather protect and broaden its tax base as much as possible and channel increased revenue towards appropriate programmes for stimulating the human development of less advantaged communities.

In modern development thinking and practice, such an approach is likely to produce far better developmental value for money than extended tax relief to all segments of the poor.

IDT speeds up spending

THE INDEPENDENT Development Trust has allocated about R1.6-billion of the R2-billion it received in June 1990, while only R256-million has actually been spent. Spending will accelerate when the 160 projects currently under way are completed. A huge cashflow is expected and the R256-million figure should treble by the end of the year.

Executive director Michael Ridley says not too much importance should be attached to the small spending figure because "many of the grants made are phased in specifically agreed instalments".

The July 1991 figures indicate that R898-million has been allocated to housing, R442-million to education and R236-million to health, rural and community development.

Of the housing allocation, R750 million was set aside for a capital subsidy scheme for 100 000 sites at R7 500 a site. Four contractors will develop the first 1 827 sites.

The R750-million is expected to be out of IDT hands by the end of November.

Public authorities and parastatals will develop 37% of the 100 000 sites. Community trusts will handle 34%, utility companies 20% and private developers 9%.

Of the 404 applications to participate in the R750-million site development, only 11% were private.

Mr Ridley says site development is simply not attractive to private developers "but expect greater private contractor involvement in the civil engineering".

The IDT does not award contracts but funds agencies, which then do the contracting, subject to certain criteria, such as competitive pricing, maximising the spread of spending and maximum use of local labour.

Although the money spent to date looks puny, the IDT regards money that has been allocated as "spent and forgotten," says Mr Ridley.

Using this criterion, the IDT has almost run out of money. The intention was originally to gear the R2 billion received from government with as much private money as possible. So far, R600-million has been pledged.

Mr Ridley says none of these funds will be received by the IDT directly. "But we expect to collaborate and achieve synergy with the private fund." The money goes into a fund chaired by ex Barlow Rand chairman Mike Rosholt. The IDT is still negotiating the terms of a foreign loan of more than \$100 million.

Relevant

Finally reference has to be made to a major recent World Bank study on general tax policy issues in developing countries. Most of the lessons of tax reform discussed in a comprehensive report confirm the findings of the individual researchers.

Two propositions, however, are particularly relevant in view of the present uproar around VAT.

● Broadening the base of the tax system should be a high priority.

● Tax reform can lower the burden on the poorest groups.

On base broadening, the report suggests in particular that VAT should be the instrument of choice for most developing countries considering a broad-based tax on goods and services.

It notes that, in the experience of developing countries so far, VAT and simplified

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DN4110

Wessels finds 'nimbys' in NP

Star 13/10/91
David Breier

NEW Minister of Housing Leon Wessels recently declared war on the "nimbys" of South Africa. Now he has tracked several of them down — in his own National Party.

"Nimby" is an abbreviation for "not in my back yard", and refers to well-housed people who are all for providing land for the homeless — provided it's nowhere near them.

Mr Wessels recently became Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and Housing, and is probably the most reformist member of President F W de Klerk's Cabinet — he was the first to apologise for apartheid.

One of his first acts after becoming Minister was to announce a "battle royal" against those in ivory towers who would not understand the plight of the poor. This week Mr Wessels had his battle — at the Nat Cape congress in what is supposedly the most enlightened province.

At the first open Cape NP congress since the party became non-racial last year, Mr Wessels was assailed by both old white Nats and new brown Nats on the prickly squatting issue.

Frikkie Botha of King William's Town bemoaned the fate of Gonubie which had been "a paradise until squatting".

Daan Landman of Humansdorp said it was a myth that squatters were looking for work. He said the ANC was making politics out of the squatters in the former Fingoland

Power cut

Cecil Herandien, "new Nat" MP for Macassar, asked why squatters could not keep to Khayelitsha. President's Council member and new Nat Peter Marais said "my people" had their water and electricity cut off if they did not pay, while others had millions of debt written off.

One delegate said, tongue in cheek, that the way to get rid of squatters was to invite the Queen (presumably referring to the bulldozing of squatter shacks in Harare in anticipation of the royal visit).

Mr Wessels told the congress he could try to be popular and "kragdadig", but he said "This country belongs to all — including the squatters."

"No political party would be able to govern if it does not take into account the shelter needs of the poor and homeless?"

Nothing would stop hungry people. "We must prepare ourselves for squatting," he said, adding the Government was looking urgently at a housing strategy to unveil to the next session of Parliament



Mixed views over levy

By SONTI MASEKO

THE imposition of a one-off levy on a third of the assets of those people who have benefitted under apartheid was impractical and would lead to war and confusion

These were the views of some callers to the Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show yesterday while others said the levy would be a fair form of compensation for the poor and especially blacks who had been impoverished by apartheid

Pat from Jabavu said the levy was not a matter of right or wrong

"One has to look at people's living conditions, the legacy of apartheid, poverty, homeless people and land removals

He said people who were opposed to nationalisation and other forms of wealth redistribution were failing to advance solutions on affirmative action

Daniel from Edenpark said there was no country in the world without poor people

He said the proposed levy was not only unfair but unprofessional and would never succeed

The country needed to rid itself of the unrest and attract more investment which would improve the living standards of the poor, he said

Thomas from Berea said South Africans should let "bygones be bygones"

"Whatever happened is something of the past. If we repossess we are going to end up with a worse South Africa" he said

He was supported by Joey from Pimville

Jabu of Springs said the poor had to get land first before any discussion of redressing past imbalances

"The levy is not enough," he said

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Sowetan
15/10/91

Aid-for-environment deal goal for summit

241 star 16/10/91
STOCKHOLM — A deal involving aid in exchange for population control and environmental protection in poor countries would be the best outcome of next year's world environment summit, a population expert says

"The conditions are really set for a very constructive deal," said Nathan Keyfitz of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, an Austrian environmental think-tank

Mr Keyfitz called for "a great exchange, a bargain, between the more-developed and the less-developed countries by which we can provide appropriate technology and funding and do something about economic debt"

In return, developing countries would tackle environmental and population problems, he told reporters after a four-day conference of international researchers aimed at highlighting links between population, development and the environment

The conference, sponsored by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and the Swedish Council for Planning and Co-ordination of Research, will offer its findings to the UN-sponsored summit in Brazil next June

Intensify

Mr Keyfitz and other researchers at the conference said growing population in poor countries was inextricably linked to poverty and environmental degradation.

"Efforts to dampen the population increase must be intensified," the conference participants said

They also said industrialised nations must hasten development of resource-saving technology that does not harm the environment

Mr Keyfitz said an aid-for-environment deal was a realistic goal for the summit "People are in a receptive mood The Third World is really in trouble Population control is stalled and the development process is stalled."

But Tatsuro Kunugi, a former UN assistant secretary general for humanitarian aid and population, said a global consensus had not yet developed for such a deal, in part because many nations were still spending heavily on weapons.

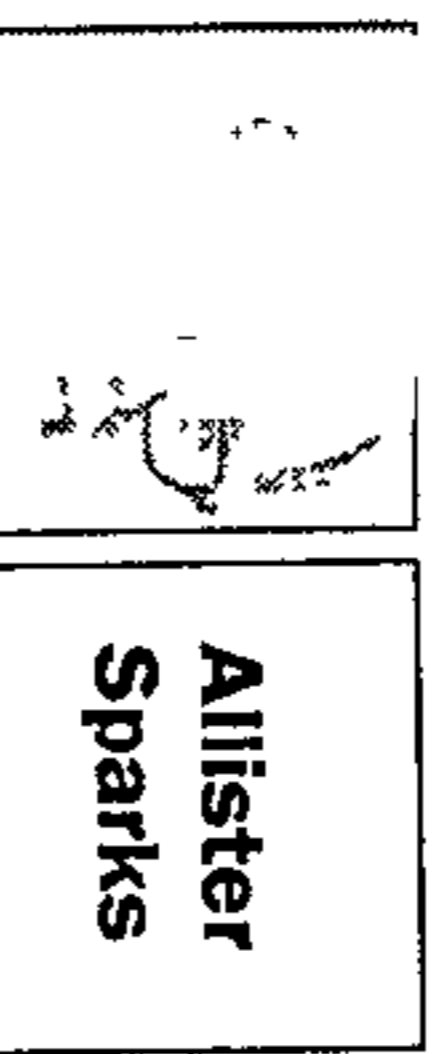
SAPA-AP

Nelson Mandela is open to suggestions on how to address the black-white poverty gap

Business must meet challenge

Spw 16/10/91.

241 (15)



Allister Sparks

gold mines would be an economic disaster, so he telephoned to ask what other suggestions I had. He has done the same to business leaders, over and over again, but says he has had no response. Business is stuck on the free market Fullstop

"We have no ideological attachment to nationalisation," Mr Mandela told me. "If business can show us an alternative option, then we will abandon nationalisation."

I do not believe he is using nationalisation as a threat. He readily admits the ANC may be wrong about it. "We are learning, we are getting acquainted with the weaknesses of nationalisation. What we are really stressing is State intervention, and we may have wrongly emphasised the aspect of nationalisation."

But he believes it is up to business to recognise the reality of his

I came away from a wide-ranging, three-hour conversation with Nelson Mandela the other day convinced of his open-mindedness on nationalisation

He had read my column last week spelling out what an economic disaster it would be to nationalise the gold mines, and he invited me to discuss the issue in greater depth with him

What emerged was a clear impression of a leader who does not have the political fixation many commentators are attributing to him, but who faces a compelling problem he is going to have to tackle and is appealing in vain for help in working out how

South Africa has one of the widest gaps between rich and poor in the world. Its economy has been structurally distorted over many years to provide a First World living standard for the white minority, while the black majority, by a deadly combination of exploitation and exclusion, has been locked into a Third World of separate underdevelopment

How to redress that inequality now that the apartheid era is ending? What should be done to bring

about the structural readjustment necessary to ensure that the new South Africa has a more equitable economy?

That is the number one item on any black leader's agenda. He knows the status quo is untenable in black politics, and that if he gets into power and fails to change it he will be a dead duck — quickly replaced by someone more radical who will promise to do so

Mr Mandela is saying the free market alone cannot change a situation where the white 20 percent of the population owns 87 percent of the land and more than 90 percent of all business enterprises, where more than 80 percent of the shares on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange are controlled by four giant companies, and 20 percent of directorships are held by just 64 white men. He is saying there must be State intervention.

He is also saying that, in the absence of alternative suggestions, the form of State intervention the ANC has in mind is nationalisation. But it is not stuck on this. If there are other ways, he is ready to listen

I wrote that nationalising the

problem, the manifest injustice of the present situation that he cannot possibly be expected to live with, and to come forward with ideas that will help him resolve it

"Without the co-operation of business we can forget about succeeding in any measures we take," he said

But business leaders are not coming forward, except to reiterate their old standpoints, which in turn drives the ANC back into its old positions

It would be helpful if leading businessmen were to respond to Mr Mandela's invitation. They will find, as I did, that he is receptive

It became clear in the course of our conversation that he has been influenced by a belief that nationalisation played a crucial role in the "miracle" post-war reconstruction of West Germany and Japan, and the spectacular take-off of South Korea's economy

nationalisation, it has never been used

What Germany did introduce after the war was a system of *Lastenausgleich*, or burden-sharing. For 30 years individuals and institutions whose assets had not been damaged by the war paid a levy, based on an assessment of the value of those assets, which was used to compensate those whose property had been damaged, who had been driven from their land or disadvantaged in other ways

Compensation was also paid to those who suffered injustices under the Nazi regime

Interestingly, a similar levy is being imposed on West Germans once again to help finance the upliftment of East Germany now that the country is reunited

German law also enforces a system of "co-determination", under which companies have to include a specified number of workers' representatives on their boards — up to 50 percent in the case of large enterprises — who have a say in all issues affecting personnel and working conditions, but not in the company's business operations

But it is Japan and the other Pacific Rim countries that provide the most striking example of state intervention within market economy. Again the key is not nationalisation but the ability of the state to discipline powerful private interests, and direct the banking system to channel credit into specific sectors in accordance with a national strategy of socio-economic development

Much of this is done on a basis of national consensus, a commonly sadly lacking in our country and without which no economic system is going to work

We need national consensus two priorities — the urgent need to promote rapid economic growth, and the urgent need to promote structural readjustment and the redistribution of wealth. Achieving one alone will mean failure.

Combining the two will not be easy, but we desperately need white business leaders and black political leaders to set aside their fixed ideas and get together to work out how best to try.

There is an open door waiting for them. □

BUSINESS

POVERTY RELIEF: Experts now believe that universal social policies beat the means test, reports EDWARD ALDEN

MORE than two million Americans fell into poverty last year, the worst figures in a decade. Yet many experts now argue that there is more than one way to alleviate poverty.

"I don't really think we should only be talking about the poor," argues Harvard sociologist Theda Skocpol.

"A lot of the problems that families are facing are faced by middle-class people as well as by the poor."

Skocpol is one of a growing array of experts now trying to convince Washington policy makers that universal social programmes — available to everyone rather than only to means-tested poor people — are the best hope for reversing the rising tide of poverty in America. They brandish two arguments which may prove particularly potent in an election year.

The political case for universality is simple, its advocates say: Universal programmes are popular, and targeted programmes are not.

"You means-test programmes and you turn them into welfare, and that's political death," says William Schneider, a political analyst at the American Enterprise Institute.

While welfare programmes have shrunk for over a decade, universal programmes such as Social Security and Medicare remain untouchable. Universal policies have an obvious political appeal but the economic case is more complex. Proponents argue that universal policies would break the poverty trap in which new earnings from employment have the perverse effect of depriving families of welfare assistance and Medicaid coverage — both means-tested programmes.

University of Chicago sociologist William Julius Wilson argues that "the truly disadvantaged", such as the inner city black underclass, would benefit most if current means-tested assistance was gradually replaced by universal policies.

But the Census Bureau's latest report on poverty in America also indicates that the country is facing a new type of poverty which is less the result of unemployment than a consequence of a decade of falling wages.

The census figures show that the recession, while still fairly mild by historic standards, has

W/Mant 18/10 - 24/10/91

Help the poor by helping everyone

wage levels in non-supervisory jobs are among the lowest since 1964. In the 1980s, more of the poor worked, and those who were employed put in longer hours, but falling wages kept them behind.

Economic growth alone, the classic painless solution for poverty, and the one touted by the Bush administration, is no longer sufficing to pull up the poor.

At a recent conference held by the Joint Centre for Political and Economic Studies, a Washington think-tank focusing on African-American issues, experts from Europe, Canada and the United States argued that the changing nature of the labour market — the growth of low-wage "flexible" forms of employment lacking the traditional benefits — poses an entirely different problem for policy makers.

As economist Bennett Harrison put it: "Low-wage dead-end employment is as much of a problem as unemployment."

While current means-tested programmes do little for the working poor, universal policies would directly address the problem.

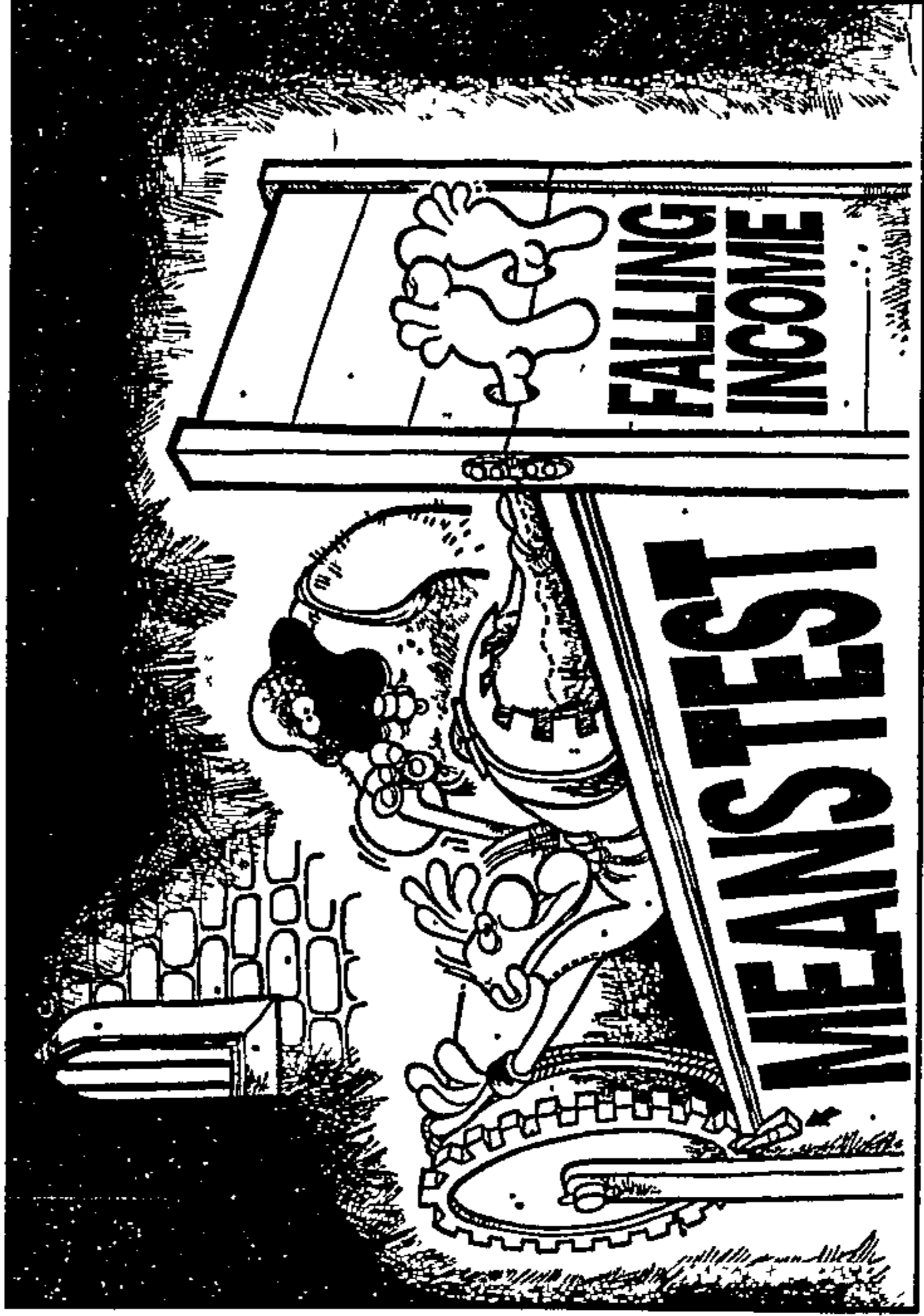
Two programmes head the current wish list: a child allowance (the report of the National Commission on Children, headed by Senator Jay Rockefeller, called for \$1 000 a child a year), and some form of universal health insurance.

Children currently comprise 40 percent of the poor, while the elderly, who benefit from existing universal health programmes, comprise only 10.4 percent of the total. And a recent *Wall Street Journal*/NBC News poll indicated that almost 70 percent of voters support the creation of a universal health insurance programme modelled after the Canadian system.

The problem, however, is dollars. Advocates of universality argue that money will be saved in the long run, yet the short-term costs are undeniably high.

While he sees the expansion of universal programmes as politically promising, Schneider cautions that "they are very, very expensive".

Social security and Medicare are the two most expensive programmes in the budget after defence. The estimated costs of a \$1 000 child allowance is \$40-billion a year. — Pacific News Service



On the rack ... Consumers are torn between rising costs and falling income.

claimed an unusually long line of victims. From 1989 to 1990, unemployment rose only slightly, from 5.3 to 5.5 percent, yet more than two million people fell below the poverty line.

"It's a surprisingly large increase in poverty for such a small increase in unemployment," says Isaac Shapiro, a policy analyst with the Centre on Budget and Policy Priorities in Washington.

"What's going to happen with unemployment

going from 5.5 percent to seven percent, which is what has happened in 1991?"

The figures highlight the large and growing number of working poor. Poverty among working families with children has increased by one-third since 1979, a consequence, Shapiro and others argue, of a steady drop in wages.

Wages fell not only during the current recession but throughout the 1980s, to the point that

Food for safety's sake

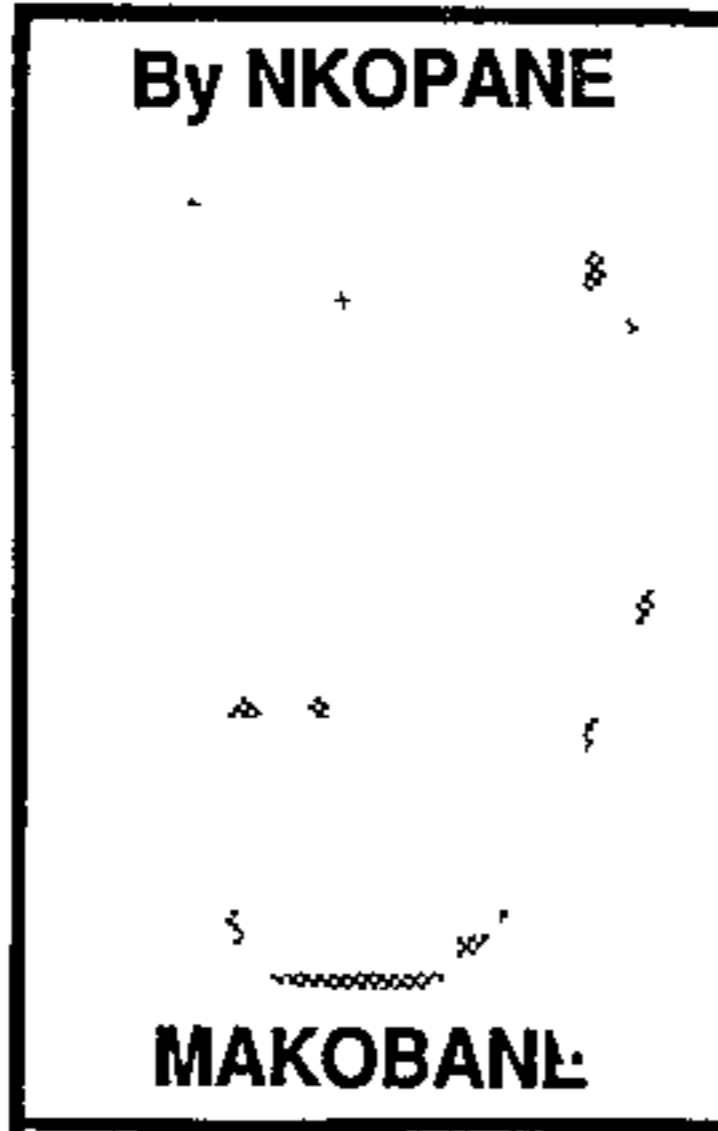
Plan to alleviate squatter camp misery

Southern 18/10/91  *241*

THE Neighbourhood Watch has come up with a plan to sell inexpensive, nutritional food packs to squatter camps in a bid to curb the rising crime rate.

According to Mr Marius Wessels, the organisation's national convener, increasing poverty has forced squatters to steal so they can eat.

"Many of the people in these camps are living below the breadline. They spend what little money they have buying food with low nutritional value, at exorbitant prices



"We have now come to realise that we should not only concentrate on security and safety, but also the upliftment of society," he said

Wessels said the Neighbourhood Watch has been working in conjunction with Profes-

sor Hector de Muelenaere director of research for National Brands Ltd, to set about determining the contents of the assistance packs

One of the items likely to be included in the pack is "vegetable milk"

Wessels says the soya-based milk contains more vitamins calcium and minerals than dairy milk

The nutritional value can be varied to produce baby formulas or cater for other specific needs

As vegetable milk is lactose-free, it does not cause diarrhoea, a major killer in underprivileged communities, when drunk by un-

dernourished and lactose-intolerant people

"The people in the cities and towns are scared of squatter camps, but we cannot wish them away

"The food packs would go a long way to furthering safety and security in South Africa. It would be shortsighted of us to barricade our neighbourhoods without addressing the cause of the problem.

"The programme is not profit-oriented, but solely concerned with the upliftment of struggling communities," he said

According to Wessels,

the programme was a lengthy one and it is not known exactly when it would be implemented

"We still have to find out if the squatters would accept what is put into the packets. We do not want to do something that would be unpopular

"We are first going to send out questionnaires and packages of test samples to get a feedback. We intend approaching various municipalities to help us with manpower in this regard.

"Our starting-point will be Durban because this where we have been doing our research"

'Devastating' township poverty shocks visitors

JOHANNESBURG. — A visiting group of prominent North Americans have expressed shock at the "devastating" poverty they saw in Soweto and Alexandra townships

Speaking at a media conference at Jan Smuts Airport soon before leaving South Africa after a three-day trip, leader of the 33-member delegation Mr Randall Robinson said the tour of the two townships was one of "heartbreaking devastation"

The Democracy Now delegation came to South Africa at the invitation of the African National Congress to "listen and learn". The tour included labour, business, cultural, political and sports leaders.

Mr Robinson, director of the anti-apartheid lobby group Trans-africa, said political discussions with ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela had centred around violence.

He accused President De Klerk of complicity in the violence.

"When you examine the records of numerous incidents of violence, police complicity and the absence of prosecution one is led to believe De Klerk is in-

involved with the violence."

US Congresswoman Maxine Waters said that in spite of sanctions being lifted against South Africa, "our word from Mandela is to fight to keep state and local sanctions operational"

A 500-million dollar housing and education programme proposed by New York Congressman Stephen Solarz was still being considered by the ANC, Mr Robinson said

● Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha sharply criticised the American activists, calling the leader of the delegation Mr Randall Robinson a "clown" who was attempting to use South Africa to boost his own political credibility, reports political correspondent Michael Morris

A spokesman for Mr Botha said the Minister's remark about Mr Robinson being a clown was made tongue-in-cheek

"The point that Mr Botha wished to convey was that there was no importance or credibility to be attached to the statements of the American activists," he said.

Tembisa's R96 gift touches US poor

HARTFORD (Connecticut) — A \$34 gift (about R96) to Hartford's poor may not seem much. But when it comes from poor residents of a South African black township, it means a lot.

"It was very touching. I'm not sure anyone has received a contribution like this before," said Paul Christy, executive director of the Centre City Churches, the social service arm of about a dozen Hartford churches.

Residents of Tembisa, near Kempton Park, donated the money after the head of an American non-profit in-

stitute spoke at a Presbyterian church in the township about poverty, homelessness and hunger in Connecticut's capital city.

Parishioners of the one-room brick church, who understand poverty first-hand, immediately passed the hat. They came up with R96, about \$34, as a donation.

Their visitor, Robert Evans, executive director of Plowshares Institute of Simsbury, Connecticut, passed the money on to Centre City Churches to buy food for a soup kitchen.

He said the gesture was

especially significant because it came from people many of whom live in homes without indoor plumbing and probably make less than R100 a week. (241)

"The gift was given from those with enormous lack of resources," Mr Evans said earlier this week.

"We were all surprised, and several of our members were moved to tears at the gift. Star 25/10/91

"Would that we had a proportionate generosity — to be in touch with the needs of our brothers and sisters in the world" — Sapa-AP

'Dogma dogs development'

(S) Times (CM) 241 27/10/91
DEVELOPMENT has to be depoliticised as almost half the population is living in poverty, says the Deputy Minister of Development Aid, Mr Johan Scheepers

In addition, suspicion had to be reduced between government and non-government bodies involved in development, he said

Mr Scheepers was speaking at the University of Stellenbosch at a two-day conference on non-government organisations, the first of its kind to bring together academics and experts from a wide range of bodies

Participants disagreed that development should be depoliticised — but agreed that there should be a meaningful partnership between government, non-government organisations and big

By ZUBEIDA JAFFER

business in tackling the country's problems

"Development is being privatised in our country and we have to reverse that position," said Mr Andrew Boraine of Plan Act

He warned that non-government bodies should not be substituted for government

"We have no housing policy. It is being left to the initiative of individuals

"There can be no housing solution without direct government intervention"

Create

There were at least 800 service organisations in the country, said Mr Patrick FitzGerald of Wits University

"Government will have to create a development-friendly environment in which development agents can work effectively," he said

"The state can also use its management of infrastructures (electricity, roads, water) to provide baseline conditions around which committees and non-government organisations can build development projects and initiatives"

Shame and squalor for whites as economy plunges

Sowetan
29/10/91 By RICH MKHONDO

241

EYES downcast with shame, impoverished white South Africans stand in line for food and rummage through piles of old clothes.

"It takes a lot of courage to do this. I feel embarrassed, but we must eat," said Anita, a 33-year old woman seeking help at a charity office.

"If the situation is so bad for us whites, I don't know what it's like for blacks," said Phillip Classens, aged 68.

With increasing desperation, thousands of destitute whites are battling to survive in a stagnating economy.

Their plight, once unheard of in a state built on the idea of white supremacy, is shared by millions of blacks who form the bulk of South Africa's 40 percent unemployed.

Hundreds of whites make a monthly pilgrimage to the Werk en Oorleef (Work and Survive) office north of Pretoria to collect food rations and help themselves to old clothes.

Some are so poor they sleep in the open, often choosing graveyards for relative quiet and safety.

"The graveyard is the only safe place. Even the police do not bother us there. We do not like it, but there is nothing we can do," said Mr Henry Brown (34).

Government officials estimate thousands of white families live in destitution in rural and urban areas.

They squat illegally in caravans, backyard rooms meant for black servants, shanties or garages on the properties of friends or relatives. Sometimes two or more families share rental costs by squeezing into small, unfurnished flats or houses.

The Department of Health Services and Welfare said up to 5 000 white families in the Pretoria area were affected by poverty. Of these, half suffered from the current economic situation while the rest had alcohol and related problems. The department said it was possible that other areas had far worse problems.

The rural white Afrikaner community suffered poverty for years after the 1899-1902 Anglo Boer War, when wealth and jobs shifted to the English-owned mines of the urban Witwatersrand region.

But white poverty fell away from 1948, when apartheid's National Party creators came to power and raised Afrikaner living standards with a programme of job reservation for whites.

Now, with 15 percent inflation sapping a sanctions-hit economy and political reforms promising a bigger say for blacks, white poverty is becoming more evident.

Each month a Johannesburg community centre feeds 200 to 300 white families while Werk en Oorleef feeds more than 5 000 families. Other centres across the country are doing the same.

Operation Hunger, a welfare group which feeds poor people and fosters self-help development, said whites began to approach it for help in 1985.

"It is a new phenomenon that has risen in the last six years. The economy is down, really down, and things can only get worse," director Ms Ina Perlman said.

Most whites interviewed said they had been made redundant because of the economic slowdown and had had to resort to charity and begging to feed their families.

They walk miles to welfare offices each month to collect a 125kg bag of mealie meal, soup, coffee, powdered milk and sometimes vegetables. Others become full-time beggars.

Werk en Oorleef director Mr Klentje Pereira said "They are unemployed without hope, homeless and aimless. Some don't even know where they will sleep at night."

Pereira said officials cannot keep track of the problem because many families do not qualify for government welfare benefits.

Classens and his wife Johanna, both pensioners, live on R100 a month after paying rent and service charges and have to depend on rations from Werk en Oorleef.

Brown, a man who had never been out of work for 15 years and "used to enjoy life to the fullest", said he lost his job as a technician at a Johannesburg post office two years ago.

Now he begs for a living and sleeps in a graveyard.

- Sapa Reuter

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — VAT has had little or no effect on the living costs of the poorest black households, a survey by Unisa's Bureau for Market Research has found.

However, the rate of increase of the cost of living for higher paid workers was greater than that of lower paid workers

The survey showed that a black family of six in Johannesburg, living at the bureau's minimum living level of R827,07 a month, experienced a 0,9% increase in living costs in the month VAT was introduced. This contrasted with a 1,2% increase each month in the previous six months. In Pretoria the respective figures were 1% and 1,1%.

A Johannesburg family living at the bu-

VAT's effect on poor blacks 'negligible'

B/day 31/10/91 (241)
reau's supplementary living level of R1 124,22 a month experienced a 1,1% increase in living costs in the month after VAT, while the monthly increase in the previous months was 1,5%. In Pretoria the increases were 1% and 2,3%.

The bureau also examined the effect of traders adding 10% VAT to items previously not subject to GST, and the effect on items previously subject to 13% GST now subject to 10% VAT. The calculations showed VAT would raise living costs of black families at the lower end of the scale by 0,9% and at the upper end by 1,6%.

Business takes friendly look at environment

Finance Staff

(241)

The abject poverty in which many African people live is part of the environmental quandary facing business. Dr. John Maree, chairman of the Industrial Environmental Forum of Southern Africa (IEF) told a conference in Somerset West this week

Business would have to find a balance between creating jobs and hope for people and the need for development and economic growth, he said

"We have an industrial and mining component in our society which is of the first world but we also have many people who are suffering abject poverty. The poor are forced, by circumstances which are no fault of their own, to disregard the sustainability of the environment around them. They are concerned with survival. We need to address

this"

Opening the Southern African International Conference on Environmental Management (SAICEM), Dr Maree said business needed to create jobs and opportunities so that the people of the region could share in the development process. At the same time, there was a need to protect the environment

"The challenge is to find a balance between the development and economic growth and the protection of the environment. We walk a difficult tight rope in Southern Africa — it is a balance which is not easy to keep"

Dr Maree said the environmental legacy of the communist experience suggested that progress towards sustainable development was better achieved within the framework of the market economy. The framework needed to reflect en-

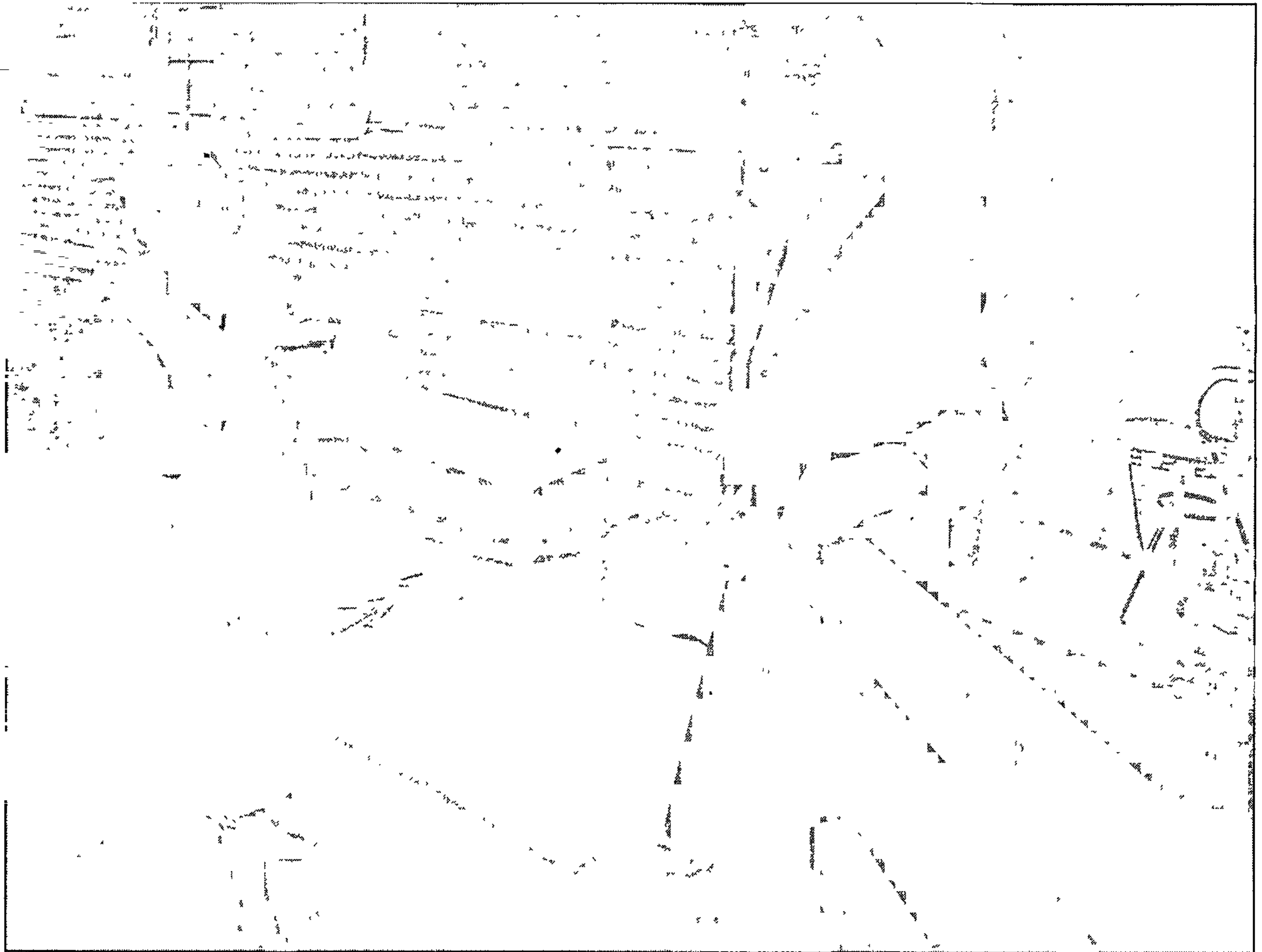
vironmental costs more appropriately but — by and large — good environmental management makes good business sense, he said

The Industrial Environmental Forum (IEF) is an example, he says, of businessmen taking greater ownership of environmental problems, accepting the challenges and sincerely addressing them in a co-operative and proactive fashion

"In the climate of rapid change that we are now in and in the spirit of shared responsibility the members of the IEF want this conference to be a catalyst for a significant new direction in environmental awareness in Southern Africa

"We in business are facing up to the role that we have to play in addressing environmental challenges before us. We will do our best to play our role constructively"

ster 31/10/91.



Loaves for the needy . . . as often as possible Sister Giselle (84) dispenses bread and cakes to squatter camp residents

Township, squatter camp need festive cheer

By Rochelle Gosling-Hughes

Ursula's Convent in Krugersdorp has requested 45 hampers for Kagiso township and Munsieville squatter camp. The request is more than conservative considering that the camp houses well over 1 000 people.

Sister Giselle (84), unassuming and dedicated, is responsible for running four soup kitchens in the townships.

She says they hope they have not asked for too much.

Can it ever be too much for the squatters of Munsieville,

who rely on the unwavering generosity and selflessness of the sister?

Every Tuesday everyone in Munsieville gathers around the huge pots filled with steaming vegetable broth and mealie meal for one of Sister Giselle's wholesome meals.

The rest of the week the squatters trek the long distance to the Convent to ask for bread.

Shirley Radebe is responsible for cooking each week and everyone gathers at No 48 to hand out food.

Another resident, Lizzie Phokela, says she knows Sister Gi-

The Star
Christmas
Hamper



selle well and they depend on her almost entirely.

As often as possible, Sister Giselle arrives at the camp laden with loaves of bread and little cakes for the children, who gather round her chattering excitedly.

The vegetables are donated

by local stores and the Sister persists at shops for bread and fruit.

The Munsieville squatter camp has been in existence for just over a year and is growing every day, said the sisters at the Ursuline Convent.

There must be at least 250 shacks, with an average of seven people per hovel.

Many ex-Swaneville "residents" have relocated to Munsieville squatter camp, increasing the number of hungry mouths to feed.

The land is untenable and the shacks leak, there are no lights,

food is scarce, residents have to trek for water, children cry with hunger pangs — reality.

Until you have seen such poverty and destitution it is but a hiccup in your day's perusal of the paper.

The celebration of Christmas, with its messages of peace and joy, cannot possibly have much meaning when your first priority is to feed a starving family.

Let us try to make more than just a couple of families happy. Send donations to Xmas Hamper Fund, P O Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000.

The sooner, the better.

Star 4/11/91

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Talks to be held on Govt food aid

slaw 6/11/91

The Department of National Health and Population Development is holding a series of regional work sessions to discuss the implementation of the R220 million allocated by the Government in August for food aid to the needy.

For further information telephone Leatitia Potgieter at the regional office of the NHPD at (011) 836-2232. — Staff Reporter.

Hungry whites get work during strike

PRETORIA — A Pretoria charity which provides food for impoverished Afrikaner families has placed "hundreds of men, women and children" as temporary workers in factories and shops during the two-day national strike.

Kleintje Pereira of the Werk en Oorleef (Work and Survive) charity organisation said yesterday that factory managers and shop owners offered temporary jobs to the more than 5 000 Afrikaner working class families under their care. "All of our people who were physically able have gone to work. They are working as cashiers, sales personnel and workers in factories. Unfortunately, they expect to be kicked back onto the street as soon as the strike ends," Pereira said — Sapa.

FM 8/11/91

Courage is willpower

THE COLD CHOICE by Struan Robertson (David Philip, 123pp, R65) (241)

Objectivity is important. for the Operation Hunger workers, despair lies constantly in wait. Let your emotions get too tight a grip on you and you are lost.

Robertson explains in his dedication that those involved in Operation Hunger must, daily, "make the cold choice, often in the face of daunting adversity, between carrying on and giving up." They have been doing it for a decade, led by Ina Perlman.

This book is filled with Robertson's power-



Botshabelo headman with Perlman
no surrender

ful black-and-white photographs, complemented by his own muscular text. It is an unusual but successful combination, emphasising his emotional involvement but also convincing the reader of his detachment.

Most of us would give up. Robertson visited an Ndebele settlement called Monsterlus, "a collection of tin-roofed mud huts on bare hills pressed up against the hot sky." As he and an Operation Hunger worker approached, they saw hundreds of women with "bright patches of beadwork spread around them" for sale.

"I felt the hair on my neck stir in horror," notes Robertson, "as I realised that those women were all there, in their hundreds, for us. We, in our little truck, were the tourists."

What attracted Robertson to Operation Hunger is that it resists merely handing out food, it helps desperate communities — stricken by drought, crowding and forced removals — to help themselves.

Thus the book is a record of success as well as suffering. Above all, it has nothing to do with pity. Buying it will help. *David Williams*

Give the poor liberty not lefty paternalism

STimes

10/11/91

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THE comrades on the Left would appear to have decided to subject the poor of our nation to the ill-conceived experiments of American and West European welfare socialism.

If the poor had any idea what the consequences of such experiments in their lives will of necessity be, the Left would without doubt do very badly in any truly free and fair future elections in South Africa.

An almost humorously "politically correct" formulation of the affirmative action doctrine appears in Albie Sachs's "Equality: tipping the scales" (Sunday Times, October 27). The essence of this doctrine is to be found

in Mr Sachs's line "Black entrepreneurs said that without guaranteed places in management, they would never be able to break through into the world of big business".

This clearly illustrates the essentially racist presuppositions of the affirmative action doctrine.

In the US, affirmative action programmes, over recent decades have left black Americans in a considerably worse economic

situation than they were even before the advent of the civil rights movement. Poverty has, escalated, particularly among the inner-city poor, who have been particularly susceptible to the manipulations of muddle-headed bureaucrats and self-righteous social workers.

I suspect that affirmative action is being grabbed by the South African Left for the same reason it is still popular among radical demagogues in the US.

In Walter Williams's words "Affirmative action programmes give the illusion of commitment and the promise of widespread gain. Any gains that are derived from affirmative action are only symbolic, but in the political arena symbolism is often more important than substance."

Affirmative action may briefly be a political enterprise of some benefit to the Left. There is conclusive proof that it will in no way benefit the poor.

South Africa's poor do not need the racist paternalism of Mr Sachs, old-line Protestant churches or brain-dead university socialists. They can do the job of fighting poverty very effectively themselves, if only granted true opportunity — the sort of opportunity only found in democratic capitalism.

The poor do not need quotas, population registers or government interference. What they need is liberty and opportunity. These are the last things we expect from Mr Sachs and his coterie — GIDEON STRAUSS, Bloemfontein.

BETTING MAN Foreign Minister

Pik Botha

...situation flowing from...
policies and legislation. The hour had arrived for all public servants to re-dedicate themselves to rendering quality service to all South Africans

level public servants and the public was another barrier. "South Africans are in many respects reaping the whirlwind for failure to communi-

gerous...
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dence and

'Curb births or face disaster'

By Day 11/11/91

DARIUS SANAI

A NEW book published by a former Stellenbosch economist warns of impending disaster for SA if government does not introduce effective birth control methods to rural areas

In *Population Growth - Our Time Bomb*, Johannes Jordaan claims that the population explosion is the most serious problem SA has faced this century

Jordaan says the population explosion will lead to massive unemployment, increased social tension, political instability, economic adversity, environmental degradation and hunger. (241)

The population in the PWV area alone will increase from 6.1-million people in 1985 to 14-million in 2010, Jordaan says

The problem needs to be tackled at the roots by providing family planning advice and birth control methods for rural areas, which government has shown little interest in doing, Jordaan says

He says the SA population explosion is due to illiteracy, lack of education, lack of contraceptives and improved medical facilities, black culture and the politicisation of the perception of birth control among blacks

Black people in SA in the past have —

with some justification — believed government birth control campaigns were apartheid-based schemes to reduce the black population, Jordaan says.

But blacks should realise that a lack of birth control weakens their political hand by increasing the number of impoverished blacks and increasing reliance on the status quo to provide them with help.

Hunger, disease, extreme poverty, crime, rife unemployment and widespread homelessness are among the consequences of the high population increase rate that SA is already facing, Jordaan says.

Only comprehensive sex education, family planning and birth control programmes can rectify the situation, as rural perceptions of contraception need to change, Jordaan says.

And this can happen only if an organised family planning campaign is brought into the rural areas

Population increase is greatest in rural areas, but as the rural communities increase in size, they add to the urban drift, increasing urban and peri-urban squalour, Jordaan says

FORTY years of apartheid have brought with them a long series of failed policies. As a result, our institutions now face the necessity of fundamental reconstruction. The changes we need can no longer be achieved by merely modifying or tinkering with the basic systems we have in such fields as health, housing and education.

These systems — and society as a whole — will have to be rebuilt. This will involve restructuring and even the total elimination of many institutions and the creation of new ones at virtually every level.

And the efforts of those institutions will be very much concerned with the poorer sectors of the community. Development which is not targeted at them will tend only to increase the welfare of those who already have wealth and power. This would exacerbate our most serious gulf — that between the "haves" and the "have nots" — and benefit only the tiny portion of the society which is already better off in skills, technology and knowledge. That kind of development, alone, would in fact actually make our situation worse.

In addition to increasing the flow of assistance to the poor, reconstruction must also enable the poor to keep many of the benefits of development within themselves, their institutions and their communities, so they can then develop the capacity to sustain the improvements.

This will not happen spontaneously. In the past, many people believed economic development alone would ensure the success of other types of development. If sufficient wealth was generated in the society, then an upward movement of people's living standards and abilities would follow, stimulated by better employment opportunities and earnings.

Experience has shown it is not nearly as simple as that. Overall economic growth is certainly a very necessary condition for development. But on its own it is not enough. Growth must take place within policies and activities that focus specifically on the poor; increase opportunities for the poor; keep the benefits of development within the community so that ongoing development is sustainable, are broadly supported, and release undiscovered talent within people as individuals.

Development plans must focus on uplifting the poor

B/Pay

14/11/91

MIKE ROSHOLT

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The Urban Foundation firmly believes there is another fundamental negotiated agreement hammered out in broadly representative forums. Such "accords" or "social compacts" are being widely discussed today, especially since the signing of the national peace accord. One very encouraging example was the creation earlier this month of a national negotiating forum on housing and hostels. Talks have begun on the possibility of an education forum too.

Hopefully such forums will provide the web of agreement on how to develop a democratic society, and this will be confirmed later by a constitutional agreement.

The foundation believes there are three basics that reconstruction should cover. Firstly, the remaining legislation of the past which inhibits development must be removed and replaced with policies that positively permit and encourage people to develop themselves.

This is not to say the state does not have a very important direct role to play too. There must, for instance, be an acceptable level of state welfare provision for senior citizens and the disabled. It must provide avenues by which society as a whole can gladly and freely help these groups. It must continue to provide basic services and structures such as health and education, using resources gathered from the community as a whole. But in many areas of life previously regulated by the state, freedom should

be created and space provided for people to show initiative, co-operation and commitment to themselves and society in the process of development. This can occur only within a framework of enabling policy.

The second basic revolves around one of the foundation's fundamental

objectives to establish and support new institutions which motivate people with resources and skills to go into development activities and to assist poor communities to achieve the improvements in their quality of life which they have identified as priorities. This calls for sensitivity and commitment. It calls for the sort of investment in the community which will create rising standards of living.

This permanence or sustainability of development can be achieved only if institutions — non government organisations, schools, clinics, companies and individual projects — are built up in partnership with communities and are adapted to the needs of those communities. The ultimate objective is that all institutions created with the help of development agencies should become independent and viable in their own right, and yet continue to co-operate to avoid duplication of effort and waste of resources.

The final basic is that a far greater proportion of SA's resources is directed towards the poor — both individuals and communities. Linked with the intrinsic energy and commitment of the communities themselves, the application of adequate resources will enable people to become motivated to grow and to develop with their own efforts.

How can the foundation and similar non-government organisations participate? To answer this question, it is necessary to go back in history.

The necessity for reconstruction has arisen because of the serious social, political and personal injustices arising from past policies which have created critical problems in virtually all communities. Added to this is the fact that many of the organisations which normally might have assisted in development, such as local authorities, have either ceased to exist or now lack legitimacy.

It follows that non government organisations and, to an extent, the private sector itself, have to play a much more fundamental role in reconstruction than would be the case under more normal circumstances.

Of course, all this sounds fine in theory. But can it work in reality? Without underestimating the difficulties involved, we believe it can — if, unfortunately, over a longer period than we would like because there are certainly no shortcuts or quick fixes available. Fifteen years of experience in SA support this view. And the successes of other development agencies here and elsewhere do too. But to achieve these goals, the foundation must continue its process of change, working to become more representative at all levels, further strengthen relations with all communities, work more purposefully to gain knowledge and experience from wherever it is available.

Not everyone agrees with these views. There are other theories of development which focus on the growth and power of the state. There are a few people who oppose development altogether. There are many who try to direct the fruits of development solely towards themselves.

There is another overriding concern which might affect the speed of development. That is that too few of our politicians are devoting anything but lip-service to the critical urgent development needs in our country. Their concentration appears to be focused entirely on political and power issues. They appear to be making the cardinal error of believing they can find political solutions which will work without a concurrent and significant improvement in the quality of life of the people of SA. It will not.

What we need is a wholehearted co-ordinated drive on poverty.

□ This is an edited extract of Rosholt's chairman's address to the Urban Foundation AGM yesterday.



□ ROSHOLT

Despair is hallmark of new SA, says Steyn

Blouay 14/11/91

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LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — The social fabric of SA society was deteriorating rapidly, Independent Development Trust (IDT) chairman Jan Steyn said yesterday in an opening address to a rural development conference organised by the Rural Foundation and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Stellenbosch

"While the struggle for power is pursued relentlessly, while constitutional models are being developed and charters of human rights designed — all essential components of a democratic future — the levels of poverty increase apace, the rates of unemployment and crime rise exponentially and despair, not hope, becomes the hallmark of our society"

Steyn said rural poverty on the scale experienced in SA could not be most effectively addressed through a restructuring of ownership and production patterns within the agrarian sector as happened in other African countries

Nor could urban wage employment provide relief to the rural sector in the medium term, he said

"The creation of a core of effective

smallscale farmers who can help to transform the rural economy will only be a small — although important — part of the strategy, rather than a dominating theme"

More significant in terms of scale would be programmes of community enablement

"Rural employment guarantee schemes, public works programmes in association with land conservation measures, and food-for-work programmes aimed at the rural poor are examples of such programmes, provided that there is both a commitment of public sector (or other major donor) funding and valid community involvement"

Steyn saw it as the state's responsibility to embark on a programme of land acquisition under a programme of land reform and to provide services to a new cadre of small farmers, such as irrigation, agricultural inputs, marketing and credit and technical services

He emphasised the need for agrarian reform in the institutional and legal field

Saved from the gallows

to scavenge in dirt bins

By Rehana Rossouw

South 14/11 - 20/11/91

WHEN she was released from death row in May, Upington grandmother Mrs Evelina de Bruin described her two years in the shadow of the gallows as a "living death"

Now, after five months of freedom, she is wondering whether she might not have been better off in jail — at least there she was fed.

This week Upington Dutch Reformed Church minister, the Reverend Aubrey Beukes, found De Bruin scavenging in dirt bins in the centre of town for her family's next meal.

"I've been scratching in bins for empty tins," De Bruin said. "The children in the town showed me how to sell them to make money."

"Our lives are bitterly difficult. Some days I don't collect enough to buy bread."

De Bruin is finding it difficult to distinguish between nightmares and reality

She often wakes up at night after dreaming she is still on death row — but increasingly her bedroom in Upington holds more nightmares than her death cell.

De Bruin and her husband, Mr Gideon Madlongwane, both applied for pensions, but since their release have been fobbed off and told their applications are "being processed".

They have received one grant of R100 from the Red Cross and applications for further grants are also "being processed".

"If I could work, I would I'm not scared of hard work but both Papa (Madlongwane) and I are too sick to find jobs

"Papa hasn't eaten for three days. To take both of us to the doctor will cost R40 and we don't have the money."

De Bruin said in their first few months of freedom scores of journalists were at her door, begging for interviews which were sent around the globe.

Senior ANC activists also visited, promising support and a better life.

"But none of them helped me, and my heart feels very sore right now," she said.

"I spoke about my problems from the morning till the night, firing myself, but no one listened to what I was saying."

"I was asking for help but the world

was deaf"

De Bruin said after she was released her clothing no longer fitted and all she received was two dresses from her children.

Last week, messengers of the court were sent to repossess her furniture, but she managed to borrow R100 from a neighbour to pay them

"Now I'm begging your newspaper, don't just use me, help me."

While De Bruin is heartsore about the circumstances she finds herself in, Revered Beukes is spitting angry.

"Evelina de Bruin was exploited, for a good story and a political campaign," he said.

"Now that the media glare is gone, people have simply forgotten about her."

"If this is how so-called progressive organisations treat their people then, I'm sorry to say this, but they are just like the National Party."

Beukes said he wrote a letter to ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela two months ago, telling him of the plight of people in the rural areas. He has not received a response.

He also wrote to House of Representatives Health and Welfare Minister Mr Chris April, asking him to speed



FORGOTTEN HEROES: Former death row prisoners Mrs Evelina de Bruin has been seen scavenging in dirt bins to make money for food

up the couple's pension application.

"At least Mr April responded," he said "But I feel absolutely frustrated that nothing concrete has been done to help these people yet. Just as an indication of how people treated them — a few days after they were released, a high-profile activist came to visit.

"He didn't ask how they experienced death row, he didn't ask how they felt now that they were released — all he wanted to know was whether the television cameras had been to their home yet

"This is political prostitution of the worst kind."

Food for poor scheme gets off the ground

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Sowetan

22/11/91

By ISAAC MOLEDI

A MEETING to appoint a steering committee to supervise funds allocated by the Government for food to the underprivileged will be held on the East Rand on December 2.

This follows an announcement by Minister of National Health and of Health Services and Welfare Dr Rina Venter that the Government would make an initial amount of R220-million available for food development programmes for the needy in South Africa.

The meeting, to attend which an invitation is extended to all interested parties, government and non-government and welfare organisations on the East Rand, will be held at the TPA Building, corner Cathn and Hardach streets, Germiston from 10am to 1pm.

The steering committee will be responsible for rendering assistance - by screening and considering - applications of all welfare organisations and communities, to make recommendations regarding applications to the forum at national level

The committee will also

investigate what necessary infrastructure is available, identify shortcomings or differences in present services and co-ordinate the needs in underprivileged communities

The invitation is extended to communities in Kempton Park, Tembisa, Modderfontein, Vosloorus, Boksburg, Reiger Park, Tsakane, Brakpan, Geluksdal, Benoni, Daveyton, Wattville, Actonville, Springs, Bakerton, Kwa-Thema, Alberton, Eden Park, Tokoza, Bedfordview, Phola Park, Edenvale, Germiston, Katlehong, Zonkesizwe, Delmas, Botlong and Nigel

A statement from National Health and Population Development appealed to all interested parties in these areas to attend

"Community participation is vital if the nutritional development programme is to meet the needs in underprivileged communities," the statement said

Anyone needing further information can call Laetitia Potgieter at the NHPD regional office Tel (011) 836-2232.



Out and down in the 'new' SA

Sowit

28/11 - 4/12/91.

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FREED POLITICAL PRISONERS are returning home to the same conditions of poverty that motivated them to fight apartheid in the first place, a new study has shown. Only now, the conditions of poverty are worse — which is why many ex-prisoners say they have been released from their jails into a much larger one without bars.

"A prison without walls" best describes the poverty that holds so many ex-political prisoners captive, following their years of personal and financial sacrifice in detention, prison and exile.

The report reveals that on nearly every front — employment, housing, education and health — nearly all political prisoners are facing very severe pressures as they readjust to mainstream South African life.

In the report prepared for the Centre for Development Studies (CDS) and dealing with the socio-economic conditions of ex-prisoners in the Western Cape, researchers found 66 percent of ex-prisoners were unemployed.

Most of them survived on grants of less than R300 a month.

Nearly half of ex-prisoners were living in shacks or single-sex hostels and more than 40 percent could not contribute to their monthly rent.

On the health front, 57 percent said they

were coping with high or very high levels of stress, with 66 percent reporting significant medical problems since their release.

The statistics were a little more encouraging on their educational qualifications, with more than 65 percent possessing matric certificates.

Release from prison brings a certain degree of formal freedom. But for countless numbers of ex-political prisoners socio-economic emancipation remains an even more elusive goal.

More than three years after his release from prison, Mr Zandisile Mayile still does not have a full-time job to support his wife and two children.

Since his release from Victor Verster Prison where he served a year for harbouring ANC guerrillas, Mayile has applied for five jobs and met little success. Employers close the door in his face, saying he is either underqualified and unskilled or they will not hire a former terrorist.

Other than a part-time job as a casual labourer at a warehouse, Mayile has been unemployed since 1987. His family survives on his wife's salary of R480 a month.

Before his imprisonment, he worked for five years as a truck driver at an Eerste River quarry. He lost his job when he was arrested, and the firm refused to re-employ him after

his release. In many ways, Mayile is typical of ex-political prisoners whose unemployment is in large part due to arrest and imprisonment.

According to the CDS study, 80 percent of unemployed ex-prisoners surveyed said they held full-time, salaried jobs prior to their imprisonment.

"The statistics suggest that post-release unemployment is largely attributable to the career interruptions caused by political imprisonment," the report concludes.

Most ex-prisoners have had to settle for any job that pays. One former Western Cape prisoner holds a clerking job that demands 12 hours a day, seven days a week in a township shop.

For such long working days, he earns a paltry R300 a month and supports a family of eight.

● SOUTH has started a fundraising campaign to assist destitute ex-prisoners including Upington's former death row inmate, Evalina de Bruin.

The campaign will run until December 19, and we hope to collect sufficient funds to ensure that a few ex-prisoners enjoy a reasonably happy festive season.

Readers wanting to donate money should contact Rehana Rossouw at 462 2012.

Girls can help beat poverty

Soweisan 28/11/91 241

'Even though society gains when women are educated, for many parents, the returns on a daughter's education are uncertain and remote'

MAKING sure that girls and boys have equal access to education is not just a matter of social justice.

It's also a matter of economics, says Ms Barbara Herz, chief of the World Bank's Women in Development Division

Research has shown that educating girls can help developing countries tackle poverty, population growth and poor health conditions

Education creates opportunities for girls to enter the labour force and be more productive when they become adults, Herz explains

Children

When women have jobs, they have higher incomes, they often choose to have smaller families, and they can afford to make sure their children are well fed and have access to health care and schooling

"The economic and social benefits of investment in education for girls are substantial and

The World Bank, which is grappling with increasing poverty in the Third World, has suggested that educating girls plays a major role in reducing poverty. This article is reproduced from World Bank News.

on the whole probably greater than those for boys," says Herz

But despite these findings girls in many developing countries have less access to education than boys. One reason for this "female education paradox," Herz says, is that parents with limited incomes find that there are too many costs - and too few benefits - from their perspective - associated with sending their daughters to school

Even when the government provides free schooling, education can be expensive. Parents often have to pay for textbooks, transport and proper clothing, Herz says.

For cultural reasons, many poor families faced with these costs are more likely to send only their boys to school

And in some cultures, parents depend on their daughters for most of the household chores, such as fetching wood and water and preparing food

Sending daughters to school would mean forfeiting a significant amount of household labour

"Even though society gains when women are educated, for many parents, the returns on a daughter's education are uncertain and remote," the World Bank official says

Customs

"Parents may be sceptical of their daughters' ability to get good jobs or income

"Or they may feel weaker ties with their daughters if they marry out of their natal families or if customs discourage

parents from accepting assistance from their daughters when they become wage-earning adults."

Herz says a vicious circle has emerged in many countries "Girls are kept home to help the family subsist day to day. Uneducated, they cannot compete with boys for wages when they grow up

"Women earn less, so education is provided mainly to boys. And so girls are kept home" Culture may reflect and reinforce economic realities, she adds

If governments are interested in combating poverty, improving the wellbeing of families, and slowing population growth, they need to make it easier for parents to send their daughters to school, Herz says

Governments can start by reducing some costs. "Some of the measures governments can take involve special subsidies for girls' education," Herz says.

...the issue of the ... police forces He said Africans accounted for more than half the ...

Hunger fund to get govt help

16/10/91 28/11/91 (241)
WILSON ZWANE

OPERATION Hunger is among the welfare organisations that stand to benefit from government's plan to inject R220m into poverty relief programmes, it was disclosed yesterday

National Health Minister Rina Venter announced in August that government would make R220m available until the end of March next year to provide "targeted" food aid to the poor

National Health and Population Development spokesman Anette Richter said yesterday R30,5m had been set aside for Operation Hunger and the National Council for Child and Family Care

Fourteen other organisations which managed nutrition development schemes — the bulk of which were in the eastern Cape — had already received grants to the tune of R12,6m, Richter said

The organisations include Imquale (southern Transvaal), Kupagani (Natal), SA Ministers Unity Independent Churches Association (eastern Cape), Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage en Distrik Skoolvoedingfondse (eastern Cape), Valley Welfare (eastern Cape), Port Alfred Psychiatric Work Group (eastern Cape), Grahamstown Blind Workers Self Help Group (eastern Cape), Food Gardens Foundation (southern Transvaal) and Kerklike Aksie Noodhulp (northern Transvaal)

Richter added that in a bid to counter malnutrition-induced diseases, government had allocated R10m to clinics run by local and provincial authorities for expansion of the existing government-subsidised protein-energy malnutrition scheme.

Venter has said applications for funds from welfare organisations would be "handled and processed speedily"

on cargo exemption

LINDEN BIRNS

SA-REGISTERED civil aircraft may have been exempted from international regulations on the carriage of dangerous goods, retired Supreme Court judge and commissioner of the inquiry into the crash of SAA's Boeing 747 Helderberg, Mr Justice Cecil Margo, said yesterday

He could not say with certainty that the Helderberg had not been exempted from the dangerous goods instructions

"There might have been exemptions, but I am sure that if there were, they were not relevant to Helderberg and would not have exempted the aircraft from carrying fireworks, weapons, explosives or acids"

SA Aviation Safety Council (Saasco) dangerous goods committee chairman and SAA captain Eddie Borehill said it was doubtful that the Helderberg had been exempted from the dangerous goods regulations "If it had, I would have known about it," he said

Borehill said Saasco had recently decided to launch a public awareness campaign highlighting the risks of carrying dangerous goods, and how these might be transported safely as long as the International Air Transport Association (Iata) and International Civil Aviation Organisation (Icao) regulations were followed

Mr Justice Margo said that in his

inquiry all regulations applicable in the world regarding the carriage of dangerous goods were studied These included technical instructions laid down by Icao, Iata and British, Swiss and German regulations

Those regulations list all dangerous items or substances and state which are forbidden items for transport by air, and under what packing and stowage conditions non-forbidden dangerous goods may be flown

In May 1986, government incorporated Icao's regulations into the Aviation Act, but in the same Government Gazette granted the Commissioner of the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA) the right to exempt SA-registered civilian aircraft from the Icao regulations if he felt this was in "public interest"

DCA Commissioner Japie Smit said on Monday he could not recall ever having been in the position where he had to grant exemptions Other senior DCA officials have said they remembered several occasions when DCA was asked to grant exemptions

SAA spokesman Leon Els said the airline, and other airlines serving SA, sat on various joint committees which met regularly to discuss improvements to all aspects of aviation in SA

Bop hunger striker has heart attack

JONATHON REES

BOPHUTHATSWANA was likely to release several hunger-striking prisoners soon, a homelands government spokesman said yesterday

In another development, one of the 18 hunger strikers, Johannes Nhlapo, suffered a heart attack on his 52nd day without food, said the Mafikeng Anti-Repression Forum (Maref)

It said he was rushed to the intensive care unit of Bophelong Hospital

after doctors tried to resuscitate him Nhlapo was given oxygen therapy and placed on a cardiac monitor and glucose drip, Maref said

Health Minister Dr Nathaniel Khaole said yesterday all Bophuthatswana doctors were bound by the rules of the Tokyo Convention in their handling of hunger strikers.

...freight theft on the increase

Employed, but not well enough to afford a home

They work, but their meager earnings combined with a housing shortage have forced this couple into the streets

BEATHUR BAKER reports

WALTER and Peggy, like any working couple, have dinner together after a hard day's work. The difference is, they share supper in a park. And, when they go to sleep at night, their home is an alleyway.

Unlike most homeless people, however, they have jobs and would be able to afford accommodation — if they could find it.

They earn too little to afford expensive accommodation, and there is a serious shortage of housing that would fall in their price range.

For them, a working lifestyle means setting up for the night in a passage under the stairs of a fire escape outside a block of flats in Hillbrow.

The passage is a locked up back entrance to an old two story building and is hidden from view by the steep concrete stairs.

During the day the very spot where they settle down to sleep becomes a storage area for huge rubbish containers used by residents in the building.

When they get "home", Walter removes their mattress and blankets from a disused fridge standing near the entrance inside the building, clears the ground around the area and then places their bedding in such a way that they are sheltered by a small verandah overhead.

Once everyone is settled, Walter pulls one of the rubbish bins in front of the opening, completely hiding the sleepers. In the morning they clean up the little passage, and leave just as the sun comes up.

Their nightly routine is a well established one.

Most nights they will have a quick wash, do their washing using water from an outside tap then hang it out to dry before morning. Or they simply lie about and smoke, talking about the day gone by for a while.

On weekdays they usually arrive between 9pm and midnight, depending on the day. On weekends they sometimes only arrive at 2am.

"But over the years we have befriended many of the people here, we keep an eye on their washing during the night."

On many nights they bring "guests" to their "home"; these are other homeless — and unemployed — individuals who stay on until they are able to find employment again.

"Working and being homeless on these streets was never easy," says Walter, leaning back on his blanket.

"This kind of life can be bad. There are no shelters for our kind in a big city like Johannesburg.

In Port Elizabeth I could stay in a shelter while saving for a place to stay."

Rainy nights and the cold in winter sometimes disrupts their routine and they have to sleep at Park station.

"But in the early hours of the morning police come and force the up to 200 homeless people out into the cold," says Peggy.

Because of his own family's poverty, he went to work out at sea when he was only in his teens. He says that over the years he grew to love the sea. "It's just that there are no jobs and no



Home Sweet Home ..bedding down for the night in Hillbrow

Photo GUY ADAMS

money down there, but this life here makes me feel like going back to the sea."

When they are forced to squat around the city, they leave their belongings at friends' homes. But they feel this has also led to possessions disappearing with time.

The grey overalls he wears while speaking to *The Weekly Mail* are those he works in and bought for his previous job in a factory at Edgardale.

In between several periods where either one or both are unemployed and they go hungry, a welcome break sometimes comes along.

Walter can do practical jobs like welding, maintenance or repairs, and it is in this area that he looks for private jobs.

Most of the time his wife Peggy sits quietly listening. She is somewhat shy, merely nodding or adding a few words. Now she chimes in: "But most people here do know about us, some understand our situation and are sympathetic."

She explains that during the last few years several occupants of the building offered her small jobs — often when it was obvious she was not working — piece jobs like ironing or washing.

Walter speaks up: "Peggy is ill a lot; epileptic fits. Especially when the weather's bad. I don't want her to do very hard work."

However, he feels that by doing this kind of

work "she can at least have a meal during the day and earn some money for things she needs like cigarettes."

Peggy is slightly built and has thin, short hair already beginning to grey. Deep, map-like lines spread out on her face when she smiles, telling of a life of hardship.

A pair of missing front teeth now also appear — a distinctly Capetonian phenomena. "Haai", she laughs surprised at the suggestion. "I am from the Cape — that is where I met him."

But to the next question she says shyly "a woman doesn't reveal her age," although both Walter and she appear to be about 40.

They have two children, who live in Benoni with relatives as "this is no life for them — but now they are all grown up," says Peggy.

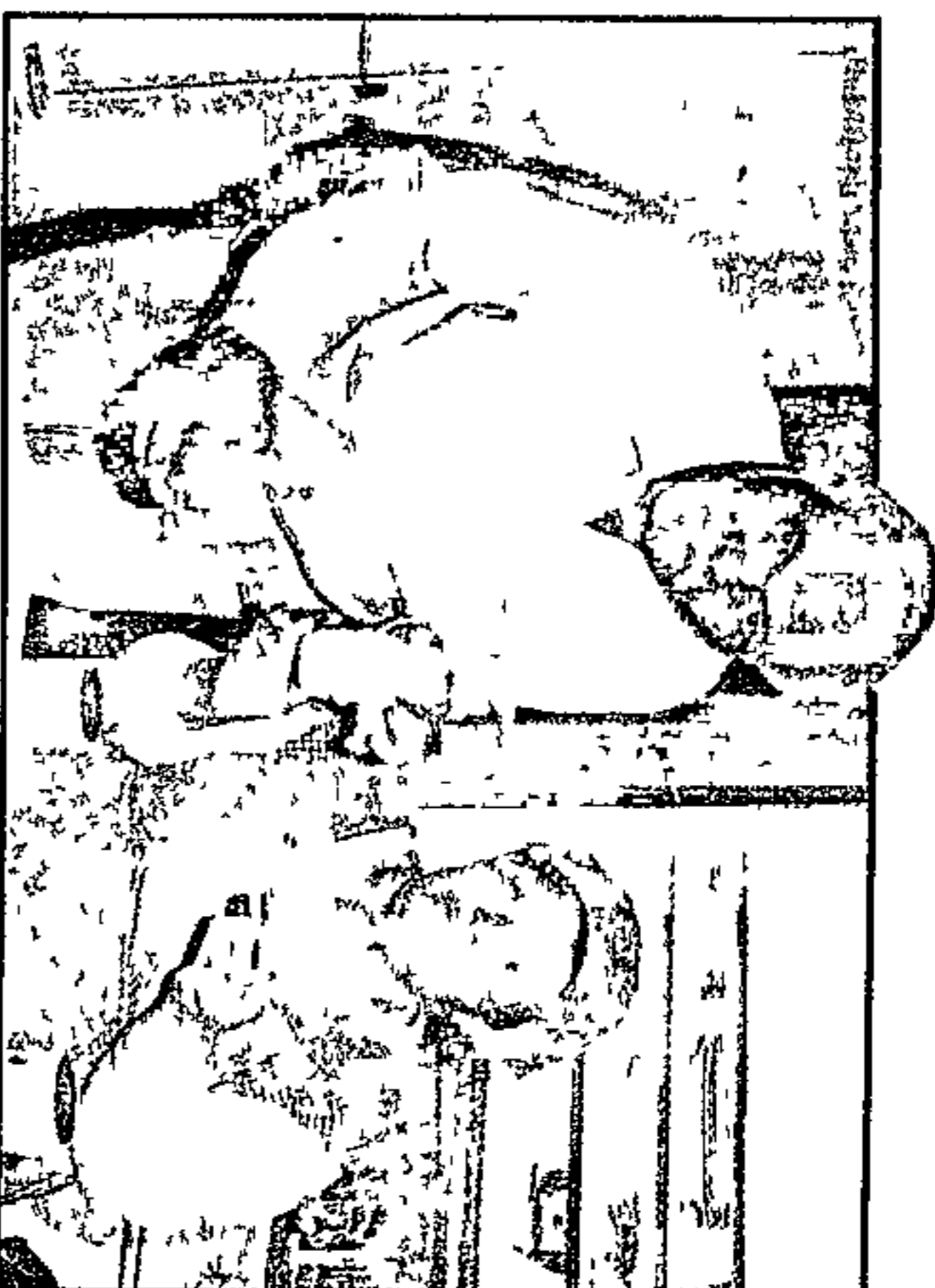
But Winston shakes his head and tells about his youngest son who became a gangster, breaking into people's houses.

"Not at all the way we taught him" he says. "But maybe if we had a home of our own it would have been better."

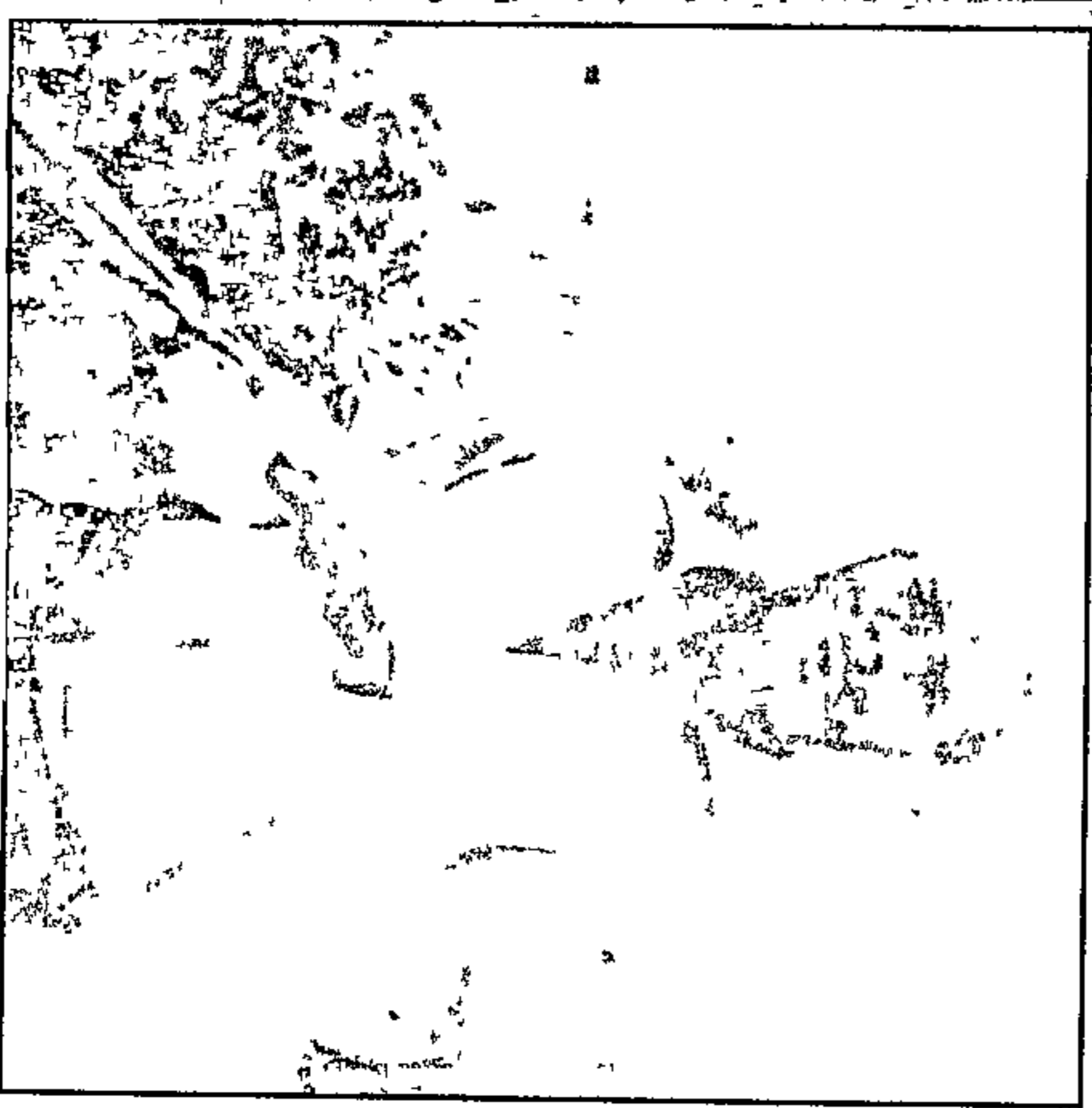
He says every time he saves enough money for a flat deposit, something always interferes with this step to find decent accommodation. Usually unemployment, a job which suddenly ends or a strike at a factory.

They both do not hesitate about their hopes for the future: "Our dream is to have our own home."

Upington's 'heroes' humbly heroes



JUST JUICE... When it's frozen the kids buy it and that keeps Eveline de Bruin and Gideon Madlongwane going. Pict: ANDRIES MCHENKA



KILLING TIME... Unemployed former Death Row man Albert Twill trims the hedge around his home. With no work there's nothing else to do.

By LEN KALANE

THE old lady looked up expectantly "Have you brought some food for us?"

These were Eveline de Bruin's first words and the challenge was unexpected. Then she smiled. She always does.

She tells us she needs food or cash. No more interviews, no more photographs. She has had enough of those.

A huge, lanky, grey-haired man joins in from the bedroom. He, too, smiles - a particularly friendly disposition. This is husband, Gideon Madlongwane.

We are now face-to-face with accused number 18 and 19 of the famous "Upington 26" trial, better known as Eveline and her common-law husband Gideon.

They were part of the 26 Upington people charged with the mob murder of municipal constable Jetta Sethwa in 1985.

Twenty-five of the accused were convicted of the murder by judge Basson in an Upington court in 1989. Although only four were found by the judge to be "principal offenders", the rest, including Eveline and Gideon, were convicted on the basis of the controversial common purpose doctrine.

The result was the handing down, in a single trial, of the largest ever number of death sentences in a South African court. The 14 sentenced to death got to be known internationally as the "Upington 14".

Granny De Bruin, 59, and husband Madlongwane, 63, were among the condemned.

Their modest home stands at 290 King Street in Paballelo.

In May this year they came back from Death Row after exactly two years.

with nine others with suspended sentences from the original 14. It was at this house they welcomed us into their lounge.

In many ways the old woman and the old man were meant for each other. They have lived for years as a couple and have 10 children. Together they have faced a murder trial, been committed to the gallows and been set free. They are still together. A pleasant couple.

It is hard to imagine them as killers. It is difficult to imagine them in their death cell, waiting for their destiny with the hangman. Just too difficult to realise they could have been dead by now.

But all that is now in the past.

"Life is tough and you say you haven't brought any food along?"

she enquires. That smile again.

"You newspaper people are just like that. Always after stories and photographs. What do I get out of it?" Nothing.

We are in a fix, but another of her smiles puts us at ease.

Life is indeed tough. But she wants the world to know she is not a scavenger, contrary to earlier reports. Granny De Bruin had reportedly been seen



UNWANTED... The only eight of the ex-convicts still in Paballelo. They have not been able to find work since they were released from jail in May and say there is a campaign by whites in Upington to stop them getting jobs.

around white Upington's dirt bins scavenging for waste products and some foodstuffs. She was portrayed as a helpless ex-convict with all doors of help and sympathy slammed in her face.

"Nonsense," belted out South Africa's famous woman ex-convict. "Those reports were a bit exaggerated. Yes, life is a bit tough. But as for scavenging, that's stretching it a bit too far."

Foraging in dirt-bins she does, however. But then for a completely different reason. In them she searches for empty soft-drink and beer cans.

Back home she rips open their tops, scrubs them thoroughly, fills them up with flavoured liquid and place them in a freezer. Within minutes the stuff is frozen into flavoured cubes. She sells it, and the kids love it.

That's how granny De Bruin makes a living. She had to perfect this trade. Nobody is keen to employ her in Upington. Nobody is keen to employ her husband. Nobody is keen to employ any of the released Upington trial men.

The man who first leaked the story about granny De Bruin's sufferings admits there had been a misunderstanding.

He is local coloured community Dominie Aubrey Benkes, the man who, until recently, spearheaded the "Upington 14" campaign.

Benkes is, however, annoyed that in the first place a situation arose whereby Eveline, in her old age, had to do something like this for a living.

He said "We can appreciate the fact that she is doing something to alleviate her plight. But the mere fact that she goes to dirt bins for these tins is in itself a humiliation."

He blamed people for their "short political memory" for Eveline's present position and that of the rest of the "Upington 14".

Benkes said his anger was spurred by the fact that the "Upington 14" campaign was built

around Eveline as being the only woman on Death Row.

"People used her political naivete to launch the campaign," Benkes added. "A lot of people capitalised on her story. Now that she is out of Death Row the world has forgotten about her."

But it is white Upington the group is bitter about.

"They don't want to give us jobs," says Kenneth Khumalo, accused Number One in the trial, and once the mayor of Paballelo.

"We understand about the plummeting economy and the rate of unemployment but we think there is a campaign against us."

Only eight of the ex-convicts are still in Paballelo - all unemployed since their release in May

this year. They are De Bruin, Madlongwane, Khumalo, Eric Gubula, Wellington Masiza, Bontu Zuku Zabendim David Lekhanyane, the son of a priest, and his elder brother Andrew. Row the world has forgotten about her."

But it is white Upington the group is bitter about.

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"We understand about the plummeting economy and the rate of unemployment but we think there is a campaign against us."

Only eight of the ex-convicts are still in Paballelo - all unemployed since their release in May

are still behind bars, their death sentences having been commuted to prison sentences. They are "the principal offenders" justice Bekebeke (10 years), Xolile Yona (10 years), and Zonga Mokoagale (12 years).

The fourth "principal offender", ex-mayor Khumalo, escaped the prison sentence and is now a free man - organising for the ANC in Paballelo.

Massive attack ⁽²⁴⁴⁾ on rural poverty

CT 4/12/91

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

A MASSIVE R185 million is to be granted next year to the 16,6 million "forgotten people" in the rural areas in South Africa by the Independent Development Trust (IDT)

A major focus of the grants will be the R50 million allocated for the provision of clean water for the almost ten million people who run the risk of serious disease by being forced to use unpurified water

The IDT's decision to allocate the R185 million to community-based organisations in rural areas was disclosed yesterday by its director of health and community development, Professor Len Karlsson, and director of communications, Mr Jolyon Nuttall

They said the IDT's trustees had also allocated R5 million for sanitation, R20 million for energy, R40 million for welfare programmes related to development, R50 million new primary health-care facilities and the upgrading of facilities, R10 million to provide communication networks between clinics and base hospitals, and R10 million for training programmes with particular reference to a primary health-care approach

One of the trustees, Dr Mamphela Ramphele, said yesterday "I think the allocation of this block amount is a statement on the part of the IDT that it does take rural development seriously"

Dr Ramphele, who ran a clinic in a remote village in Lebowa when she was banned and banished in the '1970s, added "That allocation is the visible part. But R185 million is a flash in the pan because the needs are so great"

The contributions for water, sanitation and energy were important

Needy get bananas

Fruit farmers of the Letaba district, near Tzaneen, have donated 10 tons of bananas as a Christmas goodwill gesture. The Letaba Co-operative in Tzaneen, handling the banana distribution, has already handed supplies to refugee agencies and homes for the aged. Contact Coreen Nagel at 01523-22058 for more details. *STIR 5/12/91*

Modest growth will redistribute white income to blacks ²⁴¹ report

SHARON WOOD

AN URBAN Foundation report shows that even modest economic growth will redistribute income away from the white population to blacks in the next few years.

A recently developed Urban Foundation income distribution model projects at least a 4,3 percentage point increase in the black population's share of personal income by 1995.

The figure is based on an average growth rate of 2,5% a year until 1995, which lifts blacks' share of personal income to 37,3% from 33% in 1990. A more optimistic growth projection of 4% a year increases their share to 37,8%.

A clear redistribution of incomes away from whites is projected even at the modest growth rates assumed, the report says.

Whites' share of personal income is expected to fall by at least 0,7 percentage points to 48,5% (2,5%

	Whites	Coloureds	Asians	Blacks
1985	58,8	8,3	3,7	29,2
1990	53,9	9,2	3,9	33,0
1995 (2,5%)	48,5	10,0	4,2	37,3
1995 (4%)	47,8	10,2	4,2	37,8

growth) or by 6,1 percentage points to 47,8% (4%) from 53,9% in 1990.

The report says the two reasons for the redistribution are the differences between race population growth rates and the changing relationship between per capita personal income by race.

Stripping out the effects of varying race population growth rates, the per capita personal income of blacks is projected to rise 8% to 115,3 (1985=100) if growth is 2,5% from 106,3 in 1990. At a growth rate of 4% the increase doubles to 16,5%.

In contrast, whites' per capita personal income is set to slip by at least 2,2% (2,5% growth) to 93,7 from 95,8 in 1990.

The effect of personal income redistribution will be to reduce the percentage of black households living in poverty.

The poverty gap, the total sum needed to bring all households below the minimum living level, stood at R13,8bn in 1990 and this is projected to rise to at least R14,6bn (2,5% growth) by 1995.

However, the informal sector perhaps can be regarded as removing about R4bn from the aggregate poverty gap, the report says.

The Urban Foundation cautions that other aspects of economic policy, other than growth, will have a direct effect on the outcomes projected for 1995.

Hamper hoax hits the poor

By **THEMBA KHUMALO**

HUNDREDS of unemployed and poor people flooded the Khotso House offices of the South African Council of Churches (SACC) this week to collect Christmas hampers. But there was nothing there for them.

They had read in copies of a pamphlet distributed in Johannesburg and Soweto townships that Christmas hampers were waiting for them at the SACC offices. The pamphlet purported to be from the SACC's department of hunger and relief, but the SACC has denied issuing it.

The pamphlet reads: "As you know, the SACC believes in the gospel of the poor. We were blessed last year and received no less than R254 059 from our beloved overseas donors for hunger and relief. Our total income was just over R29-million.

"Only R180 106 was spent during the year and R73 953 was left to help all of you who are poor

and unemployed."

The pamphlet said the council wished to apologise to the unemployed for causing their plight by supporting sanctions and stayaway calls made by political bodies and trade unions.

"Unfortunately this put many black workers out of jobs and as a result they and their families are suffering. We want to try and help you and give you special Christmas parcels of food and clothing to make you and your starving family happy. We offer this as a token of our repentance," read the pamphlet.

However, the SACC said in a statement it was disturbed that those responsible had issued the pamphlet in its name. This despicable act would hurt the suffering people.

It was clear that the content of the hoax pamphlet was well thought out and deliberately conceived to cause further chaos in society at the expense of the poor and needy, said the SACC.

Self-help drive

By SANDILE MEMELA *(u)* a spirit of self-reliance among black people.

THE summer luncheon held on Sunday under the auspices of Operation Hunger at Nu-World in Crown Mines was a self-reliance drive to mobilise blacks to do something for themselves. *(u)* "The largest sector of people who rely on Operation Hunger come from the black community, and it is time those of us who can afford it stopped allowing their people to rely on whites alone for hand-

More than 300 people from various Johannesburg stokvel clubs attended the function. *(u)* "Although apartheid policies are responsible for our people's suffering, it is up to us to prepare for a new order by showing initiative and a healthy spirit of self-reliance to make things happen for us.

Entitled "Garden Party", the R30-a-head function began at noon and featured ANC president Nelson Mandela as one of the VIP guests. *(u)* "In this era of change we have to stop waiting for things to be done for us," she said.

Organiser Zinzi Mandela told City Press the purpose of the fund-raising luncheon was to instil

Nacssa gets together

By NAT DISEKO

DELEGATES from grassroots organisations countrywide converged on Welkom this week to fight against poverty and unemployment in the black community.

Welkom was an unlikely venue as the city was recently torn apart by the bloody miners' conflict at the President Steyn Mine. A white by-election won by the Conservative Party was also recently fought in neighbouring Virginia.

But there were no hitches at the first annual general meeting of the National Association of Co-operative Societies of South Africa (Nacssa).

Nacssa embraces organisations such as burial societies, women's clubs and mehodisano clubs (stokvels).

Speakers emphasised the importance of advancing black economic development

through such organisations in view of existing political and economic conditions.

Nacssa executive director Sam Mofhe said the organisation should avoid being swallowed by big business. Societies had to liberate themselves and contribute as consumers.

"In the past, societies could not engage in risk business because of the fear of financial loss. The Nacssa Funeral Scheme 4 000 relieves contributors from having to save money for the sole purpose of burial. They can now use their surplus funds for business ventures because of the cover offered by Nacssa," said Mofhe.

He announced that Nacssa would publish its own monthly publication, *The Nacssa World*, from the end of next month.

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New SA 'has to satisfy the poor'

THE successful transition to a post-apartheid South Africa will depend on the ability of the economy to match the increased expectations of the newly enfranchised poor.

This view was expressed by a majority of academic panelists at the conclusion of a three-day conference of the African Studies Association at the University of Western Australia this week.

In the panel were Professor Hermann Giliomee and Dr Eddie Webster of Wits, Professor Deryck Schreuder

By LOUIS BECKERLING: Perth

of the University of Sydney, Professor Shula Marks, director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the University of London and Dr Frene Ginwala, head of research for the ANC.

Earlier, the Australian audience heard from Professor Giliomee that economic sanctions, while contributing to the decision by Afrikaners to negotiate an alternative to apartheid, had not played the central role their

proponents claimed.

Identifying the key causes for the shift in Afrikaner thinking was more than an academic exercise, as "the direction of the shift will depend on what caused the shift".

He said: "If it was from a sense of defeat, then a fairly straightforward form of universal franchise could be expected to emerge from the negotiations."

But the evidence suggested the Afrikaner community was not negotiating from a position of weakness.

S Times 8/12/91

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2645

Security experts added that under-
manning usually made minimum

□ The R1 rifle, which was lethal at a
range of up to 200m and capable of

According to Press reports from
the same period, riot police killed at
least 40 people and injured 770

Govt aid may be rejected

81 Day
10/12/91
WILSON ZWANE (241)

OPERATION Hunger is expected to reject funds allocated to it in terms of a government plan to inject R220m into poverty relief programmes.

A source close to Operation Hunger has indicated a letter will be written to National Health Minister Rina Venter, accusing government of "audacity" in allocating funds to Operation Hunger without the organisation having applied for such funds.

Operation Hunger would reject the funds as it was not right for government to assume how much money it needed, the source said.

The National Health and Population Department recently announced that about R30,5m had been set aside for Operation Hunger and the National Council for Child and Family Care.

Fourteen other organisations which managed nutrition development schemes had already received grants to the tune of R12,6m.

The department also said that in a bid to counter malnutrition-related diseases, government had allocated R10m to local and provincial clinics.

Venter announced in August that government would make R220m available until the end of March next year to provide "targeted" food aid to the poor.

Liquidations soar by 45%

81 Day
10/12/91
GERALD REILLY (232) (188)

PRETORIA — Company liquidations jumped more than 45% in the three months to end-October, while sequestrations climbed 24%, Central Statistical Service (CSS) figures show.

Liquidations in the third quarter totalled 541, an increase of 45,8% compared with the same three months in 1990.

Individual and partnership insolvencies grew 24,1% in the third quarter to 1 124, compared with July-September last year. This was 28% up on the second quarter.

The CSS said that in October alone 153 companies and closed corporations were placed under final liquidation, while in September 373 insolvencies were recorded.

Absa senior economist Adam Jacobs said the figures underlined the fact that the economy had deteriorated from a moderate recession in the first half of the year to deep recessionary conditions at present.

The worst, he said, was not yet over. All relevant indicators were that the number of liquidations and insolvencies would continue to increase deep into next year.

He said private consumption expenditure was sharply down in the third quarter and even government spending had declined in the quarter.

Govt funding sought (241)

OPERATION Hunger will soon make a formal application to government for funding, national deputy director Mpho Mashini said yesterday

He denied reports that Operation Hunger had received millions of rands from government already.

In August Health Minister Dr. Rina Venter announced a government plan to inject at least R220m into poverty-relief programmes

*SA Press
14/12/19*

Depression comes at the end of a dream

South 12/12 - 18/12/91
A study shows the incidence of depression among the elderly in Langa is the same as in other working-class communities worldwide, but in Khayelitsha it is 44 percent, reports

KATE DE SELINCOURT: (24)

POPLE IN KHAYELITSHA have lost their dream. They can no longer dream of going to the city and finding their fortune, because here they are — and there is no fortune to be found. As Ms Lizette Robbins, nurse at the Philani Nutrition centres, put it: "They have reached the end of the road. There is no way out."

The Philani nutrition centres run a valued service for mothers of malnourished children in Khayelitsha and Crossroads. The centres offer free meals and baby milk supplements. Equally important, they give a chance for penniless women to learn rug-weaving and begin to earn a small income.

But there are some desperately poor women who know about the centres but still don't go, although their babies are starving. These women stay away because they are crippled by depression. They can no longer make the effort to help themselves or their children.

Depression is a scourge in the new townships. It can be identified as an illness — depressed people have disturbed sleeping and eating patterns, they move and talk more slowly than normal. Nothing interests them, and pleasure is forgotten.

Robbins has found depression is a major obstacle keeping people from using the service.

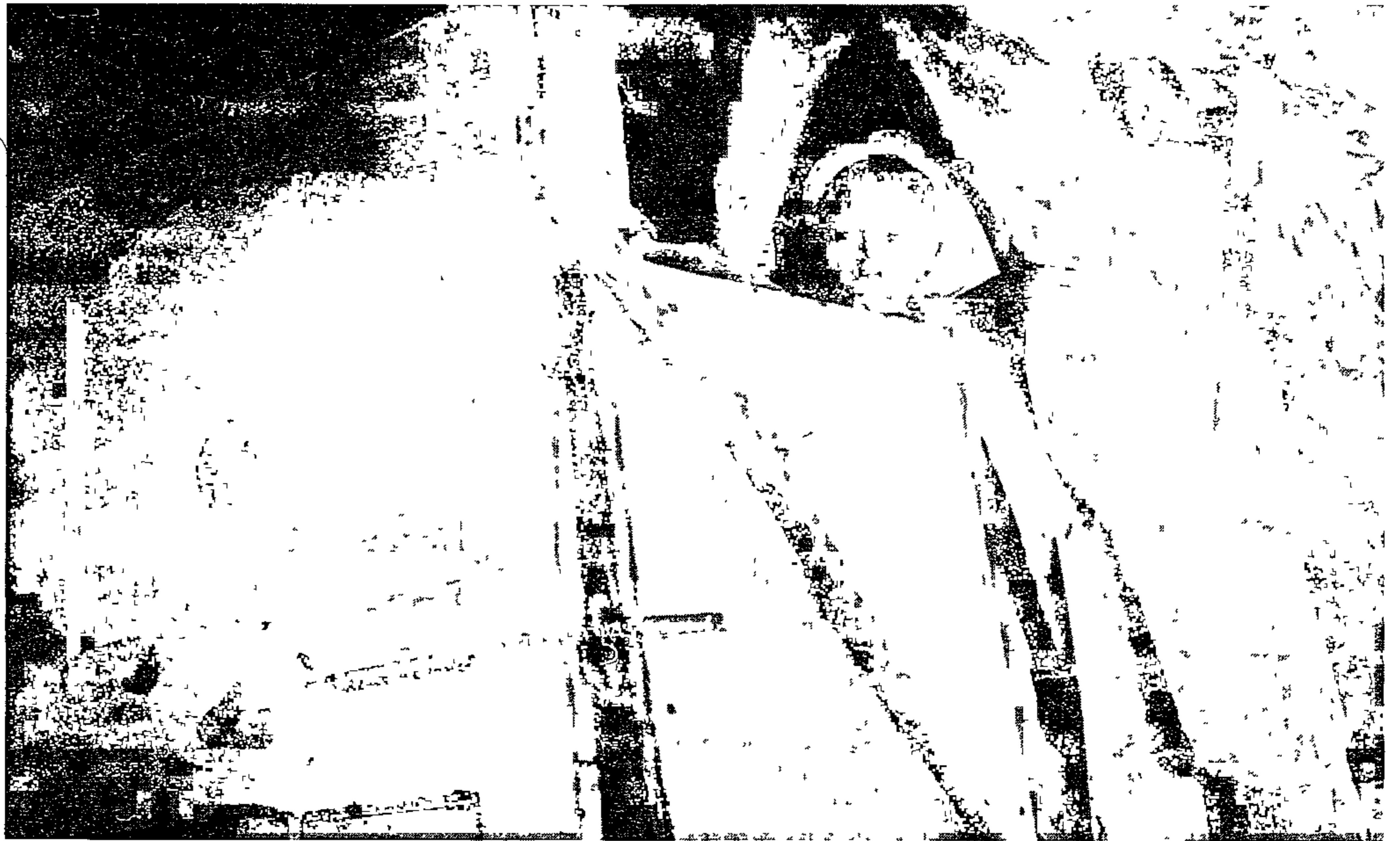
"Some of the mothers are so depressed it is difficult to motivate them to come in, even for free food. They can see that their baby is getting thinner and thinner, but they are simply too depressed to do anything about it."

Mrs Erica Langen is director of nursing at Valkenberg psychiatric hospital, in charge of the community clinic at Khayelitsha day hospital. She has also been disturbed by the depression in Khayelitsha patients.

"This clinic in Khayelitsha is the only one where I have seen people so depressed that they start crying as soon as you begin to talk to them."

A study by psychologists and psychiatrists from Groote Schuur hospital has put figures to what these nursing staff have found. Dr Len Gillis and his colleagues devised a questionnaire asking people about their state of mind, how they felt about life, and about their eating and sleeping habits.

The researchers interviewed elderly people in Khayelitsha and Langa. People in Langa



END OF A DREAM: Depression sets in when there seems little hope of improvements in living standards

showed about the same incidence of depression as other studies have found in working-class communities elsewhere in the world: about 17 percent would have been classified as depressed and needing treatment by a psychiatrist. But in Khayelitsha the figures were far higher. For elderly women in Khayelitsha the figure was a frightening 44 per cent.

Almost half the Khayelitsha women interviewed said they felt life was not worth living. Both men and women said they were slow and had lost energy; the majority had lost interest in what they did. More than half said they enjoyed almost nothing.

Poverty is obviously one of the main reasons people are depressed. People are poor in Langa, but poorer in Khayelitsha. But poverty is not the only factor. Many of the people in Khayelitsha have recently arrived from the rural areas. There, too, people will often have been desperately poor, but in a relatively stable situation, with family, friends and neighbours of long

standing near at hand.

When you move to the city, all that changes, as Langen described: "People who come here have to adapt to a totally different lifestyle. In the city there is a lot of anger and aggression, everyone is fighting, there are shootings at night, it's a terrible shock. And then, just as you get to know your neighbours, they move, or the government moves a whole squatter area somewhere else. There is no stability, no support."

Ms Irene Mbanga, the matron who works with Langen, describes the desperate insecurity: "People build themselves a little shack, and there is a fight and it gets burned down, they have to build another one. I don't know how they can bear it, I would not survive one week of that life, not one week."

The other factor adding to people's misery is that their poverty now represents disappointment, the end of a dream.

"People come to the city believing there will be such opportunities for them, and they find

unemployment and homelessness instead. It's rather like it must be when there is a gold rush and people find there is no gold," Langen says.

BRITISH PSYCHIATRIST Dr George Brown has worked for many years with working-class women with small children, often confined by poverty to the home, and has documented the importance of the support of friends, neighbours and relatives to mental health.

And he has also observed how often the trigger to depression is not necessarily a disastrous change in circumstances, such as a bereavement or retrenchment, but the loss of a dream.

The psychiatric clinic at Khayelitsha hospital is struggling to help depressed people who find their way there, though resources are stretched. The help offered is at present not much more than drug therapy plus a monthly visit to the sister.

The drugs are better than nothing — unusually for psychiatric patients, those being treated for depression are keen to take the medicine, so some benefit must be felt. Mbanga says they would like to do more.

"We need time for healing. We are going to try to group the patients, so we can work with them together. But it is so hard to find any space. We just have these two tiny rooms. Psychiatry always seems to get the crumbs."

The nurses' work is also hampered by the fact that on the two days a week a psychiatrist visits the clinic, they have to drop their own work to act as interpreters, as none of the psychiatrists at Valkenberg speak Xhosa. The hospital does not have a single trained interpreter.

The Groote Schuur researchers proposed "social, psychiatric and other helpful interventions" were needed. Anyone who can give people in Khayelitsha hope will be a healer indeed. □

Tackling the roots of the problem

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT projects such as the Philani nutrition centres in Khayelitsha and Crossroads offer a chance to tackle the roots of depression. Although begun as a project to improve children's nutrition, it quickly became clear that the main obstacle to eating well was poverty and unemployment.

A crucial part of the projects is therefore the training and facilities for rug-weaving. The rugs — the bright patterned mats sometimes seen at craft fairs around the city — have been successful enough for the weaving side of the project to start up with its own purpose-built factory warehouse, to be built next year.

Women coming to the centres have another employment opportunity, too. Many who first attended as worried mothers with sick and healthy babies are now mothers of bouncing tots — and they are now salaried nutrition advisers, educators or administrative workers, at the centres.

SOUTH readers come to Evelina's rescue

South 12/12 - 18/12/91.

By Rehana Rossouw

FOR MRS Evelina de Bruin it was a Christmas and birthday present — an R800 donation from SOUTH readers to assist her over the festive season.

She said the first thing she would buy was a new pair of shoes.

Last month SOUTH highlighted the plight of the former death row political prisoner who has been scavenging in dirt bins in Upington.

De Bruin and her husband, Mr Gideon Madlongolwane, had spent two years on death row after being convicted of murdering a policeman.

In May they won an appeal against their conviction and were released. But

they soon wondered whether they would have been better off behind bars.

"I've been scratching in bins for empty tins, children in town showed me how to sell them," De Bruin said.

"Our lives are bitterly difficult. Some days I don't collect enough for bread."

They applied for pensions but have been fobbed off and told their applications are "being processed".

"If I could work I would. I'm not scared of hard work, but both Papa and I are too sick to find work. To take both of us to the doctor will cost R40 and we don't have the money."

SOUTH started an Evelina de Bruin fund three weeks ago and appealed to readers to assist her and other political prisoners facing similar hardship over

the festive season

Within three weeks, R800 was donated by individuals and organisations.

The money will be deposited in a bank account for De Bruin in Upington — the first account she has ever had.

"Thank you very much, thank you very much," she said this week when told of the donations.

"It is my birthday on Christmas and this year it will be very enjoyable.

"When we have Christmas lunch this year we will be saying a prayer for the readers of SOUTH as well," she said.

● Contributions were made by: David Kessler, R100, Tony Heard, R75, Anonymous, R100, SOUTH staff, R225, Board for Social Responsibility, R300

For many it's a long tr

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Along the road near the northern Transvaal town of Groblersdal there is sudden luxury Plumes of tobacco plants rise row after row in irrigated fields Rich and cool to the eye — a living assertion that water is magic

The image barely fades in the 10 minutes it takes to drive to Mpheleng village in the Moutse district Here the taps are often dry and residents say local officials warn them that if they insist on making bricks, they must expect to run short of water for domestic use

"So it means that you can drink, but you will have no place to sleep," says Martha Matlala of the Mpheleng Water Committee

The lack of access to safe water in rural areas is a measure of the extent to which basic needs have been neglected Michael Sher of the Rural Advice Centre (RAC) says it is estimated that only 30 to 40 percent of rural people have ready access to "fairly" safe water This figure lends weight to predictions that the first post-apartheid government will

Basic needs often neglected in rural communities

face an avalanche of demands for services, beginning with the barest essentials

Mrs Matlala speaks for that large constituency of women and children who labour daily to carry water a couple of kilometres to their homes In the case of Mpheleng this is because most of the communal taps in the village run dry most of the time — and only one row of taps, on the edge of the settlement, is reliable

Struggle

"Even the children carry 50 litres — it's a long way and a waste of time to bring less Every day it's a matter of three to four hours"

The alternative is to buy water by the drum Close to the source it costs R2,50 for 100 litres, further away R5

After months of struggling with an unpredictable supply, the Mpheleng Water Committee was formed in June It tried talking to officials

and when this proved fruitless the women of Mpheleng mounted a demonstration This too failed to get officials to get the water flowing

Mrs Matlala feels they are being cheated "We pay our taxes Surely water is not a lot to ask?" But she also suspects that it would be easier for the people themselves to embark on a development scheme to upgrade the supply and get it into working order

This was the route chosen by residents of Tooseng, a village of about 5 000 people some 100 km north of Mpheleng Before they initiated their project with the help of the RAC, there were only two standpipes and two natural wells in the village

In less than a year since the physical work began, the last trenches are being dug in the furthest street of the village Every street has three or four taps now — the maximum the water pressure will bear

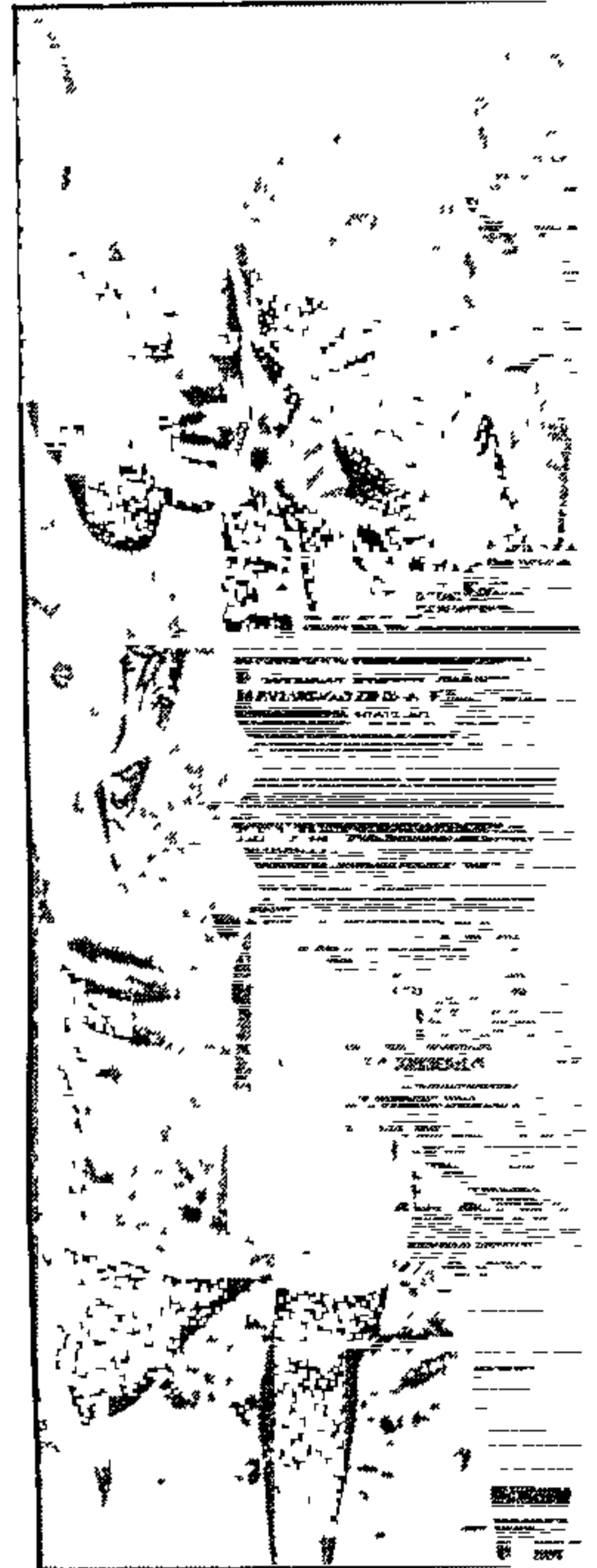
It has been heavy going In places, fires have to be built under the white dolomitic rock and water poured over it to cause it to shatter "The community dug the holes themselves — mostly the ladies They were so willing because they were suffering from thirst," says headman Kgoadlamoleke Mphahlele

Headman Mphahlele says his role was to conduct the early negotiations with the RAC "and then I put these things in the hands of the committee"

According to Elias Mphahlele, chairman of the Tooseng Water Committee, more than a year was spent fund-raising before the digging and laying of the pipes began

Throughout, the committee has had access to a field worker from the RAC, which utilises the unusual combination of community workers, engineers and financial advisers in rural development projects

With a small consignment of materials still outstanding, the project has cost R55 000, committee members say Of this, about 20 percent was raised in the community and the rest contributed by two multinational corporations



Tapping in to delight ... messing w

The committee's secretary Martha Mphahlele explains that residents were organised street by street to dig the trenches in front of their homes They gained the technical skills needed for laying pipes, connecting them and erected standpipes

Infection

RAC fieldworker Philemon Masha says some residents were reluctant to do a job which they saw as the government's But Mrs Mphahlele says the success of the project outweighed this sentiment. "Our project has become an example to others in Lebowa We are telling them not to fold their arms and say the government will provide"

She and other women confirm that readily available water has enabled them to plant gardens and extend their homes On a busy day — with laundry to do —

they find a household easily uses between 100 and 200 litres

Mr Sher says consumption usually rises sharply when water is conveniently supplied And this has health implications, for it is quantity rather than quality of water that counts in relation to infection

He notes that the United Nations sustained a decade-long campaign in the '80s to bring safe water to all homes This UN decade simply passed South Africa by

RAC worker Emily Singili says she has met women in Sekhukhune-land who rise at 3 30 am to get to the water source up in the mountains before it dries up

Her colleague Mimi Sesoko says rural girls stay out of classes, watching and waiting at the spring for the water to rise "The distance rural women cover collectively in fetching water is like going to the moon and back"

In the tee menu water

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Tapping in to delight messing with water is a new-found joy at the creche in Tooseng village

Pictures: Jacob Rykliff

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In the trenches... Tooseng Water Committee members show the form which brought water within reach of every resident

Water pump would do wonders for villagers

STAR 17/12/91

By Susan Smuts

Community life in the Lebowa village of Diphagane centres on a small muddy river. There the children play, clothes are washed, water is drawn for several village industries and, in the absence of toilets, ablutions are performed nearby.

Since there is no other source, drinking water is drawn from the same river — an obvious health hazard.

The scarcity of water, especially in winter when water lies below the sand, threatens the local development programme and the livelihood of thousands of villagers who depend on the precious liquid.

Until 1989 they had a

borehole pump, but lost it to a political rival in the area when Ryan Sekhukhune, one of two men claiming paramount chieftaincy (the other is K K Sekhukhune), allegedly removed the motor. Up to 100 000 people in Diphagane and surrounding villages depend on the river, some walking up to 2 km a day to fetch water.

Solomon Tjatje of the Sekhukhune Advice Office blames Ryan Sekhukhune for removing the pump's engine.

"He went to the magistrate and said the pump should be taken away because people were fighting about it, but this is not true."

The advice office approached the Lebowa Water Affairs Depart-

ment, which brought a tank within weeks. Two months later, instead of bringing the engine back, they took away the tank.

"(Later) Ryan came to the pump and told the people he was the chief — the big man, the owner of the village. He said he had the right to take the pump," Mr Tjatje said.

The advice office is negotiating with the Lebowa authorities for the return of the original pump. It is also raising funds for a new one.

Mr Tjatje illustrates the importance of the borehole to the villagers with a few examples.

● During the building of a school block, tractors had to be hired to fetch water from the river and extra labour had to be paid for. With a pump, things could have been

ANC after billions for upliftment scheme

STAR 19/12/91
A drive to create a \$5 billion (about R14 billion) scheme for development purposes is currently being spearheaded by top ANC officials, including Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki, with the project possibly coming into existence in the new year.

To be called the South African Trust for Equity and Development (Sated), it would disburse large amounts of money for housing, education and other socio-economic projects.

Sources linked to the project said it was designed to level the playing field by allowing the ANC similar patronage that is currently available to the National Party through the Government in the run-up to constituent assembly elections. Its board would be independent.

In an interview yesterday, Mr Mandela would not put a figure to the scheme, but in an earlier interview the organisation's director for international affairs, Thabo Mbeki, said the ANC was initially aiming for \$5 billion.

Full details were still being worked out, Mr Mandela pointed out.

"We do not have a constitution for the trust as yet, but have the principles of what it should be."

Expectations

"This trust would operate once we have installed an interim government of national unity," Mr Mandela said.

Sated was an initiative of the ANC and the Rockefeller Foundation's Peter Goldmark, he continued, but as it affected all South Africans, it would be independently controlled.

Mr. Mandela, however, warned against the expectations of the people being fully satisfied.

The SA Trust for Equity and Development will not handle the whole problem of socio-economic development in South Africa.

"There have been distortions of the economy on a wide scale over the last 300 years. It would take much more than Sated to rectify these problems," he said.

Mr Mbeki said in the earlier interview that the finance would come from public and private sources and would need to be "new money", rather than resources diverted from existing pledges to the African Development Bank.

The head of the local technical committee overseeing the trust fund is University of the Transkei rector Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu.

It is believed former First National Bank chief Chris Ball has been approached to be a director — Sapa.

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Towns pool resources to lift living standards

2/ July 27/12/77
THEO RAWANA

A NOVEL concept designed to uplift quality of life by harnessing co-operation between various communities has been born in Secunda and neighbouring areas in the south-eastern Transvaal.

Sasol Coal GM Chris Cloete says the community of Secunda — where the Sasol Coal and the Sasol 2 and 3 plants are based — has joined with the people of Trichardt, eMbalenhle, Kinross, Evander and Thistle Grove to form Tekset, a co-operative community development organisation which has set up projects to uplift residents' standards of living.

Cloete, a founder member of Tekset — an acronym of the first letters of the names of the six communities involved — says in a statement the success of the new SA will depend on trust being built up now between communities.

The total population of the Tekset area is estimated at 175 000.

Cloete says "It's no use standing around and waiting for constitutional negotiations to get under way

out there before taking action. A lot can be done right now at local community level to change attitudes and to uplift the quality of life for all."

Tekset Community Development (TCD), a Section 21 company whose board comprises members of various political parties, the local chamber of commerce, the Secunda municipality, civic associations, local business and Genmin was formed recently.

"As a forum, we are working towards a community of peace, where education and other opportunities can be utilised to satisfy the needs of the community. Our achievement shows the rest of the country that it can be done," says Cloete.

About 450 youths are currently involved in various projects, including think-tanks, environmental protection, an anti-drugs organisation and a "Youth Week" this month.

"We are working towards solving educational problems so that the future can be filled by informed young people capable of building a better SA than the one they have inherited," Cloete says.

An education programme for jobless and illiterate adults has been launched and a brickmaking project is running well. Tekset women have initiated several health, multi-racial interaction, financial planning and educational projects, says Cloete.

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Insepiso, an area between Sharpeville and Boipatong
Madise said the agreement was signed at a news
briefing on Tuesday "The agreement stipulates that the
community should not be left out of the project it
should be involved" He could not give the size of the
project nor the date on which it would start

Next February will see the 40th
anniversary of my father's death
my accession
"Over the years I have tried
to follow my father's example and
serve you the best I can You
given me in return your loyalty

US study finds SA's health policies lacking

SA COMBINES the worst health consequences of industrialisation and poverty — a high incidence of heart disease among whites and widespread preventable diseases among blacks, a new US study has found

Economic progress, it says, needs to be coupled with effective financing and management if the health status of SA's people is to improve.

The study, conducted by the SA Medical Research Council in conjunction with the Washington-based Kaiser Family Foundation, found that health policy was shaped mainly by political considerations rather than national health priorities

Although an effective national primary health care system could significantly improve the population's health status relatively quickly, a 10% annual economic growth rate would be needed to eliminate poverty within the next decade

SA currently spent 5,8% of its GNP on health care, compared to the World Health Organisation's (WHO) minimum standard of 5% A disproportionate amount of this expenditure went to white health care

SA had enough hospital beds to serve the entire population, but urban areas had a

surplus while rural areas were neglected There was a surplus of 11 700 beds for whites but a shortfall of 7 000 for blacks

The WHO recommended an ideal bed/population ratio of 1 200 In SA there was one bed for every 150 whites, but only one bed for every 260 blacks

To resolve these disparities, the bureaucracy of health administration needed to be disentangled, and access to health care needed to be rationalised, with particular emphasis on removing discrepancies between rural and urban facilities

While the need for substantial reform in the national health system was accepted by government and non-government health sectors, its nature was disputed

The study said the state believed those who could afford to pay for care should do so, freeing more funds to subsidise state patients The non-government sector, including liberation movements and left-wing medical groups, believed fees for service care promoted unequal care, and the existence of a private sector undermined the public sector by offering higher salaries and better working conditions

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POVERTY - 1992

Karoo — land of the forgotten people

South 16/5-21/5/92

A MAJOR national road runs through the arid Karoo — yet the 50 towns scattered through the area all suffer from a lack of infrastructure, resources and facilities

In a terrain where most inhabitants are dependent on revenue from farming, unemployment is pegged at 71 percent

No major development initiatives have reached the Karoo for decades and the two phrases which best describe the situation are "economic stagnation" and "abject poverty"

Even politically, the Karoo is light years behind the rest of the country

The process of change which has swept through South Africa over the past 18 months has had almost no impact on the region

Strict divisions between racial groups remain and the notion of "master" and "slave" is still very much in evidence — the legacy of apartheid in its most basic form

Development academics who have researched socio-economic conditions in the area have all reached the same conclusion the area should have been declared a disaster zone years ago

Take us with you, don't neglect us any longer, is the call from Karoo activists who want an end to urban arrogance

Ruby Marks, co-ordinator of a resource centre based in Beaufort West, reports

I had a taste of this last week while visiting Karoo townships. A mysterious male checked my movements all day, telephoning schools to see if I had arrived, sometimes minutes before I reached them

I was stopped by policemen in a van on a lonely stretch of road between Prieska and Middelburg later that day. They tried to convince me to return to Cape Town and not cause trouble in the Karoo

Most of their trade is unprintable

Nowhere in the country are the effects of apartheid as marked as in the Karoo. This is clearly demonstrated by the extreme dependence of the black community on whites and the pervasive white control of economic power

The poverty has resulted in a mood of apathy. Lacking a strong voice of their own, most residents



have lapsed into fatalism. They seem to accept their lot, adopting the phrase "Die mens wil, maar God — en die wit man — beskik (Man proposes but God — and the white man — disposes)"

The Karoo Resource Centre (KRC) was established two years ago in Beaufort West as a satellite project of the Careers Research and Information Centre (CRIC)

It faces the difficult task of working without any debate on the milieu in which it operates. Economic stagnation and social problems like teenage pregnancy and alcohol abuse are combined with a lack of organised alternative formations to give direction

Two conferences scheduled to take place soon are intended to address development issues in the Karoo

The first is an education conference planned for May 16 by the KRC and local community organisations

They will discuss the formulation of education policy, priorities for the region, community control of farm schools, illiteracy, pre-school education and the need for education centres and trained workers

It is hoped the conference will lead to the establishment of an education co-ordinating structure. The Karoo will have an opportunity to make an input on what the new education system should look like

A second conference, the Conference on Poverty and Development in the Karoo, will be held from June 26 to 28

A co-ordinating committee consisting of farmers, social workers, local state departments, agricultural unions, churches and community representatives have been meeting to discuss the poverty and how it can be eradicated.

A meeting is scheduled to take place in the first week of June with Minister Kraai van Niekerk so the issue can be put on the government's agenda

Activists in the Karoo often complain that the ANC is not interested in the suffering of people in the area. They feel the ANC will only come to the region if there is a constituent assembly and the organisation needs votes

Urban service organisations sometimes offer projects clearly unsuited to the region. Such pro-

jects cannot be implemented because of a lack of infrastructure to support the schemes

This creates suspicion in rural areas that service organisations try to "hitch" the Karoo onto their agendas to get funding for their continued existence

Some complain that urban political activists and trade unions create dust clouds as they pass through the Karoo — only stopping if they have accidents or must fill up with petrol

Academics are regarded as tourists passing through who do not stop to offer anything meaningful

They do not help residents or local organisations to define how their research could help the community

Karoo activists complain about a lack of hands-on involvement from progressive trade unions, despite calls for help in organising the poorest of the poor, the farmworkers

Even progressive newspapers give rural communities scant attention

This indifference to a region facing severe economic stagnation is astounding

The impoverishment of the rural areas is a direct result of skewed development which places short-term profit gain ahead of comprehensive planned development

The solution lies in changing the power relations between urban and rural areas. The present imbalance is neither inevitable nor eternal

To rectify the problem rural areas must be politically uplifted and integrated into national political initiatives

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starving
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to death

MAPUTO - Mozambique estimates up to 3 million of its people could starve to death in the worst drought Southern Africa has seen this century ~~218~~

The government, in collaboration with United Nations agencies, plans to ask the world this week for urgent assistance for the tormented nation of 15 million people ~~219~~

"The current Southern African drought is threatening Mozambique with the worst disaster in living memory, putting the lives of millions of Mozambicans at risk," says a draft of the appeal

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation said in Rome last Thursday that 17.2 million Africans would need foreign help to survive the year, mostly because of drought, but also because of war - Sapa-Reuter ~~241~~

Massive drive to distribute food

8110cm 11/5/92
SPOORNET said yesterday the massive drive to distribute food relief to drought-stricken areas on the sub-continent was well under way, with nearly 500 000 tons of maize already discharged, Sapa reports.

"It is the first time in the history of the UN Food Help Scheme and the World Food Programme that such an operation has been conducted as a preventative measure," Spoornet spokesman Jacques Pienaar said.

Since the first maize shipment arrived in April, Spoornet had unloaded 265 334 tons of maize for

local consumption and 179 101 tons for re-export to neighbouring countries. Spoornet had distributed 73% of all cargo discharged at the harbours, Pienaar said.

Meanwhile, our Durban correspondent reports that Natal Agricultural Union director Steve Shone said government's R3,8bn agricultural aid package was a highly complex exercise to preserve jobs and get the industry back on its feet.

The package was intended primarily to relieve the state of a commitment incurred in 1983 and 1984 to

help co-operatives keep credit lines to farmers open during those years' of drought.

In the end, farmers would have to operate like any other sector open to market forces.

Sapa reports that Free State Agricultural Union GM Lullu de Jager said yesterday that interest rates were one of the main obstacles in farmers' battle to survive.

The price of primary agricultural products would have to be adapted so that the farmer was able to continue production.

demanding better treatment at the day hospital

WHO's Health for all thwarted by poverty

241

WORLD Health Organization (WHO) campaign to guarantee basic health care for everyone by the year 2000 is being thwarted by poverty, an African official said. Botswana's health minister, Mr Bahiti K. Temane, said the target "has become unattainable in many parts of the world — definitely in Africa" because Aids is spreading and the gap between rich and poor countries is widening.

In 1978 member states of WHO, a UN agency, set themselves the goal to promote "Health for All by the Year 2000". It includes ideas like providing safe water, immunization against childhood diseases and enough nutrition

for mothers and children. "There is no way the poverty in Africa can be eliminated in eight years," Temane told WHO's annual assembly recently. "Furthermore, Aids will reverse even the little achievements that had been attained to date."

Future efforts to widen health care "will founder . . . as long as the rich nations are getting richer and the poor nations are getting poorer," Temane told a nearly empty meeting hall.

He asked rich countries to provide technology and help market reforms through investments.

WHO delegates are reviewing the global health programme, the

framework for much of the agency's current work. An example of how poverty overrides medical progress is cited in a WHO report to the meeting.

Treatments exist for diarrhoeal diseases like cholera — a major child killer — but little progress can be expected if people return to live in germ-infested conditions, it says. While people are living longer everywhere, "improvements in life expectancy do not necessarily mean a healthier life," the report says.

Many scourges — cancer, cardiovascular disease, tropical sicknesses and the deadly immune system destroyer Aids — are spreading in the

Third World, it says. It admits "the expectations of health for all by the year 2000 will not be realized in most countries."

Since the end of the Cold War, developing countries have worried that western aid — already tight in an economic recession — will shift to rebuilding eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Temane said "euphoria has now cleared" after the wave of democracy in eastern Europe and signs of economic hope for Africa that ended the 1980s.

Botswana, with close economic links to neighboring South Africa, is one of Africa's richer countries —

Saps-AP



Operation Hunger gives drought evidence, seeks US Congress aid

Crisis worse than Ethiopia's

STAR 7/5/92

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau

241

WASHINGTON — The drought in southern Africa has caused a bigger crop loss than the devastating drought in Ethiopia and Sudan in 1984 and 1985, the Agency for International Development warned in testimony to Congress yesterday.

And the executive director of Operation Hunger, Ina Perlman, told the Africa sub-committee that although South Africa would be able to import enough maize to meet its shortfall, up to 2.5 million destitute people in the country would not be able to afford to buy it, and would be at grave risk.

Eight experts from the State Department, the Department of Agriculture, other agencies and international humanitarian relief organisations gave testimony on the impact of the drought.

According to the Agency for International Development, which operates under the aegis of the State Department, the average cereal crop loss for the region is expected to be between 50 and 60 percent.

"South Africa and Zimbabwe, which normally export grain to their neighbours, have been especially hard hit. Their crop losses are projected to be in the range of 70 to 80 percent," the AID statement said.

"This crop loss is worse than that suffered by Ethiopia and Sudan in the terrible



Ina Perlman, R9 million a month needed to feed 2.2 million hungry people

need R9 million a month to feed about 2.2 million people. She said there were clear indications that the already top-heavy bureaucratic structure in South Africa, which had impeded Operation Hunger's initial distribution of funds, was to be expanded and reinforced, and might well cause "unacceptable delay and interference", especially in the homelands.

But she said if the organisation had adequate funding to purchase food, it had the necessary structures in place to deliver food aid speedily with maximum effectiveness and control.

The US has pledged almost \$235 million (about R675 million) in drought assistance to the southern Africa region, and is attempting to co-ordinate an international relief effort which will include the European Community, Canada and Japan.

HARARE — Robin Drew reports that women sang and danced in a remote village in the Gokwe North area of the Zimbabwe midlands province when Christian Care launched a R5.5 million programme to provide food for famine-hit communities.

Three thousand malnourished children will benefit immediately from supplementary feeding scheme.

A feeding point in each village in the area will be run by mothers who have been given basic instruction in nutrition.

Anglican bishops have allocated R100 000 for drought relief work, reports Sapa. The money will be made available through churches in the sub-continent.



Mum tells of hijack

Row deepens over

DOWN AND OUT AND GRATEFUL



HELPING HAND ... 'Mayor' Oupatjie receives his breakfast from Mr Mgcina

FROM early morning they trickle into the park — from the stairwells of abandoned flats, from the bushes, from a nearby river bank.

A cold-water wash at the tap, a shared rolled cigarette, and the homeless men and women are ready to face the day.

Today is better than most because soon the bakkie will arrive at this Vereeniging park with a free hot meal

SHUNNED

Most of the men and women lining up for the pap-en-vleis are white. Those dishing up the meal are black.

Shunned by white town-folk "because we sleep in the park", they have found help from an unlikely source — nearby Sebokeng, Sharpeville and Bopho-

THE PLIGHT OF POOR WHITES 2

keng

The Rev John Mgcina of the New Ethiopian Church in Sebokeng and Mr John Mafokeng, a Sebokeng supermarket owner, started the feeding scheme in February

They now feed an average of 150 people twice a week, financed by donations from black parishioners and from their own pockets

Mr Mgcina's motivation is biblical — specifically the part of the scriptures which urges people to feed and clothe their needy fellows

Mr Mafokeng is involved because "when I see these people I remember my father was poor, and I ask God to give me a hand to help them"

Both agreed that there were needy people in their own township as well, but "the need is greater here"

"Black people who are poor in the townships at least have somewhere to sleep. These people have nothing," said Mr Mgcina

QUALIFIED

"These are dear folk — though it's a bit strange to be helped by Bantus," said Oupatjie, self-proclaimed mayor of the park due to his three-year stay there — with his two adult sons

Most of the men are qualified workmen — fitters, riggers, bricklayers — but have been out of work for months

Getting out of the hole they are in is difficult. They are turned away from jobs because of lack of experience, or denied state help because they do not have a permanent address

WORKSHOP

Mr Mgcina's ultimate goal is to set up a home for the men, with a workshop to provide them with employment, but funds are already stretched by the feeding scheme

"Our aim is that the community should accept them. These are the people of this country. We cannot leave them behind," he said

"Maybe, if we try, the government will think about the problem and help these people. Rina Venter (Minister of Health) is not helping us in the Vaal. They are ignoring the problem."

'People can't postpone hunger'

Sowetan 18/5/92



WE gathered here yesterday and are meeting again today in a setting which suggests continuity, stable processes and a familiar and predictable environment

Yet the overwhelming message that was communicated from this hall yesterday, both to our own people and to the international community at large, was that no progress towards the new South Africa that we all want had, in fact, been made over the last five months

The things we did and said conveyed this perception, despite the valiant efforts that some among us made to demonstrate and insist that progress had indeed been achieved

We meet here today as we did yesterday not to play politics but because our country is in a very deep crisis

Our people continue to die as a result of brutal violence carried out by forces that are opposed to democratic change. Fear stalks our land because none of us seems to know when the identifiable as well as faceless assassins are going to strike, whether on the trains, in the townships and villages, on the roads or elsewhere

Many feel emboldened to carry and brandish guns, spears, battle-axes, pangas, knobkerries and other weapons of death, as though to kill, to threaten and actually to perpetrate violence against other human beings were the most natural thing in the world

The crisis facing our country is also expressed by the haunting reality of millions of people without jobs, without homes and without food. The lives of many of our people will be made even more miserable by the terrible drought which afflicts many parts of the country

The question that faces us all is - how long can we, who claim to be

ANC president Nelson Mandela's intervention at Codesa 2 last Saturday is believed to have assisted greatly to get the convention back on track. Here is an extract of his address:

leaders of our people, sit here, talk eloquently, spin out complicated formulae and enjoy the applause while the country sinks deeper and deeper into crisis?

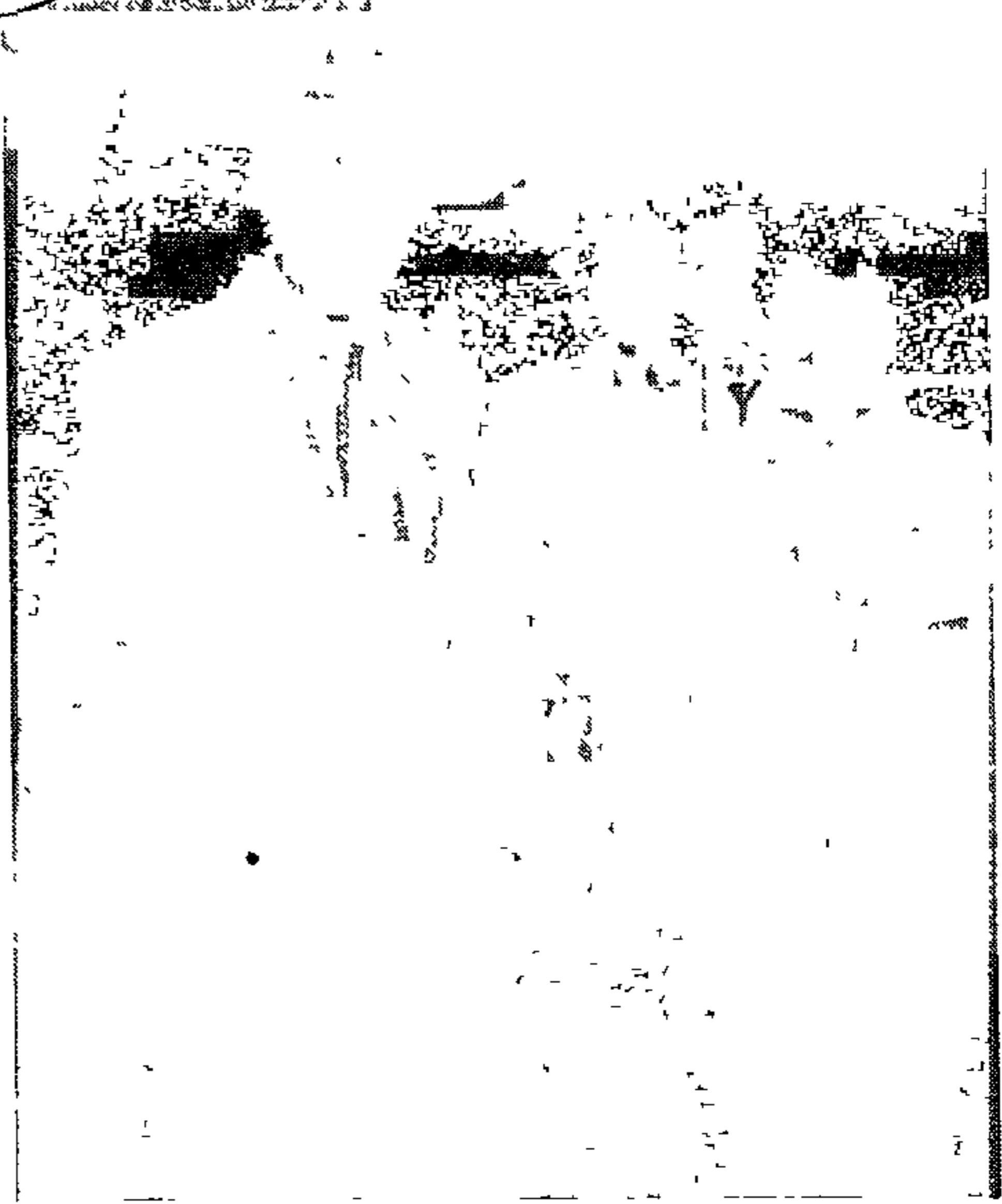
From where can we claim the moral right to assert that we need to move with less speed? Why do we put off till tomorrow solutions that we can today?

The people cannot postpone their hunger. Similarly they do not want their freedom postponed. Anyone of us who acts to delay that freedom only serves to perpetuate our bondage. This is a situation which none of us should be willing to accept

And let none of us make the mistake of thinking that the people will do nothing to change their condition

Not only do the masses have the right, they have the duty to engage in struggle to change their condition, change any movement or leader they see as acting against their common good

With regard to this matter, there are a number of propositions that I would like to put to the convention as a whole. To help our country and



MR Nelson Mandela with the military ruler of the Transkei, Major-General Bantu Holomisa, during a recess at the second plenary session of Codesa at the weekend.

people move forward, I would like anybody with dissenting view to speak out openly against any of these propositions

Firstly, let us all agree that we have to create a constitution-making body, elected on the basis of one person one vote, with the votes being of equal value. Is there any party here today opposed to this?

Let us all here agree that parties elected to this body will be represented within it in proportion to the number of votes they obtain. Is there any participant who is opposed to this?

Let us also agree that in addition to a national list, there will also be candidates who will be elected on a

regional basis. Is there any participant who is opposed to this?

Let us further agree that the constitution-making shall be a one chamber national assembly with sovereign powers to negotiate, draft, and adopt a new constitution. Is there anybody who is opposed to this?

Let us again agree that the work of drafting the constitution will be carried out within the framework of constitutional principles that have been and will be agreed here at CODESA. We cannot allow the interim constitution or any interim structure to be imposed upon or constrain the constitution-making body

Africa's bank declares war on poverty

81600 1815192

DAKAR — Africa's top development bank has declared war on poverty and one of its key battles will be against population growth which, at 3.2% a year, far outstrips growth in other continents.

The war against poverty is one of four strategies for the next five years adopted by the African Development Bank (AfDB) at its annual meeting which ended in Dakar on Thursday.

In a continent where economies have been ravaged by heavy foreign debt, depressed prices for mineral and farm exports, civil strife and severe drought, people are worse off on average than 30 years ago, it said.

"If the regional growth pattern of the 1980s is repeated in the 1990s, per capita incomes will fall 20% below today's levels," said Peter Freeman of Britain's Overseas Development Administration.

Yet there is no sign of any wide-

spread economic recovery soon in Africa, which must now compete against the former Soviet bloc and eastern Europe for aid.

"The downward trend in the African economy has been aggravated by the rapid rate of population growth. Agricultural production has not kept pace with population growth, with the result that Africa has to depend on food imports," said AfDB president Babacar Ndiaye.

Bank officials say it demands political will and extensive family planning education to change attitudes in African societies which have traditionally valued large families.

Failure will be costly.

"Even if fertility rates were to fall immediately to replacement levels, it would take several decades before the increase in Africa's population growth would be arrested," said AfDB vice-president Ferhat Lounes

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Other strategies in the five-year plan include rebuilding facilities damaged by neglect or war, promoting the private sector and setting up an African common market by the year 2025.

Industrialised countries reassured Africa that official development aid, which accounts for more than 40% of all investment in the continent, will continue to flow.

But they said Africa would also need substantial private investment to recover and it could attract this only if African states developed market economies, upheld the rule of law and made appropriate reforms to tax and other economic legislation.

The World Bank estimates that returns on private investment in Africa have fallen from over 30% in the 1960s to 2.5% in the 1980s. Returns in south Asia average 20% or more, the meeting was told — Sapa-Reuter

...and came first overall against international and top local competitors in the South African National Precision Flying Championships at Rustenburg.

Maize rescue drive gathers pace

The giant maize import drive to alleviate the impact of one of the worst droughts in history and to supply basic food to nearly 60 million people in southern Africa is well under way.

This was said yesterday by Spoornet spokesman Jacques Pienaar, who added that the rail transporter had discharged nearly 500 000 tons of imported maize for local consumption and re-export to neighbouring countries.

Another six vessels

with a combined cargo of 170 000 tons of maize were being unloaded in South African ports

"It is the first time in the history of the United Nations Food Help Scheme and the World Food Programme that such an operation is conducted as a preventive measure, and South Africa's logistical abilities and capabilities have been successfully put to the test," he said

Since the first maize shipment arrived in

April, Portnet had unloaded 265 334 tons for local consumption and 1 791 101 tons for re-export to neighbouring countries.

Mr Pienaar said Spoornet had distributed about 73 percent of all cargo discharged at the harbours, with nearly 103 000 tons of maize already delivered locally and close to 113 000 tons delivered to Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana. Another 13 trainloads were en route to Zimbabwe. — Sapa.

WIN!



CIRCUMCISION

All you need to

know by a



Emergency food aid 'squandered in Lebowa'

8/10/92 19/5/92

KATHRYN STRACHAN

EMERGENCY food supplies from the state's poverty food relief programme had been lying unused in a Lebowa hospital for two months, Operation Hunger spokesmen in the area said yesterday.

Operation Hunger northern Transvaal director Johann Rissik said food rations were being squandered, despite the area experiencing its worst drought in seven years. The Lebowa government had apparently been unable to arrange transport for the food.

Operation Hunger was already feeding more than 260 000 people in Lebowa, but Rissik believed it would soon have to start turning hungry people away.

He said the Jane Furse Regional Hospital was supposed to distribute supplies allocated to Lebowa through its clinics. But four storerooms of food had been left untouched for two months and another truckload of supplies had arrived yesterday.

Lebowa was allocated food worth R5,3m from the programme, whereas Operation Hunger was allocated R10m to feed 1,8-million people nationally.

Because there was transport available to distribute the food, Rissik blamed the delay on bureaucratic bungling.

National Health Department director-

general Dr Coen Slabber said the drought had made Lebowa one of the highest priorities in terms of relief. Although Slabber did not know about the supplies being stored at the hospital, he was aware the Lebowa government had distribution problems.

The Lebowa government had claimed it had insufficient manpower and it was being encouraged to use non-governmental organisations to streamline distribution. Slabber acknowledged his department was ultimately responsible for making sure the food reached the people.

Lebowa Health director Dr Matome Masipa said he would investigate the matter.

● See Page 3

Raymond Parsons warns that endemic violence can lead us all to poverty and des

In search of a win-win solution

STAR 27/4/92



MANY of us appear to have accepted that the developments of the past couple of years in South Africa, including the high level of violence in certain parts of the country, are all a part of the process of discovering a "new South Africa."

It has an understandably visionary ring about it — and is indeed a worthy focus of our efforts.

But I would like to suggest that over the past two years or so we have also been discovering the "real South Africa." The "new South Africa" is still to be negotiated once we have truly grasped the realities of this country.

The current prevalence of political violence has already caused untold hardship, disruption and loss of life and property. It jeopardises the process of peaceful political transformation and threatens to leave a legacy of insurmountable division and deep bitterness. It poses a threat to the economy.

To give a perspective to the problem of violence and its potential for destruction, it should be

noted that while 60 people were killed in the notorious Sharpeville massacre in 1960, several thousands have been killed in political violence over the past two years.

The endemic violence, from whatever quarter it comes, is undermining confidence in the prospects for peaceful change. It can eventually lead us all on a downward path to poverty and despair, unless reversed soon.

Continued violence is destroying productivity, discouraging investment by both small and large business, and causing despair among all population groups. Business is being forced to relocate or close. And it does not stop there — the trauma of violence is also brought into the workplace.

What South Africa must guard against is replacing external sanctions with an internal sanction — violence. This would equally place a ceiling on our economic performance in the years ahead.

Poverty and unemployment must be seen as one of the main contributory factors — among several others — to the repeated

cycles of violence

If we look back over the past 40 years we see a close correlation between economic conditions and political unrest. Violence is also bound up with the rapid process of urbanisation experienced in recent years. Hence the Peace Accord has included the vital question of socio-economic development in its objectives.

Apart from its other merits, the emphasis on socio-economic development also gives local communities affected by violence something constructive to focus their minds and energies on as an alternative.

And what about the overall economic environment needed to achieve peace and prosperity? What do the IMF and other world bodies' experts in economic development tell us?

It is a converging economic message. If economic growth in South Africa were to be raised to 3.5 percent a year — or to the minimum rate required to reduce the level of unemployment given the rapid prospective growth of

the labour force — investment must substantially increase.

There is no other way to soak up unemployment and raise standards of living. And it will not be possible to achieve much higher growth rates without significant foreign investment.

Without an inflow of long-term capital the ceiling on South Africa's economic growth rate on the most favourable assumptions is likely to be about 2 percent — far too low to meet the needs of our total population.

To achieve the levels of domestic and overseas investment that South Africa requires for economic growth needs business confidence. Unless there is a congenial and stable environment for foreign investors they will simply not commit themselves on a large scale to this country.

And by a "congenial" environment for investors in South Africa we are talking about

- Political and social stability
- A return on capital invested
- A commitment to the basics of a market economy

This means we must reconcile what is needed to redress past inequalities with the reality of ensuring sustained economic growth. Most businessmen, and this is certainly the Sacob view, accept that the removal of historical imbalances should be an explicit goal within the context of sound growth.

We want a win-win solution. So what I am saying is that, if we want economic growth and development in South Africa, we will have to win the confidence of the international business community. This is the global reality.

There is enormous goodwill internationally for South Africa, but there will be no blank cheques or miracles for us in a highly competitive world. Investor-friendly policies must be the order of the day. We must act on the premise that we need the world more than the world needs us.

This brings me back to the wider implications of the National Peace Accord. We must give the peace accord — fragile and imperfect though it may be — every

support at national and local levels. In all its ramifications — both short term and beyond — it stands between us and complete anarchy and despair. When we survey the seemingly intractable nature of violence in South Africa we must remember, as students of history, that others have also faced their moment of despair.

Let businessmen be united with other community leaders for peace. Let us urge the major political leaders to renew their commitment to the provisions and implementation of the National Peace Accord as soon as possible. Let us be united against violence. We must understand clearly why violence won't destroy us — only the failure to unite against it can do that. □

● This is a shortened version of an address by Raymond Parsons on "The Peace Accord and Economic Development" at a recent Nafco conference. Mr Parsons is director-general of the South African Chamber of Business.

The first of nine rounds of peace talks between Renamo and the government began in Rome in July 1990. Another is expected in May — Sapa-AP

Warning of a new divide

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — There was a danger the new political system would entrench a new divide between urban whites and unionised, urban blacks on the one hand and the unemployed urban and rural underclass on the other, SA Institute of Race Relations director John Kane-Berman warned at the weekend.

"We need to beware of replacing the tricameral Parliament with a new urban-biased, union-biased, highly centralised political system, Kane-Berman told a University of Stellenbosch Business School conference. Such a system would practise redistribution in favour of urbanised, unionised people.

He said redistribution had been too narrowly spread across the black population because of low growth and rising unemployment.

Kane-Berman said rural black people had been the victims of a double discrimination — because they were black, and again because they lived in the homelands. Drawing on a recent Standard Bank study, he said government spent nearly three times more on the 22-million urban blacks (R67bn) in the 1990-91 fiscal year than on the 14-million inhabitants of the 10 homelands (R15bn).

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Judge presents case for 'second tier' rights

~~241~~ 241 TIM COHEN ~~241~~ ~~241~~

SA LAW Commission vice-chairman Judge P J J Olivier last week expressed support for justiciable "second generation" rights — such as the rights to food, housing and medical services — despite the costs involved.

"There is not much point in telling the poor, jobless or the illiterate that they have freedom of speech if they are starving or dying of exposure or a treatable disease," the judge told a seminar on human rights at the Goudstad College of Education

First generation rights, such as the rights to life, liberty and a vote, evolved in Western countries during periods when their acquisition enabled citizens to prosper by using their initiative and talents.

But in the Third World, the idea of human rights evolved under circumstances of enormous population pressure, poverty, unemployment and underdevelopment.

Those countries had developed the view that fundamental rights also included state provision of food, housing, employment and medical care, he said.

Some Western lawyers argued that these rights were not enforceable by the courts and were, therefore, not "rights". According to this argument, they belonged in the programmes of political parties, or in a set of non-enforceable guidelines. *BIP 30/4/92*

"The response to this is that the argument is formalistic. If there is a need for a right to be recognised, the law should find a procedure for its realisation, even if this means reforming the existing procedure."

It was also contended that the recognition of second generation rights was socialistic and would demand great economic sacrifices of the state and of those citizens who were self-supporting.

"The answer to this is that if we are earnest about human rights and justice these sacrifices are called for and that the stereotyped view of the state is outdated. If we have respect for human rights, then we cannot only have respect for those rights that suit our pockets"

Olivier said that there was a great need for human rights education among politicians and ordinary people confronted by violence and those who had benefited from circumstances of the past.

He said in the past whites opposed the idea of a Bill of Rights when it suited them, now they were seizing on it as a means of protecting themselves against the demands of the previously oppressed majority



A place of shelter It may only be a hard floor but it beats sleeping on the streets

Photos: GUY ADAMS

The homeless come to pray ... and stay to scoff

THERE'S an honest way to a free, hot meal and a place to sleep for the homeless in the city a working knowledge of the "Big Book" (even though many can hardly read it), plus participation in two-hour Bible study sessions

For the street "outie" who is not religiously-inclined, it's a choice of learning to pray or going hungry. The alternative is discreet scavenging in dustbins

Shelters for the 60 000 unemployed men, women and more than 800 children navigating the streets of Johannesburg will come on to the municipal agenda in the next few months, when the Johannesburg City Council completes a study into the possibility of buying vacant buildings to house the city's homeless. "Our idea is to rehabilitate these people back into society systematically," says Bonnie Rosen, of the council's planning and development section. The scheme is to accommodate people first and, when special job creation programmes have been initiated, to provide them with employment

"Hey, don't take pictures of me, I owe too many people money," growls Frickie, slicking back his greasy hair, then lining up in a shelter's soup kitchen queue. The Mes-Aksie (mission house) shelter, run on strict moral and religious doctrines, is a project of the Dutch Reformed Church and hands out a meal at 11am daily for "hobos, homeless and junkies"

Manie de Jager says the mission, which receives a government subsidy, "works among all destitute people, regardless of colour. We cannot provide for their spiritual needs alone — we want to address their basic needs first. We even have a resident psychologist here"

On Tuesdays it hands out a food parcel to some 200 families, this is rounded off with a "family meal" on Thursday. The down-and-out crowd arrive before the meal is ready, which means time for a bit of additional Bible study at the Mes-Aksie shelter. The aroma of the food makes concentration difficult for the "brothers and sisters"

The Johannesburg City Council is looking at a way to house tens of thousands of city homeless... some time in the future. BEATHUR BAKER looks at what's available in the meantime

Most of the city shelters are religious, self-sufficient or running on donations and guided by the firm but kindly hands of a fiery pastor fulfilling a calling to work with the homeless. Often, the pastor's past is more colourful than his flock's, many are reformed drug addicts or alcoholics who "saw the light" in time

Rules in most institutions are strict and seldom vary from one to the other. For example

- No food is served unless the required amount of morning or evening services are attended. There is no smoking or drinking on the premises. "Brothers and sisters" are strictly kept apart

- Anyone arriving after closing time is locked out, even if you sleep on the door step. The "outie" who dares turn up drunk or stoned is denied food and access

- Often inmates are required to carry out domestic chores in the shelter

The Christian Coffee Bar and Shelter in downtown Johannesburg accommodates about 50 people and conditions are a far cry from other bigger, disinfected sanctuaries of salvation

In a cosmopolitan mix of local people and those from neighbouring states, we find two pregnant women and several others with young children. All have been in the shelter for more than a year because "it is free and the children are fed every day". The women share the three bedrooms and the men sleep on the floor in the church. The crowd is good natured

They're very different from the seasoned, often addicted drifters whose return to society is difficult after years

of drinking metholated spirits or wine or — for those who can sustain a more expensive addiction — a shot of Wellconal or a mandrax "pipe". These are their soul comforters, taken up time and again despite numerous efforts at rehabilitation. Many centres do not sustain treatment to include after-care and supervision, and people with no next-of-kin have nowhere to go when they come out of these places

A shelter in Berea with a homely feel about it caters for destitute teenage prostitutes and drug addicts. Run in a spacious, pretty two storey house, the shelter can accommodate up to 18 people a night, providing them with food and a counselling service. It's funded by public donations, run by Jean and Adelle du Plessis — the husband and wife team who initiated the project — and overseen by a management committee

Their outreach programme is directed at the needs of the teenage prostitute — some as young as 12 — and includes finding girls on the street and encouraging them to trace their families

"These girls find re-integration into society very difficult as the very people who condemn them most harshly are the ones who pay for their services," said Du Plessis

Genesis, an all-male shelter in Bertrams, takes in all kinds of homeless men but was initiated especially looking at the destitute, homeless alcoholic who often has no place to sleep, says administrative officer David Sindi. The house, indistinguishable from others on the street, provides — along with a meal and a bed for the night — a counselling service and a bit of camaraderie over coffee

A more-regular-than-most resident, still on the streets but now "pulling his life together", has learned a lot from his stay in the shelters. "When you haven't got a job or family and no home, the Devil gets to you at times. This is where you feel you can count on others"



Winter chill ... A small child finds comfort next to a warm heater

Homeless 'should get top priority'

ALLEVIATING the plight of the homeless should be given top priority in a new SA, delegates from about 700 stricken communities were told at the launch of Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle).

The problems of the country's 10 million homeless could not be solved without proper consultation with the homeless themselves, Omhle chairman Dan Moshugi said in his opening address.

He told delegates at the Johannesburg launch that alleviating the plight of the homeless should be the top government priority in the new SA.

"This pressing problem cannot wait until a democratic government is elected," he said.

Moshugi accused the government of "playing games with the homeless" *CIPren 315792*

He said the government's housing and land policies "are a total mess, with no hope of proper solutions for the homeless"

"We are the true victims of apartheid and it is our

future which is at stake." (24) (306) (27)

Moshugi said SA's massive homelessness was a direct result of the government's apartheid policies and it was a lie to say apartheid was dead if its millions of victims, particularly the homeless, were ignored.

He said the government policy of privatising key industrial and commercial enterprises, such as Iscor and the railways, had worsened the plight of the homeless.

Moshugi said Omhle demanded that the government immediately divert its resources to housing the homeless and remedying the wrongs of apartheid.

The Independent Development Trust, the SA Housing Trust and the building industry were also strongly criticised.

Moshugi said the homeless were being ignored by the National Housing Advisory Council and the De Looor Commission which was supposed to advise the government on housing policy.

Bleak outlook for needy

STAFF 715792

(241)

Welfare organisations are preparing for a grim winter as the persistent recession, rocketing food prices and plummeting temperatures force more and more people into swelling queues for help, reports PAULA FRAY.

A S WINTER took its first bite at the weekend, with temperatures dropping to as low as minus 7 deg C in Frankfurt in the Free State on Sunday, welfare groups recorded an alarming jump in the number of people seeking help.

The outlook, according to organisations working with the needy, is bleak.

The scenario for this winter is the worst in years, with the recession taking an added toll on people normally able to fend for themselves.

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman last month predicted a winter of "maximum deprivation" — a combination of severe hunger and cold for many.

"People in the Free State and highveld die of exposure every year and there could be an unprecedented toll this year," Mrs Perlman warned. "We hope to distribute blankets, plastic sheeting and corrugated tin in squatter areas, but feeding schemes are our priority."

Operation Hunger deputy director Norma Cohen said there had definitely seen an increase in the number of people needing help after the drought. Operation Hunger aims to distribute

100 000 blankets, at a cost of R1 million, this winter.

"We need blankets desperately," said Mrs Cohen. "I am sure we will see an increase in the need for feeding within the next few weeks."

Salvation Army public relations secretary Major Denis Lorimer said that from reports received countrywide, "things are looking very bleak."

"We are fairly worried about what is going to happen, particularly in the squatter camps," said Major Lorimer. However, the problem was not contained in the poorer areas.

"The recession is affecting more and more people... not just in the squatter camps," he said. "The individual means of people have shrunk. Inflation and the recession are taking their toll on all people."

It was, at this stage, difficult to estimate the number of people who needed help. However, reports indicated the problem was worse than last year.

Major Lorimer was reluctant to isolate any particular area —

although individual reports showed the outlook for some regions were very bleak — as the problem was now countrywide. Anyone who wanted to assist could call the local Salvation Army office or its headquarters in Johannesburg.

St Francis of Assisi follower Brother Giovanni, who has been helping the homeless and destitute on the Reef for several years, said the situation was definitely worse this year.

The number of soup kitchens around the Witwatersrand had jumped dramatically since the onset of the cold weather.

However, it was not only the homeless and destitute who needed help. Queues were being lengthened by the requests of pensioners on fixed incomes who were struggling to make ends meet as rent and food costs rocketed, he said.

As the drought continued in the rural areas, people were

flocking to the city in the hope of finding work.

Brother Giovanni painted a poignant picture of neatly dressed elderly people waiting in food queues. "People on fixed pensions just aren't able to come out each month."

The queues included recently discharged sick people, young mothers with small children who had come to Johannesburg in the hope of finding their husbands, and recently retrenched and unemployed people.

"We have families in distress," said Brother Giovanni. "I think this year is definitely worse than before. I think things which have had an effect are unemployment and retrenchments."

According to Brother Giovanni, the number of children running away from home had increased. "The children say life on the street is better than the violence in the townships."

But despite the despair, a fighting spirit could be noted. "We have groups of women sleeping on the streets with their children. Many of them come from the rural areas, and they are doing the most inventive things to earn money." □

Too many, too poor

C (Pren) 3/5/97

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THE world's resources are adequate for the sustained development of the planet, if they are carefully used, says the United Nations Population Fund report.

But certain measures must be undertaken

"The requirements will be to improve conditions for the world's 1.1 billion poorest people, to meet the legitimate aspirations of the three billion who are neither rich nor very poor, to cut the environmental cost of development and distribute its benefits more equitably," suggests the report

Progress towards these goals calls, among other things, for slower population growth

Currently, the world's

Population growth is compounded by widespread poverty. This week the United Nations Population Fund released its *The State of World Population, 1992* which highlights the population explosion. ZB MOLEFE looks at some figures published in the report.

population is 5.48 billion and will reach six billion in 1998

"Nearly all this of this population growth will be in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Over half will be in Africa and south Asia," the report says.

Much depends upon action to reduce family size during the next decade.

Part of this action hinges on access to information and the means of deciding the size and spacing of the family

The solution to this population time-bomb could lie in two areas - development of human and natural resources

"Ending absolute poverty, improving health and education and raising the status of women" could be a solution that would contribute to slower, more balanced population growth

Special attention should be given to Africa and south Asia "where more than half of the increase in population and the majority of the world's absolute poor are found".



Agencies in bid to aid refugees

STAR 715792

Northern Transvaal Bureau.

PHALABORWA — With Mozambican refugees continuing to stream across South Africa's eastern border, several agencies are joining forces to relieve their plight by providing clothing, food, medical services and other essentials, while also trying to deal with the social problems created by the influx.

More than 500 people arrived at the Humulani refugee settlement, near the Kruger National Park, at the weekend. Many had walked about 120 km, driven by fear and hunger.

When The Star visited the settlement this week, destitute groups of men, women and children were being registered and categorised for assistance.

Gazankulu director of health services Dr Frans Maluleke said his government had asked the Medical University of South Africa to assist with the management of health services.

The university's institute for community services had built a clinic, and a mobile school had

been established with money from the Dutch government, he said.

The SA Catholic Bishops Conference, the SA Breweries Community Trust and church organisations were among others giving support.

Most refugees were allowed to build homes at the settlement. Others were taken in by local communities, through special care groups.

Those who found employment were taken off the refugee list and given temporary work permits.

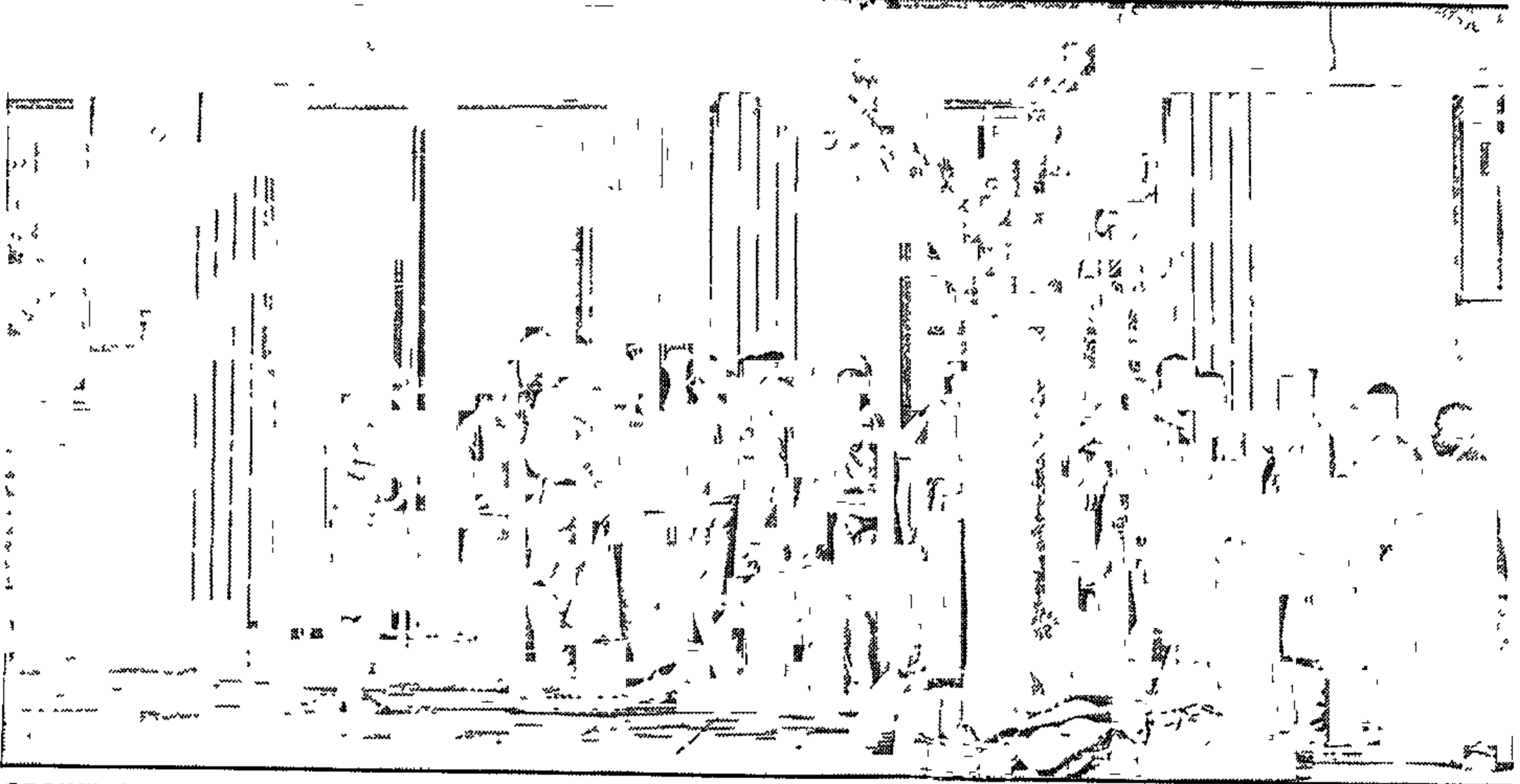
The story of Atalia Mbombi, a mother of three, had a happy ending she said her husband had found temporary work in Johannesburg, and she planned to leave the settlement soon.

Another refugee told of long days and nights trekking across the Kruger Park, where some had succumbed to hunger and thirst while others had been mauled or killed by predators and bitten by snakes.

Many reckoned the risks were worthwhile to escape the war in Mozambique and the prospect of prolonged hunger and unemployment.

Star 9/5/92

Winter's icy chill fro



GROWING HUNGER: Long queues form every day outside the Salvation Army's Clevelham Centre in Berea, where they provide at least one meal a day — a ration of soup and bread or buns. Sometimes as many as 200 show up and many have

as homeless seek a refu

STAR

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● From Page 10

to the terror of the streets Mothers undress in public to sleep on a cold cement floor.

Indignation at the fact that nothing is being done to rectify the situation Officialdom seems to be at its wits' end as to what to do about the numbers who come to form this make-shift society

City officials point out that the problem is not of the city's making and that it is actually a national problem They intone learnedly about rural urban migration and seem to regret the ending of the pass laws and influx control.

"We are investigating the homeless problem," says Johannesburg urbanisation department head Gerd Sipple, "to learn more about it.

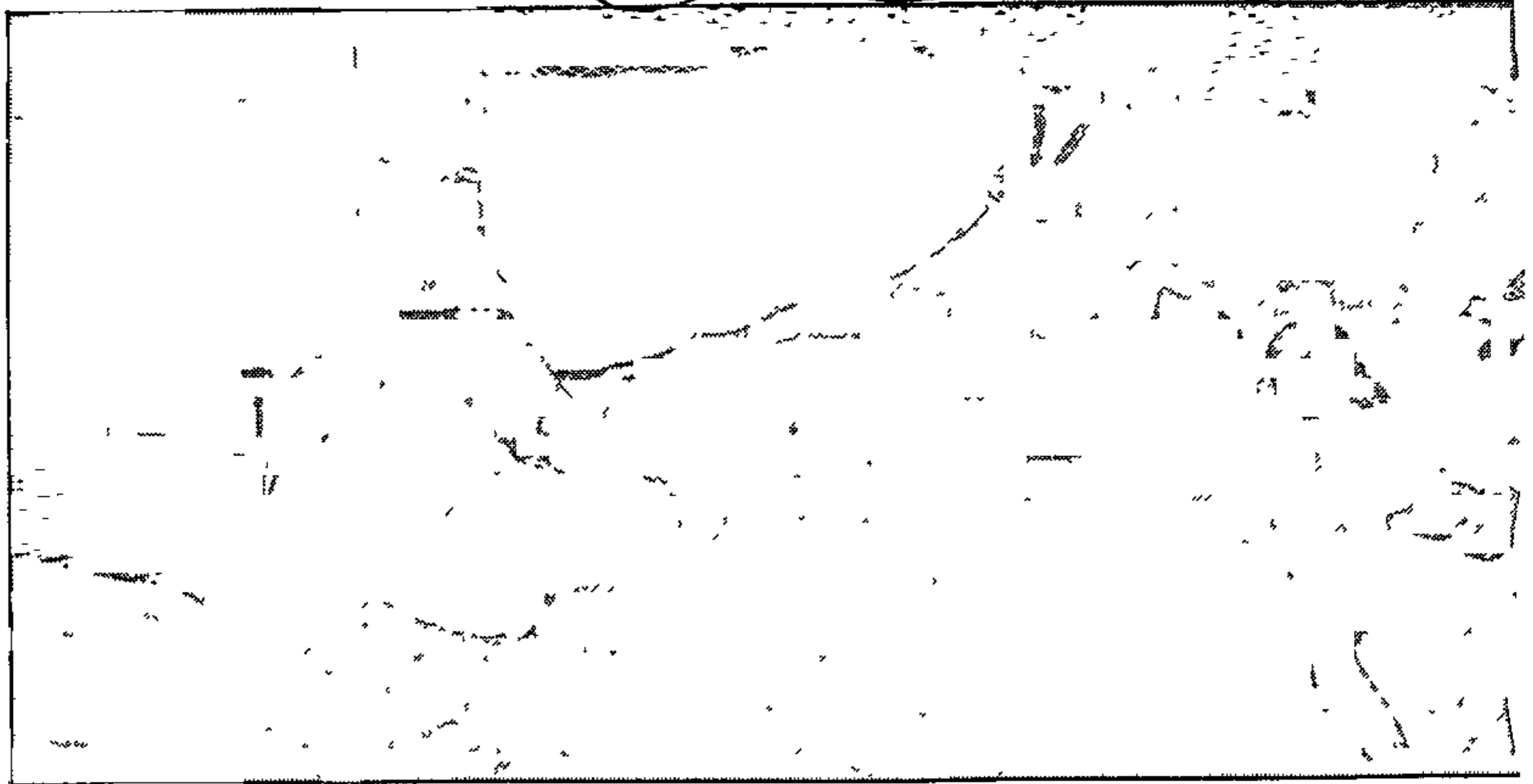
"We have to identify the different problems to develop different solutions. Later this month we shall be holding a workshop to bring together organisations already involved in the provision of shelter in an attempt to identify a strategy which might lead to the allocation of resources . . .

"When the time comes to put up a shelter, we will probably be blamed and neighbours will be screaming about it," he concluded grandly.

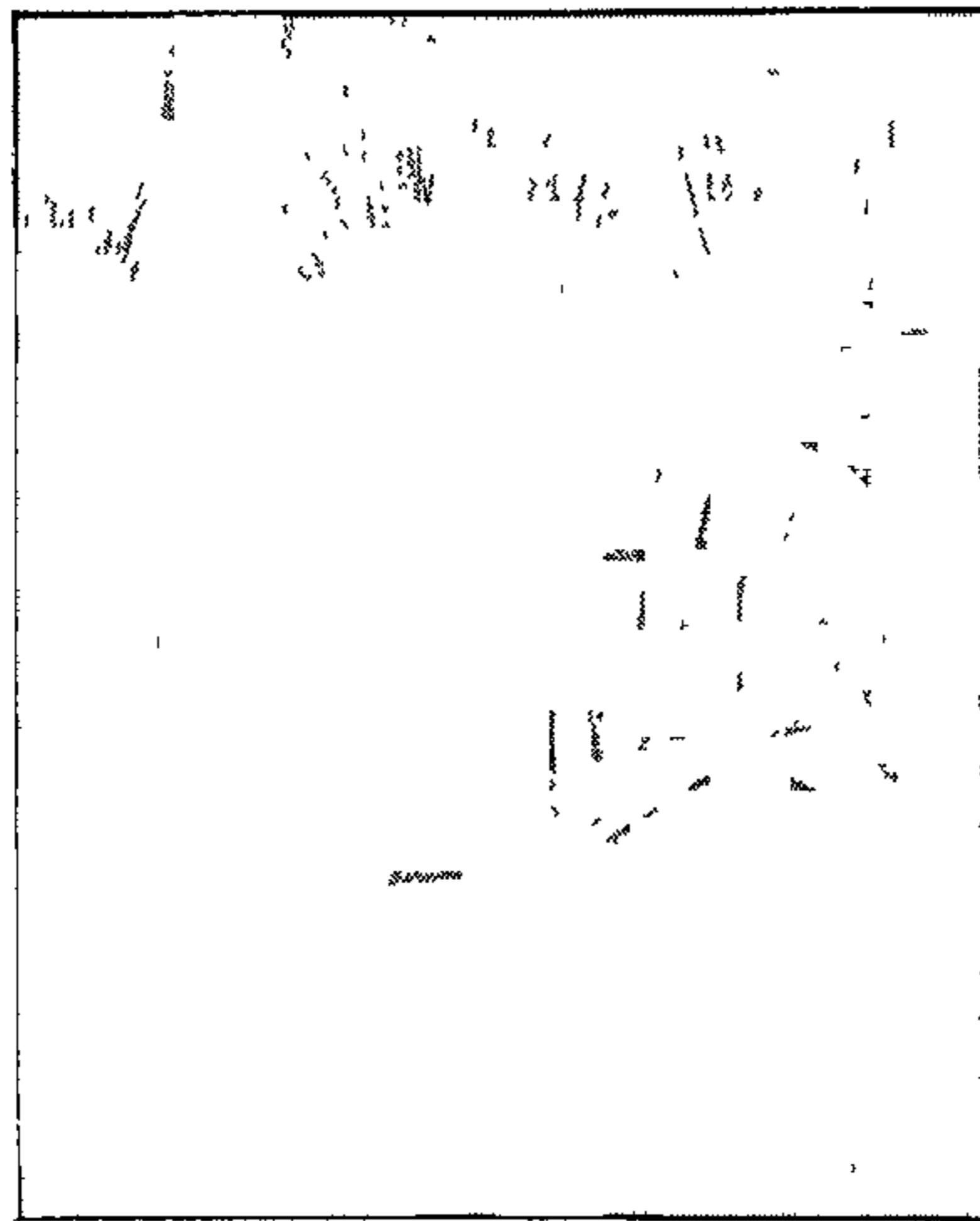
Meanwhile it's 4 am, the winds begin to howl outside the station as the people on the platforms begin to stir The hawkers and small tradesmen look around and gather their precious wares in huge paper bags and make their way out onto the streets.

Here a derelict, hung-over bum carefully folds his newspaper and plastic blanket and stashes it behind a bench

- And over there a wo-



SKID ROW: A homeless group sleeps in a luggage bin with their belongings safely tucked in around them and even fragments of whole clans from the hinterland have moved into Park Station for the winter Officialdom seems to be at its wits' end as to what to do about the thousands who come to form this makeshift society



BREAK TIME: It's hard times everywhere in the city. These two unemployed men take a moment's respite from a long day of job-hunting outside the Salvation Army centre in Berea.

man from Transkei and her three tribal sisters, who trade in beads and curios from Zimbabwe, shake out their communal shawl, gather their

belongings and silently leave Platform 3, hoping that tonight they might again be lucky enough to secure a place in the warm luggage bin

Freezes human dignity . . .

STAR 9/5/92

FROM all corners of the city, and the country, they descend on Johannesburg's Park Station to find a place to rest their weary heads. JOE LOUW finds out what it's like to have no home. (241) (S)

AS WINTER spreads its icy tentacles, thousands of homeless people descend nightly on Johannesburg's main railway terminus at Park Station to seek refuge from the cold

Not only do they descend on the station from all corners of the city, others come from remote corners of the country Standerton,

Upington, Cathcart Many even come from as far away as Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Swaziland — all looking for a warm, safe place to sleep in the City of Gold

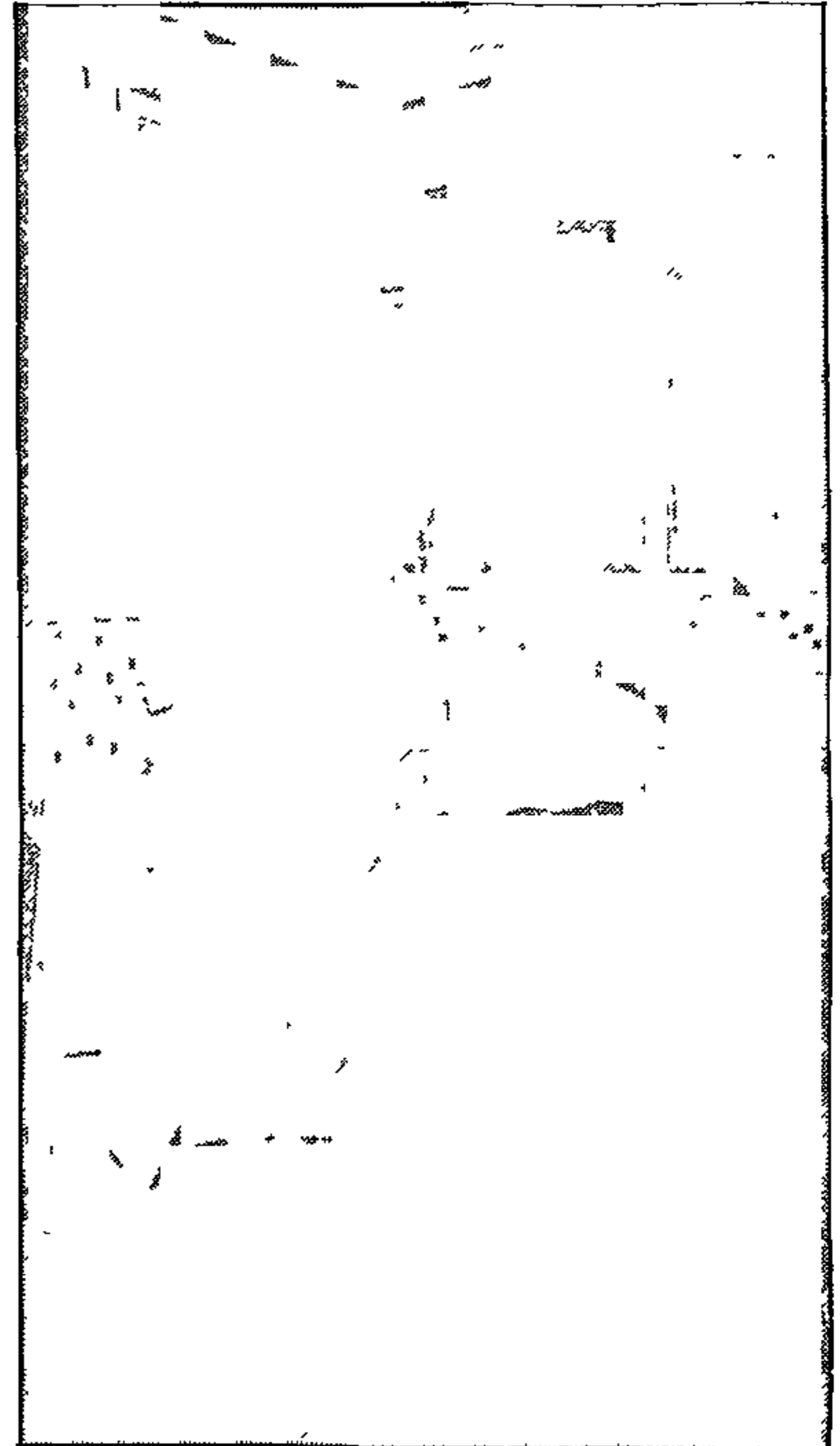
Still others are some of the hawkers and fruit sellers and vendors who ply the city's streets with their wares, afraid to return to Soweto or other townships if their jobs have kept them too long in town

There are mothers and their children, and orphaned street children.

There are men who have long since lost everything they've ever had, swaying drunkenly among the huddled masses, cursing a world they claim never gave them a chance. Their slovenly women cattishly argue among themselves over trifles a piece of cake someone rescued from a garbage bin or who should have the last slug of wine.

There are of course the bully boys — young street-wise toughs who hog the best benches and warmest corners They glower and boast and jostle each other and always seem to find something to yell about And nobody dares to breathe a word of protest

They occupy every available space on the lower part of the station. In the huge hallway of the second and third-



LORDS OF THE UNDERWORLD: Among the homeless are the "regulars" who have occupied Park Station for years on end . . . they hog the space and occupy entire benches.

Photographs: JOE LOUW

class sections they sleep seven-deep, row after row as far as the eye can see.

Some are rolled in sheets of plastic, others luxuriate under brand new shawls.

There are the outcasts who can sleep standing up in the tiny confined space of a ticket examiner's cage and others — black, white, Asian, there is no apartheid in poverty — who curl up in tandem on a bench, one on top of the other like kippers in a box.

I spent a night among these huddled and homeless people and experienced a gamut of emotions — anger, indignation, pity, fear and elation.

Anger at the fact that in this day and age, and in a country as well endowed as ours, people should still, in their hundreds, be submitted to this kind of indignity.

Whole families spend nights on a train platform, meekly submitting

● To next page

homeless are provided with to be turned away.

P.T.O.

Govt bungles as starvation stalks the land

(24)

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STAR 13/4/92

FAMINE of massive proportions is fast developing — but the Government's poverty relief programme is tied up in red tape while people are in danger of starving to death, according to welfare organisers and field workers in black areas

With massive unemployment worsened by daily retrenchments, the number of desperately hungry people can only increase

The economic recession, which has cost thousands of jobs, and the drought are factors in the famine South Africa is having to import 4.5 million tons of maize this year, at a cost of R2 billion, to help feed the hungry

The Government's relief programme was started in August last year when R220 million was allocated to make up to very poor people for having to pay VAT on a wide range of foodstuffs which had previously been exempt from GST. Some foods were exempted from VAT, and this exemption has now been extended with no cut-off date

But hundreds of thousands of families have no money at all to buy food, with or without VAT. This makes it all the worse that by the end of the financial year only R110 million had been spent. Minister of Finance Barend du Plessis said the remaining R110 million would be returned to the Treasury, but that he had allocated R440 million this year for the poverty relief programme

Will it get to the very poor? Or will it end up back with the Treasury because of bungling and mismanagement?

Although there are 1 300 registered welfare organisations in the country involved in feeding needy people, fewer than 200 have actually received money from the fund, said Health Minister Dr Rina Venter last week

So the poor can only starve

Ina Perlman, director of Operation Hunger, has said that up to 40 percent of children in the rural areas had diagnosable malnutrition and that up to 90 percent of families in the rural areas lived below the poverty datum line, which means they cannot afford to buy the basic necessities

Operation Hunger officers are particularly critical of the health department's programme of handing out monthly food parcels to "targeted" individuals — pregnant and lactating

Minister of Finance Barend du Plessis has allocated R440 million for the Government's poverty relief programme this year. But will it get to the very poor? Or will it end up back with the Treasury as a result of bungling and mismanagement?

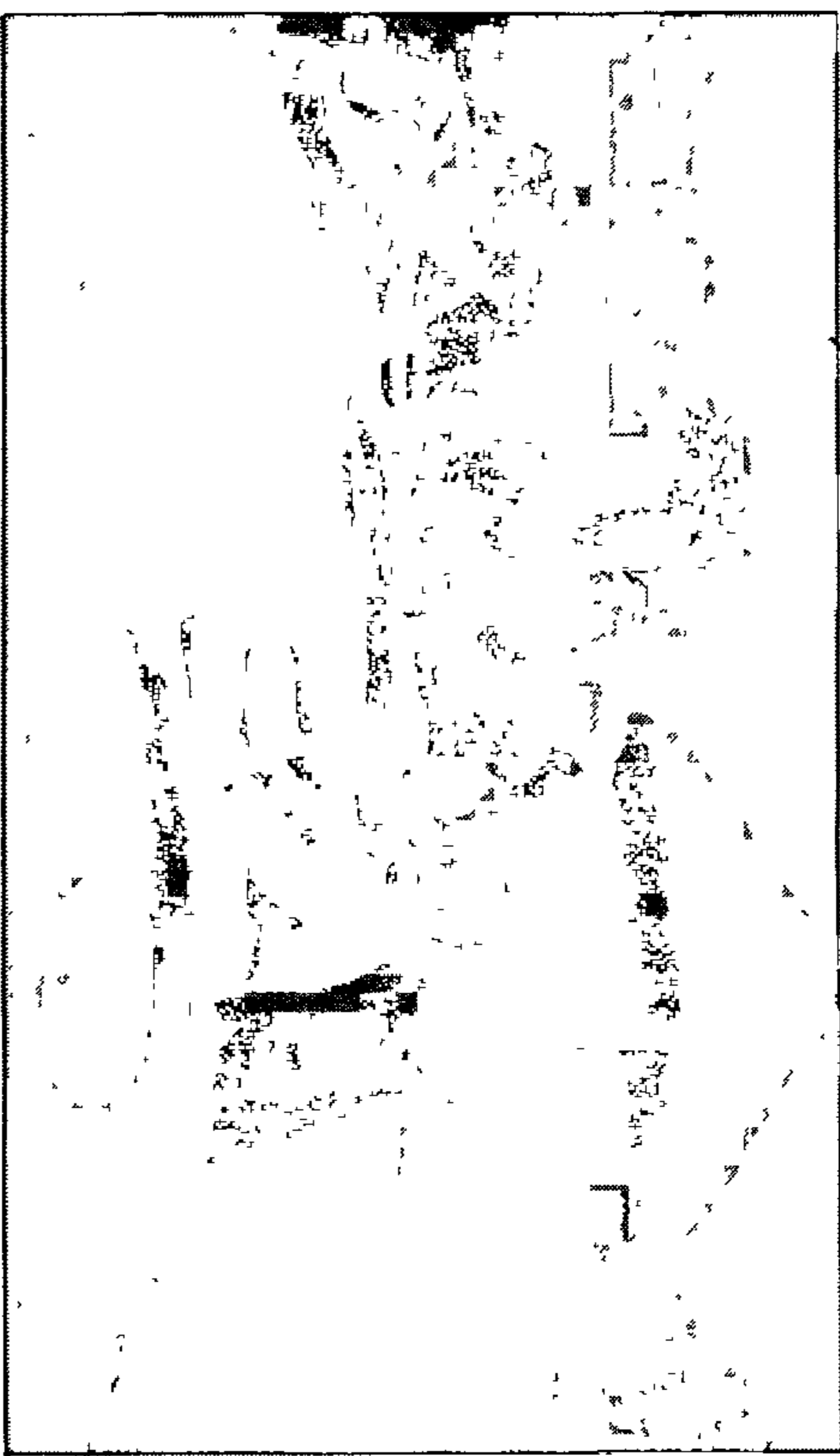
JEAN LE MAY reports.

ing women, small children and old and disabled people

They say that at about R35 each the food parcels are an expensive way of handling the problem. This programme, the protein energy malnutrition (PEM) scheme, works through 143 local and provincial clinics countrywide

"A 'targeted' child is a malnourished child referred by a clinic," said Glyns Behr, regional director (eastern Cape) of Operation Hunger. "But in our experience, if a child is malnourished, that usually means the family is malnourished. No woman is going to keep the food parcel for the 'targeted' child and let the rest go hungry

"What is needed is a massive programme of soup kitchens where every member of the family can be fed every day for 9c a day each — a fraction of the cost of the food parcels"



Waiting for food . . . Operation Hunger estimates that up to 40 percent of rural black children have diagnosable malnutrition.

STAR 13/4/92

Operation Hunger, which asked the Department of Health for R20 million from the relief fund and got R10 million, bears the brunt of feeding the nation's starving people

"We're looking at feeding two million people every day," said Mrs Perlman. "That R10 million will last us just over a month, and as you know we have to depend for the rest on donations"

Anthony Msila is an Operation Hunger field worker in Thaba Nchu, the crowded Free State "homeland"

"More and more people are pouring into the huge squatter camps here," he said. "They come from farms, where they have been turned away because of the drought, and from the mines at Welkom where they were retrenched. At one squatter camp we are feeding 2 300 people every weekday

"On Fridays we give the fa-

milnes a 12.5 kg bag of mealie meal and a 2 kg bag of enriched soup powder to cook over the weekend. And we make a point of feeding only the very poorest families, so you can imagine the number of people hovering on the border-line. I can only see the numbers increasing

Plight

"All our feeding schemes are combined with self-help programmes, sewing, knitting and other craft-work that bring in money. We had a programme of vegetable gardens, but that has gone because of the drought

"There is just no chance of the breadwinners in these families getting work. There is a terrible feeling of hopelessness among them"

There is in fact a special R20 million relief programme for farmers under which they

can apply for food and for themselves and their workers, but many farmers simply sack their people rather than include them in the relief programme

The plight of farm workers has been pinpointed by the Anglican Bishop of Grahamstown, the Right Rev David Russell, in a week-long fast at St George's Cathedral in Cape Town in protest against the desperate situation of many of the country's 1.3 million farmworkers

"The law turns the rural poor into criminals without the right to live anywhere," he said

Moreover there are complaints that the Department of Health's whole food relief system is unwieldy, slow-moving and tangled in red tape

Regional committees made up of officials and people from welfare bodies have to assess every request for assistance and this can take months

Field workers and organisers of bodies which run feeding schemes complain about the unwieldiness of the system

"Picture a grass-roots organisation which is struggling to collect funds to keep a small community-based feeding scheme going," said a social worker who asked not to be named. "There is no way in which they can fill in the extremely complicated application forms without help from somebody. The whole system is self-defeating"

Allocated

Leaflets handed out with the nine-page application form which organisations have to fill in before they are allocated money under the relief programme, make it clear that organisations which apply for financial assistance should already have functioning food programmes. The application must also be accompanied by "programme descriptions" and "needs assessments"

There should be "counter-performance from the individual and "existing programme should be part of a developer programme", according to the leaflets

The application is accompanied by a seven-page document on "development principles and guidelines", which starts off by saying that the nutrition development programme should form part of the "overall development process in South Africa"

"Projects should support the development principles of self-reliance, participation and empowerment, and institution, capacity building at local level," it says

Leakages of benefits to those who do not need them must be minimised, and "the distribution of supplies must be limited to the minimum to prevent the cultivation of a culture of dependency" □

Rolihlahla School a wonderful example

INDEPENDENT Development Trust chairman Mr Jan Steyn yesterday called on national, regional and local leaders across the political spectrum to commit themselves to working towards the eradication of poverty and deprivation

Steyn was speaking at the official opening of the Rolihlahla Primary School on the East Rand

"We need to give those without houses, the uneducated and those who do not have access to health care hope of a better future

"We can do this through well-structured programmes capable of being sustained over time," he said

The commitment of ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela, President FW de Klerk, Inkatha Freedom Party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Pan Africanist

Congress deputy president Mr Dikgang Moseneke was needed to be bolstered by regional and local leaders

"South Africans must join hands in creating a new future by building "

The school was funded with R200 000 raised within the 100 000-strong Etwatwa community and R1,8 million from the IDT. About 400 labourers were given jobs and trained to construct the school.

Steyn said "In Etwatwa we saw the involvement of the community in providing money and labour. Your community trust raised over R200 000 towards the cost of the school

"You have set a wonderful example of not only benefiting from empowerment, but also of accepting the responsibilities associated with it" - Sapa

Chances were 'squandered'

Political Staff
VALUABLE opportunities in the rationalisation of government development assistance had been squandered through a mass of bureaucratic structures, the De Loor committee of inquiry found.

"Unfortunately vested interests have too often prevented sound conclusions and recommendations by previous investigations to come to fruition and often new ad hoc deci-

sions were taken without fully relating them to the impact they might have on existing structures and policies"

The committee, whose report was completed in October 1990 and handed to the government, said that in many of these instances political factors played a dominant role.

Its confidential report has never been published, but the Cape Times obtained a copy.

Its findings show that despite the urgent need for development aid to poor communities, a vast administrative bureaucracy had been established with considerable overlapping and duplication, wasting much of the official effort to deal with the problems of poverty in South Africa.

The committee said that in the first phase of the past 40 years, apartheid was the overriding objective and development assis-

tance was aimed at the attainment of political and economic independence for the homelands.

The second phase, started in the early 80s, was an effort to recognise economic realities but apartheid structures remained and were even expanded.

The third phase, commenced in the late 1980s, was non-racial in approach and although many racial structures were still in place, they would probably soon be dismantled

Inquiry found 'duplication'

By **BARRY STREEK**
Political Staff

World Bank finding backed

A SECRET government inquiry, completed 18 months ago, strongly criticised the "proliferation" of official institutions, funds and role players involved in development assistance

This, it said, had resulted in the wasteful application of scarce human, financial and managerial resources "because of the overlapping and duplication of activities"

The report of the nine-person committee of inquiry, headed by former auditor-general Mr Joep de Loor, was completed in October and handed to the former minister of administration and economic co-ordination, the late Dr Wim de Villiers

At the time, Dr De Villiers said that after the report had been studied, further steps would be considered, but little action has been taken since then and the proliferation of government bodies involved in development work has continued

The overlapping and duplication of activities has gone on, despite the fact that these departments and agencies are at the forefront of official government policy to remove economic and social backlogs and reduce inequalities

The "confidential" Report of the Committee on Development Assistance has not been published before, and publication of it was "restricted"

The report reveals a remarkable bureaucratic mess in the provision of development aid to underprivileged communities, much of which could have been rectified regardless of the

Political Staff

DR Joep de Loor is a former director-general of finance and former auditor-general

He retired from the civil service in 1989 after serving in a number of departments.

Dr De Loor was also head of the committee of inquiry into the provision of housing in South Africa, whose preliminary report was completed earlier this year.

It is believed to have backed up a confidential World Bank finding on South Africa that the "present structure for formulating and implementing housing policy is hopelessly inefficient, contradictory and duplicative"

The other members of the De Loor committee into development assis-

constitutional changes being negotiated

The committee even proposed interim steps to address most of the deficiencies it came across and it said that rectifying many of the present problems was not dependent on constitutional development, but few of its proposals have been implemented

"Apart from the present incoherent institutional arrangement of development agencies, a number of other important deficiencies were also identified

"The most important one in this respect can be related to the lack of a sound system of financial relations between different levels of government"

The committee said central govern-

tance were: The Director of Information Services of the former Department of Development Aid, Mr JH Buiten; the Director of the Central Economic Advisory Service, Mr RA Downing; the Deputy Director-General and chief of the Central Economic Advisory Service, Mr JP Dreyer; the Deputy Chief Auditor in the Office of the Auditor-General, Mr F J Joubert; the then general manager of the Development Bank, Mr A B la Grange; a partner in Deloitte, Pim Goldby and consultant to the office of the Auditor-General, Professor JAJ Loots; the special adviser to the Chief Executive of the Development Bank, Dr F J van Eeden; and the senior assistant economist in the Central Economic Service, Mr JC Lotter, who was also the committee's secretary.

ment departments should, as far as possible, only be responsible for policy advice to the executive, and for macro-planning, financing, monitoring and co-ordination, and that every public sector institution should take responsibility for the total spectrum of the South African population

It also recommended that development projects and programmes should as far as possible be executed by the second and third tiers of government and that the co-ordination of development policy be undertaken by a new institution that also accepted responsibility for the facilitation of development, macro-economic analyses, planning, co-ordination and advice

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CT 16/4/92

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CT 16/4/92

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Gifts help to feed 2 million

Sowetan 16/4/92

ON behalf of The Salvation Army I thank the people of South Africa for their outstanding response to the Red Shield Appeal. The appeal has been overwhelmingly successful, thanks to the generous warm hearted, freely giving public

Over R2,5 million has already been raised towards the R3 million goal. The people who missed the knock on the door are sending their

gifts to PO Box 32217 Braamfontein and we believe the goal will truly be reached

The increase in the 1992 appeal was exemplified in some of the southern areas of Johannesburg where an 80 percent increase was recorded.

Such giving will enable The Salvation Army to continue feeding the 2 million people annually as it already does and make a vital contribution

towards meeting the needs of new people coming to our goodwill centres

The numbers have increased by between 40 percent to 60 percent in the first three months of 1992

We particularly thank the media for their support.

MAJOR DENIS G LORIMER,
Public relations secretary,
JOHANNESBURG.

Bleak winter for rural millions

STAR 22/4/92

(241)



Ina Perlman . . . people in the Free State and Highveld die of exposure every year and there could be an unprecedented toll this year.

By Peter Davies

The depression and drought could see more than 2,5 million South Africans desperate for food by the end of the year, and Operation Hunger director Ina Perlman predicts "maximum deprivation" — a combination of severe hunger and cold — for many rural people this winter.

Already, nearly 2 million people are kept alive by daily food from Operation Hunger, but funds are fast running out.

The State recently provided a three-month grant of R10 million, but according to Mrs Perlman, the organisation needs more than R9 million a month to meet its food budget alone.

With winter approaching, Mrs Perlman said in an interview yesterday, a "huge concern" was new squatter camps.

"They have little to eat, and the grant doesn't cover the 100 000 or so blankets (costing nearly R1 million) we want to distribute.

"People in the Free State and Highveld die of exposure every year and there could be an unprecedented toll this year. We hope to distribute blankets, plastic sheeting and corrugated tin in squatter areas, but

feeding schemes are our priority."

Operation Hunger has applied for a fresh Government grant to allow feeding to continue.

"I hope the next lot of Government money will come through so there is no break in feeding.

"Our R9 million monthly food budget needs to continue to the end of the year at least, when hopefully rains will come in time to allow us to reduce the level of financial aid needed."

Mrs Perlman has suggested that one way to pre-empt rural starvation would be to introduce a minimum wage for farm labourers.

Chief economist for the SA Agricultural Union Dr Koos du Toit said new labour legislations currently being negotiated would be applicable to agriculture.

"The new budget set aside R1 billion as disaster aid fund for agriculture. We are very pleased, but think at least R2-billion is needed, not only for farmers but for the labourers' benefit too."

Last month the Ministry of Health made R20 million available for a food assistance programme to aid drought-stricken farmers and their labourers.

SA, neighbours discuss food aid master plan

(241) (241)

Binay 22/4/92

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — A master plan to fend off widespread famine in southern Africa will be discussed in the Union Buildings today at a crisis meeting of government officials from southern African states

SA's ports will be the gateway through which much of the huge amounts of food aid from abroad will be channelled, according to government sources

Chaired by Foreign Affairs Africa deputy director general Derek Auret, today's meeting will include senior government representatives from Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and Botswana. A commercial official from Mozambique will also be present. Representatives of the donor community have also been invited.

Spoornet chief director of land transport management Len Dreyer will represent Transnet.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman said yesterday that the conference would discuss the extent of relief needed in the various countries, the logistics of transporting the grain from the ports and the vital aspect of determining transport priorities.

A senior Transnet spokesman said yesterday that SA's ports and its rail system could cope with up to 8,2-million tons of imported maize and other grains, including SA's own import requirement of 5-million tons this year.

It is understood the Maize Board will assist by making silo space available for imported maize until it can be loaded onto the grain trains.

The current drought has destroyed most maize and other crops throughout southern Africa. The UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) estimated last week that 11,5-million tons of imported food would be needed to limit the threat of starvation in the region.

The FAO estimated that drought alone had exposed 13-million Africans to possible starvation and whole regions to famine.

Sapa reports from Cape Town that Finance, Water Affairs and Forestry Deputy Minister Japie van Wyk told Parliament yesterday that the SA and Zimbabwean governments were investigating 24-hour shipments of food aid.

Population-growth warning

STAR 23/4/92

(241)

The population growth experienced by South Africa is far too rapid, says the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association

In its annual report released yesterday, the PMA says the current generation "is indeed the last one that can do something about the struggle for survival"

Soar

It says the growth rate is "dangerously high" at 2,3 percent per annum

This in turn means that the country's current population of 28,5 million could soar to "an unmanageable

138 million" by the year 2000

"Scientific research indicates that, in view of socio-economic factors and the availability of natural sources of subsistence, South Africa cannot provide meaningful housing, education, employment and medical care for more than approximately 80 million people," the report adds

Education alone, it has been calculated on the 1982 cost index, would cost R1,7 billion a year

It was vital for South Africa to maintain a growth rate of 5 percent per annum, just to accommodate newcomers to the labour market

The report says

"Taking South Africa's growth rate over the past couple of years into consideration, we have fallen short — and indeed, miserably short — of achieving this target"

Referring to statements made by extra-parliamentary groups such as the African National Congress (ANC) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), the PMA adds that if South Africa elected for socialism "the chances of a growth rate of the magnitude indicated will never be achieved"

It also warns that failure to control population

growth could result in South Africa facing conditions similar to those in Ethiopia, the Sudan, Kenya and other African countries

"Famine, poverty, unemployment and total degeneration will be the legacy that the current generation will leave to the future," says the PMA

Already in the Southern African region, unemployment and underemployment had reached what the PMA describes as "horrific proportions, particularly if consideration is given to the positions that pertain in the independent and self-governing states."

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2,5 million people face starvation



INA PERLMAN

THE depression and drought could see more than 2,5 million South Africans desperate for food by the end of the year. There will be a combination of severe hunger and cold for many rural South Africans this winter.

Already, nearly two million people are kept alive by daily food from Operation Hunger, but funds are fast running out.

The State recently provided a three-month grant of R10 million but, according to Operation Hunger's director, Mrs

Sowetan Correspondent

Ina Perlman, the organisation needs more than R9 million a month to meet its food budget alone.

With winter approaching, Perlman said this week a "huge concern" was new squatter settlements mushrooming on the outskirts of "virtually every town".

"It's a major worry. Many of these people have moved from a mud-hut to a

cardboard shack. They have little to eat and the grant doesn't cover the 100 000 or so blankets - costing nearly R1 million - we want to distribute.

"People in the Free State and Highveld die of exposure every year and there could be an unprecedented toll this year.

"We hope to try and distribute blankets, plastic sheeting and corrugated tin on squatter areas but of course feeding schemes are our priority," said Perlman.

Operation Hunger has applied for a fresh Government grant to allow feeding to continue.

"I hope the next lot of Government money will come through so there is no break in feeding. In 1982, 50 percent of people in rural areas still had some form of migrant labour income to help tide them over.

"Now, 10 years later, that figure has dropped to 20 percent. Our R9 million monthly food budget needs to continue to the end of the year at least," she said



Food relief project is up and running

B/Day 24/4/92
(241)
(2288)

PRETORIA — The massive food relief project to fend off starvation in southern Africa was fully under way with thousands of tons of maize being offloaded daily at SA ports and railed to Zambia and Zimbabwe, a Transnet spokesman said yesterday.

He assured Transnet's usual clients that there would not be disruption of normal commercial traffic.

Road hauliers were experiencing congestion at Beit Bridge, but Spoor-net was confident the grain trains would run regularly from the ports with no delays.

Seven trains had offloaded 7 980 tons of maize in Zimbabwe since April 16. Another train was expected to pass through Beit Bridge last night with 2 300 tons of maize, and a ninth was expected later today.

Zambia has received two train loads of maize through Beit Bridge. Another four are in transit.

The remaining loads from two ships with a total cargo of 20 390 tons will be railed at a rate of two trains a day to each of the countries.

Yesterday another 4 000 tons of maize for Zimbabwe arrived at Durban, 10 000 tons of barley was on a ship anchored outside Durban harbour, and 56 000 tons more maize was expected in eastern Cape ports before the end of the month.

Sapa-Reuter reports Zimbabwe's Grain Marketing Board chairman Cephass Msipa acknowledged that a hiccup in the supply chain could cause serious problems for Zimbabwe. "We are still living from hand to mouth, although the situation has

improved significantly. But one supply train derailment could upset our supplies completely," he said.

Msipa said Zimbabwe would have to import 1,6- to 1,7-million tons of maize before the next harvest.

US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Herman Cohen said after meeting President Robert Mugabe in Harare yesterday the US would give Zimbabwe substantial drought relief. It would donate 700 000 to 800 000 tons of maize to the southern African region.

Meanwhile, relief workers warned in Harare that in six months southern Africa could be plunged into famine far worse than that experienced in the Horn of Africa seven years ago, Sapa-AFP reported.

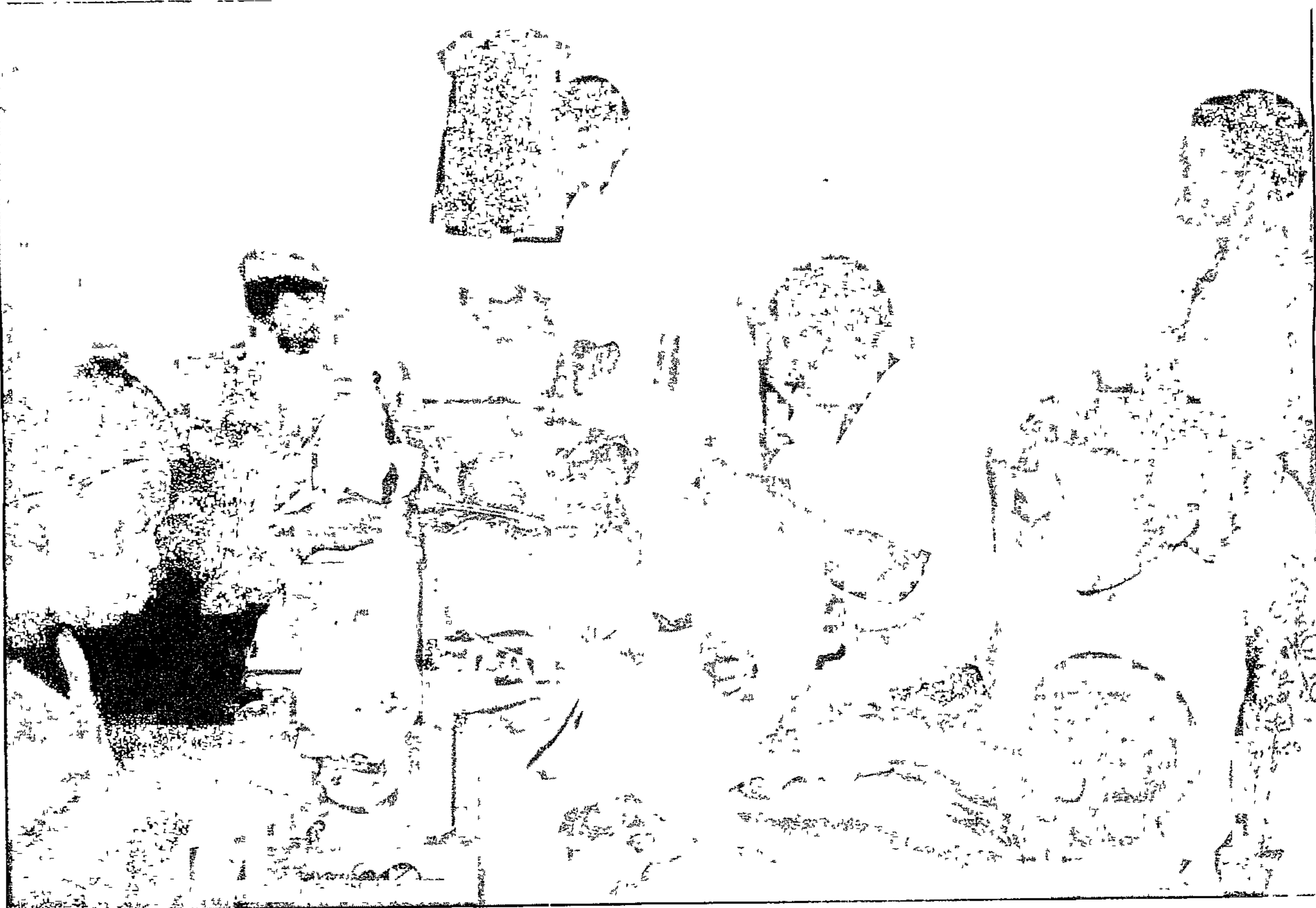
Save the Children (US) regional director Gerard Salole said "This is the megadrought that is going to knock all other droughts and other crises of Africa into insignificance. It's a Cape-to-Cairo affair."

Salole was involved in relief work during the 1985 famine in Ethiopia, Somali and Sudan.

Tove Wang of Norwegian relief agency Redd Barna said "We have five to six months of a pre-famine situation. The challenge is to prevent it." Unless red-tape was cut and donors pledged generously, famine would strike the region in six months.

About 10-million tons of grain are needed by SA, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia to feed about 60-million people during the next 12 months.

GERALD HEILLY



Hard at work . . . Olga Lutu (centre) with sewing students at her Rietfontein farm home Her community centre offers training to those desperate to learn valuable skills. Picture George Mashimani

Big-hearted Sis Olga – SA's very own Mother Teresa

By Brian Sokutu

STAR 24/4/92

"Mother Orange Farm's" work to educate the children of the poor rural community of Rietfontein, near Grasmere, has gained her a reputation akin to that of India's Nobel Peace Prize winner Mother Teresa

Olga Lutu (40) is physically huge and has a heart to match In Orange and Wheelers farms, near Rietfontein, she is popularly known as "Sis Olga" or "Mother of Orange Farm".

Ms Lutu has leased a 325 ha Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) farm on which she has established a residence and community training centre for those desperate to acquire skills in sewing, farming, brick-laying and woodwork

At yesterday's meeting held

at her home with businessmen and diplomats, Ms Lutu's description of the plight of her people so impressed British vice-consul Clive Wright that he promised to look into possible British funding of her training centre.

"For too long we've been deprived of development, especially in rural areas For too long some people spoke for us But now it is time to speak for ourselves So we appeal to you for funding to reach our goals," Ms Lutu said.

Mr Wright cautioned that because of Britain's policy on foreign funding, it would be unable to offer sizable funds to her community projects before an interim government had been installed in South Africa

Sewing students who work

from the Lutu home are remunerated with profits made from the sale of garments

The Olga Lutu Training Centre is not the only contribution the mother of four has made to the rural community

She is also the brains behind mushrooming rural community schools near Grasmere, having pioneered the first school in the area while staying at the Wheelers Farm in 1982

Arrested

"As chairman of the civic organisation at the time, I invited parents to a meeting and told them to convert homes into places of education for our children," she said

Newspapers and books were used to teach children English

After establishing the first community school at her home, Ms Lutu said she was arrested on several occasions for establishing "an illegal school" She was, however, not charged

Her former home – Driezik Plot No 10 – is now a secondary school to more than 300 pupils, and is recognised by the Department of Education

With the 15 percent subsidy she gets from DET Ms Lutu is able to pay a teacher a R475 monthly salary

Despite having been burgled last Thursday, the eight-roomed Driezik Plot No 10 continues to be a living hope to many parents and children

In the burglary, windows and doors were broken and expensive fax and photocopying ma-

chines stolen Ms Lutu has laid a complaint with Orange Farm police, but no one has yet been charged, she said

"We caught the thieves red-handed at 10 pm on Thursday inside the house and took them to the police station, with the keys of the vehicle they drove, but today they've been released

"The person who guarded the house was arrested and is now out on a R60 fine for assaulting the culprits "

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Piet van Deventer said last night that he could confirm that a man had been arrested in connection with the burglary The man had appeared in the De Deur Magistrate's Court yesterday and had been released on bail

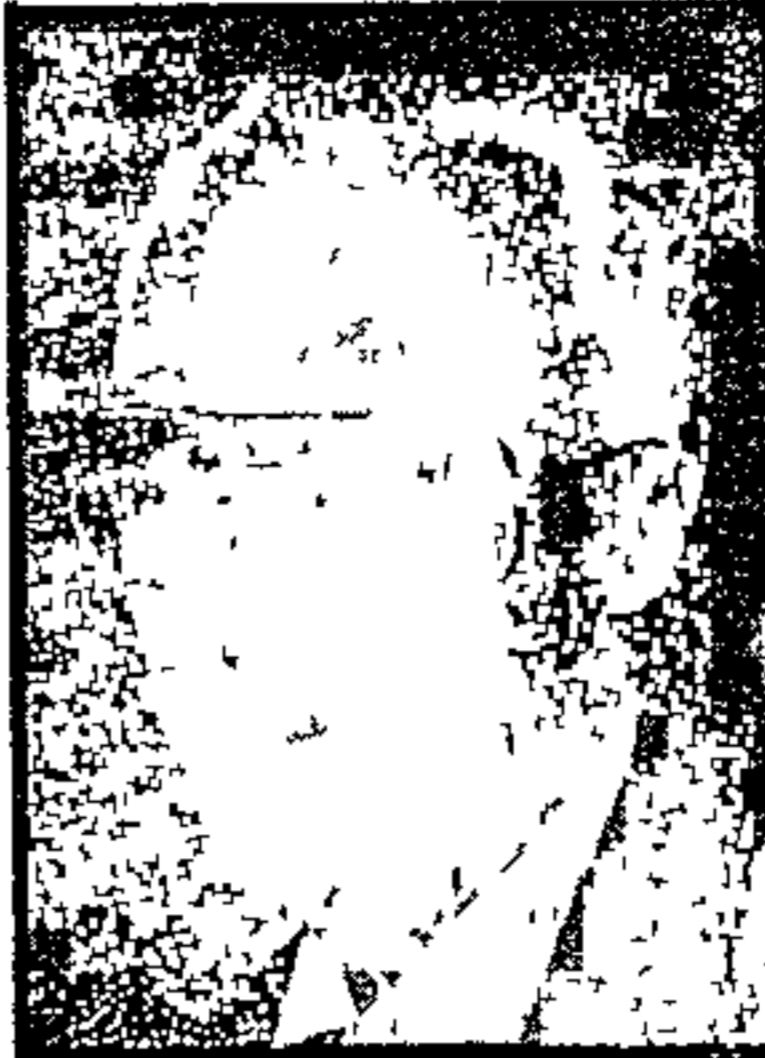
National campaign to focus on homeless

Given 26/4/92
OPERATION Masak-
hane for the Homeless is
to launch a national cam-
paign to focus on the
plight of millions of
homeless people. (241)

More than 1,000 repre-
sentatives of 700 home-
less communities will at-
tend a four-day confer-
ence from April 29 to
May 2, which chairman
Dan Moshugi said would
enable them to "co-ordi-
nate their efforts". (241)

"With winter ap-
proaching, many home-
less people will die from
exposure in their card-
board and plastic shan-
ties," Moshugi warned.

He called on all of
South Africa to help
homeless people to help
themselves.



**HELP HOMELESS ...
Pleads Dan Moshugi.**

Development a booming business

CIP News 26/4/92
Special Correspondent

(241) (2800)
THE upliftment of SA's underprivileged is a huge industry.

Development consumes between 10 and 20 percent of the government's annual budget, with between R10-billion and R20-billion earmarked for development in the 1992-1993 financial year.

Some 10 000 non-government organisations (NGOs) spend about R2-billion annually on development while the private sector also spends huge amounts annually.

One would expect the development industry (public and private sector) to plan with circumspection and co-ordination, but the opposite is true.

De Loor

Spokesmen who have had access to the De Loor Report on the government's development effort, have identified numerous "shortcomings". Little wonder the report has not yet been published.

They say in mitigation that apartheid has been responsible for the duplication of functions.

But inefficient administrative, management and accounting systems have made misappropriation of money so much easier.

At central government level the departments of Regional and Land Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Trade and Industry, Manpower, Agriculture and Water Affairs are involved in development.

Then Own Affairs administers another 10 to 15 development funds.

Institutions and corporations also act as development agents for the government. These include the Development

each with departments involved in development.

There are also the development corporations and institutions like regional services councils and black local authorities which are also involved in development projects.

Senior development officials have agreed on the following "solutions":

■ Central government (government departments) should withdraw from development projects and the State should only give direction to institutions appointed at grassroots level.

■ Only two institutions should execute development projects at grassroots -- one to take care of infrastructure development (including housing and urban infrastructure) and the other to deal with business development.

■ For example, the Development Bank can handle infrastructure development and the SBDC and the IDC business development. Institutions like the SAHT, the IDT, the Oil Reserve Fund and the SADT must go.

■ The Development Bank, the Industrial Development Corporation and the SBDC should then control development through a network of regional offices in accordance with a national development strategy determined and co-ordinated by the government's Department of Development.

■ A central treasury should be formed to control all funds earmarked for development.

Codesa

It would then pay out money on the instruction of the government department to one of the two types of development institution.

The money would then flow to regional offices for spending.

However, such a new model should first be put on the agenda at Codesa.

But observers agree that proposals made in the De Loor Report should take place without delay. This would ensure better control over money for development and a better idea can be formed about the total development programme.

the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC), the SA Housing Trust (SAHT), the Independent Development Trust (IDT) and the Oil Reserve Fund.

Add to this the administration of four "independent" states and six "self-governing" territories -

Bleak outlook for large poor sector

B/Dan 27/4/92

(241)

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — A large percentage of SA's population, now and in the future, would be unable to afford enough food to maintain health and support development, Agriculture Department Deputy Director-General CS Blignaut said at the weekend.

Stressing that the affordability of food was under great pressure, Blignaut said consumer income was low because of unemployment and negative or weak economic growth.

The economy would not recover overnight, he told a Fertiliser Society of SA meeting.

Stellenbosch University's Institute for Future Research said SA consumers in the year 2000 would be overwhelmingly black and poor — even if the economic growth rate was 5%.

A simple and obvious solution would be to introduce price control on farm products and consumer prices, Blignaut said.

Another option was to open up the country's borders so that highly subsidised foods could be dumped in SA. This might solve the food affordability problem in the short term, but the unemployment problem and the problem of low economic growth would worsen drastically.

Before the drought struck, the economic growth rate was estimated at between 2% and 3%. Taking the drought into account, no growth or negative growth was expected.

Blignaut said the destruction of agriculture through a cheap food policy would have catastrophic effects on platteland communities.

SA's rapid population growth was placing increasing pressure on agricultural resources.

It was estimated that over the next few decades the area of arable land

per capita would fall well below the accepted norm of 0,4ha.

Recent studies showed less than 14% of the total land area was suitable for dry-land cropping and of this only about 3% was high potential land.

Water resources for irrigation farming were already overtaxed. Blignaut said there was little scope for horizontal expansion in the long term. SA had to be careful not to slip into the pattern of most sub-Saharan countries.

Blignaut said many technically correct arguments could be made to explain the widening gap between the PPI and the CPI.

However, the disturbing increase in the CPI could not be laid at the door of agriculture.

He said the incomes of 50% of the SA population were lower than the minimum subsistence level, but in the case of blacks the figure was as high as 66%.

In rural areas, incomes of 80% of the population were lower than the minimum.

Speaking on poverty and underdevelopment last week, Regional and Land Affairs Minister Jacob de Villiers warned that national, regional and local levels could not be placed on hold while the outcome of political negotiations was awaited.

Opening a session of the KaNgwane legislative assembly, he said SA faced daunting development problems, including insufficient economic growth, poverty and one of the world's highest population growths. The economic marginalisation of rural areas was another.

**'Ambivalent
message' on
poverty relief**

STAR 20/3/92

By Shirley Woodgate

(241)

The Budget has failed to meet the demands of the South African Black Social Workers' Association (Sabswa) which claims the crisis in welfare services was not properly addressed

Sabswa is concerned that no changes have been made concerning the implementation of VAT, and that the zero rating on foodstuffs has not been re-introduced

The increase in poverty relief indicated an ambivalent message regarding the programme. "On the one hand the Government authorises the relief funds, but the funds do not reach the needy due to bureaucratic hitches," Sabswa said

Parity in pensions was still not a reality, but Sabswa noted that public pressure had convinced the Government to reduce the deadline from four years hence, to 1993

Inadequate social workers' salaries were not upgraded, which meant the pay packets were still not market-related

Mandela says Budget insensitive to the poor

Political Staff

241

CAPE TOWN — The Budget was a rich man's budget and ignored the political process taking place in SA, ANC president Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

"Because the Budget plays such an important role in the redistribution of resources we would expect some consultation, especially with the ANC," Mandela told a news conference.

"It is quite inappropriate in our view that (government) could bring out a Budget which is so insensitive without taking into account the views of the organisation which is responsible for this process.

"Over the years, we have been faced with the question that the Budget has always been looked at from the point of view of the whites, not from the point of view of the poor. The announcement by (Finance Minister) Barend du Plessis that the zeroing of basic foodstuffs is going to be lifted is something that is extremely insensitive."

THEO RAWANA reports that ANC economics policy spokesman Max Sisulu told a seminar in Johannesburg that a feature of the Budget was its "ethnic allocation" and its lack of "transparency".

The seminar was organised by the Nafcoc economic research unit, the Southern Transvaal African Chamber of Commerce (Soutacoc) and the Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI).

"The budget was undemocratic in that the people had no part in its planning, it was framed to address apartheid priorities and we have no way of getting a breakdown of allocations and monitoring these," Sisulu said.

Molefe Mafole, of the PAC's economic committee, said: "The Budget comes from corporate and business taxes, our income tax and other sources, but distribution fails to improve the quality of life like social services roads and housing."

Instead of addressing the allocation of land for farming and housing to those from whom land had been taken, government had given R1bn to farmers who had been hit by the drought.

□ Sapa reports that Cosatu yesterday described the Budget as "mean and misleading".

In a statement on behalf of the ANC/SACP/Cosatu alliance, Cosatu said Du Plessis had often referred in his Budget speech to the need for discussion and consensus, but he had failed to discuss any part of the Budget or his social programmes with representatives of "the people".

Critical time ahead as famine looms

24/1
Somelvan 24/3/92

By JOSHUA
RABOROKO

THE financial position of consumers is critical, according to the chairman of the South African Consumer Union, Mrs Lillibeth Moolman.

Unemployment, inflation and rapidly increasing food prices create great problems and many consumers actually face famine. The belt can no longer be tightened because, for many consumers, the belt is already at its tightest.

The fact that the VAT rate has remained unchanged is to be welcomed, she says. It is, however, regrettable that the temporary relief on certain basic foods has been terminated.

She said that consumers had not only hoped that the exemptions would be made permanent, but that they would be extended to include all basic foods, medical services and medicine, water and electricity.

It was a pity that the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, did not see his way clear to do this.

The fact that the Budget tried to help the agricultural sector in an effort to minimise the effects of the drought is of the utmost importance for consumers in order to prevent food shortages.

Increase

The increase of 8c a litre in the fuel levy is regrettable. It will provide the ideal peg to justify increased prices. The escalating effect of the higher fuel price will hit consumers very hard.

The increased amount available for the nutrition development programme is to be welcomed. It is hoped that a system will be devised as soon as possible in order to ensure that the aid reaches the people who are really in need of it.

According to Moolman, the highest priority now should be to stimulate the economy in order to create jobs and at the same time to control the money supply in order to fight inflation. It did not appear as if the Budget would meet these requirements to the required extent.

By MONK NKOMO

MORE than 50 percent of South Africa's blacks are below the age of 20 and about the same percentage are illiterate, thereby fuelling a vicious cycle of ignorance and poverty.

This is the view of the Foundation for Research Development in their latest position paper on "Rural Poverty".

The plight of about 13 million illiterate and poverty-stricken people living in South Africa's vast rural areas, the FRD said, was now compounded by one of the highest population growth rates in the world.

The FRD outlined major issues on how rural inhabitants could be empowered to create a better future for themselves and their children.

The individual income of blacks in rural communities revealed a depressing scenario, according to the FRD.

"In fact it has been estimated that 50 percent of South Africans live below the minimum living level and in the black population, this percentage rises to approximately 66 percent.

"In rural areas, almost four fifths of the population live below their survival threshold."

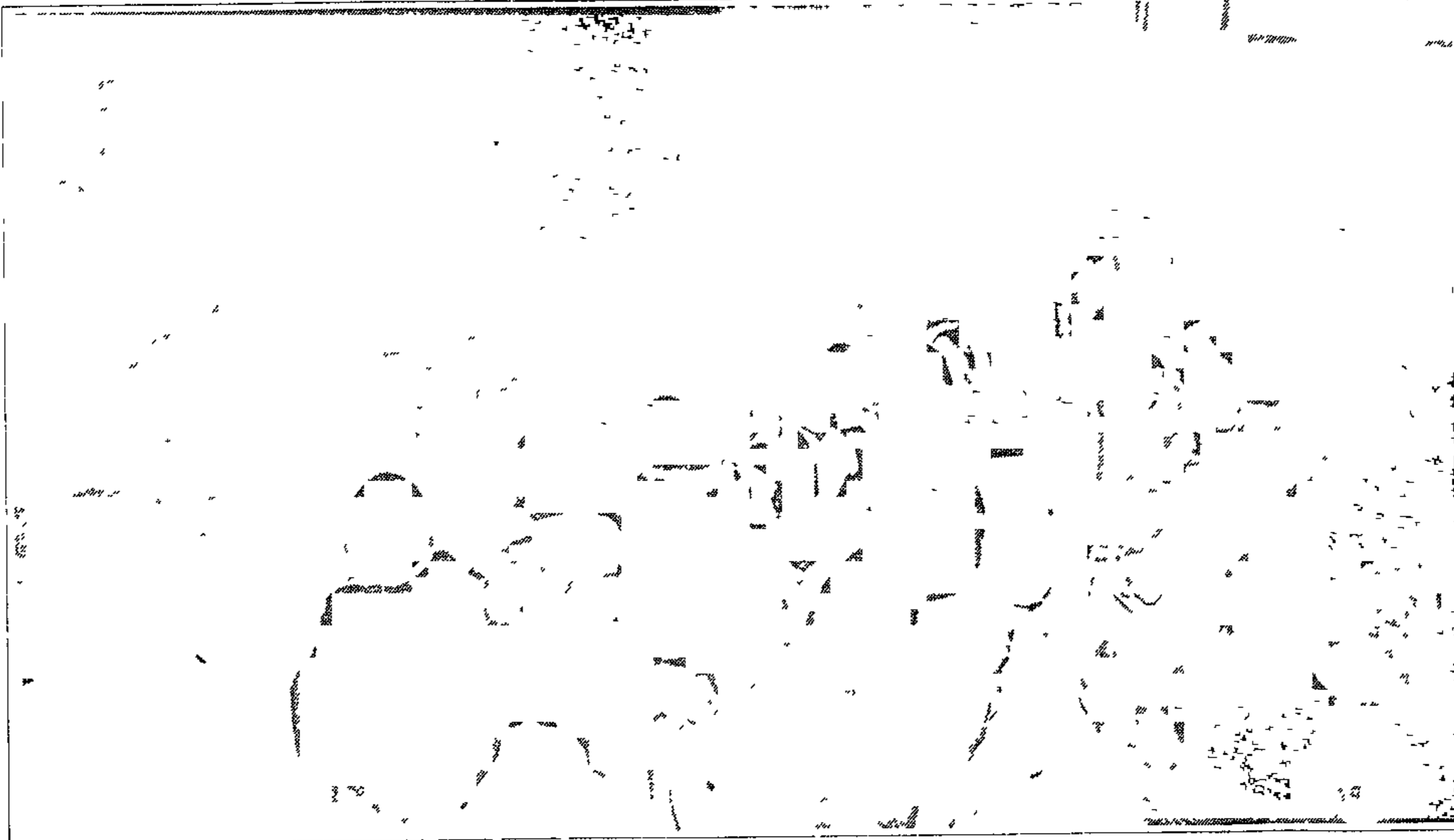
The FRD also revealed that people in rural areas faced serious housing problems.

"Poor communities have largely been left to design and build their own houses, often from scrap material."

For many of the children in rural areas, depressed socio-economic conditions, widespread environmental degradation and an impoverished education

Urgent need to upgrade and educate rural poor

Sowetan 25/3/92



Children huddle on the floor of a bare classroom in Winderveld.

system "put paid to what little hope there is for self-actualisation or productive adult career".

The FRD believed that science and technology would play a vital role in the creation of wealth and upliftment of the poor in this country.

Investigations have revealed, however, that only one in every 10 000 black school entrants matriculates with university entrance qualifications in mathematics and science.

"The reasons for this alarmingly low pass rate can again be sought in political problems, poor teacher training, inadequate facilities, overcrowding, inappropriate curricula, and the absence of role models who stimulate interest in science and mathematics."

The FRD's president, Mr RR Arndt, said most of these 13 million inhabitants were "forgotten people" who were struggling to survive in a degraded environ-

ment with minimal empowerment.

He added "The Verwoerdian dream of separate development has been shattered.

"It's legacy of illiteracy, violent crime, poverty and disease is all too apparent in the satellite shanty towns surrounding most of our cities."

The FRD, Arndt said, firmly believed that science and technology had a major role to play, "along with education and training, in

ameliorating the impact of poverty on our rural communities and in empowering the people to solve their problems."

The Government's family planning programme, the FRD said, had been a failure in rural areas and had little or no credibility among the black population.

"In fact, less than 26 percent of blacks are even aware of the programme."

The FRD supported the proposal that drastic meas-

ures, such as a two-child family norm, be a priority. Contraceptive services, education and counselling must become available to everyone and a nation-wide high quality sterilisation programme should be offered by every hospital.

"These measures should be accompanied by the acceptance of more liberal abortion laws."

The FRD warned that the South African population was faced with potentially grave risks which could re-

sult from the spread of the Aids disease.

Health services among the rural poor remained critical.

The training of district nurses, the FRD said, should be upgraded to allow them to dispense a wider spectrum of drugs and undertake minor surgical procedures.

Networks of small clinics and district medical personnel needed to be firmly established with good communication systems, the efficient supply of medical materials and the means to cope with emergencies.

The FRD said water was a very scarce commodity in most rural areas in South Africa and the pollution of existing supplies was increasing.

"The whole infrastructure needed to support village life such as clinics, schools, co-operatives and recreation sites, relies on a dependable water supply," the FRD said.

They warned that contaminated water caused illness which further reduced the economic activity of an extended family.

The FRD said their analysis had clearly revealed that science and technology had a major role to play in the upliftment and empowerment of the rural poor.

"There is scarcely any activity among rural people which cannot be improved by introducing appropriate technology."

"Improved agricultural practices, the breeding of new cultivars, manufacturing appropriate machinery for small-scale agriculture, provision of clean water and appropriate irrigation systems, preventive medicine and family planning, improved roads, business opportunities, communications, energy supply and transport are but a few examples."

Trust is ready for battle with poverty

Sowetan 30/3/92

(241)

THE Independent Development Trust had to run the gauntlet of a whole series of sniper attacks when it seemed to be slow in waving a magic wand that made poverty and deprivation vanish at a single stroke.

Launched two years ago with R2 billion from Government funds, the IDT was hailed as a main standard bearer in a post-apartheid march across the debris of apartheid to seek solutions to black socio-economic problems

Waves of optimism spread about an instant tidal wave of new low-cost houses, new schools, new clinics and health services

When the wait for a start of actual construction work dragged on into weeks and even months, the snipers started to draw aim. Had the Government merely scored a few political points - and tucked its promises away in the filing cabinets of yet another expensive but ineffective bureaucracy?

Hurling missiles

Was the IDT dawdling because it was making a mint out of the investments it had made with all its cash - more interested in expanding its fortune than in making a start?

Former high court judge Mr Jan Steyn, drawn from the Urban Foundation to head the IDT operation, was even busier behind the scenes than the critics hurling missiles, however

Now, he believes, the IDT can show the wait for action was worth it, as more and more robots turn to green on a formidable programme of schemes aimed at black upliftment.

The gathering momentum of the operation is reflected in the steep climb in the supply of subsidised housing sites for homeless black families. The rate of deliveries is striding out towards a target of 8 000 a month en route to a total of 100 000

The quickening pace has also started to make its impact in the flow of new classrooms, new fresh water and sanitation projects, new clinics, new community services in even the most remote rural villages

What's more, Steyn believes, the down-to-earth effectiveness of the whole exercise has been ensured by the mixture of the experts he has assembled to design and handle operations - from politically hardened Robben Island veterans of the ANC to high-browed specialists drawn from academia

"Without an approach that was totally realis-

Critics accused the Independent Development Trust of dragging its heels when it was first launched with R2 billion from Government funds two years ago. Chairman Mr Jan Steyn believes he can show the wait was worth it as more and more robots turn to green on a massive programme aimed at improving the lot of underprivileged black families, reports MICHAEL CHESTER.

tic, assured of impact at grassroots level, the exercise would have sunk into oblivion," he says

"We could easily have taken an easier route - splashing out free hand-outs. We agreed, though, there were no quick fixes. It was going to take time and sweat to make permanent rather than temporary repairs on the damage done to the fabric of society in decades of apartheid

"Experience all over the world has proved it is utterly useless to assume socio-economic problems will all be solved simply by throwing cash at all the issues. Blank cheques alone will not provide lasting solutions

"The evidence shows the key to sustainable development is finding a way to give even the smallest and poorest community a new dignity and confidence that it has a real stake of its own in shaping a better future

A new spirit

"That is why we aim at schemes in which communities themselves have a hand in planning and which they themselves can take over and run once the ball has started rolling

"Inspiring a new spirit of confidence inside many communities does not come automatically in a society long torn by divisions caused by apartheid and intolerance, still racked by spasms of violence and political conflict, in communities that poverty has filled with distrust and suspicion

"We were sometimes accused of dragging our heels. A few critics may have been silenced if we had simply handed out the money on a first-come first-served basis. It would have made marvellous headlines. By now, however, the cheque book would have been exhausted - and the tragic list of unresolved issues would be

longer than ever

"It could have been equally tempting to hand out largesse to applicants merely because they were able to set down well-articulated reasons why they deserved priority. But where would that leave the 50 percent of the population that is illiterate and unable to spell out elaborate plans about how donations would be spent - often the communities that deserved help most of all?"

Rather than rely on hand-outs as a temporary balm to relieve despair, he says, the aim has been to inspire whole communities to aim at self-reliance - instead of dependence on outsiders to hold a temporary lid on problems

"We decided a far better approach was to devise radical new ideas to use development aid to build bridges out of poverty and towards peace and harmony on a durable basis"

Experts from all the main political camps were persuaded to join the exercise to achieve as much non-partisan neutrality as possible. The team was also made thoroughly multi-racial to ensure the widest impact

All shared a fundamental assignment to abandon traditional ruts in thinking and devise brand new strategies to ensure that development funds reached basic grassroots levels

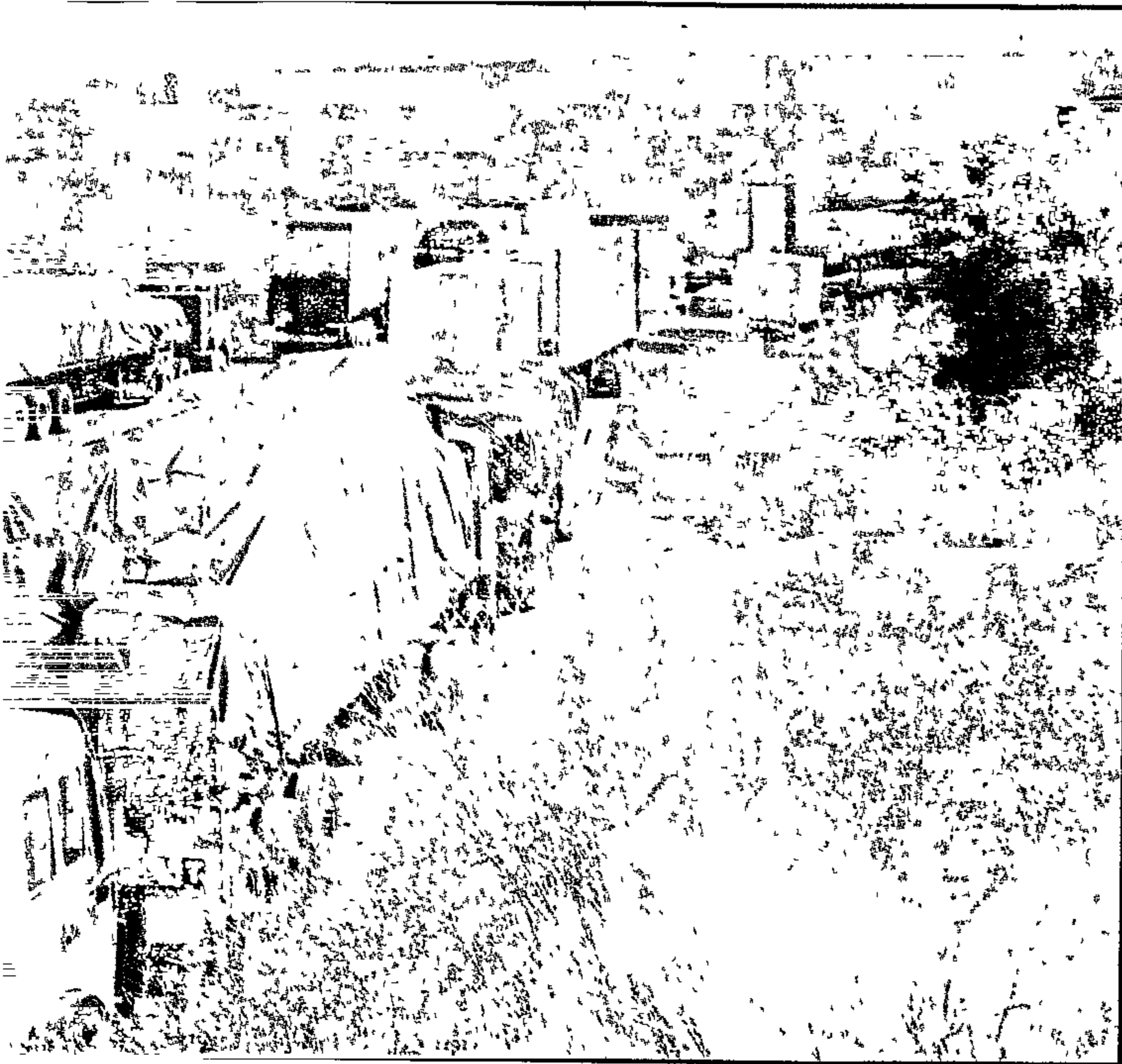
"We are not seeking headlines with grandiose schemes that risk the fate of firework spectacles that soon vanish without trace," says Steyn. "However modest on its own, each project is being designed to start a sustainable process of community upliftment"

The IDT has moved in on several flashpoints that a more timid team would have preferred to make detours around. Projects that cross political antagonisms have often served to calm tensions and call truces while everyone gets involved in new schemes that promise to benefit the whole community

That is confirmed by Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, the principal of the University of Transkei, a no-nonsense graduate of Robben Island who has been a trustee of the IDT from the start and who at the moment is spending a 12-month sabbatical as a full-time executive director

Nkuhlu ensures the trust stays in close interaction with all the key extra-parliamentary groups, such as the ANC, PAC and Inkatha

"There are still tensions from time to time, of course," he says, "But it's clear the IDT is setting its priorities in the right order"



Long line of maize-carrying lorries queues up near Beit Bridge.

Trucks of maize jam Beit Bridge

STAR 2/4/92
By Dirk Nel
Northern Transvaal Bureau

BEITBRIDGE — A huge food relief operation has swung into operation as between 1 000 and 2 000 tons of food a day are trucked from the western Transvaal to Zimbabwe over the Beit Bridge

The Star found the situation chaotic yesterday, with customs staff unable to cope with the extra 100 vehicles a day

Clearance agents at the border post said they were dreading the busy Easter weekend and the time when maize imported through South African harbours started to reach the border

Some agents said inadequate facilities, staff shortages and inefficiency at the border post were causing the delays

Chief customs officer Des Venter was not available for comment

All the maize-carrying trucks were clearly labelled "Zimbabwe food relief"

Between 20 and 30 drivers are being forced to sleep at the border post every night because of the long delays. There are no rest areas or ablution blocks, but transport companies have indicated they plan to build facilities.

There is no organised parking area on the South African side of the border, and no traffic control anywhere.

Cargo agent Ian Cooper complained bitterly about his cramped caravan office, which accommodates a staff of five. He said requests to Pretoria for permission to build a bigger office had fallen on deaf ears. Other agents seemed to be in the same predicament.

Two Harare-based truck drivers who arrived at 6 am with their maize load from Schweizer-Reneke were hoping to get across the border by 4 pm, they said.

● More reports —
Pages 11 and 19

Projects for poor pick up pace

STAR 30/3/92

INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

THE Independent Development Trust (IDT) had to run the gauntlet of a whole series of snipe attacks when it seemed to be slow in waving a magic wand that made poverty and deprivation vanish at a single stroke.

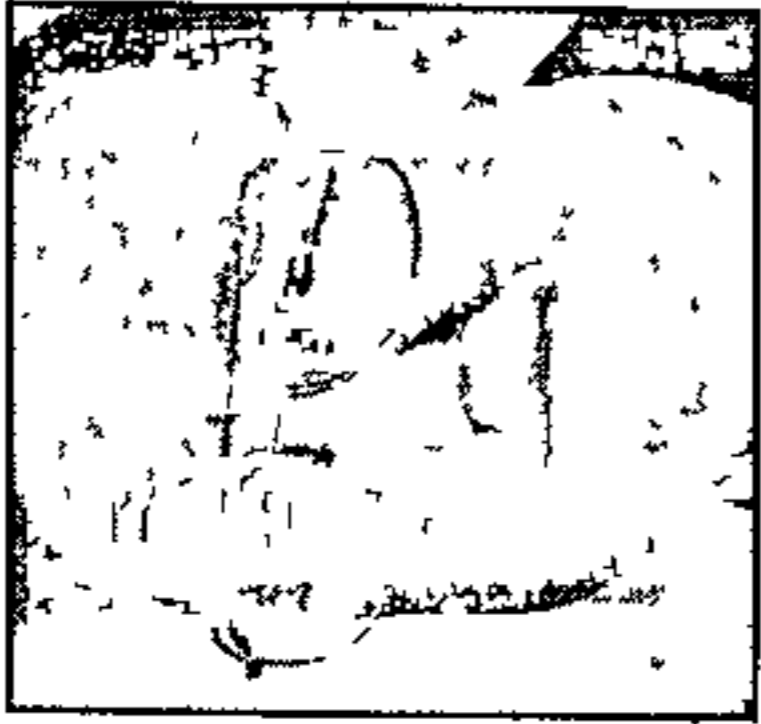
Launched two years ago with R2 billion in Government funds, the IDT was hailed as a standard-bearer in a post-apartheid march across the debris of apartheid to seek solutions to black socio-economic problems.

Waves of optimism spread regarding an instant tidal wave of new low-cost houses, schools, clinics and health services.

When the wait for a start of actual construction work dragged on into weeks and even months, the snipers started to take aim. Had the Government merely scored a few political points — and tucked its promises away in the filing cabinets of yet another expensive but ineffective bureaucracy?

Former judge Jan Steyn,

Critics accused the Independent Development Trust of dragging its heels when it was first launched with R2 billion from Government funds two years ago. Chairman Jan Steyn (right) believes he can show that the wait was worth it as more and more robots turn to green on a huge scheme aimed at improving the lot of underprivileged families, reports MICHAEL CHESTER



and handle operations — from politically hardened Robben Island veterans of the ANC to high-browed specialists drawn from academia.

"We could easily have taken an easier route — splashing out free handouts. We agreed, though, that there were no quick fixes. It was going to take time and sweat to make permanent rather than temporary repairs on the damage done to the fabric of society in decades of apartheid.

"Experience all over the world has proved it is utterly useless to assume that socio-economic problems will all be solved simply by throwing cash at all the issues. Blank cheques alone will not provide lasting solutions.

"The evidence shows the key to sustainable development is finding a way to give even the smallest and poorest community a new dignity and confidence that it has a real stake of its own in shaping a better future.

"Inspiring a new spirit of confidence inside many communities does not come automatically in a society long torn by divisions caused by apartheid and intolerance, still racked by spasms of violence and political conflict, in communities that poverty has filled with distrust

and suspicion.

"We were sometimes accused of dragging our heels. A few critics may have been silenced if we had simply handed out the money on a first come, first served basis. It would have made marvellous headlines. By now, however, the cheque-book would have been exhausted — and the tragic list of unresolved issues would be longer.

Rather than rely on handouts, he says, the aim has been to inspire whole communities to aim at self-reliance — instead of dependence on outsiders to hold a temporary lid on problems.

"We decided a far better approach was to devise radical new ideas to use development aid to build bridges out of poverty and towards peace and harmony on a durable basis."

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while everyone gets involved in new schemes that promise to benefit the whole community.

That is confirmed by Professor Wiseman Nkulu, principal of the University of Transkei, a no-nonsense Robben Island graduate who has been a trustee of the IDT from the start and who at the moment is spending a 12-month sabbatical as a full-time executive director.

Professor Nkulu ensures that the trust interacts with key extra-parliamentary groups, such as the ANC, PAC and Inkatha. "There are still tensions from time to time, of course," he says, "but it's clear the IDT is setting its priorities in the right order."

Like everyone around him, however, the professor keeps a fretful eye on budgets. More than R1,8 billion of the original R2 billion in IDT funds has already been firmly committed to the portfolio of programmes.

"We need more funds from State allocations," says the professor. "We are reducing back-

logs in various spheres but there's still more to be done.

"It's unthinkable that the whole exercise should have to start slowing down because funds are running out."

"We have mapped out and started down the route that development must follow to make the most impact. There can be no slowing down now."

Mr Steyn agrees, though he believes the next major signposts will not be erected until the proposed new interim government takes a stance on development strategies.

"The creation of an interim government will make things a great deal easier, of course. The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and financial institutions in the private sector are likely to adopt a much more dynamic approach towards investment in development once South Africa has an interim government in place. But we can't depend entirely on that."

Push for Beit Bridge post to open 24 hours

STAR-9/4/92

24

241

By Dirk Nel
Northern Transvaal
Bureau

MESSINA — Telegrams requesting action were sent yesterday to President de Klerk and President Robert Mugabe from a joint meeting, regarding the chaotic situation at the Beit Bridge border post.

The meeting, set up by Messina town council, organised commerce on both sides of the border, and the Beit Bridge Rural Council, decided to appoint a liaison committee to work at problems surrounding the congestion at the bridge and to explore areas of cross-border co-operation.

The liaison committee is to push for customs and immigration facilities at the border post to remain open for 24 hours.

Renewed appeals are to be made to both governments to give attention to the development of a water scheme on the Limpopo River.

"I don't care what the peo-

ple at the top are saying, all I know is that thousands are starving because of a lack of co-operation across the border," said rural councillor Raymond Roth.

He appealed for a plan to treat the communities on both sides of the river as a single entity.

Mr Roth also pointed out that Beit Bridge village in Zimbabwe had severe water shortages, whereas Messina, 15 km away, had no water problem, to stress the value of co-ordinated action.

Referring to the visit of a low-profile Government delegation from Pretoria to the border region next week, Messina Mayor Jack Klaff said, "this isn't good enough, we are not satisfied with the way we are being treated."

Soutpansberg military chief Colonel Bornman said the private sector and the SA Defence Force had co-operated to clear an area of bush on the SA side of Beit Bridge, for heavy vehicles to park.

He said there was a lot of goodwill on both sides of the river.

By Paula Fray

(241)

Hunger fund needs R9-m a month

Operation Hunger, in spite of a R10 million grant from the Government, has only enough funds to last until next month, the organisation's executive director Ina Perlman said yesterday.

According to Mrs Perlman, Operation Hunger needs R9 million a month until October to enable it to feed the growing number of malnourished countrywide.

Operation Hunger will make a second application to the Government Department of Health and Welfare next week. The R10 million given to Operation Hunger was only a "fraction" of what it needed, she added.

At our present rate of feeding, the funds we have will not even see us through the whole of May we need the public now more than we have ever needed them before," she said.

She said the organisation and the public had a moral obligation "to try and stop the disaster happening".

And, before winter exacerbated the growing hunger problems, Operation Hunger had requests for between 50 000 and 100 000 blankets which alone will cost about R1 million.

Mrs Perlman said that during a recent trip into the rural areas she had noticed that most of the newer shacks were built out of cardboard — offering little protection against cold or rain.

In the Free State she noted that a "healthy child was so rare that it looked completely out of place among the lack-lustre majority".

While she appreciated the drought fund for farmers and their labourers, Mrs Perlman said it did not make provision for the seasonal workforce.

Operation Hunger assistant director Mpho Mashimani said

the organisation was still receiving an increasing number of applications for help.

On Tuesday alone, it counted about 1 000 new applications.

Mrs Perlman said although Operation Hunger would need R9 million until October, this was being reassessed on a weekly basis. The situation also depended on whether rain fell.

She said the situation was much worse than last year as,

apart from the drought, the present economic situation was also hitting hard.

"The answer would be for the leadership right across the spectrum to get out there and have a look for themselves. I have a suspicion they do not know the depth of the crisis," said Mrs Perlman.

In a prepared statement, Mrs Perlman said the present malnourishment was the result of

a historic problem wages which made it impossible for any worker to maintain his family in reasonable health.

"We must accept that we will never wipe out chronic malnutrition in this country until there is a minimum wage for farm and domestic workers, anything less is bandaging open sores," she said.

Operation Hunger's Gold Rush 12 — with a first prize of R1 million — will be drawn on July 7 and tickets are still available countrywide.

Ticket holders can also win a Southern Sun holiday for two. The first draw for this prize is on May 27.

Operation Hunger needs donations

Sowetan 9/4/92
OPERATION Hunger needs R9 million a month for the next nine months to enable it to feed South Africa's undernourished, organisation director Mrs Ina Perlman said yesterday

A statement from her organisation said the agony facing the country's undernourished children was the result of slave wages paid to their parents

"We must accept that we will never wipe out chronic malnutrition in this country until there is a minimum wage for farm and domestic workers. Anything less is bandaging open sores."

With the effects of this year's drought and now winter approaching, the situation had reached crisis proportions, Perlman said

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In an impassioned plea to the public to donate money to Operation Hunger, she said the Government had made a grant to the organisation - R10 million - but this was only a fraction of what was needed

Operation Hunger estimated it would need over R164 million for feeding until the end of March 1993

The drought's catastrophic effect on South Africa's 60 000 farmers meant life-threatening repercussions for labourers, who faced reduced wages or retrenchment, she said

One of Africa's major disasters was the introduction of maize. Crops indigenous to South Africa like sorghum or beans had shown they survived drought much better, said Perlman - *Sapa*

Waiting for food or death

By SOPHIE TEMA

SOUTH AFRICA'S shame is hidden away from us in the hills and desolate places

Here the "matchstick people" sit about in silence — waiting for food or death

They need R81-million to get through the next nine months, according to the organisation on the frontline of the issue, Operation Hunger.

The victims in these areas are those least able to fend for themselves — mainly infants, little children and the aged

Ina Perlman, head of Operation Hunger, said to feed (keep alive) the present starving masses would cost R9-million a month for the next nine months

City Press visited some sites in the Orange Free State last week with Perlman where we saw shocking scenes of little children with bulging, staring eyes, puffy faces, distended bellies and reed-thin legs.

They sat rigidly and in silence. One could almost feel the life draining out of the place, like a clock



STAYING ALIVE.... An old couple eats to survive. ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

winding down. Perlman said this tragically was heightened by the fact starvation is taking place in obscure rural areas, especially in the homelands. The drought

was the "last straw". Chronic malnutrition, she said, would be with us as long as there is no minimum wage for farm and domestic workers. F Diale (not his real

name) said he worked for seven years on a farm for R60 a month until paralysed down one side by a stroke. He was instantly dismissed and no attempt

*CLP/evn
12/14/92
241*

was made by the farmer to assist him in obtaining his disability pension

I was shocked to see that Diale and 19 others live in one room in an abandoned farmhouse.

I spoke to Mapule, a stunted six-year-old girl, who lives in a shack with three younger brothers and a baby sister. Their mom recently picked up a job as a domestic worker in Bloemfontein and can only visit on Sundays.

So little Mapule cooks, cleans and takes care of four younger siblings...

Mapule said a dozen potatoes used to be their only food, but Operation Hunger arranged that one of the neighbours come to their soup kitchen for a daily ration for the little ones

I looked around. A lifetime spent working on a farm had resulted in one bed, one table and three beat-up chairs.

Perlman said squatters' numbers were swelling as destitute, dislocated people set up hovels and prepared to battle for their lives.



HARDEST HIT ... Will this child make it? *CLP/evn 12/14/92*

respected," he said, blaming "subversive priests" for causing the bloodshed.

It was the worst bloodbath in a single incident in the

is inspired by the same liberation theology espoused by Latin American priests fighting dictatorship

The national conference

tion process then it cannot succeed," Mr Cohen told a Senate subcommittee in Washington on February 5
— Sapa-Reuter

Hunger as drought worsens

By Paula Fray

This is the face of hunger as drought ravages South Africa
STAR 17/2/92

Severely malnourished, Daniel Modise is one of thousands of children in the Free State alone who would have died by now but for help from Operation Hunger.

When nurses first saw the toddler about a month ago with his distended stomach and stick-like legs, they did not think he would live more than two days.

Since then, medical staff at the Theunissen clinic have been checking up on him and his family at the Lusaka squatter camp each week.

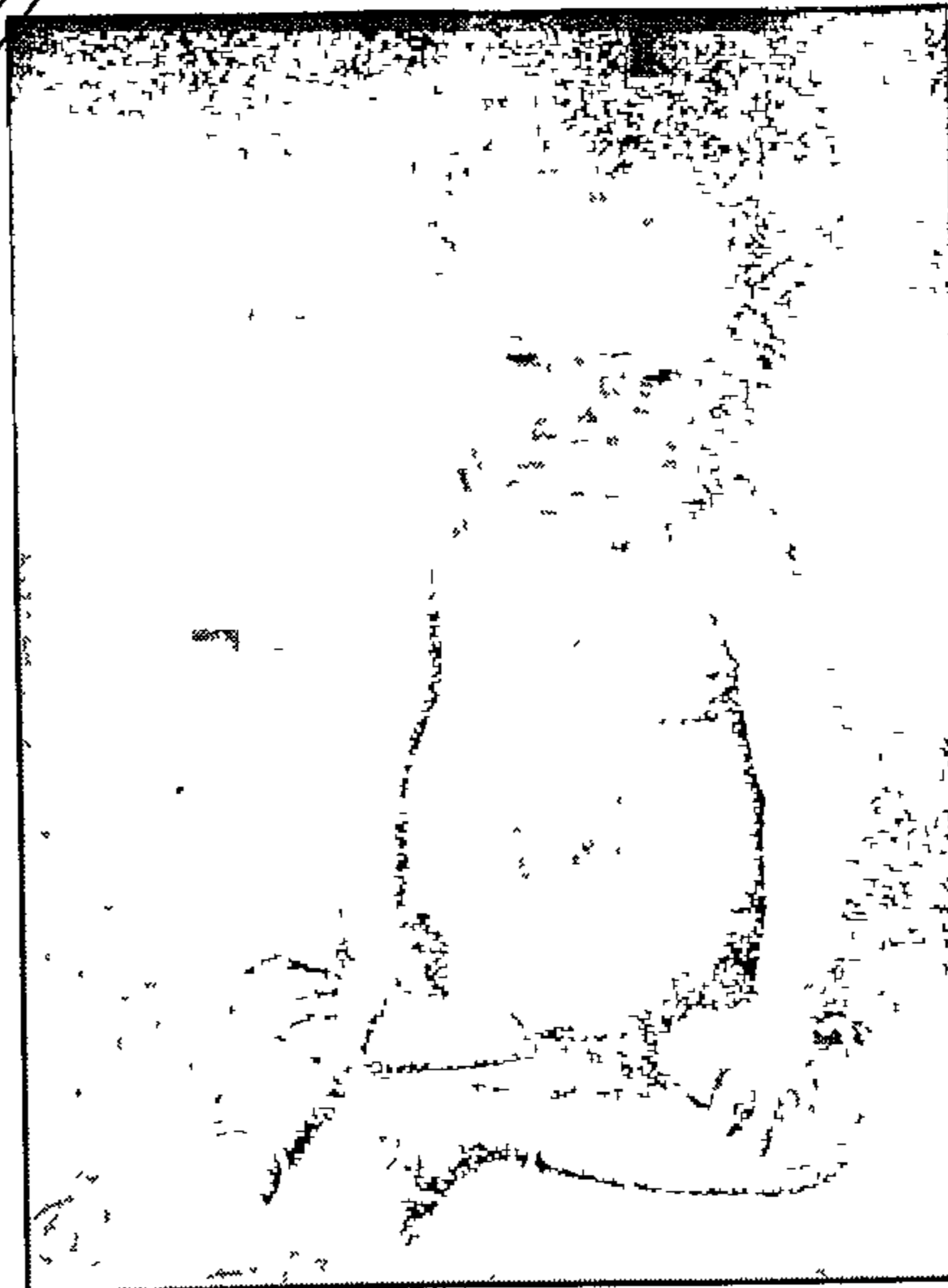
But conditions are far from ideal.

The family lives in a one-room tin shanty which brings little protection from the boiling heat. Around them little grows and there is no work.

Nearby, 32-year-old Mapakiso Mokgashane — herself malnourished — is struggling to raise five children who also need weekly care.

The squatter camp, swelled by recent migrants from the farms, has more than 90 percent unemployment, according to Operation Hunger field co-ordinator Anthony Mfila.

About 70 percent of Lusaka's children under five years are malnourished.



Malnourished . . . Daniel Modise is one of thousands of children suffering in the drought. Picture Alf Kumalo

However, according to Operation Hunger Free State regional director Judith Mokgetle, while the incidence of malnutrition is rising in Lusaka, other Free State towns such as Addington and Bethlehem are in

an even worse situation

In the entire Free State, says Mr Mfila, about 55 percent of children between five and 15 years are malnourished — most of them from the farms.

● More reports — Page 11

Sad days for struggling towns up in the north

STAR 20/2/92

By Dirk Nel
Northern Transvaal Bureau

LOUIS TRICHARDT — Several northern Transvaal towns are threatened with economic ruin because of the devastating drought and recession

"The profit margins of many businesses here have been decreasing in recent years, and now farmers' cash flow problems, unemployment due to re-trenchments and the closure of some major industries have lowered the buying power of the general public", Len Lemmer, chairman of the Louis Trichardt Sakekamer, said in an interview.

Stringent water restrictions are in force in the town, with the nearby Albasini Dam only eight percent full. It has been confirmed that Tongaat, the countrywide cotton processors, is one of the industrial firms which are closing their Louis Trichardt branch

"I get depressed when I receive half a dozen sequestration notices a week for publication", said local newspaper editor Johan Du Plessis. The victims were mainly farmers and small businessmen

Necessity had forced the local business fraternity to devise strategies to survive, Mr Lemmer said

Special commercials on radio in Zimbabwe, sponsored by the Sakekamer, had attracted many buyers from across the border, and this had kept businesses afloat. He claimed the town was offering some of the best bargains in South Africa. Many shops were cutting their prices by as much as 50 percent to sell old stock.

Meanwhile, The Star found the situation of farmers in the Soutpansberg district was still critical. Cattle farmers have reduced their herds drastically, due to a lack of grazing, while game ranchers have had to resort to providing feed for wildlife on their farms.

The situation is not much bet-

ter in neighbouring Messina. However, no water restrictions were in force there because the town was well-served by a pipeline from the Limpopo Valley, town clerk Johan Kok said.

Messina Mayor John Genis said businesses in the town were surviving well, mainly due to the settling of an increasing number of De Beers Company workers employed at the new Venetia Diamond Mine.

In other respects the future of Messina seemed bleak, because its 100-year-old copper mine would soon be closed, businessmen told The Star.

Mr Genis pointed out that unemployment in the area was being complicated by a continuous influx of illegal immigrants. No statistics in this regard could be obtained from police or immigration sources.

Regional Development Chairman Jack Klaff has put forward a three-point plan to transform the Soutpansberg district into an economically viable entity.

● Rebuilding of the border post

at Beit Bridge, to streamline trade with Africa

● Urgent attention to the development of an international water scheme on the Limpopo River

● The immediate upgrading of the N1 route north of Pietersburg.

"Unfortunately our appeals seem to be falling on deaf ears, despite an undertaking from private sector sources to provide a percentage of the capital needed," Mr Klaff complained.

Smaller towns such as All-days and Dendron were experiencing their worst ever economic slumps, while Potgietersrus, a major agricultural centre, was particularly hard hit. The Star was told by commerce leaders

Pietersburg, the region's major town, seemed set to weather the crisis because of its strong infrastructure and established public sector activity, a municipal spokesman said. No water restrictions were being considered at the town at present, he added

Aid schemes get R94,5m

Political Staff (24)
CT 21/2/92
ONLY R94 550 000 of the R220 million targeted for aid schemes had been allocated, according to the Minister of National Health, Dr Rina Venter.

Responding to a ques-

tion by Mr Ken Andrew (DP Gardens), she said the money had been allocated to clinics, the homelands, various non-governmental organisations, the SA National Council for the Aged and the SA National Council for Child and Family Care.

Major changes needed to address problems

Sowetan
27/2/92
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BASIC social challenges facing the black community in South Africa were yesterday identified as housing, joblessness and education

The guest speaker on Radio Metro's Talkback Show, sponsored by *Tribute* magazine as part of its fifth anniversary celebrations, was Mr Molatlhegi Tlhale, Azapo's political education commissar

He said the three aspects were a deliberate creation of the Government

"Fundamental and qualitative changes will

have to take place before these aspects can be remedied. And that can only happen if the Government was removed and replaced with that of the people"

Tlhale's sentiments were echoed by the ANC's deputy head of the welfare department Mr Dali Mpofo who, however, differed with him on the methods of combating the problems

"I agree with Azapo on the challenges facing the black community and I will also like to add that they will plague us for long time

"However, it needs to be

remembered that the ANC had already held talks with organised commerce to address socio-economic problems"

Tlhale disagreed and said these forums were only addressing the symptoms of the problem

"These aspects can only be fairly addressed by a government which will accept responsibility towards the people"

He added that problems related to jobs should be left to "people in charge of commerce and industry and bodies like trade unions

ANC govt 'would aim to create jobs not handouts'

B/Day 28/2/92

AN ANC government was unlikely to engage in extensive social security provision in the form of "handouts", the organisation's social welfare department deputy head Dali Mpfu said in an interview this week.

It would not have the resources to do so, and there were many other sectors which urgently required substantial funding, he said.

There was a limited capacity for taxation in SA, partly due to the large numbers of unemployed people, and low wages. It had also been projected that there would be a slow return to healthy economic growth rates.

Social security provision was far more likely to occur through employment-creating projects, said Mpfu.

Although the primary aim of his department would be to increase the social assistance net to help more disadvantaged people, Mpfu stressed this assistance would only be effective if, in the process, it "helped people to help themselves", thus undermining the dependency syndrome.

He criticised government's welfare system as amounting to little more than providing handouts, and said welfare should rather be seen as a mechanism for "empowering" people. The issue of welfare had to be rethought, and people had to see it not simply as expenditure but as social investment.

One way of ensuring that welfare became a means to empower people was to ensure involvement of those at the end of the line. The ANC would place far more value on "the voice of the poor" and would try to involve those affected in decision making.

Increasing the skills and marketability of the unemployed would be a

KATHRYN STRACHAN

pivotal aspect of an ANC government's social welfare policy.

Unemployment would not disappear overnight, Mpfu said, and interim initiatives would have to be devised through which unemployed people could be taught skills and brought into employment schemes.

By releasing people from the welfare system the projects would not only alleviate the burden on welfare but also serve to increase the confidence and marketability of the unemployed. One of the major problems in dealing with unemployment was that the longer people remained out of work the more their chances of finding employment decreased, he said.

Welfare would be the biggest challenge for any future government, said Mpfu. The success of the first post-apartheid government would be judged in terms of its concrete performance in eradicating the extreme deprivation of many South Africans. Whether a government could ensure that people had homes, enough to eat, schools for their children and access to health facilities would become crucial questions.

All debates on whether to adopt nationalisation or a free market economy were reduced to the same issue — which system would best alleviate poverty, he said.

Mpfu said the ANC was not sure whether welfare would receive a higher percentage of a future government's budget as there were many sectors which desperately needed increased funding. The solution lay in a better allocation of resources.

Fundamental restructuring of wel-

fare to eradicate current wasteful administration of 14 departments would dramatically increase the social security budget.

The next step would be to address the huge divide between racial groups in the present system of benefits. In the white community at present there was one social worker for every 116 people, in the black community the ratio was one to 20 462. All non-contributory schemes, such as pensions and disability schemes, presently paid out benefits on racially discriminatory scales, said Mpfu.

Rural areas, where the worst poverty occurred, had been forgotten and the imbalance would have to be addressed.

Special attention would also be paid to the rehabilitation of communities destroyed by political violence, especially in war-torn Natal, he said. It was not simply a matter of rebuilding homes, but intervention was needed to rebuild people's lives and the sense of belonging to a community. The integration of thousands of political exiles into society, which involved most of the department's efforts at present, would continue.

As the state could not carry the full burden for welfare, the private sector would be encouraged to pay more attention to social responsibilities.

Companies did far too little in extending their social responsibility beyond the workplace, he said, and it was only when they realised it was in their interests to alleviate poverty, which contributed to political instability and crime.

The department would also propose that companies employ a certain quota of disabled people, Mpfu said.

Winterveld: the forgotten place

Soweto 3/3/92

Soweto 3/3/92

FOCUS

THE road from Pretoria winds for half an hour through lush white suburbs and farms before depositing motorists, with a bump, in a dustbowl of mud shacks stretching to the horizon.

This is Winterveld, a bleak 40-year-old slum of up to one million black inhabitants that is never seen by most residents of the prim white capital city 50km to the south.

The 500sq km settlement symbolises the daunting welfare challenge bequeathed to the new South Africa after years of apartheid race segregation.

"Winterveld is a forgotten place, a dumping ground, an in-between-land," said Rosetta Simelani of the Rural Advice Centre.

"These homeless people are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. The new South Africa must provide for squatters like these," said local priest the Rev Smangaliso Mkhathshwa.

Aid workers describe Winterveld as among the ugliest of apartheid's offspring, the unforeseen product of a policy of forcibly removing blacks from areas designated for whites.

The slum, once winter grazing land for the cattle of white farmers, grew from the 1950s onwards as an overflow area for designated "black" towns which mushroomed too quickly for apartheid's developers.

Child mortality is 50 percent in some parts, unemployment 70 percent, sewerage and electricity non-existent.

Local black farmers, despairing of poor soil and lack of water, turned their fields into shacks for

squatters, many of them illegal immigrants harassed constantly by police.

Winterveld's warren of shanties is also a notorious hideout for criminals on the run.

South Africa, apparently eager to abdicate responsibility for Winterveld, asked the black homeland of Bophuthatswana to absorb the slum as part of its fragmented territory in return for nominal "independence" in 1977.

Funds

Bophuthatswana complied, but the homeland, one of 10 tribal territories where more than half of South Africa's blacks live, never lavished funds on Winterveld because few residents are Tswanas, the homeland's designated ethnic group, residents say.

Farmer Rachel Tsukudu (73) said she walked five 5km to scrape for water in a dried up stream. Her maize field is withered. "Every Sunday we pray for rain," she said.

Joseph Matona (75) said his crops had failed for years due to the poor Winterveld soil. He earns a total of R15 a month from three squatter shacks on his property.

Welfare agency Operation Hunger says 2 million South African blacks in places like Winterveld could be starving by May unless the government speeds up relief to replace food supplies hit by drought.

The agency, which feeds 1.8-million people daily nationwide, says that because of lack of funds it can only help 16 000 people in Winterveld. It says most of the slum's people qualify for its programmes.

In a clearing, barefoot children watch warily for snakes as they sit under trees to escape the baking 40 deg C heat at the "Eureka" bush school.

Headmistress Ms Constance Gwabeni said most of her charges were children of some of the estimated one million Mozambicans who for years have fled to South Africa to escape war at home.

"In the middle of a lesson some fall asleep because they have had no food," she said. "Our main problem is the snakes, and the wind which blows the dust on to the children's clothes."

Zimbabweans and Zaireans, as well as South Africans from all

over the country, come to Winterveld because it is near jobs in the main industrial centres, ignoring the squalor and endemic malnutrition-linked diseases like tuberculosis.

"At least here there is sometimes food in the shops and people are not killing each other," said Musa (49), a Mozambican who bribed his way back over the frontier to Winterveld after police caught and forcibly returned him to Mozambique last year.

He lives with his wife and five children in a three-roomed mud-brick house. A sixth child died at birth.

Late last year, 40 years after the slum's birth, a Winterveld Development Programme was formed with the support of the state-backed Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Political reforms

Details of the project have yet to be worked out and the possible reincorporation of Bophuthatswana into South Africa under political reforms could complicate the process, experts say.

Aid worker Ms Joan Pearton said blacks were leaving for nearby Soshanguve township in "white" South Africa where they had a better chance of buying land. But a continuing influx from elsewhere kept Winterveld's population stable.

"The residents have always struggled to survive," she said.

"It remains a dumping ground. People throw their old folk away in Winterveld. They come and build shacks, install their parents and then disappear back to Soweto" - Sapa-Reuter

6 These homeless people are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. The new South Africa must provide for squatters like these. 9

Liberty gives Operation Hunger R1-m

Staff Reporter (241)

Operation Hunger, inundated with requests for help as a result of the widespread drought, yesterday received an emergency grant of R1 million from the Liberty Life Foundation

According to Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman, the drought has aggravated the current economic situation in South Africa and there has been increased urban, industrial and mining unemployment.

"Because of the drought, the waiting list of people we need to feed has ballooned to almost 500 000" *STAR 4/3/92*

"Add to this crop failure, the effect of the searing heat on irrigated crops and the drying up of perennial rivers and boreholes and you have a disaster of mammoth proportion," said Mrs Perlman

The R1 million, handed over by Liberty Life Foundation executive trustee Hylton Appelbaum, comes from a R100 million fund established in 1990.

Operation Hunger ²⁴¹ gets R10 million

Sowetan 10/3/92
THE Government yesterday gave Operation Hunger R10 million to feed needy families throughout the country

The cheque was presented to Operation Hunger executive director Mrs Ina Perlman by the Deputy Minister of National Health and of Health Services and Welfare, Mr Fanus Schoeman, in Pretoria

Operation Hunger had initially asked for a R30 million grant from the Government in December last year. Operation Hunger spends about R7 million a month to feed needy people and families throughout the country.

Perlman said she was thankful the Government had been able to help them. Presenting the cheque, Schoeman said the R10 million was made available by the Nutrition Development Programme.

A TOWN GOING NOWHERE

Story: **PATRICK FARRELL**

ATLANTIS is vrot," is now a cliché in the town once described as the "boom town" of the working class.

Hailed as the brave new world of the government's decentralisation policy, Atlantis is now facing ruin.

In 1975, Atlantis was the start of a new apartheid system designed to move thousands of coloureds away from Cape Town. Factories set up in the area received massive state subsidies and there were jobs for all

Now, just 17 years after the establishment of the town, the 66 000 inhabitants face increasing unemployment, disillusion and a nightmare of rent arrears, alcoholism and crime

Last year R3 million was owed in water and electricity arrears and rent evictions were commonplace

In 1989 Atlantis had the distinction of being murder capital of the country and these days gangs still run riot through much of the area

We were told the bottle stores and the off-course tote were the only businesses that were still flourishing. Streets are unswept, graffiti covers apartment blocks and small groups of the unemployed hang around the street corners. In most households one adult is unemployed, and in some cases more

No one knows for sure when the rot began, but the locals talk of "85 — that's when things starting going wrong"

Slowly the Atlantis dream began to fade as the government began to change its decentralisation policies

Industries in the area which had benefitted from state subsidies suddenly found they had to compete on the open market. As a result some factories moved out and many of the rest found the going very hard. Short-time and retrenchments became common as businesses cut back to survive.

For those who have lost their jobs there is not much hope of any work in Atlantis and the transport costs — R10 return by taxi — stop most people from travelling to Cape Town to seek work

"I was retrenched in November last year," said Mr Sean Bowers, a former technician at the Tedalex plant. "Since then I've walked this place flat trying to get a job but there is nothing. I can't afford to pay for transport to Cape Town so I just stay here and hope for the best"

He said he was "still lucky" as his wife was working and the family has "some sort" of an income

Part of the problem is the town's isolation. Mr Dedick Jansen was retrenched from ADE in September 1990. A former diesel engine assembler, he now relies on selling fruit on street corners

"My father was also retrenched in 1990 and my mother is disabled so the fruit and vegetables are the only way we get an income," he said

Despite the disillusionment in the community there are now moves to save Atlantis. A forum, consisting of trade unions, the Small Business Development Corporation and civic associations was formed last year

So far they have discussed the need for a "socio-economic plan of action that will require outside sources" and last month they submitted a formal application to the Development Bank of South Africa for help

However, the feeling on the streets is that the help will be too late to halt the sinking of Atlantis

STILL BURNING
AND 3/5/92

STILL BURNING

Operation Hunger gets R10-m

By Shirley Woodgate (241) STAR 10/3/92
fund for R7 million-a-month, payable over three months

Operation Hunger yesterday received a R10 million donation from the Department of National Health and Health Services — ending the row over red tape which delayed payment from the Nutrition Development Programme

The cheque, handed over in Pretoria, was the official response to the charity organisation's request to the R220 million

Deputy Minister Fanus Schoeman assured Operation Hunger executive director Ina Periman that the payment was part of a continuing programme to her organisation.

Further amounts will be handed over in the new financial year, to assist the organisation to meet its R9 million monthly budget

Govt 'hunger' grant enrages rightists

STAR 12/3/92

By Dirk Nel
Northern
Transvaal Bureau

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PIETERSBURG — The Conservative Party has noted "with dismay" that the Government had donated R10 million to Operation Hunger, CP health spokesman Dr Wille Snyman said in a statement yesterday.

"Apart from the known fact that Operation Hunger has close links with the ANC, it has come to my attention that funds for the organisation are used for purposes other than those intended by its founders," he said.

Dr Snyman called on the Government to appoint a judicial inquiry or a commission representative of all parliamentary parties to investigate the activities of the organisation.

"Should the Government ignore this urgent request

from the CP, the party will regard this as blatant approval by the Government of the squandering of taxpayers' money," Dr Snyman added.

An enraged Ina Perlman, executive director of Operation Hunger, reacted with an open challenge to Dr Snyman to risk "a very real libel suit" by spelling out, outside Parliament, the so-called "known facts" about her organisation.

She also called on him not to hide behind nuances and hints but to reveal in public his information about funds which Operation Hunger had allegedly used for purposes other than those originally intended.

"Perhaps before Mr Snyman spoke, he should have consulted Werk en Oorleef, a welfare group which is backed to the tune of R30 000 a month by Operation Hunger and where one of the top office bearers is CP MP Kobus Botha," Ms Perlman said.

She said Operation Hunger

was taking legal advice on Mr Snyman's "scurrilous allegations"

● The South African Agricultural Union in a statement to Sapa said yesterday that overwhelming reaction had been received to its recently announced Emergency Aid Fund for afflicted farming communities.

Contributions were streaming in from individuals and organisations throughout the country, SAAU president Boet Fourie said in Pretoria.

Within days of the announcement of the fund contributions had reached nearly R400 000.

The fund would be used to contribute towards the essential personal expenses of farmers, their families and workers who were in financial need.

Contributions may be sent to the SAAU Emergency Aid Fund, Box 1508, Pretoria, 0001. The fund collection number is 022002270005.

Fill your own plates, say foreign activists

South Africa 14/3-19/3/92

One way to deal with a hostile system is to create a system of your own. This was the message to South Africa's urban poor from a group of Indian housing activists who were in Cape Town this month, reports

Justin Pearce:

IN BOMBAY ALONE 11 million people are classed as urban poor — 200 000 of them pavement dwellers who live in shelters in the city centre.

Ms Celine de Cruz of Mahila Milan (Women Together) and Jockin of the National Slum Dwellers' Federation are among those mobilising the urban poor, who make up half of India's population.

Political liberation is only the starting point, says Jockin, who comes from a part of India where persons have only one name. "In India we have the best democratic policies — but they stay at the top."

"What we expected at independence in 1947 didn't happen — but we got the freedom to fight for it."

Accordingly, the approach taken by his organisation and Mahila Milan is to enable people to fight for themselves.

"Pavement dwellers are excluded from resources," says De Cruz. They have no place in the health or education systems.

"They are refused ration cards, which are necessary to buy subsidised food, because they live on the streets."

"We took groups of women to the ration office and told them that they had to supply food to these people, some of whom had been living in the area for 40 years. Once we had set a precedent, the idea snowballed."



A PLAN THAT SNOWBALLED. Unity, not politics, is the only way to solve the housing crisis, says Indian activist Celine de Cruz

Photo Afrapix

"Previously people would bribe some smart guy in the community to get them ration cards. This did not solve the problem."

"We established an organisation without using demonstrations or public meetings."

"The authorities deal only with groups. One way you deal with a hostile system is to create a fool-proof system of your own."

"We identify the needs of the dif-

'Civics in South Africa do not represent the community, and they are failing to look into ways of raising finance to build houses'

ferent categories of urban poor — the slum dwellers, the backyard dwellers, the squatters, the pavement dwellers, the street children — but at the same time bring them together to support each other's demands."

"Tackling the housing shortage requires an equally direct approach to circumvent the apathy of officials."

"On paper it may be written that

no land is available," Jockin explains. "We organise pavement dwellers to go and sit on empty land, and ask the authorities 'Why is this vacant?'"

"Civics in South Africa do not represent the community," Jockin adds.

He says civic leaders, from what he has seen, do not represent the community because they are out of touch with the residents.

"People in South Africa don't realise that they have no access to housing finance — and they are not looking at ways to get it."

little inter-regional communication there is among the poor in South Africa.

"In name you belong to one country, but you are isolated and therefore not politicised."

Another problem is that the urban poor here are mostly confined to the fringes of the city, where their problems can easily be ignored by authorities and where transport is an extra financial burden. By contrast, Indian slum and pavement dwellers are in the heart of the city.

The National Slum Dwellers' Federation has grown from a small group of activists to a body working with three million people in 14 cities.

But the untruth is explicitly non-political. "We have told political parties, 'Development is not your business. You are only going to exploit us,'" Jockin says.

"Politicians have tried to use us by saying what we are doing is good."

"They are worried that what we are doing may snowball into political power."

"We have saved between 15 000 and 20 000 rupees by creating our own saving scheme. We don't want World Bank money," Jockin says.

The well-organised housing schemes refute the myths that the poor are unwilling to help themselves.

While saving money, the prospective residents identify a piece of land to use, and the women plan the scheme in detail.

"We believe that if the homes are left in the hands of women there will be less corruption," Jockin says.

"In some Indian cultures there is a tendency for a man to sell his house to pay for his daughter's wedding."

"A woman would never do that. The internal architect of a house is usually a woman. And all the men support this process."

His parting words to South Africans are that they should not look to the West for precedents to help solve their problems, rather they should look to other Third World countries with the same problems.

"We have found that the political struggle is very strong here, people have very high expectations. But nothing is going to be given to you on a plate," Jockin says.

Churches fight for no VAT on basic food

STimes CM
By KURT SWART

AN inter-denominational committee of churches opposing the reimposition of Value Added Tax on basic foods started a "Don't Crucify the Poor" campaign this week.

The campaign was launched at St George's Cathedral on Friday with a press conference and a placard picket on the steps

Other actions will include a picket focusing on mothers and children tomorrow and another focusing on pensioners on Thursday

The church leaders will participate in the Cosatu/ANC "People's Budget" march from the Grand Parade on Wednesday and the campaign will draw to a close next Friday with an Ecumenical service at the Methodist Church on Greenmarket Square

ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela is scheduled to speak at the service

The campaign aims to arouse public consciousness to the "injustice of VAT in terms of what its application to basic foods and health care will mean for the poor"

The committee said Christians in the Western Cape had formed the Churches' Committee on VAT and had drawn up a declaration of concern for the poor and needy Church leaders had signed the declaration on behalf of their churches and large numbers of ordinary church members had also signed it

Threat

The declaration included specific demands that the government abandon its threat to terminate on March 31 the zero-rating on the few foods that were presently tax-exempt, extend the list of tax-exempt foods and totally exempt from taxation all health care for the poor

Said the committee "We do not dispute that in general VAT may be a better system than GST Our concern, however, is that VAT as applied in South Africa adds to the already heavy economic burden on the poor

"Instead of being graded to make the poor pay less and the rich more, it shifts part of the burden of taxation onto the shoulders of the working class"

If the church campaign was ignored by the government, the state would be "blatantly choosing to trample the heads of the poor into the dust"

The imposition of VAT on basic foods and health care would be "fatal" for many of the poor

According to the Labour Research Centre at least 16 300 000 people in South Africa were living below the breadline and in need of financial help to survive

The government had set aside R200 million for poverty relief programmes but this would have little effect as the amount worked out at only R2,25 a person



Call to Tsakane homeless

Sowetan 19/3/92

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BY JOSHUA RABOROKO

HUNDREDS of homeless families who have applied for the Independent Development Trust serviced sites in Tsakane on the East Rand have been asked to approach the local town council offices immediately.

The council's public relations officer, Mr Jerry Tseki, yesterday said that they had interviewed more than 700 families regarding the sites. But only 366 have signed documents.

The council was facing difficulty tracing the rest of the applicants after they were interviewed in order for them to sign the necessary documents before the March 27 deadline.

Mandela Village

Tseki said that the sites would be made available to families from "Mandela Village" and other parts of the black residential area in need of homes.

He appealed to residents to come to the local authorities' offices to complete their forms.

Land ownership leading to homes is the biggest thrust in the IDT's assault on poverty, the spokesman said, adding, of the R1,5-billion allocated so far, more than R898,7 million has gone to housing countrywide.

About R750-million has been set aside for the capital subsidy scheme, the biggest programme for the development of nearly 100 000 new serviced sites that will accommodate about 700 000 people.

The capital subsidy scheme accounts just for over half of all IDT funds set aside so far. It covers 108 projects, of which nearly two-thirds will be new settlements.

The money will pay for the development of serviced sites for a total of 99 000 of South Africa's poorest families. An average cost of R7 500 a site has been set.

Opinion

By HANS MIDDELMANN
 WHY are so many South Africans desperately poor?
 One naive answer appears in a recent two-part article by Dr Neva Makgetla (Cape Times, February 5 and 6)

"There are two interrelated causes of poverty in South Africa," she says "Unemployment and starvation wages. Both derive in large part from the extraordinary concentration of wealth in a few hands. In effect, a few hundred white men currently own most of the economy."
 In other words, the poor are poor because the rich are rich. In particular, the "few hundred white men" are the culprits, which would seem to make them a legitimate, if not mandatory target for liquidation. We are assured, however, that no-one proposes to liquidate them, only to rob them, like Robin Hood, to a reasonable extent.

Wealth tax?

Hence the proposals for a wealth tax, a percentage levy on the assets (regardless of income) of the largest private groups and a similar levy on net personal wealth exceeding a certain amount — say R200 000. A further tax is suggested on "human capital" embodied in education.
 The details need not detain us. It is the idea that something significantly useful can be achieved by transferring resources from haves to have-nots that has to be refuted.

The picture of a small group of white men holding the masses in bondage has some appeal for unsophisticated people, but it belongs in the realm of fiction. Equally false is the notion that there is a fixed pool of capital assets or wealth, a disproportionate share of which has been grabbed by a minority, leaving little or nothing over for the rest. The truth is that the poor would be even worse off if no capital

Creating new wealth Only cure for poverty

trade barriers, and so on. We must acknowledge, says the IMF, that redistribution can be achieved only through growth, not vice versa.

This is the wisdom of the modern world, born of disillusion with collectivist experiments. Regrettably it is not widely understood or emotionally pleasing. "Let the people take over the control of the instruments of production. Let us produce basic goods and services for the poor, eliminating what is unnecessary." So runs the old utopian argument. The former communist countries followed it during the last 70 years. It bankrupted them all quite recently.

Let us see what Dr Makgetla, who teaches at Wits University in the Department of Economics, has to say about this. Although her article is ostensibly about a wealth tax, even she concedes that it has limited usefulness and a number of weaknesses and disadvantages. The thrust of her article is rather towards a change in the structure of ownership and management so as to eliminate what she regards as inadequate and inefficient investment policies and "the misuse of investible assets by the rich," and to give workers and communities a greater say in the overall investment process.

It is not clear how this "input" by workers and communities is to take place, nor how the input by different groups of workers in different industries and regions is to be co-ordinated. A market econ-

Four arguments posed against the creation of a wealth tax

This is the second and concluding section of an article by Dr NEVA SEIDMAN MAKGETLA of the Department of Economics at Wits University assessing the advantages and disadvantages of a wealth tax. It first appeared in the journal *Work in Progress* of December 1987.

assets had been accumulated by the rich. The affluence of the minority is a mitigation of poverty, not the cause of it. It has been said that one thing worse than being exploited by a capitalist is not being exploited by a capitalist.

Robbing rich Peter to pay poor Paul is not a feasible solution to the problem of poverty, because there are too few Peters and too many Pauls.

The solution is to be found in the fact that the pool of wealth is indefinitely expandable. The prime object of policy should therefore be to enable the mass of the people to share in the creation of new wealth.

This is the kernel of the message put out in a paper just published under the auspices of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) entitled "Economic Policies for a New South Africa". Simon Barber says in his summary of this paper (Cape Times, February 11) that the IMF will be loath to help the present or any future SA government finance anything that might smack of "instant gratification". The challenge is to lay the foundations for sustained, long-term economic growth.

Some sound advice follows: reduce government spending, bring down inflation through monetary policy, be firm with spiralling wage demands, lower protective

my, in the words of Hayek, creates a spontaneous order, inadequate as it may be, but if one rejects the market as the best available and flexible method of achieving growth and coping with change one is left only with a central directing authority. The authority is made up, not of workers or communities, but of people acting in their name, people who "know" what should be produced, what is unnecessary and what is desirable.

Whatever the faults of existing economic policy — and they are many — a dispensation as envisaged by Dr Makgetla would doom the majority of people in South Africa to deepening poverty and frustration in an unwieldy, unworkable and internationally unacceptable regime.

When Messrs De Klerk and Mandela are exposed to the scrutiny of business leaders at international conferences, they experience reality and tend to react positively and in unison.

When they return home, elements of fairyland intrude. Mr Mandela is confronted by the goals of sanctions, nationalisation, redistribution, people's power



and all the rest of it, Mr De Klerk is assailed by accusations of bad faith on the one hand and of selling his white compatriots down the river on the other. They share a remarkable common South African patriotism when they face the outside world. When they are at home, the lingering international politics of the last few decades seem to demand a public distrust of each other. If they could speak and act in unison at home, too, what rapid progress we would make!

Nucleus of new SA

I am concerned here with the economy which cannot flourish unless the political scene reaches stability. And in the field of economic policy Mr Mandela has the larger role to play. He should be more confident of the inherent good sense of the mass of his constituents who have watched what happened in Eastern Europe and in the African countries that adopted socialist policies.


Everyone wants to be better off and many of them are succeeding most remarkably. South Africa does not consist mainly of impoverished blacks looking for hand-outs. There is a growing middle class of business and professional people, building up their own stock of assets and operating in a "capitalist" market — running taxis, doing backyard repairs, operating spaza shops and small establishments of one kind or another, accumulating some capital.

They are the nucleus of the new South Africa and should be lauded as such. They are also the potential employers of the the unskilled and uneducated masses who make up the millions of unemployed. Their outlook on life is more akin to that of the IMF economists than the discredited advocates of communism.

□ Hans Middelman is a Cape Town businessman.

Millions face

hunger

● From page 1 (24) 
farmer has no money, the corporation also has no money," Lewies said

Lewies said while the farmers had made peace with their situation, it was the urban dwellers who were still in for a shock as "prices rocket sky high".

He said imported maize costs R600 a ton while local farmers were being paid R340 a ton. The high price of imported maize would translate into higher prices for maize meal, eggs, chicken, pork and even beef because these commodities were all dependent on maize, Lewies said

He said the price of vegetables and fruits would also rise considerably because they are bound to get scarce by the day

hunger

Southern 17/2/92

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BETWEEN 1,5 and 2,5 million black farm labourers and their families face starvation in the Transvaal alone because of the on-going drought.

About half of them are being fed by agricultural corporations which are also helping white farmers to remain on their land in the face of one of the harshest droughts to hit South Africa in the past few years.

The chairman of the Drought Crisis Committee (DCC) in the Transvaal, Mr Wilhe Lewies, said efforts by his organisation and the corporations had so far stayed off the exodus of farmers and the resultant retrenchment of labourers.

By MATHATHA TSEDU

The departure of the white farmers would spell doom for the labourers on the farm.

Lewies said there were about 400 000 farm labourers in the Transvaal, excluding the Eastern Transvaal, who were affected by the present drought.

He said: "We are trying to keep labourers and farmers on their land. We are aware that there is no other employment and that we cannot leave people without homes and food."

"The agricultural corporations are helping with pay and food, but this won't last forever because the corporations also do not have money. When the

● To page 2

A fruitless search for work in the city of hope

MADAKANE Mtshawe spent his entire life — 74 years — on the Free State farmlands until six months ago when the searing drought began to hit hard and, like thousands of others, he made his way to the nearest town in search of work.

The years etched deeply into his expressive face, the former farm labourer remembers his working years in the fields that feed thousands of South Africans with pride and mixed feelings on his journey to Hoopstad — a city of hope for those suffering, on the farms, a city of disillusionment for those who made it there.

"I was born and grew up on a farm," says Mr Mtshawe, brandishing an ID book showing he was born in 1918. The only life he knows is farming

and most recently a struggle for survival on a Free State farm.

He recalls "Hitler's war" when he had only three sons and work was plentiful. Farming, he says, always went in cycles, but it has never been so bad.

Now, penniless, he has no possessions left to sell to feed his grandchildren. Of his nine children, only one son is with him in the burgeoning squatter camp outside Hoopstad.

Six months ago he began to feel the drought's effects. "I had 25 cattle — four of them milking cows. Because of the drought the whole place was bare. There was

no place for us no food for the cattle."

After a brief spell as a gardener, he moved to Hoopstad when all his cattle were sold. "When I left the farm I thought I would get a better life. But it is more difficult here? There are no jobs. My children are not working and I can't afford to send my grandchildren to school."

"I see no chance of moving back to the farm now. It's even bad for the white man. But I can't even find work here and the pension money is too little."

"I get mealie meal from Operation Hunger. I used to have milking cows now

the children don't even get milk, just pap."

Last week he waited with hundreds of other elderly people at Tikwani — a township outside Hoopstad — to receive his weekly allocation of food from Operation Hunger field workers.

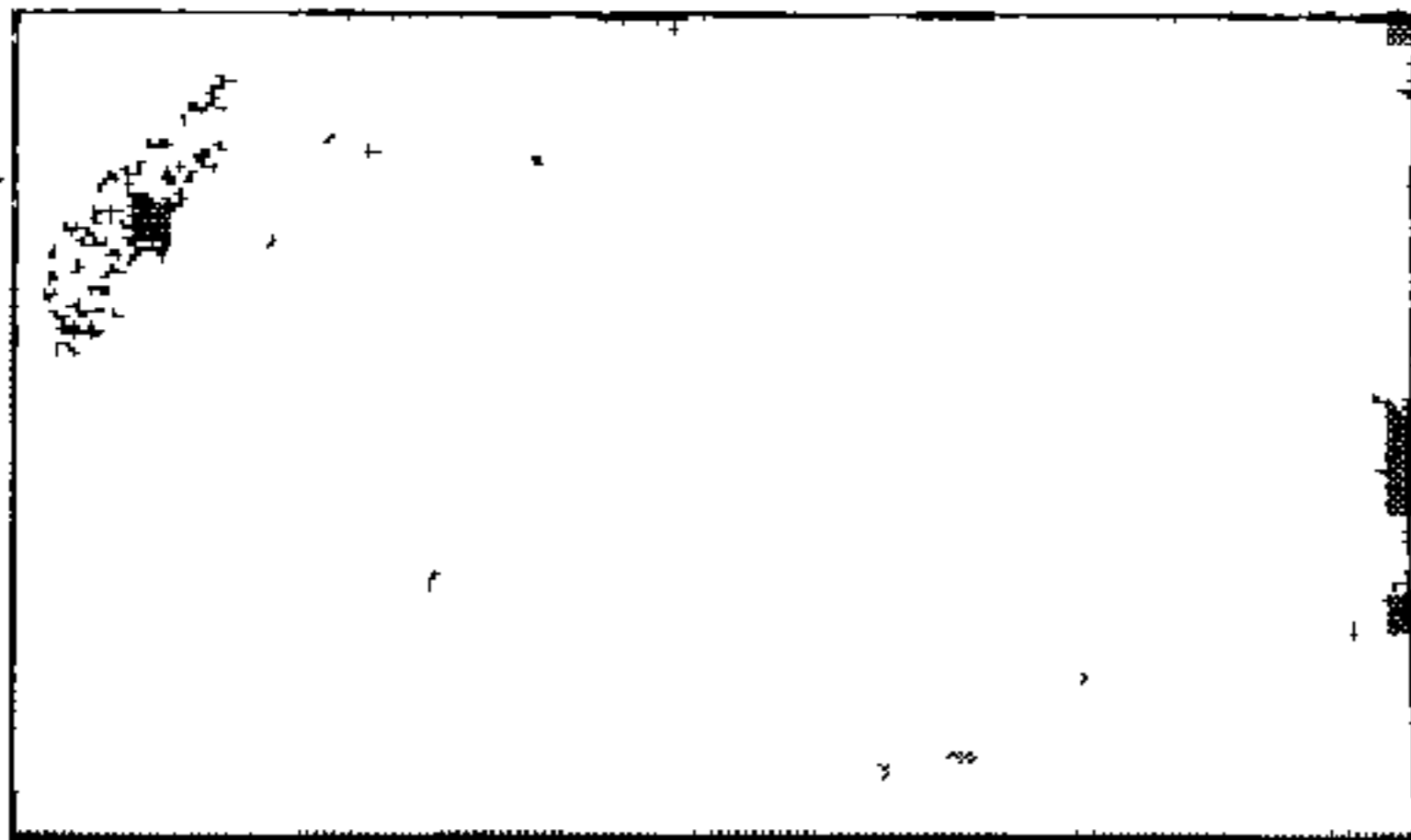
Nearby, children waited for their daily cup of soup. According to Operation Hunger Field Co-ordinator Anthony Mfiba, Tikwani has a growing population of about 20 000. Most started moving in from the farming areas as early as October last year.

The majority end up with no jobs, and eventually without hope. Each week day the organisation distributes food to about 1 000 people — soup for the children and family rations for those on the operation's books.

A sewing and knitting project has also been started to make the community less dependent on aid — but even this is hampered by the economic situation as few people can afford to buy anything other than food. And, while Operation Hunger has encouraged the growth of vegetable gardens, even these have wilted in the heat.

The situation is desperate. At the local dump residents flock each Wednesday to forage for food after Hoopstad's rubbish has been dumped.

Surrounded by dusty roads and houses, Mr Mtshawe has no hope for a last-minute miracle for the Free State. "Last year there was a harvest. But this year the mealies got no water and they have died." □



No hope . . . former labourer and cattle owner Madakane Mtshawe

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Farming folk despair as crops wilt

As the sun beats down on the Free State, it is met by the rising heat from the baked soil. And, as the weeks pass without rain, the drought takes a rising human toll. PAULA FRAY reports.

STAR 17/2/92
THOUSANDS of farm labourers are flocking to Free State towns in the futile hope of getting work. But, with no hope of a harvest this year, chances are that most will end up in the burgeoning squatter camps where malnutrition is growing rapidly.

Operation Hunger field coordinator Anthony Mfiba says about 55 percent of children between the ages of five and 15 are malnourished. Most of them are recent migrants from the farm areas.

"Unless help is given, this will definitely rise," he adds. Not only have farmers been crippled by the drought, but the economic situation has led to numerous retrenchments at factories in the smaller towns.

Throughout the Free State, fields of mealies present a fool's gold for the hopeful. Their growth stunted, their green appearance belies one of the worst droughts the country has ever seen.

As more and more farm labourers move to the cities, swelling squatter communities, organisations such as Operation Hunger are struggling to cope with the increasing number of malnourished

children. Kwashokor is becoming more common in Lusaka squatter camps, outside Theunissen, is one such area, filled with farm labourers without hope of work this year.

"About 40 percent of the black rural community survive on seasonal work. This year, there will be no harvest," says Operation Hunger regional director Judy Mokgetle.

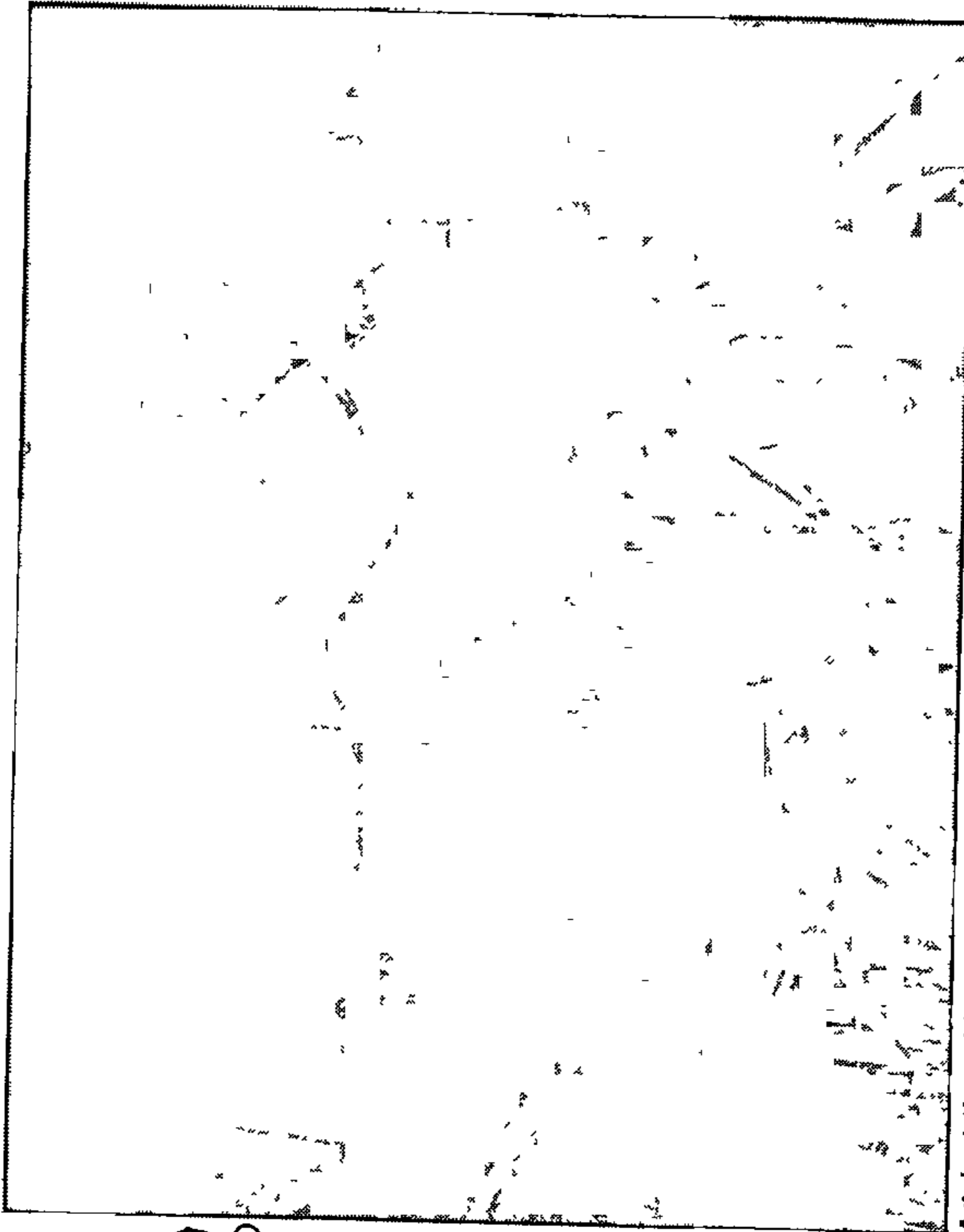
Theunissen's Sister Sophia Cockrell has seen the influx of workers and how her sisters strain to cope.

Although the clinic has received finance for targeted assistance from the Government, Sister Cockrell does not believe the rest of the community can survive without Operation Hunger's help.

An outbreak of measles has prompted an urgent immunisation programme at local schools.

But she says, "There is an enormous problem with tuberculosis and malnutrition."

While the former is complicated by overcrowded conditions, the latter is severely exacerbated by ignorance, says Sister Cockrell.



Against the odds . . . farmer Clement Seape with his stunted crop. Picture: Alf Kumalo

Most farm mothers are unaware of symptoms of malnutrition and nurses tell of mothers boasting that their children are gaining weight when the symptoms are really malnourishment.

"We find that once diarrhoea sets in that the mothers first use home-made remedies, including an enema, under the mistaken impression it is something the children have eaten."

"By the time they are taken to local clinics the children are not only malnourished but dehydrated as

well," says Mrs Mokgetle. The despair is shared by the farming community.

Clement Seape has fought against the system for over 20 years as one of the country's few black farmers.

But the drought may yet present his biggest challenge

"In my entire experience as a farmer we have never had such a dry February, with temperatures of up to 35 deg C

"I planted, hoping it would rain. But when it did come it was just a drop in the ocean. The soil is as dry as a bone," says Mr Seape.

"The farmers' future is already jeopardised. In the last six years we have had more drought than good years.

"I planted 200 hectares of sunflowers. But the sunflowers which normally withstand the heat start wilting. The mealies are a write-off. If by March there is still no rain, I will have no stock left by July," he says.

The owner of two farms — one of 140 ha and another of 600 ha — Mr Seape is not only facing the consequences of the drought but also increased violence and theft against Free State farmers.

"I brought some sheep here the other day — 40 of them got stolen in broad daylight," he says, shrugging.

It is impossible to plant mealies, or even pumpkins, out of eyesight, he adds, attributing the increase in crime to a breakdown in law and order.

At this stage he has not needed to retrench any of his workers but there will be no harvesting this year and so seasonal labour will not be hired. □

the necessary proclamations to implement the principles of paragraph 3.6.2 after consultation with the interested parties

In order to give effect to clause 3.6.4, the South African Police has undertaken extensive research bearing in mind the objects of the Dangerous Weapons Act, 1968 (Act No 71 of 1968), with particular reference to the powers of the Minister as provided for by sections 2(2) and 2(3) of the same Act

This research having been finalized, the South African Police decided that the most effective manner to honour the contents of the spirit of the National Peace Accord is the drafting of an explicit prohibition which will prohibit a person attending or participating in any political gathering in or on any public place from being in possession of any dangerous weapon or any firearm or a replica thereof

Of paramount importance is the definition of a political gathering which includes any political gathering, concourse or procession which has been organised, convened or held or otherwise brought about with the prime intention to discuss, attack, criticise, promote, or propagate the principles or policy of a political party or organisation, whether or not such party or organisation is registered in terms of any law. Excluded from the definition of a political gathering would be any traditional or cultural gathering or any ceremonial gathering

In order to evaluate the ambit of the prohibition, the attention is drawn to the proposed definition of a dangerous weapon which reads as follows

'dangerous weapon' means

- (a) any object which has been designed or manufactured with the object of inflicting a bodily injury, or
- (b) any object which has not been designed or manufactured with the object of inflicting a bodily injury, but which may inflict a bodily injury if it were used to commit an assault, unless a person in possession of such

an object is able to prove that with respect to the surrounding circumstances he at no time had any intention of using such object for any unlawful purpose or that he at no time had any intention of using such object to intimidate any other person or persons."

Thus the definition of a dangerous weapon will include, amongst other objects, assegais, spears and battle-axes

Members of the South African Police will as soon as the Proclamation has been published receive instructions to arrest persons in possession of dangerous weapons or firearms at any political gathering. Members of the South African Police will, however, not be expected to usurp the functions of the courts in any manner whatsoever

With regard to the provisions of section 2(1) of the Dangerous Weapon Act, 1968 (Act No 71 of 1968) which contains a prohibition on the possession of dangerous weapons accompanied by the necessary unlawful intent, members of the South African Police are instructed to ensure that the prohibition is enforced

Provision may be made for certain exemptions, for example, persons in the service of the State, security guards or *bona fide* bodyguards

After consultation with the IFP and the ANC on 18 February 1992, the Government is now in a position to announce the proclamation

(2) No

Investigation of poverty problem: working group

*15 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Finance

- (1) Whether the working group under the chairmanship of the current Deputy Director-General (Financial Planning) of his Department appointed by the Government to investigate the poverty problem has submitted a report, if not, (a) why not and (b) when does he expect such a report to be submitted, if so.

(2) whether the contents of this report will be published or made available in any other way, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant particulars?

B99E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

- (1) (a) No
- (b) The working group followed an operational approach. The results of its work were submitted to Cabinet in the form of memoranda on the basis of which various decisions were taken. These decisions were reflected in this year's Budget, notably the introduction of the food intervention scheme for which the Minister of National Health was made responsible

(2) It is not intended to make a public report available, for the reason mentioned in (1)(b)

Number of prisoners previously convicted

*16 Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Correctional Services

How many persons in South African prisons as at 31 December 1991 had been convicted of offences previously?

B121E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

The precise information is not centrally available and can only be obtained by a costly and manpower intensive country-wide survey

However, a survey undertaken on 24 July 1991 shows that at that stage approximately 14,6% of the prison population were first offenders whilst approximately 85,4% were recidivists. Should this percentage be made applicable to the prison population of 31 December 1991, it means that of 73 214 sentenced prisoners, approximately 10 689 would have been first offenders whilst one or more previous convictions would have been recorded against approximately 62 525. The fact that a previous conviction is recorded against a person does not necessarily mean that he had served a sentence of imprisonment since sentences may include for instance the following: a warning and dismissal, corporal punishment, fines,

suspended sentences, postponed sentences, referral to a rehabilitation centre or reformatory, etc. My department is presently undertaking an investigation into the whole question of recidivism but due to the extent of this project it is unfortunately not possible to give an indication as to when it would be completed. I nevertheless undertake to furnish the hon member with more information after completion of the project.

Further allocations, targeted aid schemes

*17 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Finance

Whether any further allocations were added to the R220 million originally budgeted for targeted aid schemes, if so what are the amounts involved?

B130E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

None for the 1991/92 financial year

Interest on deposit made by tenant

*18 Mr B GOODALL asked the Minister of Trade and Industry

- (1) Who receives the interest paid on the deposit made by a tenant dealt with in terms of the Estate Agents Act, No 112 of 1976,
- (2) whether it is the intention to amend the said Act in this regard, if so, (a) what amendments are contemplated and (b) when is it anticipated that the amending legislation will be submitted to Parliament?

B131E

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- (1) Interest on moneys deposited in an estate agent's trust account must, in accordance with the Estate Agents Act, 1976 (Act No 112 of 1976), be paid by the estate agent to the Estate Agents Fidelity Fund. The Estate Agents Board, however, refunds a portion of the interest to the estate agent concerned in order to compensate him for costs incurred in this regard
- (2) The matter is under consideration

TB: Poverty's Grim Reaper

Clarens 5/11/92
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REDDY used to be a bright and lively four-year-old who lived in a poor area in Cape Town. He shared a tiny home with his unemployed father, his mother, who works as a domestic worker in a far-off wealthy suburb, and his four brothers and sisters.

He developed a nasty cough which didn't go away, but his mother didn't worry, because the kids always seemed to have coughs and colds. Freddy began to look thinner and paler and grew tired very easily.

But it wasn't until the child had a fit that his mother realised just how sick he was and took him to the nearest clinic. The doctor immediately admitted the now-dangerously ill boy to hospital, where his mother was told he had tuberculosis (TB) complicated by meningitis and that he might die. Freddy didn't die but a month or so later when he left hospital he was deaf, partially blind, he couldn't walk and would never improve.

Today, more than 100 years after UK immigrants introduced the disease into the country, TB is the most common notifiable disease in South Africa. Reliable figures are not available, but according to Mamphele Ramphele and Francis Wilson in a report for Unicef in 1989, about 74 percent of sufferers are black, 23 percent are coloured and the remaining three percent are Indian or white.

About 60 000 cases a year are notified, (not including the ban-

tustans), and about 10 000 of these are from the Western Cape alone, Cape Town City Hospital's Dr Greg Hussey says the figures do not reflect the true picture, which is much worse. Pulmonary TB (affecting the lungs) accounts for 90 percent of all TB cases in South Africa but recently there has been an increase in disseminated TB, which is the most severe form, and can affect the gut, bones and brain of the victim.

Every child born in hospital receives the BCG vaccination which offers some protection against TB but as Freddy's case showed, it is not 100 percent reliable.

TB is primarily a social disease which thrives in poor conditions of poverty and overcrowding where malnourished people are especially susceptible. It is ironic that this preventable disease is now affecting thousands of people in the richest country in Africa, simply for want of provision of basic resources such as decent housing and a good diet.

Diseases associated with malnutrition are taking a heavy toll among South Africa's children. Dr John Hansen said about one-third of all black children were underweight, or stunted, for their age.

In the same year, Cape Town's Tygerburg hospital had records of 141 African and 21 coloured children who were admitted suffering from acute starvation (marasmus). No white children were admitted with the same problem.



SPARING THE INNOCENTS... Children celebrate South African National Tuberculosis Association week in Bekerstad.

In many of the poor rural areas, such as the Ciskei, the figures are much higher and chronic malnutrition (kwashiorkor) is said to be widespread especially among black children though accurate figures are not available.

In 1968 the government declared that kwashiorkor was no longer a notifiable disease. The figures were supposedly unreliable - but this was simply a way

of avoiding the embarrassing and growing problem of starving children. It is another disgraceful legacy of apartheid that extensive malnutrition exists in a country which exports, and dumps as much food as South Africa.

In the Cape, the Peninsula School Feeding Association, established in 1958, feeds 147 000 primary school children in 368 schools every day, says organiser David Galland.

A few years ago, when they were only feeding about 40 000 children, they could give them eggs and milk, soup and bread. Now the association needs at least R2-million a year just to provide soup and bread. When bread prices went up by 15 percent recently, it meant an increase of R200 000 in their yearly budget.

Operation Hunger feeds 94 000 people a day in the Western Cape and for most it's the only meal they get. The organisation feeds the very young and the very old with a highly nutritious, easily digestible soup developed especially for undernourished people. Sadly, children older than 12 are refused food. This is because malnutrition can adversely af-

fect the brain until a child is about 12 and Operation Hunger hopes to prevent such damage before it is too late. Operation Hunger's regional director Sandy McAllister says it is heartbreaking to have to turn away hungry children because they are too old, but limited resources demand a cut-off point.

A few local businesses help with funding but the organisation raises a lot of the funds itself. It receives no government grants or subsidies and struggles to raise money. In Cape Town there are several small feeding projects. About eight years ago a teacher at a local school in the fishing village of Kalk Bay noticed some of the children were actually fainting from hunger in the mornings. It turned out they didn't get breakfast and some children were so hungry they had been eating sand.

A community project now feeds about 45 children aged six to 12. They get porridge and cocoa for breakfast and a nutritious stew and bread for lunch. Even if there is no food at home, these children can get at least two good meals a day. Their ability to concentrate, and consequently the standard of their schoolwork, has improved dramatically.

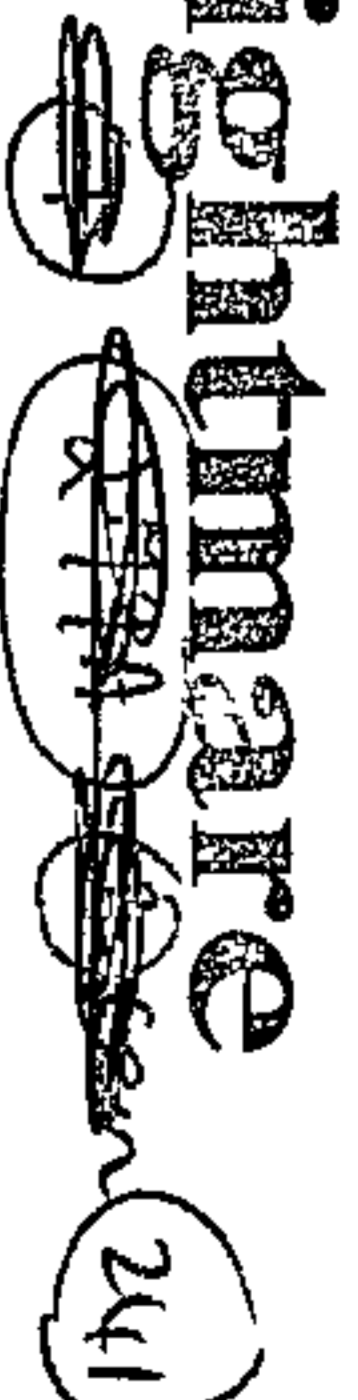
For 30 cents, adults can also have lunch and project volunteer Peggy North says this attracts the elderly, the unemployed and strivers from Kalk Bay reef. In Lavender Hill, a poor coloured area, the local community began running soup kitchens

about four years ago when they realised just how many people were going for long periods with nothing to eat. Three times a week, four housewives, known as Auntie Gerrie, Auntie Pauline, Auntie Fatima and Auntie Naboc, serve meat and vegetable soup to about 40 hungry people. Sometimes, says Auntie Gerrie, the local gangsters come in for some lunch "but they always behave themselves when they do". The Catholic Welfare and Development Bureau have been running 12 community kitchens starting five years ago. To promote self-help they allow local women to run them as private businesses. People can buy a cup of soup for five cents, a plate of soya stew and rice or samp for 20 cents and a fortified peanut butter biscuit for 10 cents. Project leader Barbara Beaumont says since the dramatic rise in food prices, especially dairy products, over the last few months people are struggling to survive and the kitchens are selling more food. At many of their kitchens, she says, "there are long queues of hungry children, who really look as if they need a good meal". Pastor Richard Mitchell of the Bethesda Gospel Church in Cape Town is the director of a welfare organisation which provides food in one of the local squatter camps. They feed 100-200 people a day and Mitchell says it is unbearable "when the food runs out and there are still people waiting in the queue".

Africa must increase food production, says World Bank

Technology can avert a nightmare

STAR 9/11/91



A senior World Bank official has called for a doubling of food production in Africa to avert a "nightmare scenario" brought about by population pressure, environmental destruction and the stagnation of agriculture.

At a meeting of the Special Programme for African Agricultural Research (Spar) held in Rome, Edward Jaycox, regional vice-president for Africa, said food production must increase by an average of 4 percent a year to meet the region's needs.

Production is currently increasing at only 2 percent a year. Something has to be done about population growth in Africa, he

said, "but the rate of change in agricultural technology has also to be speeded up enormously."

To meet these goals, Spar representatives agreed to move ahead with a comprehensive plan of agricultural research and environmental protection in the countries of the Sahel region.

Research efforts are to be concentrated in Mali, Burkina Faso and Senegal to help boost production of sorghum.

A similar plan has been drawn up to assist war-torn Mozambique and Angola work out their agricultural research priorities. Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swazi-

land and Zimbabwe will collaborate on the research.

Over the last 30 years, agricultural growth in sub-Saharan Africa has averaged only 2 percent annually, while the population has grown at about 3.1 percent a year.

Most of the growth in agricultural production has come from expanding cultivable areas. But cultivable land is increasingly limited, and future growth will depend on increasing production on available land, requiring improved farming techniques and modern technology.

According to a Spar statement, Africa's technological base is in-

adequate to meet the region's needs.

Some progress has been made in the last decade, but Africa needs to develop new crops and farming systems which reduce deforestation and reverse the declining fertility on croplands.

Representatives of 20 multilateral and bilateral aid agencies, 12 African countries and 18 regional organisations participated in the Rome meeting.

Spar was established in 1985 by a group of aid donors concerned about the failure of African agricultural production to keep pace with the region's rapid population growth. □

1/1/91

Rich states blamed as Third World starves

STOR 9/11/92

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A former Oxfam director has accused the European Community of putting up trade barriers to exclude the Third World, reports NICHOLAS SCHOON.

THE ENORMOUS support payments that Europe's taxpayers and consumers make to EC farmers are a major contributor to poverty and famine in the Third World, the recently retired director of Britain's leading foreign aid charity said this week.

Lord Judd, director of Oxfam until the end of last year and a Labour Party peer, told the Oxford Farming Conference that farm policies in Europe and the United States were ruining the livelihood of poor farmers in the developing world. They had led to crop surpluses being dumped on world markets at low prices, often undercutting the prices Third World farmers needed to make a living. The EC and other wealthy

nations had also put up trade barriers which made it difficult for developing countries to export to the West.

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was set up to prevent farmers deserting the countryside and ensure Europe grew enough food to give it security, said Lord Judd. "But the impact of subsidised exports discourages agricultural production and undermines food security in Third World countries."

An example of this was the dramatic fall in international sugar prices in the mid-1980s, caused, he said, by protectionist farm policies in the US and

EC. This price collapse had led to calls to Oxfam for emergency aid to the cane sugar regions in the Philippines.

"At the time Oxfam was heavily involved in the famine relief effort in Ethiopia. It was hard to accept that there could be a parallel problem of widespread starvation on an agriculturally fertile tropical island — hard to believe that our trading system was so distorted it could force almost prosperous farmers into starvation," Lord Judd said.

This kind of hardship followed from the CAP's one undoubted success — enormous-

ly boosting food production in Europe. The 12 nations now in the EC imported nearly 4 million tons of sugar a year in 1967, he said. Guaranteed high prices, intervention purchases and import levies changed all that. By the mid-1980s, when the international market collapsed, the Community was a net exporter of nearly 4.5 million tons of sugar.

Lord Judd said there should be one law for the poor and another for the rich. While developed nations should no longer be allowed to protect their home markets, developing countries should "Third World countries should be al-

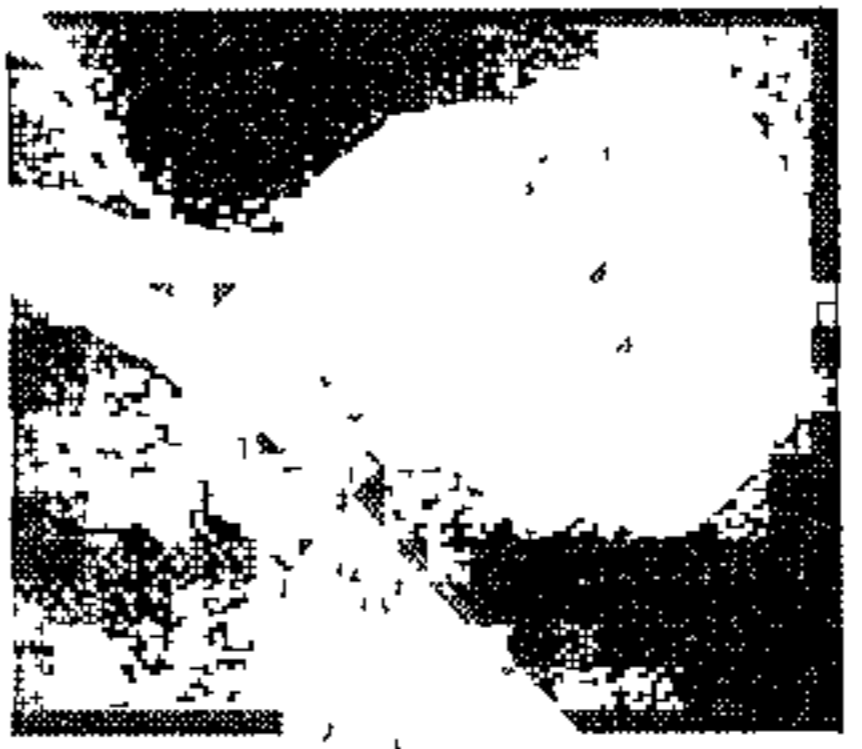
lowed to protect their fragile food production industries until they also achieve food security."

At present, one in three people in developing nations did not have enough to eat, he added. "The gap between rich and poor is growing. But famine will not be ended without more accountable, democratic governments with the will to tackle poverty."

Professor David Harvey, of Newcastle University, said reforms that attempted to keep high food prices in Europe were doomed to failure. "If the electorate wants to support farmers on small farms, they should be subsidised directly, not by giving them subsidised prices for their produce," he said. — The Independent News Service □

PROPERTY

Trust is to acquire land for the poor



JOLYON NUTTAL

THE Independent Development Trust will this year concentrate on acquiring land to help poor black communities build homes

Of the R1,5 billion in the kitty, nearly 61 percent has gone to housing. The IDT has decided on a tight focus, choosing to spend its money in three main ways

- R750 million on setting up a capital subsidy scheme, the IDT's biggest programme, for the development of nearly 100 000 new serviced sites that will accommodate about 700 000 people,
- R102,1 million to the promotion of ongoing development in informal settlements; and

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

● R46,6 million on the setting up of the IDT Finance Corporation, through which the trust is developing new forms of housing finance for the poor.

IDT's director of community affairs, Mr Jolyon Nuttal, said the capital subsidy scheme accounts for just half of all IDT funds set aside so far. It covers 108 projects, of which nearly two-thirds will be new settlements

The money will pay for the development of serviced sites for a total of 100 000 of South Africa's poorest families. An average of R7 500 a site has been set

With building cost high and incomes low, the scheme would be able to help many poor people build homes

The scheme had brought many new actors into the business of providing homes and there would clearly be a lot of activity this year because of the chance to use IDT funds.

He added that the scheme would increase the country's ability to provide suitable and affordable homes, especially among the poor communities.

"We are serving the poor - some of them earning less than R1 000 - and hope that the scheme will stimulate a lot of interest in the home building market," he said.

BUSINESS



Jan Steyn .. Separate development from political gain

ACCUSATIONS that the government is using the Independent Development Trust to initiate development projects which will win it support are R1-billion off the mark

According to Sandi O'Dowd, a development consultant based in Cape Town, the government was so rattled by its inability to influence IDT, it allocated another R1-billion to social upliftment programmes aimed at winning it support. The money, released in September last year and administered by the Economic Advisory Committee, was raised by the selling of oil stockpiled in the strategic oil reserve.

Officially, the state established IDT to provide for the upliftment of poor people in the areas of housing, education and health and community development. Jan Steyn, previously head of the Urban Foundation, was appointed to administer the trust.

Steyn has maintained that the independence of the trust was vital if its work was to succeed. In a recent interview he said, "the route to be followed is to strengthen non-governmental organisations. These can play a vital role as they are close to and have strong links with the people".

However, the very structures the trust plans to use

Building up trust to

to implement its projects have left lingering suspicions about why the state established it.

Some development activists in democratic movements view the IDT as part of continuing attempts by the government to gain credibility in black communities.

Emphasising that he was not criticising the IDT, the secretary-general of Kagiso Trust, Eric Molobi, said the government established IDT to legitimise money it wanted to spend to win over black communities. An independent trust would not only fund development projects but also subsidise and prop up local government structures. This strategy collapsed when Steyn refused to allocate money to local management councils.

Molobi added "As the state tries to democratise, it needs to be seen to be delivering the goods, therefore the IDT initiative".
Secretary-general of the Civic Association of the

Although activists have had lingering suspicions, not even the promise of R1-billion

Southern Transvaal, Dan Mofokeng, sees the trust as an attempt by the state to shift responsibility for development to the private sector and development agencies.

These suspicions have not been allayed by what is perceived to be a high-handed approach by IDT to community involvement in its projects.

Mofokeng dismissed IDT claims of "heavy commitment to community involvement" as public gestures. "When everything has been planned and conceived they come to communities and civics for the green light. This is not consultation," he said.

Using Mandela Park, a squatter camp near Soweto, as an example, Mofokeng alleged unilater-

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to the tune of R1-billion

g suspicions about why the state set up the Independent Development Trust. By PAUL STOBBER

al IDT intervention in communities had resulted in divisions and tensions.

According to Mofokeng, the IDT consulted the local civic about the possibility of initiating development projects in the area. The civic responded by saying they had no principled objections to the projects but wanted full community participation in the planning. IDT then bypassed the civic and took their plans to some sections of the community. This resulted in divisions in the community which almost broke out in violence.

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with the community council. As a result, says Mofokeng, "only people who could produce membership cards for Ianabo Ye Sizwe, the ruling party, were given sites".

IDT director of communications, Jolyon Nuttall, responded to Casti's accusations of poor consultation by saying, "no funds are handed over by the IDT unless there is concrete evidence of community involvement". He pointed out that all applications to the trust should set out full details of community involvement in the project and numerous workshops had been held to provide communities opportunities to participate in IDT programmes. Cast and the IDT are meeting later this month to

discuss the problems between the two organisations.

Despite reservations, community organisations have accepted they must work with the IDT.

"The trust will not go away and we must engage it to place it under the control of a board of democratically elected representatives from local civics," said Mofokeng. He envisages such a board consulting experts when necessary.

At present the IDT is administered by a board of 14 trustees, hand-picked by Steyn, who "as individuals are representative of, without representing, the various organisations which make up South African public life". The board includes a number of academics who have links with extra-parliamentary organisations and businessmen.

Says Molobi: "The fact that virtually all projects in the country have asked IDT for funds is an indication that though they have complaints about how

the trust is run, they are prepared to work with it." O'Dowd believes this policy of constructive engagement has resulted in some successes for community organisations. Pointing out that the IDT needed to work with projects which had credibility in the townships, he said "By co-ordinating these projects, before they applied for funding, community organisations were able to influence how IDT invested their money."

Kagiso Trust is sharing the funding of some programmes with the IDT. They have jointly allocated R18-million for an Aids programme and are co-operating on the establishment of a National Student Loan Scheme for tertiary students.

Co-operation between Kagiso and IDT has raised worries that Kagiso, which is traditionally seen to bankroll progressive organisations, is being drawn into an alliance with IDT which could dictate policy to organisations dependent on funding.

Molobi dismissed fears of an IDT/Kagiso funding monopoly by listing a range of other trusts which are funding projects. He added: "IDT is too big for us to compete with them. We have to work with them so our communities can benefit from their resources."

were complex and there had been too little time to resolve them, he said. The chamber wanted to maintain the dialogue, and would respond to the NUM soon.

At the historic union-employer "summit" on the future of the mines last June, four "commissions" were set up to examine the co-ordination of mine closures and

proposals of a permanent mining commission. Representing major players and with its own charter, this would keep the industry under continuous review.

"Employers are worried about a command economy and see this as a command structure," he said. The NUM had also made detailed proposals on health and safety and mining taxation.

ing 12, 14,5 and 15 percent respectively.

'No immigration' call
 The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions has renewed calls for its members not to emigrate to South Africa until a new constitution is in place.

IS DAY, Monday, January 20 1992

Red tape cited for delaying relief cash

B/D cy 20/1/92

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Government has distributed only R14,75m of the R220m relief programme launched in August, partly to counter the effect of VAT on the very poor.

The money has gone to 14 welfare organisations and two non-profit agencies. ANC and DP spokesmen said at the weekend the figures, released by the National Health and Population Development department, showed that poverty relief was not only financially inadequate, but its distribution was being severely slowed down by bureaucratic procedures.

However a department spokesman said the department was aware of the need for urgency and every effort was being made to speed up the process.

The spokesman was unable to say how many applications had been screened by the department's regional offices but DP development aid spokesman Peter Soal said the figure had to be in the hundreds.

The department spokesman said to date 201 applications had been recommended to head office by regional offices.

After approval by director-general Coen Slabbert some were still being processed. National Health Minister Rina Venter

has said she would press for a doubling of the R220m in the next Budget.

Applications were coming from organisations and bodies representing all racial groups including whites.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said the amount made available this financial year was pitifully inadequate to deal with a massive and growing problem.

Not only hunger, but starvation was rife in some townships.

The fact that only R14,7m of the R220m allocated this year had been spent was an indication that bureaucratic processing delays were taking place.

Even a doubling of the amount in the new financial year would only touch the fringes of the problem, she added.

Soal said it was vital that bureaucratic barriers be removed.

He agreed the amount allocated in the current financial year was merely scratching the surface of the problem.

The DP would demand during the coming Parliamentary session that the Budget allocation for poverty relief be increased to a more realistic level.

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ANC renews call over VAT aid plan

THE African National Congress yesterday renewed its call for essential goods and services to be exempt from Value Added Tax until a properly structured poverty relief programme was in place. The movement said in a statement that it was not

surprised the Department of National Health and Population Development could not distribute more than R4,7 million of the R220 million relief programme launched in October last year. "The Government has

no proper statistics on poverty. It does not know the size of the population, who the poverty-stricken people are, or where they live. It does not know how to target the poor and has no mechanisms to distribute poverty relief," it claimed. "While the Government will collect R420 million as a result of GST on basic

foodstuffs, it only awarded R220 million for relief, a paltry amount considering the scale of the problem and given that food prices increased by a massive 25 percent in 1991." It said National Health Minister Rinaas-Yepster's statement that she would press for a doubling of the budget of R220 million in

the next Budget rang hollow. "It is essential that civilian organisations be involved in monitoring both poverty and the relief programmes established to see that the needs of the poor are addressed with the urgency the situation demands," the organisation said.

Sowetan 21/1/92

SAPA

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Poverty relief fails to get off the ground

By REG RUMNEY

THE African National Congress has hit home at the most vulnerable aspect of the government's implementation of Value-Added Tax.

Even conservative commentators, who believed VAT should be levied on all goods and services virtually without exception, stressed the need for effective poverty relief to offset the wider-based tax.

Now the government seems to have conceded it hasn't got a sufficiently widespread poverty relief programme in place.

The ANC comments: "South Africa has very high levels of poverty, yet the Pretoria government has no proper statistics on poverty.

"It does not know the size of the population, who the poverty stricken people are, or where they live. It does not know how to target the poor, and has no mechanisms to distribute poverty relief.

"Therefore it comes as no surprise, to learn that the Department of National Health and Population Development has distributed merely R14,75-million of the R220-million relief programme launched in August last year to counter the effect of VAT on the very poor."

The ANC, however, then weakens its case by claiming in a press release that unnamed "experts" say the introduction of VAT on basic foodstuffs resulted in a three to five percent increase in the cost of living for the poor.

In fact, the cost of living increase for the very poor has been lightened by the zero-rating of two staples — bread and mealie-meal — and interim exclusion of some other basic foodstuffs from the VAT net.

The cost of living for the general population, as measured by the consumer price index, rose only around

one percent as a direct result of VAT.

Though the VAT rate of 10 percent was lower than General Sales Tax at 13 percent, more goods were subject to VAT, which also embraces a wide range of services.

Even if the whole 1,9 percent month-on-month increase in October last year as compared to September was due to VAT it pales by comparison with increases in food prices.

Food price inflation rose by a whacking 25,7 percent year-on-year. This was the highest increase since April 1991. The accusation is that business used VAT as an excuse to raise food prices to this level. But food prices rose again in November by a similar amount, while the general inflation level fell slightly.

The Cosatu-led VAT Coordinating Committee's Bernie Fanaroff has pointed out the effect of the fuel price hike introduced to offset the drop in VAT from 12 to 10 percent has still to flow through. When this happens inflation will rise again.

And when zero-rating for various basic foodstuffs is phased out, the prices of those foods will rise by 10 percent.

The ANC says that while the government will collect R420-million as a result of GST on basic foodstuffs, it only awarded R220-million for relief, "a paltry amount considering the scale of the problem and given that food prices increased by a massive 25 percent in 1991".

The extent of poverty in South Africa is blurred by the unavailability of accurate stats, as the ANC notes.

But since estimates of unemployment range from 20 to 40 percent and higher, it must be so big that poverty relief itself cannot scratch the surface of the problem.

24/11 - 30/11/92

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Food aid scheme held up by scam, says Venter

CAPE TOWN — Government's aid programme to help off-set the effects of VAT on poor communities had been held up in one region by a scam, Health Minister Rina Venter revealed yesterday.

The Nutrition Development Programme was now going smoothly and according to plan, she told a news conference.

Venter said Finance Minister Barend du Plessis had indicated that in the coming financial year he was prepared to double the R220m set aside for the programme.

A delay in the payout of funds had been partly due to the need to tighten controls after it was discovered last year that funds allocated to one regional organisation — which Venter declined to name — were being misappropriated for "personal enrichment".

Her department had stepped in quickly and obtained a court order for the funds to be put back in the programme. Further steps were being taken against the organisation involved.

Other delays had been caused by the need to train community organisations to write their own development programmes.

A total of R94,55m of the R220m was in the process of being spent on the programme.

Non-government organisations had already been paid R16,35m, while another R9,7m had been approved and would be paid soon.

A further 199 applications totalling R17,5m were being processed. R51m had been allocated for expanding the state scheme, which was run through clinics — Sapa

'Govt fears ECC challenge'

JONOTHAN REES

ECC chairman Chris de Vilhiers said government was showing bad faith by relying on "intimidation" to continue conscription when it acknowledged that the system's legality was shaky.

Wiechers said government had obviously slipped up when it repealed the Population Registration Act last year.

The first draft of the repeal Bill made allowance for racial provisions in other Acts to remain in effect, but after adjustments by the standing parliamentary committee on constitutional affairs, Parliament passed the Bill with only the racially-based clauses in section 52 of the Constitution Act — which provides for a racially-based tricameral parliament — specifically remaining in effect.

Wiechers said the courts would have to decide whether the Population Registration Repeal Act intended to retain or abolish racial clauses in laws such as the Defence Act.

The courts might not refer to legislative history in reaching a decision

'Renamo rebels' use chemicals'

MAPUTO — A defector from Mozambique's right-wing Renamo rebels says the insurgent group uses chemical weapons.

The defector, Victorino Fernandes, told a news conference he had met about 50 Renamo fighters carrying gas masks at a base 40km north of Maputo in January.

Fernandes said the men told him the masks were necessary as protection against a weapon they were carrying, a projectile that could be fired from a heavy machinegun. The weapon released a poisonous substance which, if inhaled in sufficient quantity, could kill people further away from the impact would faint or be seriously weakened, Fernandes said.

Western military experts said they knew of no chemical weapon designed to be fired from machineguns.

Renamo officials in Europe have denied using chemical weapons in their fight against the Mozambique government since Mozambique secured independence from Portugal in 1975. — Sapa-Reuter.

IDT expects to help peace and negotiation processes

CAPE TOWN — The Independent Development Trust believed its development aid programme would make a substantial impact on the negotiation and peace processes, IDT chairman Jan Steyn said yesterday.

Steyn told a news briefing that even if South Africans were able to negotiate a "perfect" constitution and bill of rights, unless the problems of poverty were addressed there would be an irreversible deterioration of the social fabric of the nation.

The IDT had "a lot of hay on its fork" at the moment, but there was a need to keep on attracting funds.

Steyn said he hoped the IDT's 270 development projects would encourage an ethos of self-reliance among poor communities and prevent consolidation of a culture of entitlement.

He warned that if the issue of development assistance to poor communities became politicised, the entire area could end up a battlefield.

Political Staff

He had no problem with the variety of delivery organisations but objected to too many "filters or sponges" which prevented the product reaching its point of delivery.

Steyn said he did not believe political parties could attract development capital from abroad. "Independent agencies with a track record are more likely to be successful," he said.

□ The Bursary Council of SA said yesterday legislation for the IDT's proposed education bank should be delayed until criticisms about the scheme had been resolved.

It said also there had been a dramatic increase in the problems about access to tertiary education and funding. It urged commerce, industry and the whole community to make bigger contributions to the urgent needs of students.

26/11/92
31/11/92
3/12/92

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Govt to double funds for food programme

STAR 5/2/92

By Esther Waugh
Political Reporter

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CAPE TOWN — The Government is doubling funds allocated to the Nutrition Development Programme for 1992/93 to R440 million

The Department of National Health envisaged using R110 million of the budgeted R220 million for the programme in 1991, Health Minister Dr Rina Venter said

Dr Venter confirmed yesterday that funds for the programme would be doubled in the coming Budget

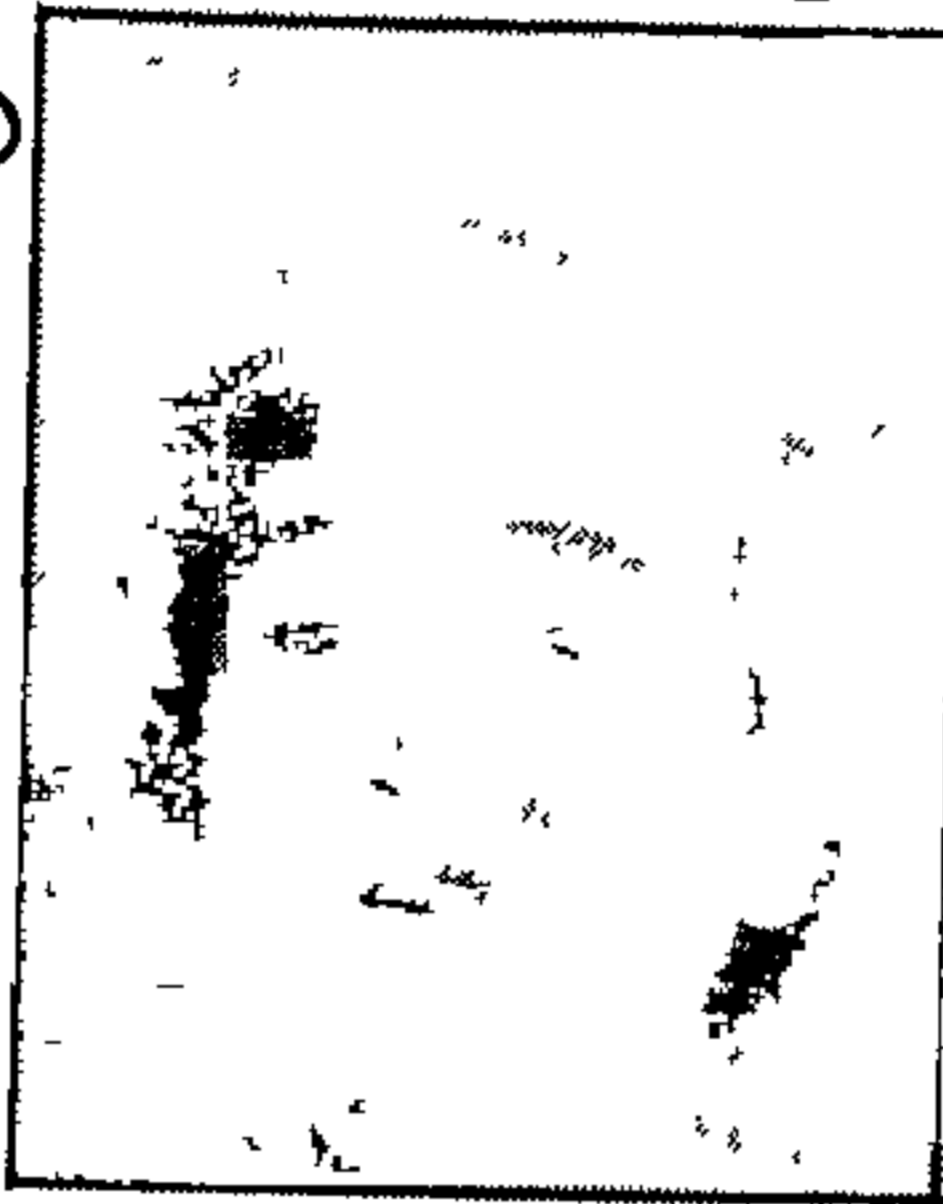
The department was in the process of paying R94,55 million for the programme, she said

Up to the end of last month R16,35 million had been paid to non-government organisations and another R9,7 million had been approved and would soon be paid

Funds have been paid out to 18 organisations

A further 199 applications, totalling R17,5 million, are being processed by the department

Dr Venter also announced



Dr Rina Venter . . . funds paid out to 18 organisations.

that R51 million has been allocated for the expansion of the existing Government subsidised protein-energy malnutrition scheme administered by clinics

Explaining delays in payouts, Dr Venter said the Government has a responsibility towards the taxpayer and delays were caused by the creation of strict financial precautions to prevent the misapplication of funds

Financial control mechanisms of payouts were reviewed

after a regional welfare organisation misappropriated funds. The money was confiscated and legal steps were being taken against the organisation. Dr Venter would not identify the organisation except to say it was a regional organisation registered for fund-raising.

She realised that many organisations experienced problems implementing the programme. Since many organisations' financial years differed from that of the State, they would not be expected to repay unspent money at the end of the 1991/92 financial year.

The money could be transferred to the next year.

Dr Venter stressed that the emphasis of the programme was on development and not distribution of food

She said political groups were using the programme for political purposes at grassroots level by claiming responsibility for the programme.

Dr Venter said progress has been made with old-age subsistence payments and 20 percent of the disparity gap had been closed last year

Venter reacts to 'pressure'

Apr 16/2/92

241

NATIONAL Health Minister Dr Rina Venter this week voiced her regret that Operation Hunger was using "public pressure" to obtain funds from the Nutritional Development Fund

The Minister was reacting to a statement by Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman that she had received no reply to several requests for funds to help relieve starvation in the country.

Venter said in Cape Town the same application procedures were relevant to all organisations.

"Officials of the department contacted Mrs Perlman telephonically during January 1992 to point out the shortcomings on her application as well as the procedures for writing a programme," said Venter.

The allocation of funds was planned on a regional basis according to the nutritional status of each individual region. The department was responsible for the co-ordination of a number of large organisations in each region, Venter said.

"Due to the fact that excellent co-operation exists among organisations, the Minister does not understand the attitude of Operation Hunger."

She said funds were available if certain requirements were complied with - Sapa

Boycotts 'worsened black poverty'

(24) CT 8/2/92

JOHANNESBURG — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said this week that poverty in South Africa had reached such critical levels that the redistribution of wealth would not be enough to erase it.

The IMF said in a report released in Washington this week that only a higher growth rate would result in meeting the needs of the underprivileged in the community.

The document was drawn up by a group of IMF economists after a visit to South Africa last year.

The report said poverty and the negative effects that apartheid had on the distribution of income between the different racial groups must be overcome through better training and the creation of jobs for blacks.

The IMF said an increase of 3,5% in the growth rate would result in an

increase from 8% to 27% in the ratio between investment and the gross national product.

The SAB's correspondent in Washington said the report was the first of its kind about South Africa and would probably serve as the basis for preconditions for future loans to the country.

The Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said the report supported the government's economic approach,

and particularly the fiscal and monetary policy.

Mr Du Plessis said the fact that the IMF had drawn up the report was important because South Africa would be able to share in the expertise being gathered worldwide.

He said South Africa had to develop an economy that was in agreement with the principles applied in the rest of the world. — Sapa

Govt launches food aid plan for farmers

CAPE TOWN — Government is launching a food aid plan for farmers and their labourers who are suffering in the drought ravaging most of the country

National Health Minister Rina Venter said yesterday she had given "urgent" instructions for the programme to be established

The drought was the subject of a four-hour debate in the House of Assembly yesterday, where Dries Bruwer (CP Lydenburg), who is also president of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, warned that it was probably the biggest disaster yet to hit SA's farmers

Wessel Nel (DP Mooi River) said the

livelihood of SA's 6 000 farmers and their 1,3-million labourers was threatened

Venter said in a statement the National Health and Population Development Department would set up the programme to provide "continuous" assistance to those in need. It would draw from the Nutritional Development Programme

Aid committees would be established immediately on a district level, and farmers who needed assistance for themselves and their labourers should contact their local agricultural extension officer

● See Page 3

Political Staff

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More funds on way to uplift poor

241 R2G 8/2/92

THE Independent Development Trust has been in business for 18 months. As it heads into 1992, the rate at which funds will flow from its coffers to projects and programmes to uplift the poor will increase dramatically.

The scorecard shows that recipients of IDT support have drawn R400 million so far. That figure will push up towards the R1 billion (R1 000 million) mark by year end.

When the founding sum of R2-billion was transferred by the State to the IDT in August 1990, our Chairman, Jan Steyn, was adamant that the trust would do its homework before it began to spend the money.

That homework — much of which entails in-depth consultation with a wide range of players, followed by the drawing up of funding policies — is on-going. But enough has been done for the IDT executive team, under the direction of its trustees, to tackle its task with an increasingly clear focus and thrust.

Take rural poverty, for instance. Trustee, Dr Mamphele Ramphele and health di-

This is the fourth of a monthly series on how the Independent Development Trust is using R2-billion of taxpayers' money to bring hope for a better future to the very poor in South Africa. **JOLYON NUTTALL**, IDT Director of Communications, reports.

ers the goods will be successful in wooing the electorate.

Development is a specialised field, however, and its funding should be handled by professionals. In no way should it be dispensed as patronage in the hope of winning votes.

When Jan Steyn was asked in 1990 to head the IDT, he sought two assurances

■ That Government was indeed intent on dismantling apartheid

■ That the funds would be transferred en bloc to an independent trust whose independently selected trustees would have sole discretion over their allocation.

In both cases, the answer was yes.

So, as you — the taxpayer — read about the IDT's activities, you can rest assured that they are founded on independence, development and trust.

The IDT receives a constant stream of overseas visitors, intrigued by the work we are doing. Their positive response and the interest they show in the country are a measure of how far we have come from being "the polecat of the Western world."

IDT SCORECARD

Projects supported to date 262
 Funds allocated.....R1 700 000 000
 Funds "in the ground".....R400 000 000

rector, Professor Len Karlsson, have spent months compiling detailed policy guidelines on primary health care, water, sanitation, energy, welfare and rural development.

Now they can fund a long line of projects from simple clinics to boreholes in the knowledge that, collectively, they will impact on the plight of the rural poor.

Like Constantinople (how do you spell it? answer i,t), the Independent Development Trust has a long name. But each of the three words has a growing significance as the jockeying for political power in South Africa increases.

Many people are anxious to control the destiny of development funds. As one writer put it recently. "The party which deliv-

Spectre of famine looms

CIPRO 9/2/92

241
By SOPHIE TEMA

HUNGER now, starvation tomorrow

This is the stark reality threatening millions of people caught in the grip of the worst drought to hit the country this century

Welfare workers predict a human catastrophe of enormous proportions as already impoverished rural communities face starvation

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said it would take a miracle to save crops in some areas

"We are praying daily for our subsistence farmers in Mahlobayini, Ramatlabama, Winterveldt, Nkandla and Lebowa," Perlman said

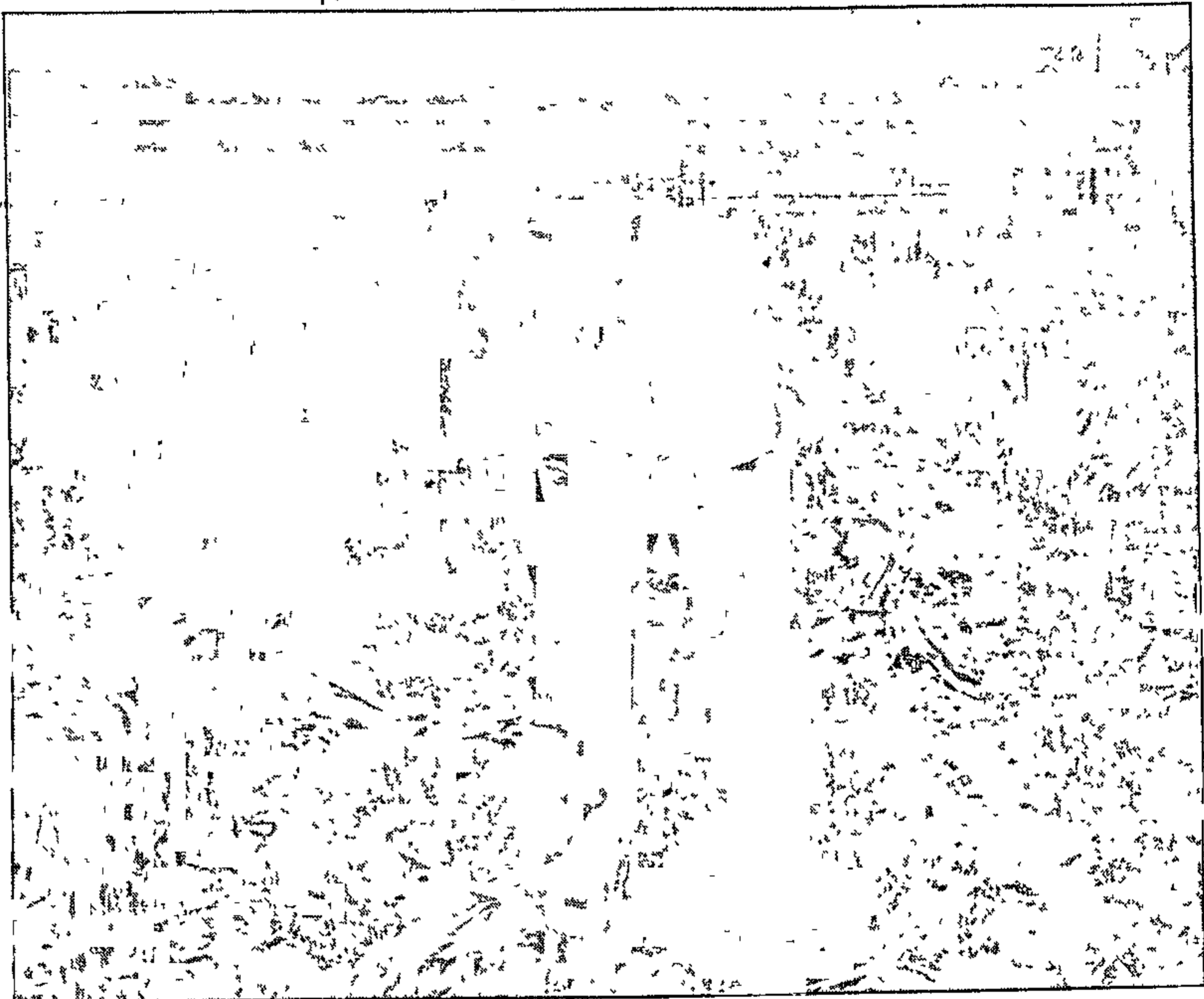
She added that her organisation was struggling to find funds to feed the people they already served and were praying they would be able to help the ballooning waiting list of 500 000.

"There is now the need to double and treble food aid while we are desperately trying to find the cash for several hundred self-help projects," Perlman said.

Jannie Momberg (DP Simon's Town) said in Parliament this week at least five million black people would be drastically affected by the drought

It was calculated that about 1,1 million people were employed on farms in SA

Each worker had about seven dependents, which



SCORCHED EARTH . . . Winterveldt farmer Joseph Maduna's crop has been ravaged by drought. Farmers across the land face starvation if rain does not fall soon. ■ Pic: ANDRIES MCINEKA

meant that about eight million people depended on agriculture

There was a real possibility that if the farmer went under, the workers would find themselves homeless, and they and their dependents would stream to the cities with all the socio-economic problems this would bring

"This is a potential time bomb of people who have no jobs and who are mostly without school

education and will be left absolutely at the mercy of others," Momberg added

A subsistence farmer in Winterveldt, Joseph Maduna, said his community needed a miracle to save them from the drought

"We will have to pray to the Almighty to open up the heavens and send us rain to save the crops that have not yet been burnt up," Maduna said

"If our prayers are not answered, we will be

doomed and all we can do is to sit and wait for death"

Also hard hit is the Eastern Cape where animals are already dying from the heat and drought

In the area between Willowvale and Jansenville near Port Elizabeth, several white farmers have abandoned their dry land and trekked to the cities, leaving hundreds of labourers destitute

In the Northern Trans-

vaal, Free State and Northern Cape grazing land is fast becoming wasteland and rivers and dams are down to dangerously low levels.

Food aid organisations have been inundated with appeals for food by thousands of people starving in rural backwaters

"All the gains Operation Hunger had made over the past 10 years have been used up to help ailing black farmers and the needy," Perlman said

IMF says poverty in SA 'critical'

THE International Monetary Fund has said that poverty in South Africa had reached such critical levels that the redistribution of wealth would not be enough to erase it. (24) (4) (15)

The IMF said in a report released in Washington this week only a higher growth rate would allow the needs of the underprivileged to be met.

The negative effects of apartheid must be overcome through better training and the creation of jobs for blacks, it added. (PNE 7 9/2/92)

An increase of 3,5 percent in the growth rate would result in an increase from eight percent to 27 percent in the ratio between investment and the Gross National Product.

CT 12/192 (241)

Millions 'could starve soon'

JOHANNESBURG — A South African welfare agency said yesterday 2 million black people could be starving by May unless the government speeded up drought relief

Operation Hunger, a major private welfare group that feeds 1.8 million people daily and promotes self-help development, said delay in

starting the first government funding of its work could turn malnutrition in rural areas into outright starvation

"We do not use the word starvation lightly. We use it with the full weight of what the word means," said agency director Ms Ina Perlman. "We are desperately worried."

The agency said it had had none of R220 million

promised to non-governmental groups for normal hunger relief in the government's budget in April last year

The money was more urgently needed now because of drought

"We are feeding, wholly or partially, 1.8 million people now and we have almost half-a-million others on our waiting lists," said Ms Perlman — Sapa-Reuter

tified as the leader of alight the offices of local lawyer,
gang and the Inkatha Steve Ngwenya

been prosecuted under the
clause an apology

Rural electrification this decade 'unlikely'

CAPE TOWN — Substantial electrification of rural areas and informal houses in SA was unlikely this decade, Stellenbosch University economist Servaas van der Berg said at the weekend.

In a paper delivered at the ANC national meeting on electrification, Van der Berg said pressures on financial and skills resources would limit electrification to formal houses in the urban areas.

He foresaw most formal houses having electricity within the next 20 years.

The paper was based on a soon-to-be-released final report of a research project for the National Energy Council undertaken by Van der Berg and J du Toit

Van der Berg said SA did not have the financial resources for full-scale electrification, even if political problems retarding electrification were overcome.

To eliminate the full urban housing backlog by the year 2000 would require 420 000 additional connections per year for the first decade, and to cope with the in-

crease in the urban population, 220 000 connections the following decade. Financial constraints made this unlikely.

ANC science and technology group's L H Napa Maepa said a common feature of all successful electrification projects overseas was that they were undertaken as the result of a conscious decision and commitment by the government of the country.

Another key feature was the total participation by the local population

He believed electrification projects undertaken by Eskom or the present "unrepresentative" government would be still-born. Community controlled and sponsored electrification initiatives were the sole viable means of bringing electricity to black communities in SA.

Our Cape Town correspondent reports that the meeting decided to establish a convening committee to call a follow-up meeting before March.

LINDA ENSOR

R 50m benefit from Cahora Bassa

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241

310 day

10/2/92



Government warned of large-scale starvation (241) 12/2/92

OPERATION Hunger said yesterday two-million blacks could be starving by May unless government accelerated drought relief. Bivan 12/2/92

The private welfare group said delay in starting the first government funding of its work could turn malnutrition in rural areas to outright starvation.

"We do not use the word starvation lightly. We use it with the full weight of what the word means," agency director Ina Perlman told a news conference "We are desperately worried."

The group said it had received none of the R220m promised to non-government organisations for normal hunger relief in government's budget in April last year.

The money was more urgently needed now because of the drought.

"We are feeding, wholly or partially, 1.8-million people now and we have almost half-a-million others on our waiting lists," said Perlman.

She said the organisation would need to feed between 2.25-million and 2.5-million people if government did not release funds by the end of April.

The Department of National Health said strict precautions to prevent misapplication of taxpayers' money had led to a delay in payments, but these were now being accelerated.

Perlman said in a statement the "miracle" of rain might still save crops in some areas, but prayers were being said daily for subsistence farmers in Mahlobayani, Ramatlabama, Winterveld, Nkandla and Lebowa.

She said Operation Hunger was aware that grants had been made to some creches and had read about a clinic relief scheme that had been announced but as yet had seen no signs of its implementation.

Perlman warned that "bureaucratic delay and dilly-dallying" would result in death for many.

Aid workers estimate a quarter of all deaths among blacks are children under five who succumb to malnutrition. Perlman said this rate was rising — Sapa-Reuter.

Urgent drought talks scheduled 12/2/92

GERALD REILLY

Almost 3 000 of these were in grave financial straits About R1.5bn of the total invested in crops this year — mostly borrowed money — had "gone down the drain with absolutely no return"

Farmers were paying almost R3bn a year to service debt — a burden fewer and fewer were able to carry Without substantial aid few would be able to plant the 1992/1993 crop

Le Clus added that food shortages could not be ruled out

A "disastrous" situation loomed if farmers had to keep on borrowing to service debts A long-term strategy to get the industry back on its feet was urgently needed

Meanwhile the Farmers' Crisis Action group, which orchestrated the disruption of central Pretoria last year when thousands of farmers and

their vehicles clogged city thoroughfares, is threatening another "farmer power" demonstration unless government acts to defuse the crisis

Sapa reports SAAU co-operative council chairman Charles van Vei-jeren said in a statement yesterday it was clear few farmers would harvest any summer crops whatsoever

"This situation can have disastrous results for many farmers who are already in a weak financial position due to many years of crop failures and high interest rates, while the rural areas also suffer, making the future of many agricultural co-operatives uncertain," he said

He said co-operatives played a key role in determining the extent of the losses, and encouraged them to continue to provide all possible co-operation in the search for solutions and further aid actions.

IT'S A CREDIT JUNGLE OUT THERE
DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR COMPANY IS?



Thousands now face starvation

Paula Fray
and Helen Grange

Thousands of people are facing starvation within the next few weeks as a result of the severe drought gripping the country, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman warned yesterday.

The critical shortage of maize in the country is expected to result in serious shortages of mealie meal, a staple diet for the poor.

Several farmers are already struggling to feed their farmworkers and some have begun retrenching those they can no longer support.

Ms Perlman said at a press conference in Johannesburg that the Government had been "monstrously slow" in responding to Operation Hunger's formal request for money to alleviate the plight of people reeling under the severe drought. Not a cent had yet been received.

"Such bureaucratic delay will, for many of our constituency, effect the most permanent solution of all —

● To Page 3

Thousands could starve as drought grips country

● From Page 1

death," she said.

Health Minister Dr Rina Venter recently told Parliament R94,55 million was in the process of being paid out. Of this, about R16 million had been paid out to non-government organisations.

Ms Perlman said Operation Hunger's waiting list of people needing immediate aid was now close on 500 000.

The blazing heat had reduced black subsistence farmers' markets by up to 30 percent.

Ms Perlman said there was "precious little evidence" that money made available on paper by Government was being distributed.

Eastern Cape field worker Glynnis Baer added that people in the eastern Cape were also not feeling any effect of the Government's poverty-relief programme.

Agriculture Minister Dr Kraai van Niekirk yesterday toured devastated Transvaal farms following a mass meeting with Free State farmers on Monday.

The SA Agricultural Union yesterday expressed grave concern about the situation, saying it was already clear that few farmers would harvest any summer crops whatsoever.

The future of many co-operatives was uncertain.

Mr van Niekirk is expected to report back on possible steps to be taken at a meeting organised by the National Maize Producers Organisation next month.

Meanwhile, Farmers' Crisis Action has warned the Government that it will launch protest action if immediate relief measures were not taken.

The organisation demanded that insolvency litigation and sequestration sales against farmers should be halted, and interest rates on agricultural debt suspended. President de Klerk should also declare the whole agricultural sector a disaster area.

The organisation did not expand on what action would be taken, but it was responsible for the "Siege of Pretoria" last January when thousands of farmers disrupted traffic in the city.

War of words over 'slow' hunger relief

31 Day 13/2/92 (241)

DARIUS SANAI

NATIONAL Health Minister Rina Venter yesterday hit back at Operation Hunger for "using public pressure to obtain funds from the Nutritional Development Board"

Replying to criticism by Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman that government was "unacceptably slow" in allocating funds to relief agencies, Venter said she could not approve of the fact that Perlman, together with her committee, "has sole discretion regarding a single amount of R20m (the amount the organisation is seeking from government) of taxpayers' money"

Venter said she could not understand Operation Hunger's attitude
In a day of sharp exchanges between the country's biggest relief agency and the Minister responsible for allocating relief funds, Perlman accused government of "reinventing the wheel" during the complex application procedure for government funds

On Tuesday, Perlman warned that 2-million

people could die in drought-stricken areas unless government accelerated its relief allocation procedures

A spokesman for Pretoria relief agency Werk en Oorleef, which provides food for poor white people in Pretoria, yesterday echoed Perlman's comments saying that government had been very slow in supplying the relevant forms for the agency to apply for aid

Perlman said that of 108 organisations which had had their applications for aid approved in the eastern Cape, only eight had received money from government

She also said she had not yet received a reply to a letter she wrote to the National Health Department on December 11 last year applying for funds

Venter said yesterday a department official had contacted Perlman by telephone last month to advise her of the "shortcomings on her application"

Sapa reports Perlman reiterated that no re-

ponse whatsoever had been received to her letter "Our communications seem to have been lost in a bureaucratic morass," she said

Venter said applications for state funding were regionally co-ordinated to prevent overlapping between different organisations doing the same work

Government had already earmarked R93,5m for aid and non-government organisations were successfully involved in its distribution and application

Venter said Operation Hunger had written to the Ministry asking for funds and not the department as it should have done

"Perhaps the whole procedure needs to be changed because in every area there are dozens of organisations in exactly the same boat," Perlman said

Another senior relief agency official, who did not want to be named, claimed yesterday that there was "a layer of obstructive, bumbling bureaucracy" in the National Health Department that was slowing down application procedures

'Bread' drive launched to highlight poverty

South 13/2-19/2/72

By Chris Mabuya



Chris Hani

Society is not aware that a number of people go to bed without food.

"The white parliament does not discuss the issue of poverty. Even organisations talk about it in general terms.

"We feel we should highlight the issue and demand welfare for our people from the white government.

"We are now busy collecting money and asking employers to donate so that we can buy bread which will be distributed in squatter camps, rural areas, villages and other areas where

there is a need for food." Hani, who is also Umkhonto we Sizwe's chief of staff, said doctors had been mobilised to examine the "victims of impoverishment".

The campaign was decided on at the party's national congress in December last year as the beginning of a focus on the working class.

Hani said Cosatu and the ANC had been informed about the campaign. "This must not be seen as a party thing but should involve all the masses of our people," said Hani. — *ELNEWS*

Foreign loans could help poor this year

Sowetan 13/2/92.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE Industrial Development Trust is to acquire financial loans from foreign sources as well as the World Bank and from the private sector to "aggressively invest" in providing homes for the poor this year.

It will consult with political organisations, the Government and a wide range of actors and interested parties, according to IDT's communications director, Mr Jolyon Nuttal, in Cape Town this week.

IDT chairman Mr Jan Steyn met a group of the World Bank representatives who visited South Africa on a fact-finding mission last week.

Nuttal said "We will pay a lot of attention on providing funds not only for homes, but instead of a roof over people's heads, the trust has gone for ground under their feet"

More than a third - R750 million - of IDT funds has been allocated to a capital subsidy scheme under which 100 000 serviced sites would be given to the very poor

About 700 000 people - an average of seven families - will benefit from the security that land title brought

Dwellings

"We believe that the people who receive the sites will build dwellings on them, he said "Some may start with shacks which they will gradually improve Using the land as surety, others will borrow money to build more substantial homes"

"Yet we know that 100 000 sites are only a beginning, we have in fact

received applications to subsidise 640 000 More money must be found," he added.

Referring to education, Nuttal said a model of how community control, and therefore community protection, could be obtained in school management has been developed through a national school building initiative that will see 50 000 additional classrooms constructed in the next three to four years

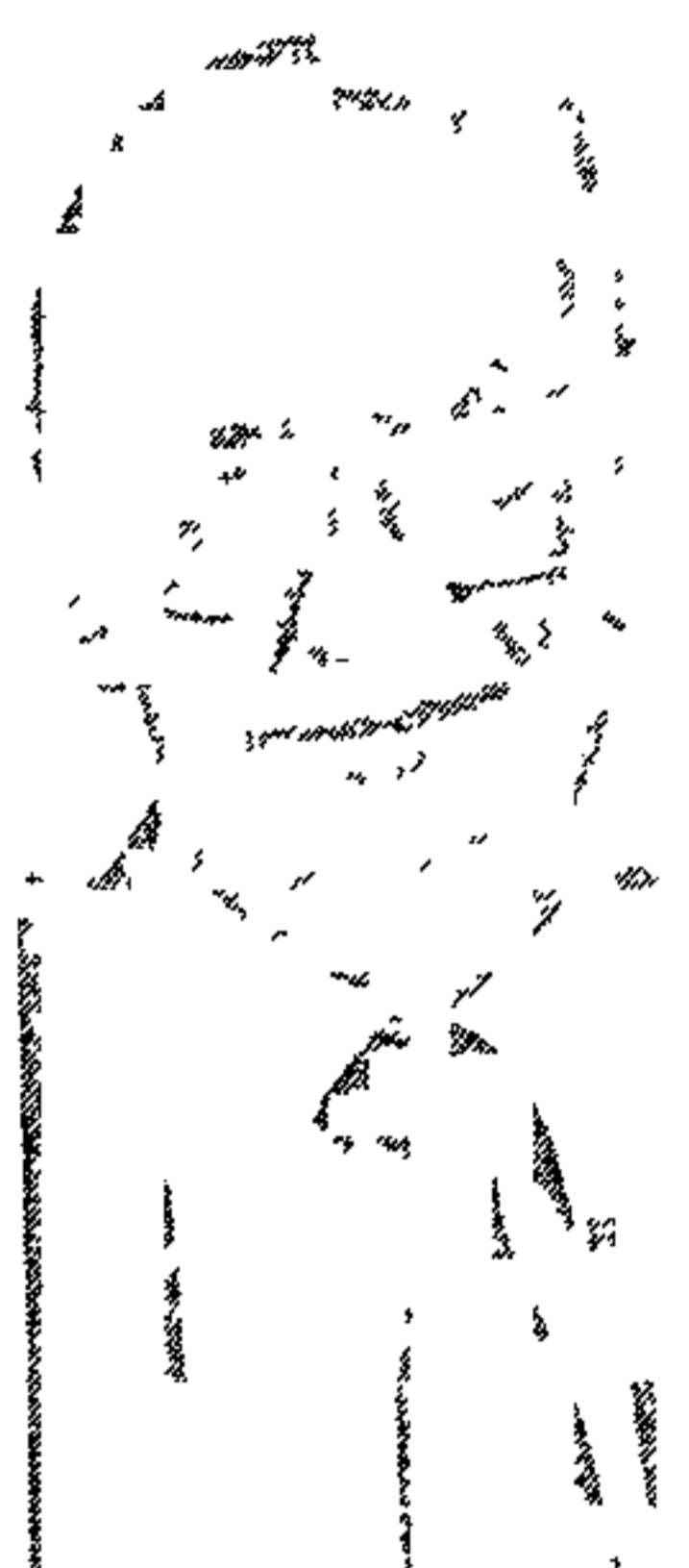
"The challenge is to establish community learning centres which could function up to 14 hours a day, seven days a week

Facilities

"Given proper administrative facilities and inexpensive community halls, the centres would - in terms of the model - provide primary school

facilities until early afternoon, and cultural activities and adult education thereafter.

In rural areas, it could be used for primary health care as well, he added.



IDT chairman Mr JAN STEYN

UK government body slaps Oxfam

LONDON — Britain's biggest overseas charity agreed this week to withdraw or amend booklets which criticised aid to Cambodia and supported sanctions against South Africa

Oxfam agreed to the move after being told the booklets were too political

The Charity Commission, a government monitoring body, said last year that Oxfam had exceeded its objectives by carrying out unacceptable political activities.

Oxfam was set up in 1942 to help relieve worldwide poverty and distress.

It operates in more than 70

STAR 13/2/92 (24)

countries
The commission's inquiry was prompted by Oxfam's Frontline Africa campaign in 1990, which called for sanctions against South Africa to be maintained until the introduction of a democratic constitution.

The commission said this week Oxfam had agreed to withdraw or amend two booklets in the Frontline Africa series

The charity also agreed not to distribute in Britain a 1988 book compiled by 31 international aid organisations called "Punishing the Poor; the Inter-

national Isolation of Kampuchea"

The book argued that people were suffering in Cambodia because of a political logjam and lack of government-to-government aid

The commission said Oxfam had acted in good faith — but it reminded the organisation that its campaigns must be directly related to helping the beneficiaries of the charity

An Oxfam spokesman said the commission was not outlawing political activity by charities but had objected to the style and tone of the campaigns on South Africa and Cambodia.

Perlman takes swipe at Rina Venter

By Paula Fray *STAR 13/2/92*

A bureaucratic bungle appears to be the basis for the controversy which has erupted between Operation Hunger and the Minister of National Health and Population Development over a delay in processing funds for hunger relief.

Yesterday Minister Rina Venter said Operation Hunger had to apply to the Department of Health and Population Development, and not the ministry, for funds.

But Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman, who said on Tuesday that the organisation had been trying to get verbal clarification on the system since October, was not appeased.

"I sympathise with Dr Venter in her attempts to cover up the blatant negligence in her department, but frankly I find her most recent statement nothing short of pathet-

ic," said Mrs Perlman.

The point remained that there had been a delay in response to their request and that Dr Venter, as Minister of National Health and Population Development, was in charge of the department of the same name. Mrs Perlman said she would make available to the press correspondence from the ministry.

The organisation had hand-delivered a letter to the minister's office on December 11 and received a letter of acknowledgement on January 18.

Operation Hunger was told the matter was being investigated.

In a statement last night, Dr Venter expressed regret that Operation Hunger was "using public pressure to obtain funds from the Nutritional Development Fund".

According to Dr Venter, Operation Hunger's letter of December 1991 was forwarded to the depart-

ment for processing. An official then contacted Mrs Perlman last month to inform her of the shortcomings of the application.

"The minister cannot approve the purchase of vehicles with money from this fund as well as the fact that Mrs Perlman, together with her committee, has sole discretion regarding the spending of a single amount of R20 million of taxpayers' money," she said.

Earlier, Dr Venter hit back against accusations of "dilly-dallying" while thousands of people were starving, saying it was unreasonable to accuse the Government of delaying emergency feeding schemes when scores of welfare organisations had received funds.

However, Mrs Perlman categorically rejected "allegations and innuendos by the minister" that it had, in turn, failed to respond to requests from her department for schedules and other information.

'Do-gooders' slammed

Sowetan 14/2/92 (24) 34

OPERATION Masakhane for the Homeless yesterday criticised Operation Hunger and other "do-gooder" charities for making the needy dependent on handouts

Omhle general secretary Mr Basheer Lorgat said the money spent on charitable handouts should rather be invested in programmes to develop human potential

"The present handout system will only lead to disaster as seen in the rest of Africa and Asia"

Replying to the criticism, Operation Hunger head Mrs Ina Perlman said Lorgat had enough experience of Operation Hunger to know that a significant amount of the organisation's work was devoted to development programmes - *Sapa*

'Granny' Leah's mine of enterprise

WIMail 14/2-20/2/92

In a rural Natal village, an impoverished family runs its own 'coal mine'

By RAYMOND NXUMALO

A VISIT to "Granny" Leah Mhlophe is like taking a trip back to Johannesburg's gold-digging days more than a century ago. Her "opencast mine" may not be as lucrative, but it is certainly no less enterprising.

Her grandchildren and their friends queue up to help out at her "mine" in Blaauwbosch, near the kwaZulu township of Osizweni on the outskirts of Newcastle.

They follow her to the site, a stone's throw away from her house, where 42-year-old Phineas Shabangu waits with pick-axe in hand.

"You know your positions," Leah reminds her little "labourers" as they arrange themselves into a human chain inside the hole. Nkosinathi Buthelezi (10) lines up the buckets while above Shabangu starts digging.

"Bhasobha," Nkosinathi warns as a loose rock almost hits Nomusa Mhlophe, whose duty is to shovel the falling soil and fill the waiting queue of buckets.

As soon as all eight plastic buckets are filled, the human chain goes to work. Spongile Mkhize (12) picks up a bucket, throws it to Zanele Masondo (12), who in turn passes it to Lindiwe Myeza (13), then on to Nomusa Mhlophe (14), Sizakele Mncwango, Beauty Mhlophe and finally to Granny Leah, who throws the soil into a nearby pool of stagnant water.

Then she throws the bucket back down to Nkosinathi and the whole process begins again.

All this is done with a degree of disregard for the mine wall hanging menacingly above their heads. There is no doubt that the slightest tremor triggered by a blast at the Utrecht mine, some 90km away, could bring down the wall — instantly burying them under tons of soil.

Why does she subject herself and the children to such dangerous work? The object is to get coal out of the "mine".

"The coal-merchants who come around in trucks are expensive, and we need this rock. They charge R2,80 for a 20-litre paraffin tin and you can only make fire about four or even three times with that," Mhlophe explains, shaking her head in disapproval. To her, R2,80 is a lot of money.

I asked if it took very long to reach the coal. "It takes less than five hours to dig a grave, and we have the whole day to ourselves," she said, peeling dry skin



Human chain . Little 'labourers' pass along bucketsful of soil Photo RAYMOND NXUMALO

from the palm of her hands. And at the end of the day she usually takes three, sometimes four, bucketsful of coal home.

While Granny Leah's interest in this process are domestic-oriented, Shabangu's are more entrepreneurial. He sells the bricks he makes from the yield of the hole.

"I use the clay that I dig here to make bricks. I bake the bricks with the coal to make them hard," he

explains. He charges R12 for 100 bricks. Most of the surrounding houses are built from home-made bricks.

There are 19 other holes owned and "mined" by other families, according to Shabangu's "employer", Goodness Ximba. She says anyone who has freehold rights to a piece of land with coal just beneath the surface can be an owner. And unlike most employers, she doesn't have to worry about staff wages. "Their wages are what they dig from that hole."

Midrand backs call on squatting

THE Midrand Town Council yesterday came out in support of the Urban Foundation's call for a broad-based working group to tackle the squatter problem in the PWV region. *Monday 14/2/92*

But management committee chairman David Hidden also called for regional forums across the country to solve the problem on a nationwide basis.

"The current perception that the accommodation of homeless people is a North Rand issue only is not merely incorrect, but extremely dangerous," Hidden said in a statement.

The Midrand council had taken on the challenge of housing nearly 120 000 people, he said.

DARIUS SANAI

Many of these people worked on the East Rand and incurred excessive travel costs to get to their places of employment and back.

"This situation has arisen as a result of the lack of provision of accommodation for workers in established industrial areas," he said.

Hidden said he was concerned that other regions in SA were "simply sitting back and keeping an extremely low profile" during the crisis.

"It is unrealistic to expect that the 7-million people who need to be informally housed could be accommodated in the northern PWV area."

Venter says yes to Perlman

Monday 14/2/92
DARIUS SANAI (24)

OPERATION Hunger director Ina Perlman said yesterday her organisation had received a letter from National Health Minister Rina Venter granting it permission to apply for aid on a national basis.

The letter brings to an end the public row which erupted this week between Perlman and Venter, during which Perlman accused Venter's ministry of delaying relief aid while people went hungry.

Perlman had accused the ministry of not replying to a letter Operation Hunger had sent in December asking to be allowed to prepare an application to be granted aid money nationally.

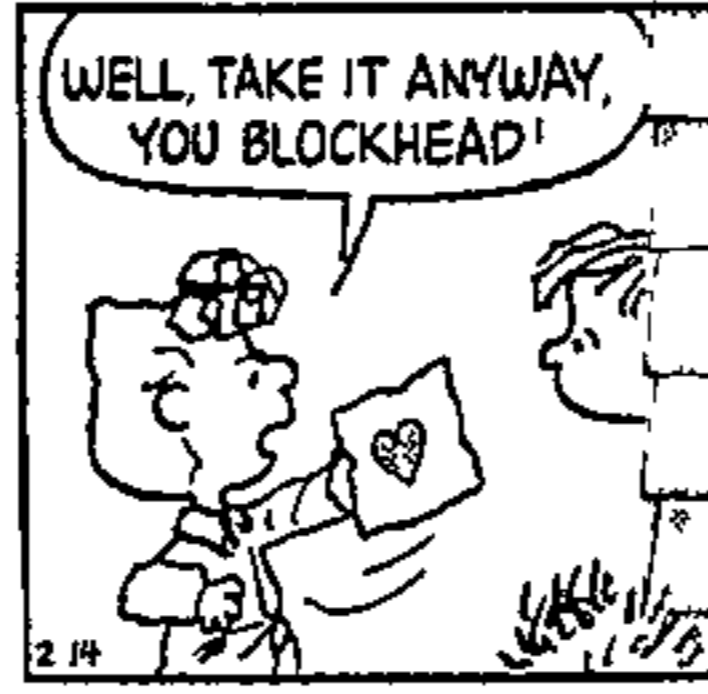
Venter in turn accused Perlman of using public pressure to obtain funds.

Perlman said the organisation's application would be submitted today.

● Comment: Page 8

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



R7-m a month sought in food fund row

STAR 14/2/92

Staff Reporter and Sapa

After a week-long war of words between Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman and National Health Minister Dr Rina Venter, the welfare organisation was yesterday granted permission to submit a "consolidated" application for funds to the Department of National Health and of Health Services and Welfare.

Mrs Perlman last night said the application for R7 million in aid per month would be delivered in Pretoria this morning.

Operation Hunger's current needs had increased dramatically since December, she said.

In a statement, Mrs Perlman rejected Dr Venter's "sanctimonious innuendos" that Operation Hunger had not been prepared to give a full account on how it planned to spend taxpayers' money.

"We could not, however, lodge a formal application until she (Dr Venter) had agreed that we lodge one na-



241

Food scrap... Ina Perlman (right) rejected Dr Rina Venter's (left) "sanctimonious innuendos" that Operation Hunger would not give a full account of how it planned to spend taxpayers' money.



tional, and not 14 regional, ones"

"If the minister requires testimonials on Operation Hunger's financial probity, we suggest she applies to the embassies of those foreign governments that have assisted, through us, the people we serve year after year," Mrs Perlman said.

She criticised Dr Venter for her department's "overall slowness" in dispensing urgently needed funds "in a

time of national crisis". The debate between her organisation and the minister had reached "judicious proportions", Mrs Perlman said, and it had been "demeaning and distasteful".

Operation Hunger first wrote to the minister on December 11 last year, requesting permission to submit a consolidated application for funds, and not 14 regional applications as was required by the department. The only response the organisation had

received was an acknowledgement of the letter, Mrs Perlman said.

Dr Venter has countered that Mrs Perlman had been asked in December to submit a feeding development programme in support of her application to the department, not to the ministry.

Mrs Perlman said this information had never been conveyed to Operation Hunger. She was also unaware that the minister and her de-

partment were "not on speaking terms"

A Johannesburg-based pressure group, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (OMHLE), yesterday criticised Operation Hunger and other "do-gooder" charities for making the needy dependent on handouts.

OMHLE general-secretary Basheer Lorgat said in a statement that the money spent on charitable handouts should be invested in programmes to develop human

potential

Mrs Perlman replied that Mr Lorgat had sufficient experience of Operation Hunger to know that a significant amount of the organisation's work was devoted to development programmes.

"I'm delighted to know that Mr Lorgat has such interesting views on feeding the hungry, and I will certainly re-member it next time OMHLE applies to us for assistance."

"I'm also delighted to know that Mr Lorgat has never been hungry."

Dr Venter announced yesterday that contributions to the Food Assistance Fund for Farmers and Labourers affected by the drought were coming in from all regions.

Cash donations for the fund can be sent to the Federal Council of Women, Box 40537, Arcadia 0007, or paid into the Volkskas Arcadia account 0610-000-059.

Non-perishable or canned food can be handed in at the local branch of the Women's Agricultural Union for distribution among the needy.

Inquiries can be addressed to J T J Wolmarans, Private Bag X228, Pretoria 0001, or telephone (012) 325-5100.

Section

POVERTY - 1992

NOV - DEC .

Sorry plight of million whites hit by recession

SIT Times 29/11/92
By SHARON CHETTY

ALMOST one million white South Africans are living below the breadline — more than during the Great Depression in the 30s

These poor whites are only part of the nine million people being assisted by the government because they have no "visible" means of livelihood

According to a deputy director of the Department of Health Services and Welfare, Mr J Pienaar, 912 746 whites are economically inactive or have an income of less than R7 000 a year, and the numbers are rising

Mr Pienaar says that in the 1990 census, 1 962 658 whites were listed as having no income. But of these, 1 464 076 were below the age of 19 — leaving a total of 498 582 adults with no income at all

A further 414 164 have an income of less than R6 999 a year.

According to the census, the total white population of South Africa was 4 521 000

The University of South Africa's Bureau for Market Research, says the minimum living level for an average family of five is R650 a month

With unemployment rising as a result of the recession, Mr Pienaar says the number of whites who approached his department for assistance increased

from 29 701 last year to 46 034 by March this year.

The nine million destitute catered for by the government's National Nutrition and Social Development Programme include all race groups as well as people living in the TBVC homelands.

The programme, which is co-ordinated by the Department of National Health and Population Development, funds non-governmental organisations or local authorities which have feeding and nutrition programmes.

It has a budget of R440-million for the 1992/1993 financial year

Dr Joos Hattingh, NNSDP programme director, said about 35 percent of the total black population was experiencing "social need"

According to the 1990 census, there are 17 973 320 black people in the country

Between April 1 and November 21 this year, 1 368 organisations received money from the NNSDP

"Operation Hunger" director Ina Perlman said her organisation's feeding and self-help projects catered for over 2,1-million people — 100 000 of whom are white

She added that the unemployment rate in the rural areas was about 50 percent over the past two to three years, but had risen to 70 percent in 1992

SA Muslims send R1m aid shipment to Bosnia

GAVIN DU VENAGE

A SHIPMENT of aid worth more than R1m — from local Muslims to Bosnia — would arrive in Turkey this weekend, organiser Dr Imtiaz Sooliman said in Maritzburg last night.

He said the cargo of 620 tons of humanitarian aid would arrive in the breakaway Yugoslavian country by November 18.

A shipment of equal value was sent during August. The aid would continue as long as the war lasted. Sooliman accompanied the first

shipment and visited Mostar and the frontlines. There was not much likelihood of SA Muslims actively joining in the war, as resources in Bosnia, stretched to the limit, could not make provision for foreign volunteers. "Thousands" of Muslim volunteers had gone to Bosnia to give military assistance, but the Bosnians were too undersupplied to make use of them.

● See Page 7

B/DAY 3/11/92

(241)

UK helps SA to feed

(241) (200)

THE BRITISH Government will donate R865 403 to Operation Hunger to be used for the organisations' feeding programme in the Orange Free State, the British Embassy said in Pretoria yesterday.

The funds will be used to buy nearly 16 000 bags of soya soup for the feeding programme, which assists 425 000 individuals, mostly children under 10, in the province, the Embassy said. Sowden

511192-

Friday

00:60 at 09:00
In the ex parte application
meeting (by 09:15)
Tel: 011 241 1111

Govt: cash to fight poverty too sparse

Blom 6/11/92

(24)

PRETORIA — The National Health Department responded yesterday to allegations by Operation Hunger that the poverty safety net was not working.

Demand for aid from a growing number of poverty-stricken families throughout SA was far greater than could be satisfied with the funds available to the National Health Department's nutrition and social development programme, a department spokesman said yesterday.

The great need could be measured by the estimate that there were 9-million people without visible means of livelihood and if the R440m which had been available from April was divided among them, each would receive a mere R48 a year.

Indications were that the R440m would be spent before the end of the present financial year.

The spokesman said the programme would be continued in the 1993/94 financial year with an increased budget allocation of R454m.

Allocated to non-governmental organisations so far from the R440m is an amount of R162,3m, excluding the TBVC countries and the six homelands. Since April 1 160 non-governmental organisations have benefited.

The spokesman said R175m had been earmarked for the TBVC states and the self-governing territories "for the administration of the programme within their borders".

GERALD REILLY
and GRETA STEYN

A total of 313 applications are being processed, with the highest number, 80, from the eastern Cape followed by 60 from the southern Transvaal and Pretoria and 47 from Natal.

The spokesman said decisions on aid applications and approval of funds had been delegated to nine development regions.

This had resulted in significantly speeding up the process of channeling funds to the needy.

Asked what steps were being taken to ensure funds were well spent, the spokesman said the programme included an internal monitoring system. Before an organisation qualified for refunding, proof had to be provided that the amount was spent according to departmental guidelines.

An audited report also had to be submitted annually.

The implementation of an independent external monitoring system was under way, the spokesman added.

In terms of the programme, assistance concentrates on the most basic human needs in the short term — "people in serious social need".

The spokesman said that "organisations who wish to help the needy are invited to apply for funding".



ANC agriculture spokesman Derek Hanekom, right, ANC deputy president Walter Sisulu and civil engineer Prof Rob McCucheon at yesterday's news conference to announce ANC leader Nelson Mandela's mission to the far northern Transvaal.

Picture ROBERT BOTHA

Country courts arrive by truck

STEPHANE BOTHA

TWENTY prefabricated mobile courtrooms, designed to be transported by truck, have been ordered by the Justice Department for use in rural areas. *BIOM 6/11/92*

The mobile courtrooms, complete with air conditioners, fully insulated walls, aluminium sliding windows and offices for the magistrate and prosecutor, would cost a total of between R3.5m and R7m, the Public Works Department said yesterday.

Public Works, which designed the courtrooms, said: "The magistrate's office is separated from the courtroom by a folding door."

"The raised floor level of the magistrate's office enables him to preside over court sessions from his desk, eliminating the need for a separate judicial bench."

The mobile courts have been introduced to ease the shortage of court accommodation in the country, and the prefabricated courtrooms would be delivered by truck to sites all over the country.

Construction of the units has already begun with each costing from R175 000 to R350 000, a Public Works spokesman said.

The courts would be fully furnished under the building contract.

"As is implied by the appellation 'mobile court', the ease with which the units can be transported is of the utmost importance. Therefore the units have been designed so that they can be placed on a stable chassis to ensure easy transportation," she said.

ANC probes drought relief distribution

RAY HARTLEY

ANC president Nelson Mandela will visit the drought-stricken far northern Transvaal at the end of the month as part of an ANC focus on the failure of relief resources to reach those in greatest need. *BIOM 6/11/92*

The announcement of Mandela's visit and similar visits to areas of the Free State today and the eastern Transvaal in the coming weeks by deputy president Walter Sisulu was made yesterday.

Agriculture spokesman Derek Hanekom said government was hamstrung by "the invidious situation it finds itself in" with 14 ethnic government structures channelling drought relief funds.

"We have refrained from making a political issue out of this, but the reality is that it is a political problem. The fact that rains have now come is no guarantee that the water crisis is over," he said.

Civil engineer Rob McCucheon said at least between five and 10% of the "public purse" — R4.25bn-R8.5bn — should be spent on a public works programme to relieve rural poverty.

McCucheon serves on an employment creation working group of the consultative forum on drought — a joint government/development agency relief structure.

He said a four-phased public works programme involving education, "serious analysis and planning", training supervisors and finally a national employment creation programme

should be embarked on.

He said short-term demands could be met by short-term employment such as street cleaning and rubbish clearing while a national employment creation programme was being built.

At present only 10% of money spent on road building was spent on wages and this should be increased to between 40% and 50% to dramatically boost job creation.

Kenya, Botswana and Malawi had all successfully implemented such programmes, he said.

McCucheon said it was unrealistic to think the public works programme would solve unemployment on its own, because this would happen only once a worldwide economic recovery had taken place.

Hanekom said employment creation had to become "a major policy objective", and a future government would continue with such a programme if it was initiated now.

The ANC was busy with a pilot project, which involved the building of a dam, borehole drilling and employment creation in the northern Transvaal, he said.

He said the Ciskei government had refused to acknowledge the severity of its drought despite international engineers describing it as one of the worst hit places in SA.

By Quentin Wilson

MRS Anne Hendricks is spending her last days in an old, disused cow stable.

The 65-year-old woman, too sick to continue working on the Heidelberg farm where she has lived most her life, has been put out to pasture by her white "baas".

Yet Hendricks considers her position in favourable terms. She has a place to stay, there is a tap and the walls of her home are made from sturdy bricks. Compared with the rickety corrugated iron and wood dwellings up the road in Blikkiesdorp (literally 'Tintown'), Hendricks' situation is one of luxury.

Her rasping cough and dead eyes declare otherwise, but the pensioner insists she is "very fortunate".

Travelling from Cape Town to rural towns, a number of truths stick. In Worcester, Oudtshoorn, George, Mossel Bay, Riversdale, Heidelberg, Swellendam and Grabouw, the overriding feature is the shocking standard of living.

Apart from the fistful of whites, cocooned in their cottonwool dorps, the abject poverty is a grim contrast to the striking beauty of the spacious countryside.

In Bongoletu, an Oudtshoorn township, small box houses are filled to the brim with occupants. While electricity is not available to

'Merry Xmas workers — you're fired'

SOUTH 7/11 - 11/11/92

most, gas lamps are only used when absolutely necessary. Receiving guests from out of town is one of these occasions.

Jobs are scarce and those who can work are paid a pittance. Breadwinners in crowded households are under severe pressure as the hopes of 20 people can be pinned on one worker. And because of the large pool of labour available to mostly white employers, bosses can hire and fire until they find a workforce that panders to their every whim.

Suffering from temporary illness can destroy job security as other workers can instantly be found. Working overtime is a vital precaution to take and stayaways or go-slows invariably backfire in the relatively trade union-free environment



Anne Hendricks

of the platteland

In Villiersdorp, for example, a stayaway protesting against VAT resulted in a divisive policy switch adopted by employers. Fire blacks and hire coloureds was their answer to political dissent, assuming coloureds to be more co-operative to the skewed status quo of the local political economy.

In Riversdale a furniture factory goes through its annual rignarole of retrenching a section of its workforce before the year's end.

This forms part of a familiar pattern that has emerged in recent years, where Handelshuis bosses re-employ fired workers in the new year. This saves management from paying Christmas bonuses while relying on a smaller, overworked

crew to keep production going through the festive season

When the dismissed workers return to the fold, their wage levels return to the lowest rung of the salary scale and they are expected to work themselves up again.

In these small towns attempts to build unions with teeth are easily crushed and employers (mostly of Conservative Party political back-grounds) can do what they want.

South Africa's media, almost completely geared towards urban news, does a shoddy job of covering the rural reality and therefore succeeds in hiding outrageous living conditions from public attention.

Scant focus on these communities, which constitute a sizeable wedge of South Africa's geography,

tends to distort the urban public's perception of the national picture. Urban debate around the economy is a case in point. For example, liberal arguments that warn of mass action endangering the economy fall flat when there is barely an economy to talk of in these areas.

What danger is there to the economy for the millions of Anne Hendricks, who are treated like cattle by society?

What does economic stability mean for someone living in a shack with no water, electricity or proper toilet facilities?

In fact, the opposite approach has proved more accurate.

In Mossel Bay it was mass action that secured a greater degree of economic stability for those who moved into an empty housing complex.

In Villiersdorp the united black and coloured community were able to resist the job reservation programmes of white employers by threatening a consumer boycott.

But to paint a picture of widespread rural uprising is misleading.

On the whole, people have been battered into a subservient acceptance of their wretched lot. Fear and fatigue is commonplace and the goal of many is simply survival.

A lot needs to be done before Anne Hendricks wants something more than an old cow stable

Africa's new hope for the famished

AN American winner of the Nobel peace prize, Norman Borlaug, whose high-yield dwarf wheat changed the face of food production in Asia, believes a solution to Africa's horrendous food shortage is in sight.

Experiments carried out under his guidance in various parts of the continent gave surprising results. Yields have risen, on average, by no less than 2,5 times.

Borlaug has been experimenting extensively in the Sudan, where wheat and sorghum crop yields have increased dramatically. In March this year the Sudanese harvested no less than 800 000 tons of wheat compared with a previous total of around 160 000 tons. In Ghana maize production has increased by about 40 percent and indications are that this figure will steadily rise in the future.

Other areas where 78-year-old Borlaug's scientists are operating include Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Benin and Togo.

Borlaug, who became famous as a plant breeder in the American state of Iowa, believes African leaders can play a key role in increasing production of food by taking a few simple steps:

- Make it a priority that fertiliser reaches African villages at least six weeks before the planting season starts.
- Provide the farmers with credit to pay off debts.
- Ensure that they receive a fair price for their produce.

Africa has two major problems that inhibit food production. Firstly, its soil is acidic and in great need of fertiliser. Secondly, its farming methods are generally primitive. More than 80 percent of the continent's farming is still done by hand, consisting mainly of slash-and-burn cultivation with sickles, sticks and hoes. About eight out of every 10 farm workers are women.

Only about 16 percent of African farms are cultivated by animal power. If one considers that without animal power only about 2,5 acres can be cultivated by one family, then it becomes clear why most of Africa's agriculture consists of subsistence farming.

A mere four percent of cultivation is done with machinery.

But while Africa has the lowest farm output in the world it possesses the most unused and uncultivated land.

If farming methods can be improved while more unused land is cultivated, the continent should be able to overcome its present problem of widespread starvation. Combine the foregoing with the knowledge the Borlaug team has built up since its programme in Africa started in 1986 and food production can even increase spectacularly.

New high-yielding strains of important crops are gradually appearing on the scene. With further development and hard work these strains can change the face of Africa.

Borlaug says he has no instant solution to Africa's food problems. But by scientifically marshalling all available knowledge on Africa's crops, the use of fertiliser, insect and weed control, and the optimal use of available moisture a solution is in sight.

Rains bring joy — and hardship

By FRED KHUMALO

WORDS fail this reporter in describing the effect of pattering rain on the scorched hills of Natal.

It's a very long time since the storm clouds hanging over Natal have brought relief and not hardship!

Thousands of Natalians had no qualms about expressing complete joy over the bursting of the waters.

Natalians had been anxiously scanning white-hot skies for signs of rain clouds for a punishingly long time.

But, reflecting the deep tragedy which underlies the region, the return of the rain could compound the misfortune gripping the lives of about 200 000 refugees.

City Press visited a camp for 78 homeless families who for two months have lived in tents in the Indian suburb of Isipingo beach on the Natal South Coast.

To these people who fled their township home of Folweni at the height of Inkatha-ANC violence, the rains meant long, wet nights, disease and terrible fears for the many newborns struggling to make it in the

camp.

Most of the 400 refugees were women and children: The menfolk stayed behind in the township to protect their homes from marauders. Many have died

Ebrahim Dawood of the Islamic Relief Agency, which supplies food to the refugees, said: "The situation is saddening. These people are caught between the devil and the deep sea. They can't go on living like this, but they have nowhere else to go."

Children

Fears are mainly for the lives of 60 children ranging in age from one week to two years who are highly susceptible to diseases stemming from squalor and the cold.

In the last two months at least six kiddies have died from diarrhoea, bronchitis and other routinely curable afflictions.

As City Press arrived at the site we were hit by a stench which made one's stomach heave. Clouds of fat, black flies buzzed about. A few landed on the open mouth of a sleeping child and crawled about lazily.

The tents were crammed with the paraphernalia of people forced

to suddenly flee.

Privacy was non-existent: families slept cheek-by-jowl. Infants barely a few weeks' old cried for their mother's breasts. Elderly ladies, too tired to wake up even during the day, snored loudly nearby.

The Natal/KwaZulu Regional Dispute Resolution Committee said the Natal violence had displaced about 200 000 people.

Hardest hit is the South Coast with between 30 000 and 40 000 refugees crammed into different centres.

Zanele Ngcobo, 34, lost her two-year-old to the treacherous living conditions at Isipingo Beach camp.

She said: "When it rains, the water comes in making our blankets wet and we get sick. There are a lot of flies in the tent — which is not good for the newborns. Sometimes when it is hot, I still have to keep the baby in the tent because it gets windy outside. I have already lost a baby who came before this one."

And the violence continues too. Two weeks ago three gunmen fired on two scatter boys but missed.

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Rina shocked by poverty

PRETORIA — Shock was expressed at the living conditions of Alexandra residents by National Health and Population Development Minister Dr Rina Venter yesterday

Dr Venter spent the day visiting the township north of Johannesburg and also inspected community development programmes and feeding scheme

centres in the northern Transvaal and in Soweto

She said most Alexandra residents, especially women and children, were living in shocking poverty.

She was pleased as the community, especially leaders, were prepared to become involved in self-help schemes

Following discussions with

er B 11/92 (241)
project officers and community leaders it was evident these projects were unifying people in their fight against poverty.

The self-help schemes, recently introduced in South Africa, involve training township families to grow vegetables in their backyards more cheaply and without using expensive chemical fertilisers — Sapa

Indian delegation visits SA's poor

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By CHIARA CARTER

A DELEGATION from three organisations representing homeless people in India visited squatters in Khayelitsha this week. *SI Times (Cape metro)*

The five-member delegation, which left Cape Town yesterday, was hosted by People's Dialogue, an organisation established last year following an initiative by the Catholic Bishops Conference to encourage contact and resource-sharing between communities in informal settlements.

The three Indian organisations — the Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (Spark), Mahila Milen (Women Together) and the National Slum Dwellers Federation — work together closely in Indian cities with slum-dwellers.

According to Spark representative Ms Celine D'Cruz, the organisations encourage women to assume leadership in their communities without alienating men.

Ms D'Cruz said the organisations were involved in an exchange programme with South Africa and that a South African delegation had visited India earlier this year.

"The programme aims to bring together people from poor urban communities rather than experts. We believe in poor people speaking to the poor."

The delegation visited poor settlements throughout the country.

Mothers clean up garbage for food

(241)

By MICHEL MULLER is estimated to be 65 000. They are paid with food parcels valued at R21 each. National Health has allocated R632 100 to the Lingelethu West City Council for a six-month "food development" pilot project in which residents — mainly women with babies on their backs — collect garbage in exchange for food. The money is part of the controversial R440-million Nutrition Development Programme announced last year by Minister of Health Dr Rina Venter.

The Fairest Cape Association had laid the groundwork for the system", its chief executive, Mr Roger Hulley, said. The women, selected from the poorest areas of Khayelitsha, work three times a week in Site C, a squatter camp that has a rudimentary infrastructure and a population that

By comparison, it costs the Cape Town City Council R700 a ton to collect garbage. The council's development officer, Ms Antoinette Lourens, said food was "the incentive" for the collectors who worked in groups of about 30 or 60 picking up even raw sewage in "very dirty places". "We see to it that there are a couple of men to do the hard work. "At the end of the day, we aim to feed people who can't feed themselves." Operation Hunger's regional director, Ms Elna Trautmann, said nutritional development meant providing balanced meals while training communities in self-help. "Lingelethu is feeding in a sectional, elitist way," she said.

NEWS Official just gave people their drivers' licences

Drought relief bypasses the really needy

Sowetan
24/11/92
241

By Mathatha Tsedu
Investigations Editor

■ APARTHEID LEGACY 15 million blacks share

R200m while 1,2 million farmers get R844m

A SOWETAN investigation into drought relief in South Africa has revealed frightening hunger and suffering, with whites getting better treatment than blacks in the mode of old-style apartheid

Fifteen million blacks share a State subsidy of R200 million while 1,2 million whites share R844 million

The figures translate to R13 spent on relief for each of the black victims compared to R703 for every white victim

The investigation also revealed that

- Hundreds of thousands of people, mainly children under the age of five, face starvation as relief agencies such as Operation Hunger struggle to deal with the catastrophe of hunger aggravated by drought, while State agencies squander relief in its corruption-riddled bureaucracy

- White farmers may be pocketing thousands of rands destined for wages of farm labourers which are paid by the Independent Development Trust and the State

- Farm labourers, who are theoretically responsible for the disbursement of the funds, are

completely ignored by all the agencies, with white farmers playing the pivotal role

White farmers use their labourers to do usual farm work while they are being paid by the IDT and are supposed to be involved in community approved projects that benefit society and not the farmer

- Some farmers have been found to have inflated the numbers of workers employed and have apparently pocketed the balance

- Also, in many instances, the R7 a day for a worker, which is R150 a month, is more than twice the normal wages for the workers and many farmers are said to be paying regular wages and keeping the rest for themselves

- The IDT has only six monitors throughout the country who are in some cases refused entry to farms or chased away, making the task of monitoring abuses difficult

- Thousands of workers have been retrenched all over the country, leaving them literally destitute and homeless. These people have appeared

in the major towns' informal settlements, trying to survive

Of the 16,2 million rural people affected by the drought, 15 million are black, comprising 93 percent

However, only R200 million, or 19 percent, is allocated to blacks, as opposed to R844 million for whites

Assistance to workers

The assistance to black farm workers is limited to wages and training, all done at the discretion of the white farmer. These two account for R5 million and R1 million respectively

About R1,5 million in wages has already been used. Only R3 742 had been used by the end of August to train a mere 75 workers

White farmers, however, get assistance to deal with their debt, avoiding sequestrations, production credit, rebates on transport, drilling of water and storage compensation, among others

See page 8 and 9

Sharp increase in rural poor, says UN report

NEW YORK — The number of rural poor in developing countries has jumped 40% over the past 20 years, an indication that many international aid programmes have failed, says a new study released yesterday

A report on rural poverty in 114 nations with a sizeable rural land-holding population maintains that the trickle-down theory of economics and attitudes towards the poor prevent them from being integrated properly into a country's economic structure

The report by the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a Rome-based UN agency, said most development programmes were too heavy on capital investment and measured results only by a country's gross national product, which obscured reasons for lack of growth

"Development is not something that happens in spite of the poor. It is something that happens because of them," it added.

The crucial point is that societies will not need massive infusions of foreign aid as farmers will generate their own savings and invest them in local production," the report said

Of the 4-billion people in 114 developing nations surveyed, more than half lived in rural areas and a billion or 36% were below the poverty line, an increase of 40% over 20 years ago. About 15-20-million people died each year from starvation or malnutrition-related diseases

The sharpest increase in rural poor over the past 20 years occurred in Sri Lanka, Zambia, Mali, Brazil and Kenya

According to an index relating food production, consumption, income distribution, access to education and health services, the worst-off rural poor were in Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Somalia, Mauritania and the Sudan

The five states at the top of the list were Cyprus, Malta, South Korea, Barbados and Mauritius — Reuter

ANC 'unhappy with famine relief concert

610M 25/11/92.
THE ANC is unhappy about arrangements for a musical festival planned for next year in Harare to raise funds for famine relief, according to an informed source (241) ~~241~~

The staging of the concert was approved by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) recently and the PAC was mandated by the organisation — to which 10 southern African states belong — to facilitate the one-day event. ~~241~~

A source close to the PAC said the SADC mandate had created the erroneous impression that the PAC had hijacked the con-

cert
WILSON ZWANE

The source said US-based ANC officials were meeting the concert's promoters, Bay Area Promotions, in New York to "sort out the problems". ~~241~~

The source stressed that the concert was not "a PAC thing ... it is an SADC thing". ~~241~~

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus denied that his organisation was involved in a wrangle with the PAC over who should organise the concert.

Niehaus said the ANC was not involved in the planning of the event as it had not been asked

He was not aware of any meeting between ANC officials and promoters of the concert.

International and regional artists will perform live at the concert, which will be beamed worldwide via satellite

Proceeds from the concert will go to the Southern Africa Recovery Fund (SARF) for transporting food to famine and drought-stricken areas in southern Africa, business development and farming technique workshops

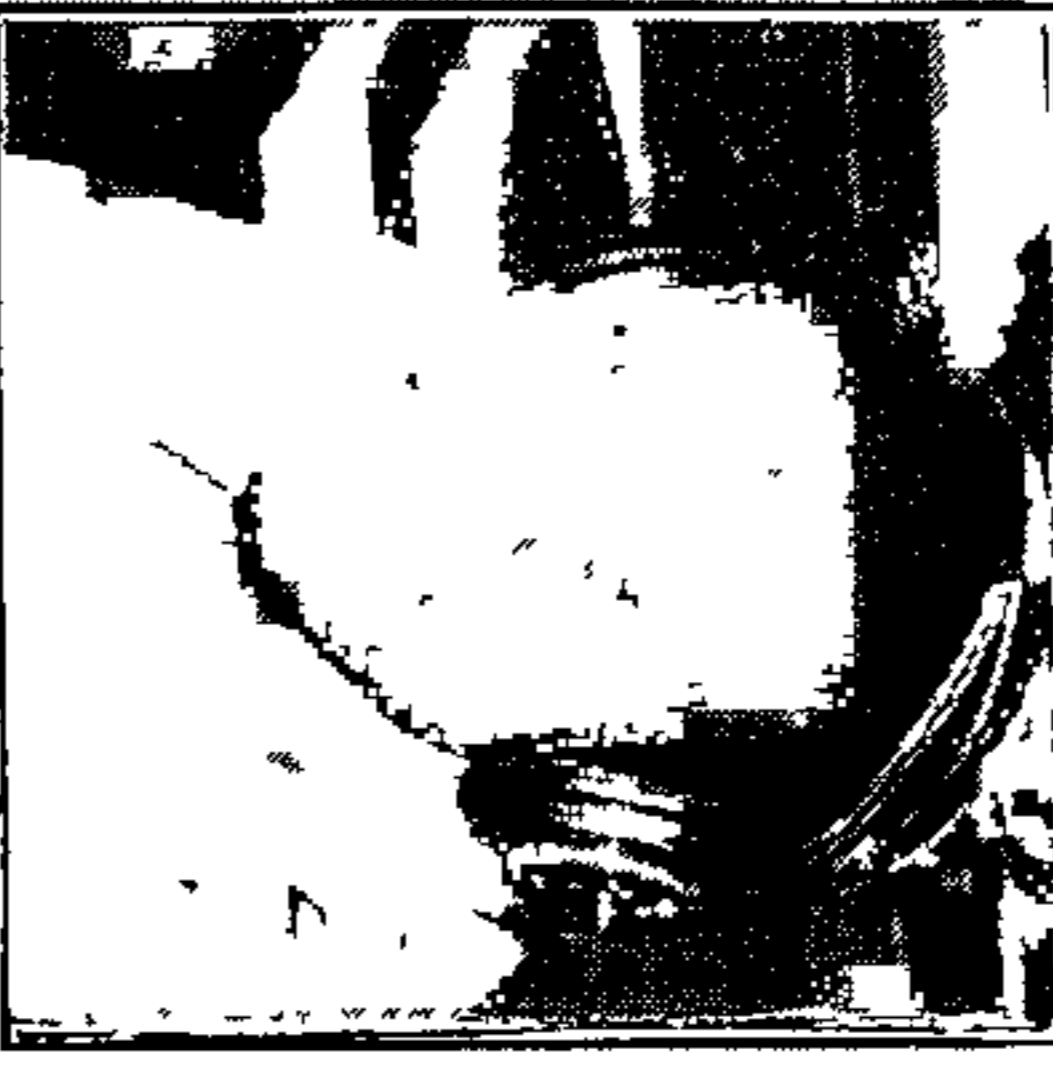
3 million families still waiting for food

Scanned 2/11/92

Sowetan & Radio Metro

By Isaac Molede

Talkback



with Tim Modise

ABOUT 3 million destitute families are still on the waiting list to receive drought relief measures from Operation Hunger, the organisational secretary general and director, Ina Perlmann said last month.

She told Sowetan/Radio Metro that, although the drought had had a devastating effect on large numbers of people, especially blacks, who earn little.

Perlmann, who was with the organisation deputy director for Relief and Development, Mr Mpho Mashinini as responding to Monday's Sowetan revelations of hunger and suffering caused by the drought and relief that was being laced by farm workers.

Responding to the revelation, she said, "The picture given by Statistics South Africa shows that 1.2 million workers being paid as little as R100 a month could be worse off than in other areas like the Free State."

However, she said the figure of 1.5 million blacks sharing a land subsidy of R200 million while 1.2 million whites shared R844 was an overstatement.

The figure in terms of the black community is very low because it only R10 million this year from the Government.

Mashinini said the appalling conditions of farm workers needed urgent action. "If the Government was keen to do some-

thing about the appalling conditions of farm workers, it should have introduced a minimum wage for agricultural workers. It took a long time to get the minimum wage for farm workers."

Perlmann said "operation Hunger" had been set up in 1986 to help drought-affected areas. She said the government had spent R10 million on the programme, but it was not enough to help the drought-affected areas.

Levels of poverty are worse this year because of thousands of mine workers who were laid off. Of the 100,000 mine workers, who were laid off the year most of them are from the coal mines.

Ina Perlmann

"The Government has no control over the movement of funds to the home land, and this must stop." Rags Lancaster Road

To prove how appalling the rural conditions are, we had many people who moved from rural areas to towns to hunt for jobs that were not there. And this, apart from the drought.

Mpho Mashinini

NEWS FEATURE *Millions starve but Operation Hunger receives no funding from the State*

Babies starve while Government dawdles

DEADLY DELAYS

Malnutrition deaths rise as the Government

plays political games

with relief schemes:

Sowetan 25/11/92

By Mathatha Tsedu
Investigations Editor

MILLIONS OF CHILDREN IN DROUGHT ravaged areas are faced with starvation because Government schemes to provide food relief are run by corrupt bureaucracies that are squandering the food

And organisations such as Operation Hunger (OH), which have been involved in relief work for years, are hamstrung by lack of funds

Faced with a growing list of applicants in rural and urban areas alike, OH submitted an application for R17 million funding to the Government in May

But to date no money has come through, OH executive director Mrs Ina Perlman told *Sowetan*

"The tragedy is that while the State refuses to fund us and claims that they are feeding the people through their own schemes, the reality on the ground is quite different

"In many areas of the Transvaal, Orange Free State, Natal and Eastern Cape, where we pulled out because of State allegations that they are feeding, we have children dying at a growing rate because of malnutrition

"The condition of the under-fives has really deteriorated. And with the summer rains now on, the danger of gastro-enteritis becomes even more real for the malnourished children," Perlman said

Politics behind logjam

Politics is behind the logjam of dispute between OH and the Government

On the one hand the State insists that OH should apply for funds regionally, which means going through the bantustans in many instances

The Government also buys food which is sent to various areas for distribution

Where this happens, OH pulls out to avoid duplication

OH, however, refuses to apply regionally and insists that funds be made available nationally for it to subdivide as needs arise

OH also refuses to deal with bantustan governments, saying they are non-representative structures that are corrupt

"The report of the De Meyer Commission is a vindication of our stand. In Lebowa pensioners are up in arms because their money has been squandered

"Food that is destined for poor, malnourished and impoverished people is stockpiled in centres with no distribution network

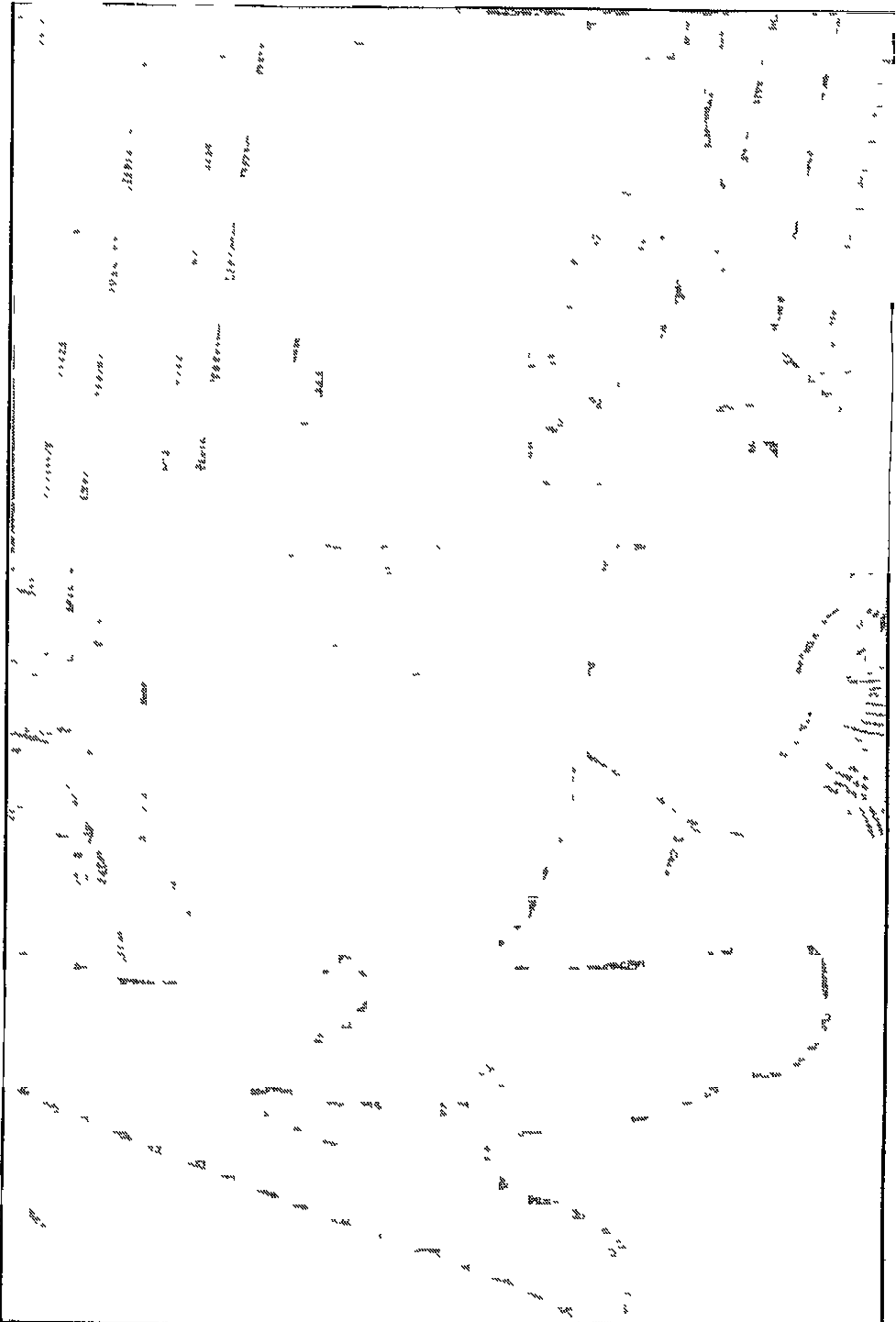
Neglect of black communities

"All sorts of reasons are given for this state of affairs. And many of the people we stopped feeding are faced with famine and are coming back to us for food

"And yet the Government refuses to fund us for flimsy reasons

"The last time we were told our application had been lost in the offices, and this we were only told four months after we submitted it and when we were asking what was happening," Perlman said

OH argues that the major part of the hunger problem is not drought related but a long standing condition due to the neglect of the black



A child suffering from the effects of malnutrition is looked after in a Gazankulu hospital. She is better off now but when she is released, she will return to the same conditions for which she was admitted to the hospital.
Pic: OPERATION HUNGER

“We have children dying at a growing rate because of malnutrition”

Ina Perlman, CEO Operation Hunger.

"The structures we are now expected to work with are the same ones that formerly accepted without protest - and more often compounded it by maladministration - inefficiency and neglect

"Are we not by co-operation, particularly with the 'homelands', shoring up incompetence, defending the indefensible and giving credibility to that which had none?" OH said in its September hunger crisis update

And the statistics are shocking. A total of 2,8 million people are being fed by OH alone throughout the country

White-owned farms

Another 120 000 are on the waiting list in the Free State, all of them former farm labourers who have been retrenched and evicted from their homes on white-owned farms

In Johannesburg OH is faced with daily requests for assistance by people referred to it by nurses and social workers at the Baragwanath Hospital

In Lebowa over 300 000 people are waiting for food from OH

The situation in Gazankulu is particularly

30 000 children joining the feeding queues in August alone

In Lebowa, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei, OH says it has found no trace of any Government-run feeding schemes despite allegations that these were in place

Where this has happened, they were run on a parcel-a-person basis, which did not take into account the fact that a malnourished child is a sign of a malnourished family

"The State approach is that you give a food parcel to the affected child. But which parent will feed one child and leave the other equally hungry ones sitting there without food? This approach does not work but they do not know," Perlman said

No firm decision

OH met with health and welfare officials last week to discuss funding but no firm decision was taken on whether this would be forthcoming, according to OH senior official Mr Mpho Mashimani

Sowetan tried to reach the Director-General of the Department of Health, Welfare and Social Services, Dr C F Slabber, for his comment but he was said to be in a meeting

Whether it was a meeting to discuss the funding of OH is not clear

What is clear is that as the bucking between OH and the State goes on, those least able to withstand the delay, the dying children, the emaciated mothers of babies that suck empty breasts, wait in the wings hoping against hope that help will be forthcoming soon

Will their prayers for food be heard in time?

news

in brief

Sowetan 26/11/92
AWB threatens Mandela (241)

IF an ANC government confiscated land from white farmers, meddled with white pensions, nationalised banks and other institutions and did not deliver promised fruits to its followers, Mr Nelson Mandela would be the first to be necklaced

This was said by AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche in an address to several hundred supporters at a public meeting in the Durban City Hall on Tuesday night

He also said his organisation would never accept an ANC government and reiterated his willingness to declare war should "boere" land be touched

Sowetan 26/11/92
Pitiful drought relief aid (241)

THE Government has allocated R2,3 million for drought relief in South Africa - but Operation Hunger says the grant will not last four months

The organisation also noted drought aid was not reaching remote communities most in need of it. This had resulted in hospitals crowded with children in various stages of malnutrition, especially in Lebowa, Gazankulu and Transkei

Distress at Bop march ban

THE SA Council of Churches has voiced its "distress" at the Bophuthatswana government's banning of a planned march by clerics through the homeland capital Mmabatho today

"A group of unarmed ministers of religion, in their robes, carrying their Bibles, does not constitute a threat to anybody, including the security of the Bophuthatswana homeland," the SACC said in a statement

Sowetan 26/11/92
On Tuesday Bophuthatswana authorities took a hardline stand on the planned march, insisting "no such march will take place"

Shelter for homeless to go ahead

With 2 500 people living on the streets of Johannesburg, the city council approved on Tuesday a city shelter for the homeless. STAR 26/11/92

Proposals for the management of the city shelter at 80 Albert Street, Marshalltown, will be called for.

A four-storey building there could provide emergency shel-

ter for about 350 homeless and destitute people. (241)

There are facilities to house men, women and children, offices for counselling and rehabilitation and job skills training, and an area for a canteen and recreation.

A board of trustees will look after the shelter's interests —
Staff Reporter

Africa open to drug cartels - De Miranda

SM 3/12/42

(24)

Crime Reporter

One of South Africa's leading experts on drug abuse, Dr Sylvain de Miranda, believes that poverty, unemployment and other social problems have made Africa a prime target for the world's drug cartels

In a statement, De Miranda said speakers at a recent international conference on drug and alcohol abuse in Scotland believed that Africa had become a fertile breeding ground

He said it was necessary for African countries to develop effective drug and alcohol control policies, and to intensify

programmes aimed at prevention and treatment of drug and alcohol abuse

It was important that politicking and red tape not obstruct these programmes

"It is vital that we direct our efforts towards preventing that. Political expediency and bureaucracy block much needed progress and development

"If these obstacles aren't removed, it will be impossible to combat increasing alcohol and drug abuse in southern Africa."

De Miranda heads the professional team at Riverfield Lodge, a private rehabilitation centre

Growth seen as saviour of the destitute

STAR 5/12/92

241

ANGLO-AMERICAN, stout advocate of a market-based economy with minimum government interference, has called for State intervention to help address poverty

But it emphasises that State intervention should be short-term and serve as an auxiliary action, rather than the main thrust of an anti-poverty programme

Anglo's contribution to the debate on how best to tackle the problem — and danger — of widespread poverty in South Africa is contained in an article in the latest issue of Optima

It summarises the chief ideas proposed by Anglo in a much longer document, drawn up, in part at least, in response to the challenge thrown down to business leaders by Nelson Mandela shortly after his release from prison in 1990

Highlighted

In an address to businessmen after his release, Mandela highlighted the inequalities of wealth, affirmed the ANC's commitment to nationalisation as one means of addressing the problem, and challenged business notables to put forward their own ideas

Draft copies of the original document were sent to key political actors, including the ANC. But — as Anglo puts it — "political groupings approached did not take up the invitation to debate the ideas and proposals contained in the draft"

Anglo is unequivocal on the primary importance of economic growth as the best way of combating poverty. It is in the context of that axiom that its advocacy

ANGLO-AMERICAN dusts off a plan to abolish poverty, inspired by Nelson Mandela, in which the State adopts a 'market-friendly' line, reports PATRICK LAURENCE.

of short-term State action should be seen

"Economic growth is the only meaningful way to reduce poverty over time," Anglo declares. "It empowers the poor by creating formal and informal jobs, at the same time it promotes the maximum sustainable level of public and private programmes for poverty alleviation"

Economic growth, it adds, generates additional money for expenditure on social services and poverty-reducing mechanisms to address the needs of "the very poor" (as distinct from the poor)

Anglo warns that "direct transfers" — subsidies and handouts of food and services — do not succeed in alleviating poverty

"They are, typically, not sustainable. They often benefit the middle classes and not the poor. Because of pressures to extend their coverage, they lead to fiscal and balance of payments crises, and a subsequent collapse of growth"

Anglo cites Zimbabwe, noting that that country's financial and economic crisis has led to the collapse of many socio-economic programmes — including free education — which it introduced with high hopes in the 1980s

One of the best prescriptions for economic growth and poverty reduction is a "market-friendly approach" by government, facilitating a situation where the two forces work in harmony

A positive and powerful spin-off from economic growth is a decline in the population growth rate. Once the process starts, it can be reinforcing as the population growth rate declines, so the economic growth rate can rise and, with it, the average income per capita

Anglo adds "There is a special obligation on all policy-makers, despite political and cultural difficulties, to energetically confront the issue of population control"

Illustrating the importance of stimulating economic growth, Anglo makes a series of calculations: a 1 percent growth rate between now and the end of the century would create 400 000 new jobs, a 3 percent growth rate would add 1.4 million new jobs, and a 5 percent growth rate would generate 2.5 million extra jobs

The benefits of growth and job creation in the formal sector of the economy would add to the size of, and raise income levels in, the informal sector of the economy

Anglo notes that the 1990s have thus far been years of negative growth, but says important steps have been taken to stimulate growth, including abandonment of the financially ruinous policy of apartheid, and acceptance of the need to negotiate a fully democratic constitution

Further hopeful signs include steady growth since 1984 in the volume

of non-gold exports, and the increase in manufactured exports from 18 percent to more than 30 percent of total exports

Much, however, will depend on the economic policies adopted by a post-settlement government and, in particular, whether or not it has learnt the imperative need for a "market-friendly approach"

But, while Anglo subscribes to a market-driven economy in general, it accepts and argues for a State-directed programme to alleviate the plight of the "very poor"

It defines the very poor as those mainly rural people who lack access to fundamental resources. People who have jobs in the formal sector, however badly paid they may consider themselves, are excluded from the definition

Directed

The Anglo document cites two examples of State-controlled anti-poverty strategies those directed at providing rural people with fresh water and employment

It envisages the formation of "job brigades" in which the poorest of the poor will be drafted to extend the infrastructure through the building of dams, roads and the like

Anglo stresses the importance of working closely with people, of listening to them, and of the State or its functionaries not assuming they know what is best

The contracting economy — the third quarter of this year registered an annualised shrinkage of 3 percent — and the looming budgetary squeeze underline the need for economic growth as the motor force behind poverty alleviation

Meals-on-wheels for road workers

A meals-on-wheels programme to provide hot, nutritious and affordable meals to Johannesburg City Council road workers is to have a trial run. *SM 8/12/92*

The programme will be run by the workers on a non-profit basis, and has received an enthusiastic response during field trials, according to executive director of the Roads Directorate, Dr Emile Horak.

It will start on a three-month trial basis, eventually feeding up to 230 people

Local roads manager Johan van Wyngaard said: "A lot of time — translating into about R600 000 a year — is wasted by workers on buying lunches at cafes en route to their jobs or on cooking meals at the roadside"

The meals will be served hot and sold at R3,50 each.
— Staff Reporter.

Deluge of donations buys millions of meals

THE flow of emergency aid to South Africa's starving from the Harvest for the Hungry fund has passed the R2,6 million mark.

A third and final round of allocations from the fund has boosted the total number of volunteer feeding schemes revitalised by cash injections to 23.

Nedcor Bank, which launched the Harvest Fund jointly with The Star and sister newspapers in the Argus group four months ago, estimates that the number of meals provided has already run into tens of millions.

The funds have been spread out to keep supplies flowing to as many destitute families as possible, at least over the Christmas season and until the summer rains enable new crops to be harvested.

"We mobilised the special programme as soon as the full toll of the drought devastation became known," said Nedcor chief executive Chris Liebenberg.

"A long catalogue of successes has been achieved so far, but weather patterns are still critical in many areas.

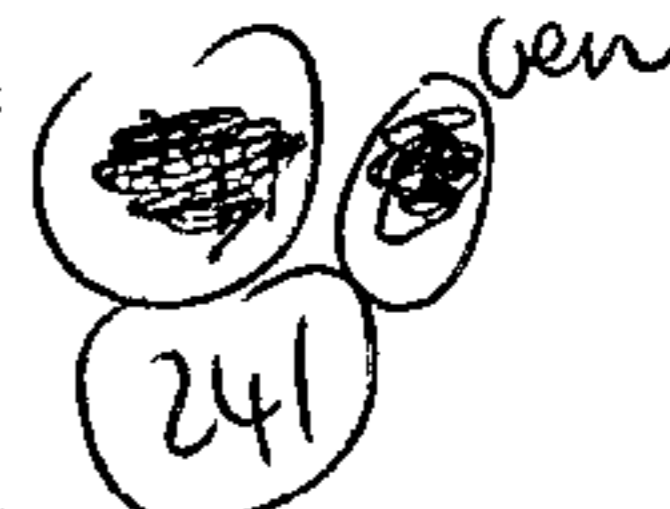
"Our ambition has been to help relieve the malnutrition suffered by poorer families during the peak of the drought crisis. We have been overwhelmed at the response from the general public to our appeals," he said.

Among the latest beneficiaries from "Harvest" funds is Operation Hunger, which has been given R500 000 for its longer-term programme. Ina Perlman, executive director of the organisation, estimated that the number of malnutrition victims could reach 2,5 million, but even Operation Hunger has been alarmed at the ultimate dimensions of the crisis.

The main thrust of the "Harvest" donation will be the provision of more meals in Venda, Le-

STAR
10/12/92

The
HARVEST
for the hungry



A final round of allocations by The Harvest for the Hungry fund brings the total amount channelled into this particular battle with the drought crisis to more than R2,6 million. Thousands of the victims of malnutrition have rejoiced over the arrival of special food shipments, reports MICHAEL CHESTER.

bowa, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and the eastern and north-western Cape.

Funds will also be used to supply seed and fertiliser to families.

It was the supply of vegetable seed that was added to food supplies by volunteers of the Salvation Army that earned a R500 000 donation from the "Harvest" fund.

Also listed in the latest round of "Harvest" allocations are

- Rural Advice Centre (R100 000) to construct water supply systems in villages in and around Mafefe in Lebowa

- Islamic Relief Agency (R44 000) to distribute food parcels in Lebowa and Gazankulu, particularly to squatters near Punda Maria, and to drill three boreholes

- Followers of St Francis of Assisi (R21 000) to relieve destitute children at the St Martin de Porres nursery school near a squatter camp at Ksomo-Ksomo in Bophuthatswana and expand feeding schemes in Johannesburg and at Hammanskraal

- Ziphakamisa (R20 000) to provide funds to volunteer social workers delivering food parcels to at least 1 000 needy families near Port Shepstone in Natal

- Catholic Church at Waterval (R10 000) to sink a new borehole in Gazankulu's Mhala district

- Diphaganeng Community Development Project (R6 000) to increase food supplies and boreholes and hand-pumps in the Nebo district of northern Transvaal.

- Martie Hughes Soup Kitchens (R5 000) to expand operations with feeding schemes at Langlaagte and on the West Rand

- Mahlatjane Ithusheng Women's League (R3 000) to increase the supply of food parcels to pre-school children at Mafefe near Pietersburg

Liebenberg paid special tribute to The Star and its sister newspapers for active support and contributions from income from the TelStar 087 telephone service run by the Argus group and Parrot Publishing.

There were also congratulations to more than 15 000 staffers in the Nedcor group for a wide range of fund-raising activities and personal contributions.

Also, every time there was a transaction at a Perm or Nedbank ATM, the Nedcor group chipped in with 10c until the total swelled to R1,2 million. □

B/D/197

11/12/92

Fish for the starving

A TON of fish was donated to Operation Hunger by I & J at a ceremony at the Johannesburg City Hall yesterday (24/1)

The fish would be distributed immediately in the PWV area where the food was urgently needed by Operation Hunger feeding schemes, the organisation's director Norma Cohen said yesterday.

Living without a life

How do people survive on the street with no home, job or financial help? **241**

QUENTIN WILSON

caught a glimpse of the "bergie" life by spending two days and a night in their urban jungle. This is his experience



BORN TO SHOP: I find a matchbox which may come in handy later

Photo Andrew October

JULIUS November, 21, has no home apart from a self-made kennel under the shade of a tree. He walks alone for much of the day trying to get his hands on money for food and drugs.

On the run from police, November's youthful face masks the wealth of street wisdom learnt from his seven years of "strolling" between Muizenberg and Woodstock and his months in Pollsmoor prison for drug possession.

He was looking for pieces of metal near Salt River station when I met him on a Thursday morning. After promising him food in two days' time, he readily agreed to let me live in his shadow for the next couple of days.

So, without a cent in my pockets and only the clothes on my back, my directionless journey began.

As a smoker, my first concern was the prospect of living without a supply of cigarettes. I need not have worried. Everywhere we went, people smoked — and if they had any to spare, they gave without protest.

I soon learnt that to share was an unwritten law of the streets. Keeping anything extra for yourself is considered a crime.

"It's mos the only way to live," says Julius. "If I give something to that chommie today, then I know that if I need something tomorrow, or whenever I check him again, it's his duty to give it to me."

This continued to amaze me throughout the day. On one occasion, someone asked Julius for a cigarette. Although Julius didn't have any, he gave the stranger his last 50c to buy some.

"Ja, so now I've made a new friend," Julius explained at the time. "Next time I see him, I'll ask him for something."

Our first jaunt was to Muizenberg where Julius showed me his old stomping ground, including tree-shelters where he used to sleep.

With no money for a train ticket, we were always changing carriages at stations to avoid the wrath of

train conductors.

It was on the train where I discovered how the more privileged treat strollers. Everytime we sat down, women with shopping bags would get up and move to the other end of the compartment, nervous that we would steal from them.

Julius, who told me he never stole, found this amusing but I never became used to it.

It was for this reason, he had given up door-to-door begging a long time ago. It was far easier to bum from other vagrants than asking from "larnes".

In Muizenberg, Julius soon bumped into his closest friend, Raymond, who was also just walking around near the beach.

Raymond, who was very smartly dressed, took one look at Julius' worn-out shoes and promptly took off his own takkies, which were in mint condition, and gave them to his friend.

"Ag no man Julius, you can't just sommer walk around in those. It's embarrassing man. Here take these, I'll steal some more later," Raymond insisted.

Raymond, a full-time thief, had stolen the takkies the previous

evening from a car that had already been broken into.

"Now the police will come and choke your neck, ek se," Raymond said jokingly, "but let me have your cap, I skem it'll look better on me."

We spent the rest of the morning together, drinking cheap alcohol on the beach.

AS FAR as Raymond was concerned, I also lived on the street. Regardless of who we met, I never told anyone my true identity — except for Julius, who willingly played along.

But it meant a lot of pretending, which seemed to work. Later even Julius questioned my initial story about being a journalist.

Yet there were times when I felt close to showing my middle-class roots — like when we furiously drank the bottle of cheap alcohol Raymond bought for our beach breakfast.

We sat on the sand among a sprinkling of 15 people, all of who moved within a minute of our arrival. With the beach to ourselves, we took turns downing a filled paper cup of spirits.

After five minutes, we were near

to finishing the bottle and it was Raymond's turn to "maak gou" with the cup.

After downing his share, his face contorted and he brought it all up again — back into the cup. After a few moments to recover, he threw the second-hand contents back into his mouth.

"Yo! this is like happy hour, ek se! Two for the price of one. Value for money, my broer," Raymond laughed, before giving me the same cup to drink the next round.

Afterwards, Raymond left (walking in his socks) saying he had to get back to work.

"OK, bye! I must go and steal my mother a hairdryer now. It's her birthday tomorrow and her hair looks a mess."

Before leaving, Raymond gave us enough money for a packet of cigarettes, a half loaf of bread and some polony.

It had been a successful morning and now Julius wanted to show me his "hokke" in Salt River.

After catching a train back, the rest of the day was spent walking. We went from Salt River to Pinelands to Observatory to Rondebosch and then back to Salt River.

During these walks, which were for visiting purposes, Julius told me more about his life and thoughts.

Although he has a family, he left his Manenberg home because of gang warfare. He feels safer on the streets of white suburbs than living with this continual threat.

Living at home would also make him an easy target for the police. They are out to arrest him after he

failed to appear on charges of dagga possession earlier this year.

After he was retrenched from his packing job at the harbour two years ago, Julius lost any hope he had for the future.

"Sometimes, I sommer get this feeling in my heart, ek se. I'm telling you my broer, one day I'm going to get so sick — you know, with one of those diseases where the government mos pays for you — and then I'll sommer die."

"You know, I can't remember when I last had some lekker boiled food. It's all just scraps and bread. Sometimes I just like to lie down and think about my life. I get very sad when I think how lonely I am."

"Christmas is coming up and I don't even have a job or a girlfriend," he said.

When Julius feels down, he smokes dagga and mandrax.

Darkness began to fall, and after sharing an orange which was given to us, we settled in for the night. There was no space under Julius' tree so I went to a nearby park.

With my stomach feeling empty, my head still a bit dizzy from the day's alcohol, I tried to get to sleep, using the inner bag of a five-litre wine box as a pillow.

I felt vulnerable and lonely. My dirty clothes were beginning to itch and I craved for a bath. But I knew that the next day I could return to a warm house that had electricity, hot water, cooked food and most of all, a nice comfortable mattress.

But for Julius, this was as good as it gets.

Pavement with a view

Some advice I received and some thoughts from people who live on the street.

Louis: Ag, you know. It's not good to think about problems all the time. If I did, then jslak ek se, I wouldn't be able to cope. I'm telling you something for nothing, my broer — just concentrate on getting some lekker dagga, a bietjie brood and some cover for when it rains, ek se.

Florence: My child is now four years old. My sister is looking after her, but one day she will tell me that she can't anymore. Ai! I don't know what I'll do then.

Frans: I've been down like this before, but you watch, I'll pull myself up again. I just need to sort out a few things in my head first and then I'll be OK.

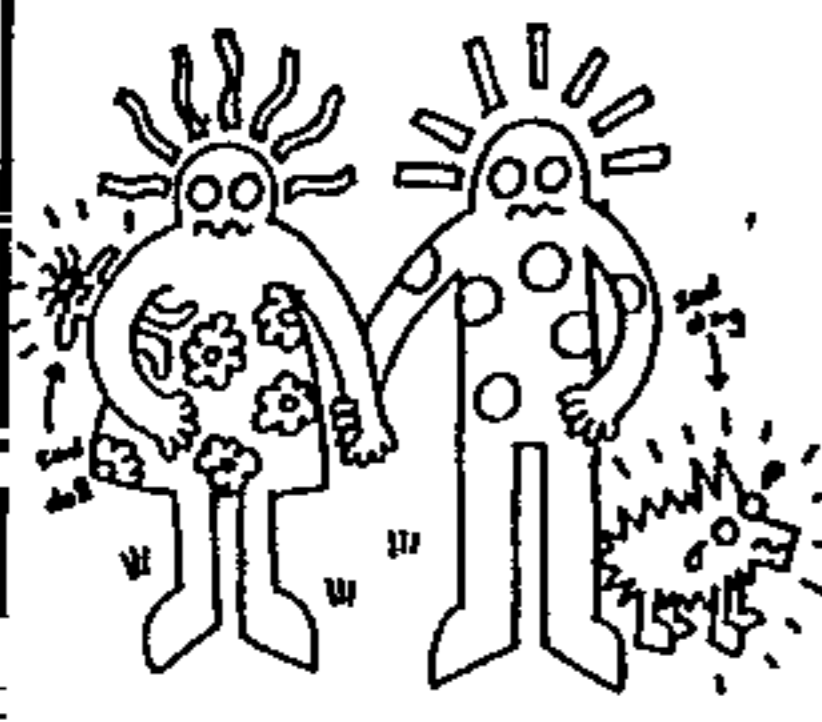
Victor: All you can do is to wait until you get really sick and then die (laughs). Maybe things will be better then.

Lynette: Just have a skyf of this pipe, blondie. It will make your troubles go away for a while. One time, ek se.

Pieto: People just don't care, hey. Like today, I went to this one larney to ask for some money and she grabbed her seuntjie and started running away. Most people treat you funny, man, because they are so scared. They understand nothing.

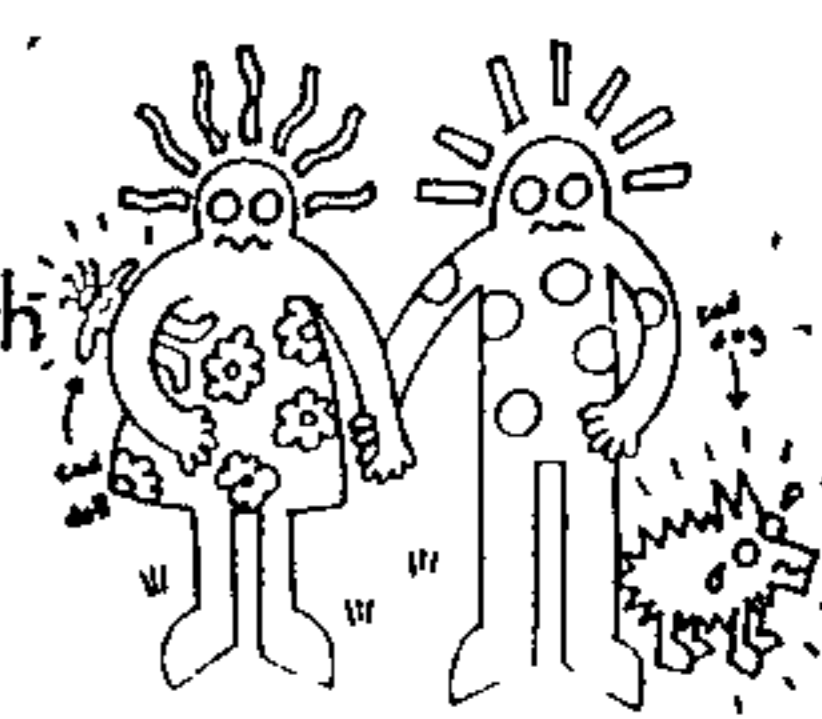
CHILDREN!

ADULTS!



Is an adult making you feel unhappy, confused and sad?
Are you being forced to do things which make you feel bad?

Are you suffering from the effects of your childhood abuse?
There are ways you can be helped to cope with your past hurts, anger and guilt.



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- Individual Therapy
- Telephone counselling

Phone: Safeline: 26 1 100 24 hrs Telephone No. 2611 00 or anyone you trust!

PEOPLE'S LIVES

10-year slide from poverty to ruin

■ BAD PLANNING

Economy is wrecked:

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar - Her name means "A Sweetness People Love" But there is a look in 13-year-old Mamitina's coal black eyes that says she doesn't believe in names

Her father deserted her one night last month in a street of the Madagascar capital, leaving her in charge of three sisters and two brothers, one six months old

She begged for three days and nights, then walked into a haven run by a priest called Pedro who has heard stories like hers four thousand times

Ragged children pleading for money

It is impossible to stroll through tumbledown Antananarivo without attracting a train of ragged children pleading "Monsieur, give me money"

Visitors and residents all talk about the "quatre mis" - an ironic name for the homeless It means "four walls"

"Some nights I drive down this street to the office and I just can't look," said a Malagasy resident

"I don't want to see them sleeping on the pavement or begging in doorways I can't bear it but I just can't change the world on my own"

Nor can Pedro But his eyes say he will try

Two years ago he came to Antananarivo and found families living from the compacted rubbish of the municipal dump They burrowed in, found bones and sold them for animal feed

He got land from the government and created a village called Manantenasa — "A Better Life" His organisation now provides four real walls for 4 000 of the "quatre mis"

And they keep coming "We get 25 more families every month It never stops I reckon there are 250 000 people in this town who don't even get enough to eat," Pedro says

"It's a disgrace This isn't Somalia Somalia is a desert But this is a rich agricultural country It used to export food But these people have been abused for years It is a crime"

The reason is not just the influx of job-seekers from the countryside that has created shantytowns around cities all over Africa

From poverty to virtual ruin

Madagascar has gone in the past decade from poverty to virtual ruin

Slash and burn farming has wrecked the land The collapse of prices for coffee, vanilla and cloves has made the crops scarcely worth growing

Soviet-style central planning, grandiose but unproductive projects and big military expenditure by President Didier Ratsiraka have brought the economy to its knees, diplomats say

"We hope that one day Antananarivo will build factories That there will be jobs That this will be an industrial town But until then" Pedro's attention is distracted by a new arrival seeking the comfort of a broad arm round his small shoulder

"This town has doubled or trebled in size in the past few years But at the same time only a couple of hundred houses have been built," said Pedro, a Slovene who worked in the Madagascar countryside for 20 years before attacking the capital

The United Nations' World Food Programme, World Bank and Madagascar's transitional government announced a five-year R36,4 million plan last month to ease the plight of the urban poor in Antananarivo, where some 50 000 are thought to be homeless

Pedro's Akamosa organisation provides shelter and food in return for work in nearby quarries or on handicraft projects Parents come with entire families, sometimes a dozen people

Others have not heard of the bearded priest and abandon their children or worse "A woman walked up to our night guard the other day and tried to sell her child It was wrapped under a shawl When we lifted it, the child was naked," said a businesswoman

The arrivals are rehabilitated, educated, helped to overcome frequent drug or alcohol problems and given the opportunity to go back to the land if they have relatives with cooking and farming implements, a bus ticket and minimal pocket money - Sapa-Reuter

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15/12/92

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Nedcor drought relief

NEDCOR raised more than R2,6m for SA's drought victims through its Harvest for the Hungry campaign, CEO Chris Liebenberg said. Funds raised had been allocated to 23 relief agencies.

A Nedcor spokesman said the project would continue although the drought might be breaking.

Food parcels salvation

241 March 12/92

Argus campaign means festive cheer for poor

SHARKEY ISAACS, Staff Reporter

HUNDREDS of the city's poorest families have something to look forward to at Christmas thanks to the generosity of readers who have contributed to The Argus Food Campaign.

Municipal health department officials will deliver a double round of food parcels to more than 1 000 families. Hampers will contain normal rations and extra parcels of Christmas fare.

The "reach out and give" Christmas gift programme was launched at Retreat Clinic this week.

Among those queuing were Mrs Rhonda Mala, a mother of four, Mrs Molly Matthys, a middle-aged mother of a small child, and Mr Cornelius Julius, a destitute Retreat father forced to stop work because of failing health.

Mr Julius said "Our families depend on a food parcel and look forward to it. It's not much but we would have starved long ago without it."

Another grateful recipient said "Thank you Cape Town for bringing us something extra in the spirit of Christmas."

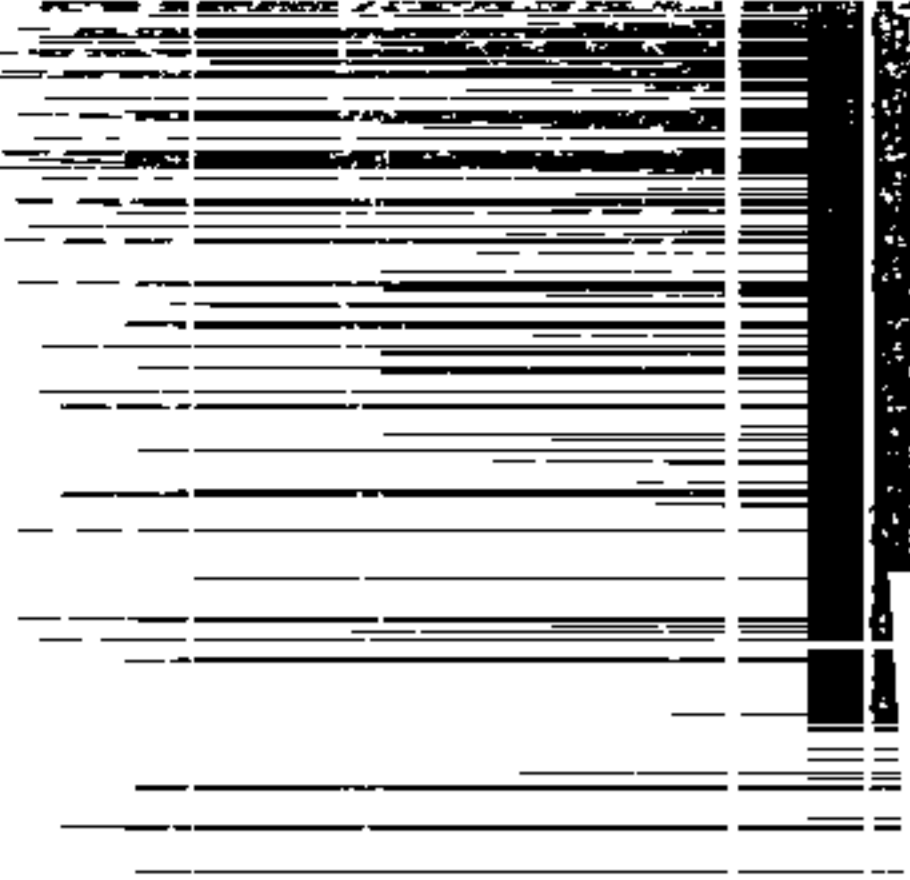
The clinic is one of The Argus Food Campaign's 21 municipal distribution centres, which provide aid for more than 25 000 needy people in the Peninsula.

Medical officer of health Dr Michael Popkin said "Thanks to the generosity of readers there is something extra at Christmas for those who are ill or over



Picture: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus

CHRISTMAS CHEER: Happiness is etched on the faces of Argus Food Campaign recipients Mrs Marylyn Jenniker, right, and her daughter, Josselin, as city model Michelle Bam, left, swaps roles with distribution staff to bring Christmas cheer to Cape Town's poor at Retreat Clinic.



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"crowding and undernutrition."

"Christmas is a time for considering the needs of others and giving. The campaign helps the needy and poverty-stricken to rise above their circumstances at this time and to realise something of the true meaning of Christmas."

Readers rallied to aid the fund throughout the year and reserves now stand at R135 000.

Among the latest contributions was R700 from the Southern Life Staff Charity Fund. Other gifts were from Y C Jappie (R150), F O Wanda (R120) and anonymous gifts totalling R150.

● Cash contributions should be sent to The Argus Food Campaign, Box 15399, Vlaeberg, 8018, or Box 298, Cape Town, 8000.

Cheques must be made out to the Mayor's Relief Fund. Offers of food may be made to the office of the MOH at 400 2882.

SI Times
20/12/92
Mother Teresa to visit SA

By ROY RUDDEN

MOTHER TERESA of Calcutta is due to arrive in Durban early next year to establish a refuge for victims of violence, and the poor and homeless.

This was confirmed this week by Mrs Margaret Cullis, international co-president of the Co-workers of Mother Teresa which has six million members throughout the world — 20 000 in South Africa.

Mrs Cullis, who shares the movement's presidency with her husband, David, said a new community of nuns would work in the Durban home. It will be the second in South Africa. The first was opened by Mother Teresa at Khayelitsha in the Western Cape in 1988.

Her organisation hopes that Mother Teresa will be in Durban as early as next month, but this depends on the 82-year-old Nobel Peace prizewinner's many commitments.

Two previously planned visits to South Africa had to be cancelled at the last moment.

Aid groups seek long-term gains

STEPHEN COPLAN

MAJOR relief agencies would be more critical of funding in the future, shifting emphasis from short-term gain to long-term "community-building development", World Vision Southern Africa director John Allwood said at the weekend.

He said the development aid organisation had realised relief programmes could not work if structures were not in place and strong enough to continue improvement and sustain development. Immediate aid relief increasingly created a dependent society, Allwood said.

Donors were focusing on receiving some sort of return on their investments, preferring to establish productive infrastructure and to impart expertise rather than handing over cheques for the "starving millions".

"Development organisations such as World Vision want to be involved in long-term upliftment and growth programmes to ensure a future labour force and productive workers for ongoing improvement and progress," Allwood said. Aid should be invested so communities could eventually support themselves.

21/12/92
B/DAY

241

Her staff believe she does not know the meaning of the word tired. On field trips in remote rural areas she goes for hours without eating or drinking

But one thing that never fails to move her is the sight of a hungry child

"The day I get used to human suffering is the day I know I must quit," she says "I am lucky I do not weep I just get very angry, which makes me even more determined to do something about the unnecessary hunger being suffered by so many in this country."

From boardrooms around the world where she raises funding for self-help projects to dusty,

PROFILE

SI TIMES 27/12/92

drought-stricken areas she is greeted with the utmost respect and love — but she is in her element in a place where Operation Hunger has given a community the opportunity to take their lives back into their own hands

She first became conscious of the poverty and hunger she has devoted her life to fighting as a young girl growing up in Port Elizabeth. She became aware that there were children being raised in "rags" and people who were "in one hell of a condition

basically because they were black and for no other reason"

"I knew that I had to work with the disadvantaged, and from the beginning I have loved every minute of it. I have seen many changes over the years, especially in the attitudes of white and black South Africans," she says

"Since Operation Hunger began 12 years ago we have gone forward in faith. We have faced difficult times, often with only enough money left to last for about three months

those who work closely with her also know she has a "wicked temper" and can be "incredibly stubborn"

But the staff who are often driven to despair by her anger unashamedly consider her the "greatest woman alive"

During the first six years of its existence Operation Hunger had a fairly low profile. In 1986 continuing drought and unemployment brought a surge in demand for help, and the organisation had to double its budget

The launch of the first R1-million Gold Rush made Operation Hunger a household name, and changed the face of fund-raising in South Africa

"That year, for the first time, 90 percent of our money came from South Africans, and since then people have supported us generously"

But malicious rumours have cost Operation Hunger — which feeds 1.6-million people — money

These range from urban legends about the organisation paying for cosmetic surgery for Zinzi Mandela — who works with Mrs Perlman — to the most recent rumour that Operation Hunger footed the bill for her lavish wedding in October

Despite repeated public denials, the stories continue to do the rounds at dinner parties in South Africa's most exclusive suburbs

"It's all garbage — all of it. If I could get to the source of these malicious rumours I would take legal action immediately," Mrs Perlman says

"Far from Operation Hunger footing any bills for the Mandela family, Nelson Mandela is one of our most faithful donors — and it comes out of his own pocket, not from the ANC coffers. He would



BOUNDLESS ENERGY ... Ina Perlman. 'I have loved every minute of it' Picture: ANDY KATZ

27/12/92 S/Times

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FOR the past 12 years the woman whose name is synonymous with Operation Hunger has seldom turned her mind from southern Africa's starving millions. The project is Ina Perlman's obsession.

If it has weighed on her, the only evidence is the cloud of cigarette smoke that envelops her as she sits behind her desk in Braamfontein, Johannesburg.

At the age of 66, her capacity for work is astonishing. Field workers and assistants say her energy is boundless, and those half her age battle to keep up

Ina sheds no tears, but rages at hunger

SUNDAY

"But, somehow, a small miracle has occurred each time, and the goodwill of many South Africans has saved us and the hungry people we feed."

Happily married for the past 45 years with four children, she is not afraid to speak her mind, and

be the last person on earth to take money out of the mouths of starving children."

Financial control of Operation Hunger's funds is stringent. No cheque for more than R200 is issued without Ina Perlman's sig-

nature, while those for R500 or more require not only her approval but that of the financial director as well. Regular audits are also carried out by a highly reputable international firm.

Retirement is something Ina Perlman is preparing for, though she has no plans to step-down yet.

"When my deputies tell me they are ready to take over, I'll know it's time — but I don't want to go out with a whimper. I still have a lot to do, and even when I retire as executive director it doesn't mean I'll stop doing what I love most, which is helping those who are in need."

Jocelyn Maker

POVERTY

1993

JAN - SEPT.

Bop accused of hindering drought relief work

Blom 13/1/93
DROUGHT relief workers were being refused access to areas of Bophuthatswana by the homeland's government despite severe water shortages affecting thousands of people there, northern Cape relief worker Junior Nkabo said yesterday

Nkabo said Bophuthatswana government officials regarded with suspicion the Consultative Forum on Drought — a joint government-development agency initiative — because ANC aligned organisations were involved with it

The most critical areas were the

(100) (241)
RAY HARTLEY

Kudumane district and the Dithakeng area, which had been designated "red areas" by the forum as they were in need of urgent intervention, he said

A Bophuthatswana Water Supply Authority spokesman denied yesterday the forum had been refused access to the homeland

He said it was "advised to liaise with the office of the governor (of Kudumane district)"

But Nkabo said the governor's office had consistently refused the forum permission to begin emergency water supply operations through its Water Supply Task Force *(S)*

The only sources of water for about 2 000 residents of Dithakeng were shallow wells, used by livestock, which dried up from time to time and had become health hazards

The Bophuthatswana spokesman said water supply problems in the area had been attended to, with five pumps being installed to supplement existing resources

Thousands of jobs on the line

Ford to merge with Amcar

By DAVID FURLONGER
Industrial Editor

FORD and Anglo American have agreed to merge their motor manufacturing operations in SA

The new company — combining Ford SA and Amcar Motor Holdings — will be known as the South African Motor Corporation (Samcor), in which Anglo will hold about 60% and Ford Canada about 40%

Ford SA is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ford Canada

The final ratio will be decided once Ford and Amcar have completed auditing their 1984 accounts. According to Mr Les Boyd, chairman of Amcar, the share will be based on the net worth of the two companies

Samcor is expected to come officially into existence in March and will receive an immediate injection of R200m in new equity, cash and subordinated loans.

The R200m will be provided by Ford Canada and by Amcar's backers, Anglo American Corporation and Anglo American Industrial Corporation. The decision on who pays what will be taken once the final share of ownership has been decided.

Mr Boyd will become chairman of Samcor. Mr Spenser Sterling, managing director of Amcar, will be managing director and chief executive, and Mr Tom Williamson, a Ford US executive, deputy managing director.

Ford is now SA's second largest vehicle manufacturer and Amcar the third. Together they account for about 25% of the car market and 20% of the truck market.

Mr Boyd expects Samcor to have a turnover of R1bn a year with total assets of more than R700m.

Announcing details of the merger in Johannesburg yesterday, he said he expected Samcor to make a loss in 1985, then start to break even or even show a small profit in 1986 as the benefits of rationalisation began to filter through.

"By 1987, we have every confidence we will be making a profit."

Mr Lindsey Halstead, vice-president of Ford in North America with responsibility for Ford SA, said the merger was made necessary by SA's overcrowded vehicle market in which 11 car manufacturers and 17 truck manufacturers competed for a combined market of only 400 000 vehicles.

He added it was part of a worldwide trend in which motor manufacturers were increasingly recognising the advantages of co-operation and joint undertakings.

Blaming economic pressures, intense product competition, government restrictions and limited markets, he said. "The nature of the global automotive business has changed so remarkably over the past six years that Ford simply cannot continue to do business as in the past."

Although a final decision has yet to be taken, Ford seems certain to close its Neave plant in Port Elizabeth, with the loss of 2 000 jobs. Production of the Escort car and the Bantam and One-Tonner bakkie ranges will be transferred to Amcar's Silverton plant, near Pretoria.

Amcar also hopes to close its 150-man Port Elizabeth truck operation and move that to Silverton.

Hundreds more jobs could be at risk in component feeder industries.

Mr Boyd said yesterday, "Our studies indicate that we could produce all the vehicles we will require in the two most modern plants, Amcar's Silverton assembly plant and Ford's Struandale assembly plant in Port Elizabeth. "Hence in the course of the next several months we will review and reach conclusions on the transfer of production of Amcar's truck plant in PE and Ford's Neave assembly plant to Silverton, thus increasing production there from its present 50% of capacity to close to capacity on a single-shift basis."

At the same time, we will continue production at Ford's engine plant at Struandale. We will be achieving the improved efficiencies we are seeking and taking positive steps to ensure the new company's long-term success.

"The specific timing of these actions is still to be determined but it will take up to 18 months to complete manufacturing rationalisation."

Mr Boyd said Samcor would work closely with unions and the Government to minimise the effects of the rationalisation on the Eastern Cape.

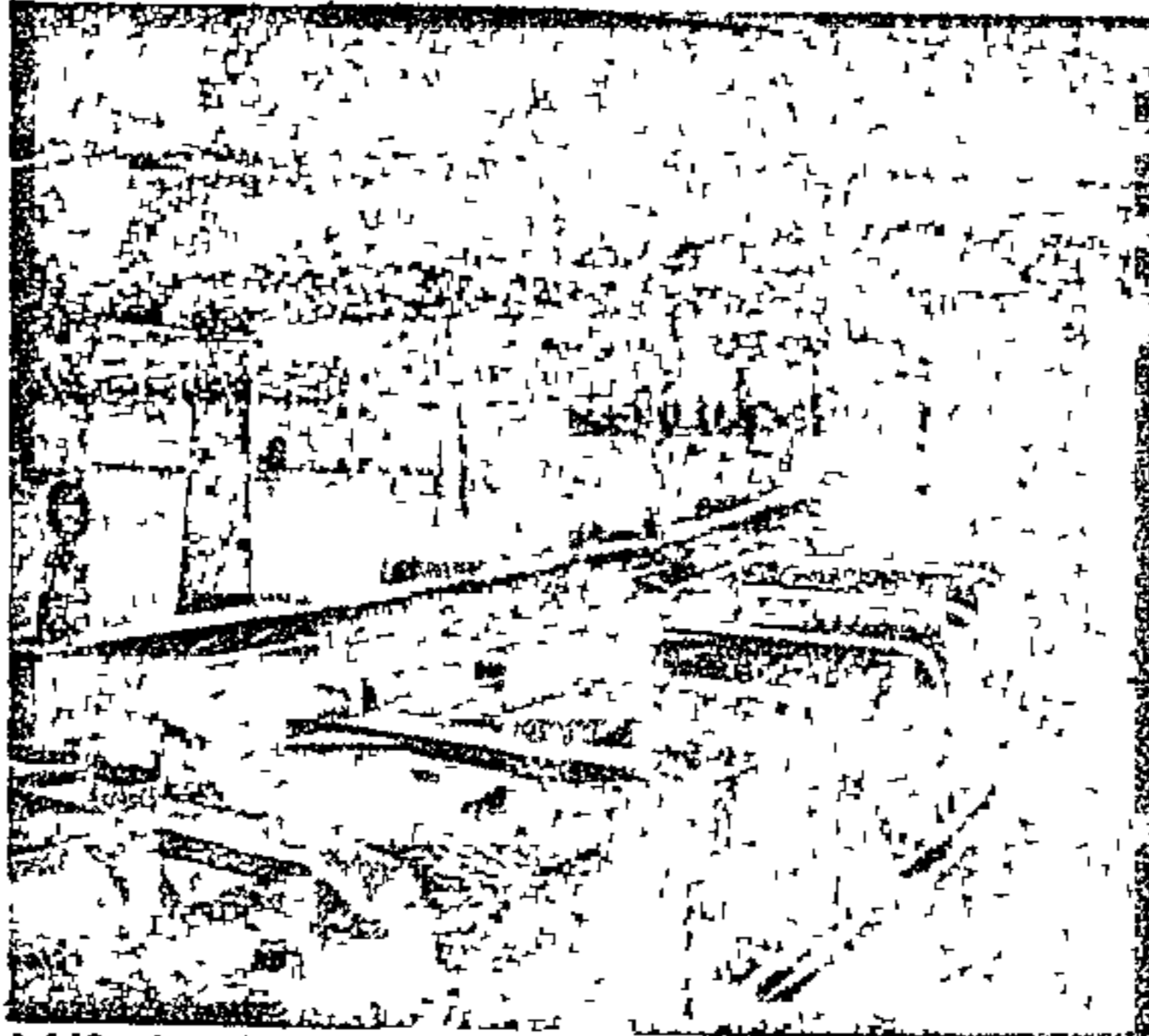
"The new company will be well aware of its responsibilities to employees and the community"

Mr Halstead said both Ford and Amcar would continue to use separate dealer networks once the merger was completed. Despite strong speculation that certain Ford and Mazda cars models might be merged into one, he said no such decision had yet been taken.

The Competition Board last night gave its go-ahead to the proposed merger.

Its chairman, Dr S J Naude, said in a statement, "Based on the information currently at its disposal, and due to the considerable rationalisation advantages of the merger, the board is not aware of any circumstances which do not justify the merger in the public interest."

See Page 3



A 140m long flexible conveyor train undergoes a surface trial at Joy Manufacturing's Stealedale plant. The system is to be introduced at Sasol's Middelbuit Colliery and is claimed to be a major advance in underground coal mining technology. See article P6

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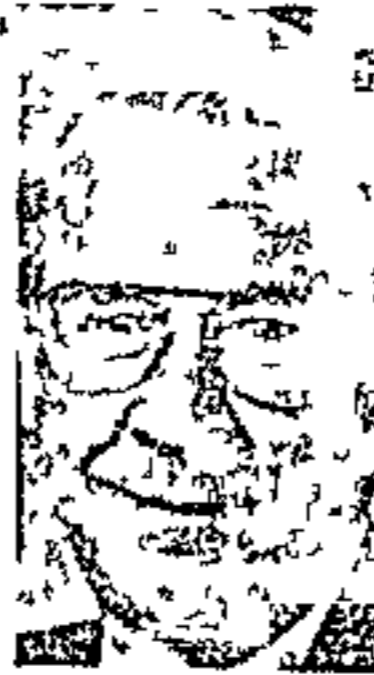
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See Page 3

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Mr Sammel said yesterday he still intended to force a meeting of Egoli shareholders at which he would confront the directors.

Egoli attorney, Mr Monty Koppel, said yesterday he was considering taking steps to bring a charge of criminal libel against Mr Sammel.



HALSTEAD
worldwide trend

Egoli refutes Sammel claims

By BRENDAN RYAN

EGOLI has refuted the allegations made against its directors by Mr Horace Sammel

The company's rebuttal to the charges raised by Mr Sammel was made available yesterday and is being posted to all shareholders

It reveals that Mr Sammel, in his research for his attack on Egoli and three of its directors, missed a key document — readily available to shareholders — which invalidates his most serious charge against the three directors

Mr Sammel alleged that Mr Joe Berardo, Mr Tony Netto and Mr Don Grant-Hodge were guilty of unlawful non-disclosure during the deal in early 1981 when Egoli took over the entire issued share capitals of West Witwatersrand Mineral and Mining Corporation (West Wits) and Johannesburg Exploration and Mining Corporation (Johannesburg Exploration)

Mr Sammel based this charge on the accusation that Mr Berardo (the chairman of Egoli), Mr Grant-Hodge (deputy-chairman of Egoli) and Mr Netto did not disclose their interests in the companies which were selling their shares in West Wits and Johannesburg Exploration to Egoli.

He claimed that the Egoli board of directors at no time saw fit in any communication with either shareholders or the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to disclose the interest of the three directors in this deal.

Unfortunately for Mr Sammel that is just not true, as the Egoli directors point out in their rebuttal

On December 19, 1980, Egoli posted a circular to shareholders giving notice of a general meeting for January 15, 1981, regarding "a transaction in terms of which Johannesburg Exploration and Mining Corporation Limited (Johannesburg Exploration) and West Witwatersrand Mineral and Mining Corporation Limited (West Wits) will become wholly-owned subsidiaries of Egoli"

The copy of this report, which forms part of the Rand Daily Mail's library file on Egoli, is stamped as being received on December 23, 1980.

Page two of this document discloses the names and addresses of the directors of the companies termed the vendors of the shares in West Wits and Johannesburg Exploration to Egoli.

Page three reveals the direct and indirect beneficial and non beneficial interests of the three Egoli directors in the issued share capital of Johannesburg Exploration and West Wits.

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Yamani does not see undercutting

GENEVA — Saudi Arabia's oil minister, Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, said he did not expect non-Opec producers to undermine Opec's new pricing structure. Reuter

See Page 11

GOLD SHRUGS OFF OPEC

LONDON — Gold largely shrugged off news from the Opec meeting of a small cut in oil prices and ended at \$320,60/303,10 an ounce yesterday, slightly above an opening of \$302,00/50 and little changed from Tuesday's \$302,40/90 close.

The Opec move had been discounted and the market was fairly quiet.

Sentiment was helped in the afternoon by a steadier trend in silver against the background of an easier dollar.

KPMG to monitor food aid

THE network of KPMG accounting firms in southern Africa has secured a contract to monitor the delivery of 640 000 tons of food to drought-stricken countries in the subcontinent *B/DAY 13/1/93*.

In a statement from KPMG Aiken and Peat in Johannesburg yesterday, the firm said USAid had committed \$430m for food for Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola.

KPMG's role is largely to review consignee accounting and monitoring systems and to recommend improvements that would help cut losses and ensure the food reaches its correct destination. *(241)*

Most of the food will be arriving at SA ports while some is destined for Mozambican and Angolan ports.

The monitoring effort will be overseen by KPMG Peat Marwick in Nairobi (Kenya) and will involve the group's branches in SA, Zimbabwe and Mozambique — Sapa

R2m in farm workers' relief aid 'diverted', says Operation

RJDN 15/11/93

RAY HARNEY

NEARLY R2m earmarked for nutritional aid to Free State farm workers was not getting through to the people who needed it, Operation Hunger and relief officials have claimed.

Money and food parcels from government's national nutrition and social development programme were being claimed by farmers but Operation Hunger field workers could find no evidence that the aid had reached farm workers, the organisation's regional director Judith Mokhetle said.

A total of R1,9m — in the form of food

aid — had been given to farmers for their workers in the province, a Health and Population Development Department statement said yesterday.

The department said a private firm would be contracted to monitor the money's allocation and "establish the effectiveness and efficiency" of the programme.

Special arrangements had been made with Commercial Branch detectives for the department to report cases where aid money was abused or where it was suspected that money destined for the needy was not reaching them.

While the Free State region of the department was not aware of irregularities concerning aid to farmers, cases had been reported by individuals and organisations, but those reporting such cases "were not prepared to do so under oath", the department said.

Free State Agricultural Union spokesman Pieter Moller said the union was confident no farmers were involved in abusing the aid. Local agricultural union chairmen were responsible for checking that aid

money reached farm workers and they would readily assist relief workers with the monitoring of funds, he said.

But a relief worker said many local agricultural unions were, in fact, "obstructive" and refused to divulge the names of farmers receiving aid in their districts.

Farmers in the Dewetsdorp area had received R99 516,70 in nutritional aid last year. But workers on 19 farms in the area said they had received no extra rations or money, the relief worker said.

"The money and aid had been allocated for nutritional aid to 209 farm workers and

Hunger

one farmer, but the distribution of all the money had been undertaken by farmers, according to the relief worker.

The local agricultural union had refused to give relief monitors the names of farmers receiving aid at a meeting late last year, he said.

Moller acknowledged local unions were sometimes reluctant to give out the names of farmers receiving aid, but gave an assurance that the chairmen of local unions would investigate accusations of abuse. He said farmers receiving aid did not want it

To Page 2

Relief aid diverted

From Page 1

to be known that they had difficulties.

Mokhetle said cases of farmers selling government-funded food parcels to their workers for R5 each and pocketing the money had been documented by Operation Hunger.

Farmers actively prevented black field workers from Operation Hunger and other relief agencies from interviewing farm workers in many areas of the province, Mokhetle said. However, the relief workers had devised means of secretly inter-

viewing the workers and had concluded that no relief money was getting through to them, she added.

Moller said local agricultural union chairmen were required to provide detailed accounts of how every cent of aid money had been spent. The money was allocated solely on merit after an investigation, he added.

A total of R14m had been allocated to 86 programmes to reach 155 978 people, Health and Population Development said

Finding the value in all that junk

For the growing subculture of ragpickers municipal waste dumps present mounds of possibilities.

By ROSE TELELA

A RAGGED but neatly dressed man walks among piles of debris, glancing here and there and poking into mounds with his stick. He picks something out, examines it and throws it away shaking his head. Then he kneels, scoops up an empty Coke bottle and puts it in his plastic bag — the first item of his day's treasure

Koos Roberts, a rag picker who operates at a dump between Klijptown and Chiawelo, is a slightly built man. He wears brown pants that are too big, tied tightly around his waist with an old belt, and a clean white T-shirt. When he picks, he trudges around in old white takkies that have become brown with dirt and age. But he smiles often and when he does, he reveals two missing teeth.

Roberts lives in a run-down house in Klijptown with his family of five. He has been out of work for four years and survives by raiding the dumps and begging. "The stuff I pick up sometimes does not help much, but most times it is very helpful," he says. "Old shoes and clothes I can take home to my family or have my wife wash so I can sell them to squatters."

Other items in his picking catalogue include bottles that can be sold, old toys, broken chairs and utensils that can be fixed to use or sell. "Sometimes there is a bottle of alcohol that is half full. This is when I think of myself as lucky," he says.

Dumps in the township are less regulated than city dumps and therefore a picking heaven for people like Roberts. Municipal dump sites have strict regulations about dumping and scavenging. A city dump in Turffontein is surrounded by a high wall and guarded by municipal police. At another dump near West Park Cemetery, people hang around outside, but say they are not rag pickers. Municipal police say pickers are not allowed into the dump. Others say pickers are let in after 5.30pm on weekends.

Township dumps are little pockets scattered throughout the vast expanse of the different areas. Dumping is done by both residents of townships and squatters. Roberts benefits mostly from the refuse of township residents. "What the squatter residents throw out is generally stuff that cannot be reused or sold."

Rag picking can be a highly territorial occupation, often resulting in fierce duels for prime



Never mind the grunge ... Rummaging through the rubbish can be rewarding

Photo: SYLVIA MORESCHE

dumping ground. Some pickers claim certain spots as their beat, but if there is nothing of use on a certain day they move on to other pieces of land. Often squabbles erupt.

"Veteran rag pickers often win the fight," says Thami Dlamini, a 50-year-old picker from the nearby squatter camp. He remembers how yielding dumps were for the enterprising rag picker before people built shacks. "It was just one big mountain of ash and rubbish," he says. "Now all you find are small dumps everywhere. You have to work from one to the next and there are always people at each dump you go to — too many people," he adds.

For Dlamini, it is easier to live off other people's cast-offs than to beg. "I can't find a job and these days people are stingy with food and money. In *e mathukhitwane* (the dump) everything is for free." He says it is not hard to find things among all that rubble. "If you have been in

this as long as I have, you would know exactly where to find things you can use or sell."

Nevertheless, this kind of life is not easy. There are times when there is nothing worthwhile to pick. "And people look at you as if you're mad. Others give you a pitiful look, as if you're an orphan and ridicule you — especially children," he says.

There are special difficulties if you are a woman. "They (men) think they can either claim you or take you under their wing. They don't consider the fact that you are married and you are doing this because your husband is an *usidagwa* (drunkard) and you have to feed your children," says Joyce, who also lives off the refuse. She is obliged to live off cast-offs in order to survive. "I'm not ashamed of it. What else can you do if you can't find a job and your husband is not working?"

Govt extends drought relief

DROUGHT assistance to stock farmers in the summer crop areas had been extended by a month until the end of January, Agriculture Department relief spokesman Mike Walters said yesterday.

He said the decision to shift the December cut-off date was a "special concession" aimed at tiding farmers over after a year of severe drought.

The concession affected disaster aid in the maize triangle, which included areas of the northern Free State and southern Transvaal, he said.

The present relief scheme has enabled farmers in the triangle to claim a 75% rebate on stock feed costs if their farms are located in districts declared drought disaster areas.

If no rain fell this month, crop and stock farmers would

RAY HARTLEY

be in serious trouble and the department would review its position, he added.

In another development, the Rand Water Board reported that rainfall recorded in the Witwatersrand this month was significantly below average for the area.

Only 23,3mm had been recorded to date, while 79,2mm was recorded during January last year and the long-term average for January was 141,2mm.

Dam levels were this week measured at 47,3% — significantly down on 67% at the same time last year. The Vaal dam stood at a low 15,8%, but Sterkfontein was at a healthy 90,5% of its capacity, the board said.

20/1/93
15/10/92

(241)



Africa think-tank begins

STAR 22/1/93

CAPE TOWN — Statesmen attending the Interaction Council summit have called for a conditional cancellation of Africa's foreign debt and have emphasised the need for a free press to check rampant corruption on the continent

The council, a think-tank of eminent international leaders, yesterday began three days of talks on Africa's marginalisation and ways of reintegrating African states into the mainstream of the international system

Former British prime minister Lord James Callaghan is chairing the summit. Other former heads of state include Nigeria's General Olusegun Obasanjo, Zambia's Dr

Kenneth Kaunda, Portugal's Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo and Angola's Lopo Fortunato do Nascimento.

President de Klerk, ANC deputy president Walter Sisulu, Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Nobel Peace laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Mr Justice Richard Goldstone will brief delegates on the political transition in this country

The Cape Town summit, the first to be held in Africa, is mandated to discuss problems such as Africa's economic decline, poverty, illiteracy and ethnic tensions, and to recommend viable measures to bring about changes for the better

The summit's findings and recommendations will be communicated to government leaders

At yesterday's session speakers emphasised the need for stability and security. They concurred that the welfare of the continent's people — not weapons — was the best guarantee for security

The improvement of basic, secondary and tertiary education and the need for regional training were also stressed.

Speakers expressed alarm at the incidence of Aids in Africa. By the year 2000, health officials expect to have more than 6 million registered Aids cases compared with the current 1.7 million — Sapa

Food aid for Malawi 'critical'

8/10 my 22/1/83
KATHRYN-STWACHAN

MALAWI would experience a critical food shortage within a few weeks unless efforts were made to direct supplies to the drought-ravaged country, the World Food Programme warned yesterday.

Food programme spokesman Mercedes Sayagues told a media briefing in Johannesburg it would take up to three months to ship UN food supplies to Malawi. As commercial maize stocks were expected to be depleted at the end of this month, an urgent appeal had been made to other countries in the region to lend part of their food reserves to Malawi. Several rural markets had already run out of grain, she said.

The Harare-based food programme and the Southern African Development Community had also requested that transit countries and transport operators give priority to Malawi-bound shipments.

Sayagues said the crisis had arisen because Malawi was late in placing commercial orders for food, and EC pledges of food aid for the market sector remained low. The "political vacuum" in Malawi had meant vital decisions had been delayed.

But while Malawi was most at risk, Sayagues said, it was not the only country in the region

facing dire food shortages.

The war in Angola had forced the World Food Programme to suspend many of its airlifts into provincial capitals, and nearly 700 tons of stockpiles had been looted during the past few weeks in Saurimo, Malanje and Cuito. The programme was trying to replace the 4 000 tons of food lost through looting and fires since fighting broke out after elections.

And shortages in Tanzania's lake region had prompted the food programme and government to provide 17 000 tons of emergency food aid for more than a million people.

Although rainfall had been good in Zambia and Zimbabwe, Sayagues said, it had still not compensated for the scarce rains last year, and most dams were still less than half full. But the rains had provided a fertile breeding ground for an army worm infestation, which was threatening to destroy maize crops.

And in Swaziland, estimates for this year's harvest were no better than last year's bleak season, she said.

The peace agreement in Mozambique had allowed food aid to reach most parts of the country by airlift or convoy, Sayagues said, but

shortfalls in pledges still threatened to jeopardise the relief effort.

In a recent assessment of this largest drought relief effort in Africa, the World Food Programme and SADC said the operation had been highly successful. Almost 5-million tons of drought-related imports for southern African countries had been delivered to regional ports between April and December last year.

But Sayagues said one of the most important aspects of the operation was that it had boosted co-operation in the region.

Meanwhile, the SADC warned yesterday that southern Africa could suffer severe drought again this year, after being ravaged last year by the worst drought this century, reports Sapa-Reuter.

"We do not want to be alarmist, but we just want to alert the people (of southern Africa) to the possibilities of another drought so they can be prepared," SADC food specialist Reginald Mugwara said in Harare.

"Last year higher temperatures in the eastern Pacific ocean caused the drought, and it looks as though in January and February we are likely to be short of rainfall because of the same factors again," he said.

Ratanda 'tense' after more attacks

8/10 my 22/1/83
GAVIN DU VENAGE

THE ANC feared another major outbreak of violence in Ratanda township near Heidelberg following several attacks on residents in the past few days, the organisation's PWV region spokesman Ronnie Ma-

De Klerk loses white support

8/10 my 22/1/83
LLOYD COURTS

WHILE the ANC was maintaining its popularity among blacks, President F W de Klerk and the NP were steadily losing the support of black and white South Africans, according to a recent Markinor poll.

Markinor deputy MD Christine Woessner said yesterday results of a November poll on socio-political and economic trends showed

who would definitely vote for it.

The SACP was included in the survey for the first time, and found strong support. While only 8% of blacks would vote for the party, 31% said they would perhaps vote for it, and 14% felt good about it.



World Food Programme representative Mercedes Sayagues explains the organisation's plans to alleviate the critical food shortages facing Malawi at a briefing in Johannesburg yesterday.
Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

ANC - ...

POVERTY-stricken families make up a smaller proportion of the rural population than about five years ago, according to a recent study on rural poverty in SA conducted for the World Bank. On the face of it, it seems SA has made some small progress in curbing rural poverty.

The report, based on secondary sources as time was limited, was handed to the World Bank last week. The authors are Simon Bekker and Catherine Cross of the University of Natal's Centre for Social and Development Studies, and Norman Bromberger of the university's economics department.

The study emphasises that numbers of poor have fallen as a percentage of the total rural population. The "very poor" made up 55% of the black rural population in 1990, down from 58% in 1985. The "very poor" are defined as people living in rural households with annual incomes of R2 000 or less (1985 prices). These statistics were derived using an Urban Foundation income distribution model.

It is important to note that absolute numbers did not fall, the growth in the number of poverty-stricken people was slower than the growth in the overall population.

Some academics regard the figures noted in the study as some small progress because of "trickle-down effects". The Urban Foundation income distribution study said "unless economic growth drops to very low levels indeed, further progress against poverty can be expected during the first half of the 1990s".

By contrast, the authors of the World Bank study emphasised that a statement on "across-the-board gains against poverty" was open to question. "It is questionable whether or not the apparent small percentage decrease in the proportion of rural households in poverty represents a significant gain in rural development terms".

Are the trends in rural poverty over 1985-1990 to be viewed as progress or not? Do these trends signal any important conclusions for policy formulation? One needs to examine the economic factors that have affected rural poverty.

Placing the rural poor of SA on the economic agenda

Alamy 25/1/93.

GRETA STEYN

The study notes that economic growth in the homelands (including the TBVC states) has been more rapid than the rest of the country, both in aggregate and per capita terms. Gross Geographic Product per capita in the homelands rose at almost 6% per year in the late 1980s, compared with less than 4% in the 1970s and 5% in the early 1980s. In absolute terms, there is still a very large gap between per capita GDP in SA and the homelands.

"To conclude from this, however, that the average black rural homelands household is better off (and that the poor and very poor rural households have also benefited through trickle-down) is too simplistic," the report says. It emphasises the structure of economic growth in the homelands did little to benefit them.

Economic growth in the homelands reflected two factors — firstly, civil servant remuneration and, secondly, large agricultural projects and farmer-settlement schemes. The agricultural projects made large contributions to homelands economic growth, but often made a loss and were too capital-intensive. The study notes that the redistributive effects of these projects on communities were small. It also questions the extent to which civil service remuneration contributes to the redistribution of wealth beyond the urban and rural bureaucratic elites of the homelands. If economic growth in rural areas

should be discounted as making any contribution to alleviating poverty, to what extent did remittances from urban areas play a role? While the number of migrants rose over the last decade, formal employment did not grow at the same rate. There was real growth in black wages in the non-primary sectors, but there was evidence of moderate real wage declines in less skilled occupations.

The flow of real remittances did not rise, the authors argue, and probably fell in the last few years of declining SA GDP since 1989. (They noted, however, that the Urban Foundation model on which the statistics were based assumed a real increase in remittances between 1985-1990).

The possibility that better conditions in the cities were "trickling down" to rural areas was further scotched by trends in urban poverty. The study notes that in the five years since 1985, poverty in urban areas had risen by 28%. "The rapid rise in the numbers of urban poor represented poverty 'exported' from rural districts.

The authors recommend implementing public works programmes linked to infrastructure and service delivery. They also call for assistance with agriculture, and education, and skills training, and emphasise the need for effective rural government. Breaking the isolation of rural communities is important.

While the report is yet another in an endless series of studies on the SA economy, its analysis focuses on the truly destitute. It places the 17-million people defined as "poor" firmly on the economic agenda. Economic policymakers should take note when they decide on matters such as the zero-rating of VAT, equalisation of pensions, job creation programmes, support for small business, support for capital-intensive export projects, and monetary and fiscal policy.



A relative decline in rural poverty is partly due to its "export" to the cities



RECESSION'S LEGACY - The De Araujo family, and many others like them, have been forced on to a Rosebank parking lot to try to make ends meet. At the mercy of the public are, from left, Billy (45), Francisco (29) and four-year-old Charlie. ● Picture: STEVE HILTON-BARBER

White hands take to begging bowls

BILLY Moore's heart is not worn on the sleeve of his neatly pressed shirt — it hangs around his neck in the shape of a placard proclaiming his adversity. Unemployed. Please help.

This is no meths-soaked hobo on the make. Billy is a presentable young man with three years' experience in the hotel trade. The recession robbed him of his job and pride, and forced him into a parking lot outside the Rosebank Mall.

"I'm dying of embarrassment. It took me days to pluck up the courage to do

this but I really have no alternative," he says.

"I've tried everything to get a job but, short of working in an escort agency, there's nothing available."

At least Moore (27) is a bachelor, although he has had to support two younger children since his father committed suicide last year. A self-inflicted bullet wound ended his financial misery.

"Look, standing here takes guts. But I've been through worse and I'm positive something will turn up," he says.

A few metres away, the entire De Araujo family depend

on the generosity of the public.

Last year, both Francisco de Araujo (29) and his father Billy (45) were retrenched from the same firm where they had worked as machine operators.

To top it all, Francisco's wife lost her job as a computer operator, and with three children — two at a Model C school — it became impossible to make ends meet.

"We're not begging. We're advertising unemployment,"

quips Francisco, who wears his sense of humour like a bullet-proof vest. "We used to live in luxury but gradually we had to sell everything off just to keep a roof over our heads."

"Standing here like beggars is nerve-racking, but it's better than stealing. We're honest men just looking for an honest job I can fix just about any machine."

"I'd love to start my own business, but there's simply no capital available. Just trying to scrape enough money together for rent and food is hard enough."

The public is generous. One young man buys the De Araujo family a bag of groceries. Another presses R5 into Moore's hand, but some appear visibly shocked.

"It's embarrassing to see white people begging like this. But if this is the new South Africa, we'd better get used to it. The scary thing is knowing that this could happen to any of us," commented one Rosebank resident who did not wish to be named.

Anyone who can offer any of these people employment can write to 2 Moffat Street, Forest Hill 2091.

STAR 30/1/93

CAROLINE HURRY (24)



Aid streamlined to help the poor

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Existing social and emergency aid schemes had been rationalised into one programme in a bid to relieve the distress of the growing poverty-stricken population, National Health Minister Rina Venter said yesterday. **BIDAM 23/9/92**

The aim was to provide primary health and social care through "one stop" services at community level.

The country needed a social security network that would make a meaningful difference to the lives of more than 12-million poor people, said Venter.

The nutrition programme, a planned national social relief programme and drought relief programmes had been merged to form the National Nutritional and Social Development Programme, to be implemented without discrimination.

Speaking at a Cape Town Chamber of Commerce function, Venter said a priority of the programme would be alleviation of acute malnutrition and improvement of the nutritional status of the population.

The new programme would also aim to provide crisis relief to people in such dire need that they were unable to provide themselves and their families with the most elementary necessities.

Relief for drought-stricken farmers and their workers was also on the agenda.

She said of the R440m set aside in the current budget for poverty relief, R19,65m had been made available to the programme. Of this, R10,3m had been allocated to various organisations while applica-

To Page 2

Aid **BIDAM 23/9/92**

tions amounting to R7,62m were being considered.

Only R110m of the R440m was still available during the remaining seven months of the financial year.

Venter said it had been estimated that the needs of only 10% to 15% of the identified target group of 9-million people could be met with the sum allocated in the current budget.

Stressing the great need for co-ordinated relief programmes, Venter said it had been estimated that 11,8-million people were living below the minimum subsistence level in 1989. The situation had worsened

since then.

These statistics highlighted the need for job creation programmes, solutions to socio-economic problems and the need for an appropriate social security network. Venter also stressed the necessity of private sector responsibility.

She said there had been an urgent need to rationalise existing social security measures within the government sector. Currently there were six emergency funds administered by her department.

The programme would support the participation of communities in their own welfare, and the development of self-reliance.

From Page 1

Food aid demand increases

BIDM 25/9/92
DROUGHT, political violence and economic woes had swelled the number of families seeking food aid from Operation Hunger, executive director Ina Perlman said in her report for the financial year

Mounting demands for relief aid had forced the organisation to reverse its principle of independence and accept financial assistance from government, Perlman said

Under government's R220m hunger relief programme, Operation Hunger had received R10m "after a five-month battle"

Perlman said a steady slide in the economy, increasing unemployment, retrenchments on the mines, violence and the return to rural areas of people fleeing warfare had swelled numbers seeking assistance

"It is worse, much, much worse than we anticipated," she said

(24)
 "Field trips are journeys of discovery into previously uncharted depths of misery, human suffering and want"

Perlman said the organisation would have to halve its rations in September, knowing this would affect more than 2-million people

In the northern Transvaal, which has been devastated by drought, 269 000 people were receiving food aid. "Prospects are frightening," regional director Johann Rissik said in his report

Rissik expected an increase of between 20% and 60% in numbers seeking relief from Operation Hunger

The organisation was feeding 250 000 in the Free State, 350 000 in the eastern Cape and Border region and 102 000 in the western Cape

In Transkei, Operation Hunger was feeding 70 000 children at 350 schools and creches

About 60 000 people threatened with starvation were waiting to be placed in feeding schemes in the eastern Cape and Border, said regional director Glynis Baer

The drought had also affected vegetable-growing schemes started by the organisation in Hammanskraal, Mafikeng, Rustenburg and the Free State

Deputy director for relief and development Mpho Mashumi said that of the large-scale agricultural schemes started a year ago, only 1 000 farmers in KwaZulu had a chance of yielding 30% of their harvest

"It is no longer a case of part-intervention. All intervention must now be 100%," he said.

Perlman said "Central to all our thinking these past 12 months has been that hugely increased relief must be linked to long-term development" — Sapa

Public transport revamp facing many challenges

BIDM 25/9/92
PRETORIA — Lack of development finance and an urbanisation strategy were two barriers in the way of solving the problem of an adequate public transport system in the PWV, TPA MEC for roads Ahmed Arbee said yesterday

He said a public transport study by a consortium appointed in 1990 by the TPA was on course and more than 200 problem areas had been identified. Among them were the poor quality of public transport services and facilities, lack of co-ordination, unplanned development, and the fact that only certain public transport modes received subsidies

Arbee said the challenge facing transport planners in the PWV area was to provide public transport for a population of 12,8-million people in an urbanised area of 210 000 hectares by the end of the century

The population of the PWV increased from 7-million in 1985 to 9-million in 1991. A projected rate of increase of 3,8% a year would increase it to 12,8-million by 2000

Provision would, therefore, have to be made for an increase in the transport requirements of 3,8-million people over the next eight years

"The picture looks bleak if all the associated social costs are taken into account," Arbee said it was important to acknowledge transport was as

(24)
GERALD REILLY
 legitimate a need as education, housing and health

Currently only about 51% of the increase in the worker population could be absorbed by both the formal and informal economies. Close analysis revealed only 5% were absorbed by the formal sector

The absorption rate of the formal economy was likely to steer transport even more in favour of public transport in future. The study showed this trend would be supported by decreasing per capita incomes in the PWV area, Arbee said

He said the PWV economy could not absorb the work-going population increase of 3,9% a year since 1985

In addition to the 333 000 people without work in 1985, 417 000 workers had since become unemployed, the study showed

The limited capacity of the informal sector had also been stretched by about 673 000 workers finding a livelihood within it

Arbee said 82% of all commuters in the low income group used public transport

More than 250 representatives of interest groups were invited to the consortium's first series of group discussions, aimed at pinpointing transport problems. A further series of meetings was planned for October

Fruit and greens earned R1,51bn

(24)
RAY HARTLEY

(24)
SA FARMERS sold 2,4-million tons of fruit and vegetables worth R1,51bn at 15 markets across the country in 1991, producer representative Philé van Zyl said at the SA Agricultural Union fresh produce conference yesterday

This represented an increase in volume of 1,65% a year

About 20 000 producers traded at fresh produce markets, generating about 17-million transactions a year *BIDM 25/9/92*

Producers wanted fresh produce markets "in every centre" and existing markets expanded

Johannesburg City Council informal trading chief officer Dinkie Pillay told delegates the informal sector accounted for 15% of GDP and employed about 35% of the labour force *25/9/92*

Phile said the informal sector provided significant opportunities which could be exploited by business and farmers

Meanwhile, the Milk Producers' Organisation decided at its annual meeting in Port Elizabeth yesterday that the industry needed selective deregulation.

MPO chairman Boy Blackenberg said a working committee had been established to investigate the long-term effects of deregulating the industry

Drive to rout hunger moves into top gear

STAR 26/9/92
Computer link
tracks food
across world

RORY CHANNING

A HUGE drive to stave off famine in southern Africa is moving into top gear, oiled by high-tech computers keeping track of a food supply line stretching round the world.

With the region hit by the worst drought this century, the operation has South Africa and its black-ruled neighbours working together on an unprecedented scale.

"If you look beyond this project to what it could mean for regional co-operation and use of infrastructure, the sky is the limit," project spokesman Jacques Pienaar said.

The operation, roughly halfway through its expected life-span, is the biggest of its kind when measured by the amount of food to be delivered and the 10 countries involved.

Relief grain is tracked from its origin to its final destination using computer technology which helped rebuild Kuwait after the Gulf War.

Pienaar expects the operation, launched in time to prevent mass starvation across the region, to hit top gear next month.

"We have not had widespread famine. We have prevented that, except for parts of Mozambique," said Pienaar, spokesman for Spoornet.

Since the project's first food shipments arrived in South Africa in April, more than 3.3 million tons have passed through the ports of Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and the enclave of Walvis Bay, still administered by Pretoria.

A million tons of this has already been taken north by train into neighbouring states, the main lines snaking hundreds of kilometres through Mafeking into Botswana or via Beit Bridge into Zimbabwe.

Project advisers estimate the region's food import needs at 10.83 million tons over the year.

All but a million tons of this will be handled by South African ports, which will reroute more than 3.8 million tons through the so-called Southern Corridor to landlocked neighbours Botswana, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho and Swaziland.

Food is also reaching the needy through three other rail corridors — from Walvis Bay, Dar es Salaam, and Beira and Maputo.

The Southern Corridor nerve centre, the so-called Grain Operations Control Centre (GOCC), is in the Johannesburg headquarters of Spoornet. Resembling a war operations command post, with large maps tracking sea and rail shipments, it is staffed by officials from Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and SA's port and rail networks and its Maize Board.

The Southern Corri-

dor strategy group, which meets monthly, also includes an official from the 10-nation Southern African Development Community and the UN World Food Programme.

South Africa is expected to import 6 million tons of grain for itself and for neighbours such as Lesotho and Swaziland this year.

Challenge

Industrialised nations, however, have pledged more than \$525 million (about R1 470 million) as drought relief.

The logistical chal-

THE Mozambican refugees spoke in quiet tones. There was no laughter. In their eyes you could see their painful, silent expressions of hunger and fear.

It was this stark image of suffering that changed the life of British immigrant Pat McDougall. She came, she saw — and then she helped.

Now, the 50-year-old housewife is all but mother to the 11 252 unwanted people living at the Humalami refugee camp in the homeland of Gazankulu.

Pat, who has four children of her own, is the only white volunteer in the camp, and her small open bakkie is the only form of transport available to the people there.

She is the one who collects corpses from the hospital in the South African township of Namagale, a few kilometres away.

Vicious

Her bakkie is used as a hearse and she ferries coffins into the camp so the people can bury their dead nearby.

Late at night, when she hears that refugees have been arrested on South African soil, Pat is the one who gets out of bed to visit the people being held in police cells.

The sight of them often makes her angry — she knows they will be taken to the border post at Komatiapoort, where they are dropped off in their war-torn, drought-ravaged country.

"It is all one big vicious circle," she said. "Often men and women and teenagers who are arrested never make their way back

MOTHER OF MERCY

^{S/Times 27/19/92} I walked into the hut and saw something under pieces of newspaper lying on the ground. I lifted the newspaper and looked straight into the staring eyes of a dead two year old

"Parents who have little children in the camp are picked up as they try to find work in the town or on the farms. When this happens, their children are orphaned, causing even more pain and suffering.

"Of all the people I have seen behind bars, there are only two I know of who have ever made it back into South Africa."

Pat is also the firebrand who takes on businessmen in nearby Phalaborwa to get their waste food and vegetables for the nutrition centre which feeds babies and children suffering from kwashiorkor and malnutrition.

She crosses two rivers each day after getting up before sunrise to collect damaged and returned bread from a bakery in the town. Previously, the food was fed to local farmers' pigs. She also gets a box of vegetables from a supermarket chain store.

"I came to Phalaborwa from Birning-

²⁴¹ pieces of newspaper lying on the ground. I

lifted the newspaper and looked straight into the staring eyes of a dead two year old.

For the first eight months, I was desperately lonely and knew I had to do something with my life," she said.

"I called the local Catholic church and Father Jeremiah Daly told me about the camp. In all the time I had lived in the town, I had never heard of it.

"On January 3 1990, I went in I was shocked by what I saw.

"When I got home that night, I battled to work through my feelings. Even though I had seen thousands of miserable people, all talking softly, I knew something was missing.

"While writing in my diary that night, I was baffled by a strange feeling that I could not place. I had been among thousands of people and all that lingered on in my head was the buzzing of their voices.

"I soon found the answer, but it made me sadder than I have ever been before. I had looked into the eyes of starving peo-

ple who had experienced cruelty and horror — and then it hit me.

"There was no laughter. Not one person had laughed while I was there. It was then that I wrote that I had to return — a decision that changed my life totally."

In her diary written after her second day at Humalami camp on January 4 1990, Pat wrote: "Today I was given the rest of my life.

"I have never seen a dead child or held one and I have never had the desire to be present at the birth of a baby.

"But at Humalami today, under the trees which are the only shelter for so many, I was asked if my bakkie could be used for a funeral. A child had died in the camp and the father asked me to go with him to see the body.

"Outside an incomplete mud hut, I saw women on their knees crying. I walked into the hut and saw something under pieces of newspaper lying on the ground. I

lifted the newspaper and looked straight into the staring eyes of a dead two year old.

"The father brought his best belonging an old jacket, which he wrapped the child in. We spoke and I got into the bakkie and drove off to Phalaborwa to buy a coffin.

"When I got back, the grave had been dug and the child was buried. Before I could think straight, another man came up to me and asked if I could help him his wife was in labour.

"He was concerned that a witchdoctor had put her behind some bushes and he left her there to give birth. Her husband picked her up and put her in the back the bakkie.

Scream

"In such a short while, it had been a vehicle of death — and now it was being used to help a new life come into the world. We raced off to the clinic and we got to the entrance, the baby's smile was visible.

"When I drove back into Phalaborwa that afternoon, I looked at all the houses neatly in a row. I looked at the people walking about and I wondered why they all seemed so unaware of what was happening just down the road from their homes. "I got home and, as I write in my diary, I want to scream I want to scream at the world and I want to know why no-one cared."

Two years later, she still doesn't know why no church organisation, except the Catholic church, women's groups or welfare organisations are working among the refugees.

Drought brings hunger and misery

STAN 23/9/92 (241)

MORE THAN half the population of southern Africa — from Angola in the west to Mozambique in the east — is on the brink of starvation.

Health workers on the sub-continent fear that if good rains do not fall soon, tens of thousands of malnourished people, particularly the very old and young, could die from diseases ranging from gastro-enteritis to pneumonia.

Thousands are surviving on the roots of plants and many have to walk kilometres in search of water.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which is co-ordinating relief work in the region, has figures which show that 18.1 million people in 10 countries south of the equator — excluding South Africa — are now dependent on food aid. Without it, death would be inevitable.

In South Africa, Operation Hunger alone feeds 2.2 million people, pushing the figure to more than 20 million.

More than 20 million people in southern Africa are dependent on food aid and if good rains do not fall soon, many could die. Economic reforms are needed to pre-empt droughts, writes WINNIE GRAHAM

been forced to cut basic food rations from 15 kg of maize meal a month to 5 kg.

The position in Malawi where 5.7 million people could not survive without assistance, was no better. In Mozambique another 3.2 million were starving, in Zambia 1.7 million and in Angola 1.4 million she said.

The problem in Tanzania where 500 000 needed help was not as acute. According to the ICRC 250 000 people in Namibia, 75 000 in Swaziland and 170 000 in Lesotho needed aid.

"Botswana is probably the least affected of southern African countries, probably because it does not have an agricultural-based economy," Dr Holloway said. "Just 100 000 people need assistance there."

She believed the worst effects of the drought had yet to be felt. Subsistence farmers, who usually grew enough maize for their own needs and a little extra for cash, had had a crop failure two years in a row, leaving families without food reserves or money.

"People are now being forced to sell their draught animals when the rains come they will have no means of ploughing their fields," she said.

People in the rural areas were sending their children to town so that family and friends could feed them, and urban dwellers with jobs were sending food parcels to family members.

"We are not in a Somalia situation — yet. But there are bad months ahead. It is difficult to know if anyone has actually made people weak and susceptible to all kinds of diseases."

Donors cannot be expected to keep finding money for people starving in Africa. We all know the drought is likely to be repeated. The kind of money being spent on relief would have an enormous impact if similar amounts could be used for drilling boreholes, building clinics and improving housing," Dr Holloway said.

The drought situation in South Africa is considered "far worse than anticipated" by Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman. She described field trips as "journeys of discovery into previously uncharted depths of misery, human suffering and want."

Yet South Africa was better off than other countries in the region, mainly because hunger relief was being linked to long-term development.

Mrs Perlman said "It has been a hard 12 months and the next 12 can only be worse. I believe our determination to have rapid response structures in place when the early-warning lights started flashing in January have paid off. But even if it rains in October, there is no such thing as an instant crop. People will still need help, at least until February 1993 at the earliest." □



Feeding the starving Transvaal youngsters receive food aid from Operation Hunger

Govt 'using hungry to buy votes'

CT 30/10/92
241

PRETORIA. — Operation Hunger, South Africa's biggest food aid charity, yesterday accused the government of playing politics with the nation's hungry in a bid to buy votes in future elections.

Bishop Peter Lee, deputy chairman of the 10-year-old charity, accused the government of denying Operation Hunger funds as part of a political struggle for black votes in future elections.

He said the charity had received none of the R400 million the government had allocated in the current fiscal year to feed the poor until next March.

Bishop Lee said the government had told the charity that funds were being disbursed on a regional basis, which included the 10 homelands. Operation Hunger should ask the tribal territories for the money to feed people in those areas, the government had said.

"The money which is being withheld from us by the South African government is being used as a bribe to try to make us deal with the homeland governments," he said.

Pretoria's aim, he said, was to prop up the homelands for a future electoral

Drought relief a success — minister

PRETORIA. — There has been success in the drought relief effort in southern Africa, but the sub-continent cannot be satisfied that all its people have been spared the effects of the disaster, Minister of Transport Piet Welgemoed said on Thursday.

He was speaking at a ministerial meeting on drought relief co-ordination in southern Africa.

● The vice-president of the Free State Agricultural Union, Mr Japie Grobler, said yesterday worsening agricultural conditions and increasing financial pressure were expected to force about 2 400 farmers in summer rainfall regions to quit.

However, the first good rains of the season, which fell on Wednesday have made farmers in the Transvaal more optimistic. — Sapa

al alliance with the ruling National Party

He said Operation Hunger's soya product needs were being funded by Germany and its development projects by the United States.

Operation Hunger executive-director Mrs Ina Perlman said: "We are unable to take further government funding under the conditions that have been set to us"

Mrs Perlman also appealed to the international community for funds. — Sapa-Reuter

Operation Hunger

lashes out at govt

BLOM 30/10/92.

PRETORIA — Operation Hunger, SA's biggest food aid charity, accused government yesterday of playing politics with the nation's hungry in a bid to buy votes in future elections

At a briefing for diplomats and journalists, Operation Hunger officials said the charity was "responsible for the survival of 3-million people" hit by drought and poverty.

Executive director Ina Perlman, who appealed to the international community for funds, said government was failing in its responsibility to feed the country's needy

Operation Hunger needed R1m a month to buy maize meal for six months from January after EC funding for maize purchases expired.

Anglican Bishop Peter Lee, deputy chairman of the 10-year-old charity, accused government of denying Operation Hunger funds as part of a political struggle for black votes in future elections

The charity had received none of the R400m government had allocated in the current fiscal year to feed the poor until next March

Operation Hunger's soya product needs were being funded by Germany and its development projects by the US, he said

Government had told the charity that funds were being disbursed on a regional basis, including in the 10 homelands, he said

241
Operation Hunger should ask the tribal territories for the money to feed people in those areas, government had said

"The money which is being withheld from us by the SA government is being used as a bribe to try and make us deal with the homeland governments," he said

He noted a large proportion of the people the charity assisted were in the homelands

Pretoria's aim, he said, was to prop up the homelands and thus lay the foundations for a future electoral alliance with the NP

Operation Hunger rejected this

The charity, like the international community, did not recognise the homelands, Lee said.

Perlman said "We are unable to take further government funding under the conditions set for us."

Operation Hunger, after years of private funding, approached government for money for the first time last year and received R10m on a national basis

Lee said the international community, like Operation Hunger itself, should consider homeland residents as South Africans, and thus deserving of aid, while continuing to reject the independent or autonomous status of the homelands

"Help us with cash to stop people from dying for a political purpose," the bishop said — Sapa-Reuter.

Striking it rich ... A woman fresh from Woolworths donates R10 while another digs into her purse

White women can beg — and they score too

W/M and
OK, white folks can't jump so good — but man, are they learning to beg. "Collecting", as Durban's growing band of white beggars prefer to call it, is not an easy way to earn a living.

In 75 minutes one morning this week, I made R30,95 standing with a polystyrene cup outside a cafe in the Durban city centre. It's exhausting, boring, humiliating work.

The first 20 minutes no one paid the slightest attention to me. I felt like another advert on the shop window. To be honest, I discouraged eye contact, trying to settle my own ambivalence about being there.

An elderly man walked past and hesitated, reaching into his pocket. But his wife marched him away.

My luck changed after 40 minutes with the first R1.

Who gives money to desperate white women? Mine came from eight people: two gave R10, one person R5, one R2, three R1s and 95c from a woman who poured coins into the sticky hands of her three year old to "put into that lady's cup". Most "donors" looked well off; six were white, half were men.

Few said anything. Most poignant was an elderly woman who

16/10 - 22/10/92
CARMEL RICKARD *tried*
her hand at begging this
week. She made more money
in 75 minutes than she does
as a journalist, but found
it's not an easy way to earn a
living

shuffled past in broken slippers, a plastic bag with a couple of groceries over one arm. She held out an empty hand and said: "Nothing for you today I'm afraid, my dear. Things are very bad this week."

Moments before the first R10 I felt seriously scared. A good-looking young man walked past me twice, then came up close. I braced for insults, propositions or worse. Instead, he squashed a note into the cup. "Ta," he said, and carried on walking.

A woman fresh from Woolworths, plump plastic bag of goodies over her arm, donated the second R10. As she walked away, she noticed the photographer, lens trained on the "beggar", and began to chat. "What a shame," she said. "My heart goes out to these people. She seems a really decent woman."

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(Thank you ma'am.)

After an hour and a quarter, my body ached and I decided to find out how professional "collectors" manage.

Most of the half dozen I spoke to stand for two or three hours in the morning. That's all they can bear. "Lucy" then books into a place that rents out rooms for the day. Aged 46, she looks closer to 60.

Lucy was the only "collector" who sat on the pavement instead of standing. She said she had worked in the laundry of a Free State hospital until she lost her job because of a back problem.

"You feel very sad doing this work. It is not nice. You get a lot of horrible things said to you. Sometimes people give me money and say, 'Now you'll go and spend it on drinking.' But I don't drink at all. A lot of people come and pray with me. They stop and ask if I am a believer. When I say I am a Christian woman, they kneel down next to me and pray."

Cecilia and Albert "collect" two blocks apart, constantly worrying about each other and earning R18 to R30 a day between them. Albert is 46, Cecilia 55.

He worked for a Johannesburg firm that went bankrupt, then they moved to Durban, hoping their luck would change.

Albert "collects" on bad days; on good days, he replaces striking workers. He has Department of Manpower contacts who tip him off about strikes. "I have worked on strikes since we got here. Dulux, the railways, Union Flour Mills and a drum company. All the big strikes and the little ones — I'm there."

Like all the other women "collectors" in town, Cecilia presents a brave face: clean, neatly dressed — and sober. A qualified credit controller, she hates "collecting" but has been unable to find a job. "I would be happy to work behind a counter or even sweep the floors. But when I apply for a job, they say I'm too old or they want Indians."

"Sleeping on the beach" is the worst fear of all the women. They aim each day to get enough for a room, and only then do they think about food.

●Rickard's R30,95 was handed on to other "collectors"

Grain operation is intricate

By FRED KHUMALO

WITH many parts of the country in the throes of one of this century's most severe droughts, Spoornet has started a massive project to transport food - maize and other cereal - to drought-stricken areas

The operation is to bring 5,4 million tons of grain to SA and another 5,4 million tons to 10 similar drought-ravaged countries in southern Africa to help fight starvation.

It is estimated that 11 million tons of grain will be needed to stave off the looming food crisis.

So far, four million tons of grain have been brought to these shores. The programme is expected to end in April 1993.

"A lot of the food has safely reached its intended destination. Distribution will soon start - but our role is just the transportation to the recipient areas," said Portnet's grain operations control centre manager, Simon Swanich.

The operation initiated by the United Nations World Food Programme is being co-ordinated by Spoornet in conjunction with representatives from Botswana and Zimbabwe.

The massive operation has been

made possible by satellite technology and sophisticated software systems, used in post-war Kuwait, which facilitate the speedy off-loading of thousands of tons of grain on to railway trucks which then transport the grain as far afield as Malawi.

About 8,5 million tons will be routed through the South African ports of Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London and Cape Town, with the balance going via the Mozambique ports of Maputo, Beira and Nacala as well as the Tanzanian port of Dar-es-Salam.

Much-needed food

"We believe the food will reach the people in time," said Portnet's Willem Burger.

But he warned that bad weather, possible labour unrest and port and border bottlenecks could cause delays.

At least 3 000 railway wagons have been taken out of mothballs to provide sufficient rolling stock as ships from countries as diverse as the US, Canada and some parts of Europe keep coming to local ports to deliver the much-needed maize and other cereals.

The railway authority expects 6 000 trainloads to be used in the

year-long operation. Combined, these trains would be 3 000 km long

To guarantee professional efficiency, a 20-man team, with the aid of computers linked by satellite to a mainframe in the US, monitors on a 24-hour basis the movement of every ship from the time it leaves port, mainly in the Americas, until it arrives in SA.

The same computer-based monitoring applies to every trainload and truckload until the shipment reaches its destination.

"In the cases of countries such as Malawi this can be up to three months from the arrival of the ship (in Durban harbour)," said a Portnet spokesman.

Malawi has received 126 000 tons of grain; Zimbabwe has received 812 000 tons; Zambia 195 000 tons; Namibia 82 000 tons; Botswana 93 000; Swaziland 33 000 and Lesotho 70 000.

Angola has received only 2 000 tons - and these have been delivered only in the Unita-dominated southern part of the country.

"Our job is to transport the food. We can't take decisions as to the amount of food to be sent to different destinations," Swanich said.

Charred by the sun and the system

By JENNIFER GRIFFIN

SITTING on an empty 25-litre water container in the scorching midday sun, Ellesa Mkuma stroked her young daughter while they waited for their turn at the water tap. They had been waiting since 5 am.

Dozens of other women with babies and children queued behind Ellesa in Gazankulu. Local rivers remain dry and dead vegetable gardens lie on the parched earth - testament to the worst drought to hit the region in 100 years.

Malnutrition is on the rise and some two million blacks need food aid. Critics say the government's lax attitude and bureaucratic inefficiency have caused it to be slow in helping impoverished rural blacks.

Black farmworkers have been evicted from white-owned farms causing them to form squatter settlements. No factory jobs exist. The mines are not hiring and rural villagers cannot sell their livestock because prices have fallen so low.

SA's maize harvest was down by 60 percent this year, forcing the former exporter to import almost 4,5-million tons of maize.

Those who can afford food often lack the water needed to cook.

"Even though they can buy mealie meal, they say they may not eat for two or three days because there isn't water," said Star Motswege, a field-worker for the Transvaal Rural Action Committee. *Cipres 18/10/92*

The first signs of potential drought came in September 1991, said Mpho Mashini, deputy director of Operation Hunger. Yet the government only began addressing the problem in February 1992 when it voted to allocate R440-million to drought relief that has benefited mostly white farmers, he said.

But the government says it wasn't late.

"One can't say the government in September should have known there would be a drought," said Mike Walters, executive secretary for the government's Drought Action Co-ordinating Centre. "The first indications were when the January and February rains failed."

According to Mashini, Afrikaner farmers were helped first. The government concedes most of the 26 000 farmers given drought assistance were white, but claims R130-million was given to homeland farmers.

Motswege reckons drought relief money never reaches the black farmers it targets. "In some areas you find that the white farmers are the chairmen of the committees for allocating drought relief money," he said.

Overseas engineers have withdrawn from the government's Water Task Force because they alleged the drought emergency has been brought about by long-term neglect.

Len Abrams, director of the Consultative Forum on Drought, said the State uses homeland leaders to administer public drought relief funds, and these homeland bureaucracies are responsible for the infrastructural decay that has allowed the drought to become a disaster.

According to Mashini, "if hunger wasn't being used as a political weapon, we could cope".

ATM cash for needy flows in

By Michael Chester

The credit card bank robots that joined the "Harvest for the Hungry" drive to relieve the drought crisis promise to hit a R1 million jackpot in collections by the end of the month.

They form the nationwide network of more than 1 000 ATMs (automatic teller machines) operated by the Nedcor bank and Perin subsidiaries of the Nedcor Group, which be-

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tween them handle no fewer than 3,5 million transactions a month.

Every time a customer uses one of the robots to draw cash or check an account, Nedcor pledges a 10c contribution to the "Harvest" fund, which it launched in July in a joint exercise with the Star and sister newspapers in the Argus Group.

The 10c coins have grown into a mountain. There may soon be 10 million of them.

"The latest count showed that total contributions from the ATMs had already climbed to more than R700 000," said Nedcor public affairs general manager Theo Coggan yesterday.

"By the end of October, covering the full three months of the 'Harvest' drive to push emergency food shipments to drought victims, the total looks set to pass the R1 million mark. "That, of course, comes in addition to the flow of contribu-

tions from bank staffers and customers who have been encouraged to volunteer donations.

"All in all, the fund has already been able to distribute almost R2 million to feeding schemes in the areas worst hit by the drought disaster. But it must keep flowing for some time yet."

Donations are also being boosted by the special TelStar telephone service run by the Star and Patriot Publishing, which pledges 10c for every call coming in.

ANC and PAC behind famine-relief concert

WILSON ZWANE

INTERNATIONAL and local musicians are expected to converge on Harare for a concert next year to raise funds for famine relief.

The concert, organised by the ANC, the PAC and 10 southern African states, will be the first major concert held for this purpose in Africa.

The event — the Concert for Southern Africa — will be in Harare on April 17 next year.

ANC president Nelson Mandela, PAC president Clarence Makwetu and heads of Angola, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Namibia will be invited.

PAC relief and aid secretary Patricia de Lille said in a statement preparations for the concert began yesterday after the Southern African Development Community approved the project.

"Proceeds will go to the Southern Africa Recovery Fund, whose board of advisers comprises representatives from the ANC, PAC and permanent representatives to the UN from the governments of Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho and Mozambique," she said.

The recovery fund would use concert proceeds to transport food to famine-stricken areas of southern Africa and to sponsor education programmes and workshops on farming techniques and business development.

US-based accounting firm Ernst and Young would administer, manage and disburse the proceeds, the PAC said.

De Lille said world-renowned US musician Quincy Jones would be among the performers. He had been "persuaded" to cancel another concert to support this one. Names of other musicians would be released later. Tickets to the concert will cost US\$4 each.

Homeland, right-wing alliance played down

PRETORIA — Politicians and diplomats yesterday played down the formation of an association of homeland leaders and right-wing groups who have called for the scrapping of Codesa and a review of the whole negotiation process.

SACP general secretary Chris Ham described the partnership as "degrading", saying "every decent black person and democrat in our country is nauseated by the depths into which Chief (Mangosuthu) Buthelezi has now plunged himself".

He called on Inkatha members to distance themselves from the "warm embrace" Buthelezi had given to "diehard white racists". The SACP had been disturbed by many things the leadership of Inkatha had been saying over the past few years "But enough is surely enough", he said.

Andres Treurnicht's CP represented the most backward white farmers who oppressed farm labourers, he said. The NP, while welcoming the prospect of talks on aspects of the negotiations process, has said the meeting between the groups does not constitute a threat.

Secretary-general Stoffel van der Merwe indicated the parties did not have any fundamental basis for co-operation. Inkatha had always opposed apartheid, while the CP was seeking to reintroduce it.

Diplomats said yesterday the group's long-term interests were fundamentally different, although a review of the negotiations process could be valuable.

TIM COHEN

A succession of ambassadors have visited Buthelezi recently, partly to encourage him to rejoin the process, but the meeting on Tuesday rebuffed those efforts.

Political groups venting their frustrations was not a bad thing, one diplomat said, although it did mean that a meeting between Inkatha and the ANC might have to be shelved for some time.

Our political staff reports from Durban that PAC president Clarence Makwetu is due to meet Kwazulu Chief Minister and IFP president Buthelezi today, Thursday to discuss the continuing carriage and interparty rivalry in Umtata.

Makwetu will be accompanied by his deputy Dikgang Moseke and four other national executive committee members.

PAC spokesman Patricia de Lille said the meeting had nothing to do with the recent homeland leaders and right-wing organisations summit held recently.

Other high-ranking PAC officials expected at the meeting will be secretary for projects development Elizabeth Sibeko, legal and constitutional affairs secretary Willie Serati, senior publicity and information officer Siphiso Makhanda, and national executive committee member Joe Mkhwanazi. It is not known which IFP officials will accompany the IFP president, but IFP's national chairman Frank Mdlalose is expected to attend.

North, east desperate for rain

By ^{STAN} Clyde Johnson and Dirk Nel 7/10/92

Many northern and eastern Transvaal communities face economic ruin if it does not rain this month

Although welcome rains fell in the Warmbaths and Nylstroom districts at the weekend, and over many parts of the lowveld last week, more is desperately needed to break the drought.

Over the past few months, drought reports by government officials, organised agriculture and conservationists have described a bleak picture.

Several factors which have brought the rural northern areas to their knees include:

- Thousands of cattle have died in Lebowa, Venda, and Gazankulu. It will take years for livestock farming to be re-established in these areas.
- Most districts in the far north had only 20 percent of their average annual rainfall in 1991/92. This resulted in dam levels dropping to below 20 percent of their capacity.
- Stringent water restrictions are in force in most towns, and thousands of people in the homelands are receiving daily or weekly water supplies by road tanker.
- The drought has caused an increase in unemployment, as farmers and businesses have been forced to retrench workers.
- City markets have suffered

drastically due to cuts in the irrigation quotas of fruit and vegetable farmers in the fertile Tzaneen district.

Conservation officials and game farmers are involved in the extensive feeding of wild animals which can no longer be sustained by the land.

● Fires have destroyed valuable plantations, indigenous vegetation and grazing. The ongoing danger of fires remains a constant cause for concern in the region.

The timber industry has been hard hit by the loss of up to 30 percent of the trees in State and private forests, because there simply is no dampness in the ground anymore.

"It's purely a matter of survival, one day until the next. God only knows how long we can hold out," a desperate lowveld farmer told The Star.

The Kruger National Park, gripped in its worst drought, had between 12 mm and 35 mm on Thursday — just enough to get grass growing.

But just as quickly as the tender young leaves make their appearance the hot lowveld sun scorches them.

The Braam Raubenheimer Dam is presently at a dangerous 19 percent level and unless water flows into it soon, all irrigation supplies to farmers will be stopped.

Nelspruit inhabitants, already subjected to strict water restrictions, will face even sterner measures in the weeks ahead unless it rains

Rains 'must not mark end of aid projects'

By Michael Chester

Special appeals were made yesterday to stress that the first spring rains should not be seen as a signal to relax efforts with emergency aid programmes to relieve the suffering of drought victims

The Independent Development Trust (IDT) said it was crucial to maintain the momentum of schemes to alleviate the disastrous impact of the drought.

"The malnutrition and devastation caused by the drought will not vanish with the first

STAR 6/10/79 2.

rains of the season," said IDT director of health Professor Len Karlsson

"The effects will be felt for some time yet"

Concern about the risk of a premature slowdown in assistance was also underscored by the "Harvest for the Hungry" fund — launched by the Ndecor Group and The Star and sister newspapers in the Argus Group.

Its latest batch of aid packages has taken into account forecasts that assistance will need to remain at full flow over the next three months at least. IDT executive vice-

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chairman Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, who heads the trust's drought relief management committee, said it was vital to press ahead with short-term aid schemes and the development of longer term strategies to safeguard communities from a repetition of the worst repercussions of the drought

In fact, he planned sharp increases in the pace of the R100-million IDT programme of projects to ensure sustainable improvements in water supplies, nutrition standards, the employment outlook and agriculture as a whole.

No fewer than 177 projects had been approved in principle by the end of September — bringing water supplies to as many as 465 000 drought victims and the creation of 950 000 work days for job-seekers helping out in community tasks

A whole series of special

task forces had been set up by the Consultative Forum on Drought that the IDT had founded in a joint exercise with the Kagiso Trust to tackle short and medium-term drought problems.

Particular focus was concentrated on bringing communities themselves into initiatives

"Resources and skills need to be pooled at every level if sustainable community structures are to be built to minimise the impact of future droughts," said Professor Nkuhlu

18-million face starvation in southern Africa UN

NJELELE — The mighty Limpopo River is dry, a broad belt of dirt snaking through a landscape ravaged by a drought that has pushed millions of people to the edge of starvation

Where a torrent of green water hundreds of metres wide should be flowing, there is dust. People say they remember nothing like it "You can't grow anything. The earth is dead," said peasant farmer Hami Mkansi

Across southern Africa the worst drought in 100 years has stripped many areas bare. Villagers in some places eat mud to stave off hunger pains

Fields are patches of windblown dust, hundreds of thousands of cattle are dead or dying and millions of desperate people depend on food from aid agencies

Up to 20-million people, or about a fifth of the population, are struggling to survive in the 10 nations of southern Africa. But aid workers do not expect a repeat of the disaster ravaging Somalia to the north, except possibly in Mozam-

bique, where the UN says 3-million people face death from famine

"With less than 50% of average crop yields anticipated during 1992-93, at least 18-million people face the spectre of starvation," said a UN report.

A quarter of Zimbabwe's 10-million people get food aid, but almost as many have been turned away. Large parts of Swaziland depend on 21 overworked government water trucks.

In SA aid groups feeding at least 2-million people have been forced to cut food allowances because they are overwhelmed by demand "It is worse, much, much worse than we anticipated," said Operation Hunger head Ina Perlman.

Everywhere, the drought's impact has been made worse by incompetence and bureaucratic red tape, politics, corruption and violence

Millions of tons of food must be distributed across southern Africa to help keep people alive until next March and April, when the first crops normally bloom. Average summer rains are expected in many areas, but many impoverished farmers need seed and fertiliser to raise a new crop

Haunted by past African famines, Western nations have been sending food. But some aid has been delayed by lack of transport or tardiness by some donor na-

tions in meeting promises

"Physical condition can deteriorate quickly. Almost overnight, you can reach a situation where people are beyond the point of no return," said John Hicks of the US Agency for International Development.

The problem is exacerbated by the inefficiency of many area governments

Bureaucrats in some areas make hungry people apply in writing for food, aid is sent to areas with food surpluses while famine areas are ignored; and theft takes a daily toll

Zimbabwe sold off 2-million tons of maize in 1991 that was held as food reserves. Now it is importing maize at three times the cost of local crops, putting huge strain on its economy

Food aid in Malawi has been diverted to the north in an effort to calm opposition to the authoritarian government of President Kamuzu Banda

Some European nations cut aid to Namibia after President Sam Nujoma spent almost \$30m on an executive jet. Nujoma said the jet was needed for trips to seek drought aid

In SA, the worst suffering has been in the homelands. "It's been a mess for years, now it's a lot more critical," said Johann Rissik, an Operation Hunger worker in Lebowa. "It's desperate. People are fighting over water." — Sapa-AP

**A focus on
poor whites in a time
of recession**

White poverty at its highest ⁽²⁴⁾ since the 1920s ⁽²⁴⁾

By CAROL GALES

HOW serious is South Africa's modern "poor white problem"?

According to statistics and anecdotes from relief workers, the recession is pushing more whites out of work and into hunger.

●The number of whites fed by Operation Hunger has grown from zero in 1984 to about 100,000. In Pretoria, the number of whites fed by the programme jumped 100 percent between July 1990 and July 1991. *W/Mail 2/10 - 8/10/92*

●Whites are taking menial jobs formerly held only by blacks. "We haven't seen the white work force suffer as deeply as it has in this recession," says John Dawkins, president of the National Association of Personnel Service Organisations.

●With the amount paid out in social relief and unemployment benefits rising nearly every month this year, the government's welfare programme for whites is way over budget. "This situation hasn't been anticipated," says Piet LeRoux, spokesman for the House of Assembly's Department of Health Services and Welfare.

Today's level of poverty among whites is the highest since the government created social welfare to solve the "poor white problem" of the 1920s, according to Brian McKendrick, head of the social work department at the University of the Witwatersrand.

The system gave whites education and health care at little or no cost, non-contributory old age and disability pensions, subsidised housing, plenty of jobs with the government and its businesses, and other support.

In the past five years, that system has largely been dismantled and government businesses privatised. As a result, "the helping network that primarily aided whites is disintegrating", McKendrick says.

Still, the extent and severity of poverty among whites remains small in relation to the plight of black South Africans. Ina Perlman, Operation Hunger's director, points out that five percent of her cases involve whites though they make up 17 percent of the population.

"Certainly, the impression we have is that with the majority of whites affected it has been rough, but one hasn't yet seen the gross malnutrition one sees among blacks," Perlman says.

With the shortage of government welfare funds, whites — including conservative political groups — have mobilised over the past year to help their own.

The Conservative Party created Volkshulp 2 000 to co-ordinate welfare for white people, says spokesman Johannes van der Berg. The programme hands out donated food and helps whites find jobs. It also encourages white farmers to replace black workers with whites.

Werk & Oorleef, an apolitical feeding scheme in Pretoria, started in 1985 with 34 families. Today, it serves more than 5 000 white families in the Pretoria area, according to Kleintjie Pereira, the programme's director. "We aren't racist or anything, it's just that we can't help any further at this stage," he says.

Other indicators that more whites are poor include:

●The number of debt judgments against individuals grew by 26 percent between 1987 and 1991, according to figures from the Information Trust Corporation. And the value of the judgments more than doubled, to R2,2-billion.

●Many white schools are holding parties, dances and raffles to raise funds to buy food for pupils from low-income families. Businesses have donated bread, milk and other food.

●This year the government earmarked R440-million to help South Africa's poorest. LeRoux says his white welfare department hopes to recoup some of its overspent funds from the allocation.

●In a recent Gallup poll, a record 60 percent of whites said they were poorer than a year ago. The poll also showed that 46 percent expect to be poorer next year, while 23 percent expect to be better off. Among blacks, the sentiments were reversed. 25 percent felt their situation would worsen and 39 percent felt it would improve.

Food lifeline for

Rural Survival

STAR 2/10/92

THE HARVEST

for the hungry

THE FLOW of emergency aid from the "Harvest for the Hungry" disaster fund to rush food shipments to victims of the drought crisis has climbed to almost R2 million with a new round of allocations.

Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity are among the latest beneficiaries and now join the growing list of dedicated volunteers running special feeding schemes that will be able to expand their operations in areas hit hardest of all by critical food and water shortages.

An appeal for aid from the Transvaal followers of Mother Teresa won an immediate response when it arrived with an account of their struggle to feed and care for young and old victims of the drought in the De Wildt area outside Pretoria.

The operation — a lifeline to sheer survival for scores of impoverished black families — is run by Sister Kulpashpa, who accompanied Mother Teresa on her recent visit to South Africa and stayed behind to work among "the poorest of the poor" in the district.

A R30 000 donation from the "Harvest" fund will not only cover the modest budget she had earmarked for the distribution of food parcels and health care for local families in the next three months, but also cover the cost of drilling an emergency borehole to relieve chronic water shortages.

Sister Kulpashpa has taken no fewer than 105 families under her wing, including 200 infant children of farm labourers who have been thrown out of work by the drought. The toddlers are given special attention, with extra rations of bread and milk once a week.

The bitter human misery caused by the drought is most graphically described in the appeals for help that come to the "Harvest for the Hungry" disaster fund which was launched two months ago. MICHAEL CHESTER reports.

The distribution of the food parcels that the sisters have been able to deliver only once every two weeks until now

"Mother Teresa's volunteers have underlined the urgency of schemes to relieve famine," says Chris Liebenberg, chief executive of Nedcor, which launched the "Harvest" campaign together with The Star and sister newspapers in the Argus Group two months ago.

"The devastations caused by the drought seem distant to most people in the metropolitan areas that have escaped the severity of food and water shortages. But they become very real when one comes across first-hand experience of the results of the catastrophe from social workers in many rural areas."

Editor-in-chief of The Star Richard Steyn adds "So far, contributions to the Harvest fund have paved the way for assistance to no fewer than 14 charities engaged in the battle to solve the problem of malnutrition.

"All of the thousands of donors and volunteer workers deserve credit. But there is still a long way to go in trying to relieve the sheer desperation of families in a constant struggle for survival.

"Research has shown that more than 2 million South Africans of all ages have fallen victim to malnutrition. Even a return to normal weather patterns and good spring rains will take time to make an impact. Tremendous efforts are still needed to combat the crisis."

Among the new beneficiaries of the scheme are the Sisters of Mercy, who operate not far from Mother Teresa's team in the Winterveld. Along with the Good Shepherd Sisters and the Community of Jesus, they struggle to feed as many as 15 000 victims of malnutrition every week — a total that increases almost daily as new arrivals of refugees from Mozambique join the food queues. The Sisters of Mercy have received R135 000.

The Methodist Church of Southern Africa (northern Transvaal and Botswana) had an urgent need of funds to press ahead with the battle against hunger and thirst in destitute villages north-east of Tzaneen.

The "Harvest" fund has rushed in R100 000 to finance supplies of food parcels and the drilling of more boreholes.

Ikageng Old Age Relief Centre wrote a graphic account of the problems of more than a thousand pensioners in and around Sharpeville and Boipatong that rely on food parcels of milk and mealie meal.

A R45 000 aid package at least covers the cost of hundreds of food parcels over the next three months.

Operation Blanket, whose church volunteers and social workers run a huge programme

that goes far beyond the simple provision of blankets, has been handed R12 000 to carry on its schemes to distribute food parcels to schoolchildren and elderly couples in dire need.

The United Mission Church of South Africa is especially concerned about the plight of families squeezed into the Chawelo squatter settlement near Klipspruit, where problems have been compounded by the influx of farm labourers from rural

areas where the drought has scythed thousands of jobs.

It runs soup kitchens on Mondays and Wednesdays.

The "Harvest" fund has put in R7 000 to keep the modest operation intact.

The ACPFS Community Nutritional Education and Feeding Scheme has listed as a new priority the feeding of schoolchildren who have been found in medical checks to be suffering from malnutrition.

No fewer than 4 000 young victims have already been listed in schools at Munsieville, near Krugersdorp and in Soweto. An allocation of R125 000 promises to cover the cost of daily meals for them in the next three months.

The Valley Trust operates in the Valley of a Thousand Hills in Natal and KwaZulu, where survival has become a daily battle for hundreds of impoverished families.

It has devised a special scheme. Volunteers who lend a hand in various community projects, such as building new roads and bridges, are all allocated coupons which they can use to pay the bill for baskets of food at local stores.

"Harvest" has put in R320 000 to keep the scheme running.

In the eastern Cape, the Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association, which draws R35 000 from the fund, concentrates on feeding schemes for almost 10 000 schoolchildren plus more than 2 000 toddlers of pre-school age.

The association has been active for nearly 40 years — never more so than now, as a result of the drought.

Volunteer Eric McNulty gave an account of children too weak to walk perhaps as far as 10 km to their classrooms — or else fall asleep across their desks in the middle of lessons. □

Rare treat — young victims of the drought crisis settle down on the parched earth of a village in the northern Transvaal to share a meal provided by the Salvation Army, whose hard-pressed budget has been boosted by R500 000 in allocations from the "Harvest for the Hungry" disaster fund.



Churches feed the starving

Staff Reporter (24)

CONCERNED churches in Pinelands are daily feeding scores of destitute and starving people at a soup kitchen at the Western Cape Training Centre in Epping

Over a hundred unemployed people queued up at lunchtime yesterday to receive a quarter of a loaf of brown bread, a cup of soup and 500 grams of mealie meal from Mr W A McDougall, a voluntary worker from the Pinelands Baptist Church

Mr McDougall said it cost the churches about R50 a day to feed the unemployed 2/12/92

"Members of the congregations of the Methodist, Baptist, NGK and the Brethren churches in Pinelands make contributions," he said

Many of the people who came to the centre were desperate. Their families were starving and they were forced to look for work in the cold and rain while wearing threadbare clothes, he said

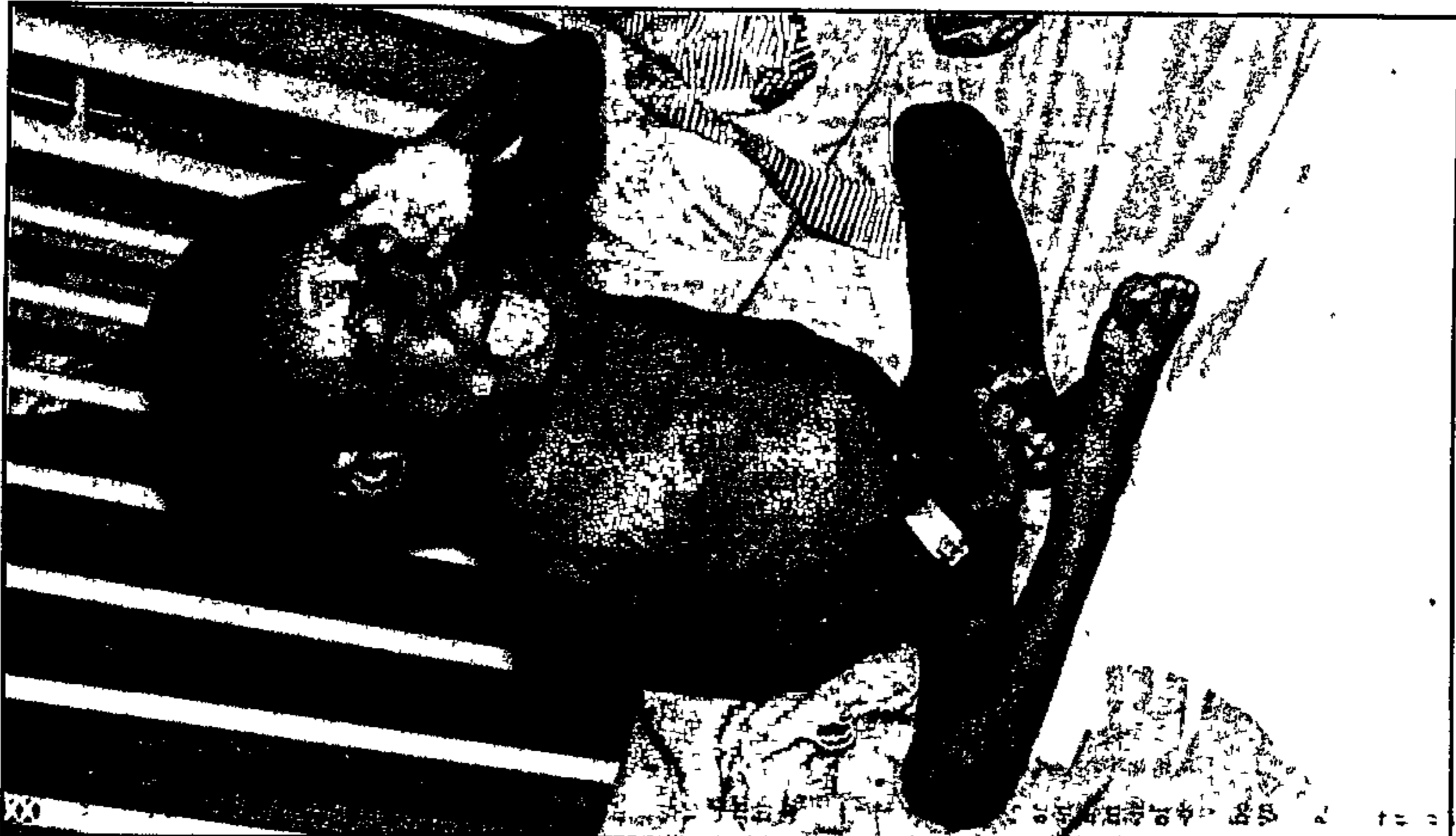
The unemployed desperately

needed clothes and shoes and he appealed to the public for assistance. Those wanting to help could leave them at Howard Motors in Pinelands, he said

Mr Andrew July, 30, originally from Port Elizabeth and now living in New Crossroads, said he had come to Cape Town in 1987 with his wife and two children because there were no jobs available in Port Elizabeth

He has been unemployed for two years and he battles to feed himself and his family

ETHIOPIA ON OUR DOORSTEP



SO YOUNG ... Most of the victims of hunger are defenceless innocents - such as these suffering youngsters (above and right) pictured in Gazankulu recently. ■ PICS: OPERATION HUNGER

By SOPHIE TEMA

THESE pictures were not taken in Somalia or Ethiopia they were taken right here

Slimny people may be the envy of slimming-obsessed types, but in the hunger-ravaged homeland of Gazankulu the truth is that hunger hurts, if not kills.

More home truths Starvation catastrophe is starting SA in the face Hundreds of thousands of children are being stunted by acute protein deficiency

Escalating child deaths, disease and malnutrition is being recorded in the forgotten settlements behind the hills, down the urban back alleys and, more often, in open, public sight in SA.

Unemployment and drought have pushed matters to the brink.

Who cares - such is the mental illness which also threatens a country numbed by political warfare and massive violations of human rights.

Yet, it's the job of Operation Hunger to make sure that violation by starvation does not go unnoticed, that somewhere starving people are given a glimpse of hope

Two million starving at home
(241 clips 13/9/92)

- and food

Operation Hunger director Ina Perlman says more than two million people are in need of this glimpse. Perlman warned earlier this year that economic depression and drought could see more than 2.5 million South Africans desperate for food

She predicted "maximum deprivation" and said her organisation was already feeding more than two million people a year. And funds were fast running out. Starvation in urban areas has also reached critical proportions, but in rural areas the situation has become far worse with children being admitted to hospitals suffering chronic malnutrition and Kwashiorkor. Some died there.

Others were simply killed off by exposure to cold in their "homes"

Urgent appeals from starving communities - both black and white - are pouring in daily to the offices of Operation Hunger. "More funds," organisers repeat.

This week Perlman said "Hunger now, starvation tomorrow - that is the stark reality that threatens thousands upon thousands of our people before many more weeks have passed"

Crops had been wiped out, there was no seasonal labour and the urban economy had still not been able to supply employment and income

She said "Operation Hunger has received government funding, but even that will meet only half our need."

Perlman appealed to every South African to give what they could.

The disaster that stares us all in the face



NONE SO BLIND ... While issues of power and wealth are fought out in a blaze of publicity, people seem oblivious to the fact that two million South Africans are starving to death.

Dreaming of Bopan

By THEMBA KHUMALO

EDDIE Mangope's dream is that Bophuthatswana will one day become the Japan of Africa.

The son of Bop president Lucas Mangope, 30, impressed with Japanese methods and techniques that he wants to model the homeland's economic system on that of Japan.

His father wants to convert Bop into a model federal state in a new SA, but the American-schooled Eddie has other ideas. His burning ambition is to transform the homeland's faltering economy into one of the most flourishing capitalist systems on the continent.

Eddie is no novice in the business sector. He earned an MBA degree from Western University in Chicago in the early 80s, then worked as a banker for eight years in the US. Later he returned home to head the Bophuthatswana National Development Corporation (BNDC) as senior general manager.

An admirer of Japanese economic success, he recently led a delegation of 10 local businessmen to seek advice and to get first-hand experience from Japan, Singapore and Taiwan.

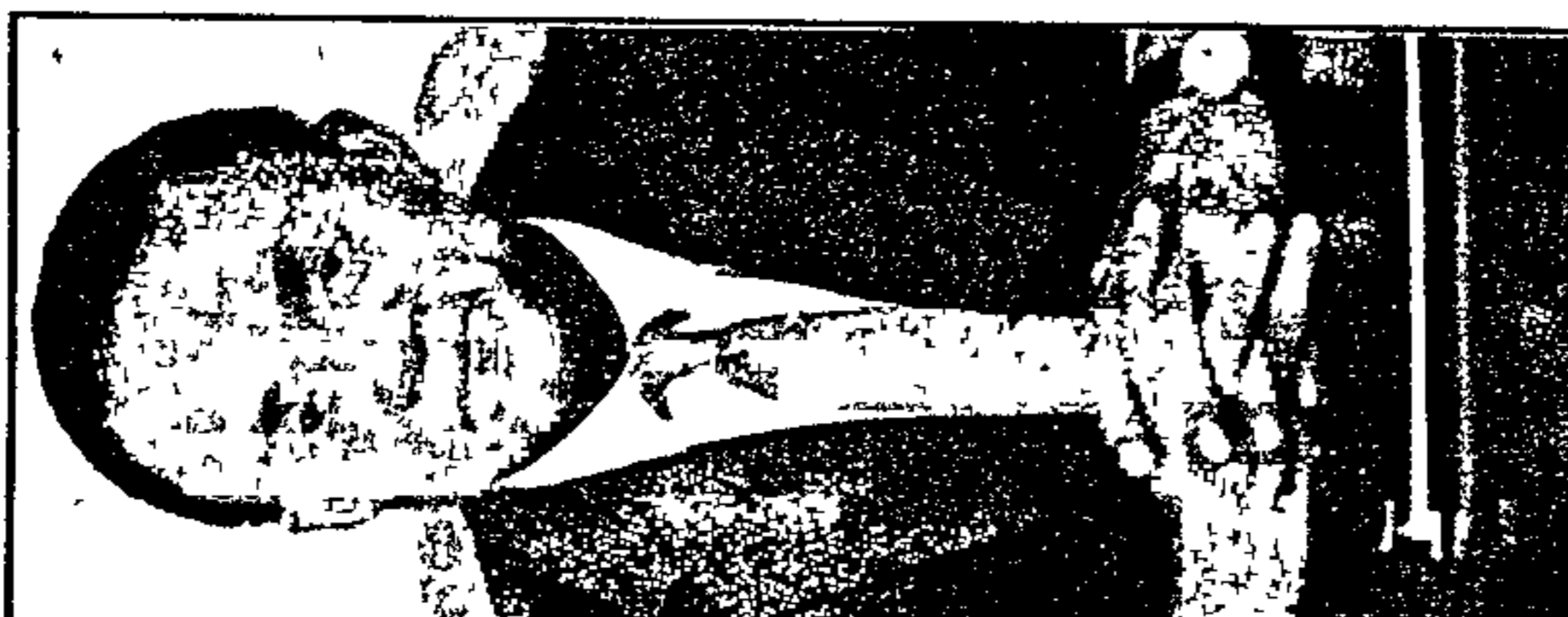
They were particularly struck by the work culture the Japanese exude. "I've never seen such workaholics in my life, it's amazing," said 39-year-old Eddie.

Addressing a media conference this week to launch the NBDC's National Business Week, Eddie said Bop's economic success would, like Japan, depend largely on small business.

He said 92 percent of Japan's business was based on small business industry and Bop could also progress if it reshaped its economic efforts along these lines.

Big companies, he stressed, could not alone carry the burden of employing every citizen.

However, Eddie painted a gloomy picture of the homeland's economy and said unless drastic measures were taken, Bop could soon fall into an "economic abyss".



ENTER THE DRAGON ... Eddie Mangope is a Japan fan.

Business Week begins on September 26 and aims to introduce small businessmen to the community to improve their image.

The week's programme includes workshops on retail, radio and television talk-shows and advice on how to start a business.

NBDC public affairs manager Solly Malebye said Business Week had been sponsored to the tune of R300 000 by among others, Sunbop, Bopair, Bophuthatswana Breweries and Bop Radio Services.

S Army comes to aid of starving thousands

~~The~~ ²⁴¹
HARVEST

for the hungry
STAR 15/9/92

By Michael Chester

The Salvation Army plans to expand its emergency feeding schemes by more than 100 000 meals a month to prevent thousands of rural black families from starving because of the drought.

Public relations secretary Major Denis Lorimer said the special programme would run for at least two or three months until expected spring rains hopefully came to the rescue.

He said the boost to feeding schemes had been made possible by a R500 000 injection of new funds from the "Harvest for the Hungry" campaign launched by the Nedcor group and The Star and its sister newspapers in the Argus group.

The Salvation Army was

among the foremost beneficiaries in the first batch of allocations from the "Harvest" fund, created to rush food to families suffering the worst impact of the drought.

Major Lorimer said the additional meals would be distributed immediately to families in most desperate need in areas where crops had been devastated — from the northern Transvaal and Venda, down through KwaZulu and Transkei, and into the Cape.

"The contribution from the 'Harvest' fund will provide a lifeline to thousands of families trying to escape starvation," he said.

"It means we can increase the number of meals we distribute by between 25 000 and 30 000 every week. That will be highly significant in worst-hit areas."

"We have been able to plan far bigger operations with our soup kitchens and feeding schemes with mealie meal and powdered milk — even sugar too if budgets can be stretched."

Ministers to discuss funds

(241) NEW YORK — Against the background of a world economic slowdown, 46 Commonwealth foreign ministers met yesterday to discuss how to keep development funds flowing to poor nations.

More than 250 delegates are expected at the two-day British Commonwealth finance ministers' conference, held before next week's IMF and World Bank annual meetings.

Commonwealth delegates will discuss better cooperation between its London-based secretariat and the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, which promotes development in poorer countries.

World Bank and IMF topics will be discussed, as some Commonwealth nations are worried about getting IMF loans.

The Commonwealth Secretariat said in a news release there was concern about difficulties some of the fund's traditional borrowers continued to have in gaining access to resources. The secretariat said continued impediments to development included high real interest rates, weak commodity prices and difficulties in debt servicing.

Sapa-AP 8/10 AM 17/9/92.

Water the key to rural revival

W/Mant 18/9-24/9/92
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FOR the rural poor, this year's drought has made a razor of survival's sharp edge, but programmes supported by the health, rural and community development (HRCD) portfolio — particularly in the provision of clean water, sanitation and clinics — are building a basis for recovery.

The portfolio, directed by Professor Len Karlsson, deals with all aspects of development that aren't housing, education or job creation. Allocated R520-million late in 1990, it had committed R132-million to 132 projects by July 1992.

A further R180-million will be spent in 1992-93 on building clinics and improving supplies of potable water.

HRCD is also administering a R100-million IDT relief development programme in drought-stricken areas.

With the Kagiso Trust, the IDT has drawn 68 organisations into a consultative forum which, supported by a rapid-response operations room at the IDT's Johannesburg offices, is planning water projects, community public works, and institutional capacity-building in affected communities.

Public works, including road-building, soil conservation, and repairing schools, will take 60 per cent of the funds. Community participation — for example the formation of village committees for health, water, electrification, or agriculture — has been an important feature of IDT-funded initiatives.

This can be a painstaking process but experience shows that these are the institutions that ultimately determine development outcomes, without them programmes misfire.

Only 53 per cent of South Africa's rural population of 16,6 million have access to so-called "improved water supply", and only 14 per cent have access to individual adequate sanitation. So interventions here are an important thrust for HRCD.

Water and sanitation programmes will get R55-million and should reach two million people in the next three years.

In the "grossly neglected" area of primary health care, planning for a R50-million programme to build or upgrade clinics is complete, and building will begin soon, says Karlsson.



NEED HELP: "People must be helped to work to support their families," says Professor Len Karlsson, who directs the HRCD portfolio.

With a limit of R300 000 per clinic, applications for 300 clinics have been processed from all parts of South Africa. Regional health authorities must guarantee to staff and supply these clinics before the IDT will build.

The IDT will spend R10-million on improving communications between clinics and base hospitals, and R10-million on the training of clinic personnel.

Energy provision, including the planting of wood lots as a renewable fuel source, and the provision of solar power for rural clinics, will get R20-million.

Other major funding commitments have been made, among them:

■ R40-million to welfare, to be channelled through up to 20 national councils, for the empowerment of disabled groups or the elderly;

■ R11-million for a three-year national AIDS programme by the Progressive Primary Health Care Network.

■ R6-million for a tuberculosis project in the Western Cape, where the incidence of TB is four times higher than the national average,

■ R5-million for the Medical Research Council's GOBI-FFF programme, based on a "well-woman" concept which places the health of the mother at the centre of her family's wellbeing.

HRCD started later than the other portfolios because several months were spent on fieldwork establishing needs and priorities.

"It's only really been running about a year," says Karlsson. "But since the groundwork was done, there has been an exponential increase in the portfolio's output and disbursement of funds."

World Bank backs Eskom-ANC plan

287 S/Times (Buss) 20/9/92. 241

By KEVIN DAVIE: Washington

THE World Bank has thrown its weight behind the Eskom-ANC initiative to electrify low-income households.

A position paper by the bank estimates that a three-to-five-year programme to electrify 3-million houses could result in 150 000 to 750 000 new jobs.

The paper follows the visit of a bank household energy fact-finding mission this year.

The mission says 2.4-million of SA's 7-million households have electricity.

"The proportion of electrified households is rising, but so is the number without electricity."

The bank supports the national electrification forum and would help if asked

Pilot

The World Bank's Alun Morris says electrification is an area where the consensus-building process is farthest down the road. Successful development will need agreement on the issues plus an institutional framework.

Other bank projects in SA include a training programme for potential public servants

A pilot study has been completed at the University of Cape Town and more are to follow countrywide

Four universities — UCT, Stellenbosch, Western Cape and Wits — are establishing the first quantitative profile of poverty in SA. The three universities and others will undertake a national household survey which can be updated periodically to track poverty and its alleviation.

Mr Morris says the project, which has financial backing

from Norway (the Netherlands and Denmark are also "seriously interested"), will cost about \$1-million and is "ready to go".

The bank has also offered its expertise in the amalgamation of local authorities. It will study SA's urban areas, describe scenarios and their cost-benefits.

The bank is constructing several macro-economic scenarios facing SA.

Mr Morris says the bank can offer its experience in many other countries which have faced similar problems to those now being dealt with in SA. The bank intends developing tool-kits for these problems.

The bank has increased its internal budget for its SA programme.

A year ago this budget was minimal, the bank's SA activities being funded to some extent by countries such as Sweden, the UK, Norway, Denmark and the Swiss and by aid agencies like the UNDP.

Now the bank's SA effort is significant compared with other African countries, although still not on the scale of Latin America, says Mr Morris.

The bank intends opening an office in SA when "internal and external consensus has been reached".

The bank's annual report makes brief mention of SA, saying: "Growth performance has deteriorated over the past 15 years and real per capita incomes have fallen by about 1.6% a year over the past decade."

"The challenge facing a new government will be to revive economic growth while facilitating a more equal income distribution and access to publicly provided services."

Meals for thousands on the way

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The Ark Christian Ministries Church will soon be providing daily meals to thousands of people in three Natal areas ravaged by drought and unemployment — thanks to a R300 000 emergency donation from the Harvest for the Hungry disaster fund.

The Ark was among the first five distribution agencies to benefit from an initial R1 million wave of cash allocations from the special fund launched by Nedcor and Argus group newspapers. The Star, the Daily News in Durban and the Argus in Cape Town.

Marius du Plessis, the Ark's public relations officer, says "We recently defined four rural areas and 12 peri-urban areas as acutely poor communities in need of emergency help, with a

(241) STAR 21/9/72

The HARVEST for the hungry

total population of 376 000. With the resources available, we have narrowed these down to three, which are among the worst hit."

The areas finally selected are Piesangsrivier informal settlement, bordering Inanda/Newtown, north of Durban, and the two southern Natal rural areas of Malangen and Bhakajane, inland from Pennington.

The Ark will be able to provide 390 000 meals over a period of three months to 4 335 people in its three selected areas.

Mr du Plessis emphasised that the Ark's primary mode of operation was to help make

people and communities self-sufficient.

"It's not just the drought. It's also the unemployment. In the Piesangsrivier community 65 percent of the 5 000 adults are unemployed, and there are 6 000 children. The majority of the people have no form of income.

"Surely they can't survive on no money and no food? That is why you have people storming food relief agencies in the cities."

When Ark workers took out some soup and bread to Piesangsrivier for distribution recently, 1 100 women joined the queue — but there was enough for only 200 people. For the next three months, the Harvest fund will ensure a nutritious meal a day for 2 500 people there.

Mr du Plessis said "We want to express our deepest gratitude

for those who have taken the bold step of getting the emergency fund going."

The Ark's main centre is in the Durban Point area where it provides a vital service for hundreds of destitute urban people of all races. It provides shelter, food, clothing, child care facilities, skills training, life-skills training and spiritual education for about 500 people at any given time.

The Government has made available R180 000 to assist in the Ark's urban feeding programme, including distribution of food to some 200 street children a day.

The Durban City Council has made available a grant of R500 000 for the purchase of brick-making machines and other equipment to assist informal-settlement communities to build low-cost houses.

COMMUNITY BUILDER In Kimberley the community helps provide for a local feeding scheme

Vuyo Lindela - giving food to hungry kids

Sowetan 22/9/92 (24)

By Pearl Majola

A GROUP of boys wearing torn and dirty clothes queue a few blocks away from Kimberley's city centre waiting eagerly for their only meal of the day.

An energetic woman rolls up her sleeves and prepares to dish out food for the boys.

This is an ordinary lunchtime scene at Victoria Park in Kimberley. The boys are either runaways, destitute or victims of abuse. The woman is 36-year-old businesswoman Mrs Vuyo Lindela.

Every morning 10 of the 35 girls and boys sheltered at Sebusi Mahanyele Children's Home leave for school.

Their shelter, food and the chance to go to school would have been impossible without Lindela's efforts.

Over 70 kilometres away, 30 other children from Ikhtseng township in Warrenton are assured of at least one meal every day. Another group of about 60 children from Vryburg is also fed, all of this due to Vuyo's hard work.

Lindela's feeding project started in 1990 when three boys asked her money for food. Before she knew it, the number of boys waiting for her to

grew up in a one-roomed house:



nated fully furnished premises in industrial Kimberley to shelter 30 children. The Sebusi Mahanyele Children's Home was officially opened this year.

Children at the home who do not attend school remain at the shelter all day and are taught informally by volunteer teachers. Their ages range from six to 17.

During weekends and on school holidays the children are taken on outings by local volunteers.

Lindela has worked her way up to being a successful businesswoman, while being a wife and mother of three.

Her own childhood experiences of living in a one-roomed house with her parents and five siblings and surviving on a tight budget, inspired her concern for street children.

"But at least we had a roof over our heads and one another. Some of these children don't."

"They sleep on the pavements and don't have anybody to share their problems. This is the least I can do," she says humbly.

Today we publish another finalist in the Sowetan/CCV Community Builder of the Year Award. Mrs Vuyo Lindela of Kimberley cares for street children in her community. She can be seen today on CCV's New Times at 6.30pm and again on Ntome Tsebe at 8.30pm

give them R1 each day had grown to 10.

"I decided to cook food at home and take it to the park for the children," says Lindela.

By 1991, 60 boys ate in the park and the project was beginning to attract the attention of influential people.

The local judge's wife helped raise funds for the project.

National Sorghum Breweries do-

High cost of cheap foods

STAR 22/9/92.

THE recession is hitting people in all wage brackets, but poor families are taking the blows where it hurts most — essential food and clothing. To see how food prices are affecting poor people, Trends attempted to help a Soweto family of five spend R150 — about a third of its joint income — on food.

The basket consisted of 15 items — including mealie meal, samp, beans, powdered milk and vegetables — which the family consider the most basic and essential for their daily needs.

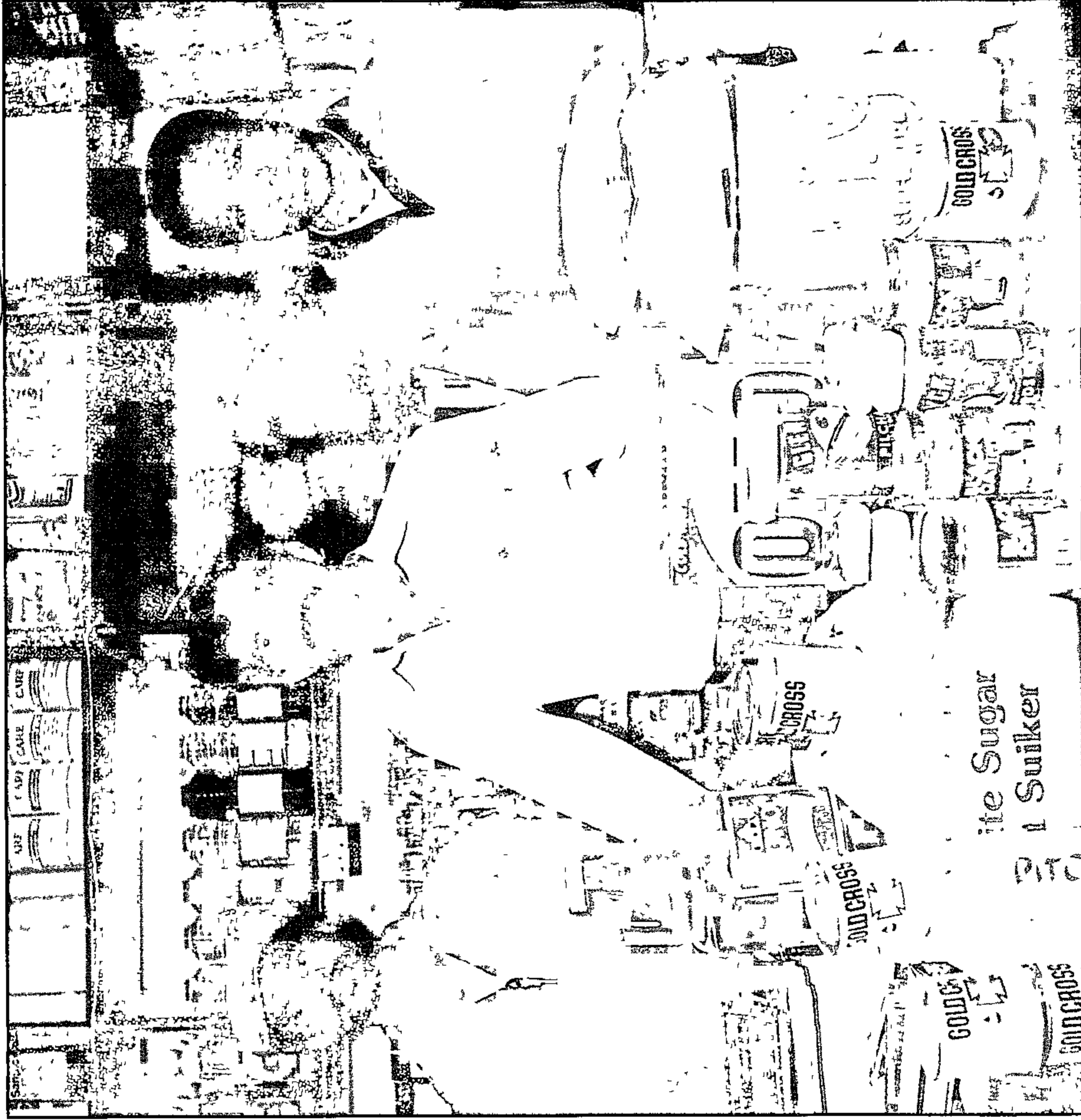
The shopping list did not include bread (also considered essential for the children but bought daily) and meat, which the family buys every Sunday.

The food was bought from stall traders and the vegetables from hawkers, where most low-income people shop. Dorah Dubazane, one of the family's breadwinners, says the list would sustain the family for only two weeks.

Her children have tea and bread for breakfast and lunch every day. The family eats two loaves of bread a day, upper consists of porridge and vegetables.

Tinned fish is substituted for vegetables, and on Sundays the family lunches on samp and beans and occasionally cheap cuts of meat or fish, chicken necks, gizzards, and livers for R10.

Ms Dubazane, who does part-time domestic work, reports the misery of many poor families when she says: "I sometimes feel that I only work for food. It takes up a big slice from my income." Sister Jeanette Molefe, field service manager for the African Children's Feeding scheme, says many black fa-



Essentials shopkeepers Nicholas Nkosi (left), Cassim Patel and Petros Radebe with some basics

milies cannot even afford 15c for "malebese" — two slices of bread with peanut butter and skimmed milk that her scheme supplies to township folk.

She encourages people to buy cheap but nutritious foods with a high protein content, such as split peas and soya mince. One source of these foods is Imqualife, a non-profit organisation serving low-income groups.

Nonia Ramphomane, president of the National Black Consumer Union, says the Government needs to use churches, clinics and schools to identify families in need, and to feed people who can't afford to buy food.

She has suggested a coupon system to accommodate individual family needs.

Concern over runaway food costs has prompted members of the Food Forum, consisting of consumer bodies, retailers, farmers and manufacturers, to appeal to the Government to consider exempting some foodstuffs from VAT.

Forum members believe that if the Government zero-rates basic foods, food inflation (which is more than 30 percent at present) could be brought down to 10 percent.

The fight against food inflation has been joined by two powerful Congress of South African Trade Unions affiliates, the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union and the Food and Allied Workers' Union, who will monitor certain food prices.

The unions blame "monopolistic food retailers", the Government's introduction of VAT and the removal of food subsidies for increasing prices.

Finance Minister Derek Keys says he might consider zero-rating some foods in next year's Budget.

Inquiry into Lebowa poverty food scheme

Sowetan 20/5/92 241 (S)

THE Department of National Health is to investigate claims that emergency food supplies intended for the poor in Lebowa were piling up in store-rooms at Jane Furse Hospital since March.

Operation Hunger Northern Transvaal director Mr Johann Rissik said while his organisation was battling to feed 260 000 hungry people daily, food provided from funds allocated by the South African poverty food relief programme to the Lebowa government was unused because of lack of trans-

port
In a stinging attack on the incompetence of the self-governing State's relief organisation, he claimed there was no practical basis for delivery of food once it was off-loaded at the hospital

Further problems arose in the actual allocation of food parcels bought with the R5,3 million allocated to Lebowa in the last financial year

While the food was wasted in hospital store-rooms, Rissik said he had proof that once children suffering from kwashiorkor were discharged from hospital, the

Sowetan Correspondent

families were advised to come to Operation Hunger for further help

Labelling the situation "a complete mess", he said not only was there no proper basis for delivery of food once it was offloaded, but packing was wasteful

Distribution was farcical, with one food parcel allocated to a malnourished child who was part of a family of eight or 10 people

This was the case at the HC Boshoff Hospital near

Burgersfort

"It is ridiculous to expect the family to watch while the malnourished child dips its fingers into peanut butter," he said

Rissik added that the relief programme was aimed at preventing malnutrition, but food was only being handed out to those who had already been diagnosed as being malnourished

Director of National Health Dr Coen Slabber said once the poverty relief funds were handed over to the self-governing or TBVC States, they were responsible for the distribution

He was unaware of the

problems in Lebowa but said appropriate steps would be taken to investigate the claims

A total of R10 million had been allocated for poverty relief to the TBVC States via the Department of Foreign Affairs in the last financial year

The self-governing states had received R14 million last year

Reports on the expenditure of the funds had to be delivered quarterly and he had ordered that no further funds would be handed over until reports covering the use of money allocated last year were received, he said

'Farmers could go hungry'

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GERALD REILLY 

PRETORIA — Hundreds of farmers, their families and workers will go hungry unless donations to the SA Agricultural Union's emergency aid fund are speeded up.

Union president Boet Fourie said yesterday contributions so far amounted to R1,7m and the target to supply desperately needed aid for the next 12 months was R12m.

The amount donated so far would last three months to aid 1 363 farmers' families and 10 000 workers and their families. By the time more distressed farmers were identified the need would have grown. He said the first payment of R551 000 had been made to provincial unions.

Fourie said the union was "deeply touched" by the donation of R83 915 from the SAP. *B/0ay 22/5/92*

Fighting fire is out, says welfare plan

23/5-27/5/92

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THE policy guidelines of the ANC warn that if the well-being of the poorest 40 per cent of South African society is not improved "after a reasonable time under a democratic government, this is likely to have serious political implications for the country".

The state would have to assume the major, but not sole, responsibility for the provision and financing of social services.

According to the guidelines, "the capacity of the state to provide such services will depend on economic growth. The welfare sector, therefore, has a direct interest in the evolution of realistic economic policies based on a multiple strategy of growth coupled with redistribution

"We reject the hand-out, fire-fighting approach to social welfare provision and advocate a developmental approach aimed at empowering communities and individuals within a system that will increasingly

project welfare spending as social investment."

Emphasis will be placed on assisting the family unit, including single-parent families.

"As far as the private sector is concerned, we believe that companies have a responsibility that goes beyond their immediate employees and includes the general improvement of the quality of life. In this regard, a cross-sectoral approach will have to be worked out with the education, health and other sectors"

The ANC's guidelines propose:

- Old-age and disability grants: these should be equalised for all races and both sexes and the present system where the elderly and weak have to queue for long hours or sleep overnight to receive their grants "must be overhauled".
- Child rights: a Child Welfare Policy will be developed along the lines of the UN Children's Rights

"The ANC recognises that many of the social goals it has set cannot be achieved 'unless all people are empowered, for active involvement as citizens in the democratic process and as workers in the economy'."

Under this, the rights and interests of the child must take precedence when dealing with issues such as adoption and foster care.

- Disabled persons: their employment and other rights will be protected through practical measures such as quotas and monitoring of discriminatory practices. Legislation will be drawn up in close consultation with the disabled themselves.
- Health: essential health services must be provided free of charge. The ANC recognises that many

of the social goals it has set cannot be achieved "unless all people are empowered, through education and training, for active involvement as citizens in the democratic process and as workers in the economy".

In addition, "science and technology must be used for the benefit of the whole of society, and not just the minority. Our natural resources must be treated as the heritage of all, so that the pursuit of narrow interests does not rob the majority of access to natural resources or pollute the environment in which they live"

Hijack hampers Salvation Army food drive

By Paula Fray *STAR 27/5/92* at a service station. (241)

An attempt by the Salvation Army to stem the growing tide of hungry people in Johannesburg was almost thwarted last week when the organisation's bakkie was hijacked in Soweto.

However, the Army's much-needed night emergency feeding programme, launched at the weekend, may now have to be delayed until the vehicle — needed to tow the food trailer — has been recovered.

Salvation Army public relations officer Major Denis Lorimer said Army worker Kenneth Mthombeni was taking a load of building material to a children's home in Soweto on Thursday when he stopped

Four men armed with knives approached him and asked for his keys

"At first he refused, but when he saw the knives he had second thoughts," said Major Lorimer. The men drove off with the 1989 Isuzu bakkie and canopy, registration NMW748T, filled with building materials.

"We went ahead with the launch, but the loss of the vehicle is prohibiting us from developing the scheme"

The mobile unit will complement the many feeding programmes already being run by the Salvation Army across the country

"The trailer will be used primarily for night-time feeding of the thousands of homeless

people who assemble at various points in the city, such as Johannesburg station," said Salvation Army southern Africa territorial commander, Commissioner Roy Olckers

"We will begin by handing out bread and soup and, as soon as resources are available, we will also distribute blankets and clothing. This unit will also be deployed to any part of southern Africa in the event of disaster, such as a flood," he added

● Any donations or contributions can be made to The Salvation Army Nightly Feeding Programme, Box 32217, Braamfontein 2017, or volunteers can contact Major Lorimer at (011) 403-3614

'Illegals' fear repatriation

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Hundreds of Mozambican refugees are living in fear of arrest and deportation from northern Natal after fleeing across the border to escape the ravages of drought and war.

So says Operation Hunger's Natal director Phillipa Yarker, who said destitute men, women and children were arriving in the Maputaland district.

She said the refugees — many of them members of the Tembe/Tonga tribe seeking shelter

with relatives in Natal — were being arrested by the SADF and sent back via Swaziland.

"Something needs to be done to care for these people. A lot of them have been living here for years and have no homes to go back to"

A spokesman for the SADF in Pretoria, Colonel John Rolt, said he was unable to comment on whether there had been an increase in the number of refugees as a result of the drought in southern Mozambique.

"All I can say is that any illegal immigrants picked up by our border

patrols are handed over to the civil authorities and the Department of Home Affairs for repatriation."

Dr Murray Short, deputy director of the Kwa-Zulu Health Services said the situation was "potentially very serious" because of the drought.

He was unable to say whether there had been an increase in Mozambican patients at hospitals and clinics in the Maputaland district.

A spokesman for the Department of Home Affairs in Durban could not be reached for comment.

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Only eight weeks to get food to region

STAR
30/5/72
HUGH ROBERTON

WASHINGTON — Substantial shipments of emergency food aid to southern Africa will be needed in the next eight weeks to avert widespread hunger and suffering throughout the region, the US Office of Foreign Disaster Relief said in a report released this week.

And US relief experts warned that the drought could soon begin to threaten peace efforts in Angola and Mozambique as well as moves towards democracy in countries like Zambia.

There was also a risk of a sudden escalation in Aids because of the deteriorating health of the 30 million people already being affected by the drought, and the lack of water could soon threaten up to half the livestock in some countries.

"Large numbers of people will be at serious risk of under-nutrition by August if food is not delivered regularly and in sufficient quantities," the report said.

An urgent meeting is to be held in Geneva next week, at which the US will seek to co-ordinate an international relief effort under the auspices of the United Nations, officials said.

At this stage, they added, the US was committed to supplying a million tons of food aid out of the 10 million tons which a team of US experts have calculated will be necessary to ward off disaster in the 11 bone-dry countries of the region.

The European Community has agreed to supply 800 000 tons, and a further 6 million tons would probably be purchased by countries on the commercial market — the bulk of such purchases being made by South Africa and Zimbabwe.

This means that at least 2.2 million tons of food will have to be provided from other sources and at this stage there is no indication that the additional food will be forthcoming.

The US is not expected to increase its assistance beyond a million tons at this stage because of budgetary constraints.

About 98 000 tons of US food aid was shipped to countries in the region during May, but officials say this amount will have to be vastly increased to meet the quantity needed before August.

The country worst hit by the drought is Mozambique, where Renamo continues to bedevil relief efforts.

Officials fear that even if sufficient food is delivered to Mozambican ports, Renamo attacks and the general lack of transport and infrastructure would prevent delivery to many thousands of people who are close to starvation.

IDT earmarks R100m for poverty, drought aid

PRETORIA — The Independent Development Trust has earmarked R100m for short- and medium-term projects to relieve distress and poverty in drought-affected areas.

A spokesman said at the weekend the trust aimed to establish a national drought relief and development programme incorporating all agencies and networks already involved in relief.

It was vital that all efforts be co-ordinated to make the best use of funds, the spokesman said.

The short-term aim of the programme was to contribute to bringing about immediate relief to fight off the threat of starvation.

The trust's main focus, the spokesman said, would be to try to bring about a lasting solution to the causes of poverty.

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GERALD REILLY

Meanwhile, a US Embassy spokesman said the US would give southern African countries 1 050-million tons of emergency food at a total cost of \$280m and would consider further donations. *Monday 1/6/92*

He was unable to say what percentage of the food and aid would go to which southern African countries, saying that this would be determined by the US Agency for International Development Aid.

EC representative in Pretoria Tim Sheehy said the community had allocated 800 000 tons towards drought aid for the whole of Africa.

This was in addition to the normal food aid programmes supported by the EC.

Food train exercise no piece of cake

STAR 1/6/92

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IMAGINE a train so long that the locomotive would reach Harrismith before the last truck left Johannesburg station.

Obviously there is no such train, but that is how long it would be if Spoornet had to transport this year's drought relief maize in one go.

Out of the 11 million tons of grain, some of it bought, some of it supplied by the United Nations World Food Programme, Spoornet is transporting 8,5 million tons — the biggest transportation exercise in food and aid relief in the world. Even the Ethiopian drought relief effort involved only 2 million tons of food.

South Africa gets 4,7 million tons, Zimbabwe 2 million, Zambia 900 000 and Malawi 800 000, while small amounts are going to Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland.

This adds up to a total of 5 700 trains, each with 38 trucks, with each truck carrying 39 tons of grain.

The only exercise that comes close is the Kuwait Emergency Recovery Programme, the restocking of Kuwait with everything from food, rubber bands and generators to fire engines and syringes after the country was devastated in the Gulf War.

In fact the American logistics company that organised the recovery programme has been called in to assist Spoornet's logistics subsidiary, Viamax Logistics.

The Americans say that in this operation, the volumes are far bigger and the multiple destinations complicate the issue.

The logistics are staggering. At any time, about 20 ships from Argentina and the United States are on their way to South Africa to unload grain in ports that are geared for loading and exporting.

Machines that pump grain into ships stand idle, while cranes lift the huge loads on to railway trucks to be carried to silos all over South Africa and

Searing heat and crippling drought have withered maize and wheat crops across the African subcontinent. Enormous quantities of grain are now being donated or bought to feed hungry populations. Spoornet is transporting the biggest volume of food relief yet. **JULIENNE DU TOIT** looks at what is involved.

neighbouring countries. Suctioning the grain off the ships would be easier, but that damages it.

In fact, this is what makes this exercise different from other Spoornet operations. Spoornet transports between 50 and 60 million tons of coal a year, but that is comparatively easy to load and unload.

"You have to be more careful with maize and wheat. It's going to land up on somebody's plate," said Viamax projects manager Shaun McCormack.

The grain that is not going through South Africa is being landed at Walvis Bay in Namibia, Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, and Beira, Nacala and Maputo in Mozambique.

Getting the food from the ships to the countries that need it is not easy.

Malawi, for instance, is just not geared to unload consignments of loose maize, so contractors have to put Malawi's grain into 50 kg bags.

A third of the Zimbabwean and Zambian consignments also have to be bagged — a total of 36 million bags.

Spoornet has to know where its trains are at any given moment, whether they have been unloaded, whether they are waiting at Beit Bridge or which trucks can be brought back for reloading.

At the moment, it is all being done by hand. In the grain operations room at Spoornet's headquarters in central Johannes-

burg, ships are marked as arrows heading steadily across the map from the United States and Argentina.

One, stationed just above Cuba, is marked "hijacked". The crew mutinied over a pay disagreement while sailing through the Caribbean and diverted the ship to Cuba, where its cargo of about 30 000 tons of maize is rotting in the tropical heat and humidity.

Other charts show exactly how many tons have been transported so far by ship and by train, where the loads in transit are, and how much each train and ship is carrying.

Twenty shiploads have arrived so far at Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth and East London. About 230 are still expected.

People sit working on charts and watching the boards, keeping track of every movement, and co-ordinating the exercise for the least possible waste of time and transport.

The American logistics company is going to computerise the whole system for Spoornet. From the moment a purchase contract is signed, before any grain is loaded from silo to ship across the Atlantic, it will be logged on the computer.

That will give three to six months' planning time, as opposed to the current 14 days — the time it takes for a ship to sail between the Americas and Africa.

Spoornet will also be linked to satellite and UN input to keep track of trains and the unloading beyond South Africa's borders.

The huge operation started in April and has yet to hit its peak.

And what if the drought carries on?

"We'll just have to do it all again," said Spoornet communications adviser Jacques Pienaar.

● The Star Africa Service reports that the supply of maize in Zimbabwe has improved dramatically and the long queues have disappeared. □

Farmers giving away avocados to the hungry

STAR 3/6/92

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Avocado pear farmers in the Tzaneen area, who normally export 80-90 percent of their crop, have found that this year — because of the drought — many of the fruits are too small for export.

With tons of surplus avocados on their hands, the farmers have decided to give them to the hungry.

The farmers emphasise that the fruit, of the popular American Hass variety (which turns a purplish-black colour when ripe) is in perfect condition and contains all its nutritional value.

The Star, in conjunction with the Paradise Fruit company in Tzaneen (which rep-

resents a large number of farmers) and with the help of Allied Publishing of Johannesburg, is arranging for the free distribution of avocados, starting tomorrow.

Trucks are picking up the first load of 8 tons from Tzaneen today and will transport it to Johannesburg.

Depending on the demand from organisations and the public, The Star will continue to help with distribution of the free avocados.

Charitable organisations wishing to collect fruit will have to arrange transport to pick it up. They are asked to phone The Star's Promotions Department on 633-2724.

Govt 'dithering over food aid'

241

B/Dam 4/6/92

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Government has distributed little more than one-sixth of the money allocated to its feeding scheme since the 1990/91 financial year in spite of the deepening drought.

It was disclosed yesterday that only R124,7m of the R660m freed from the sale of strategic stockpiles since 1990/91 and earmarked for government's Nutrition Development Programme (NDP) had been distributed to date.

The announcement by National Health Minister Dr Rina Venter was immediately slammed by the DP, which said that "with more and more people affected by the drought a system of speeding up the distribution process is essential".

It has been predicted that the drought could force up the cost of basic foodstuffs by an additional 19%-45% this year.

DP health spokesman Mike Ellis said the system used to distribute the money "is far too cumbersome on the one hand and yet strangely short of manpower on the other".

All requests for money had to be referred back to the National Health Department and "this obviously is causing serious delays, particularly since the department admits that it has a shortage of manpower", he said.

He asked why provincial administrations had not been given greater authority to distribute the money. "They have the infrastructure to handle the scheme and are more likely to be aware of the needs of the people in the region."

Venter said R110m had been dis-

tributed in the 1991/92 year and R14,7m in the current financial year. A total of R220m was given to the NDP in 1990/91 and R440m this year.

Venter said "misapplication of funds by a non-governmental organisation" had caused problems in distributing funds.

This resulted in the introduction of "stringent financial control measures". Approval for these measures was granted by the State Expenditure Department only in December 1991, which delayed payments.

"These delays should, however, be overcome shortly," said Venter.

"Shortage of sufficient manpower, especially at regional level, has also jeopardised the progress of the NDP. This matter is receiving urgent attention," she said.

DP Trade and Industry spokesman Brian Goodall said yesterday SA faced an unprecedented food crisis which could stoke unrest and violence in urban areas to even higher levels, reports GERALD REILLY.

The crisis was aggravated by growing unemployment and the inability of tens of thousands of black families to pay for even the most basic foods.

Goodall said the warning by Foodcorps CE Dirk Jacobs that the price of some staple foods could rise by up to 45% this year underlined the urgency for publishing the Board of Trade and Industries food price inflation investigation report. If rip-offs were taking place along the food price chain they had to be exposed

SOUTH AFRICA'S hungry millions are being ripped off. A *Weekly Mail* probe of the government's R660-million food relief programme has revealed

●A company extensively used by state health clinics, and recommended by the Department of Health, is charging three times as much as non-profit organisations for relief food

●The packages supplied by this company, Lebnor Foods of Potgietersrus, have been slammed by food experts as nutritionally inadequate

●Lebnor has been involved in cloak-and-dagger operations supplying food to rebel armies in Angola and Mozambique

●One of the four organisations given national grants by the Department of Health is run by Dr Louis Pasques, a man with Military Intelligence links. Pasques has not previously been involved

SA's hungry millions are being ripped off

W/Mail 5/6-11/6/92
A private firm, recommended by the Department of Health, is charging three times as much as relief agencies for food aid, **PAT SIDLEY reports**

in hunger relief

●Despite widespread and worsening famine in many parts of the country, the Department of Health has allocated less than a fifth of the

money earmarked for relief

Democratic Party health spokesman Mike Ellis intends quizzing Health Minister Rina Venter about the preferential treatment accorded Lebnor, and the R7-million grant made to Pasques

"There is the potential for another Development Aid scandal, and it will have to be looked into," he commented

Reacting, the Department of Health said it had not recommended Lebnor to clinics "to the

exclusion of other options" It stressed that because of the great need, the department's policy was to provide "supplementary and not maximal feeding"

Compounding the shortcomings of the government scheme are inordinate delays in processing applications for money. Operation Hunger, which Ellis points out has a proven track record in hunger relief, waited from last October until March this year — and then received R10-million of the R27-million it had requested. Pasques' application went through in two months

According to Ellis, a reputable Christian organisation in Durban, Ark Christian Ministries, was turned down flat when it applied for an R11-million grant

The Weekly Mail has established that Lebnor — which says it has received "more than its fair share" of the R440-million earmarked for food aid this year by the government — charges R33,77 for a food parcel intended to feed one adult for one month. This contains 500g milk blend, 2kg soy mince, 1kg mealie meal, 1kg vitamin and mineral-enriched cold drink and 500g high-protein drink

Operation Hunger's Ina Perlman says she can do the same for R11,70 by providing communities with bulk maize meal and high-protein soup powder. This allows her to save on packaging and transport

Lebnor owner Kobus Vosloo says Operation Hunger handouts are nutritionally inadequate. But according to Perlman, they conform with World Health Organisation standards

Perlman claims that Lebnor, as a private, profit-making company, imposes a whacking markup on the food it manufactures and supplies to clinics. Reacting, Vosloo says his company "is not a charity" and that it will "get out of the game" if its margins are cut

He also points to his lengthy and successful career in supplying food aid to Africa, stating that Lebnor delivers food cost-effectively and efficiently to the point where it is needed. This, he says, eliminates middlemen who profit from famine relief, and the corruption rife elsewhere in Africa

Aspects of Lebnor's packages have been criticised by nutrition experts, despite the Department of Health recommendation

Joan Huskisson, of the University of Cape Town Medical School's nutrition department, believes it is unhealthy and incorrect for Lebnor to place a milk blend product in the package for children, when it is well known that young children require the protein, calcium and other properties of full cream milk to help sustain them

She revealed that staff at government clinics, concerned about the lack of full cream milk powder in the package, had sought her advice on whether to use the Lebnor product

She is critical too of the amount of carbohydrate contained in the soy mince, which she says is too high for a product placed in the package specifically for its protein content

Vosloo replies that there is adequate protein in the entire package, and that it need not be specifically contained in the milk blend powder. He adds that his service fulfils the requirements of major international donor agencies operating in Africa, such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and Unicef

After Venter announced the scheme late last year, Lebnor made its presence in the market felt by travelling around the country selling its product

The promotional exercise cost R90 000, which the company could afford because it "had a nice fat layer around the middle" after its African ventures, Vosloo said

He revealed that although Lebnor was not currently "feeding any armies", it had supplied Unita in Angola and Renamo in Mozambique. These operations had been internationally financed, he said, "with a nod and a wink" from the South African authorities

He said some of Lebnor's products might still be reaching destinations in Mozambique, via Swaziland

Pasques
— now a feeder of the masses —
W/Mail 5/6-11/6/92
gets R7-m handout

By FERIAL HAFFAJEE
CONTROVERSIAL Dr Louis Pasques, the central figure in the South African Defence Force's secret propaganda war, received R7-million from the government in March this year for a food-aid project.

After *The Weekly Mail* exposed his string of Military Intelligence-funded front companies last December, Pasques quickly changed direction from the master of "winning hearts and minds" campaigns to feeder of the starving masses.

As the boss of MI front organisation Adult Education Consultants, Pasques dispensed R160-million over five years in an effort to discredit the African National Congress and its allies.

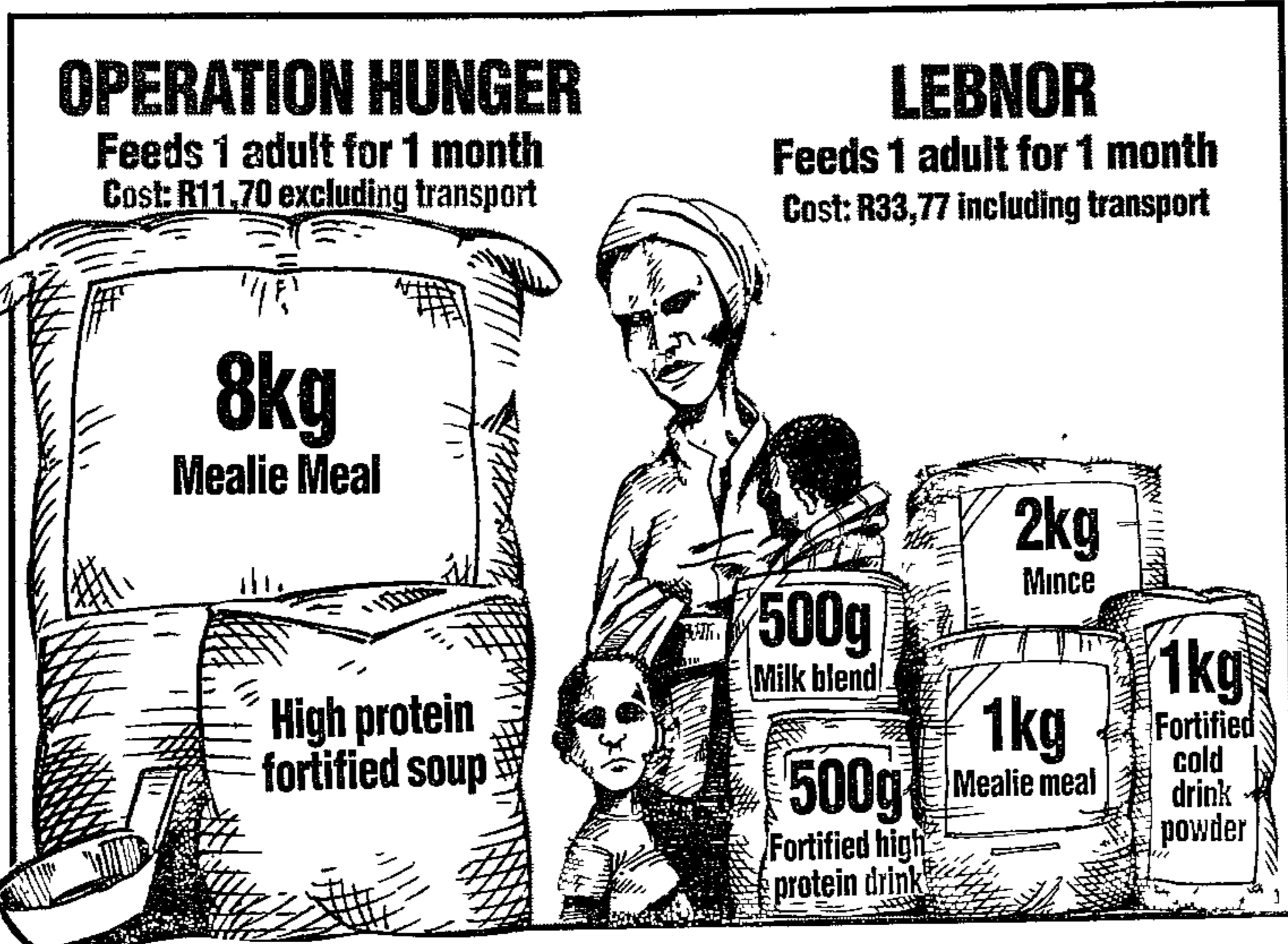
The major role he is now playing in government hunger-relief schemes raises the question of whether food aid is being used to win political support in the townships.

Funding for Pasques' new project was surprisingly unproblematic: he applied for a grant in January and received R7-million from the Department of Health in March. He received his grant in full and on time, and it was proportionately much higher than grants given to established relief organisations like Operation Hunger.

Pasques says he received the money through a company called the South African Christian Welfare Organisation (Sacwo). There was a strong Christian link in his former MI activities too: a network of religious bodies under the South African Christian Cultural Organisation coupled ideological training with Bible teaching in coloured communities.

Questioned about the basis for his grant, the Department of Health told *The Weekly Mail*. "Dr Pasques is primarily a developer. Everyone who has had experience in feeding hungry people agrees that the mere handing out of food has to be relief action, which ultimately has to lead to empowering people.

"In order to comply with the



The price of food aid ... Operation Hunger's R11,70 or Lebnor's R33,77?

policy of the Nutrition Development Programme, Dr Pasques went to endless trouble rearranging his application in order to come into line with the principles of the NDP.

"The application was ultimately approved because it is a development programme, with the supply of food not being a primary goal, but more as a means of motivating destitute communities to come forward for training, thereby stimulating entrepreneurship and self-reliance."

Pasques this week told *The Weekly Mail* that he is involved in feeding schemes in the northern Cape (Kimberley), eastern Cape, western Cape (Belville), Free State (Bloemfontein) and the PWV region (Pretoria and Eersterus).

He said he feeds "black and brown" communities, but when pressed for details could not supply the names of any black townships. Instead, it is apparent that he still works in the same coloured areas he targeted with his government-sponsored "hearts and minds" campaigns.

His organisation runs soup kitchens in primary and secondary schools, provides meals to the aged at their homes and also provides meals to people who come to the literacy classes he runs in Eersterus and Uitenhage, he said.

He runs the literacy classes through a new organisation, Pasques Development Enterprises, "in alliance with Sacwo". Soon, he added, he will expand and begin teaching life skills as well.

Pasques said he feeds about 150 000 people daily. In contrast, Operation Hunger, which feeds close to 2,3-million people daily, received R10-million from the government in March.

The Black Housewives' League has not received a cent from the

government, even though it applied for a grant in October last year and has been running soup kitchens for many years. And *Werk en Oorleef*, a feeding organisation working in a Conservative Party constituency, submitted an application in March but has not yet received any money.

Of the four hunger-relief organisations given national grants by the Department of Health, Pasques' organisation is the newest and most inexperienced, having only started its feeding operations in January this year.

The other three — Operation Hunger; the National Council for the Aged, which was established in 1956; and the National Council for Child and Family Welfare, established in 1924 — all have proven track records and had feeding schemes in place long before the government started allocating money to poverty relief.

A Department of National Health circular states that Pasques received the funds through Pasques Development Enterprises. But Pasques said it was channelled through Sacwo, adding that the two organisations "work in an alliance".

However, in an 11-page description of Pasques Development Enterprises which he sent to various organisations in December last year, he did not mention food aid as one of the functions of his organisation.

Pasques Development Enterprises may be linked to South African Defence Force-inspired plans to clean up secretly funded front companies.

Last week the *New Nation* exposed plans of the SADF to amalgamate 14 MI-funded companies into the Institute for Human Development, which will continue to be funded by the SADF. Among them is Adult Education

Consultants.

The institute will offer courses, seminars and workshops in all communities and will also serve as consultants, researchers and a communications group.

A number of the front companies under the Adult Education Consultants umbrella, including Dia Plus in Kimberley and Creed Consultants in Pinetown, are allegedly part of this scheme.

Pasques is a former assistant director of national education and recipient of the Star of Africa for "services to state security".

Pedro Saal, a disillusioned former colleague of Pasques who worked in the north-western Cape operations of the South African Christian Cultural Organisation, last year told *The Weekly Mail* that the courses were ideologically loaded.

"We were warned that the ANC and the United Democratic Front were out to destroy the country. There were also many lectures on the dangers of communism," he said.

Pasques' religious front companies changed gear in line with the government. Last year, according to Saal, they shifted the emphasis of the courses to encourage support in coloured areas for the National Party.

Pasques' colourful past certainly does not include a history of poverty relief or food-aid experience. The government ostensibly demands this experience before it dispenses poverty-relief funds through its Nutrition Development Programme.

But the affable doctor managed to get through the Health Department's dragnet of funding prerequisites.

And, he says, "I am going to ask for another R7-million at the end of the month."

Chances are, he'll get it.

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Govt accused of 'callous disregard' for the starving

8/Day 5/6/92

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Business Day Reporters

THE ANC yesterday accused government of showing "callous disregard for the millions who face famine" as a result of the drought

It was reacting to a report yesterday which said government stood to make R400m from wheat imports

"Increasing the price of imported wheat under these circumstances is totally unacceptable.

"The expected 20% increase in the price of maize meal will make food

unaffordable for millions of South Africans. With the price of basic foodstuffs expected to rise 45%, they face the real threat of starvation"

The situation was exacerbated by government's feeding scheme having allocated only a sixth of its budget

Our political staff reports that National Health Minister Rina Venter told Parliament yesterday

that R124,7m of the R660m feeding scheme budget had been distributed

GERALD REILLY reports that Deputy Agriculture Minister Tobie Meyer yesterday told eastern Cape farmers in Dohne that end of the drought crisis was not yet in sight

Inflation of retail food prices and declining real incomes not only affected demand for food and market size for farmers, but had serious consequences for feeding the nation

Tomatoes dumped as market slumps

By Bronwyn Wilkinson

Representatives of more than 30 charities yesterday lined up in Johannesburg to fill their boxes and shopping carts with undersized avocado pears transported by The Star from the lowveld.

At the same time, discarded tomatoes littered fields near Tzaneen.

Johan Strydom, who travelled in the area at the week-

end, said tons of tomatoes had been discarded in the fields where they had been picked

"It looked like a red carpet had been rolled out on either side of the road," he said.

He believed the fields belonged to Bertie van Zyl, a large tomato producer. However, a spokesman for Mr van Zyl's company, Zet Zet Twee, said he was not aware of tomatoes being discarded.

STAR 9/6/92
A spokesman for the Northern Transvaal Co-op, who asked not to be named, said he knew tomato farmers dumped undersized fruit when the market price was too low.

Avocado pear farmers in the lowveld approached The Star last week about donating their surplus fruit to charity. The fruit, they said, was too small for export.

The second load of 8 tons was

handed out to charity workers in Jan Hofmeyer, Johannesburg, yesterday

Letitia Potgieter, of the Department of National Health and Population Development, who collected the fruit for squatters at Orange Farm, south of Johannesburg, said the donation was "great"

The Star will continue to publish details about the distribution of future avocado pear consignments

The times they are a-changing for whites

Sowetan 18/6/92

IN THE land of white supremacy, a black church minister doles out food to destitute whites.

His congregation in a dirt-poor township of Vereeniging scrapes some rands together each month because "Christians don't have apartheid".

A black businessman makes up aid parcels for whites who sleep under the trees in this smoggy smokestack city because he wants to contribute to racial harmony.

Times are changing in South Africa, whose name, for white people, was long synonymous with golden riches.

Many whites, born of 300 years of privilege, are struggling to cope with the worst recession since the 1930s as well as the gradual erosion of their economic preserves as nonracial democracy approaches.

Here in the old industrial belt south of Johannesburg, help is coming from a surprising quarter - the people whom apartheid long kept underfoot to guard the white man's superior place in the sun.

The Rev John Mgcina, minister of the New Ethiopian Church in the township of Bophelong near Sharpeville, runs a

soup kitchen in a dusty park for more than 100 homeless, including 20 whites.

"There are rich white people but they turn their heads away. Black people give us food. My attitude to blacks has definitely changed," said Mr Piet Scholtz, 30 years a miner.

He has lost job, home and family and sleeps under a tarpaulin near the FW de Klerk bridge over the Vaal River.

"He and other blacks and whites, unified by adversity in a deeply rent country, breakfast in the bare park at the bottom of town, tucking into vegetable soup and porridge largely made up from tins donated by black businessman Mr Simon Mofokeng.

"I wanted to do this because blacks and whites are suffering together," Mofokeng said. "If I care, I don't want to discriminate. That's what's needed for peace in South Africa."

The 250 members of Mgcina's congregation chip in 50c, R1 or R5 each depending on closeness to pay day. He says he usually gathers R70 to R100 a month.

Is the money not more desperately needed in the township?

"It's a challenge to us as Christians," said the quietly spoken, silver-haired minister.

"The people in the township are poor, but they feel they must share what they have, and when you share you don't separate. Whether white, yellow or blue if you need help we will help where we can."

There is a special impact when whites get help from blacks while their own kind turns away, he added.

Down-and-out businessman Mr June Jordan, squatting with black friends around tin plates, said "I used to think

I was better than these people. Like this, you realise you're all the same."

Mr Dirkie Potgieter, a former bricklayer, smiled in agreement. "Colour doesn't matter here. We're all together, we sleep together under the trees. We're friends."

The Development Bank of Southern Africa says more than 200 000 of the 4.7 million adult South Africans without a formal job are white. That is about 10 percent of the economically active white population - a major blight for a preferred community to whom full unemployment had become a virtual birth-right.

Analysts say that for a white to lose his job the fall is steeper and the psychological impact much greater than for a black, long familiar with conditions at the bottom of the heap.

"If you're unemployed in South Af-

rica you're better off being black," says economic analyst Azar Jammine.

The Rev Bennett Brazer, a white minister, runs a refuge for scores of destitute white families in a disused school at the other end of Vereeniging, near a country club whose Mercedes and BMWs better fit the white South African stereotype.

Numbed men and women wander hallways waiting for better times. Some scratch chalk pictures of happy families on blackboards in classrooms crudely converted into homes.

"It's hard for whites," said Brazer. "The black community is used to helping people in need. White South Africa is not geared for destitution."

State aid for the unemployed is meagre.

Mr Boet van Heerden, (41) his wife Veronica, (34) and their four children aged between two and 14, moved to the refuge after they lost their house and had to sell their furniture when his security company employer went bankrupt.

"I've worked in black locations, I've been inside houses there. Compared to this, they live like millionaires," he said. - Sapa-Reuter



Noxious gas level above average

Bl Day 16/6/92

(241)
KARIN FRANKEN

SA accounted for 1,6% of the world's carbon dioxide released through the burning of coal and other fuels, an Environmental Affairs report said at the Rio de Janeiro Earthlife Summit last week

The report said SA emitted about 308-million tons of carbon dioxide a year which was about twice the world per capita average. However, the amount of CFCs dropped from 13 195 tons in 1986 to 10 223 tons in 1989 forming 1% of the world total.

Total emissions included 3-million tons sulphur dioxide and 890 000 tons of nitrogen oxides annually.

The report also referred to socio-economic problems and unviable farming lands, high malnutrition levels, increasing poverty and a 27% increase in food demand in the coming decade.

Of the 101-million ha used for agriculture, only 17-million were considered arable. Of these, 14-million were cultivated and only 1,2-million were under irrigation.

There were only 250 000ha of indigenous forest, mostly in small scattered patches and SA was threatened by desertification.

Karoo scrubland had expanded more than 140km during the century. Scrubland growth was aggravated by overgrazing and the invasion of Karoo vegetation.

"Invasive plants have infested about 4-million ha and pose serious threats to the ecosystem stability in some areas."

Statistics gathered by the department indicated soil was being eroded at a rate of 300-million to 400-million tons annually.

The report expected waste disposal would become a major concern of municipal and mining authorities. SA produced 428-million tons of waste annually. Mining contributed the most while domestic refuse totalled 6-million tons.

Marine resources and coastline conservation had suffered severe harm during the past three decades.

The report warned that frequent oil slicks and spills on SA's coastline constantly threatened its ecosystem. Stormwater run-off from metropolitan areas was another major source of pollution.

A hungry (24) country is an angry country

w/mcup 12/6-18/6/92.
By REG RUMNEY

THE government's food policy is under attack from all sides, in a contradictory way.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions-led VAT Co-ordinating Committee (VCC) this week called on the government to stabilise food prices and zero-rate all staple foods "until adequate safety nets exist for the poor".

A call was also made this week by food giant Premier's chief executive, Peter Wrighton, to reintroduce food subsidies.

At the same time, the revelation that milk producers were pouring away millions of litres of milk because the Dairy Board could not help mop up the surplus called into question the efficacy of South Africa's control board system. This comes after a judgment in the Cape Supreme Court in favour of milk distributors and against the Dairy Board.

And red-meat producers this week lashed out at the import of 5 000 tons of red meat from Zimbabwe while the drought is forcing increased slaughtering of cattle in South Africa.

Wrighton's call came after a media conference where he defended Premier's role in food production. It was a reaction both to criticism of supply concentration in the processing part of the food distribution chain and to "hysterical" forecasts of soaring food prices.

His main point was that 70 percent of food-price inflation came from the meat, fruit and nuts category of the official inflation rate. Premier's products, he said, fell almost entirely into the balance.

So meat, vegetables, fruit and nuts increased by 41,5 percent in March, compared with March 1991. The balance of food inflation, in items such as maize, was 17,4 percent.

While the call for the reintroduction of food subsidies may be welcomed by consumer organisations, it runs counter to the government's public commitment to making agriculture more market-oriented.

More seriously, as various government representatives have pointed out in relation to the introduction of Value-Added Tax (VAT), subsidies do not necessarily help those they are supposed to help. The claim is that white consumers benefit from zero-rated brown bread, for instance. Food subsidies would help urban workers, who receive salaries, rather than the rural poor, particularly subsistence farmers.

The government has said targeted food aid would help the poor better, though it was taken to task for not ensuring an adequate food-aid programme was in place before bringing in VAT on basic foods.

The VCC has also criticised the government's food-aid programme on the grounds of inadequacies, such as those revealed by *The Weekly Mail*.

Agricultural subsidies or "farm support systems" are found all over the world. The present round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks has run into trouble over, among other things, farm-produce subsidies in the European Community.

However, this week's developments are bound to add to the pressure for a rethink of the way control boards in South Africa function.

A Board of Trade and Industry study of food prices is due to be published soon. Hopefully, it will address questions such as the role of the control boards and concentration of economic power.

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years earlier and at various times, deleted certain of the conditions of title. The Registrar of Deeds had registered such deletions.

The applicants applied to the Court for an order declaring to be void and of no effect—

* the decisions by the State President and the Minister of Community Development to delete the conditions, and

* the decision by the Divisional Council to establish the township on the land

(b) In essence the Court—

* declared the deletions of the conditions to be void and set such aside,

* declared the registration of the deletions to be void and set such aside,

* declared the Divisional Council to be not entitled to develop a township on the land

(c) The total court costs to the State amounted to R29 011,75

(2) The Registrar of Deeds has not yet reinstated the title conditions concerned in his records, but such registration action would be taken by him only when approached in this connection by the owner of the land. The Administrator's approval of the establishment of the township (which lapsed before the judgment of the Court) has not been renewed. No township has been established or developed on the land

(3) No

Nutritional value of foodstuffs

322 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health ~~219~~ *219*

(1) Whether, with reference to composite products included in her Department's recommended list for its Nutrition Development Programme, any of the foodstuffs supplied by a certain company, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of her

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reply, have been analysed for their nutritional value, if not, why not, if so, (a) what foodstuffs are supplied by this company, (b) (i) which of these foodstuffs have been so analysed and (ii) what were the findings in each case and (c) what is the name of the company in question,

(2) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

B808E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

(1) Yes, the South African Bureau of Standards analysed the nutrient content of some of the foodstuffs which are supplied by the relevant company,

(a) "Lebomix" (dairy blend)

Maize meal

"Mince" (texturized vegetable protein and marog)

"Mince marog" (texturized vegetable protein)

"Fruikoe" (vitamin C-enriched drink)

"Provit" (protein-vitamin-mineral-enriched drink)

Other foodstuffs which are supplied by the company and which comply to the approved list of food items, are stew nuggets (texturized vegetable protein), "Supreme" soup and high protein soup powder,

(b) (i) the nutrient analyses of the "mince", stew nuggets and supreme soup were done and (ii) the products' nutrient values complied with the land-down requirements and

(c) Lebnor Foods,

(2) no

Funds to organizations: Nutrition Development Programme

323 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health ~~211~~ *211*

(1) Whether any organizations have received funds in terms of the Government's Nutrition Development Programme, if so, (a) what are their names, (b) how much has been made available to each

organization and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) what criteria does an organization have to meet in order to qualify to receive funds in terms of the above-mentioned programme?

B809E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

(1) Yes, funds were made available to non-governmental organizations in terms of the Government's Nutrition Development Programme (NDP),

(a) a list with the names of the 309 non-governmental organizations that have received funding from the NDP, appears on the attached annexure,

(b) see annexure and

(c) 245 non-governmental organizations received funding from the NDP between 1 October 1991 and 31 March 1992. 64 non-governmental organizations received funding from the NDP between 1 April 1992 and 16 June 1992,

(2) each non-governmental organization which applies for financial assistance from the NDP must describe the planned project/programme in a prescribed application form which is obtainable from the nearest regional office of the Department of National Health and Population Development (NHPD)

Some of the details that should be furnished in the application are

- Goals and objectives of the programme/project, that must include development actions
- The target group(s)
- Criteria for entering the programme/project
- Criteria for withdrawal from the programme/project
- Criteria for evaluating the success of the programme/project
- A financial state of income and expenditure

— The amount of funds needed

— The manner in which the money will be utilized

Furthermore, each non-governmental organization must complete and sign the Undertaking and initial the Financial Control Measures to ensure that funds will be utilized only for the purpose mentioned, before any payments can be made

Funds paid to non-governmental organizations (NGO's) as at 31 March 1992 (1991/92 financial year)

Southern Transvaal Region

1	Imquale (Pty) Ltd (Nutsmaatskappy)	R1 925 000,00
2	Food Gardens Foundation	R 200 000,00
3	Street-Wise	R 70 000,00
4	"Mes-Aksie (Middestad Evangelisasie en Sending-Aksie)"	R 250 000,00
5	Save the Children Fund	R 250 000,00
6	Ekutulen Anglican Mission	R 44 000,00
7	"Christelike Maatskaplike Raad"	R 607 200,00
8	The Shepherd's Flock Ministries	R 50 000,00
9	Bluegill Waters Farm School	R 10 000,00
10	South African Legion	R 27 500,00
11	Soweto Workshop for the Blind	R 10 000,00
12	Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	R 17 520,00
13	"Shiloh Voedselbediening"	R 100 000,00
14	"Suid-Afrikaanse Vroue-federasie Rustenburg"	R 18 000,00
15	Kindernothilfe Southern Africa	R 83 000,00
16	"Shilfontein Kinder-en Gesinsorgvereniging"	R 37 500,00
17	"Die Ark Bediening"	R 12 500,00
18	The Jimmy O'Connor Welfare Services Club	R 50 000,00
19	Meals on Wheels for the Aged Johannesburg North Branch	R 10 000,00
20	"Kosmos Dienssentrum vir Bejaardes"	R 10 000,00
21	AFCS Community Nutritional Education and Feeding Scheme	R 20 100,00
22	"Laerskool Venterspost"	R 6 000,00

23	Johannesburg West Meals on Wheels Brixton	R 15 000,00	1	Hiuvukani Foundation	R 750 000,00
24	"Volksbystandfonds Kempton Park"	R 4 000,00	2	"Kerklke Aksie Noodhulp N-Tvl"	R1 414 321,15
25	Klptown Seventh Day Adventist Park	R 7 000,00	3	"Ezenzelem 'Self-Help' Industrie vtr Blindes"	R2 200 000,00
26	Emmerdale Service Centre for the Aged and Meals on Wheels	R 10 000,00	4	St Joseph's Community Centre	R 4 000,00
27	"Krugersdorp Vereniging vir Kinder-en Gesinsorg"	R 3 130,00	5	"Witbank Vereniging vir Bejaardes" Agape creche/ preschool	R 3 000,00
28	"Studentegemeenskapsklens Potchefstroom"	R 90 000,00	6	"Louis Trichardt Armsorg Fonds"	R 24 000,00
29	Bophelo/Impilo Community Association	R 6 700,00	7	Ecolink Environmental Trust	R 24 500,00
30	Soweto Care for the Aged	R 26 000,00	8	Witbank Society for the Aged Love in Action for the Aged	R 1 500,00
31	"Rabie Ridge Ontwikkelingskomitee"	R 45 700,00	9	Meals on Wheels Pietersburg	R 7 000,00
32	Tuneleng Mission	R 33 500,00		Total	<u>R4 428 321,15</u>
33	West Rand Christian Care Association	R 16 000,00	<i>Natal Region</i>		
34	Vaal Triangle Food Aid	R 28 520,00	1	Kupugani (Nutmaatskappy)	R 2 200 000,00
35	Rooodepoort Care of the Aged	R 6 000,00	2	Feed the Babes Fund	R 75 000,00
36	"Toevlugsoord—Peacehaven (AGS Welsynraad)"	R 90 000,00	3	Kwa Mashu Christian Care Society	R 60 000,00
37	Portuguese Welfare Society of South Africa	R 100 000,00	4	Friends of Inanda	R 490 200,00
38	"Herlewingslig Sentrum"	R 20 600,00	5	"Christelike Maatskaplike Raad"	R 28 700,00
39	"Ned Gerief Sendingkerk in SA"	R 110 000,00	6	Umbilo Service Centre and Meals on Wheels	R 56 200,00
40	East Rand Meals on Wheels	R 10 100,00	7	Merebank Adventist Community Centre	R 20 000,00
41	Hands of Compassion Rhema	R 8 000,00	8	Turn Table Trust	R 21 000,00
42	African Self Help Association	R 71 000,00	9	Abahndi Welfare Society	R 186 000,00
43	Bekkersdal Development Project	R 16 550,00	10	Training and Resources for Early Education	R 1 716 300,00
44	"SAVF Claremont Aksiekomitee"	R 21 300,00	11	Imzamo Child and Family Welfare Society	R 193 325,00
45	South West Rand Meals on Wheels	R 50 300,00	12	World Vision of Southern Africa Natal and KwaZulu Region	R 66 000,00
46	Sandton Meals on Wheels	R 50 000,00	13	Pietermaritzburg Benevolent Society	R 10 000,00
47	"Subkomitee vir Kerklke Maatskaplike Diens Christiana"	R 5 500,00	14	Christian Faith Care Society	R 31 200,00
48	Early Learning Centre Klerksdorp	R 28 000,00	15	Zaphakamuse	R 50 000,00
49	"Ondersteuningsraad Rustenburg"	R 5 000,00	16	Chatsworth Child and Family Welfare Society	R 120 000,00
50	"Rustenburg Kinder-en Gesinsorg"	R 10 000,00	17	Kokstad Child and Family Welfare Society	R 25 000,00
51	"Suid-Afrikaanse Vroue-federasie Coligny"	R 18 300,00	18	Harvest Ingathering Appeal Marburg Haven Centre	R 50 000,00
	Total	<u>R4 714 520,00</u>	19	As-Salaam Private School	R 50 000,00
			20	Verlam Senior Citizen's	

21	Co-ordinating Committee Save the Children Fund (Natal)	R 150 000,00	47	Sibusiswe Clermont Child and Family Welfare Society	R 12 000,00
22	Harding Special School	R 20 400,00	48	Pietermaritzburg Mental Health Society	R 30 720,00
23	Verlam Seventh Day Adventist Service Centre	R 50 000,00	49	TAFTA—The Association for the Aged Inanda Newtown	R 33 000,00
24	Mbongolwane Hospital Community Trust	R 32 000,00	50	The John Pool Trust	R 130 000,00
25	Community and Family Centre	R 490 000,00	51	The Besters Community South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare Durban	R 72 000,00
26	Embroerat	R 33 200,00	52	National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (NICRO) Durban	R 35 000,00
27	Friends of the Sick Association	R 45 000,00		Total	<u>R11 377 885,00</u>
28	"Natale Christelike Vrouevereniging"	R 48 000,00	<i>Orange Free State</i>		
29	"Christelike-Maatskaplike Raad—Durban"	R 14 400,00	1	National Cancer Association	R 17 300,00
30	Malnutrition Relief Association for Durban	R 45 000,00	2	Holy Cross Church	R 10 150,00
31	Pietermaritzburg and District Malnutrition Relief Organization	R 5 000,00	3	Holy Cross Church Khanyiso Pre-School	R 3 700,00
32	Planned Parenthood Association of SA—Durban Branch	R 30 000,00	4	Holy Cross Church Thambo Square	R 9 850,00
33	Africa Co-operative Action Trust (ACAT)	R 910 780,00	5	Tswellang School for Physically Disabled	R 6 700,00
34	The Valley Trust	R 2 890 250,00	6	Lesedi la Selhaba Welfare Organization of the OFS	R 6 100,00
35	Kwamanda Community Trust	R 20 000,00	7	Meloding Day Care Centre	R 70 200,00
36	Pietermaritzburg Association for the Aged	R 98 500,00	8	Kgotsoong Child and Family Welfare Society	R 15 510,00
37	The Schools' Feeding Scheme Durban	R 70 000,00	9	"Luckhoff Primêre Skool"	R 14 400,00
38	Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	R 60 250,00	10	Meloding Roman Catholic Church	R 2 450,00
39	St Alpheges Church Feeding Scheme (Bonginkosi)	R 3 500,00	11	Society for the Blind	R 2 700,00
40	Ithembaletu Child and Family Welfare Society	R 68 110,00	12	Association for the Physically Disabled OFS	R 63 110,00
41	Natal Anti Tuberculosis Association	R 50 000,00	13	"Hoërskool Taabos"	R 1 210,00
42	Muthande Society for the Aged	R 300 000,00	14	"Boaramelo Skool"	R 22 430,00
43	Tongaat and Districts African Child and Family Welfare Society	R 40 000,00	15	"St Lawrence Primêre Skool Jagersfontein"	R 6 350,00
44	Port Shepstone Merlewood Child and Family Welfare Society	R 5 000,00	16	Bethlehem Feeding Scheme	R 11 500,00
45	Mental Health Society (Durban and Coastal Areas)	R 67 850,00	17	"Dr Blok Senior Sekondêre Skool—Heidedal, Bloemfontein"	R 1 160,00
46	Sorantu Care of the Aged Society	R 15 000,00	18	"Methodiste Kerk—Jagersfontein"	R 86 440,00
			19	"Johan Slabbert Skool—Kroonstad"	R 720,00
			20	Kamohele Children's Centre Sasolburg	R 1 070,00

21 "NG Sendingkerk Oppermansgronde"	R 16 930,00	24 Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association	R 115 500,00
22 South African National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (NICRO) Bloemfontein Total	R 13 500,00 R383 480,00	25 Graaff-Reinet Children's Feeding Scheme	R 9 000,00
<i>Eastern Cape Region</i>		26 Langa Gardens	R 5 400,00
1 South African Ministers Unity Independent Churches Association	R 48 000,00	27 St Simon of Cyrene Outreach Programme	R 12 500,00
2 "Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage en Distrik Skoolvoedingfondse"	R 300 000,00	28 Fort Beaufort Child and Family Welfare Society	R 5 700,00
3 Valley Welfare	R 24 000,00	29 Algoa Bay Council for the Aged	R 17 500,00
4 Port Alfred Psychiatric Work Group	R 1 000,00	30 "Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging"	R 7 850,00
5 East London Psychiatric Work Group	R 12 000,00	31 "Vera Barford Kinder-en Gesinsorg"	R 12 000,00
6 Grahamstown Blind Workers Self Help Group	R 15 000,00	32 Orsmond Santa Centre Uitenhage	R 60 000,00
7 Port Elizabeth Charity Organization	R 15 000,00	33 Border Trust Areas Feeding Scheme	R 683 300,00
8 "Jansenville Boerevereniging"	R 24 000,00	34 East London Service Centre and Meals on Wheels	R 8 800,00
9 Port Elizabeth Association for Early Childhood Educare	R 96 000,00	35 Excelsior Service Centre and Uitenhage Meals on Wheels	R 16 700,00
10 "NG Sendingkerk (Diakonale Tak)"	R 20 000,00	36 Middelburg Educare Centre	R 4 500,00
11 Siyabonga Educare Centre	R 3 000,00	37 "Kirkwood Kinder-en Gesinsorg"	R 31 000,00
12 Rosary Nursery School/ Crèche	R 10 000,00	38 Nkosinathi Educare Centre New Brighton	R 4 850,00
13 Agape Christian Ministry	R 600,00	39 SANTA Bathurst	R 11 220,00
14 "NG Kerk Jansenville"	R 1 500,00	40 "SANTA Klipplaat"	R 12 500,00
15 Clarkson Morawies Primary School	R 2 500,00	41 SHARE (Self Help and Resource Exchange) Uitenhage	R 6 250,00
16 South African National Epilepsy League	R 5 000,00	42 Grahamstown Child and Family Welfare Society	R 2 700,00
17 Port Elizabeth Mental Health Society	R 15 000,00	43 Emmanuel Mission East London	R 23 400,00
18 Ibhaye Senior Citizen Relief Association	R 39 400,00	44 Venterstad Community Services	R 15 000,00
19 "Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging"	R 24 000,00	45 Lunecdo Welfare Mothers Steytlerville	R 8 700,00
20 Sinthemba Crèche	R 2 300,00	46 Ladies of Charity	R 15 000,00
21 Port Alfred Benevolent Society	R 6 000,00	47 "Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging Port Elizabeth-Noord"	R 12 500,00
22 SA Red Cross Society—Cradock Branch	R 2 250,00	48 Women's Forum Stutterheim	R 3 000,00
23 Walmer Location Soup Kitchen	R 15 000,00	49 "Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging Dor-drecht"	R 33 000,00
		50 Grahamstown Society for the Care of Cripples	R 3 750,00
		51 Zamakhamyana School Feeding Scheme Stutterheim	R 250,00

52 Emmanuel Mission (Kupugam) East London	R 25 000,00	10 "NG Sendinggemeente Graafwater"	R 11 200,00
53 "Jeffreysbaai Vereniging vir Bejaardes"	R 29 700,00	11 "Stellenbosch Kinder-en Gesinsorgvereniging"	R 75 000,00
54 Aberdeen Lions Club	R 12 300,00	12 "SANTA Strand"	R 39 600,00
55 "Immanuel NGS Hulpkema"	R 10 000,00	13 SHAWCO (Students' Health and Welfare Centres Organization)	R 175 000,00
56 St Mary Magdalene Church—Odds and Ends (over sixty) Club	R 10 700,00	14 SA Red Cross Society Bredasdorp	R 5 000,00
57 Nonpumelelo Pre-Primary School	R 700,00	15 SANTA Somerset West	R 57 500,00
58 Westway Farm School and Emzamohe Crèche	R 600,00	16 WCTC (Western Cape Training Centre)	R 106 085,00
59 Amajuba Crèche	R 700,00	17 Worcester Ecumenical Community Services	R 11 600,00
60 "W G Olivier Laerskool"	R 8 100,00	18 "Montagu Munisipaliteit"	R 23 400,00
61 Centre for Social Development, Rhodes University, Grahamstown	R 422 600,00	19 "Navorsingsinstituut vir Voedinggebreektes van die Mediese Navorsingsraad"	R 142 500,00
62 Daily Bread Mission Charitable Trust	R 27 000,00	20 The Service Dining Rooms	R 30 000,00
63 Gomo Welfare Society for the Care of the Aged	R 25 000,00	21 Build a Better Society (BABS)	R 68 500,00
64 Fort Gray SANTA Centre	R 15 000,00	22 Peninsula School Feeding Association	R 1 000 000,00
65 Yolontu Burgersdorp	R 58 300,00	23 The Build a Better Society (BABS) Mamre	R 225,00
66 Community Soup Kitchen Port Elizabeth	R 12 500,00	24 "SANTA Walvisbaai"	R 6 800,00
67 Graaff-Reinet Relief Committee	R 3 700,00	25 Tuberculosis Care Committee	R 56 700,00
68 Nonnango Service Centre for the Aged Somerset East	R 5 450,00	26 "SANTA Somerset-Wes"	R 47 700,00
69 Syabulela Day Care Centre Alexandra	R 9 300,00	27 Janet Bourhill Institute	R 2 100,00
70 "William Oakes Gedenk VKK Laerskool"	R 3 200,00	28 Harlem Advisory Board	R 15 900,00
71 "Somerset-Oos RK Laerskool"	R 8 100,00	29 Masizakhe Club for the Disabled George	R 6 250,00
<i>Western Cape Region</i>		30 Kwa Nongaba Child Care Project Mossel Bay	R 3 000,00
1 MANNNA Community Food Service Salt River	R 950 000,00	31 "Huis Nick du Preez"	R 9 000,00
2 Cape Mental Health Society	R 5 900,00	32 Masizakhe Club for the Aged George	R 1 000,00
3 SANTA Caledon	R 250,00	33 Love in Action Community Service	R 10 230,00
4 The Carpenter's Shop Western Cape Unemployment Advice Office	R 9 500,00		R 3 013 740,00
5 "Munisipaliteit Caledon"	R 6 000,00	<i>Northern Cape</i>	
6 "Diagonale Dienste NG Kerk Van Rhynsdorp"	R 4 100,00	1 The Salvation Army, Kimberley	R 37 500,00
7 "NG Sendingkerk Nuwerus"	R 3 700,00	2 "Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Instituut Insake Musdaadvoorkoming en Rehabilitasie van Oortreders (NIMRO) Kimberley"	R 9 000,00
8 "NG Sendingkerk Nuwerus"	R 75 000,00	3 Kimberley Benevolent Society	R 5 400,00
9 "NG Sendinggemeente Klaver"	R 55 000,00		R 51 900,00

1511

Hansard

FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 1992

1512

National

1 "Die SA Nasionale Raad vir Bejaardes (RSA)"	R 4 033 500,00	14 Bergmanshoogte Primêre Skool, Philippolis	R 7 380,00
2 "SA Nasionale Raad vir Kinder- en Geinsorg"	R 12 000 000,00	15 Joe Solomon Primêre Skool, Heidedal	R 10 790,00
3 Operasion Hunger	R 10 000 000,00	16 Hermana Primêre Skool, Ladybrand	R 4 720,00
4 Pasques Development Enterprises	R 7 000 000,00	17 Ebenhaeser Primêre Skool, Wepener	R 5 470,00
Total	R 33 033 500,00	18 NG Kerk in Afrika, Tumuleng Kleuterskool, Jagerfontein	R 4 320,00
Southern Transvaal	R 4 714 520,00	19 "Apostolic Faith Church", AGS, Koffiefontein	R 5 000,00
Northern Transvaal	R 4 428 321,00	20 Evangeliese Lutherse Kerk, Koffiefontein	R 18 970,00
Orange Free State	R 383 480,00	21 FMSA, Welkom	R 18 970,00
Natal	R 15 278 915,00	22 "Good Shepherd Mission", Koffiefontein	R 5 080,00
Western Cape	R 3 013 740,00	23 "Thuso Welfare Organisa-tion", Koffiefontein	R 33 930,00
Eastern Cape	R 2 511 670,00	24 "Roman Catholic Church", Koffiefontein	R 16 380,00
National	R 33 033 500,00	25 Hoerskool Othen, Jagerfontein	R 1 320,00
Total	R 63 314 446,00	26 "African Methodist Episcopal Church (Kwakwasi Inter Church Food Aid Organiza-tion)", Koppies	R 110 610,00

NUTRITION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Funds paid to non-governmental organizations up to 1992-06-16 (1992/93 financial year) List of non-governmental organizations that received 25% of the approved amounts

Orange Free State

1 Pinkster Protestantse Kerk, Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 3 535,00	27 "Apostolic Faith Church", Petrus Steyn	R 2 150,00
2 NG Sendingkerk, Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 42 965,00	28 NG Kerk, Moedergermeente, Bultfontein	R 10 740,00
3 "Assemblies of God", Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 6 953,00	29 "Luekhoff Public School", NG Kerk in Afrika, Frankfort	R 6 490,00
4 "Pentecostal Movement", Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 2 768,00	30 Tweespruit Primêre Skool NG Kerk, Hobhouse	R 3 730,00
5 Kerk van God van Profesie, Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 5 480,00	31 NG Kerk, Oos-Gemeente, Bultfontein	R 3 650,00
6 Methodistse Kerk, Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 15 250,00	<i>Western Cape</i>	
7 Room Katolieke Kerk, Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 28 088,00	1 "Phulani Nutrition Centres"	R 459 800,00
8 "Christian Assemblies", Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 1 495,00	2 "Save the Children Fund (Cape)"	R 63 000,00
9 AGS Kerk, Brentpark, Kroonstad	R 5 230,00	3 SANTA Stellenbosch	R 52 585,00
10 Oranje Vrouevereniging, Kroonstad	R 1 690,00	4 "Grassroots Educare Trust"	R 1 423 480,00
11 Oppermansgronde Primêre Skool, Koffiefontein	R 4 440,00	5 "Catholic Welfare and Development"	R 40 590,00
12 NG Sendinggemeente, Riet-river-Wes	R 12 260,00	6 "The Methodist Homes for the Aged", Springbok	R 3 925,00
13 Gereformeerde Kerk, Heidedal	R 3 950,00	7 Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging, Oudshoorn	R 1 363 110,00
		8 CMR Diensentrum vir Bejaardes, Albertina	R 3 600,00

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

1513

Hansard

FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 1992

1514

Northern Cape

1 Prieska Diakonale Diensentrum	R 680 240,00
2 NGKA Benede Oranje, Upington	R 6 480,00
3 Rooikoppie-komitee, Delportshoop	R 28 060,00
4 "Methodist Church of SA (Commemoration)", Kimberley	R 14 850,00

Southern Transvaal

1 NG Kerk in Afrika, Boipatong	R 25 500,00
2 "Christian Centre Church International", Sharpeville	R 16 700,00
3 "Mosiwa Primary School", Mafatasana	R 12 490,00
4 "McCamel Community Centre", Evaton	R 46 530,00
5 "Khutlo-Tharo Secondary School", Residensia	R 19 750,00
6 "Modula-Qhowa Primary School", Sebokeng	R 12 560,00
7 "Makgethe Intermediate School", Sebokeng	R 4 410,00
8 "The O'Connor Foundation (The Jimmy O'Connor Welfare Services Club)", Cleveland	R 421 590,00
9 "The Holy Apostolic Church in Christ", Sebokeng	R 6 460,00
10 "Mokotuli Primary School", Sebokeng	R 7 710,00
11 AGS Welsynraad, Benoni	R 7 500,00
12 AGS Welsynraad, Pretoria	R 123 750,00
13 AGS Odinpark Welsynkomitee	R 75 000,00
14 AGS Welsynraad, Newlands	R 67 500,00
15 "Tluma Primary School", Sharpeville	R 8 470,00
16 "Methodist Church", Evaton	R 27 560,00
<i>Northern Transvaal</i>	
1 KAN Sasele-projek	R 2 576 786,00
<i>Natal</i>	
1 "Al Rama Nutrition Education Programme"	R 312 500,00

2 "Nutrition Corporation of South Africa (Kupugam)" R 1 250 000,00

South African Council for Education: reports

326 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education

Whether he has laid upon the table in Parliament reports of the South African Council for Education as required in terms of section 8(6) of the National Policy for General Education Affairs Act, No 76 of 1984, for each of the years since the inception of the Council, if not, why not?

B813E

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

No

The Council was appointed in 1985 for a term of three years, ending 30 September 1988. The term of Council was extended until 30 June 1989 in order to fundamenteally review the role of SACE. The following annual reports were submitted to the Minister of National Education whereupon the reports were tabled in Parliament in accordance with section 8(6) of the above-mentioned Act

An annual report of the Council for 1988 was compiled by the Executive Officer of SACE. However in view of the fact that the Council only met on 25 February 1988 and did not reconvene during that year, it could not consider the annual report

A new Council was appointed during August 1990 for a term of three years, ending 31 December 1992. The first meeting of the Council took place on 3 December 1990

Due to the nature of policy development in respect of education at school and technical college level and the training of teachers, SACE spends several months to finalize its advice on a specific matter and therefore an annual report for 1990 was not compiled

The Council met more frequently during 1991—on 26 April, 1 July and 6 November

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

years earlier and at various times, deleted certain of the conditions of title. The Registrar of Deeds had registered such deletions.

The applicants applied to the Court for an order declaring to be void and of no effect—

- * the decisions by the State President and the Minister of Community Development to delete the conditions, and
- * the decision by the Divisional Council to establish the township on the land

(b) In essence the Court—

- * declared the deletions of the conditions to be void and set such aside,
- * declared the registration of the deletions to be void and set such aside,
- * declared the Divisional Council to be not entitled to develop a township on the land
- (c) The total court costs to the State amounted to R29 011,75

- (2) The Registrar of Deeds has not yet reinstated the title conditions concerned in his records, but such registration action would be taken by him only when approached in this connection by the owner of the land. The Administrator's approval of the establishment of the township (which lapsed before the judgment of the Court) has not been renewed. No township has been established or developed on the land
- (3) No

Nutritional value of foodstuffs

322 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

- (1) Whether, with reference to composite products included in her Department's recommended list for its Nutrition Development Programme, any of the foodstuffs supplied by a certain company, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of her

reply, have been analysed for their nutritional value, if not, why not, if so, (a) what foodstuffs are supplied by this company, (b) (i) which of these foodstuffs have been so analysed and (ii) what were the findings in each case and (c) what is the name of the company in question,

- (2) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

B808E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

- (1) Yes, the South African Bureau of Standards analysed the nutrient content of some of the foodstuffs which are supplied by the relevant company,

- (a) "Lebno mix" (dairy blend) Maize meal
- "Mince" (texturized vegetable protein and marog)
- "Mince marog" (texturized vegetable protein)
- "Fruitkoel" (vitamin C-enriched drink)
- "Provie" (protein-vitamin-mineral-enriched drink)

Other foodstuffs which are supplied by the company and which comply to the approved list of food items, are stew nuggets (texturized vegetable protein), "Supreme" soup and high protein soup powder,

- (b) (i) the nutrient analyses of the "mince", stew nuggets and supreme soup were done and
- (ii) the products' nutrient values complied with the laid-down requirements and
- (c) Lebnor Foods,
- (2) no

Funds to organizations: Nutrition Development Programme

323 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

- (1) Whether any organizations have received funds in terms of the Government's Nutrition Development Programme, if so, (a) what are their names, (b) how much has been made available to each

organization and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

- (2) what criteria does an organization have to meet in order to qualify to receive funds in terms of the above-mentioned programme?

B809E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

- (1) Yes, funds were made available to non-governmental organizations in terms of the Government's Nutrition Development Programme (NDP),

(a) a list with the names of the 309 non-governmental organizations that have received funding from the NDP, appears on the attached annexure,

- (b) see annexure and
- (c) 245 non-governmental organizations received funding from the NDP between 1 October 1991 and 31 March 1992. 64 non-governmental organizations received funding from the NDP between 1 April 1992 and 16 June 1992,

- (2) each non-governmental organization which applies for financial assistance from the NDP must describe the planned project/programme in a prescribed application form which is obtainable from the nearest regional office of the Department of National Health and Population Development (NHPD)
- Some of the details that should be furnished in the application are
- Goals and objectives of the programme/project, that must include development actions
- The target group(s)
- Criteria for entering the programme/project
- Criteria for withdrawal from the programme/project
- Criteria for evaluating the success of the programme/project
- A financial state of income and expenditure

— The amount of funds needed

— The manner in which the money will be utilized

Furthermore, each non-governmental organization must complete and sign the Undertaking and initial the Financial Control Measures to ensure that funds will be utilized only for the purpose mentioned, before any payments can be made

Funds paid to non-governmental organizations (NGO's) as at 31 March 1992 (1991/92 financial year)

Southern Transvaal Region	
1 Imqualife (Pty) Ltd	R1 925 000,00
2 (Nutsmaatskappy)	R 200 000,00
3 Food Gardens Foundation	R 70 000,00
4 Street-Wise	
5 "Mes-Aksie (Middestad Evangelisasie en Sending-Aksie)"	R 250 000,00
6 Save the Children Fund	R 250 000,00
7 Ekutulem Anglican Mission	R 44 000,00
8 "Christelike Maatskaplike Raad"	R 607 200,00
9 The Shepherd's Flock Ministries	R 50 000,00
10 Bluegill Waters Farm School	R 10 000,00
11 South African Legion	R 27 500,00
12 Soweto Workshop for the Blind	R 10 000,00
13 Society of Saint Vincent de Paul	R 17 520,00
14 "Shloh Voedselbediening"	R 100 000,00
15 "Sud-Afrikaanse Vrouefederasie Rustenburg"	R 18 000,00
16 Kindermothilfe Southern Africa	R 83 000,00
17 "Shilonten Kinder-en Gesinsorgverening"	R 37 500,00
18 "Die Ark Bediening"	R 12 500,00
19 The Jimmy O'Connor Welfare Services Club	R 50 000,00
20 Meals on Wheels for the Aged Johannesburg North Branch	R 10 000,00
21 "Kosmos Diensentrum vir Bejaardes"	R 10 000,00
22 AFCS Community Nutritional Education and Feeding Scheme	R 20 100,00
23 "Laerskool Venterspost"	R 6 000,00

(b) (i) and (ii) The nature and cost of each of the projects developed in this town, is as follows

PROJECTS

Main Post Office	1 654 000
Supreme Court	3 355 000
Independence Stadium	5 069 000
Secondary school	1 831 000
Primary school 1	439 000
Primary school 2	579 000
Show grounds	2 087 000
Upgrading houses Sustershoek	401 000
Radio KwaNdebele terrain identification	12 000
Provision of water and sewerage	1 322 000
Water reservoir	704 000
Main water supply	2 071 000
Structure plan	198 000
Services master plan	185 000
Planning central business area	40 000
Main access road	1 130 000
Water reticulation	498 000
28/11 KV Sub station	1 359 000
Electrical reticulation	1 664 000
Roads and drainage	3 252 000
130 Residences	7 532 000
Computer centre	1 925 000
Legislative assembly and government offices	13 354 000
Philadelphia nurses home	1 856 000
Siyabuswa community health centre	531 000
Tweefontein community health centre	357 000
Vlakaagte community health centre	521 000

(2) Similar amenities at Siyabuswa, was temporary accommodation for the Legislative Assembly. A school building and hall was used for this purpose and the provision of the Legislative Assembly hall and other structures and services at Kwamhlanga is therefore not a duplication

Number of prisoners: Robben Island

315 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services

How many prisoners were being held at the (a) maximum security and (b) medium security

prison on Robben Island as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

B777E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

(a) and (b)

Since 20 August 1991 no maximum security prison is in operation on Robben Island. Only minimum and medium security prisoners are now being accommodated on the island. The number of prisoners on 9 June 1992 was 490

Distribution of food in terms of feeding scheme

316 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

(1) What is the name and/or rank of the senior official of her Department who is responsible for the distribution of food in terms of the Government's feeding scheme,

(2) whether additional staff have been employed by her Department to assist in the distribution of food, if not, why not, if so, how many,

(3) what steps have been taken by her Department to date to ensure that food distributed to organizations reaches those persons and regions requiring food,

(4) whether any food supplies distributed to areas in South Africa have not reached their destinations, if so, (a) why and (b) what are the names of these areas?

B778E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

(1) No food is being distributed by the Department of National Health and Population Development (NHDP) in terms of the Nutrition Development Programme (NDP). Dr CF Slabber, Director-General of NHDP, who is the accounting officer for the Department gives final approval for funds to be paid out to non-governmental organizations that apply for funding from the NDP;

(2) no, the NDP initially attempted to administer the scheme without employing additional staff. The Commission for Administration has now however been approached for a recommendation to employ temporary staff, or staff on contract, additional to the approved establishment,

(3) it must be emphasised that no food is issued to organisations. Organisations have to apply for funds via the regional offices of NHDP, where they are rendering services. The regional committees process the application and make recommendations concerning funding. These committees are furthermore responsible for monitoring the implementation of programmes and for ensuring that food reaches the target group(s),

(4) yes, the only report which the Department has received is in respect of one self-governing territory, where food allegedly did not reach the target group,

(a) the relevant authorities have been requested to furnish particulars with a view to a thorough investigation and

(b) Lebowa

Damage to school buildings/equipment.

318 Dr F H PAUW asked the Minister of Education and Training

In respect of each of the latest specified five years for which information is available, what was the total amount of the damage to (a) school buildings and equipment at schools under the control of his Department and (b) building work and material at schools that were still under construction?

B791E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(a) 1987 — R11 030 558
1988 — R20 052 299
1989 — R 3 454 586
1990 — R12 239 053
1991 — R 9 649 588

(b) The information is not available. The Department makes use of private contractors for the erection of buildings and is contractually indemnified against damage or loss during building contracts. Contractors are usually insured against damage or loss. No record of damage suffered by contractors is therefore kept by the Department.

Transfer of schools

319 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Public Works

(1) Whether the Department of Education and Culture in the Administration House of Assembly has transferred any schools to his Department since 1 January 1991, if so, what schools,

(2) whether his Department has decided to which Departments or other institutions these schools are to be made available, if not, (a) why not and (b) when are decisions in this regard expected to be taken, if so, to what Departments or institutions?

B798E

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS

(1) Yes

(2) Yes

Primary School Drakensberg (Nelspruit)
SA Defence Force
Primary School Nooitgedacht (Lichtenberg) SA Defence Force
Primary School Roolberg (Warmbaths) SA Police
Primary School Die Bron (Worcester) Dept of Correctional Services

(2) (a) and (b) fall away

Financial/development aid to self-governing territories

320 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Regional and Land Affairs

(a) What (i) financial and (ii) development aid was granted by the South African Government to each of the self-governing territories in the

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

should play a responsible role in the Development Advisory Committee. That is the forum where everything in this regard needs to be articulated, and the forum from which a co-ordinated approach could develop. Time expired.

The DEPUTY MINISTER Mr Chairman I am sorry that we are limited to such a short debate on this. I want to stress that I think this is one of the most important debates one can possibly have about developing that particular area.

I think the hon member Mr M F Cassim proved my point. Mr Saunders of Tongaat-Hulett has millions of rand of capital that could be invested in order to create jobs. We in the Government can only create a climate conducive to development. The private sector, of which the Tongaat-Hulett Group forms part, should put their money where their mouth is, by putting money into South Africa to create the necessary jobs. I want to commend the hon member on making that point.

As far as the water resource is concerned, I do not want to instigate anything here, but I think some hon member should submit an interpellation to the hon the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry in regard to the amount of water running to the sea. If one talks to anybody in Natal, one is asked why a dam has not been built in the Tugela Basin. As far as the Department of Regional Development is concerned, I will act as a facilitator if it is possible for us to assist in doing something in this regard.

I cannot pass up the opportunity to make one last remark. I think the hon member Mr M F Cassim was a bit naughty to say that we were penalising KwaZulu. My job is to do regional development on the one hand, and urbanisation on the other. If we do not do regional development, as in KwaZulu, we pick up the tab when people urbanise. There is no reason, therefore, for us to penalise anybody. In fact, the figures I have given—these are available, I shall send hon members each a copy—are evidence of what has been achieved in that particular area.

Debate concluded.

that something needs to be done about that urgently?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I cannot attest to the truth of that story, because the Lebowa Government is fully responsible for the allocation and distribution of funds and food. As I have said, the programme is continuously being monitored by the Department of National Health and Population Development. We find that unacceptable and we do not approve of food being left in a storeroom.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I thank her for that answer, but I would like to ask her whether in fact the correctness of those reports was investigated?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, as I said the Department has had discussions with the relevant departments. I have not received a report on those discussions as yet, but the situation is being monitored. We will not allow food to be stored in a storeroom.

Report on food prices

*2 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Trade and Industry

- (1) Whether the Board of Trade and Industry initiated a report on food prices in or about July 1991, is so.
- (2) whether this report has been completed, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that the report will be completed, if so, what are its main findings.
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

D182E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- (1) The former Minister of Trade and Industry and Tourism, Dr G Marais and Dr A I van Niekerk, Minister of Agriculture requested the Board of Trade and Industry (now the Board on Tariffs and Trade) to investigate food prices. A press release in this regard was issued on 5 July 1991.
- (2) The Board has decided to issue a preliminary report in order to stimulate further discussion on the subject. This report should be available before 17 June 1992. I

have given permission to the Board for the establishment of a committee, in terms of the Board on Tariffs and Trade Act (Act 60 of 1992), on which representatives of the Co-ordinating Committee on VAT and other consumer bodies will serve. This committee will take the matter further.

- (3) I will await a final report from the Board and do not intend issuing a statement at this stage.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, I thank him for his reply, but I would like to ask him whether that report will in fact be made public and made available to hon members of this House?

The DEPUTY MINISTER Mr Chairman, the report will be made public.

INTERPELLATION

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

Own Affairs

Shallcross link road, repayment

1 The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION asked the Minister of Housing and Agriculture

- (1) Whether, subsequent to the reply by the Minister of Housing on 4 February 1992 to an interpellation on the Shallcross link road, he or his Department has made any arrangements for the Development and Services Board and the Durban Municipality to repay the total amount that is being spent on this link road, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details.
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

D203E INT

The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE Mr Chairman, ongoing negotiations are taking place between the Administration House of Delegates and the local authorities involved. Officials of the Durban City Council are currently preparing a submission on this issue for consideration by the city.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

represent some form of subsidy to agriculture. These are loans, consolidation of debt, purchase of land and subsidised interest rates, the subsidies on interest, conversion of land to farming patterns and we also have emergency assistance.

There are two points that the DP would like to make here, and the first is that we believe that over the longer term subsidies to agriculture should be phased out altogether. They have not achieved the objectives they were installed for, namely to help farmers in trouble and to make access to agriculture easier for aspiring farmers. Instead, subsidies have often been capitalised into land values, and they have helped to give distorted price signals resulting in wrong patterns of production. High land values have, in fact, made entrance into farming more difficult, and the wrong production patterns have made farming more risky. To the extent that the Department is responsible for the administration of subsidies, we believe these should fall away.

Secondly, with regard to the purchase of land and loans for the purchase of land, we believe the Land Bank as a specialist institution should handle this and should have overall responsibility. Subsidised loans for land should also be phased out and hence another function of this Department.

We therefore do not foresee the functions of the Land Bank and the directorate being combined, because we would hope that over time most of the functions of the directorate would fall away. They should continue to perform those which they do keep like drought relief and assistance in situations like that.

The MINISTER Mr Charman, with regard to what the hon member for Pietermaritzburg North said about the question of subsidies, we are in the process of phasing out subsidies. On the other hand, with the difficult farming conditions we have and the erratic climate in which farmers operate there are times when one has to ensure food security by means of subsidies keeping farmers in production, or else we will end up without a sufficient supply of locally produced food. We would then have to rely on imported food, which is usually expensive. In that regard we cannot totally disregard the role that subsidies can play in facilitating this action. With regard to the purchase of land, the department no longer funds the purchasing of land and

we do not intend doing so in the future, because that is the function of the Land Bank. I agree with what the hon member has just said.

*With all due respect, I do not think the hon member for Ladybrand listened carefully to my explanation. We have not created a new body but have just brought about a rationalisation between the two activities so that certain functions that are the responsibility of the Land Bank do go to the Land Bank, as I mentioned in respect of various transactions where money for production loans is involved and in respect of the consolidation of debt, and that on the part of Agricultural credit, relief is only granted in respect of the interest. However, I have already explained this.

I do not think the hon member need worry about the fact that the Land Bank has been so unapproachable, as he says. Indeed, the experience that we have is that the Land Bank acts in an extremely responsible way and in fact only in cases where it cannot do otherwise, does it proceed to take action in terms of the provisions of its Act.

In this regard the Agricultural Credit Board plays an important role. That is why it should also keep functioning separately, as he says. [Time expired.]

*Mr J M BEYERS Mr Charman, we on this side of the House are in favour of the Agricultural Credit Board being incorporated into the Land Bank and that the Land Bank takes over all the functions of the ACB. We have been appealing for a long time, together with the formal agricultural sector, for a one-stop financial assistance service for farmers where the farmer's total financial package can be addressed and meaningful and streamlined decisions taken on it. For the farmer the important advantage is in this sense that his total financial planning can then be finalized at one place. A further advantage, especially in view of the future constitutional dispensation that the Government is planning, is that the farmer's financial service will not then be so closely associated with the Government than is the case at present with the ACB.

However, from this side of the House we impose two important conditions for the incorporation of the ACB—which in any case is apparently not going to take place, in view of the hon the Minister's reply. In the first place we state that all category 3 farmers that receive assistance from

the ACB at present should still be assisted by the new body or combined body, with the same advantages and the same conditions as they enjoyed at the ACB.

In the second place we feel—and we feel strongly about it—that the Directorate Financial Assistance should not disappear, but should be available to render State assistance to farmers through particular channels, during emergency- and disaster-related conditions.

In a country such as South Africa, with our particular climatology and fluctuating natural conditions, the State will always have to play an important role to keep agriculture healthy.

A further aspect that I believe has now become urgently necessary and on which we should like to ascertain the Minister's opinion, is whether it will be possible in such a possible new dispensation, for commercial banks to be responsible for agricultural debt, which as a result of excessive interest rates, at present constitutes about 39% of the total debt burden of farmers. [Time expired.]

*Mr C E HERTZOG Mr Charman, it is of the utmost importance that certain functions of these bodies be combined. We have great understanding for the idea that the Directorate Financial Assistance should remain in existence to be of assistance to farmers in cases of disaster, but just as a train driver cannot accept financial responsibility for a train disaster, so the farmers cannot accept financial responsibility in the present conditions for a disaster in agriculture. That is why we on this side of the House would really like to see certain functions combined, but that the Directorate Financial Assistance remains in existence in order to be of assistance in emergencies.

*The MINISTER Mr Charman, I can give the hon member for Ladybrand the assurance that that is exactly what we envisage in respect of certain functions that must be combined and that should logically fall under a financing institution and not the State. But in respect of the functional arm that should deal with disasters, and remain the responsibility of the State, we must keep the Agricultural Credit Board and the directorate in place in order to be able to evaluate it at grassroots level. We cannot do without it, and that is exactly one of the reasons why we cannot combine the two. It therefore remains as is.

The hon member for Virginia asks for one-stop service in respect of financing. It is going to be transferred to the Land Bank, or we are going to try to do it. The other functions then remain with the Agricultural Credit Board.

The existing conditions in respect of category 3 farmers will be maintained. Under the auspices of the Agricultural Credit Board they can move in and out, not only at the Land Bank, but also at commercial banks in order to subsidise agricultural debt on a sliding scale for one year with low interest rates, and can then phase it out slowly.

The directorate will not disappear. Commercial banks that deal with agricultural debt are therefore also being incorporated here. As far as the Agricultural Credit Board is concerned and farmers that serve on agricultural credit committees.

*The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member must resume his seat. The hon the Minister may proceed.

*The MINISTER They perform an important function and provide an unselfish service to farmers. I should like to express my gratitude on this occasion for the functions that they perform. It is one of the important things at grassroots level that should remain intact for the sake of agriculture. In order to do this we need to have the financial assistance arm and also the Agricultural Credit Board.

We are not planning to change radically, but we should like to make the whole process more streamlined with a view to a healthy financing policy.

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Feeding scheme: amount distributed/available

270 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

(1) (a) (i) What total amount (aa) has been distributed in terms of the Government's

(2) whether any problems have been encountered in the distribution of these funds, if so, what problems?

B657E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

(1) (a) (i) (aa) An amount of R110 million from the Nutrition Development Programme (NDP) was spent during the 1991/1992 financial year and R14,7 million in the 1992/1993 financial year, and

(bb) from the R440 million allocated to the NDP for the 1992/1993 financial year, an amount of R425,3 million is still available, and

(b) regional committees were established by the regional offices of the Department of National Health and Population Development (NHPPD) to investigate and evaluate the infrastructure and credibility of the programmes of non-governmental organizations, that apply for funding. Recommendations for the funding of these organizations are then forwarded to the Head Office of NHPPD for processing, final approval and

~~241~~

payment
Regional offices of NHPPD allocate funds according to needs to clinics operated by local authorities, provincial administrations and regional services councils. These clinics may apply to the nearest regional office of NHPPD for funding from the NDP, for the extension of the existing state-subsidized scheme for combating protein-energy malnutrition

Funds were made available from the NDP by the NHPPD to the TBVC states and self-governing territories with the proviso that these governments assume full financial accountability for the judicious allocation and spending of the funds, as well as full responsibility for implementing, co-ordinating and monitoring of programmes.

(2) yes, because of misapplication of funds by a non-governmental organization, stringent financial control measures had to be introduced to prevent further misapplication. Approval of these measures was only granted by the Department of State Expenditure on 20 December 1991 which led to delayed payments to organizations. These delays should, however, be overcome shortly.
A National Interim Committee has been established to *inter alia* compile the policy, criteria and guide-lines for the NDP, which have now been completed. Shortage of sufficient manpower especially at regional level has also jeopardized the progress of the NDP. This matter is receiving urgent attention

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Appointment of Indian teachers: withdrawal of circular

*1 Mr W J DIETRICH asked the Minister of Education and Culture

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 3 on 21 May 1991, Circular No 45/89, which was issued by his Department on 23 October 1989 and dealt with the appointment of Indian teachers, has been withdrawn by his Department, if not, why not, if so, (a) when and (b) by whom,
- (2) whether, in withdrawing this circular, the normal procedure was followed, if not, why not,
- (3) what procedure was followed in this case,
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C28E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (1) Yes
(a) On 27 December 1991
(b) By the Chief Executive Director Education and Culture
- (2) Yes
- (3) A circular was issued to rectors of colleges, principals of schools, Inspectors and Regional Chief Inspectors of Education, the Inspectorate at Head Office, Regional Representatives of the Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services and Teachers Associations wherein the open policy of the Department with regard to the appointment of CS-Educators on an equal basis was confirmed
- (4) No A statement is not deemed necessary

Mr W J DIETRICH Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, I want to ask him a question I do not want to quarrel with the hon the Minister, but I have a problem. On Tuesday, 21 May 1991 the former Minister of Education and Culture stated that the circular under discussion here had been withdrawn on 25 March 1991. Now we are told that the circular was withdrawn on 27 December 1991. I would like to know which is the true version

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I do not want to enter into a debate on whether the statement was withdrawn or not, or what is true or untrue. I am merely stating the case according to information supplied by my Department

I can read out the statement of 27 December 1991 if the hon member for Bethelsdorp wants to listen to it. The circular, No 70/91, dated 27 December 1991, is addressed to the Directorate Staff Education and reads as follows
APPOINTMENT OF CS-EDUCATORS

It is herewith confirmed that the Department has accepted the policy whereby all CS-Educators may compete on an equal footing for posts under the control of the Department

The appointment of CS-Educators in the service of other education departments will, however, first be confirmed by this department with the education departments concerned. This measure is necessary in order to clarify any contractual commitments, the transfer of service benefits etc

Nominations for the appointment of CS-Educators who, at the time of nomination are in the employ of other education departments or who at some time in the past were in the service of other departments, must therefore be submitted at least one month before the appointment becomes effective. This measure does not apply in the case of advertised posts

The contents of this circular must be brought to the attention of all concerned

The House knows that we have an open policy in our education section. We accept applications from the whole community. Any child is entitled to apply for a place in a school if it is available. Anyone with the right qualifications is entitled to be appointed to our Department

I admit that the previous circular that was issued when this matter came under discussion created

can't

These Vaal 'Christians don't have apartheid'

SOUTH 2016-24/6/92 (241) (241)

A BLACK church minister in a poor black township in Vereeniging doles out food daily to destitute whites in the area

His congregation 'scrapes money together each month because "Christians don't have apartheid"

A black businessman makes up aid parcels for whites who sleep under the trees because he wants to contribute to racial harmony

Times are changing for white people in South Africa. Many are struggling to cope with the worst recession since the 1930s as well as the gradual erosion of their economic preserves as non-racial democracy approaches

In the industrial belt of Johannesburg, help is coming from a surprising quarter — the people apartheid long kept underfoot to guard the white man's superior place in the sun

Mr John Mgcina, minister of the New Ethiopian Church in Bophelōng near Sharpeville, runs a soup-kitchen in a dusty park for more than 100 homeless, including 20 whites

"There are rich white people but they turn their heads away. Black people give us food. My attitude to blacks has definitely changed," said Mr Piet Scholtz, who worked as a miner for 30 years

He has lost his job, home and family and sleeps under a tarpaulin near the FW de Klerk bridge

He and other blacks and whites, unified by adversity, breakfast in the bare park at the bottom of town, tucking into vegetable soup and corn porridge consisting of the contents from tins donated by black businessman Mr Simon Mofokeng

"I wanted to do this because blacks and whites are suffering together," Mofokeng said

Sapa-Reuter

Relief as the maize

arrives

So wefen 25/6/92

BY PEARL MAJOLA

African Maize Board

EFFORTS to bring relief to millions of people threatened with starvation by the current drought in Africa are paying off as tons of yellow maize arrive at the Durban harbour.

The maize is then loaded into trains and trucks and transported from South Africa to the rest of Africa.

This is the result of the teaming up of overseas food agencies and the South

About 11 million tons of maize were pledged by the food agencies and they are shipping the maize to South Africa for distribution here and to other African states until the next crop.

In South Africa the millers have already ground the yellow maize (70 percent) and mixed it with some of the white (30 percent) that was saved from the last harvest.

Yellow maize meal is once again being packaged and is already on sale in some shops.

Despite its yellow tinge, the new maize meal will still be available in all the grades - super, special, sifted, unsifted and straight run.

"Yellow maize has the same nutritional value as white and tastes the same," explained a spokesman for the Maize Board.

"In most parts of the world people prefer yellow maize to white

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SA 'must avoid poverty trap'

241

CT 25/6/92

Business Editor

SA needs economic policies that will save it from being caught in a permanent poverty trap with low savings, low investment and low growth after the next upswing, Amalgamated Banks of SA (Absa) economists warn in their latest Economic Spotlight

They say the upswing expected to start next year will last until 1995 raising the levels of personal incomes, corporate profits and government revenues in real terms — which will mean that "some improvement in the overall savings performance will also occur

"From then on, however, investment spending is projected to rise at an accelerating pace over a broad spectrum of economic sectors and looks set to exceed domestic saving by a wide margin into 1995

Repeat of slump

"Assuming only moderate growth in exports during this period the current account of the balance of payments will, in all probability, move into a deficit by about 1995."

This, they warn, would "generate domestic financial pressures similar to those of 1981, 1984 and 1988 and push up the prime lending rate Inevi-

tably another cyclical downturn would commence in about early 1996.

"Thus the low-savings, low-growth, low-investment trap which has entrenched itself over the last decade would forcefully and relentlessly be re-imposed upon the SA economy"

But this could be avoided if SA could achieve an inflow of foreign capital, rapid export earnings growth, a more productive utilisation of existing fixed capital stock, more optimal allocation of funding flows and investment spending and the balanced promotion of higher saving

The economists stress that it is therefore "of paramount importance" to create a clear, stable and positive political and economic framework

Long-term emphasis

Policy and other measures to attract foreign capital "could include positive tax policies, assurances against nationalisation, the phasing out of exchange control and the financial rand system, and an over-all commitment to a market-orientated economy

"Specifically the emphasis should be placed firstly on direct long-term equity investments and secondly on long-term loan finance rather than short-term loans from the world banking system.

Operation rooibos, beans and tomatoes

By Justin Pearce

SOUTH
27/6-1/7/92

AMID RUMOURS about the dumping of dairy products, Operation Hunger received a donation last week of 15 tons of rooibos tea, R240 000 worth of green beans and 49 728 tms of tomato paste

Regional director Mrs Elna Trautmann said the donations were not basic foodstuffs, but the donors had set an example which other producers could heed.

The tea was donated by the Rooibos Tea Board, and tinned goods by Langeberg Foods

Proponents of dumping claim that giving away surplus food decreases profits, and allows unscrupulous people to sell the food for their own gain

Trautmann said the recent donations demonstrated that giving away surplus food need not upset the market

"The people we are feeding are too poor to cause an imbalance in any market. These people are so desperate they will definitely drink the milk and not sell it"

Part of the foodstuffs was distributed from a depot in Philippi to 136 community organisations. The rest will be delivered to organisations in the Western Cape, Southern Cape and Namaqualand

UN sets up SA office to aid huge food shipments

STimes(Buss) 28/6/92

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By KEVIN DAVIE

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has opened an office in Johannesburg to help co-ordinate the flow of desperately needed food aid in Southern Africa.

Ten countries with a combined population of 18-million have been targeted by the WFP, which estimates that 6.1-million tons of maize will be needed to prevent famine from blighting the sub-region.

SA, which is expected to import about 4.5-million tons of grain at a cost of about R1.8-billion, is excluded from relief programmes because it can pay its way. It has not asked international agencies for help.

The operation to beat famine is co-ordinated in SA by Portnet and Spoornet.

Portnet's Simon Swanich says 21 shiploads of grain are now on the water. Another 12 ships have arrived in SA ports.

About 300 shiploads are needed as part of the overall import programme.

Alert

The WFP's Broniek Szynalski said in an interview with Business Times in Johannesburg this week that \$500-million had been pledged by donor countries, but much of the relief money had to be translated into shipments.

"We need to send an alert to donors," Rome-based Mr Szynalski said. "There should be more food moving now."

The WFP estimates that the 10 affected countries will need to import 6-million tons of maize, of which about two-thirds will come through SA ports.

Mr Szynalski said about 200 000 tons of maize had been landed in SA or was on the water. Another 200 000 tons was due to leave.

Donors had pledged 1.9-million tons of maize in total, about half of non-commercial needs of the 10 countries of 4.1-million tons.

Mr Szynalski said the drought affected more people over a wider area than the disastrous one in the early 1980s which caused considerable damage in North Africa.

He said this operation was the largest tackled by the WFP in terms of numbers of people affected.

started moving "The worst thing in a famine is when people start moving in search of food"

The position could not be described as famine yet — "we hope to prevent it"

The WFP's representative in SA is Arnt Breivik, who is head of the WFP's logistic advisory unit.

Mr Breivik praised the efforts of the SA team co-ordinating the import of maize to South and Southern Africa.

"There have been teething problems, but SA has taken the lead. They've put up an operations room and they've put up the right people"

"They're doing a good job"

See page 3

Welfare services are under 'severe strain'

Sowetan 29/6/92
FAR-REACHING political and economic changes, employment, health and housing problems had placed unparalleled demands on welfare services, deputy chairman of Sanlam Mr Pierie Steyn said last week.

Speaking at a function at which he donated R65 000 to a Cape-based welfare organisation, Steyn said comprehensive political and economic changes provided massive challenges

"Unemployment, health problems such as tuberculosis, Aids and malnutrition, as well as a shortage of housing, made unparalleled demands on the already shrinking resources of the Government and also on every individual.

"Already the Government is unable to meet the growing requirements of welfare

Business Reporter (24)

institutions, yet the demand for provision of welfare services continue to grow," Steyn said.

He said while in the past the emphasis had been based on specialised services to specified groups of people, such as the disabled, the elderly and needy children, the focus in future would be directed towards the general welfare

The provision of basic needs such as shelter, security and nutrition would increasingly become the task of welfare organisations because they had access to the community, Steyn said



Helping others to help themselves

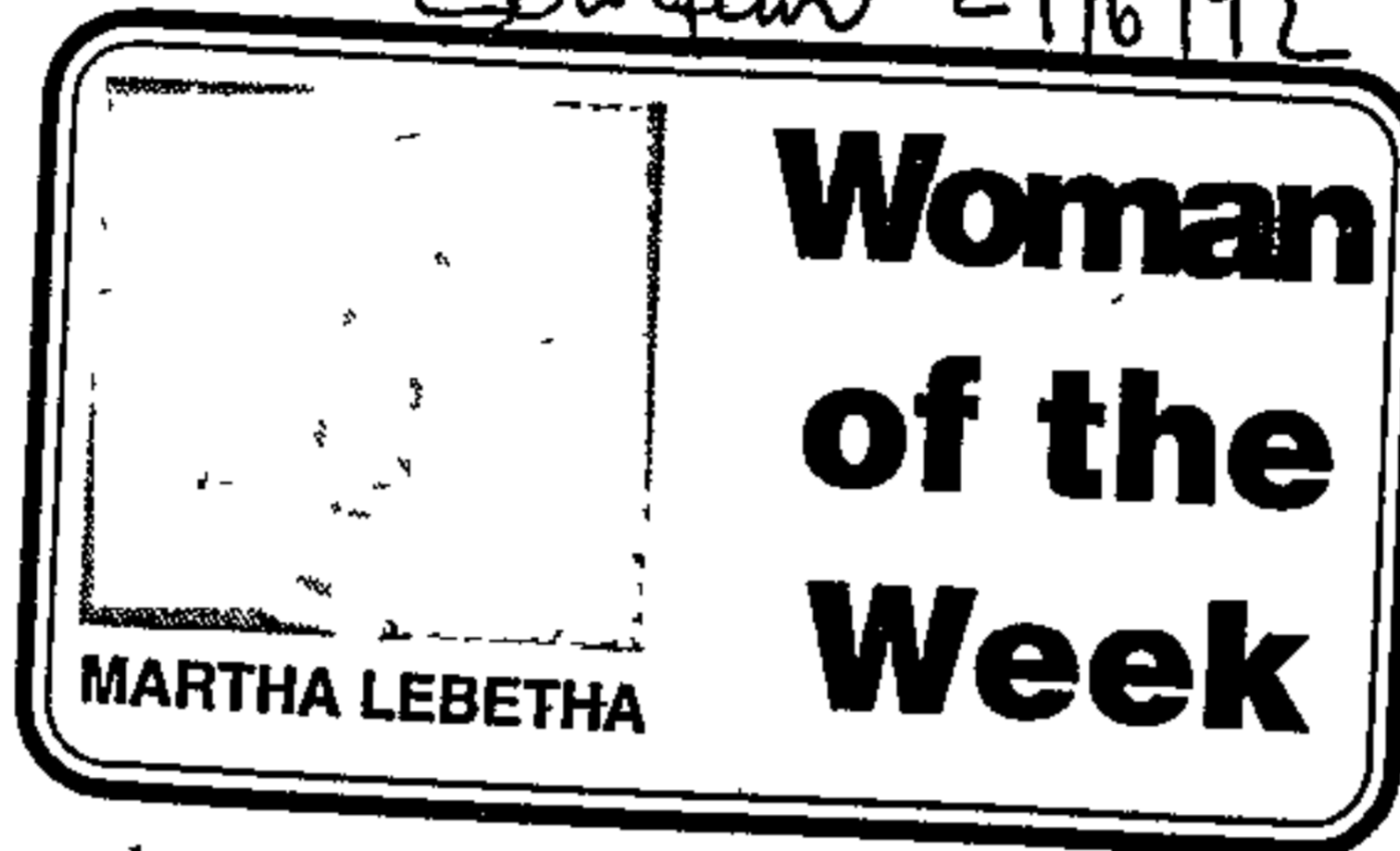
By PEARL MAJOLA

A GROUP of men and women sit in a circle, listening as a woman demonstrates how a mixture of melted candle wax, cooking oil and perfume can be turned into vaseline.

The woman is 49-year-old Ms Martha Lebetha of Lenyenye, in the Northern Transvaal, who co-ordinates the village's health workers under a project started by the Ithuseng Community Association.

Lebetha was in Johannesburg recently for a week-long workshop organised by the Wilgespruit Fellowship Centre where she gave lessons to community workers and ordinary people on self-help skills.

"I will take any opportunity to learn a skill and go on to teach other people because I believe it is the only way that unemployed



people are going to survive," Lebetha said.

"My main concern is for the illiterate and unemployed people, especially women. Most of the skills I teach can be applied at home and no sophisticated machinery is needed.

"We don't know what the new South Africa has in store for us. But we must be prepared. We should be able to manufacture our own soap, clothes and household goods.

"Besides arming them with the skills, the people also gain self-confidence. The feeling of helplessness

because of lack of education is overcome because of the knowledge acquired.

"I encourage everyone I teach to spread the knowledge so that we can reach more people. In that way people can even start co-operatives and make a living," she pointed out.

Born and bred in Sekhukhuneland in the Northern Transvaal, Lebetha's dream was to become a teacher.

But she could not achieve her ambition because of financial problems. She did, however, manage to do a stint as a

part-time teacher at the local Makgane Primary School in 1966, during which time she started literacy classes for adults.

A few years later she lost her teaching job when the education department did away with part-time teachers. She joined the retail industry as a cashier.

A committed community worker, she soon resigned from her job, left her seven children in the care of her mother and joined Ithuseng.

"I go home once a month. I miss my children a lot sometimes," she explained. "I'm better off as I get a salary from Ithuseng and my children don't go hungry. But the people I work with have nothing and they need me most," she concluded.

● Lebetha is a nominee for the Sowetan/Eskom Woman of the Year Award.

Business Editor
CAPE Town Chamber of Commerce has called on the government to speed up its poverty relief programme, intended to relieve hardship following the imposition of VAT on basic foodstuffs

In a strongly worded statement issued yesterday the chamber's president, Herbert Hirsch, said "SA has more than enough challenges to overcome without these being further undermined by maladministration"

He called on the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Rina Venter to "ensure that

Poverty relief: Speed urged

the limited funds are allocated without further delay"

Hirsch points out that it was as long ago as March 1991 that the government announced its intention to implement the pro-

gramme to offset the impact of VAT on the poor

"On a number of occasions in 1991 my chamber urged the President and several ministers to ensure that the relief programme was in place in good time.

"Although some basic foodstuffs are still exempted, this in no way meets the need.

"In the current year the government has voted R440m for a nutrition development programme — and indicated that it will consider further allocations if necessary — yet it appears to be incapable of allocating funds already voted"

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(241)

CT 8/1/92



EC told to do more for starving Africa

31 DAY 1017192

(241)

STRASBOURG — The EC must do more to relieve the African famine which is threatening 60-million lives, the European Parliament said yesterday

"The huge scale of the approaching famine in Africa constitutes a challenge to the conscience of the governments and peoples of all member states," the EC assembly said in a resolution

It said the EC should free emergency aid from its development fund for drought-stricken countries in the Horn of Africa and parts of southern Africa. It called also for armed protection of relief convoys and workers

The situation is especially serious in Somalia, where civil war has aggravated the famine and huge numbers of children are afflicted with severe malnutrition, it said. The EC should continue providing assistance to Yemen, so it can take in Somali refugees, it added

The parliament, whose opinions on such matters have no legal effect on EC policy, said rap-

id help was also needed in Kenya, where one-million Kenyans and about 500 000 refugees were suffering from a severe drought

EC ministers should put pressure on the Renamo rebels in Mozambique, whose "violent acts make the relief of famine so difficult in that country", it said

In Munich this week, the seven wealthiest industrial nations heaped advice on developing nations as they ended their annual economic summit on Wednesday, but failed to match this with concrete promises of fresh cash

But senior French officials cited progress on one particular point of concern to some of France's heavily-indebted African partners. Reaffirming the current debt strategy, the Group of Seven (G-7) leaders welcomed the "enhanced debt relief" extended to the poorest debtors by the Paris Club of creditor governments, chaired by France

Since last year's 50% debt write-offs granted to Poland and Egypt, after American pressure, France has argued that Cameroon, Congo, Ivory Coast and Gabon, which owe two-thirds to three-quarters of their debt to governments rather than commercial banks, deserve similar or better treatment

At the 1991 summit in London, some key creditors, including the US and Japan, rejected such aid

"We have had a breakthrough," a French delegate said. "The summit has got things to move, and the Paris Club now has a more precise mandate"

The summit declaration promised "best efforts to increase the quantity and quality of official development assistance" but said this would be directed "more towards the poorest countries," and in particular "those countries that undertake credible efforts to help themselves" — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

Planners must change minds

241

CIPREN 12/7/92

A NEW state of mind will help town planners design townships in the new SA, according to University of Cape Town architect Revel Fox.

In a speech titled "New townships for old", Fox told the winter school at the Grahamstown Arts Festival that "designing for the poor has often been neglected".

"What exists are dormitories, hostels that don't cater for the needs of the community."

He said the apartheid regime had consciously isolated townships from the white communities in town.

Calling for more accessibility, he said when planning townships an architect must bear in mind that most people rely on trains and buses.

Ownership of the land by the tenant must be taken into consideration so that the house can be extended to accommodate boarders.

Fox pointed out Bisho in Ciskei and Lilongwe in Malawi as typical old townships which have been transformed into new ones.

Skilled architects, ideas from the community and financial assistance from the State formed the best approach to planning new townships. - ANA

SA being forced to ^{11/26} ^{(3) General} ⁸⁷⁴ import essential foods

By Hannes Ferguson,
Farming Correspondent

South Africa is fast becoming reliant on imported essential foods.

So say economists who believe that this situation is the result not only of the current drought but also of the Government's economic policies and administrative bungling

As a direct result of the drought, they say, a maize surplus has been converted into a shortfall and, far from being the continent's granary, South Africa now has to rely on grain imported from America and Argentina

And this situation, they continue, has been aggravated by the Government policy of keeping the rand at a higher international exchange rate than is warranted by its internal value.

A spokesman for the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) said yesterday that the point had been reached where it was often cheaper to import food than to grow it locally

This had led, among other things, to the importation of large quantities of out-of-season fruit from Europe, much of which is flown out at great expense

And this, the spokesman said, had caused a situation where the competitiveness of South African fruit, canned food and other agricultural exports had been severely damaged.

The policy of protecting industry supplying agriculture stood in the way of any effort to lower production costs of farm products, the SAAU said

Two weeks ago, the Government established a "hush-hush" inter-departmental committee to look at the uncontrolled importation of foodstuffs

The departments of Agriculture, Finance and Industries, as well as the SAAU and various control boards, are represented on the committee

The SAAU also accused the Department of Industries, Commerce and Tourism of issuing "general food permits irrespective of existing surplus stocks", and said the relevant control boards had only been consulted where it was laid down by law

According to market research done by the Dairy Control Board, about 8 000 tons of milk powder products annually enter the country — either through the use of fraudulent customs declarations or through loopholes created by the Department

The countries of origin usually paid a subsidy of about 50 percent

The customs service does not have sufficient manpower to inspect a containerised cargo which has, according to sources, become a major channel of import duty evasion

The SAAU recently set up a special committee to deal with the irregular importation of vegetables, potatoes and other foods

focus on drought

Sowetan 5/10/92

~~241~~ (241)

WHERE A TORRENT OF green water hundreds of metres wide should be flowing and nourishing crops, there is dust. People say they remember nothing like it in their lifetimes.

"You can't grow anything. The earth is dead," Ham Mkansi, a peasant farmer, said as she stared out over a lifeless field near the river.

Across southern Africa, the worst drought in 100 years has stripped many areas bare. Villagers in some places eat mud to stave off hunger pangs after months of surviving on leaves and roots that have now run out.

Fields are patches of windblown dust, hundreds of thousands of cattle are dead or dying and millions of desperate people depend on food from aid agencies struggling to meet the growing demand.

Up to 20 million people, or about a fifth of the population, are struggling to survive in the 10 nations of southern Africa. But aid workers do not expect a repeat of the disaster ravaging Somalia to the north, except possibly in war-torn Mozambique where the United Nations (UN) says three million people face death from famine and disease.

"With less than 50 percent of average crop yields anticipated during 1992-93, at least 18 million people face the spectre of starvation, even famine," said a UN report.

A quarter of Zimbabwe's 10 million people get food aid but almost as many have been turned away. Large parts of Swaziland depend on 21 overworked government water trucks.

In South Africa, the continent's strongest economy, aid groups feeding at least two million people have been forced to cut food allowances because they are overwhelmed by demand.

"It is worse, much, much worse than we anticipated. Field trips are journeys of discovery into previously uncharted depths of misery, human suffering and want," said Ina Perlman, head of Operation Hunger, a private South African aid group. "But this is Africa, where life is cheap."

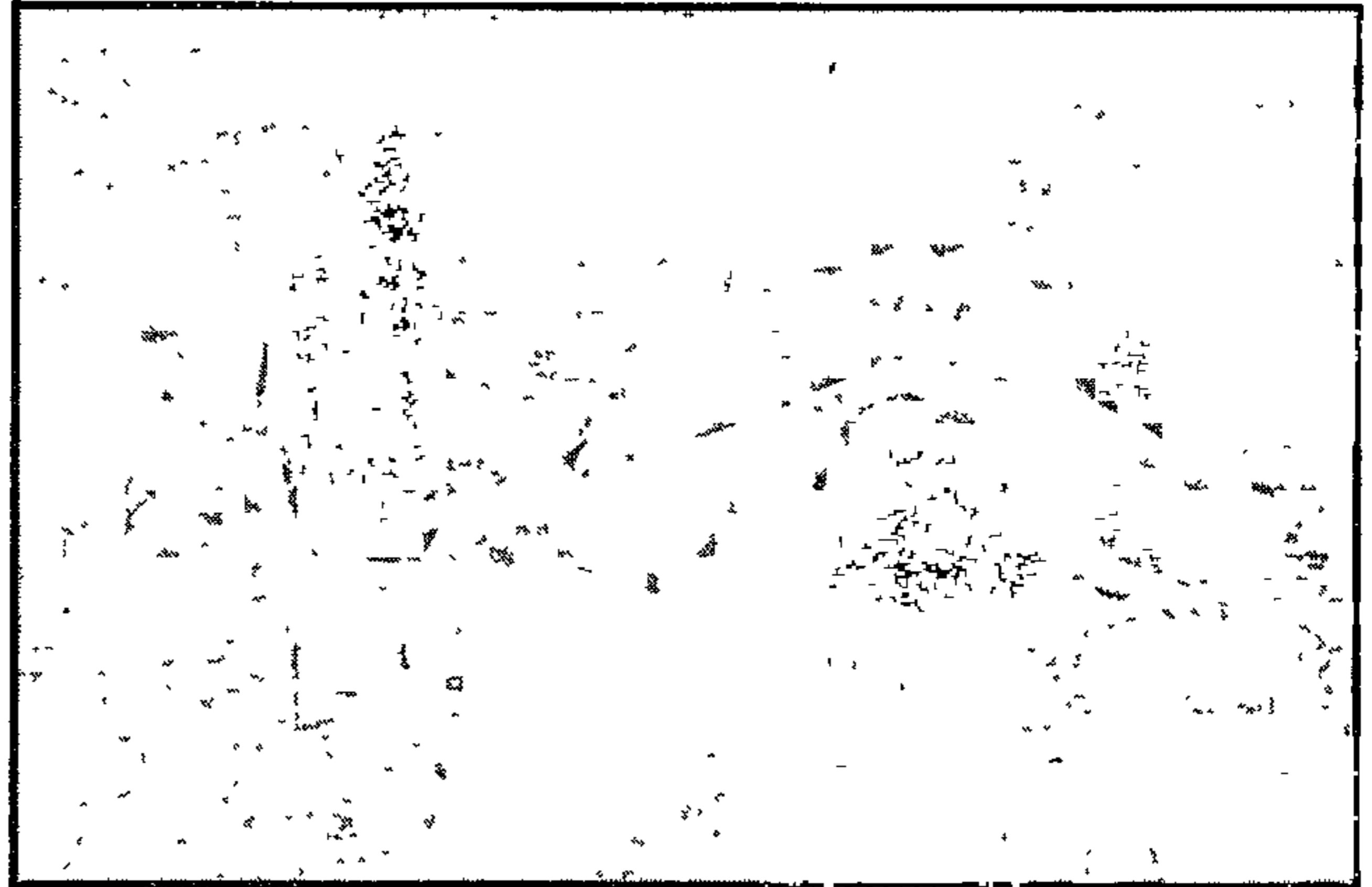
Everywhere, the drought's impact has been made worse by incompetence and bureaucratic red tape, politics, corruption and violence. Much suffering could have been avoided if there had been planning and political accountability, aid workers say.

"Too much has been left for too long. We want action - not next month, not next week, not tomorrow, not today, but now," said Erich Bloch, an economist in Zimbabwe.

Mozambique has been shattered by a 15-year war between the leftist government and right-wing rebels. In some northern regions people are dying from malnutrition and related diseases.

"There is absolutely nothing left to eat," said Jean-Daniel Taux, a Red Cross official.

The mighty Limpopo River is dry, a broad belt of dirt snaking through a landscape ravaged by a drought that has pushed millions of people to the edge of starvation, writes Sowetan Correspondent **Barry Renfrew**.



The devastating effects of drought

Millions of tons of food must be distributed across southern Africa to help keep people alive until next March and April when the first crops normally bloom. Average summer rains are expected in many areas but many impoverished farmers need seed and fertiliser to raise a new crop.

Haunted by past African famines that have claimed millions of lives, Western nations have been sending food. But the arrival of some aid has been delayed by lack of transport or tardiness by some donor nations in meeting promises.

Aid officials warn the situation could deteriorate rapidly if there are unforeseen problems or if the rains fail again.

"Physical conditions can deteriorate quickly. Almost overnight you can reach a situation where people are beyond the point of no return," said John Hicks of the United States Agency for International Development.

The problem is exacerbated by the inefficiency of many area governments.

Bureaucrats in some areas make hungry people apply in writing for food, aid is sent to areas with food surpluses while famine areas are ignored, and theft takes a daily toll.

Zimbabwe sold off two million tons of corn in 1991 that was held as food reserves. Now it is importing corn at three times the cost of local

crops putting a huge strain on its precarious economy.

Food aid in Malawi has been diverted to the north in an effort to calm opposition to the authoritarian government of President Kamuzu Banda.

"The government is trying to pacify people in the north but at the expense of the lives of people in the south," said an aid official who would not be named for fear of government retaliation.

Some European nations cut aid to Namibia after President Sam Nujoma spent almost \$30 million (about R84 million) on an executive jet. Nujoma said the jet was needed for trips to seek drought aid. In South Africa the worst suffering has been in the rural homelands created under apartheid as separate nations for blacks and located in barren areas.

"It's been a mess for years, now it's a lot more critical," said Johann Rissik, an Operation Hunger worker in the homeland of Lebowa. "It's desperate. People are fighting over water."

By contrast, the drought has had little impact on white areas in South Africa where water is plentiful. Food is delayed because inefficient governments have not maintained railways. Emergency grain for landlocked Zambia has been stranded in harbours in neighbouring Tanzania because there are no railway freight cars. - Sapa-AP

BIDA 7
1717/92

Poverty aid speeded up

THE National Health and Population Development Department speeded up the distribution of poverty aid and had already allocated 40% of the R440m allocated for the current financial year. This brought the amount committed for 1992/93 to R174,54m (241)



Julcy delight . . . this wide-eyed youngster from the Takalane Home for Handicapped Children in Diepkloof, Soweto, got the first taste yesterday of 1 000 bags of oranges, 1 000 bags of nartjles and 300 kg of mealle meal donated by farmer Hendrik Schoeman to Operation Hunger, the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society and the SA Vrouefederasie. Picture: Joao Silva

Southern Africa 'facing catastrophe'

By Shirley Woodgate ~~241~~

A hunger catastrophe is unavoidable in southern Africa unless massive international help is forthcoming, a leading German food emergency aid group warned in Johannesburg yesterday.

Addressing a press conference after touring drought-stricken parts of the northern Transvaal with Operation Hunger, Welthungerhilfe spokesman Bernd Hoffmann warned that all stored sup-

plies would be exhausted by September and the next rains in the region were expected only in November

He said his German government-backed emergency aid agency, responsible for pumping significant aid into the region, would appeal for assistance for the areas

Spelling out the extent of the crisis after a fact-finding visit to countries in southern Africa, he said the crisis had affected 18 million people in the region

Operation Hunger chief executive Ina Perlman confirmed that the drought, together with the economic depression, had caused a crisis of such severity that neither Government nor private-sector funds would be enough

STAR 17/7/92

Her organisation, which had received an initial R10 million injection of funds from the Government, now awaited a positive response to its second application for assistance.

World Bank to study SA poor

SI Times (Buss) 19/7/92 241

THE World Bank is to undertake the most extensive study on poverty in SA to date

The project, which will involve many of SA's major universities and research institutions, could take as long as two years

European governments have expressed willingness to fund the project. It is still in the design phase, but could begin by the end of the year

The World Bank intends the study to provide an accurate profile of poverty. It wants to assess the efficacy of poverty-alleviating policies

The study will update and extend the Carnegie report on poverty by Francis Wilson and Mamphela Ramphele in the 1980s.

Whereas that report relied largely on qualitative data, the World Bank study will provide a quantitative poverty baseline for SA

Infancy

One researcher says "There have been huge population movements since the Carnegie report, so we need up-to-date information"

One source suggests that as many as 10 000 households may be surveyed. But informed sources stress the project is in its infancy and no hard design decisions have been made

The study will be conducted on non-racial lines and cover both urban and rural poor

A World Bank poverty mission will visit SA in late August when the detail of the proposed project is expected to be discussed

ANC economics head Trevor Manuel says that on visits by the ANC and Cosatu to

the World Bank in April concern was expressed that it was not giving the study of poverty sufficiently high priority in its explorative work on SA.

Mr Manuel says the bank identified poverty alleviation as an area of study, but the ANC asked that it be given key priority along with one of the macro-economy

Mr Manuel says a poverty mission which visited SA a few weeks ago indicated the bank was willing to undertake "a massive household survey to establish levels of poverty in SA"

"There is tentative agreement for funding from one of the European governments"

Mr Manuel says the bank has agreed to involve SA researchers, including ANC members, in its research work. The ANC is also to send interns to the bank "to try to enhance capacity in SA"

Finance deputy Director-General Estian Calitz says the Government welcomes the World Bank's involvement. The bank is gathering background material for future involvement

Everything the bank does is designed to reduce poverty, one source says

"To do this the bank does poverty profiles to understand who is poor and what factors make these people poor"

Many developed countries have banks of statistics about the poor, but this data is inadequate in SA. Unemployment is, for example, not known

The source says the bank will not fund this project because it "has had no lending programme with SA since 1966"

The poverty study is further evidence of the quickly developing relationship between the bank and SA. The bank, the world's primary development institution, has had almost no relationship with SA since the 1960s

It is keen to raise its profile in SA, but says financial support depends on an interim authority being installed

Bombed

Mr Manuel says the ANC "recognises the wealth of experience in the bank. Its comparative analysis is important. We also realise the bank may have reasonably low-cost strategies which can have a rapid impact in helping to achieve an upturn."

He says there are vast differences in the ANC about its future relationship with the bank. Bank-backed structural adjustment programmes have "bombed out badly in Africa"

The ANC is prepared to take part "on equal terms" with Reserve Bank Governor Chris Stals who is drafting a structural adjustment programme

"There is no question that we need to restructure the economy," says Mr Manuel

Economic policy needs the integrity of domestic formulation, but he agrees that SA "will have to interface with the bank and the IMF"

By KEVIN DAVIE

Food aid drive gets huge response

By Michael Chester

Public response with offers to contribute to the new "Harvest for the Hungry" drive launched by Nedcor Bank and The Star has been overwhelming

Telephone switchboards were jammed with calls from donors and volunteers yesterday — within 24 hours of the announcement of the campaign to rush urgent

food aid to an estimated 2,5 million desperate victims of malnutrition in the drought crisis

Nedcor Bank chief executive officer Richard Laubscher said the immediate response made the success of the emer-

gency operation look assured.

"We were aware of the degree of concern about the plight of families made destitute by the drought disaster. We have been astonished by the eagerness of com-

panies and the general public to translate concern into action"

The organisers were already compiling a short-list of expert relief agencies that would be used to trigger the start of food deliveries as soon as possible.

● Queries on details of the scheme should go to Nedcor Bank Public Relations Department at (011) 630-2714. Faxes can be sent to Jodi-Ann Jones at (011) 834-1788.

The
HARVEST

for the hungry
STAR 23/7/92



ECONOMIC adjustment measures in developing countries, especially under IMF-inspired programmes, are often blamed for increasing poverty, widening inequality and holding back development

A study by the development centre of the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) suggests this reputation may be undeserved. Claims that adjustment is a cruel punishment visited on the poor by unfeeling international organisations and greedy bankers miss the point, say Francois Bourguignon and Christian Morrisson, authors of *Adjustment and Equity in Developing Countries: A New Approach* (OECD Publications).

Basing their arguments on case studies in seven countries, which included using economic models to test alternative strategies, the authors conclude that adjustment does not necessarily dampen growth or increase poverty.

Obviously much depends on the severity of the economic crisis. But different measures have different social impacts. This is true both for stabilisation policies that cut domestic demand to curb inflation and for longer-term structural adjustments to improve supply by making the economy more responsive to market signals.

Political opposition to adjustment that delays government action worsens the social costs, the study argues. The costs of adjusting are lower than the costs of not adjusting, and adjusting before the crisis is better than waiting until the crunch comes and the country can no longer meet its debts or finance its outgoings.

The study is interesting partly because it claims to break analytical ground in disentangling and simulating the effects of different adjustment policies, and partly because it is the work of two academics with no particular axe to grind. Thus, while the authors see adjustment as essential, they do not necessarily endorse IMF prescriptions.

Of the seven countries looked at in detail, Chile, the Ivory Coast, Ecua-

Economic austerity schemes unjustly blamed for poverty

RIDDAY 20/7/92

FRANCES WILLIAMS in Geneva

and Morocco instituted programmes under IMF supervision. Malaysia and Indonesia did so on their own initiative before running into trouble (and so had more choice of policy measures). Ghana is cited as a prime example of an economy ruined by refusal to adjust when crisis hit in the '70s.

In Malaysia and Indonesia, where the problems and so the stabilisation measures were less severe, living standards rose during adjustment. Poverty also declined in Ghana during adjustment, which got under way in the '80s.

In the other countries, adjustments were accompanied by stable or higher farm incomes and employment but urban poverty increased. In Chile, where the urban poor predominate, and in Ecuador where peasants rely heavily on non-farm sources of income, poverty rose.

The study attributes these differences to the timing of measures and to the policy mix chosen. Some governments, including Ghana's, ran programmes designed to protect the poor. Ecuador made no provision and Chile helped only the poorest.

Adjusting before the crisis meant less drastic cuts in demand, including cuts in public spending. Early adjustment also ensured a continuing flow of foreign capital, bolstering private investment necessary for future growth and cushioning public spending on social services and essential infrastructure.

The economic models used by the study also indicate for the first time how countries might have fared without adjustment. The answer is badly. The authors say critics tend to focus on the costs of adjustments (often confusing them with the costs of the crisis) and ignore the costs of non-adjustment.

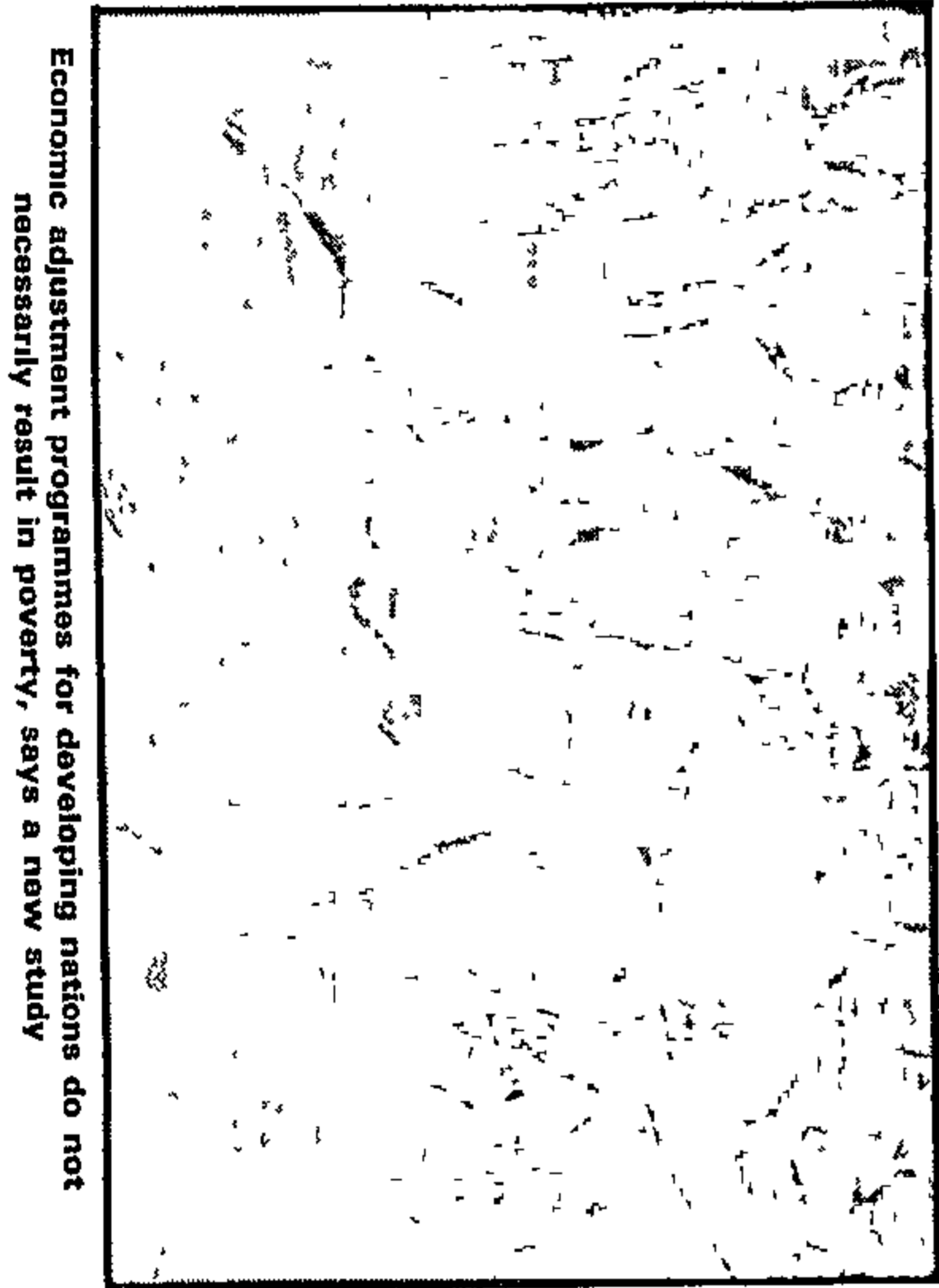
In Ghana's case, non-adjustment meant drying up of funds from abroad and a reduction in imports to the low levels of export earnings. This produced falling incomes, out-

put, trade and a 'disastrous increase' in poverty. Simulations for other economies confirm that this path leads to socially costly 'self-centred underdevelopment'.

Looking at stabilisation policies the authors suggest that devaluation seems to be a more efficient and equitable way of reducing a trade deficit than cutting public spending or running tight money policies. It slows economic activity less and because it usually favours the poorer rural sector, it reduces inequality and poverty.

The authors conclude that to minimise social costs the best stabilisation programmes combine devaluation, a restrictive monetary policy to keep the lid on inflation (which hurts the poor) and a moderate reduction in public service wages (if they are higher than elsewhere). The worst involve raising the prices of basic goods and laying off public sector workers — recipes for social unrest, but often included in IMF-approved programmes.

Cuts in capital spending, if necessary, should not apply to rural investment which helps reduce inequality and poverty, the study says. Similarly, cuts in social spending and subsidies should avoid measures that impose disproportionate social costs to the sums saved. For instance making the poor pay for medicines effectively deprives them of medical care, even when treatment is free.



Economic adjustment programmes for developing nations do not necessarily result in poverty, says a new study

LETTERS

The study in general praises structural adjustments which it says tend to have positive social effects. For instance, price liberalisation usually favours the rural over the urban sector. Moreover, increased economic flexibility reduces the costs of stabilisation.

However, the authors, again disputing conventional IMF and World Bank wisdom, warn countries not to take drastic measures, like privatisation, to reorganise state enterprises during an austerity programme. If attempted, there should be compensation programmes for the unemployed, as in Ghana, and effective longer-term measures to retrain redundant workers and help them find alternative employment.

— Financial Times

21 JUL 1992

Times Star

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New drive to feed our drought-stricken nation

By Michael Chester

241



New project... will take food to the hungry.

Nedcor Bank and The Star today link forces to launch a dynamic new rescue operation to throw emergency lifelines to tens of thousands of destitute families threatened with starvation in the drought crisis.

The project, named "Harvest for the Hungry", aims to trigger an action plan to rush food shipments into rural areas hit hardest of all. The meals to be distributed every month promise to run into millions.

It is planned to keep supplies moving at least until the end of October, when it is hoped the spring rains will have relieved the drought. The disaster fund has been launched in urgent response to new warnings that no fewer than 2.5 million destitute South Africans are now suffering from malnutrition.

Nedcor Bank chief executive officer Richard Laubscher and The Star's editor-in-chief Richard Steyn have urged as many business concerns and social organisations as possible to join the emergency exercise.

Nedcor is engaging all of its banking divisions in the project — Nedbank, Nedfin and the Perm, with a nationwide network of branches. One innovation is a plan to contribute an amount equal to the cost of feeding one child for one day each time a customer uses any of the 1 000 ATMs operated by the Perm and Nedbank — expected to total 3,5 million meals every month.

The Star plans to devote a new 087 line to a special service to enable telephone callers to pledge contributions. From tomorrow, 10c from every call made to one of TelStar's 087 lines will be donated to the fund.

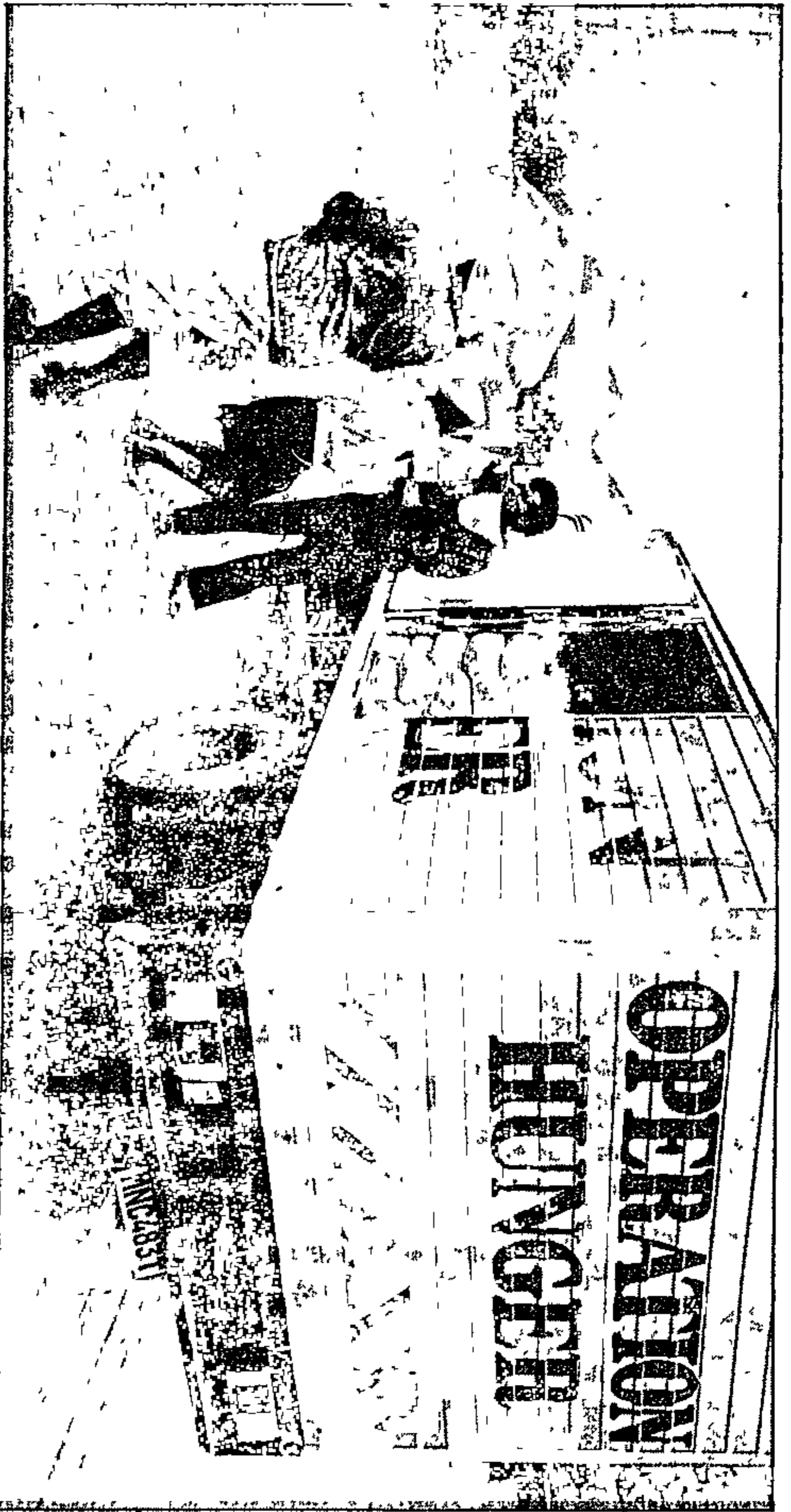
The Star will also mobilise its official fund-raising infrastructure to set up and manage the "Harvest" fund, in conjunction with the Nedcor Chairman's Fund.

Also being encouraged are special "Harvest Festivals" nationwide as collection points for food packages.

Food for all the bottom line — Page 15



Urges action... Nedcor Bank's Richard Laubscher.



Relief at last a truck brings emergency maize supplies to Mabhathla in northern Lebowa. Up to 80 percent of grain crops have been wiped out in South Africa and Zimbabwe in a drought zone that stretches north as far as Angola and Tanzania.



Happiness is a full belly schoolchildren at an Operation Hunger emergency feeding scheme at Matsika school in Venda.

Food for all the bottom line

Star 21/1/92.

(241)

THE HARVEST

for the hungry

THE PULL drama of the drought has started to unfold in surveys that have probed beyond the economic cost of crop failures and begun to measure the growing threat of starvation now faced by tens of thousands of rural families made jobless and penniless by the disaster.

A recent count by the World Food Programme, run by the United Nations, put the number of lives and livelihoods now at risk on the southern African subcontinent at 18 million or more. No less than 11.5 million tons of food from overseas were needed. The WFP called it the worst drought in living memory and stressed the need for "a complex emergency operation on a scale never attempted in the region before."

As much as 70 to 80 percent of grain crops have been wiped out in South Africa and Zim-

babwe in a drought zone that stretched north as far as Angola and Tanzania.

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman estimates that at least R9 million a month is needed to feed up to 2.5 million people in South Africa alone, with a growing list of victims who are destitute and unable to afford even basic food.

Poignancy is added to the drama by an assessment of the repercussions made by Professor Johan van Zyl, dean of the faculty of agriculture at Pretoria University. He calculates that as many as one in three of all the children in rural villages in South Africa suffer from malnutrition.

At the SA Agricultural Union chief economist, Koos du Toit says the crisis, though perhaps worst in the Transvaal and Free State, now has nationwide dimensions. White and black

communities alike were suffering grim hardships in drought-stricken rural areas in the aftermath of crop failures that wiped out jobs and incomes, leaving families foodless and destitute.

Thus was the scenario of tragedy that prompted Nedcor Bank and The Star to join forces with the launch today of the special new emergency scheme named "Harvest for the Hungry" that plans to rush assistance to families hit hardest by the crisis. Both hope that the launch will inspire many more companies

and organisations to join the initiative in a nationwide rescue operation for drought victims.

While planning goes ahead at national and local levels to find long-term solutions to poverty and famine, Harvest for the Hungry aims to trigger immediate action to solve the plight of families trapped in a tragic struggle for survival. "Our primary concern is the inevitable time gap between the planning phase and actual implementation of longer-term programmes," says The Star editor-in-chief Richard Steyn. "What is needed is an emergency scheme to combat the current malnutrition tragedy without delay. The evidence stresses that solutions have become urgent to alleviate the worst of the suffering."

"There is no time to hold thumbs and hope that a grand solution will emerge sooner or later. People are facing starvation at this very moment. Action is needed now. All of us must become involved and volunteer assistance."

Nedcor Bank chief executive officer Richard Laubscher, who took the lead in the new initiative, agrees that the Harvest for the Hungry fund needs to ensure emergency food deliveries start moving without delay — and keep rolling at least until the spring rains.

The Nedcor Bank group will engage the entire nationwide network of all its divisions — Nedbank, Nedfin and the Perm — in the campaign.

● For every transaction conducted by bank card-holders at Perm or Nedbank ATMs between now and October 31, the bank will contribute an amount equal to the cost of feeding one

child for a day. With almost 1,000 automatic teller machines in operation, that alone promises to provide as many as 3.5 million meals every month.

● Pre-encoded deposit slips will be handed out at all branches to clients wishing to make direct donations.

● Inserted in all new cheque-books will be simple donation slips that can be used to contribute amounts varying from R5 to R25 via current accounts.

● Facilities will be made for credit-card holders to contribute, too.

● Lunches at all executive dining rooms will be scaled down to the most simple fare — and savings ploughed into the Harvest fund.

● All staffers in the group will be invited to make voluntary contributions by pledging a percentage of their annual 13th salary cheque to the project, up to

a maximum of 3 percent. The total amount donated will be matched rand-for-rand by the Nedcor Chairman's Fund.

The Star plans to devote a special TelStar 087 line to the project to enable callers to make donations by telephone.

The Star will also use its official fund-raising infrastructure to set up and manage the Harvest project, in conjunction with the Nedcor Chairman's Fund.

Funds raised by the scheme will be channelled into expert agencies with proven records of swift effectiveness in food distribution schemes.

Nedcor and The Star will also be encouraging a series of special "Harvest Festivals" for the collection of donations in the form of actual food packages.

Those alone should guarantee an immediate start of actual food distribution to families in most desperate need. □

Gazankulu nears state of emergency

By Dirk Nel
Northern Transvaal Bureau

PIETERSBURG — With the drought tightening its grip daily on the far northern Transvaal, poverty, hunger and unemployment are reaching alarming proportions

"There is no sign of the drought breaking, to ease the plight of my people — the situation has reached the point of being declared a state of emergency," Gazankulu Chief Minister Hudson Ntsanwisi said in an impassioned general appeal

for contributions to the homeland's drought relief fund he pointed out that people in drought-hit rural areas, where whole communities normally survived off the land, simply did not have the resources to overcome the crippling drought. Gazankulu depended heavily on an annual budget allocation from the South African Government but this could not be stretched to cover the crisis facing the territory. The problem had been complicated by an unending influx of refugees from Mozambique.

The Gazankulu Development Corporation has released statistics which show that 70 percent

of the territory's population now lives below the internationally accepted minimum income of R8 244 a year for a family of six, while fewer than 40 percent of its economically active people have jobs

Water for human consumption in most parts of Gazankulu would last only another two to three weeks, a government spokesman said, pointing out that the Middle Letaba Dam, the main water source for the northern and central regions, was only 3 percent full. The water quality in the Manyeleti Game Reserve's tourist camp now posed a health risk, and

this would affect tourism revenue drastically.

A scheme to transport water to remote villages in Gazankulu was to be implemented soon.

In Lebowa, most existing boreholes in rural communities had dried up, an agricultural spokesman said. Cattle, already weakened by a lack of proper grazing, were being moved in large numbers to greener pastures outside the homeland.

There was insufficient finance in Lebowa for new drilling operations and for the transportation of water. The Star was told. In addition, limited infrastructure made the effective

distribution of emergency food supplies largely impractical.

But organisations such as Operation Hunger and World Vision are continuing their feeding and self-help programmes in Lebowa, Gazankulu and Venda.

In Venda, the Department of Health and Welfare has launched projects to create jobs. An amount of R8,3 million, made available by the South African Government, will be used to provide limited income for 9 000 people for six months through public works programmes.

● Zimbabweans fed cullied animals — Page 8



The dusty road to greener pastures are being driven long distances to places where there is better grazing. weakened cattle are being driven long distances to places where there is better grazing. Picture Dirk Nel

Poverty hits children first

POVERTY and unemployment were impacting more severely than ever before on the well-being of South African families - and because of their vulnerability, children were the first to suffer, Sanlam chief Mr Pierre Steyn said yesterday *Sowetan*

Steyn was speaking in Johannesburg at the launch of a book, entitled Child Abuse and Neglect by the SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare *28/7/92*

The assurance company chief said irreversible damage could be done to children's physical, mental and emotional well-being

Steyn said the book's main purpose was to assist social workers and educationists to identify problem areas and to take preventive action - *Sapa*

Competing with the rats for food

BLOEMFONTEIN — The withering drought is driving black peasants from the dusty brown veld into rapidly growing shacklands around cities

Here, people like Leah Mokgothu live, in every sense, on the fringes of society, virtual refugees in their own country, dependent on handouts.

Ms Mokgothu and many like her have been laid off by white farmers, themselves facing bankruptcy. They now scratch for a living in city rubbish dumps

The Urban Foundation says by 1988 about 7 million South Africans were living in shacks, some 2 million of them around Johan-

STAR 2817192
nesburg and Pretoria

Ms Mokgothu, "retrenched" earlier this year after 25 years' labour on a Free State farm, spends her days competing with rats and dogs to scavenge food from Bloemfontein dumps. On a good day she earns R5 from selling plastic or glass to recycling firms

Her family of eight depends heavily on Operation Hunger, which feeds some 2 million people

"Some shack settlements outside Free State towns have doubled in size since December," said Operation Hunger deputy director Mpho Mashini "All because of the drought"

"It is anticipated that there will

be major flows out of the homeland rural areas into the metropolitan areas," a recent study by the Urban Foundation said. The foundation estimated more than a million people would move from the homelands to the cities in this decade.

Its figures show Durban nearly doubled its population from 1970 to 1980, making it one of the fastest growing cities in the world

"The extent of Durban's squatting problem is second only to Mexico City's," said Anthony Minnaar in a study of squatter settlements around the city — Sapa-Reuter

Food stored as poor starve

Sowetan Correspondent

Stockpile Shock Tons of red

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FOOD IS BEING stockpiled because consumers cannot afford to buy it. About 9 000 tons of red meat will be in storage by the end of July, according to the Meat Board.

meat is being hoarded in cold storage because of the flagging economy:

Mziwonke Jacobs lays the blame at the door of the Government. "Food surpluses should be a factor in looking at the poor relief programme the Government is supposed to be addressing," Jacobs said.

"It is extremely distressing that there should be artificial price boosting in a supposedly free market economy."

Enraged consumer bodies have called for an urgent probe into the food industry following the release yesterday of CPI figures which showed an overall food price increase of 29,3 percent in the past year. Vegetable prices alone rocketed 83,2 percent between June 1991 and June this year because of the drought.

According to Consumer Council director Mr Jan Cronje, the food price index for June was nearly double that of all consumer index prices - "a clear indication that food prices must be probed urgently."

The Meat Board denies that stockpiling translates into price boosting. The Housewives' League of South Africa disputes a Meat Board statement that meat can be frozen for up to five years without a reduction in quality.

The chicken industry had huge stock build-ups between January and June which a large producer attributes to the flagging economy.

Consumer demand usually exceeds supply in the fishing industry but this is not the case at the moment.

This was largely because of slower sales owing to the state of the economy, a spokesman for a major fish wholesaler said.

Dairy Board general manager Mr Edu Roux said that the poor economy had also affected the dairy industry.

"Although there is still a shortage, the trend is towards a surplus in about a year's time," Roux said.

The Meat Board predicts a six per cent producer price increase for 1992.

According to the latest consumer price index, the price of meat has risen 27 percent over the past year. This figure includes 10 percent VAT.

A spokesman for a major retail chain disputed the CPI figure. He said his chain had reduced prices in accordance with the meat surplus. The average price in October was R16,38 compared with R14,98 this month.

Hard-pressed consumer

Stockpiles of chicken had largely disappeared because sales had picked up owing to the cost of chicken relative to red meat, said County Fair group marketing manager Mr Jeremy Owen.

Just where should hard pressed consumers turn for essential protein?

Mrs Sally Mollana, president of the Black Housewives League, feels the situation is a disgrace.

"Unemployment is very high which directly affects the eating habits of poor people. They try to run away from red meat to fish but the price of fish goes up."

"They look to dairy products and see them pouring milk down the drain because of surpluses."

The Meat Board pointed out that meat was 50 to 60 percent cheaper if bought in bulk.

Mollana said but sales were disrupted at high income earners and were not affordable in poorer, black communities.

ANC publicity officer Mr

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World Bank study of SA poverty

241

31/7/92

The Argus Foreign Service
WASHINGTON. — The World Bank has approved the biggest and most detailed study of poverty in South Africa.

It will involve research and continuous monitoring of almost 10 000 households across the political spectrum and research on more than 700 of the poorest communities in the country

The aim will be to give the bank, and the international community, the information needed for the designing of foreign aid and economic development projects and to provide continuous data on the impact which international relief and investment efforts are having

It will vastly expand on the poverty investigation co-ordinated by the University of Cape Town's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru) in the 1980s, a project funded by the Carnegie Endowment

But unlike the Saldru study, it will be specifically aimed at providing economic and financial analysis for the banking and investment community

Like the Saldru study, the World Bank investigation will be headed by Professor Fran-

cis Wilson of the University of Cape Town and will tap the resources and specialised manpower of all of South Africa's 22 universities

There will also be strong technical support from World Bank specialists and from an advisory group of researchers and non-government organisations.

An initial budget of more than R3 million has been set aside, but the eventual cost of the new study is expected to be far greater.

Norway and Denmark have indicated that they will be willing to cover a substantial part of the costs, but the World Bank itself will also contribute to the budget and other foreign donors will be sought.

Preliminary work is expected to begin later this month and by January the organisers expect to begin recruiting and training supervisors and enumerators to undertake the huge study of between 8 000 and 10 000 households and 720 different communities

The Saldru study, which led to the Second Carnegie Report on Poverty and Development in Southern Africa — the first Carnegie report was published in the 1930s and dealt largely

with the poor white problem — will be used in part as a model for the new study and many of the researchers who worked on the Saldru investigation are expected to join the World Bank project.

The bank has insisted on a credible, scientific and politically neutral investigation. Its purpose will be to assemble facts and analyse them professionally for a specialised audience

The study will proceed independently of any ideological premises or economic dogmas

● The Bush administration's top Africa expert is on a trip to Southern Africa and will be in Pretoria on Monday when the two-day strike by the African National Congress, Communist Party and Cosatu is set to begin, Sapa-Reuter reports from Washington

A State Department official said the trip by Assistant Secretary of State Herman Cohen was one of his regular visits to Africa and the timing was coincidental to the alliance's strike

Mr Cohen left Washington last Tuesday and was in Angola yesterday. He is due to visit Zaire today and will be in South Africa on Monday.

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A minister, a mission and missing money

w/Man 3117-618/92
 OFFICIALS of the Department of National Health and Population Development are investigating allegations that a Bloemfontein Anglican church misused funds allocated for food relief

Amid allegations of a former priest's misuse of money destined for food relief are claims that the system is wide open to abuse.

By **JACQUIE GOLDING**

But the church has denied the allegations, saying that a former priest had used its name in an application for funds from the department.

The Weekly Mail travelled to Bloemfontein to investigate the alleged misappropriation of funds at the Holy Cross Church

"We are still looking into the matter and therefore nothing can be divulged to the media as yet," the department's communications officer, Anette Richter, said this week

The Weekly Mail found that a former minister, Goodwin Sondiyasi, had allegedly used the church's name in an application for funds from the Department of National Health

According to records of payouts by the department the Holy Cross Church received a total of R10 150, while two church projects — the Khanyiso pre-school and the Thambo Square squatter camp — received R3 700 and R9 850 respectively

However, national hunger relief organisation Operation Hunger alleged that the money, a total of R23 600, had not be used to feed the squatters nor the children at the pre-school

"The Sondiyasi only gave us food twice," said Miriam Molor, who is in charge of the Thambo Square soup kitchen. This was confirmed by a cook in the soup kitchen, Rose Maletshetla, who added that "we only got food in April and in June but since then nothing"

The Weekly Mail was unable to contact Sondiyasi but did manage to speak to his wife, who denied the allegations of misappropriation since they had not "been informed by the department" that the money had been deposited in their account "So we did not feed the squatters for a month"

She said she was embarrassed about the whole incident

However, the money was made available to them at the end of March this year.

She could not show *The Weekly Mail* any receipts or duplicate copies, but said that "due to our inexperience we never kept any of the slips as proof of purchase. Nor did we give any duplicates to the soup kitchen committee" She does, however, claim that she sent "all relevant receipts to Pretoria"

According to the Bishop of Bloemfontein, Thomas Stanage, "the rector was reprimanded for not informing the diocesan office and hierarchy at the time of his application"

Hunger relief agencies have complained that often large payments by the department are not adequately monitored, making abuse of funds easy

The deputy director of the department of national health, George de Klerk, asked that "the old dirty linen about corruption" be left in the past and that corruption on the part of the church or any other organisation be seen in the "light that the evaluation always took place on a national level"

De Klerk, who also heads the Nutritional Development Programme, added that the running of such a social programme was open to corruption. The department recently set up a regional monitoring committee to evaluate how money was being spent by the different organisations

This was in addition to the requirement set by the department that "each organisation complete and sign an undertaking that funds will be used for the purposes requested" before any money was paid, Richter added



For what they are lucky to receive ... Children in Bloemfontein pray before being given food
 Photo GUY ADAMS

But "despite the monitoring and evaluation, one cannot always be sure that there is no corruption", said a Miss Botha, an assistant director for the department of national health

Operation Hunger's Natal regional director, Phillipa Yarker, added that it was strange that the organisation received "tons of calls from people who are starving" while "so many non-governmental organisations in Natal receive money from the Department of National Health. Where these non-governmental organisations are feeding seems to be a mystery"

In another claim of misuse of department funds, it has been alleged

that women were forced to work at the Dipalaeng Clinic in Hobhouse, Free State, in order to qualify for a food parcel

Mahiti Mokone and Elizabeth Booysens, patients at the clinic, allege that "we have to work on a regular basis in order to receive the food"

This was denied by a Sister Swanepoel, who runs the clinic. "Whatever contribution is made by the people who receive the food, shows their appreciation for the parcels. The non-European women come in twice a week to clean, showing how grateful they are for the food"

78 starve to death

Food relief dries up or fails to reach drought ravaged areas:

MBABANE - The toll of deaths attributed to the drought in Southern Africa has begun to climb steeply

About 10 people died in one area of Swaziland and 23 in a single district of Mozambique

At least 40 children and five elderly people are reported by the government in Zimbabwe to have died of malnutrition associated with the drought.

Assessments of which deaths are di-

rectly attributable to the drought are necessarily subjective but the yardstick that appears to be used is whether the deaths might have been avoided had people who live by subsistence farming in rural areas been able to reap crops

In Swaziland the assessment of 10 deaths in the Hluti district was made by nuns who work closely with the local people. They said the 10 had died

from starvation because crops had failed in the area and the supply of relief food had ceased

Sister Michelle Ben of the Hluti Mission said 400 local people had been identified as needing food but no food had arrived in the area since May. Emergency supplies donated by Italy had run out

A spokesman for the drought relief committee said this week that 350 000 people in the country needed food aid but supplies only reached 70 000

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Sowetan 31/7/92

**Sanitation
needed for
18-million**

HALF the population does not have access to adequate sanitation, the Water Research Commission said yesterday.

The commission found in its investigation into sanitation that in urban and rural areas, 18-million people lived without proper sanitation.

In urban areas a third of the people do not have adequate sanitation. In addition, about 9-million people (one in every four) do not have access to a safe water supply.

"This involves major health hazards as diseases relating to human waste and impure water are the cause of the majority of infant deaths in developing countries," the commission warned.

Gastric disease was a major cause of death and permanent disabilities among infants.

The commission said it was engaged in a programme aimed at addressing the problem of inadequate sanitation.

- Its objectives included:
- Establishing the number of people with access to safe sanitation,
 - Testing the efficiency of current systems; and
 - Developing a strategy to improve the situation and developing guidelines for the provision of sanitation.

The investigation has found the cost of providing urban dwellers with water-borne sewerage by 2000 to be R11bn — Sapa.

STAR 23/7/92.

Helping hand for needy on farms

Organised agriculture is now dispersing an average R500 000 a month in emergency aid to the needy on farms in drought-stricken areas. More than two-thirds of the money is spent on helping black farmworkers and their families.

"We do not make relief contributions available for the purchase of food. There

are other organisations, including The Star and the State, that provide such funds," said SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) director Piet Swart.

The SAAU emergency relief fund has now received about R3 million in contributions — Agricultural Correspondent

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Project aim is power to the poor (241)

A DUTCH-FUNDED R1,5-million research project will focus on broadening access by South Africa's rural and urban poor to energy

The project, launched in Cape Town this week, will be carried out over two years by researchers involved with the University of Cape Town's Energy Development Research Centre

wilm at 247-3017192

The doctor

Mamphela Ramphela

Age: 45

Place of birth: East London, Eastern Cape

Children: Hlumeni (14), with former husband and Port Elizabeth pharmacist Mr Siphon Magele. *Sowetan 1/8/92*

Qualifications: MB Ch B, University of Natal Medical School, post graduate diploma in tropical medicine from Wits, Ph D in social anthropology from Cape Town University, a year at Harvard University in the United States doing research in social anthropology and a BA in administration from UCT.

Experience: Deputy Vice-Chancellor, UCT; senior research officer in the department of social anthropology; SALDRU research fellowship; founder and medical officer in charge of Ithusheng Community Health Programme, Tzaneen, Eastern Cape branch manager of the Black Community Programmes; founding medical officer in charge of Zanempilo community health centre, King William's Town.

Community Involvement: Scientific advisory committee of the Independent Development Trust; South African Medical Research Council; Western Cape Hostel Upgrading Trust; board member of Community Agency for Social Enquiry; non-executive director of Anglo American.

Professional Achievements: holds several research awards; co-edited the book "Bounds of Possibility" about Steve Biko, her one-time lover; co-authored "Uprooting Poverty - The South African Challenge," among others.

PEOPLE'S LIVES *Female activist reflects on her switch from doctor of medicine*

SELF HELP

Ithusheng project

has helped form

15 independent

child-care centres

By Mpho Mantju

WHEN DR MAMPHELE Ramphela was banished in 1977 to Lenyene, outside Tzaneen, it was a blessing in disguise for the displaced people of the area

Soon after she settled, Ramphela started a community project called Ithusheng, meaning "help yourselves," now known as the Mamphela Clinic by locals

The centre, which serves an area of about 60 km radius and more than 200 000 people, was formed to provide the community with childcare, primary health care and education and to initiate self-sustaining projects

Administrators Mr Lekgolo Ramalepe and Mrs Dennis Tooley said any project initiated by the centre has a spiralling effect. They said the centre's objective is to teach people how to do things for themselves

Ithusheng has grown into an association that supervises 12 projects in Lenyene and surrounding areas. It also helped to form 15 independent childcare centres

Although based in Lenyene, which falls under Lebowa, the centre adheres to the anti-tribalist philosophy of founding mother Ramphela and works across artificial tribal barriers

The health clinic has two assistant nurses, two registered nurses and one enrolled nurse and a medical doctor comes once a month from the University of the Witwatersrand's Rural Facility Unit

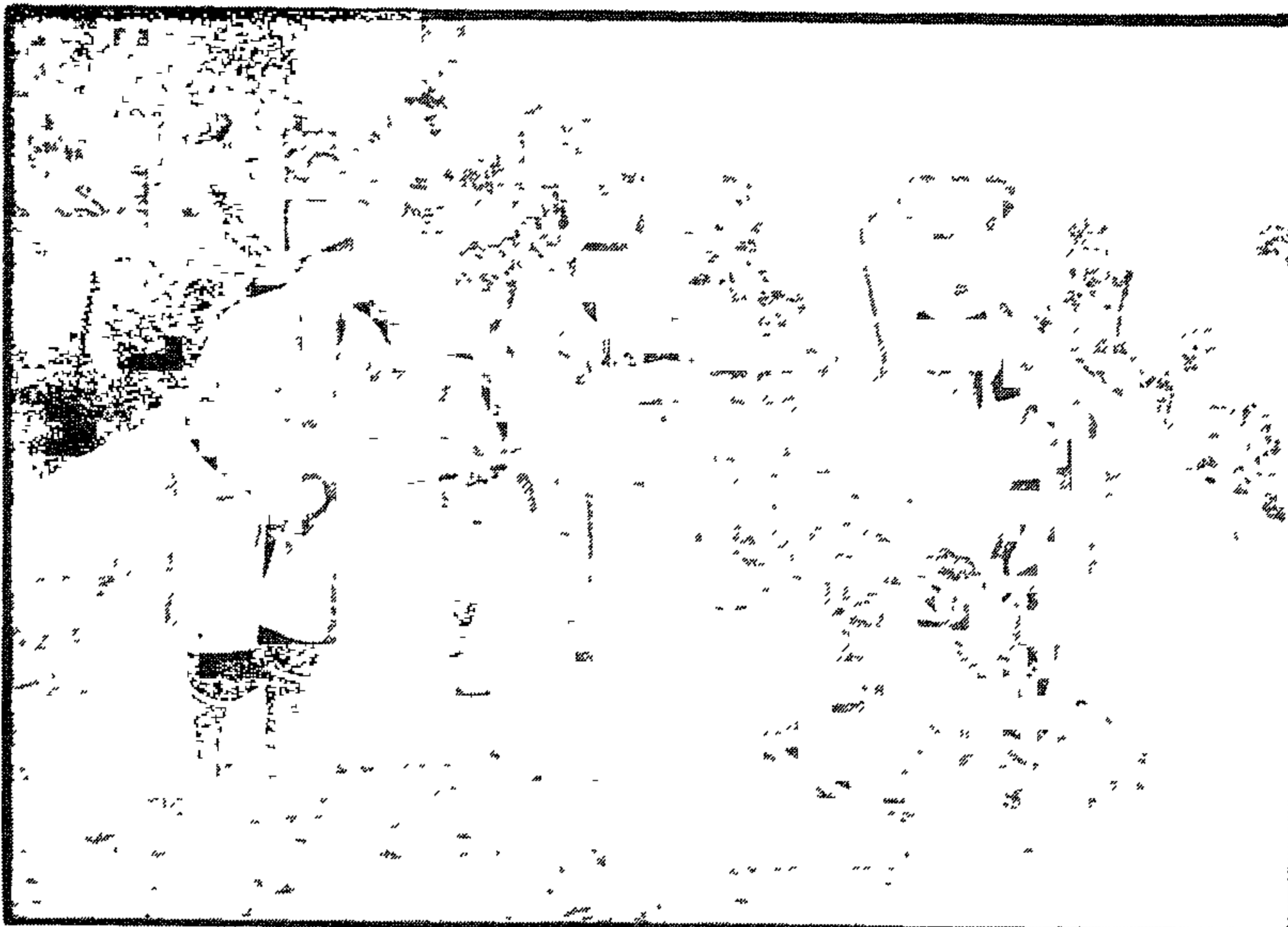
It has a day clinic that offers child health care, home visits and family planning. It also trains health workers who in turn go into the villages to educate people on primary health

The sister in charge, Mrs Mankuba Ramalepe, who joined the clinic in 1979, said they were working on a plan to establish a preventive and promotive mobile clinic, although there is no funding yet.

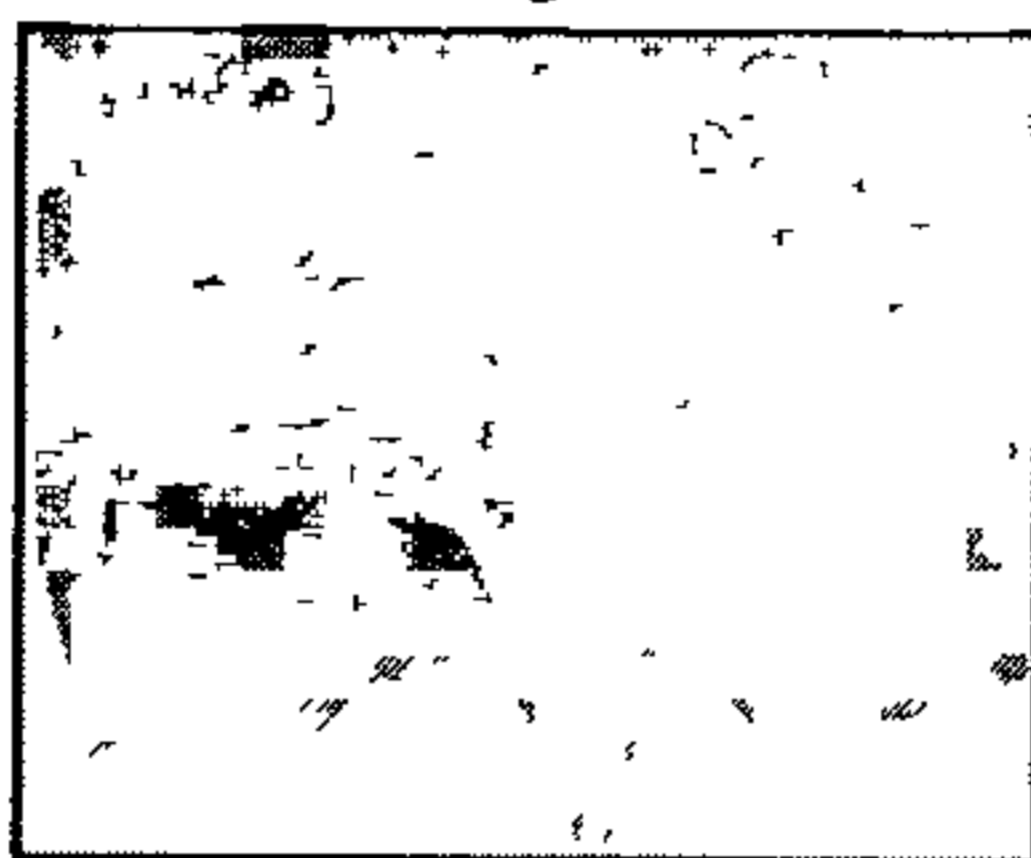
The resource centre attached to the clinic is one of the projects being administered by Ithusheng. It was formed to help with the limited access to information and particularly to serve as a public library

The resource centre makes available books and magazines to the community, offers visual aids to schools and other groups, and provides career guidance and a study programme for matriculants

Its use has been expanded to serve as a meeting place for various organisations and churches and as a training centre for the village health workers' programme



Breaking barriers



TOP: Ramelema, the brick-making group that allows eight women to be self-employed. **ABOVE:** Village health worker Makgwedi Motloutsi with her daughter Mokgadi who was burnt when she crawled into an open fire.



ABOVE: Village health workers build a mud stove to stop children from falling into fires. **BELOW:** With the help of Operation Hunger Ithusheng feeds over a 1000 children. PICS LESLEY LAWSON

This demand has led to the constructing of a resource centre and community hall. The new centre is jointly sponsored by the Canadian Embassy and the Mobil Foundation with grants of R41 000 and R29 000 respectively

Programme administrator Tooley said the association, as a parent body, has initiated 15 creches in villages such as Malanung, Tickeyhne and Ga-Mogoboya.

These creches operate on their own and do not have financial links with Ithusheng

Ithusheng also has helped to start several bricklaying factories which require Ithusheng's services and an adult literacy project which is attached to the resource centre. These self-help projects, in addition to communal gardens, were initiated by Ramphela in an attempt to combat malnutrition

The communal gardens however, are affected by current drought and the lack of equipment and qualified agricultural

advisors. Tooley said they were faced not only with funding problems but also the violations of other's land rights, the neglect by the government of people unable to help themselves and deprivation of the creche subsidies

But despite these hurdles, Ithusheng still survives and is a model to other communities around the Eastern and Northern Transvaal. And if Ramphela never has another memorial built in her honour, Ithusheng stands as a monument to her dedication to the freedom, well-being and upgrading of people



The project

Ithusheng

Established: 1977

Administrators:

Mr Lekgolo Ramalepe, Ms Dennis Tooley

Staff: one medical doctor

(comes once a month) two assistant nurses, two registered nurses and one enrolled nurse.

Operational area: 60km

radius serving 200 000 people across tribal barriers

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NEWS ANALYSIS *Number of poor set to soar in Africa*

1,1 billion live in abject poverty

Sowetan 5/8/92
CHILD LABOUR *Education for youngsters is the first casualty as many families struggle to make ends meet:*

WASHINGTON - More than 1,1 billion people live in abject poverty - on less than R2,75 a day

- and the number is growing
 However, the World Bank's latest World Development Report 1990 indicates that there have been significant long-term improvements in reducing the mortality rate of children under five, and life expectancy - an important indicator of health and well-being - has risen to an average of 62 years

Despite this impressive progress, more than 1,1 billion people lived in poverty in the developed world as of 1990. There was no significant progress in reducing poverty during the second half of the 1980s, with the numbers of poor people increasing at roughly the rate of population growth

Poverty varies

The percentage of people living in poverty varies by region. In South and East Asia, the percentage has continued to decline steadily

The percentage has increased in sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, North Africa and Latin America

The majority of the poor are concentrated in two regions - South Asia, with 500 million to 600 million poor people, and sub-Saharan Africa, with 200 million to 250 million poor. They earn less than R1 110 a year.

How much a person earns and spends to sustain a bare minimum standard of living are important measures of well-being. But other indicators, such as a person's health, life expectancy, nutritional status and literacy also help to measure the human condition

Health care

The poor lack adequate nutrition, clean water and access to social services such as basic health care or primary school education, and they have extremely low incomes and few assets

Poverty is most severe in rural areas where arable land may be scarce and harvests poor and where drought, floods and environmental degradation are common. The World Bank's World Development Report 1992 points out that about half the world's poor live in rural areas that are environmentally fragile

Overcrowded slums

Poor people living in towns and cities generally have higher incomes and better access to social services than rural families. However, they often suffer more from other aspects of poverty, and they often live in overcrowded slums and squatter settlements

As in rural areas, water and air pollution often are serious problems in urban areas. Sanitation is inadequate, and shanty towns are vulnerable to flooding and landslides. The ranks of the urban poor are expected to swell rapidly as cities throughout the developing world expand



The young from poor backgrounds are susceptible to disease and malnutrition.

Africa needs a strategy to address poverty both as an economic and social phenomenon

of poverty disproportionately falls on women and children. When measured by health, nutrition, education and labour force participation, poverty among women often is severe

Women in many societies are expected to manage the household, rear children and be the main food producers or have other employment. They typically work longer hours, and if they are paid at all, they receive lower wages

The problem of child poverty is particularly acute. The very young are highly susceptible to disease, malnutrition and illness. Child labour is common in developing countries, and many households depend on it for their subsistence. But the work children perform often is at the expense of schooling

For many poor people, the costs of sending children to school outweigh the future benefits - especially for girls, whose economic value often is reckoned to be lower than that of boys. Poor households are more likely to invest in education for boys than for girls

What are the prospects for reducing poverty? It will depend on economic growth and the effectiveness of each country's economic strategy. The World Development Report 1992

hopeful assumptions about economic recovery, there will be more than 50 million more poor people in the year 2000 than in 1985. But if economic growth is low and recent trends in poverty continue, there could be 200 million more - a total of about 1,3 billion - poor people by then

The outlook for the rest of the 1990s is that the number of poor people in Asia would decline, and the adverse poverty trends in Latin America and Eastern Europe would be reversed. Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in which the situation is expected to deteriorate

With an increase in the proportion of Sub-Saharan Africa's population in poverty, the number of poor in the region would rise by about nine million a year on average. By the end of the decade, about one-half of the world's poor would live in Asia and one-quarter would live in sub-Saharan Africa

Social services

The main objective of the Bank's lending and advisory work is to help its borrowers reduce poverty. The World Development Report 1990 outlined a two-part approach for reducing poverty by promoting sustained economic growth to generate income-earning opportunities for the poor and improving poor people's access to social services such as education and primary health care so they can take advantage of opportunities

An additional, but essential, part of the strategy is the establishment of a system of targeted transfers and safety nets to assist people who are not able to take advantage of new



Countdown to food aid drive under way

STAR 7/8/92

By Michael Chester

Nedcor Group and The Star today began the countdown on the start of emergency food shipments under the new "Harvest for the Hungry" disaster programme to rush aid to hundreds of thousands of families suffering from malnutrition as a result of the drought crisis.

The countdown began as volunteer offers of assistance continued to surge higher in a dramatic response to the appeal for funds or contributions in kind — from food parcels, to help with transport to distribution centres.

The first allocation of funds to set shipments rolling will be made as early as August 31 — within less than six weeks of the launch of the campaign.

The urgency of the timetable from an initial planning phase to actual action with fund allocations promises to make the "Harvest" exercise one of the

The HARVEST for the hungry

speediest of its kind on record. Relief agencies anxious to share in the first allocation of funds should submit their proposals on how they plan to handle distribution of aid by August 15 to The Editor of The Star, 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg.

The deadline for written proposals will be extended if necessary to make allowance for the shipments that will go out in a regular flow after the first allocation.

However, both Nedcor Group and The Star, along with the Nedcor Chairman's Fund, stress their insistence that proposals from agencies must meet a strict set of criteria aimed at ensuring the optimum impact. The rules:

- The programme will concentrate on the poor — irrespective of gender, race, colour, creed or

political affiliation.

- Relief support will be directed to the areas of priority need.
- Where possible, all affected parties must be involved from the outset on issues such as the identification of projects.
- Assistance will avoid reinforcing any particular power group and will concentrate on actual beneficiaries alone.
- The aim should be equity — total openness with systems and budgets.
- Assistance will be implemented by agents at local level wherever possible.
- Efforts should aim at co-operation at community level and a prevention of duplication.
- Projects should complement rather than compete with support from other sources.
- Proposals must be sound in administrative, physical, financial and social terms.
- Financial control must be seen to be clean and open.
- Agencies must agree to accountability to the "Harvest" fund on meeting the criteria

Drought still critical despite heavy rains

STAR 7/8/92

By Louise Marsland

Despite recent heavy rains in some parts of the country, the drought remains critical in the far northern Transvaal and eastern Cape, Department of Water Affairs officials said yesterday.

Disaster conditions are threatening in the far northern Transvaal where stringent water restrictions have already been implemented because most of the State dams are low, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry says in its latest review of the drought.

Severe restrictions are in force in Louis Trichardt and Potgietersrus and to a lesser extent in Pietersburg and Tzaneen to ensure that supplies last until the next rainy season.

The flow in the Komati River is very low.

No restrictions are envisaged in the foreseeable future for the PWV, nor for the supply area on the eastern Transvaal highveld or the lower Vaal River.

"We are still in dire straits in these areas," Water Affairs director of hydrology Stefan van Biljon said

"Despite the recent rains, there has been no appreciable difference. The levels of crucial dams have not risen significantly. We need rains to increase catchments and increase soil moisture.

"But we must be optimistic. There are indications that we may be returning to normal seasons with the wane of the El Nino weather phenomenon," Mr van Biljon said.

Water Affairs planning manager Dr Paul Roberts said another year of drought could mean moderate restrictions in metropolitan areas.

At present the Government's Drought Assistance Programme was implementing measures to relieve the current problem "If the drought persists, these activities will have to be intensified," Dr Roberts said.

The drought is aggravated by the high degree of utilisation of water resources in many areas because more people are dependent on them now than in previous drought years, the department says in its review.

The present drought has affected the rural communities and wildlife more than the urban areas.

Evita joins campaign for drought victims

By Michael Chester

The South African ambassador to Bapetikosweti, the famous Evita Bezuidenhout, has joined the "Harvest for the Hungry" campaign launched by Nedcor and The Star to relieve the plight of victims of the worst drought to hit South Africa in living memory.

Pieter-Dirk Uys, whose parodies of the eccentric diplomat have earned applause from TV and theatre audiences at home and abroad, has pledged profits from charity performances to the fund.

Latest estimates have warned that 2,5 million impoverished South Africans may be unable to escape the devastations of food and water shortages unless assistance arrives soon.

Nedcor and The Star

HARVEST

for the hungry

— now joined by several major companies in the nationwide Argus newspaper chain — have set August 31 as the deadline to start the allocation of the first flow of emergency funds to special agencies to trigger the start of food shipments and aid programmes.

Uys has announced that special "Harvest for the Hungry" charity performances will be run as "An Audience with Evita Bezuidenhout" at the Wits Theatre in Johannesburg on August 25, "An Evening with Pieter-Dirk Uys" at the Baxter Theatre in Cape Town on September 9, and a special show at the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre in Durban on October

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Food for thought at nutrition conference

FIFTEEN percent of the people on Earth go hungry every day, and even in countries that produce enough food, many people are malnourished because they don't eat enough or they eat poorly.

As many as 150 countries are to seek solutions to world nutrition problems at a conference in December in Rome, sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the World Health Organisation.

"There's enough food to feed everybody but there's obviously a

problem with access to food," said Mr John Lupien, director of the food policy and nutrition division of FAO.

"Although many positive things have happened over the past 30 or 40 years, there seems to be a hard-core group of people — 500 million to 600 million, — who just don't get enough food on a regular basis to lead healthy and productive lives," he said.

The first International Conference on Nutrition is being organised to try to get rich and poor countries to work together to identify specific malnutrition problems

and figure out how to solve them

The conference also will work to set global dietary guidelines, along the lines of US nutrition recommendations. Organisers hope to come up with a way to monitor the nutritional status of people around the world

It won't be easy. The conference participants face a range of diet problems — from the tendency in the US to eat too much fat to citizens of poor countries who need more calories of any sort to survive, let alone thrive

At the conference, diets of people who live in Mediterranean

countries and Asia are likely to get a lot of attention, because recent studies have shown them to have low rates of heart disease and other diet-related ailments

Government health, agriculture, economic and education officials are expected at the conference, as well as scientists and representatives of consumer groups and other advocacy organisations

Conference planners are looking at the nutrition education programmes of various countries. Each country is preparing an assessment of its citizens' nutritional health — **Sapa-AP**

South

22/8 - 26/8/92

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Lack of water threatens people of Daggafontein

BIOM 3/9/92

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RAY HARTLEY

A COMMUNITY of 15 000 people in Daggafontein could suffer serious health problems because water resources were running dry, Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) fieldworker Star Motswege said yesterday.

He said a request for emergency water supplies made to the TPA a week ago had been ignored, forcing the community to queue at a spring which serves as a live-stock watering hole.

Sapa reports that already an old woman has died in the area after queueing in sub-zero temperatures to get water.

Motswege said the TPA had been asked also to get money allocated to the Development Aid Department for the drilling of boreholes to supply the community with water. He said the remaining 70 000 Daggafontein residents were relying on 30 litres of water a family a day from private boreholes.

Meanwhile, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said yesterday the scheme was spending R5m a month feeding about 2,3-million people across the country. She told a news conference to announce the launch of Gold Rush 13 that about 3-million people were without independent food sources and this figure could grow unless action was taken to promote subsistence farming and fight poverty.

Perlman said government and business should intervene to help establish and maintain subsistence farming with borehole water as an interim measure to combat widespread hunger.

"There's got to be serious awareness of

the link between chronic malnutrition and the effect it has on productivity," she said.

A minimum wage for farm workers should be considered to reduce rural poverty. "One of the worst features of agriculture in this country is the non-participation of farm workers in the productivity of farms. They have no stake in productivity," she said.

Requests for feeding for between 1 000 and 2 000 people a day were pouring into Operation Hunger offices and 200 schools had asked for feeding schemes in the past two weeks, she said.

There was no shortage of food in SA, unlike the rest of Africa, but there were no funds to buy and distribute it.

Operation Hunger was thinking of appealing to other organisations to help it in its commitment to giving the hungry at least one meal a day, Perlman said.

She slated homeland governments for not maintaining and repairing water pumps in rural communities.

Gold Rush 13, the original instant millionaire game, will be launched on Friday and will now include R25 000 in monthly draw prizes, Perlman said.

The closing date for entries would be February 6 next year with the draw on March 2. The winner would be decided at the running of the FNB 1 600m at Turffontein on March 6.

The monthly draws begin in October with tickets bought before October 16 eligible for the first prize.

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STAR 579192

POLITICAL violence and instability have failed to put the lid on multibillion-rand projects that are providing jobs, housing, education and social services to the desperately poor in South Africa

GIVING people hope dilutes the potential for violence, South Africa's major development agencies believe. So, after consulting across the political spectrum, they are spawning housing, education and job-creation projects in towns and cities racked by conflict. TYRONE SEALE reports.

ding the Urban Foundation, Kagiso Trust, Joint Education Trust and the Development Bank of Southern Africa — will be turning sods in South Africa and the homelands to provide beacons of hope such as schools, serviced sites and clinics

Tens of thousands of impoverished people are daily regaining self-confidence and reaping the benefits of extensive consultation between development organisations such as the Independent Development Trust (IDT) and the Urban Foundation on the one hand, and political organisations from the extreme Left to the far Right on the other.

Of the R2 billion earmarked by the Government two years ago for development through the IDT, R1.9 billion has been allocated to 340 projects, with R700 million of this already in the ground all over the country. Currently the IDT spends an average of R4.5 million a week

In the western Cape, the Urban Foundation will spend R3 million during the next 12 months on support services for an estimated 1 million squatters. The foundation will teach building skills and methods, negotiate affordable materials for shack-builders and encourage companies to award subcontracts to unemployed communities

On a bigger scale the IDT — and partners inclu-

Writing in the IDT's recent second annual report, communications director Jolyon Nuttall says the founding of the IDT from a surplus of taxpayers' money in the 1990 Budget was "clearly part of a series of bold initiatives to do things differently" after more than 40 years of apartheid

IDT chairman Jan Steyn puts it like this "It's much more difficult for violence to take hold where development has played a role in bringing people together. No time is more opportune than now for a massive increase in development"

But where the Government and the private sector have made a commitment to eliminate socio-economic backlogs, development agencies are confronted by suspicions about the role of corporate and civil do-gooders. Nuttall says that only a few years ago the word "development" was hardly mentioned in socio-economic or political vocabularies

"Indeed, it had negative connotations arising from the imposition of apartheid as separate development. Now it is regarded as a driving force in underpinning political transition in this country"

Sharon Foilentine, the Urban Foundation's assistant regional director in the western Cape, says "Development is anything that promotes justice, equity and changes of attitudes. You cannot eliminate poverty unless there's also commitment to social justice."

Breaking the tensions

Gavin Wyngaard, manager of the Urban Foundation's informal settlement support programme, says "An example of how we should try to defuse conflict is the Masipatusane Project, where we have brought about a relationship between the heads of community organisations and representatives of the private sector"

Nuttall quotes the IDT's projects at Soweto-on-Sea, in Port Elizabeth, as another example of development breaking through political tensions. There the IDT is providing 10 000 families with freehold title to serviced sites

Reporting on the project, Georgina Hamilton says that although there is a strong African National Congress presence in the PE resettlement, other political parties or groups are not excluded

At Langa, near Uitenhage, Unifound Housing is developing a site-and-service scheme in a place where 21 people were killed in 1985 when police fired on a funeral crowd. A year later, local authorities forcibly relocated the Langa shack community despite pleas for upgrading

Today, the ANC, Pan Africanist Congress, Azanian People's Organisation, the SA Communist Party, the Uitenhage municipality and development organisations are jointly involved in establishing a motivated, self-contained community

"There are countless other examples," says Nuttall. "If you give people hope, you diminish the potential for violence. In a time when there has been so much violence, there has also been amazing development news — which unfortunately spreads more slowly than bad news"

Development projects ease conflict

HOPE: remedy for violence

Projects give hope to the poor

ARCT 5/9/92 (241)

Trust spends R4,5 m a week

■ Giving people hope diminishes the potential for violence, South Africa's major development agencies are reaffirming as, based on consultation across the political spectrum, they spawn housing, education and job creation projects in towns and cities wracked by conflict.

TYRONE SEALE

Weekend Argus Reporter

POLITICALLY motivated violence and other forms of instability have failed to put the lid on multi-billion rand projects that are providing jobs, housing, education and other social services to the desperately poor in South Africa.

Tens of thousands of poor South Africans are daily regaining self-confidence and reaping the benefits of extensive consultation between development organisations such as the Independent Development Trust (IDT) and the Urban Foundation on the one hand, and political institutions from the extreme left to the far right, on the other.

Of the R2 billion the government earmarked two years ago for development through the IDT, R1,9 billion has already been allocated to 340 projects and of this, the IDT is already working on projects worth R700 million all over South Africa.

At the moment the IDT spends an average of R4,5 million a week.

In the Western Cape the Urban

Foundation will spend R3 million during the next 12 months in support services to the city's estimated 1 million squatters.

The foundation will teach building skills and methods, negotiate affordable materials for shack-builders, and encourage companies to award sub-contracts to presently unemployed squatter communities.

On a bigger scale the IDT — and partners including the Urban Foundation, Kagiso Trust, Joint Education Trust and the Development Bank of Southern Africa — will be turning sods around South Africa and the homelands to provide schools, serviced sites, clinics and other beacons of hope.

Writing in the IDT's recent second annual report, communications director Mr Jolyon Nuttall notes the creation of the IDT from a surplus of taxpayers' money announced in the 1990 Budget speech was "clearly part of a bold series of initiatives to do things differently in South Africa after more than 40 years of apartheid rule.

"In the process it was hoped to legitimise anew the process of development in this country, with full opportunities available to all and an emphasis on redressing historical disadvantages."

IDT chairman Mr Jan Steyn puts it this way: "It's much more difficult for violence to get hold of a situation where there has been development and where development has played its role in bringing people together."

"No time is better for a massive increase in development than now."

But where the government and the private sector may have made the commitment to eliminate the apartheid era's socio-economic backlogs, development agencies are continuously confronted by strife-torn communities and suspicions about the role of corporate and civil do-gooders.

Joining hands to feed the hungry

The last of two SA Air Force Hercules C-130 supply planes returned to the Waterkloof air base near Pretoria on Sunday after a 8 200 km round trip to northern Kenya to deliver 30 tons of relief supplies

The operation was a joint effort of the African Muslim Agency (AMA), the Department of Foreign Affairs and the SA Air Force (SAAF). The Government paid the transportation bill

Emergency relief supplies were delivered on Saturday evening to Wajir in northern Kenya, which borders strife-torn Somalia

Included in the consignment were cereal, powdered milk and medicines to be distributed at 13 centres housing 13 000 child refugees in and around Wajir

The success of the first phase of the relief operation — the second takes place on September 19-22 when a further 200 tons will be shipped to Mombasa en route to Wajir — was a commitment that transcended political and religious boundaries in South Africa

Contrast

After a 10-hour flight from Waterkloof air base to Wajir, the reception accorded to the South Africans was in stark contrast with the country's years of political isolation

When the aircraft landed, Kenyan aid workers rushed on to the military airstrip near Wajir and offloaded the consignment donated by South African Muslims

More than 300 000 refugees have spilt over the borders into Kenya, escaping the civil strife in Somalia and, to a lesser extent, the drought in Ethiopia

Some 1,5 million to 2 million people in Somalia are at immediate risk of starvation in what is now recognised as the world's worst humanitarian crisis

"This is an operation that has to succeed. We are aiming this consignment at children. There are 13 feeding centres in and

around Wajir with about 1 000 children each. Their plight is the most desperate," said Moulana Shabir Saloojee, who is co-ordinating the South African side of the relief operation

While South African Muslims had donated the aid, the feeding project was for all, not only Muslims, he said

Moulana Saloojee had high praise for Foreign Affairs and the SAAF. "Without them, this could not have been successfully concluded"

The aid was transported free of charge after several Muslim agencies, having collected the goods, approached the Government for assistance

Foreign Affairs communications and marketing (Africa division) spokesman Roy Sherwood said he was overwhelmed by the response of the Kenyan government

"It shows a further normalising of relations with the Kenyan authorities. Although we do not have a full diplomatic mission in Nairobi, the Kenyan authorities assisted us to their best ability

"With regard to the members of the SA Air Force, the Kenyan authorities' attitude was outstanding. Our men in their air force uniforms did not raise any eyebrows, were not questioned and went about their duties as normal"

The project to bring aid to Somalian refugees began in June when the AMA in Kuwait made a worldwide appeal for assistance for the destitute

The call was taken up by the agency's office in Johannesburg and several other Muslim aid organisations in the country

After receiving the donations — Muslim leaders claim there are up to 800 000 Muslims in South Africa — the AMA approached Foreign Affairs

Lengthy negotiations took place between Government departments, Muslim organisations and later the Kenyan government. The deal got off the ground towards the end of last month — Sapa



flood emergency relief supplies from an SAAF plane for in child refugees in Kenya. Picture: Jacob Rykliff

Draw cash and feed

the hungry

STAR 11/9/92

The HARVEST

for the hungry

By Michael Chester

More than 1 000 high-tech bank robots have started ploughing huge donations into the "Harvest for the Hungry" disaster fund launched by the Nedcor Group and The Star and sister newspapers in the Argus Group

They form the nationwide network of automatic teller machines (ATMs) operated by Nedcor banking giants Nedbank and the Perm

The silent robots have set themselves a combined target of providing no fewer than 3,5 million meals in the emergency campaign to rush urgent food shipments to relieve the malnutrition plight of tens of thousands of families in areas hit worst of all by the severe drought

Nedcor chief executive Chris Liebenberg has set in motion a scheme in which every time a Saswitch cardholder uses one of the ATMs, the group will make a contribution into the "Harvest" fund equal to the cost of a meal for a drought victim

"We estimate the ATM scheme alone — at no cost to cardholders themselves — will sponsor more than 3,5 million meals by the end of next month," he says

The Nedbank and Perm branch networks also provide customers with special deposit slips that can be used to send in personal contributions.

As an extra bonus, the Nedcor card division has undertaken to donate 15c for every R500 spent by customers on their credit cards.

21. Ereksulêre Missie van Swede

Mnr. C E. Moore.

22. Ereksulêre Missies van die Verenigde Koninkryk van Groot-Brittanje en Noord-IerlandMnr. J. L. Fletcher
Mnr. G. P. Knowles.**23. Ereksulêre Missies van Uruguay**Mnr. J. L. Cabral.
Mnr. F. X. Novoa.**21. Honorary Consular Mission of Sweden**

Mr C. E. Moore.

22. Honorary Consular Missions of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern IrelandMr J. L. Fletcher.
Mr G. P. Knowles.**23. Honorary Consular Missions of Uruguay**Mr J. L. Cabral.
Mr F. X. Novoa.

No. 2574

11 September 1992

NOTICE

It is hereby published for general information that the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in terms of section 4 (c) (i) of the Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges Act, 1989 (Act No 74 of 1989), has granted to the WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (hereinafter referred to as the WFP), the principal United Nations Agency to coordinate the food aid import programme on behalf of the countries of the Southern African Region, the following immunities and privileges for functional and administrative purposes only.

PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

1. The Government shall, for functional and administrative purposes only, extend to the WFP, its staff and property in South Africa, and to services and goods procured in South Africa, the privileges and immunities of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 13 February 1946, as set out hereunder.
2. "WFP staff" means all members of the staff of the WFP employed under the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, excluding locally recruited staff.
3. Staff of the WFP shall—
 - (a) be immune from legal process in respect of words spoken or written and all acts performed by them in their official capacity, such immunity to continue even after termination of employment with the WFP;
 - (b) be accorded the same immunities and facilities, in respect of their official baggage, as are accorded to diplomatic envoys;
 - (c) be immune from any military service obligations or any other obligatory services;
 - (d) be exempt, with respect to themselves, their spouses, their dependent relatives and other members of their households, from immigration restrictions and alien registration;
 - (e) be exempt from taxation in respect of salaries and all other remuneration paid to them by the WFP;
 - (f) enjoy exemption from any form of taxation on income derived by them from sources outside South Africa,
 - (g) be accorded prompt clearance and issuances, without cost, of visas, licences or permits, if required,
 - (h) be permitted free movement within, to or from the country to the extent necessary for the carrying out of WFP relief programmes,
 - (i) be permitted to hold or maintain within the country foreign exchange, foreign currency accounts and moveable property and the right upon termination of employment with the WFP to take out of South Africa their funds for the lawful possession of which they can show good cause;

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- (j) be accorded the same protection and repatriation facilities with respect to themselves, their spouses and dependent relatives and other members of their households as are accorded in times of international crises or national emergencies to diplomatic envoys,
- (k) be permitted to import for personal use, free of duty and other levies, prohibitions or restrictions on imports—
- (i) their furniture and personal effects in one or more shipments and thereafter to import necessary additions to the same, including automobiles, in accordance with the regulations applicable in South Africa to diplomatic representatives accredited in South Africa and/or resident members of international organisations,
 - (ii) reasonable quantities of certain articles for personal use or consumption and not as gifts or for sale.
4. The premises of the WFP shall be inviolable. The property and assets of the WFP, wherever located and by whomsoever held, shall be immune from search, requisition, confiscation, expropriation and any other form of interference, whether by executive, administrative, judicial or legislative action.
5. The archives of the WFP, including all the papers, documents, correspondence, books, films, tapes, registers, databases and computerised documentation belonging to or held by it, shall be inviolable.
6. No restriction shall be placed on the WFP introducing foreign currency into South Africa to fund its operations nor on the repatriation of any such funds to any countries abroad. The same privileges in regard to movement of funds related to their activities shall be accorded to the WFP as are made available to all foreign embassy bank accounts in South Africa
7. The WFP shall buy and sell foreign exchange at the commercial rand rate of exchange as quoted by the authorized dealers in South Africa.

EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION, CUSTOMS DUTIES, PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

1. The WFP shall be exempted from all dues and taxes, direct or indirect, personal or real, national, regional or municipal, other than such as represent payment for specific services rendered. Thus, the Government shall exempt the WFP from excise duties, sales tax and value added tax, and from taxes on the sale or purchase by the WFP of movable and immovable property in South Africa. The WFP and Government shall agree on the appropriate administrative arrangements for the disposal of movable and immovable property and for the remission or refund of the amount of duty, tax or levy where it is not feasible to make direct exemption.
2. The WFP, its assets, income and other property shall be exempt from—
 - (a) all direct and indirect taxes provided that the WFP shall not be entitled to exemptions for charges for public utility services;
 - (b) customs duties, prohibitions or restrictions on articles imported or exported by the WFP for their official use provided that the articles imported under such exemption shall not be sold in South Africa, except under conditions agreed upon with the Government,
 - (c) customs duties, prohibitions or restrictions in respect of the import and export of its publications.
3. Any materials, articles or goods imported or purchased locally by the WFP in connection with the discharge of its functions as principal UN Agency to co-ordinate the food aid import programme on behalf of countries of the Southern African Region shall be exempt from all customs and excise duties, prohibitions or restrictions.

COMMUNICATION FACILITIES

1. The WFP shall enjoy, in respect of its official communications, treatment not less favourable than that accorded by the Government to any other government, including its diplomatic missions, or to other inter-governmental/international organisations in matters of priorities, tariffs and charges on mail, cablegrams, telephotos, telephone, telegraph, telex and other communications, and rates for information to the press and radio.

2. The Government shall secure the inviolability of the official communications and correspondence of the WFP and shall not apply any censorship to its communications and correspondence. Such inviolability, without limitation by reason of this enumeration, shall extend to publications, photographs, slides, films and sound recordings. (24) (SAP) (SAP)
3. The WFP shall have the right to use codes and to dispatch and receive correspondence and other materials by courier or in sealed bags, which couriers and bags shall be accorded the same privileges and immunities as those accorded to diplomatic couriers and bags.
4. The WFP shall have the right to erect and operate radio and other telecommunications equipment, on UN registered frequencies that have been co-ordinated with the Government and on frequencies allocated by the Government, between its offices, within and outside South Africa. Provided that this right shall not, without the consent of the Government, extend to point-to-point radio communication

ENTRY, RESIDENCE, DEPARTURE AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

1. The staff of the WFP shall have the right to enter into, reside in and depart from South Africa from agreed points of entry and exit UN *laissez-passers* held by the WFP staff shall be accepted as valid travel/identification documents by the Government, and holders of such documents shall be granted facilities for speedy travel to, through and from South Africa as promptly as possible.

WAIVER OF IMMUNITY

1. Privileges and immunities are granted to WFP staff in the interests of the United Nations and not for the personal benefit of the individuals concerned. Accordingly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, or any other person authorised thereto, may waive the immunity of any of the WFP staff where, in his opinion, the immunity would impede the course of justice, and it may be waived without prejudice to the interests of the United Nations or the WFP.

DEPARTEMENT VAN KORREKTIEWE DIENSTE

No. 2517

11 September 1992

STAATSDIENSBEURSSKEMA: 1993

DEPARTEMENT VAN KORREKTIEWE DIENSTE

1. Die doel van die Beursskema is om voltydse beurse aan applikante beskikbaar te stel ter verwerwing van die volgende kwalifikasies.
 - BA (MW)-graad
 - BSc Rekenaarwetenskap/B Comm Inligtingstelsels.
 - MA Kliniese Sielkunde. (Alle registrasiekategoriee.)
 - B Pharm-graad.
2. **Algemene maatstawwe en vereistes:**
 - 2.1 Die aantal beurse in elke rigting word bepaal deur die Departement van Korrektiewe Dienste se behoefte aan opgeleide personeel in die onderskeie rigtings en die beskikbaarheid van fondse, en applikante ding volgens meriete om beurse mee.
 - 2.2 **Applikante moet—**
 - van voorneme wees om 'n loopbaan in die Departement van Korrektiewe Dienste te volg en aan alle aanstellingsvereistes voldoen,
 - Suid-Afrikaanse burgers wees;

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

No. 2517

11 September 1992

PUBLIC SERVICE BURSARY SCHEME: 1993

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

1. The purpose of the Public Bursary Scheme is to make full-time bursaries available to applicants to attain the following qualifications:
 - BA (SW) degree
 - BSc Computer Science/B Comm Information Systems.
 - MA Clinical Psychology (All registration categories.)
 - B Pharm degree.
2. **General criteria and requirements:**
 - 2.1 The number of bursaries in each field is determined by the requirements of the Department of Correctional Services in regard to trained staff in the various fields and by the availability of funds, and applicants compete for bursaries on merit
 - 2.2 **Applicants must—**
 - intend to take up a career in the Department of Correctional Services and to comply with all appointment requirements,
 - be South African citizens;

POVERTY — 1993

**news
in brief**

Sowetan

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**Body helps
the starving**

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29/3/93
THE National Nutrition and Social Development Programme during the current financial year managed to help 5,8 million of the 9 million people living below the minimum subsistence level

The Department of National Health and Population Development said in a statement in Pretoria on Saturday community involvement was the probable reason why 5537 projects could be implemented by 1620 non-governmental organisations nationwide

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IDT defends its development role

BIDM 29/3/95

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KATHRYN STRACHAN

AFTER coming under the spotlight in recent weeks, with protesting university students calling for its disbandment, the Independent Development Trust (IDT) is fighting back.

The SA Students Congress claims the IDT has failed hopelessly to meet students' funding needs — and their criticism is echoed by other organisations which say that despite the R2bn of taxpayers' money used set up the trust two years ago, housing and education backlogs are still staggering.

But IDT communications director Jolyon Nuttall said in an interview that most of the trust's projects aimed at assisting "the poorest of the poor" were well under way.

While the trust itself could not be the solution to SA's housing, education and unemployment problems, it had far exceeded its original brief by setting up community structures to take projects forward well after the trust's funds had expired.

"Sound development is not the speed with which you dispense money, but the sustainability of what is developed," said Nuttall.

The success and durability of projects — such as preschool care, school building, primary health care and the capital subsidy scheme — were dependent on the lengthy process of getting community involvement and acceptance.

"It is more important that communities have a sense of ownership of projects, rather than that they have development projects thrust on them."

However, where the quick deployment of funding was crucial, such as for drought relief projects, the IDT could and did act with speed, he said.

The trust had also found that its mission — due to end in mid-1995 — could become permanent.

Nuttall said because so few organisations had the IDT's capacity and expertise to administer such large amounts of money and to set up necessary community structures, the trust's new policy was to make its ventures permanent, using funds from initiatives such as the national housing forum.

He said that by the start of this year, R2,1bn had been allocated to 450 projects ranging from massive school building to teaching patchwork to prisoners' wives in KwaZulu. Of this amount, R900m was already in use.

The IDT's capital subsidy scheme would result in 110 000 poor people, each with an average of seven dependants, owning a piece of serviced land. However, this R800m project will meet only 10% of total need.

Nuttall said that through a R300m venture, the trust hoped to reduce the backlog of 50 000 classrooms over the next two to three years. It also aimed to fund the building of 100 new clinics in rural areas, and to grant R120m over three years to welfare projects related to development.

The IDT had earmarked R70m over three years for pre-school facilities in the absence of government funding. Drought relief received R100m and tertiary education loans R80m.

By January, 92% of the projects were off the ground, and the 8% still to be activated were in "unreachable war-zones" such as Phola Park and areas near Maritzburg.

Call for export policies probe

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — The export policies of multinational corporations now doing business in SA should be investigated by government, the SA Consumer Union has resolved. BIDM 29/3/95

Union chairman Lillibeth Moolman said the dumping of harmful or shoddy goods into SA could be detrimental to the health and safety of local consumers.

There was the possibility that some "global companies now operating across national boundaries may be infringing consumer rights", Moolman said. This was likely where a company's export policies did not comply with the stringent laws operating within the country of origin.

Among problems identified by the union were multinationals exporting substandard technology with poor environmental and health effects, together with a lack of "genuine motive" to create jobs and stimulate production.

"All governments must be sufficiently alert to the possible situation where ethics are sacrificed for profits and when long-term consequences prove to be detrimental to the environment," Moolman said.

The consumer union called on government to sign and implement the 1985 UN guidelines for consumer protection.

"We need fair rules and minimum standards to be established to promote the good conduct of transnational corporations, to preserve our natural resources and to safeguard the health and safety of consumers," Moolman said in a statement.

The union recently resolved to request Trade and Industry Minister Derek Keys to urge government to sign the UN guidelines.

Poverty

LATIN America's governments have won wide praise for economic reform programmes credited with restoring growth and lowering inflation.

Investors have responded enthusiastically. Net capital inflows to Latin America last year exceeded \$50bn, suggesting much of the region is at least emerging from the debt crisis of the '80s.

Yet the recession induced by the debt crisis may have left a more lasting legacy that could yet thwart the aspirations of these new investors and reverse the pro-market economic policies that encouraged them. The shift to democracy in much of the region may also be at risk.

The problem is poverty and the related issue of income inequality. Income is more concentrated in the hands of the rich in Latin America than in any other region of the world. In the '80s, inequalities worsened significantly and poverty increased.

Meeting last year in Washington, the region's finance ministers decid-

ed this could undo all their good work. Social objectives — to enable the poor to benefit from growth — were pushed up their agendas. Partly as a result, social issues are a high priority at this year's annual meetings of the Inter-American Development Bank, which started last week in Hamburg.

Yet raising national income is a complicated task, adding specific policies to improve income distribution makes it more so. As a two-year round of presidential elections approaches in the region, the question arises of whether both issues can be tackled in the framework of economic policies still regarded favourably by investors. "Spending more is easy; spending better is difficult," says Gustavo Marquez, a Venezuelan expert on poverty.

The World Bank report, Poverty and Income Distribution in Latin

threatens reform

29/3/93
STEPHEN FIDLER

America: The Story of the 1980s, published by the World Bank Human Resources Division. In Washington underlines the deterioration in social conditions in the '80s. It suggests the number of people in poverty — defined as a monthly household income in 1985 dollars of \$60 — in Latin America grew from 27% of the population in 1980 to 32% in 1989. Other estimates suggest a more dramatic increase in poverty through the decade from 130-million to 180-million people, two-fifths of the population. The study also suggests income inequalities grew in all except four countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Uruguay.

In the '80s, the study indicates,

poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean became a mainly urban rather than rural problem. More of the poor now live in cities (69-million) than in the country (64-million), in 1980, most of the poor lived in rural areas (53-million) rather than in urban areas (39-million).

Most poverty is concentrated in a few countries. Brazil alone, with one-third of the population, accounts for 44% of the poor.

Mexico had 11% and Peru 9%. A further 19% lived in a small group of countries including Bolivia, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua. As much as 44% of the total increase in poverty in the '80s was in Brazil, and 14% in Peru.

Resolving the poverty issue is on the face of it simple, but in practice hugely complicated. Wealth is so concentrated in Latin America that a relatively modest sacrifice could

apparently address the problem. As the World Bank's 1990 World Development Report suggested, "Raising all the poor in the continent to just above the poverty line would cost only 0.7% of regional GDP — the approximate equivalent of a 2% income tax on the wealthiest fifth of the population."

Even if such taxes were levied — and, even less likely, paid — social programmes would still have to be implemented. These fall into two categories trying to provide support to alleviate immediate suffering, and aiming at longer-term objectives, such as improving education and health standards to provide a way out of poverty.

Yet Latin American experience has been that little of the money aimed directly at the poor reaches them, raising the question of how to manage poverty programmes. Furthermore, attempts to deal with issues such as health and education usually founder against the opposition of powerful vested interests such as teachers' and health workers' unions — Financial Times

BOOKS

NEWS Rector, lecturers accused of racism • Parties agree on procedures at 'Codesa 3'

Plea for business to aid violence victims

■ Lack of cash limits fund to crisis intervention only:

MORE than R2,5 million has been allocated to about 15 organisations by the Social Relief Fund since September last year, the fund's vice-chairman, Dr Boet Schoeman, announced yesterday.

The fund, established in 1992, is managed by a board appointed by the Deputy Minister of National Health and provides short-term aid in the form of food, clothing, blankets and in some cases funeral expenses to victims of violence and unrest.

It also provides financial help of up to R300 a month for a family of five for up to three months after the incident.

He said about 25 000 people were being helped

PARENTS and students attending the East Rand College of Education in KwaThema yesterday started a sit-in at the regional offices of the Department of Education and Training in Springs

The students and their parents presented a memorandum at the regional director's office demanding the opening of the college which was closed a week ago

Lecture boycott

This followed a lecture boycott by the students, who were demanding the resignation of rector Dr Dawid Gericke and two white lecturers, Mr Sarel Roos and Mr BJ Short.

The rector has been accused of a

Sit-in over closure

Sowetan 31/3/93
By Sipho Mthembu

■ CLASS BOYCOTT Demands for the reopening of college of education:

having a racist attitude, while the two lecturers have been accused of racism and incompetence

The demand for Gericke's resignation has been going on for the past three years, according to a college lecturer who did not wish to be named

"He was kicked out for eight months in 1991 and for a month last year.

"Parents are now tired of disruptions and have decided to intervene. They have made it clear that they will settle for nothing short of the resignation of the three," the lecturer said.

Parents at a meeting on Sunday asked the Nat MP for

Springs, Mr Piet Coetzee, to liaise with DET Minister Mr Sam de Beer to open the college. About 1 000 students and 400 parents took part in yesterday's action. The sit-in comes in the midst of rising tensions in education.

Fort Hare University has been closed and several colleges throughout the country are staging boycotts.

The National Education Coordinating Committee yesterday said it would disrupt education, including white schools, if the Government did not address grievances identified by the community



VAT increase a burden to the poor

Sowetan & Radio Metro
Talkback

By **Mzimasi Ngudle**

GOVERNMENT corruption as it is the reason why the poor should now shoulder the Value Added Tax increase, Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show guest speakers said last night.

Ms Nonia Ramphomane, president of the National Black Consumer Union, Mr Mapete Leeuw, education secretary for the Congress of SA Trade Unions, and Ms Jean Tatham, president of the Housewives League, commented that VAT increase would be a heavy burden on the poor.

Ramphomane said it was very difficult for black consumers to cope, especially since there was a high rate of unemployment in the country.

"The increase is exorbitant. It is wrong for the Government to collect

money from the poor and should increase VAT on things that the poor would not afford.

"The money spent on covert activities should be used to bring down the deficit. I feel strongly that meat must be zero-rated," she said.

Leeuw and Cosatu would consult with other organisations and consumer groups on what action to take.

Left lying down

"The matter cannot be left lying down," he said in response to a caller who had suggested that tougher action be taken against the Government.

"We call for an independent audit commission to probe expenditure as well as a tax commission to evaluate the whole tax system."

"There's widespread corruption in

government and it is not an accident. This is a corruption that is allowed to flourish daily.

Tatham and the price increase in food and fuel are a burden on the poor. "I'm disappointed with supply in retail prices because it's very confusing," she said.

She said: "Union says don't do anything about it. Why does Cosatu do

stand up and fight the Government?"

100 of our

Why do they lift their hands to the 100 institutions of apartheid? Why do they lift their hands to the 100 institutions of apartheid?"

White Ohnson, Johannesburg

"A... going on the hardest life is not only VAT. There is a PAE is well. This is destroying the quality of life."

Att: Ny... ..



with **Tim Modise**

Shock burials for Guguletu

paupers

Strived
C. M. M. J. 4/4/93

By SOBANTU XAVIYA

UP to a dozen still-born babies and two adults are being buried in single graves during pauper burials held every week at the Guguletu cemetery

This week the Sunday Times was present when eight children, each in a tiny coffin, were buried in a single grave

Afterwards the grave was only half filled because, workers at the cemetery said, they expected to bury several more children in the same grave later in the day

According to the workers, the paupers' burials take place every Wednesday morning when around 12 children and adults are usually buried

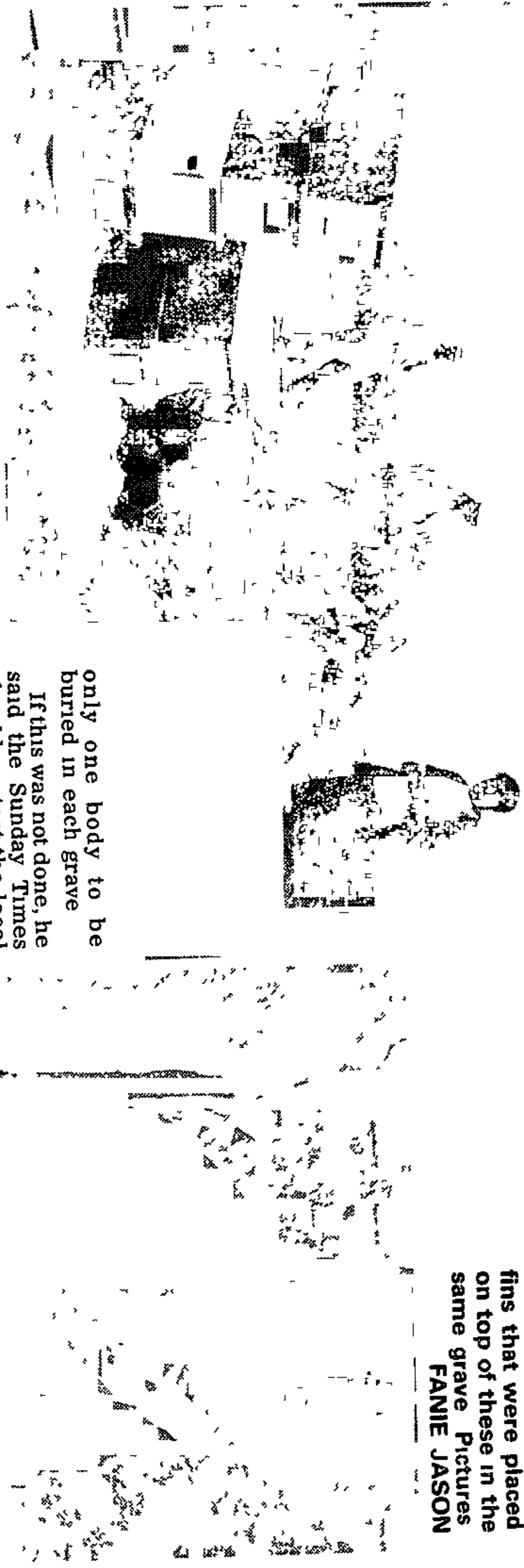
"Last week we buried 14 people, of whom six were children," one worker said

The standard procedure was to put two adults or three children into a grave, but when there are a large number of people to be buried, the number of children in each grave is increased to save space," a worker said

The burial scene witnessed by the Sunday Times was a far cry from a normal funeral, with no priest or graveside ceremony. Only the workers doing the burials were present

I watched as one worker stood on top of four tiny coffins of still-born babies, as other workers passed more coffins to him

A spokesman for the undertaker's firm which has the contract to handle the paupers' funerals in Guguletu, Human and Pit Funeral Undertakers, said they had given instructions for



MASS BURIAL
Workers, left, prepare a grave at the Guguletu cemetery in which eight still-born babies were buried together this week. On the right, a worker stands on a small coffin while others pass him the other four coffins that were placed on top of these in the same grave. Pictures by FANIE JASON

only one body to be buried in each grave

If this was not done, he said the Sunday Times should contact the local authority, the Ikapa Town Council, for comment

But Ikapa Town Council spokesman, Mr Johannes Walters, said it was "standard procedure to bury two adults or up to 12 still-born babies in a single grave"

He denied that this was done to save on burial costs

"An undertaker books the graves and we take his word that he is going to bury the people," he said

Mr Walters said a pauper's burial normally cost R120 for babies and R135 for adults

Officials at the state mortuary declined to comment

Organisations unite to fight poverty

THE Transkei Development Corporation (TDC) had joined forces with other development bodies to fight rampant poverty in the Kei/Border region, MD Mncedisi Swana said yesterday.

The TDC and Border/Kei Development Forum (BKDF) — comprising the PAC, ANC, NP, DP, SACP, Cosatu, SA National Civics Organisation, regional development structures, Ciskei People's Development Bank, the governments of Ciskei, Transkei and SA and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) — had identified areas that needed serious intervention to kickstart the economy of the region.

A directorate had been appointed for strategic planning and implementation of projects. The TDC had appointed development officers to help "previously marginalised" communities identify their needs and some members had been seconded to the BKDF, Swana said.

Projects would include building low-cost housing, training, promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises and malnutrition relief. DBSA had undertaken to finance some of the projects, a source said.

JOHN DLUDLO

However, more money would be needed for the projects.

A memorandum had already been sent to Finance Minister Derek Keys asking for about R619,95m and the forum would meet Keys on April 20.

Swana said the venture would be a national example as poverty and unemployment were widespread in SA. The co-operation between groups was also aimed at laying a foundation for one regional development body which would hopefully be formed as soon as an interim government was set up.

"We also feel the impending processes of reincorporating homelands would actually enhance the projects rather than jeopardise the initiative."

Swana said the issue of poverty was more important and urgent than perceived animosity between Ciskei, Transkei and SA.

A current obstacle was that SA did not officially recognise the Border/Kei area as a region.

As soon as SA recognises this as a legiti-

mate region with credibility and widespread support most of the problems would be alleviated," TDC corporate planner Jos Tebraake said.

He said he was confident national negotiations would resolve the outstanding problem of whether northern Transkei fell into Natal or Transkei.

Our political staff reports from Cape Town that the government had granted overdraft facilities totalling R1,47bn to the Transkei and Ciskei homelands during the 1991/2 financial year, Foreign Affairs Minister Pk Botha said yesterday.

Currently R1 142 588 000 was still outstanding on these overdrafts, he said in reply to a question tabled in Parliament by DP MP Ken Andrew.

Botha said the government had not granted any loans or other specified financial services to the governments of the two homelands, nor were any foreign currencies involved.

The overdraft guarantee to Transkei amounted to R892m and R642,7m was still outstanding, while the overdraft guarantee to Ciskei totalled R581m and R495,9m was still outstanding.

Hunger spans every divide

BIDM 21/4/93
KATHRYN STRACHAN

INCREASING unemployment, continual violence and the aftermath of the drought had forced millions of South Africans onto the treadmill of destitution, Operation Hunger CE Ina Perlman said yesterday.

"The country is facing a massive hunger crisis of unprecedented proportions," she said "There can be little doubt that the situation today is worse than the depression of the '30s."

Poverty was affecting people across the divide of colour and politics, she said. The organisation spent R4m a month feeding 2,4-million people

Operation Hunger's deputy director Norma Cohen said shrinking donations were also a factor. The organisation's budget was falling short and the number of people seeking assistance was growing daily.

Perlman said this year's Budget had provided little relief for the poor in real terms.

However the solution was within reach, she said "There is one lack only — the money to buy the products we need to save human lives"

Star 22/4/93

3,5-m eggs for poor likely to rot

By Mckeed Kotlolo
Pretoria Bureau

More than 3,5 million eggs set aside for the needy are likely to rot through lack of adequate means to distribute them

Egg Board general manager David Gouws yesterday confirmed the board had a surplus stock and wished to distribute the eggs among the country's needy people, but transportation was a problem.

The confirmation follows a call to The Star by an angry, unidentified caller, saying millions of surplus eggs were stored at the Egg Board instead of being distributed among the needy

"Something tells me that if nothing is done, they will be kept there

until they rot," she warned.

Gouws said distribution was time-consuming, adding: "Last year it took us about four months to distribute the same amount"

He said that a few weeks ago the board offered the eggs to the Department of Agriculture for distribution among the country's various feeding schemes

The board had also approached the Department of National Health to subsidise a process to reduce the eggs to powder for easy storage and distribution as an alternative.

Besides distributing the eggs, the board would have to keep them in cold storage for a period not exceeding six months, which cost it 7c a dozen per month, he said.

Gouws added it would be easy to store egg powder which could be kept for more than a year before being used

Spokesmen for the departments of Agriculture and National Health confirmed the board had approached them for assistance, but said the matter had still not been finalised.

But a National Health spokesman said although there was great need for food, the department did not have funds available.

She said the total R410 million budget for her department had already been allocated to different regions in the country

Meanwhile, Operation Hunger's Ina Perlman said her organisation had been approached with the offer, "but we are still awaiting confirmation from the board".

Japie Jacobs strikes gloomy note

IT WOULD be straining optimism to expect a positive growth rate this year, special economic adviser to the Minister of Finance Japie Jacobs said yesterday.

Depending on the extent of the disruption caused by the weeks of threatened mass action, the consequences could contribute to the "demise" of the economy.

Jacobs said business confidence had taken a severe beating recently. Production losses like those inflicted in previous stayaways would never be recovered.

There was an attitude and an expectation among many workers that they should be allowed to take part in mass action without being penalised by employers.

"You cannot manage an economy with

GERALD REILLY

any degree of efficiency if there is massive and frequent worker absenteeism.

Jacobs said mass action could accelerate the spread of poverty and unemployment, when job creation was crucial.

There seemed, too, to be a lack of understanding of the consequences on a fragile economy.

Other economists said production losses could amount to several billion rands if the stayaways persisted during May.

They agreed there was a need for a more acute understanding of the damage which could be inflicted on the economy by irresponsible and politically motivated action.

B10 PM 2/4/93

(24)

(15)

New housing strategy urged

Let poor live in city centres

Soweto
30/4/93 *(241)*

■ Race Relations Institute report backs viewpoint of civics:

By Joshua Raboroko

SOUTH Africa's cities should be re-structured to enable poor people to live close to their centres, the Institute of Race Relations says

In its 1992-93 survey on housing and urbanisation, the institute points out that civic associations are also urging that land for the poor be found close to city centres

The survey reports on a number of innovative initiatives which concentrate on existing housing stock in the inner city areas of Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban

Turning to housing delivery, the survey emphasises the need for a clearly articulated housing policy, a single housing department, community participation, access to credit and building advice, and investment in public infrastructure

According to one estimate recorded in the survey, 550 houses at an average price of R20 000 for a house and stand need to be built every day to eradicate the 1,8 million backlog by the year 2020. This would involve an investment of R11 million in low-cost housing each day.

Against this, the survey reports that the Government has provided only about 3 000 houses in the last two years,

while a sample 101 builders surveyed in 1991 built fewer than 25 houses in that year. Some 75 percent of the builders surveyed had built fewer than 100 houses

Builders interviewed believe that the factors inhibiting the provision of low-cost housing were current interest rates, political uncertainty, political unrest, bond boycotts, and the limited availability of mortgage bonds

The survey records a certain amount of progress during 1991-92 in the provision of formal and informal housing by non-profit utility companies, for example

- The Independent Development Trust financed more than 100 site-and-service schemes, providing serviced sites for some 700 000 people countrywide,

- The South African Housing Trust provided finance for more than 100 housing projects, including the provision of some 10 000 formal houses and as many serviced sites, and

- The New Housing Group — initiated by the Urban Foundation — provided more than 200 residential stands, 3 000 serviced sites and 5 000 starter homes

According to official estimates, some 3,6 million people are living in informal settlements countrywide, but the

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELA



Taking a break from the Idasa conference are, from left, Natal University's economic policy unit director Gavin Maasdorp, former AIPA director Bax Nomvete, Fort Hare University-lecturer S Mayatula, and Patrick Ncube from Cape Town University's labour development research unit.

Picture ROBERT BOTHA

Stals calls for changes to beat poverty spiral

RESERVE Bank Governor Chris Stals said the economy had fallen into a perpetual poverty trap and major structural changes were needed to combat low economic growth, high unemployment and declining standards of living.

He was speaking at the conference on SA's international economic relations in the 1990s, which is being held at the Mabula Game Lodge under the auspices of Idasa and the Aspen Institute of the US.

Stals suggested continued cautious monetary policy to keep inflation down, saying the temptation to supplement domestic sources by the creation of more money should be resisted as more money provided more inflation.

"Whatever the source of financing for poverty alleviation, there are limits on what can be achieved," he said, adding that SA had no option but to generate more resources through a higher rate of economic growth.

He suggested financing social uplift programmes partly from external sources through foreign finance such as aid trans-

fers. He said SA was relatively under-borrowed — in 1990 foreign debt interest payments absorbed only 4.2% of total exports — and that care must be taken as the country could very easily fall into an overborrowed situation.

"Foreign funds are not freely available and could, if attainable, eventually lead to debt servicing problems. At this stage, SA should, however, gladly accept foreign funds available for the financing of poverty alleviation," he said. Redirecting domestic resources through the channelling of cash flows would reduce resources available for other purposes.

"The challenge is to strike a balance between poverty alleviation and alternative applications of our scarce resources to support maximum growth," he said.

Stals said a statement regarding current negotiations with creditor banks on extending SA's foreign debt arrangements was likely to be made in London by today.

Earlier, he confirmed that a Reserve Bank delegation was in London negotiating with creditor banks to reschedule about \$5.5bn in foreign debt — Reuter

Star 31/5/93

Long-term prospects for inflation brighten

By Sven Lünsche

Although the inflation rate is expected to show a VAT-induced rise above 10 percent in April, economists are convinced that it has decisively broken the 10 to 17 percent range of the past 18 years.

The Central Statistical Service reported on Friday the March inflation rate increased to 9,7 percent compared with nine percent in February. On a monthly basis the consumer price index (CPI) rose by 1,5 percent despite a 0,6 percent decline in the cost of food.

The larger-than-expected rise was mainly due to soaring education costs. The CPI for education surged 64 percent between February and March this year, reflecting an increase in Model C school and university fees.

The increase in VAT from 10 to 14 percent, higher excise duties, more expensive fuel and rising postal rates are expected to return inflation to between 10 and 11 percent in April.

Nevertheless, economists expect a continuation of the longer-term downward trend once these short-term effects have been absorbed.

In Southern Life's latest Quarterly Economic Comment economist Mike Daly says infla-

tion was expected to average about 10 percent this year compared with 14 percent in 1992.

"Once the impact of VAT falls out of the year-on-year comparison in April 1994, the rate is expected to fall quite sharply to seven percent.

"Inflationary pressures are not expected to pick up significantly until the latter part of 1994 at the earliest," Daly says.

Sanlam economist Johan Louw says the factors that contributed to the sharp deceleration in inflation in the past nine months will still be present this year.

Labour costs

These factors include.

- The continued recession.
- The lower rate of increase of real labour costs as a result of slower wage rises and higher productivity.
- Improvements in agricultural conditions, leading to lower food price rises.
- The reduction in bond rates.
- The moderate inflation rates of SA's trading partners.
- The steadiness of the real effective rand exchange rate.
- Continued financial discipline, as reflected in the moderate expansion of the money supply and credit granted.

Perlman
Star 18/3/93
dubious on
food aid ⁽²⁴⁾

Operation Hunger has expressed grave doubts over the administration of the millions of rands allocated in the Budget to feeding schemes.

Finance Minister Derek Keys announced that more than R400 million would be spent this year on food aid by the National Nutrition and Social Development Programme for food aid, (supplemented by any funds left over from the R400 million allocated from nutrition schemes in last year's Budget) and a further R40 million would be paid to the Protein Energy Malnutrition Programme.

These organisations fall directly under the umbrella of the Department of National Health and Population Development.

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said the funds were welcome, but her major concern was that the money allocated to feeding programmes was not reaching the proper target — Staff Reporter.

Health

sector's

R11-bn

Sowetan 18/3/93
■ R400m on feeding:

HEALTH services are getting more than R11 billion in the 1993-4 Budget and more than R400 million is to be spent on feeding schemes

The *Budget Review* says that, "the strained economic circumstances necessitate a drastic improvement in the cost-effectiveness in health care delivery on the part of all health authorities"

Legislation is to be introduced to establish a new management model for academic hospitals to give them greater management autonomy. Poverty and the drought have increased the demand for food aid and the government is to spend R400 million this year on the National Nutrition and Social Development Programme

This will be supplemented by funds from the R400 million allocated for nutrition schemes in last year's Budget

Furthermore, the allocation to the Protein Energy Malnutrition Programme, also administered by the Department of National Health and Population Development, is to be raised from R400 000 — last year's allocation — to R40 million

HoR to pay rent for the jobless

By NORMAN WEST, Political Reporter

UNEMPLOYED coloured people are to get help — the House of Representatives is to pay their water bills and rents or rates for three months.

All unemployed coloured people throughout the country who can prove that they have been registered "unemployed" by April 1 will have their water bills and rates or rents paid for them at the end of April, May and June.

This was announced yesterday by Mr Jac Rabie, chairman of the Ministers' Council and minister-designate of Population Development.

He said that because the tricameral parliament system was still in force and there were still separate "own affairs" budgets, the HoR could not help constituents of the other houses.

It was "with regret" that he was announcing the relief measure was limited to "coloureds".

He anticipated that people would try to make political capital out of the aid scheme and describe it as a "political gimmick" to catch votes.

Gimmick

"The genuinely destitute will have another view.

"It is not a gimmick, for no one is forced to make use of this relief — and not everybody will qualify.

"To qualify, a breadwinner will have to show proof to the municipal and regional offices that he or she has been registered as unemployed.

"The Ministers' Council has instructed the local authorities to process applications without unnecessary red tape so that those who are genuinely seeking work but are temporarily unemployed can enjoy a respite of three months from rent and municipal obligations."

Mr Rabie confirmed outgoing-Minister of Health and Welfare Andrew Julius's statement this week that parity was to be introduced in social pensions and grants. This is to be announced by Minister of Finance Derek Keys in his budget on Wednesday.

At present, white pensioners receive R345 a month, compared with R318 for coloured and Indian pensioners and R293 for Africans.

Mr Rabie said that in addition to parity, he expected Mr Keys to announce a 10-percent increase to R379,50 for all social pensioners.

Women make a living

from rubbish dumps

South 13/3 - 17/3/93

By Sabata Ngcal
and Diane Coetzer

INTERPRISING African women have found an innovative way to resist poverty. They make a living by recycling rubble.

In Crossroads and Nyanga, large numbers of women brick-pickers descend on loads dumped by building contractors. Through the billowing dust they run to grab what they can.

Then they carefully sift through the rubble, sorting out bits of bricks with hands rough and calloused from years of this existence.

After hours of painstaking chiselling, almost-new bricks emerge which are then sold at 20 cents each.

Nosithle Maki came to Cape Town from Transkei four years ago and could not find a job.

She turned to recycling rubble, dumped by garbage trucks at a Nyanga dumping ground, to make ends meet.

Her husband died in 1991 and she has to raise their six children.

"I sell bricks to squatter people so that my children can have something to eat before they go to bed," says Maki.

Crossroads women Margaret Tolgaat and Cynthia Mgoite have been making a living off brick-picking since 1986.

"It is very hard work," Tolgaat explains as she deftly demonstrates how to chisel bits of concrete off used bricks.

The building rubble is dumped just off the N2.

"We get up very early to get to the site and then it is a great rush to be the first there when the trucks unload."

Mgoite says she is "tired and



sore" from the work. But she has no option but to continue the work for the sake of her children.

The women say they earn between R10 and R15 a day, selling their bricks at 20 cents each to Crossroads residents and people who

come from other areas to buy the cut-price bricks.

The cost of a hammer and an iron chisel is their initial capital outlay.

Competition for the best pickings is tough, so Maki often pays for a load to be dropped in front of her shack.

"When I see a truck coming to



HEAVY LOAD: The brick-pickers of Crossroads and Nyanga clean and carry the recycled bricks which they sell to make a living.

Photos Yunus Mohamed

unload rubble, I rush to ask the driver to dump it in front of my shack," Maki says.

"The truck driver charges me between R10 and R30 a load.

"Many people buy in bulk, up to 1000 bricks."

"When I go to bed at night I am tired and I can't see properly because of the dust and sand which blow into my eyes when the wind is blowing," Maki says.

"As long as my children can eat before going to bed, I don't mind how hard I work."

Maki says the trucks do not come regularly to dump the rubble near

the N2. When she does not find rubble there she goes to Philippa where rubble is also dumped.

"I hire a truck for R40 or R50, depending on the load I want to take, to carry what I have collected from the Philippa dumping ground."

Maki says she has to pay a R10 deposit before the truck fetches the bricks and pays the balance when the bricks are sold.

She says many unemployed women in Philippa learned from her that one could sell recycled bricks to feed their children.

DESIGN

A FLAG

R420m allocated to help needy and poor

ADRIAN HADLAND *241*

PRETORIA — More than R420m had been allocated to 1 614 non-governmental organisations this year to aid the needy and destitute, it was announced yesterday

National Nutrition and Social Development Programme manager Joos Hattingh said the organisations, from welfare and religious groups to luncheon clubs, were involved in almost 5 500 projects in 367 magisterial districts

"The plight of the needy, living below the minimal subsistence level, has been exacerbated by drought, unemployment and other factors," Hattingh said in a statement

"Out of a total population of 38-million, the programme has succeeded in reaching 15,38% of the estimated 9-million people who are surviving without any visible means of livelihood," he said *BIDM 9/3/93.*

Of the R440m allocated to the programme for the 1992/93 financial year, less than R20m remained to be distributed

Hattingh said that approval for projects and the allocation of funds had been devolved to elected local, district and regional committees

It was up to these committees to distribute food and other commodities to assist the needy, destitute and "poorest of the poor" to meet the basic human needs, Hattingh said

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Help for needy

SITIM01 7/3/93

THE state is to budget R440-million in the next financial year to help needy people, according to Dr Joos Hattingh, manager of the National Nutrition and Social Development Programme (241) (241)

Spending will be co-ordinated by the programme in conjunction with the Department of National Health and Population Development.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

244

Ennerdale Civic Association: food parcel

distribution

1 Mr A E REEVES asked the Minister of National Health

(1) Whether her Department donated money to the Civic Association of Ennerdale for distribution amongst the needy in the form of food parcels, if so, (a) when and (b) (i) what is the total amount involved and (ii) what portion of this amount was allocated for (aa) administration and (bb) food parcels;

(2) whether her Department has obtained any proof that the above association has undertaken any administrative work in connection with the distribution of these food parcels, if not, why not, if so, (a) what proof and (b) what is the nature of the work done,

(3) whether an official of the Ennerdale Local Development Committee, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of her reply, has been involved in the administration relating to and distribution of these food parcels, if so, (a) why, (b) to what extent and (c) what is the name of this official,

(4) whether any incidents of violence occurred while such food parcels were being distributed during the first week of February 1993, if so, (a) on what dates, (b) why and (c) what were the circumstances surrounding these incidents,

(5) whether she will appoint a committee of inquiry into these incidents, if not, why not, if so, when,

(6) whether she will make a statement on the matter? C11E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

(1) and (2)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

241

No, no application for funding from the National Nutrition and Social Development Programme (NNSDP) was submitted in the name of the Civic Association of Ennerdale, but the Ennerdale and Surrounding Crisis Organisation (ESCO) did submit an application, which, due to lack of infrastructure, was not approved

Owing to the desperate need in Ennerdale, officers of the Southern Transvaal Regional Office conferred with Mr John Rees, chairman of the United Care Centres, a reliable organisation which already received funding for different projects from the NNSDP, to give administrative guidance to ESCO and monitor procedures to ensure proper control until a reliable infrastructure has been established. In collaboration with Mr Chiffie Smith, the chairman of ESCO, and various other representatives of Ennerdale Mr Rees agreed to assist ESCO with 1 300 food parcels per month for 3 months,

(3) no,

(a) not applicable,

(b) administrative assistance was given to Mr Smith to complete the application referred to in (1) and

(c) Mr Arthur Olivier,

(4) yes,

(a) 4 February 1993,

(b) it was alleged that the various political parties encouraged the people of Ennerdale and from the surrounding informal settlements to demand food parcels and

(c) Mrs Margaret Mollentze, chairman of the Subregional committee of the National Nutrition and Social Development Programme for the Johannesburg area was in constant contact with Mr Smith, and the not squad and she offered to address these people and explain the full situation. There was pandemonium but no violence. At about 13 00 Mrs Mollentze and Mr Smith addressed the crowd where a full explanation was given whereafter the crowd dispersed. Further handing out of food parcels was immediately stopped

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†satisfactory proof is received that all food parcels have been accounted for and the recipients have been properly screened,

(5) no, as the occurrence has extensively been investigated and handled by officials of the regional office of the Southern Transvaal,

(6) no

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- (3) It is our intention to wait for the outcome of the court case in the USA which will dictate our future actions. The GSM (Group Special Mobile) Organisation will also keep us informed of any new developments
- (4) Any further information in this regard will be made available to interested parties

Olympic Games in Barcelona

*21 Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of National Education †

- (1) Whether the State appropriated and/or made available an amount of money in order to make South Africa's participation in the Olympic Games in Barcelona possible, if so, what amount,
- (2) whether this amount was made available subject to (a) the condition that the official South African flag be displayed and (b) other conditions, if so, what conditions were set,
- (3) whether a request was addressed to Nocsa to apologise for the fact that the majority of athletes in the South African team were Whites,
- (4) whether any representatives of the South African Government were invited by the International Olympic Committee to attend the official opening of the 25th Olympiad together with Mr Nelson Mandela, if so, who was so invited? B94E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

- (1) Yes, R1,5 million was allocated of which an amount of R500 000 has already been paid out
 - (2) (a) No
 - (b) Yes, the following conditions applied
- The funds could only be used to the advantage of the official team members and administrators in respect of the following items
- Air fares
 - Official uniform

Education departments: equal funding

- *23 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education
- (1) Whether his Department will guarantee equal funding for specific non-salary areas in all education departments for the 1993-94 budget year, if not, why not,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B99E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

- (1) No. Although the financing formula has already been drafted, no general policy has yet been tabled under section 2(1)(a) of the National Policy for Education Affairs Act, 1984 (Act No. 76 of 1984). The formula is, however, used as a distribution guideline to divide the education budget between the various education departments but each education department decides according to its own needs and priorities how its budget should be divided between the different expenditure categories (including those categories other than salaries)
- (2) No

Poverty relief: money voted/spent

- *24 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of National Health (241)
- Whether all the money voted for poverty relief programmes in respect of the current financial year has been spent, if so, (a) what total amount is involved and (b) on what was it spent, if not, (i) what total amount was voted, (ii) how much of it had been spent as at the latest specified date for which information is available, (iii) on what was the money spent and (iv) which organizations received financial assistance and/or grants? B100E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

- No,
- (i) R440 million,
- (ii) R420 million till 31 January 1993,

Population figures of RSA/Natal

- (iii) on nutritional aid and social development programmes and (241)
- (iv) 1 264 non-governmental organisations consisting of different formal and informal welfare organisations, schools, churches and religious organisations, crèches, civic organisations, community committees, farmers aid committees, development organisations, local authorities, centres for job creation, the Rural Foundation and health related organisations

*25 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Home Affairs

- (a) What are the official population figures for the (i) Republic of South Africa and (ii) Natal/KwaZulu region and (b) in respect of what date are these figures furnished? B102E
- The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
- (a) (i) 30 986 920
 - (ii) 7 955 527
 - (b) 7 March 1991

General Export Incentive Scheme: fraud

- *26 Mr L FUCHS to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry
- (1) Whether there have been any cases of fraud in regard to the General Export Incentive Scheme (GEIS), if so, what total amount is involved;
- (2) whether these cases are being investigated, if not, why not,
- (3) what action does he intend taking in regard to cases of fraud that have been proven? B103E

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

- (1) Thirty-six alleged cases of fraud, involving a potential amount of R136 million in regard to the General Export Incentive Scheme (GEIS), have so far

JOB MARKET

M&R making the people flower

STIwe (Buss)

28/2/93

241

By CHERILYN IRETON

MURRAY & ROBERTS has been quietly using its people and expertise to train thousands of the country's unemployed.

At the last count, 55 000 people had learnt some skill from Sunflower Projects, a division of the group dedicated to uplifting communities by helping them to break the cycle of poverty.

M&R's commercial director Jeremy Ractiffe estimates that, with sufficient funds, Sunflower Projects could train 100 000 people every year.

Pride

Sunflower offers unemployed community members a chance to learn building and related skills, provides education and literacy courses and generally encourages the development of entrepreneurial attitudes.

The skills are put to use on community projects funded by aid organisations before workers graduate into the job market.

"What communities need above all else, is skilled and confident people — who have pride, dignity and a reason for living. Development isn't something you do can do to people or even for them. Sunflower does it with them," says Mr Ractiffe. Community projects tackled by Sunflower have to meet several basic requirements. The project must:

- Be endorsed and supported by the community.
- Promote community participation.
- Be linked to the world of work.
- Promote self reliance, and
- Lead to lasting improvements in the lives of those taking part.

Despite an impressive list of successes over the past few years, the recession and a dearth of funds for community development have hindered Sunflower's progress.

It recently had to retrench 157 of its trained instructors and is now having to rely on its permanent workforce of 205 to help communities identify suitable projects, train the workers and supervise the development.

As a result an appeal for help, by way of project sponsorship, has gone out to the main aid organisations and corporations operating in South Africa.

"The country is hard pressed to provide the resources needed to alleviate the hardships of many disadvantaged communities," says Ractiffe.

"The private sector can play a positive role in alliance with parties involved in community upliftment.

"The twin challenges facing funding agencies are to find key achievers who can really deliver results and then nurture the capacities of those key achievers. "The heart of what Sunflower,

Projects is all about is the realisation of dreams. Our vision is to see the concept spreading throughout Africa, in a never-ending cycle of renewal."

At a function to show off Sunflower's projects, M&R chief executive David Brink told guests that "good old fashioned honest hard work" was needed if progress was to be made in promoting employment and upliftment.

Until now M&R has insisted Sunflower be a profit-making organisation. But, says Brink, this has blocked assistance from several funding agencies.

"As a result we have changed our philosophy to ensure that profits made by Sunflower are ploughed into the M&R Foundation. This ensures that the money goes back into social support and that not a cent goes to M&R shareholders."

Expensive

Details of some of Sunflower's major projects show that it can train people at a cost of between R1 000 and R4 200 a person — depending on the size and duration of the development.

The most trained on a single project were 4 394 people at Lindelam, where R4,5-million was spent over a four-year period.

The most expensive project was the R8,7-million Tembisa School, completed in November, which created 2 100 jobs over 18 months at a cost of R4 158 each.



DAVID BRINK

'the money goes back into social support'

Scant hope for city's homeless job seekers

By Shirley Woodgate

Eight months ago Hester Pretorius (45) and Kokkie Enslin packed their clothes, took to the nearby freeway and hitched a lift from the Free State's dusty Vredenburg to Johannesburg

They turned their backs on homelessness, poverty, joblessness and utter despair.

Things could only get better, they believed, as they stood on the side of the road. What had worked for thousands of poor whites flocking to the Big J in the depression of the 1930s would work for them

But in the summer of 1993 the new South Africa offers them scant hope

"We got a room with my sister, then moved in

with people who drank."

Then Hansie van Loggerenberg, who helps needy people in Jan Hofmeyer, found temporary work for Kokkie which turned into permanent employment as a boiler maker. Instead of sleeping on the floor, the couple bought a mattress to put in the room they rent in Vrededorp for R120 a week. "But the house is being demolished and we must be out by Friday," she said.

Now they face homelessness again — and Hester, a mother of three grown-up children, is four months pregnant.

Van Loggerenberg, who supplies 190 families with groceries every week, said "Out of the 184 houses here, this kind of tragedy is being played out in every second home."

241 26/2/93

Emergency heading

Bill aims at banking for the poor

Star 23/6/93
241
243

CAPE TOWN - The main objective of the Mutual Banks Bill was to create banking institutions which would attract the custom of members of the lower-income communities, Deputy Finance Minister Dr Theo Alant said in Parliament yesterday.

Introducing the second reading debate on the Bill, he said the corporate constitution of a mutual bank would be structured so as to facilitate its membership and greater participation by members in the exercise of control in a general meeting.

Jasper Walsh (DP Pine-lands) said that nowhere was the lack of suitable credit facilities more obvious than in low-cost housing and small business development.

While welcoming the Bill, the DP cautioned that South Africa could not afford a failure in the banking sector as this would lead to a loss of credibility; and nothing would hasten the demise of these institutions more speedily than political action such as boycotts and bond instalments being withheld - Sapa.



Destitute whites the target of reverse racism

Business Day 14/7/93

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — St George's Mall, Cape Town's showpiece of historic charm for foreign visitors, has become a showground for white poverty in the country

Whites rendered destitute by the recession and the politics of transition, frequently line the walkway with their cardboard pleas for help

Their plight is a sorry one, partly because it has also elicited reverse racism. While poverty is colour-blind, social perceptions and charity are not so indiscriminate

So, an itinerant black man in his worn blue overalls castigates a white beggar for "pretending" to be poor. "Get up man, I know you have money in your pocket," he said in fury

On another occasion, a black man, obviously employed, confronted a white beggar and asked him why he did not do some work,

There has also been conflict between white and black beggars staking their respective claims to turf

In another struggle between the black employed and the white poor in the city centre, a newspaper seller was accused by two white beggars of stealing the plastic milk containers they used to sit on to display his newspapers

It is apparent many blacks think there is no excuse for whites to beg in the light of their history of privilege and protected employment

Furthermore, charity is emerging as a scarce resource triggering conflict among beggars



LEPPIN HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Registration number 87/03187/06)
("Leppin Holdings")

Result of general meeting

Davis Borkum Hare & Co Inc is authorised to announce that the resolutions regarding the disposal of Leppin Holdings' shares in and claims against its wholly-owned subsidiary, G W Leppin (Proprietary) Limited, and the disposal of the major portion of the assets of Leppin Products (Proprietary) Limited to Prempharm were approved by the requisite majority of ordinary shareholders at the general meeting of Leppin Holdings held on Monday, 12 July 1993. At the same meeting, shareholders resolved to change the name of the company to GNT Holdings Limited. The special resolution in respect of the change of name has been submitted for registration by the Registrar of Companies.

Pursuant to the above, the listing of the company's ordinary shares under the "Development Capital



Plea to make room for poor

STimes (C. Metra)

27/6/93

By DIANA STREAK

THE people of Cape Town cannot close their eyes to the needs of the poor, says deputy director-general of community services Mr Carel du Preez of an application for a court order preventing the Cape Provincial Administration and Milnerton Town Council from going ahead with the Du Noon informal settlement (241)

A joint press conference was cancelled on Friday because of "imminent legal proceedings"

Mr Du Preez said that by shutting out the poor "we make enemies of them, we invite conflict and we'll end up in a no-win situation" (321)

"We should accommodate the realities of urbanisation in a balanced way by creating structures for constructive discussion

"We should reach out to communities where poverty is the greatest enemy and resources are very limited"

The Concerned Ratepayers and Voters of Table View, CRAVOT, which supported the court application, said it had been refused permission to hold an open meeting at Table View High School Hall because it was "too political"

Document

The meeting is to be held instead at the Leibbrandt van Niekerk Hall on June 30

The Du Noon site was earmarked as the most suitable for the resettlement of squatters in the area, particularly those from the Marconi Beam site near the Milnerton Racecourse

According to a document produced for the Milnerton Municipality by the Planning Partnership in 1991, the council decided that the Marconi Beam site could not be considered a possible site because of its value

~~241~~ 241

THE POOR FM 16/7/93
Starting small 241

The guru of people's banking, Muhammed Yunus, flew back to his native Bangladesh last Sunday having spent 10 days in SA promoting the idea of credit-assisted self-employment — a cause for which he is internationally renowned

A kind of capitalism from below, it is a strategy for economic self-reliance that has achieved great success in Bangladesh and is now copied in 65 mainly developing countries. The vehicle for this success has been the rural Grameen Bank, founded by Yunus over 10 years ago. Grameen offers credit services to the landless poor — those who have no collateral and therefore no access to commercial bank loans.

He argues that credit should be treated as a human right. "We talk of the right to food, shelter and so on. But how do you implement these rights? Credit can translate that resource into tangible things and produce an income floor. If that can be done, the right to food and so on will immediately be estab-

lished

"It begins with slight disbelief, that maybe there's a trick involved," says Yunus of his meetings with SA commercial bankers, economists and activists, who wanted to know in great detail how Grameen works.

He defines development as "changing the lives of the bottom 50%". Experience, he adds, shows that "trickle down" theories do not deliver.

Rejecting what he calls the textbook approach to banking, Yunus believes that "banking should be for everybody. You have to design a mechanism by which this can be done. Credit is like getting a rope into the hole and if you work hard it enables you to get out of the hole."

Prof Yunus (53) taught at Chittagong University before being drawn into the need for finding credit facilities for the very poor.

Poor people, he says, need small amounts of money to change their lives. In 1976, with his own money, he tried out a scheme in a village next to the university. Happily this worked, and he expanded it in an attempt "to convince conventional bankers that they did not need collateral." They remained unconvinced.

Hence his decision to set up a separate bank altogether concerned with only the poor. Government was loathe to give its permission and the legal framework, but after two years of lobbying Grameen eventually

Contd.

became a bank in 1983 by a special Act of parliament. This does not make the usual requirements as to capital loan ratios necessary "because we are not working with depositors' money, it's almost equity banking."

"Today it is a pretty large bank. It works in 32 000 villages (50%) in Bangladesh, serving 1.6m borrowers. About 93% are women who have gradually improved their lives as a result of small loans. It has an excellent repayment rate of over 98%" — which seems not unconnected with the fact that 92% of the clientele are women.

"We introduced housing loans in 1984 in addition to the tiny loans aimed at income-generating activity. Everybody predicted the end of Grameen Bank, because these were bigger loans and long-term. But they were surprised. People continued to pay back. We have so far given 180 000 housing loans, which grow by 10 000 a month. We have now set up a financial system which lends money to the poor for things they know how to do."

The bank not only works for the poor, it is also owned by them. Any Grameen borrower can buy shares (at \$2,50), which entitles the borrower to vote and choose the board.

The average loan is about \$80, paid back in weekly instalments within a year. Housing loans are generally paid back in 10 years in weekly instalments. A typical housing loan is \$300, which builds a tin-roof house with four



Grameen Bank's Yunus credit where it's due

concrete pillars and a sanitary latrine. "Where people are living in shacks, in a monsoon country, this makes a tremendous difference and increases productivity."

An essential feature of Grameen loans is that they are made to groups of five people. Each member must agree to the loan and understand the loan process. These groups offer support to their members and constantly monitor repayments. Everything is open and that "keeps us very clean and fair."

Grameen does charge interest (which to its Islamic Bank critics is explained as more of a service charge than usury, which is banned under Islam). The rate is 20% (compared to 15% charged by the commercial

banks) for its income-generating micro-projects, and 8% for housing loans.

The project includes two types of savings — the group savings fund and an emergency insurance fund — which appear related to the high loan repayment rate.

International funding has helped. The first loan, \$3.4m, came from the UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad), in 1982. Since then it has borrowed \$118m from Ifad and Scandinavian development agencies.

Research has found that over a 10-year period, nearly half of Grameen families have lifted themselves above the poverty line, with a quarter close to doing so. The rest either had no male member of the family or a chronically diseased member.

In SA, he suggests, local banks should create a special project, using a small fund out of their profits as a social service. He proposed to the Development Bank that it open a separate window — akin to the World Bank, which charges market rates to First-World borrowers but only 1% to a country like Bangladesh.

He was impressed by programmes similar to Grameen's that have started here — such as that of his hosts, the Women's Development Bank (run by Zanele Mbeki, wife of the ANC's Thabo Mbeki), the Group Credit Company in Cape Town and the Small Enterprise Foundation in Tzaneen.

Hungry blacks, whites in one queue

By Shirley Woodgate

The national hunger crisis has broken through race barriers with blacks and whites in the same food queues in northern Free State towns, claimed Operation Hunger deputy director Mpho Mashumi.

In Johannesburg, Hansie van Loggerenberg, who concentrates on food combined with a healthy dose of religion for poor whites in Jan Hofmeyer, has expanded his operation to include coloureds in Eldorado Park.

Last year, he fed 180 people. This year it is 250 at a cost of R100 000 in Government food aid and R73 000 in private donations scrounged from businesses.

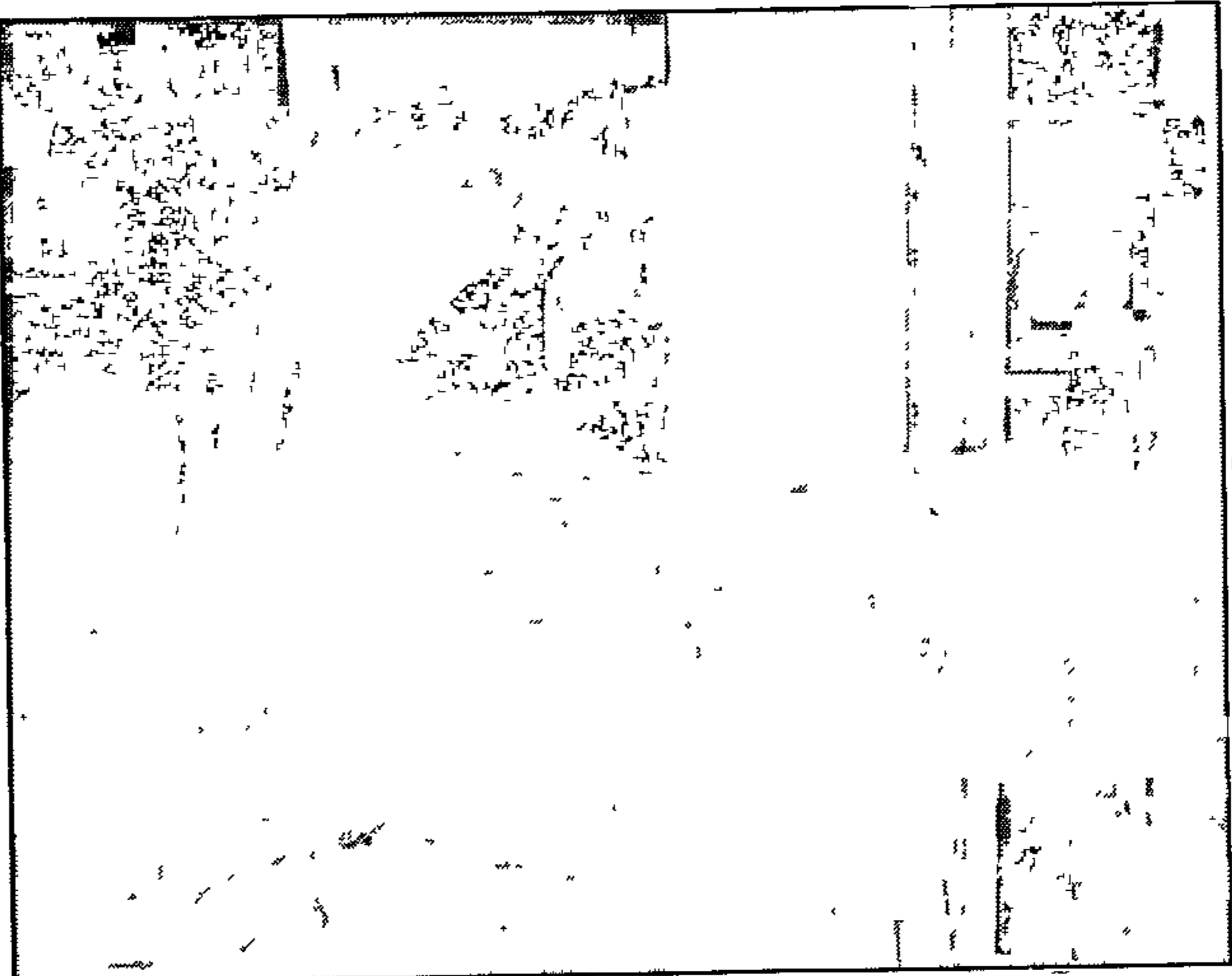
Now another issue being tackled by organisations launched to feed the hungry is the need to create work for the growing numbers of unemployed.

Department of Health and Welfare director of welfare planning Dr Joes Hattingh estimated more than 6 million in the formal sector alone were out of work. Any estimate for the informal sector would be inaccurate.

Scab labour is often the most successful route to temporary employment.

Van Loggerenberg supplies staff to replace striking workers and is expanding his employment base by searching for nearby premises to house wood-working equipment and a welding machine and a knitting machine so that he can put the unemployed to work.

Numbers at "Tannie Swame" Swanegeel's soup kitchen in Jan Hofmeyer edged up to more than 400 daily after the resi-



Feeding the hungry... Kleintjie Perreira and her assistants have full-time jobs running her Pretoria-based Werk en Oorleef, which caters for 9 000 families.

dents of Government Village near Rand Airport were recently moved to the west of Johannesburg.

She claims that of the 218 houses in the sub-economic suburb, about half rely on her for food.

She, too, supplies temporary

workers for strike-hit organisations.

"The present depression is hitting people harder than in the 1930s because many people have more to lose," claimed Kleintjie Perreira, who said her Pretoria-based Werk en Oorleef feeds 9 000 families from Brits to Cullinan.

"Standards of living have dropped further this time.

"People have lost not only jobs, but houses, cars, television sets and refrigerators, all the items which many have learnt to consider essentials, which they never had in the last depression.

"We attend to the basics fill their stomachs, organise temporary work at strike-hit factories, and offer limited employment through a small home industry which we are establishing on our premises.

"We plan to sell our steel products, canned goods, leatherware and handwork at a flea market in Church Square next month," she said.

Perreira claimed men were first hit in 1985 when the building industry started collapsing.

Many of the white women were cashiers who had no other skills to rely on after they lost their jobs to blacks.

Mashumi said Operation Hunger was spending R4 million monthly to feed 2,5 million people mainly in rural areas countrywide.

"But we are now finding increased demand from urban areas."

Back on the Reef, more than 11 000 people are being fed daily in the greater Witwatersrand by 35 missions under the umbrella of United Care Centres Association, said chairman John Rees.

United Care spent almost R2 million donated by the Government's NNSDP between March 1992 and March 1993 on feeding for a cross-section of unemployed ranging from dropouts to alcoholics, parolees and those who have simply fallen on bad times, he said.

'First tackle ^{South} poverty'

MUCH of Africa is in the process of one form of transition or another

In order for both the transition to multi-party systems and transition to market orientated economics to succeed, economic justice has to be attended to

This is the view of Professor Bas de Gaay Fortman of the World Council of Churches

"Market economies may be efficient in establishing mechanisms to deliver the goods, but they do not possess inherent corrective mechanisms towards social justice," Fortman said

"In countries where there was progress in the direction of social justice, it was as a result of social struggle and collective action." (237)

Fortman says while socio-economic inequality will always be with us in one form or another, for it to threaten the process of reconciliation and cause major disintegration, other factors must also co-exist (241)

One of these is "the overlapping of socio-economic class distinctions with ethnic or religious division"

In the context of Southern Africa, this means that the gap between black and white must be seen to be narrowing

A second factor is absolute poverty. To prevent disintegration, those at the bottom of the income scale must have some sense that progress is being made to their benefit.

Fortman mentions that mechanisms to achieve economic justice have to be international in character

"It is a real shame to the North that there is still a net annual flow of money from South to North (around 50 billion US dollars)"

He recommends producer action in the South together with consumer action in the North to redress this injustice

"An example of the latter is the 'Max Havelaar' action of the non-governmental organisations in the Netherlands where only those brands of coffee get the Max Havelaar stamp that can show that a fair price has been paid to the rural producers (in the South)"



Cold comfort . . . warmly wrapped-up pensioners queue at the White City pension payout point, a scene repeated throughout the year at 13 venues in Soweto where the elderly collect their R290 for a month's expenses.
 Picture: George Mashini

Help those shivering as you smuggle up

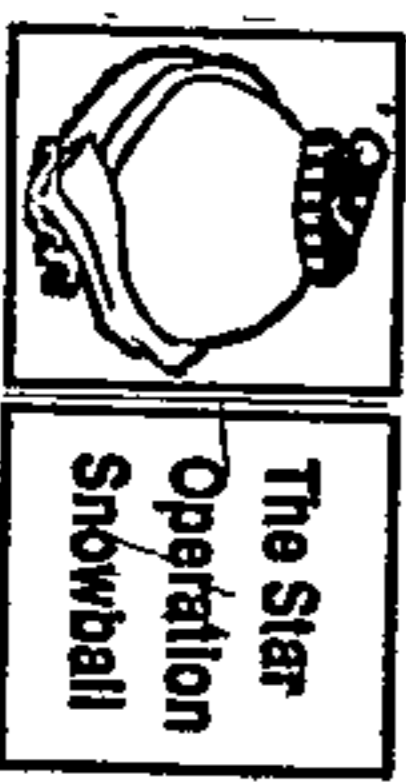
By Shirley Woodgate

The icy weather of the past few days pushed demand for Eskom electricity to a new record yesterday.

At 9am, countrywide demand for power reached 22 462 MW — 55 MW higher than the previous record es-

ablished in July last year and "more than all the other electricity consumption in the rest of Africa", an Eskom spokesman said.

Winter's grip is the sign for highveld residents to donate generously to The Star's Operation Snowball, to old men and women struggling



to survive on meagre pensions, young children with hungry bellies,

This project has for close on 30 years been the Reef's winter conscience, reminding the privileged to donate funds for blankets.

But the Martha Washington ladies who regularly organise the distribution of help to the needy are themselves out in the cold.

At this late stage they are still unable to obtain free premises where the blankets and clothes can be deposited for about three months.

Please help with cash donations to Operation Snowball, Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000 or telephone Hilly Camacho at (011) 633-2635

Star 15/6/93

Urgent call to invest in future

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — An urgent call for business to forgo expectations of short-term returns and to invest in the reconstruction and development of the country was made by Liberty Life vice-chairman Dorian Wharton-Hood at the annual conference of the SA Property Owners' Association on Friday.

"We must forget the idea that the criteria for investment should only be optimum, immediate, direct return. If we do not forgo the expectation of short-term gain in favour of potential long-term returns, in a few years we shall no longer be able to expect any returns at all," he said.

SA's impoverished communities could not rely exclusively on the political system for their welfare and progress. While creating wealth, business also had a crucial role in redistributing that wealth, particularly by redistributing opportunities.

Wharton-Hood urged business to adopt share option schemes to enable employees to become shareholders and to support affirmative action programmes.

"Only when we have fulfilled these obligations to help the disadvantaged help themselves do we have any legitimate right to insist on our rights to a free market, little government interference, low taxation, foreign exchange freedom and the freedom to unbundle our corporations as and when we see fit," Wharton-Hood said.

SABC chairman and Idasa policy director Van Zyl Slabbert said the forces in SA seeking the centre in the areas of stability, growth, redistribution and legitimacy outweighed those fleeing from the centre, giving cause for optimism.

However, there remained a threat of violence and militancy on the outer flanks, which made negotiation with the right wing urgently necessary. There could be no prospect of holding elections unless ways were found to marginalise violence.

health

South 12/6 - 16/6/93.

TB: A disease which thrives in poverty

TB is one of the world's biggest killers. To tackle it, the first task is to find a cure for poverty. JUSTIN PEARCE reports:

TUBERCULOSIS (TB) is a disease of the poor. Of the two billion people infected with TB today, 95 percent are in the developing world.

TB came to South Africa with sufferers from Europe who thought that the warm climate would help

their recovery. The epidemic

exploded when mining companies brought migrant workers together from the entire subcontinent, crowded them together into unhealthy living quarters, and sent them home when they developed TB — to pass the disease on to those who lived around them.

In developed countries, the disease declined steadily from the 1830s to the 1980s. The decline began before the TB germ was identified in the 1880s, and before vaccination began in the 1950s.

The drop in TB cases relates not to these medical breakthroughs, but to the steady increase in living standards in developed countries.

"This shows the importance of quality of life over medical intervention says a doctor.

Malnutrition weakens the immune system, leaving the body vulnerable to TB. Crowded, badly ventilated living conditions — typical of townships and squatter camps — increase the chance of the disease being passed on. The lack of a comprehensive health service makes it difficult to identify and treat TB.

This explains why most of the world's TB cases are in developing countries. It also explains why those developing countries which have been most successful in controlling the epidemic are those which do not treat disease in isolation, but which

actively address the causes of TB.

Last week the Department of National Health and Population Development launched a Tuberculosis Control Programme, which emphasises the need for education about TB, and for state health workers to work with community organisations and non-governmental organisations to fight the disease.

"You can't create community involvement in Pretoria or (in the CPA offices) in Wale Street," says National Health director general Dr Coen Slabber. "Local authorities are in a unique position in combating TB."

But, says Dr Louis Reynolds of the Progressive Primary Health

Care Network, primary health care means more than medicine. Primary health care must include the provision of proper nutrition, an adequate supply of safe water and proper sanitation.

At present, health authorities in South Africa have no control over drains being laid, houses being built or jobs being created.

"The principle of primary health care is an intersectoral approach," Reynolds says. "It's not only the responsibility of the Department of Health. We need a national political decision that tells the health, education, housing, agricultural and other sectors that we need a scheme of healthy development."

service • DET denies responsibility for school

Access to legal help for deprived people

Sowetan 10/6/93

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

■ **NEW BILL** It provides for law

graduates to work among the poor:

P OOR people and those in squatter communities will have greater access to lawyers when a Bill which has been tabled in Parliament becomes law later this year.

The Attorneys Amendment Bill also provides for a major incentive for law graduates to work in deprived areas and among poor communities, because of high legal fees, have no access to legal help.

Law clinics and community legal work have traditionally never been regarded as adequate training for lawyers and were never a criterion for qualification as attorneys

The new Bill provides for entry to

the Side Bar after a period of this "community service" and is aimed at easing the problems of law school graduates who cannot find jobs.

When it is enacted, law graduates could, for example, work for two years in squatter communities or the poorer areas of any black township, after which they would qualify as lawyers

They will have to work in these communities full-time. There are presently more law school graduates each year than can be absorbed by the legal profession. The provisions of the Bill are that law graduates could be-

come lawyers once

● They complete a training programme of at least four months and do articles or community service for at least a year;

● They serve articles for a year and then community service for a year,

● They do community service for two years, and

● They gain five years' experience in an "appropriate" legal practice

A memorandum to the Bill explains that, once it becomes law, it would ensure that "vast numbers of persons who appear in court daily will have the benefit of legal representation"

241



Inflation barometer showing signs of renewed pressure

Star 28/5/93

By Claire Gebhardt



Inflation is on the uptrend, according to the latest reading from the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut's (AHI) Inflation barometer.

The barometer registered its first uptick in almost two and a half years in the second quarter, with a reading of 11 percent — up from 10,8 percent in the first quarter.

As the barometer is a leading indicator of underlying inflation, this suggests 11 percent as a reasonable expectation of inflation over the next 6 to 12 months.

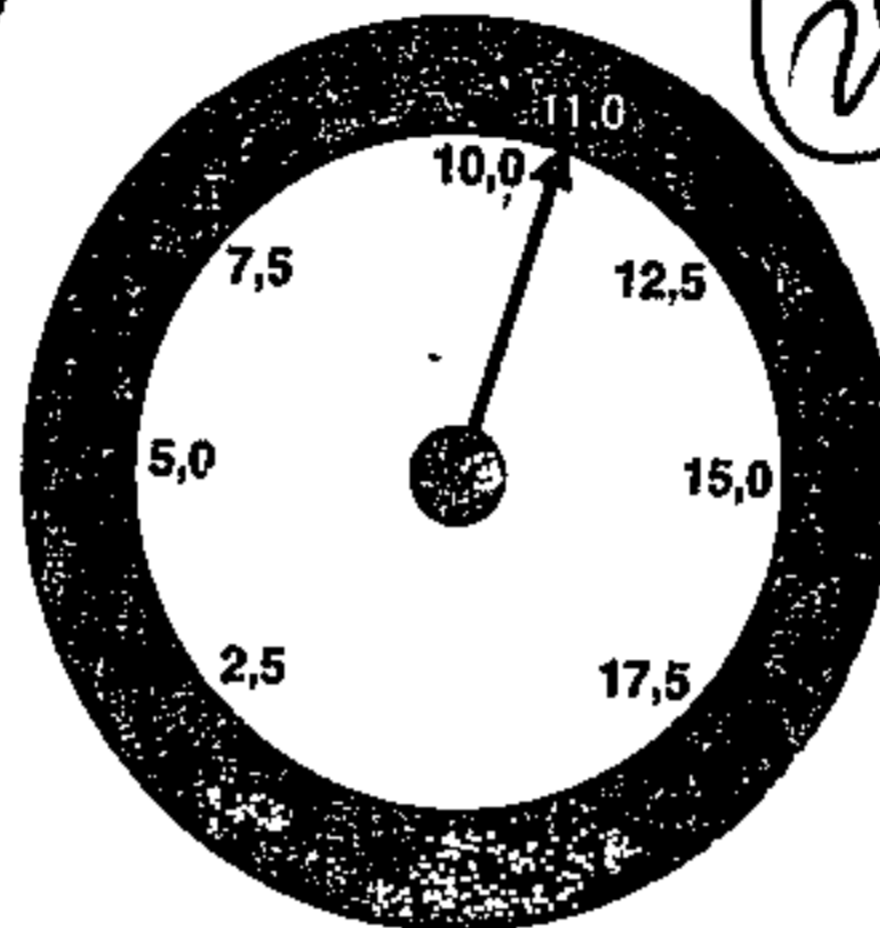
April's figure, however, is likely to be over 12 percent, says chief economist Nick Barnardt.

He attributes the higher reading to the inflationary impact of a surge in government spending, a high fiscal deficit, balance of payments (BoP) difficulties and exchange rate depreciation.

"If improved fiscal and BoP data emerge in coming months, inflationary pressures could subside quite perceptibly, bringing a return to single-digit CPI inflation in the course of 1994."

Barnardt says that despite a huge outflow of net foreign reserves and a ballooning fiscal deficit, official lending rates were not increased, but were in fact reduced, and the exchange rate was allowed to absorb part of the pressure.

"This is in line with international practice when a domestic recession is in sway, as embodiment of a renewed upward phase during 1995."



The AHI's inflation barometer reading for the second quarter of 1993

died by M3 growth falling below the official guideline range."

But real interest rates are still high in relation to the depressed economic conditions, he says.

Consequently, as soon as the net foreign reserves begin recovering and the fiscal deficit shows signs of subsiding, interest rate levels can be expected to fall.

Bank rate

Given this scenario, the bank rate could be cut by one percent around September.

"If inflation falls back into single digits during 1994, a further bank rate cut could occur around the middle of next year."

This would bring prime rate to 14,25 percent, probably representing the nadir of the declining phase which began early in 1991.

"After this, interest rates will probably remain flat for some time, possibly followed by the

commencement of a renewed upward phase during 1995."

Barnardt warns that the major risk factors are a sharp appreciation in the US dollar and a renewed upsurge in domestic violence around the 1994 SA election.

"This could change the entire picture and result in severe short-term capital outflows on the BoP, which will exert upward pressure on money market interest rates and put a floor under any further decline in official lending rates."

The AHI notes that South Africa's consumer price index (CPI) has been on a rollercoaster ride in recent months and years, as has the relationship between the CPI and producer price index (PPI) inflation rates.

After a fall in the CPI to 13 percent in mid-1990, the rate shot up to above 16 percent in 1991 in response to fuel price increases, soaring food prices and VAT. At the same time, the PPI rate dropped towards single digits.

Late in 1992 and early 1993 the CPI rate fell sharply to 9 percent on the back of lower housing costs, the favourable response of food inflation to improved rainfall, and the fading effect of VAT, almost eliminating the CPI/PPI gap of the preceding year.

April's inflation figure, however, could come in close to 12 percent, given increased education costs, fuel prices and VAT. This would imply a renewed widening of the CPI/PPI inflation gap.

Rise in April inflation may be muted

THE full effect of the VAT increase announced in the Budget may not be reflected in the April inflation rate, due for release at the end of this week.

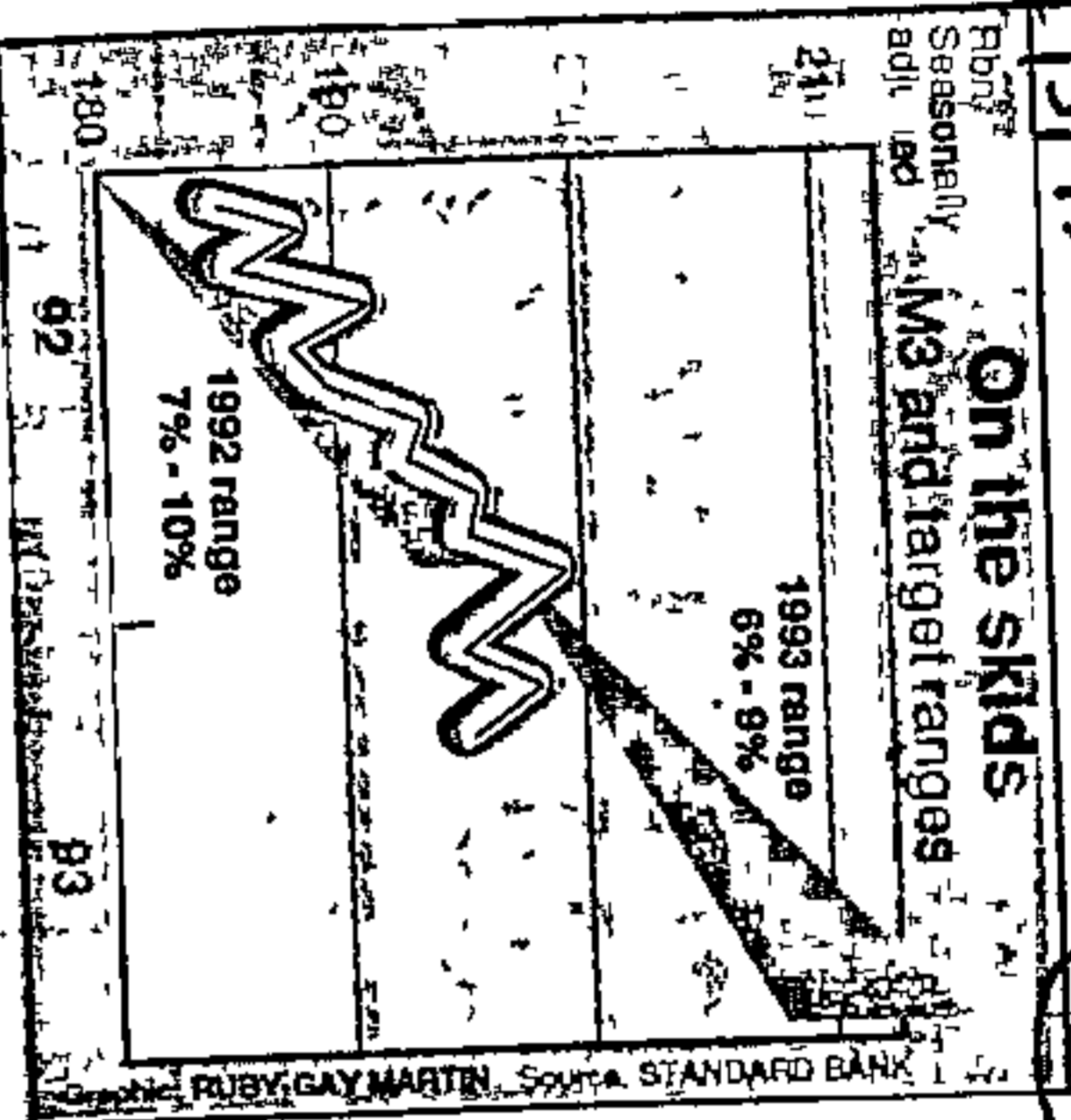
Initial market projections of a sharp rise in inflation last month were based on the assumption that the full impact of higher VAT would hit the April consumer price index (CPI). But the rise in April inflation from March's 9.7% could fall short of the 2.5-3 percentage point jump that has been widely expected.

Forecasts of a three-point leap in April inflation were encouraged by the date — April 7 — on which VAT rose from 10% to 14%. The monthly CPI survey by the Central Statistical Service (CSS) monitors prices in the first week of the month, and the effective date for the VAT hike looked conveniently set to catch the higher tax effect in the CPI.

Furthermore, the CSS carefully changed its survey procedure to ensure that April's inflation rate built in the VAT increase. Instead of monitoring prices on any day in the first week of April, the survey covered solely prices effective on April 7 — supposedly those including the higher VAT.

However, it seems many of the most influential respondents to the CPI survey quoted prices with VAT at 10% instead of 14%. Apparently most of the large retailing chains extended lower VAT-rate prices on high-volume lines over the long Easter weekend that followed the raising of VAT

£1000 244 1993.



On the skids

er fuel levy will show up in higher monthly inflation in April rather than March, but should make little difference to the annual rate. This is because the Budget in 1992 contained almost identical increases in petrol and drink prices.

The April money supply figures are also due this week. As the chart shows, a sluggish annual rate of expansion in the M3 aggregate has dragged broad money supply's growth trend some way below the Reserve Bank's 6%-9% guideline range for the year. Last year, by contrast, M3 was set down far from the Bank's 7%-10% range. In March annual M3 growth, at 5.15%, was little changed from February's 5.18% but the change from the base of the guideline year slipped to -1.79% from March's 0.68%.

Monetary stagnation has coincided with a five-month run of declining foreign reserves, which has helped drain foreign exchange from the economy. The upturn in the reserves in April and the bull trend in the gold price may now contribute to a higher rate of broad monetary growth. To the extent that higher gold proceeds have been lodged with banks, the gold boom could show up as higher private sector deposits. Any increase, however, would be net of loan repayments by mining houses.

Internationally, the rally in US statistical releases from poor first-quarter showings should continue this week. US durable goods orders for April are published on Wednesday, and will be hard pushed to

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repeat their March fall of 3.7% — the biggest drop in 15 months. The March figure seemed to be affected by the adverse US weather in the first quarter since the change was not concentrated in the volatile transportation sector but was based across industry. A rebound is due

Tomorrow US consumer confidence for May is released, having already ended successive monthly falls throughout the first quarter by bouncing up 4.5 points in April to 67.7, consumer sentiment's best showing since January. Reversing first-quarter falls is plausible, but not much has happened yet in the slow US recovery to enable the confidence index to improve to its December highs above 78

On Friday the first quarter is examined when first-quarter US GDP is given its first revision. Instead of rising a preliminary 1.8%, the economy would have shrunk 0.3% without a solid contribution from inventory accumulation, which tripled its rate of the previous quarter. Subsequent data for the March quarter have shown consumption to have been so lacklustre that stocks could be revised up again, which would boost growth in the revision at the expense of subsequent quarters.

Towards the end of the week Japanese April unemployment is out, and may show why the Bank of Japan has been intervening to cap the yen's rise. Headline unemployment was 2.3% in March but trends show joblessness will rise.

This ensured that outlets and items with the biggest weightings in the CPI basket excluded higher VAT as a factor. Service industries and smaller retailers in the CPI survey evidently quoted prices inclusive of higher VAT, but their weightings in the basket are smaller than those accorded the high-turnover national grocery chains and retailing multiples. Price restraint therefore looks likely to receive a much higher than expected profile in the April inflation figure.

The other higher prices arising from the Budget may also have a muted effect on the year-on-year inflation rate. The raised excise duty on alcoholic drink and the high-



PPI FM 21/5/93

Low pressure

(244)

March producer inflation figures, released by Central Statistical Service, show a surprisingly small rise in import prices. The imported component of the production price index rose only 5,6% over the 12 months to March, or 0,3% in the month, at a time when the trade-weighted rand depreciated by a 12-month 8,5% and a monthly 2,5%.

This was expected to be reflected in figures for the manufacturing sector, which relies heavily on imported inputs. But prices rose only 5,3% year-on-year and 0,7% in the month. A breakdown shows components with a large weighting rose at a modest rate.

~~Continued~~

FM 21/5/93

(244)

- Nonelectrical machinery (6,2% year-on-year), and
- Electrical machinery (5,3%)

Only transport equipment rose sharply (10,6%), especially the sub-component motor vehicles, parts & accessories (10,7%).

In the months ahead, the index will also feel the effect of higher international oil prices. Over 12 months, the futures price for the benchmark Brent Crude rose about 14,5% to US\$19,53 a barrel, on the International Petroleum Exchange.

Presumably the oil received at SA ports in March was purchased earlier at forward prices. So the March figure could be reflecting the oil prices of January, for instance, when Brent was at \$17,12 a barrel.

Locally produced commodities grew by 8,5% over 12 months (0,2% February-March), down from 9% in February. This was largely thanks to declines in the month in the item agriculture food, which dropped 1,3% in the month to a year-on-year increase of 14,4%.

There were falls in the indices for

- Grain (0,3%),
- Meat (0,8%),
- Vegetables & dried beans (0,1%), and
- Fruit (24,9%)

The index for the item food manufacturing grew only 0,1% in the month to a year-on-year 9,6%.

The overall index rose 8% annually (0,2% in the month), from 8,3% in February ■

Star 20/5/93

VAT rise not as painful as expected

By Zingisa Mkhuma

Food prices apparently have not increased as much as expected following the rise in value-added tax from 10 to 14 percent on April 7.

Prices were slightly up from March at two of the four supermarkets surveyed in our April Consumer Basket of 16 listed items — and surprisingly had dropped at the other two.

The price of the items went up by only 26c (0,25 percent) at the Eloff Street branch of OK Bazaars, from R92,82 in March to R93,08, and by 98c (1,1 percent) at Pick 'n Pay West Street, from R88,62 to R89,60 in April.

The total cost of the goods at Spar and Checkers dropped by R3,41 and

R5,39, respectively. Checkers advertised more specials than the other supermarkets.

The stores claim credit for the low prices and attribute them to decisions taken to absorb the 4 percent VAT increase.

But Econometrix director Tony Twine said the lower food prices — at the time the survey was taken on April 28 — could be the result of the big retailers introducing specials at month-end, when most people are paid.

Twine said the real answer could be provided by comparing these figures with those of the Central Statistical Services for supermarket food inflation. The CSS figures will be available after the end of the month.

FOR THE RECORD

A report in The Star on Tuesday incorrectly stated that an SAP statement on a meeting between western Transvaal farmers and security forces on Monday was issued by Major Hannes Wehrmann. The statement was in fact made by regional SAP commissioner Major-General SP Nienaber, and Wehrmann merely faxed the statement on his behalf. The Star regrets the error.

16 ITEMS	OK Eloff Street	PICK 'N PAY West Street	SPAR Newgate	CHECKERS Yeoville
Frozen Chicken 1 kg	Rainbow 6,69	Festive 7,19	Festive 7,65	Rainbow 6,59 SPECIAL
I & J Hake Fillets 800 g	11,79	11,28	12,29	8,99
Rindless Back Bacon 250 g	Escort 5,75	Escort 3,99 SPECIAL	Renown 3,89	Escort 5,54
Tastic Rice 1 kg	3,08 SPECIAL	3,59	2,49 SPECIAL	3,59
Floro Margarine 500 g	3,72 SPECIAL	4,65	4,65	3,89
Butter 500 g	Mooriver 6,75	Famerspnde 4,99	Mooriver 4,99	Mooriver 6,29
Bliss Milk 1 litre	2,26	1,99	1,99	1,81 SPECIAL
Cornflakes 500 g	7,99	7,24	6,29	6,10
Frisco Instant Coffee 250 g	4,45	5,06	4,99	4,39
Iwisa Mealie Meal 2,5 kg	3,99	4,29	4,25	3,89
Bliss Yoghurt 500 ml	3,62	3,16	2,95 SPECIAL	3,00
Omo 1 kg	7,97	7,24	7,24	7,24
Handy Andy 750 ml	3,99	3,82	3,11	3,59
Toilet Rolls 1 doz	Twinsavers 10,35	Twinsavers 10,59	Ca 9,11	Twinsavers 7,79 SPECIAL
Cooking Oil 750 ml	Black Cat 2,79	Black Cat 2,53	Spa Brand 2,90	Black Cat 2,63
Five Roses Tagless Teabags 250 g	7,89	7,99	8,79	7,24
	93,08	89,60	88,91	82,57

Star 17/5/93

Producer prices stabilise

By Sven Lunsche

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Producer price increases stabilised in March, ahead of what economists expect to be a sharp acceleration in April

Central Statistical Services (CSS) said on Friday that the producer price index (PPI) rose by eight percent in March, compared with the same month last year. In February, the PPI showed a 8,3 percent year-on-year increase

On a monthly basis — between February and March this year — producer prices were up by one percent, despite a 1,3 percent decline in agricultural food prices, which was led by a 25 percent slump in the cost of fruit.

Electricity costs eased by 1,8 percent in March.

The monthly increase in overall prices can be attributed in part to more expensive imported commodities, which, as a result of the weaker rand, rose by 1,6 percent in March

For the year to March, however, the PPI for imported commodities still showed only a modest rise of 5,6 percent (February: 5,4 percent).

Locally produced goods have risen by 8,5 percent in the 12 months to March (nine percent) and by 0,7 percent on a monthly basis

The rise in VAT from 10 to 14 percent and particularly the hike in fuel levies will lift producer prices in April, with an inevitable ripple effect.

A first indication of the tax increases on prices will be provided next week.

S Times (Buss) 16/5/93

Institutions miss boat as golds run on the JSE

By JULIE WALKER

THE JSE had one of its best days since 1987 on Friday as the gold price continued to rise.

Gold peaked on Thursday at \$369,50 an ounce before retreating. The second London fixing on Friday was \$363,20 — more than \$10 up on the week.

A London trader said "Volatility is the outlook."

He said trade had been thin as investors waited to see whether gold's bull run would end in tears.

The JSE All-Gold index hit a peak of 1 668 points on Friday, 14% up on the week and more than double the November low.

Stockbrokers reported interest from abroad, especially New York.

Opinion was that SA institutions — for long bearish about gold shares — had missed the boat.

A dealer said. "They want to buy when the market comes off a bit, but it's never for long enough and there aren't the sellers."

Another reported strong interest

from private clients, but no rush of rookies.

"It's not like 1987 when all three telephones rang all day long," he said.

Foreigners' favourite Vaal Reefs jumped from R265 a share to R314 on the week, R16 of the gain coming on Friday. Other big movers were Amgold up R35 at R295, Gold Fields of SA R16 to R105 and Anglo American R11 to R137 — all year's highs.

Many ticky stocks scored big percentage increases, although trifling in absolute terms. Gazgold put on 5c, or 3.8%, to 18c in spite of the theft of a bakkie containing 8kg of its gold near Pretoria. Battling Joel gained 30c to 285c after announcing a possible merger with thriving Beatrix. Loser Doornfontein gained 50% to 345c — it was 45c in January.

Golds pulled platinum shares up in spite of little change in the metal

price. Rusplats put on 550c to R83 — there was a bear sale at R82 — and Impala and PPRust edged higher. De Beers added R3,25 to R83.

The financial rand behaved unpredictably, swinging up and down by 10c a day. Technically, it should have appreciated in the light of foreign demand and rising share prices. It closed at 468c to the dollar — 7c weaker than last Monday.

The World Gold Council publication Gold Demand Trends reported that demand for gold was 632 tons in the first quarter of 1993 — 24% greater than the 1992 figure.

Reuter reports that Hungarian-born billionaire George Soros said he would stay in gold for at least six months. But he warned that the price could be rising too fast.

Peak

"I think the trend is upward, but perhaps it's going up too quickly," Mr Soros told French radio station Europe 1.

"It could start to attract the interest of the authorities, who would step in to brake it."

If too many speculators piled into gold, the price would correct itself — "but I'll stay invested at least six months in gold." Gold has risen steadily since early March on the back of record world buying and peaking output.

It took off at the end of April after news that Mr Soros had bought about 10% of leading producer Newmont Mining Corporation from Sir James Goldsmith.

Mr Soros said Asia was the main new source of demand for gold. Chinese investors in particular were worried about inflation, he said.

But the gold market was wrong if it expected a jump in global inflation — recession was the problem.

Mr Soros said the Bundesbank should have the courage to cut short-term rates to 3% or 5%.

S Times (Buss) 16/5/93

Belt-tightening time

By TERRY BETTY

PEOPLE are eating less as the recession gobbles up their disposable income.

Food sales have dropped by more than 20% in real terms since 1991. They fell 10% in the past few months alone.

"The period since January has been the worst for food sales across the board," says Econometrix economist Tony Twine.

"This reflects the pressure on disposable income of families. As jobs are lost at an accelerated pace, people are faced with little or no disposable income."

Food sales have fallen at a greater pace than other retail goods. Mr Twine suggests that this shows

the greatest squeeze is being felt by those at the bottom of the income scale.

"Families with enough money to spend on goods other than food have not cut their spending as much."

However, Mr Twine says the figures are distorted because more families have switched their purchases from the traditional retailers to the informal sector.

He says that buying down — for instance, eating potatoes instead of meat — will be reflected as a fall in the value of food sold.

● See Page 6

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Rene de Wet, managing director of Pick n Pay, says... will have a stronger influence on...



PPI rises by ~~0,2%~~ 244 CTIS/S/93 0,2% for March

By AUDREY D'ANGELO
Business Editor

THE producer price index (PPI) rose only 0,2% between February and March after the shock 1,2% rise between January and February. Figures released by the Central Statistical Service yesterday show the year on year rise was 8%, slightly below the 8,3% rise in February.

The index for locally produced goods rose by 8,5% year on year compared with 9% in February.

But the index for imported goods edged up to 5,6% year on year compared with 5,4% in February. The month on month rise was 0,5% compared with 0,3% in February, reflecting the weakening of the rand against the dollar.

Economists said these figures were encouraging, and the PPI

was likely to stay below 10% for the rest of this year.

Nedbank chief economist Edward Osborn said it was "of interest that a bit of upward pressure is showing itself in the imported component, reflecting the fairly recent depreciation of the rand.

"This will continue to push through, putting upward pressure on the imported component for the rest of the year.

"But I think the domestic component is stable, mainly due to the good behaviour of wage rates."

Osborn said he expected the PPI to have a slow upward trend, to reach 9% towards the end of the year.

Old Mutual economist Johan Els said the figures were "surprisingly good" and showed inflationary pressures were still very low and the underlying trend was still downwards.

Although the index could jump in April he expected the PPI to remain below 10% this year.

But Els warned that although imported inflation was subdued in March, exchange rates were very volatile.

Boland Bank chief economist Louis Fourie said it was good news that the weakening rand exchange rate had so little effect on the PPI. "The rand has weakened quite a bit and it is fortunate the effect is not spilling through into the PPI.

"The low increase in the domestic component is very encouraging. It is a positive indication for the consumer price index (CPI) for the next few months."

Fourie pointed out that PPI figures overseas had also remained low. "That is keeping the imported component of our PPI low, in line with what is happening in the countries supplying us."

Crude oil's stain could stay on PPI

BLOOM 10/5/93

FOR the first time in almost a year oil has surfaced as a major factor swaying import prices, and the oil price may extend its influence to cover the producer price figures for March due at the end of this week.

Headline producer inflation surged to a five-month high of 8.3% in the year to February from 7.4% in January, propelled mainly by a jump in the import price component of the producer price index (PPI). After falling 0.4% in January import prices leapt 1.3% in February, and a round-up of the usual suspects brought in the weaker rand and higher oil prices.

However, the rand has an alibi in the form of a real effective depreciation in January of only 0.1% from December. Pinning the rap on the oil price, however, looks an open and shut case by comparison. The evidence may be circumstantial, but it is compelling nevertheless.

The main chart shows the correlation in the past three years between the price of North Sea Brent blend, the oil market's most traded crude, and the annual percentage change in the import PPI, which has a 19.5% weighting in the overall PPI basket. This match-up has to be made irrespective of whatever secretive tapping of domestic oil stockpiles may be taking place.

There is a satisfying connection between the end-1990 takeoff in Brent as war loomed in the Gulf, and the near-simultaneous bounce in imported inflation to nearly 20%. This was followed by a mirror-image drop in import price growth as the Gulf effect dropped out of PPI a year later.

In the second half of 1992 the oil market tightened again when Saudi Arabia surprisingly held back an expected demand for higher production quotas, and accepted an extension of output limits agreed among oil producers the previous February. This boosted Brent to a 1992 high of \$21.40 a barrel in mid-June last year, and set up the oil price movement that is now affecting the PPI.

Overproduction and cheating on quotas by oil producers, combined with slowing growth in the G-7 countries excluding the US, served to undermine oil prices in the second half of 1992. From its June high, Brent dived to a low of \$16.60 seven months

later, dragging the imports PPI lower. It is Brent's current recovery from its January lows below \$17 that seems to be prodding import prices higher again.

As the chart inset shows, Brent rose \$2.08 (or 12.5%) in the last nine trading days of January — just in time to hit a PPI survey in early February. The bad news is that Brent did it again a month later, jumping \$1.93 (or 11%) in the 12 days to March 4 — just in time for the March PPI survey. As the inset indicates, Brent has calmed down and should not feature so prominently in PPI for much longer.

The twice-yearly Opec meetings have been the main movers of the oil price. An effective cut in Opec output at the February meeting boosted prices in the same month, Opec meets again in June.

A repeat in the March PPI of the oil effect that propped up the February outturn should be mitigated by a relatively high base for the March 1993 year-on-year percentage change. The PPI rose 1.2% between February and March 1992 — the year's second-highest monthly increase.

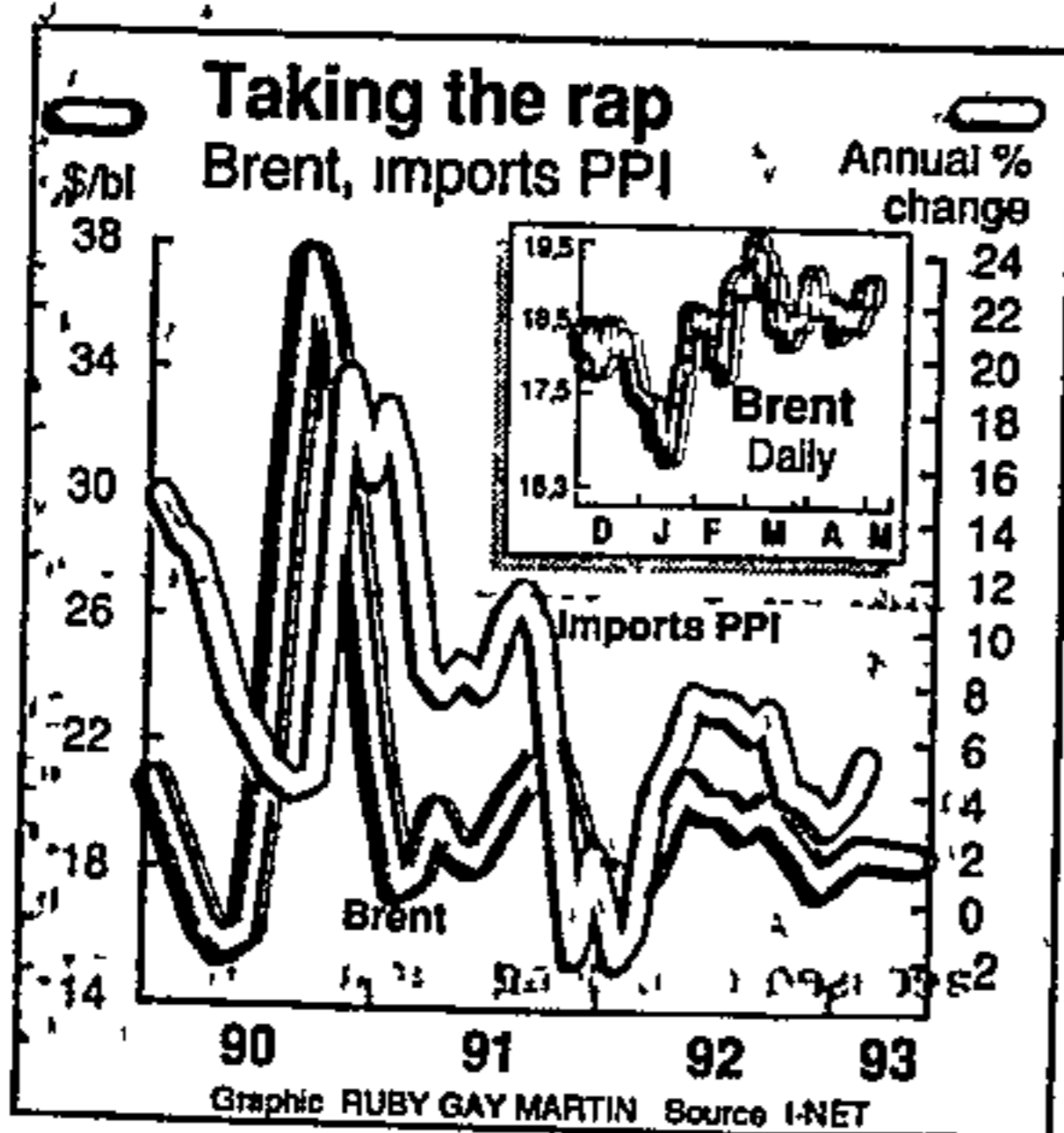
Internationally, data due for release this week may determine whether the stalled US economic recovery is largely the result of freak winter weather in the first quarter or a sign of deeper structural problems. Key US indicators this week cover the activity of both industry and consumers.

On Thursday US retail sales for April are published. The 1% fall recorded in March sales was the biggest drop in 26 months, but was attributed to the US eastern seaboard's worst winter storms this century keeping shoppers off the streets. For this theory to hold good, there will need to be an appreciable uptick in April sales arising from both last month's purchases and those postponed from March.

US industrial production data for April follow on Friday. Output failed to rise for the first time in five months when it stayed flat in March, and the weather was again partly blamed. The lengthening in April's average manufacturing workweek released with the US employment figures on Friday is a good portent for the month's factory output, as it suggests overtime was required to fill orders. US industry ran at 80.1% capacity in February — the first time it had topped 80% since 1990/91 — but the rate fell back to 79.9% in March. The US recovery will not really be rolling until there is less than 20% idle capacity.

Inflationary inputs to the British economy from the fall in sterling since last September may be shown to have peaked in the April UK producer price figures due today. Sterling had a good April, rallying to break up through the DM2.50 level near the month-end from its record late-February low of DM2.3120.

Headline UK producer inflation in the year to March was unchanged at February's 3.7%, but had a surge in March's annual imported inflation to a five-year high of 8.3%. In view of sterling's subsequent ascent, the March high may yet prove to have been the peak.



Consumers likely to spend less in '93

ALIDE DASNOIS (244)
Business Staff

ARG 8/5/93

SIGNS of an upturn in consumer spending early this year were more than neutralised by the March Budget, says Stellenbosch Bureau for Economic Research director Dr Ockie Stuart

He says consumer spending, which fell 2,6 percent last year, is likely to drop another 1 percent in real terms this year, as incomes shrink further

Retrenchments, a fall in real wages in 1993 and 1994, higher

indirect taxes and "bracket creep" will continue to erode personal incomes, which have already fallen 1 percent a year in the 1980s and 2 percent a year in the 1990s

Though interest rates are likely to continue falling, Dr Stuart does not expect this to have much effect on consumer spending this year

He predicts that sales of durable goods and semi-durable goods (particularly clothing and footwear) will fall this year in real terms before rising slightly in 1994

Food purchases will probably stabilise this year sales of food, beverages and tobacco have already fallen by 4,9 percent in real terms in 1992 and there is probably not much scope for further reductions in household spending on food

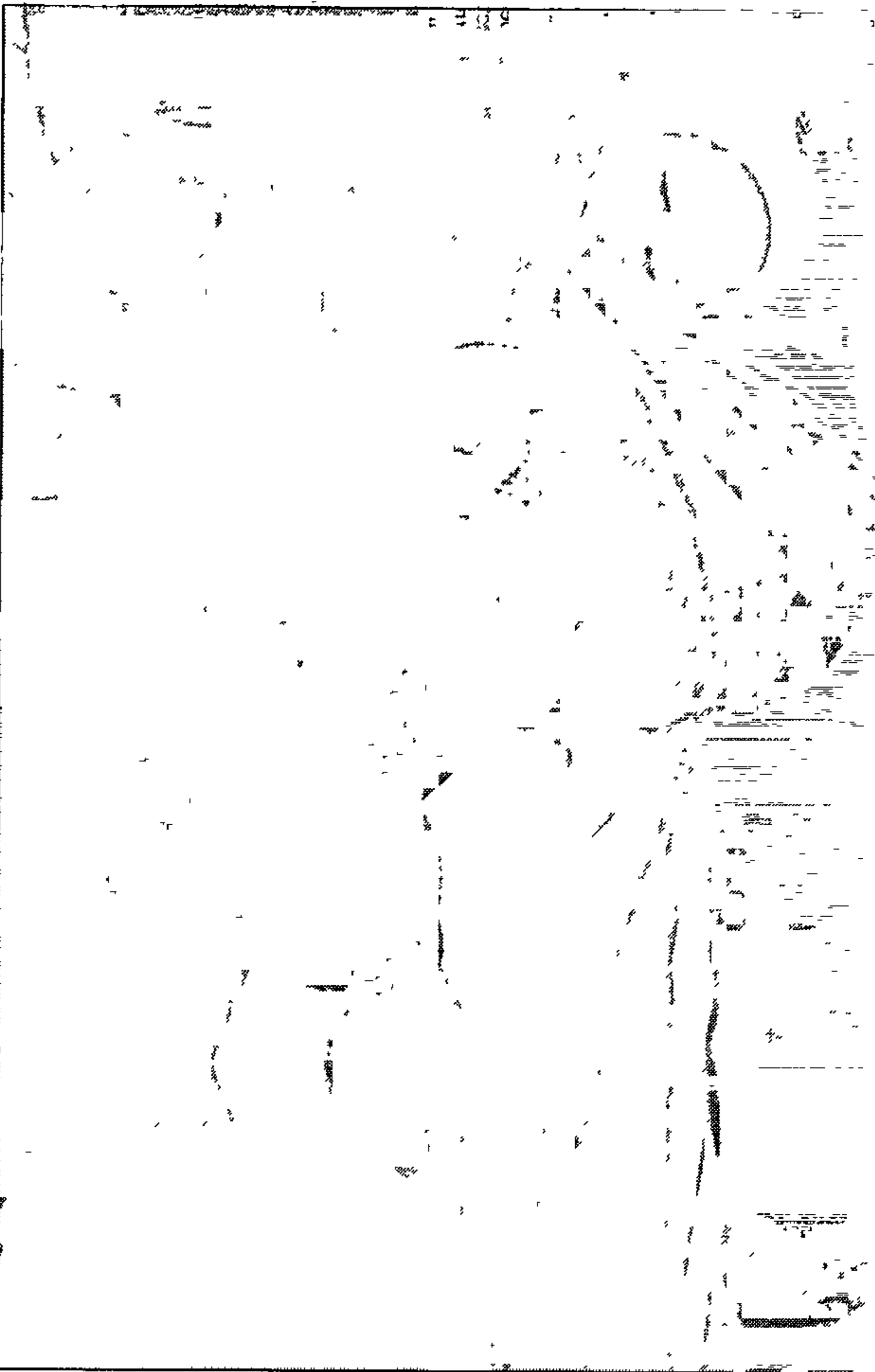
The restrictive March Budget will tend to prolong the recession, says Dr Stuart. No impetus for an upturn can be expected from domestic demand, and any upswing will now have to be export-led

He is optimistic about export prospects though demand from

industrialised countries for South Africa's traditional exports is likely to stay low, the rand will probably depreciate by more than 10 percent against the dollar this year and this will boost export earnings

Next year, the situation should improve as the upswing in the world economy gets under way. Merchandise exports are expected to increase in value by 8,6 percent in 1993 and about 13 percent in 1994

The relative importance of gold exports is likely to drop further, predicts Dr Stuart



Tedious process . . . the queues at the Home Affairs offices have been growing by the day as the election date creeps closer. The need for IDs in opening bank accounts has also swelled the queues



Don't miss out . . . a poster outside the Home Affairs Department in Johannesburg urges people to obtain their ID documents in time for next year's election.

Getting to the polls on time

A scant 10 months before its first democratic election next year, South Africa has embarked on a scheme to provide eligible inhabitants with identity documents. NORMAN CHANDLER reports.

THE Civitas Building in downtown Pretoria is one of those government buildings which are more important to John Citizen than others. The Struben Street skyscraper holds two key government departments — Health and Welfare, and Home Affairs — without which Mr Average South African would be lost.

It is a case of getting to Home Affairs to register birth, marriage, divorce or death — and relying on Health and Welfare to see you through life.

Now there's a new role for Home Affairs: lies between John (or Jane) Citizen and a vital cross on an A4-size paper — the ballot form.

On April 27 1994 — the Negotiating Forum at the World Trade Centre has decided — South Africans of every race, colour or creed will go to the polls for the first democratic election to be held in this country. It will decide which party will rule this land of 37 million people.

At least 20-million are eligible to vote, about 16-million (almost all black) for the first time.

As far as the government is concerned, there will be no chance whatsoever of voting unless the voter holds a valid ID Drivers' licences or other similar documentation will not be acceptable.

By the end of May this year, 17 008 525 new IDs had been issued to citizens over a five-year period, the vast majority since the unbanning of black political organisations three years ago.

If one takes the official statistic of 43 000 a week, then the score now stands at 17 909 525. This means that over the next nine months, there are just over two million people still eligible to obtain an ID.

It is expected that, in the end, 98.4 percent of whites, 89.1 percent of coloureds, 94.2 percent of Asians and 81.1 percent of blacks will be able to vote.

Home Affairs spokesmen say the "tempo at which identity documents are issued has increased significantly over the past two years."

This is seen as a result of the African National Congress and other political players' nationwide advertising and billboard

campaigns, urging followers to obtain an ID.

However, not everyone is happy with the Home Affairs' handling of arrangements for the election. While all parties want to ensure an election that is free and fair, the ANC says the government cannot unilaterally decide on the form of the election.

Obviously all parties are looking to get as many people as they can to the polling booth.

The big question is whether all will make use of the opportunity — world statistics show that Africa's average turnout at the polling station is just over 60 percent. The vote is voluntary in countries such as South Africa.

Voluntary or not, the rush is on for identification. To make it easier for harassed and hard-pressed civil servants at Home Affairs head office and regional offices in the major centres, the department is asking for early requests for ID documents. That the call has not fallen on

deaf ears is evidenced from the long queues that form daily.

A further key development to ease the process has been the employment of people of all races at the department's regional offices. The shift away from the previous policy of employing a majority of whites is making communication easier, particularly for returning exiles and many others who are watching democracy at work for the first time.

In addition, there are specialised staff on hand to deal with more difficult situations.

A further move has been the registration of people who have never been formally and legally registered by the Department of Home Affairs.

Instead of either a copy of a birth certificate or a birth entry number, applicants for ID documents can now also provide a baptismal certificate, a marriage certificate, a school certificate or any official document on which birth particulars appear — even a statement from a matron confirming the birth at a hospital or clinic.

And if all that fails, then a sworn affidavit by a family member will suffice.

The run-up to April's poll also does not exclude citizens

of the so-called TBVC states — Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei.

If TBVC citizens were "legally and permanently" resident in South Africa before July 1, 1986, then they, too, could qualify for the restoration of their South African citizenship in terms of the little-known Restoration of South African Citizenship Act of 1986.

However, if they intend to remain in the TBVC states, their chances of voting are remote — but in this topsy-turvy political world, even this could change because the issue is under consideration at the multiparty forum.

In a country with a relatively young population, the debate on

who can vote and who cannot is destined to assume gigantic proportions once it reaches the multiparty forum.

It has been estimated by the Institute for Race Relations that the average age of a voter will be 30 years and three months. Black voters are likely to be about 25 years and five months, coloureds and Asians

about 30 and whites, 35 years and four months.

While the registration process has been going along apace, Home Affairs has also started to oversee other aspects of an election which is expected to cost the taxpayer about R154-million.

So far, 17 000 polling booths have been built and distributed nationwide, with another 5 500 being manufactured, for the almost 7 000 polling stations.

Ballot boxes, those vital boxes which will determine the future government, are also being distributed well in advance of polling day. So far, nearly 12 000 have gone to far-flung corners of the land, with a further 3 000 being built.

Other interesting statistics which have come to light are that 144 tons of paper is likely to be used during the election process, along with 20 900 pencils and 30 million paper clips.

There are to be 26 million A4-sized ballot papers — all of which will not be numbered so that identification of voters is impossible — to be printed by the Government Printer before next April, thought to be the largest printing job ever attempted in South Africa. □

Long wait for IDs, and the right to vote

By MCKEED KOTLOLO

THE queues at Home Affairs have been growing longer every day since the announcement of next year's proposed election date.

Many shuffling forward in the quest for identification documents say it is a long, tedious process. The majority blame themselves because they either lost their IDs or erroneously filled in the forms when first applying for the document. Others are first-time applicants, keen to avoid the disappointment of being unable to vote.

The rush for IDs has been a boon to freelance and studio photographers, who said business had improved greatly since the announcement of the election date.

At the Home Affairs regional office in Pretoria — still known to black people as "the pass office" — stands an advertisement which extolls the virtues of the ID. "You can buy a house, go to university, get married, get a driver's licence, apply for a pension, write the matric examinations — and have a vote in the elections."

A final-year BA student at the University of Durban-Westville, who did not wish to be named, said: "Had it not been for the coming elections, I would have not bothered coming to this office. To me, it was the same as the old 'dompas', used by the oppressor to keep a record of black people. But I know that without it I will not be able to cast my vote for the people I want in government."

Other applicants said they needed the document to be able to open bank accounts.

Meanwhile, the queues get longer as bureaucracy gets into gear for 1994. □

Star 20/1/93

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Star 20/1/93

'Mummy' comes to Phola Park

W/Mail 26/3 - 1/4/93
 Phola Park squatter camp now has water. It will soon have a school — not as the result of development agencies but because of the work of Winnie Mandela.

By FERAL HAJFAJEE

THESE are no matches and tyre jokes about Winnie Mandela in Phola Park. To the thousands of residents of the East Rand squatter camp she is not just "Winnie" — she is "Mrs Mandela" or "mummy".

"Haai, haai, haai, when she comes here, she won't even get time to speak to reporters," says Sally Peterson, Mandela's representative in the squatter camp — illustrating how throngs of Phola Park people crowd around Mandela when she visits "two or three times a week".

She undoubtedly has a political agenda — but Mandela is doing for Phola Park what a clutch of development consultants seems to have failed to do.

They are simple things, but to people who have few material possessions and no power, they appear the work of a saint. She has, for example, negotiated with Telkom to put in a few more telephone lines. Now the caravan clinic has a phone and so has the hardware store, which the residents' committee uses as a meeting place.

She pays half the store's telephone bill, "so that the community has a phone".

Her meetings with the Alberton Town Council have yielded taps in each of the camp's eight sections, as well as 300 portable toilets.

Through her organisation, the Co-ordinated Anti-Poverty Programmes (Capp), she plans to start a tent school — Phola Park has no schools — and already talks are under way with the Department of Education and Training to supply teachers. And while school hasn't started, myriad khaki tents stand sentinel in a muddy open space.

Mandela has won hearts and minds by responding to bread and butter needs — she's lifted morale and brought a modicum of peace to battered Phola Park.

The camp's 30 000 residents have been hard hit by war with surrounding hostel dwellers and an internal struggle between the former residents' committee and a notorious self-defence unit which put an end to any development work.

Mandela started a new residents' association which represents the African National Congress, the ANC Youth League, the ANC Women's League and the Pan Africanist Congress to oversee development. But her strongest drawcard is that she is always around — during *The Weekly Mail's* visit to Phola Park this week, Peterson pointed to a shining white Mercedes saying "there goes mummy's Benz".

Peterson runs the Phola Park branch of Capp from a green Zozo hut on the border of the camp. The organisation's head office is in Braamfontein and Mandela is its director, but beyond that Capp is a bit of a mystery. Its attorney, Wenzel Kerreman, this week said "We are not at liberty to discuss any matters at this stage."

Rumours of large international funders for Capp appear pie in the sky, but the Independent Development Trust is considering working with Capp. The IDT still has R24-million set aside for developing Phola Park.

"Capp clearly now has an important role," said IDI consultant Mike Morkell.

"And if it emerges that the joint structure has a high level of participation, we will work with them."

A Capp representative said they "often" met international delegations, but had not yet secured funds.

By investing a little money and time, Mandela has won the unquestioning support (and votes) of the Phola Park residents. And all indications are that the Phola Park programme is one she is repeating in townships across the east Rand, stretching as far as Ralanda near Heidelberg.

Like those who support her, Winnie Mandela clearly intends to *phola her* — to stay here.



Tapping into a political agenda Phola Park residents collect water courtesy of Winnie Mandela

Photo KEVIN CARTER



Sally Peterson, Winnie Mandela's representative in Phola Park squatter camp

Photo KEVIN CARTER

MANDELA APPEALS AGAINST KIDNAPPING, ASSAULT CHARGES

WINNIE MANDELA'S appeal against a five-year jail sentence for kidnapping began in the Appellate Division in Bloemfontein this week with none of the drama of her Johannesburg appearances.

She did not attend court, although it was still packed and police maintained a high profile.

The state will ask a full bench of five judges to confirm her conviction on kidnapping and to also find her guilty on four counts of assault.

Bizos' plea will focus on the argument that there is insufficient reliable evidence to support the state's case.

He resurrected his controversial argument that Mandela could reasonably have assumed that there was homosexual activity at the Methodist church manse of Paul Verryn, where the youths were being held.

He added that the trial judge had erred by not calling Verryn to give evidence.

Appealing with her are her co-accused, Xoliswa Falati and John Morgan.

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Tax industry criticised

THE SA Black Business Commission (BBC) has leached out at the Goldstone Commission, accusing it of making irresponsible statements about the tax industry.

Sabta warned the commission that such statements could trigger reactions the intensity of which "is those of the Mau Mau warriors".

Sabta PRO Paradise Mahlangu was reacting to the commission legal officer Jonathan Mabasa's claim Sabta had failed to invest R504 000. Sabta had received in donations for improving drivers' business and driving skills.

"We now start to understand why some national liberation movements regarded the Goldstone commission as a discredited institution — a mouth that eats itself," Mahlangu said in a letter to Business Day.

He said the funds received from sources such as Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund, Fovora SA, the Department of Transport and the Energy Council were not given to Sabta directly, but to professional organisations like the R and P project for road safety, road signs and bus lane.

"If the commission is making irresponsible statements about the tax industry without any facts, we will reconsider our willingness to cooperate in giving evidence."

"If the commission is biased in its intention to make accusations against the industry, we will not cooperate in giving evidence."

Mahlangu said Sabta had in the past resisted the commission's summons to "come and give evidence" from the commission.

"Finally if the commission wishes to discuss the tax industry affairs through the media, they will have to write and email to the industry. The industry should not play with the commission's tendency to burn," Mahlangu said.

Govt is blamed for high infant mortality

BIDAY 26/3/93

(241) (231)
GAVIN DU VENAGE

GOVERNMENT was impeding hunger relief and was directly responsible for the growing infant mortality rate, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said yesterday.

She said government was playing "political games" with relief funding, and getting in the way of other organisations that were trying to assist starving people.

Perlman said in some areas infant mortality had jumped by up to twice their mid-'80s levels as a direct result of government interference. For instance, it was preventing relief organisations operating in areas where state poverty aid was functioning, to prevent "unnecessary duplication".

However, the state's efforts were inadequate and often carried out by officials who had no interest in their tasks, other than safeguarding their jobs. As a result, she said, aid was reaching only a selected group — specifically those who were already ill from malnutrition — instead of reaching families before their health was destroyed by hunger.

Where government assistance was available, it usually came with "unacceptable condi-

tions". For example, homeland governments may be allowed direct control over funds administered by aid organisations.

"Under the pretext of not duplicating services, or of people not looking after the money available, elaborate structures were set up," said Perlman. "This has led to a huge deterioration in services."

Perlman said R60m was needed to fund present feeding schemes, excluding Operation Hunger's various self-help programmes.

She estimated the number of families living under the bread line at 80% of the population.

Perlman said the latest Budget would make the situation worse, as any relief from the extension of VAT exemptions would be negated by a rise in the fuel price.

Operation Hunger would launch Gold Rush 14 at the Rand Easter Show on April 10, with one of the biggest fireworks displays yet seen in SA, Perlman said. The pyrotechnic display will take place on three different nights, after the concerts by British group Duran Duran.

Police eyes in the sky are here to stay

STEPHANE BOTHMA

RESIDENTS on the Reef will have to get used to police helicopters circling suburban areas if they want a relatively crime-free society, Witwatersrand police liaison officer Major Eugene Opperman said yesterday.

Referring to regular complaints about the noise made by the helicopters, Opperman said the current crime rate warranted their use.

"The individuals who complain about air patrols must now decide what they want — a crime-ridden society or an area which is relatively free of crime," he said.

Police were often accused of not doing enough to curb crime but air patrols were one way of fighting crime effectively, he said.

In a typical month, the air wing of the SAP on

the Witwatersrand would take part in 440 or more assignments of all kinds.

The unit has made meaningful contributions in arresting robbers, tracing stolen and hijacked vehicles, dagga search operations and aerial photography, he said.

The helicopters were also used as observation and communication platforms in the sky, Opperman said.

The SAP helicopter pilots were among the best in the world and therefore the public had nothing to fear.

"No modern police force can do without air support," he said.

BIDAY 26/3/93

Hunger needs R60 million for this year • Gazankulu leader dies

More kids die from hunger

By Ruth Bhengu

OPERATION Hunger is alarmed at the rapidly increasing number of children under five years who are ill because of starvation

Executive director of Operation Hunger Mrs Ina Perlman told journalists yesterday that the biggest cause of infant deaths in the country was malnutrition and starvation

The children, from urban and rural areas, whose parents had sought help from her organisation, needed not only food but medical attention as well

"We are terribly worried about the dramatic deterioration of children's health countrywide. The reports we are receiving from our regional directors are cause for concern," she said

South Africa needed a massive fam-

ine prevention programme to help the increasing number of people who could no longer afford food, she said

According to Perlman, when Operation Hunger was started in 1980, 55 percent of all black deaths were children under five years of age, compared to 7 percent among whites

"By 1986, when we were feeding a million children, the number of deaths had dropped to 26 percent. Now that figure has shot up to 40 percent," she said, adding that it was a disgrace

"The situation is critical as compared to that of 1992 and is becoming worse by the day with a 40 percent increase in clinically diagnosable malnutrition," said regional director of the Orange Free

Alarm at the increase of victims under five years of age dying of malnutrition and starvation: (24) *241*

State, Judith Mokhele

"Statistics of child deaths from one hospital are at 45,7 percent, the main cause being gastro-enteritis, malnutrition, TB, measles and upper respiratory diseases," she said

The number of people needing food was increasing at a shocking rate and Operation Hunger was finding it almost impossible to cope.

Perlman said her organisation needed at least R60 million this year to feed people who are starving all over the country. She said the Government had given her organisation only R10 million instead of the R27 million they had asked for.



Government must regulate prices, demand squatters

Sowetan 5/10/92.

■ **ESCALATING COSTS** Food prices

have soared by 30 percent in just a year: (241)

By Joe Mdhlela
Consumer Reporter

SQUATTERS DO NOT UNDERSTAND a rise in food price inflation in academic terms. They are a living experience of what abject poverty is all about. Mrs Shirley Molepo of Mandela Squatter Camp in Katlehong described that for her the 30,4 percent food price increase failed to get to the heart of the matter.

"To me that is meaningless. That is how white people relate to increases. They use percentages, something that most of us are not familiar with. For me, I know that a 25lb bag of mealie-meal I used to pay R18 for, now costs R22.

"It's diabolical what the white man does. Three months ago the price was R18 and now this big increase to R22."

Her neighbour, Ms Nelly Radebe, also joined in the conversation.

"What this sister is saying is true. The prices have gone up and we can no longer cope. We survive because of good neighbourliness. If I don't have mealie-meal I share hers. Similarly I help her if she runs out of mealie-meal.

School-going age

"We share if one of us runs out of either money or food. That is how black people live," Ms Radebe said.

Ms Radebe (25) has three children, one of whom is of school-going age. But little Wilfred (7) has neither been to a pre-school or a school.

"He should have been to school but this has not happened. We do not have money to take him to school."

However Ms Radebe is hoping that her employer will intervene and help to take "my little Wilfred" to school next year.

Her husband Themba is unemployed after being retrenched a year ago.

"It is tough, I only earn very little and have to support my children and my unemployed husband.

"He was good to me, I cannot just be funny and not support him. He used to give me money when he had a job," she said.

"With all these increases in food prices we cannot survive."

Shirley (31) who trekked to the Mandela Squatter Camp from the Crossroad camp two years ago at the height of inter-fractional skirmishes has a two-year-old child

Food basket

Food price increase: 30,4 percent

Vegetable price increase: 88,7 percent.

Meat price increase: 27 percent

She complained that with her husband's wages of R160, it was barely possible to eke out a decent existence.

"We live from hand to mouth," she said.

She blamed the Government for the high price increases.

"Why, the Government has the power to cut down the prices. They would be reducing the prices if whites were affected. Now, because whites earn a lot of money, the Government is doing nothing to help the poor people."

She said even though they were not paying rent, the R160 her husband was earning was not enough.

"We hardly go to town to buy groceries," she said.

"What would be the point of going to town to buy cheap items when you are faced with high taxi fares?" she asked.

That is how Shirley and Nelly relate to the food price inflation which has rocketed to its highest point in more than 10 years.

The Central Statistical Services reported this week that food price increases have hit the 30,4 percent mark during the past 12 months, with vegetables prices rising by a staggering 88,7 percent.

Business leaders, including Mr Raymond Ackerman, this week reiterated that basic foodstuffs should be zero-rated from Value Added Tax, a view that was not shared by Finance Minister Derek Keys.

Mr Keys said he did not see how zero-rating would bring about the reduction of food prices.

However, a spokesman for Co-ordinating Committee on VAT Dr Bernie Fanaroff, warned that the Government needed to be wary of the anger that could be unleashed by disgruntled consumers.

In their simple ways, to the women the difficult economy counted for nothing.

Their basic concern was that the Government should provide more jobs so that they would be able to afford to live.



Mrs Nelly Radebe and her children Glen, Given and Wilfred.

'Many times we get mothers in here begging for food'

As the recession bites deeper, more and more white families are struggling to feed their children and are forced to look to feeding schemes for help.

By **PAT SIDLEY**

BOET PRETORIUS is the principal of Langlaate Technical High School in an area of Johannesburg where many white families have fallen below the breadline

Like other educationists in once-privileged white schools, he and his staff have noticed the listlessness, headaches, nausea and lack of concentration in hungry children in the classroom

And, like other headmasters, he remarks that it is the most severe depression he has encountered in a long career. It has struck at a time when schools are strapped for cash — along with the families around them

About 20 percent of his school needs extra feeding, although many more experience "very hard times". Some have only bread and porridge at home

The hunger becomes noticeable, he says, from "the way they are dressed, when they start staying away from school and they stop doing their homework"

When a teacher notices the symptoms of hunger among the children, the school reacts immediately. A teacher is dispatched to the home to see what the situation is and then the school sends in about R300 to R400 worth of groceries — hopefully to supplement whatever is in the house

"Many times we get mothers in here crying begging for food for their children. The times are really very serious. Very, very, serious," he says.

And sometimes funds at the school run low. "But the dear Lord always supplies"

Like many other headmasters, Pretorius raises money from various private sources. He "does not get a penny from the government" for school feeding or family food packets and has to rely on some "ladies from the North" called the Monday Club and other private donors

He has also called in the help of a feeding scheme to help the hungry kids through the school day. That "feeding scheme" is Martie and Fred Hughes — a dedicated couple who spend their lives and every spare cent feeding poor whites who have slipped through the net

It's not a legally registered scheme. Though she has effectively assumed the role of fundraiser, feeder, social worker and general do-gooder, Martie Hughes has no fondness for the bureaucracy of the government's Department of Social Welfare. She has not got, and will not apply for, a Welfare Organisation number which would bind her to certain conditions and then entitle her to raise money from the public.

Department officials raid her every now and then, but she goes on, a woman driven by a mission. She came from a poor white family herself and says she knows what it is like to go to bed hungry. Nobody is going to stop her feeding the poor and less privileged. She has harsh words for anybody who would stop such an act of charity.

"You can come see my home for yourself," she announces, emphasising her lack of personal acquisitiveness, and giving an oblique assurance that no money comes her way.

She isn't attached to any organisation, not even a church. "People ask you what church you are from, and then if it is different from theirs, they shy away from the help."

Her husband adds that many of the churches they come across build new and fancy properties and then refer the needy in their congregations to the Welfare Department for help.

He is in the construction business and helps her with transport — though she could do with a bakkie, as the family car suffers from the rigours of transporting large cooking pots, milk and the like.

Martie Hughes checks on the circumstances of each family she helps, calling around to have a look for herself. "Many mothers ask if we're from Welfare. They're scared their children will be taken from them." It's only when she reas-

Self-help ... As government welfare funds dwindle, more groups are mobilising to look after their own



Classroom concern Symptoms of hunger are increasingly noticeable in schoolchildren

sures them she's not that they let her in to talk.

That's not to say they do not report abuse when they see it. Fred Hughes told *The Weekly Mail* that along with the increasingly desperate economic circumstances, they had seen an alarming rise in child abuse. But instead of the Welfare Department, the Hugheses go to the police Child Protection Unit which, they say, acts swiftly, promptly and effectively.

The Weekly Mail found the Hugheses at Langlaate feeding hungry kids. The milk they distribute is largely donated by Clover, which gives them thousands of litres for poor white kids and their families.

Not everybody gets food every day, the Hugheses cover different areas on different days, dispensing pap and wors, stew or other nourishing food.

Later in the week, in a small and shabby council flat in Vrededorp in the western suburbs, they have prepared spaghetti bolognese for a straggly bunch of destitute white mothers and children.

Among the mothers is Karen, 27, barefoot and dressed in tattered, grubby garments. Her teeth need attention of the type the poor cannot afford. With two children, aged five and two, she lives in a council flat rented by her mother. The two-year-old, Monte, clings to her hip. He can't wait to eat as the smell of food wafts out of the small kitchen. Monte has been ill several times in his short life and has needed three operations. Karen is divorced. Her ex husband, a security guard, gives her no support.

Karen's total monthly income is around R300 from "the Welfare". She worked briefly in a factory, replacing black workers on strike, "but then the blacks came back and took the jobs".

When Fred and Martie Hughes don't feed her, she goes round to Tannie Swannie's soup kitchen, where they will also try to help her find a job while giving her and the kids something to eat. "But there are no jobs," she says. "They all say they will phone back and they don't." Unskilled but willing, she has tried all the factories, hospitals and firms in the area.

On the stoep outside the flat, Martie Hughes checks in her book who is who among the several young children gathered for their meal.

Three black domestic workers arrive with their scruffy white charges. Two of the families they work for run single-parent homes with no food in the kitchen. The third domestic, who leads a toddler by the hand as a baby sleeps on her back, explains she has left their drunken father asleep in the house. The mother is working. She pleads the cause of the hungry children — there isn't a crumb of food in the house and the kids have had nothing to eat all day.

The domestic workers earn between R100 and R200 a month and have to travel in from Soweto daily. It goes unnoticed that they are clearly impoverished themselves, and probably as hungry as their charges. The kids are the target and undoubtedly need the help.

Only one man appears for food. And many are shy. One woman skulks in a doorway, a few flats away. Only when the crowd has evap-

orated will she come, in considerable shame, for a handout. Some food is kept for her.

Most of the whites receiving food are from single-parent, fatherless families. An exception are the Toerens, who live on the other side of town, in Bertrams.

Both Toerens are handicapped — they are epileptics — and not working. Bernadette Toerien has two children from a previous marriage, Cindy (10) and Small Charley (12). They are both at a nearby school, where the headmaster arranges for extra help for them as well as subsidies for the fees and the uniforms.

Her husband used to work on the railways until they laid him off several years ago because his fits came too frequently. He, too, has a son from a previous marriage, who is paralysed down one side and is also an epileptic.

Bernadette Toerien says they are treated like dirt at "the Welfare" where she gets a disability pension of about R450 a month, and where they have not helped her get money for her disabled stepson. Nobody will tell her why.

From her meagre allowance she has to pay the rent on the house, the water and lights. Additionally, she has to travel from Bertrams to the Johannesburg Hospital for her checkups and pills to control the epilepsy. Often she cannot afford the bus fare, so she walks. It takes almost two hours.

Sometimes, if she doesn't make it, and misses her dose of pills, the fits increase. So she has to slog to get there.

Every time she tries to take a job, "the Welfare" calls her in, she says, stops her pension and threatens that if she continues to work, she will lose the payout for good.

So she and her husband stay home, bored and listless, tending the small garden of their council home and cooking the mealie meal and soy mince handed to them every month from Operation Hunger.

Langlaate's headmaster Pretorius believes the reason for the current depression and state of poor whites is the political situation.

Although others are loath to put it explicitly, he says "I believe it is the political situation of the land."

"Everything is going down. People are losing their jobs." He believes there is only one way to salvage the situation. "Peace. There is no other way. We have to talk until there is peace."

'Hunger threatens lives of millions'

Business Day 3/8/93

KATHRYN STRACHAN

MORE than 4-million people in SA were completely destitute and facing life-threatening malnutrition, Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman said yesterday

Speaking in Durban, Perlman said recent figures released by the Drought Coordinating Committee were staggering about 17-million South Africans were living in extreme poverty

While the National Health Department said 9-million of these were too poor to eat properly, Operation Hunger estimated the figure to be nearly 12-million

"Of those, 4-million plus, must be classified as the ultra-poor, the completely destitute, whose children in particular are in a hunger situation that is life threatening," she said

Only about 10% of malnourished people died of starvation, the rest were killed by secondary infections which would not be dangerous illnesses in a well nourished person

Worldwide, 35 000 children died of hunger and hunger-related diseases every day. But many more battled against malnutrition, she said, and even if they reached adulthood, their nutritional deprivation left them unable to be educated and reduced their productivity and capacity to

contribute to their communities

Perlman also hit out at development experts who criticised Operation Hunger for responding to demand rather than to need and for creating dependency among communities

"We do not obey the dictate of experts who would have us say, according to the law of 'need' feeding 'Come back when your child is below the third percentile,'" said Perlman, adding that the phrase "prevention is better than cure" applied to malnutrition as well

She also criticised the national nutrition development programme, with its policy of targeting only the most destitute, for falling far short of the real need

The "famine prevention situation" would continue for another two years, and the future offered no instant solutions

Despite the major changes expected, the next few years did not hold much hope for an improvement in the level of malnutrition, she said. Even with changes such as increases in the minimum wages of farm and domestic workers, job creation and land redistribution, there would not be an overnight turnabout. It took at least five years for any community to turn itself around economically.

The emperor has stripped for the poor

STAR 30/1/93

BENETTON's boss has bared his bod in a bid to collect apparel for the needy. MANDY JEAN WOODS reports.

CLOTHING emperor Luciano Benetton has been caught without his clothes — by more than 150 daily newspapers and 100 magazines on four continents

For in his newest — and of course, controversial — campaign for his family-owned company, Benetton, the recently elected Italian senator posed nude

The 58-year old Italian clothes-maker's decorum in the full-frontal shot is saved by the words "I want my clothes back" superimposed across his body

The ad is the first of two — the second to be published worldwide late next week — and in black and white only, unusual for Benetton

It launches perhaps the most innovative of Benetton's advertising campaigns ever: to collect hundreds of thousands of garments from all over the world to pass on to the poor

"Empty your closets. Be generous towards yourself and others Give away the clothes you no longer wear to those who need them most," Benetton urges readers.

Benetton's Clothing Distribution Project will see 6 000 containers with 80 000 collection bags placed at all Benetton stores worldwide (including the 31 in South Africa) from February 2 to March 13 to collect the clothing

It will then be channeled to Caritas centres in Brazil, Denmark, Egypt, Mexico, Switzerland, Turkey and to Red Cross/Red Crescent centres in Ar-

gentina, Austria, Brazil France, India, South Africa, Switzerland and Turkey for distribution to the needy through local charity organisations

In an exclusive interview, the outspoken Benetton said it should come as no surprise that he was ready to make Benetton conspicuous

"Not for the love of scandal or provocation, but because if Benetton wants to assert its basic values through the precise behaviour and social actions, it is only right that I put myself on the front line, that I am the first to promote the cause we believe in."

Benetton, he said, was perhaps the first company to institutionalise social responsibility through advertising campaigns which underlined the basic values of the Benetton identity as a business. multiplicity, tolerance, plurality and solidarity

Initiative

"We are sure that people will understand that, for a definite social act, like our clothing redistribution project, I, both as businessman and speaking for Benetton, could not draw back and leave this testimonial to any other image.

"The more people talk about it, the more they will also talk about our initiative, and more clothes will be collected and redistributed," he said

"I think it is marvellous to discover social objectives which are worth creating a scandal for, even if the real scandal is the millions of people who have no clothes to put on With my deliberate nakedness, I wish to draw attention to the scandal that, in 1993, a part of mankind is still basically condemned to a nudity which offends every sense of humanity."

'Feminisation' of poverty, illness

By Justin Pearce

WOMEN'S health cannot be addressed without addressing women's empowerment, agreed speakers at the women's health session of a recent primary health care conference in Cape Town.

Dr William Pick of UCT's Department of Community Health reported on progress made by the Women's Wellness Initiative (WWI), a project set up to address health needs of women in the Griffiths Mxenge area of Khayelitsha.

The project takes what Pick described as a "developmental approach to health", involving not only addressing illness from a medical perspective, but also the social and economic conditions at the root of physical and mental ill health.

The WWI was established after a survey examined the economic and social oppression of women in Khayelitsha.

Nearly all women said they would like to work outside the home and earn money. But of those who earned money, only a third had sole control over how their earnings were spent.

Women's lack of control over their

own lives could be one reason for the ignorance surrounding specifically female health problems

For example, more women knew about Aids prevention than about pap smear tests, which are essential to the prevention of cervical cancer.

The survey found gynaecological illness and especially infections were rife

Pick noted a particular need for a women's health focus, otherwise female health would be ignored amid issues affecting women — such as the provision of child care.

He argued that women in recently-settled areas such as Khayelitsha endured not only race, class and gender oppression, but also "urban alienation", the upheaval in changing from a rural to an urban lifestyle

A consequence of urbanisation was a change in the composition of family units, away from traditional father-centred units. About 40 percent of Khayelitsha households were headed by women.

Anthropologist Dr Mamphela Ramphele suggested that many women opted for single parenthood since it gave them more control over their lives than if they lived with men.

But households led by women tended

to be economically disadvantaged in comparison to male-headed households, in line with an international trend that Pick described as "the feminisation of poverty".

As poverty was an indirect cause of ill health, a developmentally-based primary health care programme had to work towards increasing women's earning power.

The WWI has therefore made links with other organisations working to foster income generation in Khayelitsha. In this way women learn skills they can put to use in the township's informal business sector.

Ms Cheryl Carolus, head of the ANC's Department of Health and Social Welfare, linked women's education levels and their ability as caregivers.

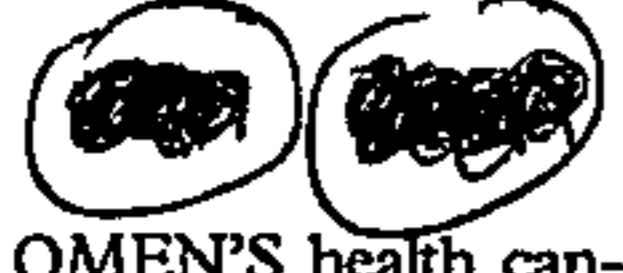
With women almost totally responsible for child care, women's health awareness has implications for whole communities.

"Black women get the worst slice of the pie when it comes to education, and this has implications for the health of a community."

Carolus referred to research done in Alexandra township, which found children's health was closely related to their mothers' level of education.

SOUTH 30/1 - 3/2/93

(24)



You're welcome!

By CECILE ANTONIE

POVERTY has brought black and white together - right in the heart of conservative Vereeniging. Retrenched and destitute folk of all hues are living harmoniously in the "Peacehaven" on the banks of the Vaal River under the care of community workers who defy social trends in the area.

The "Peacehaven", an unoccupied school, serves as home for 120 adults and children. Children attend playschool on the premises and three healthy meals are prepared daily for these families.

One particular "coloured" family, Andrew and Caroline Maritz and their three children, moved to the empty school last November.

Andrew, an ex-security guard, left his job because his salary could not maintain his family. His wife was employed in a light factory but resigned because her child was continuously ill.

They claimed they had to leave their Noordgesig home because of the violence. "I am better off here than where I was before," he said.

But Gloria Moses, an ex-hairdresser, said that she saw no hope for her family. "All I wish for is a home of my own and a job."

She said she did not encounter any racial discrimination and they were treated as equals at "Peacehaven".

The man behind this project, Pastor P Brazer, and his right hand man, engineer Marrus Muller, are members of the once



Poverty knows no colour for those, black and white,
Cliven 3/11/93

who have nothing
241

whites-only "Apostolic Faith Mission".

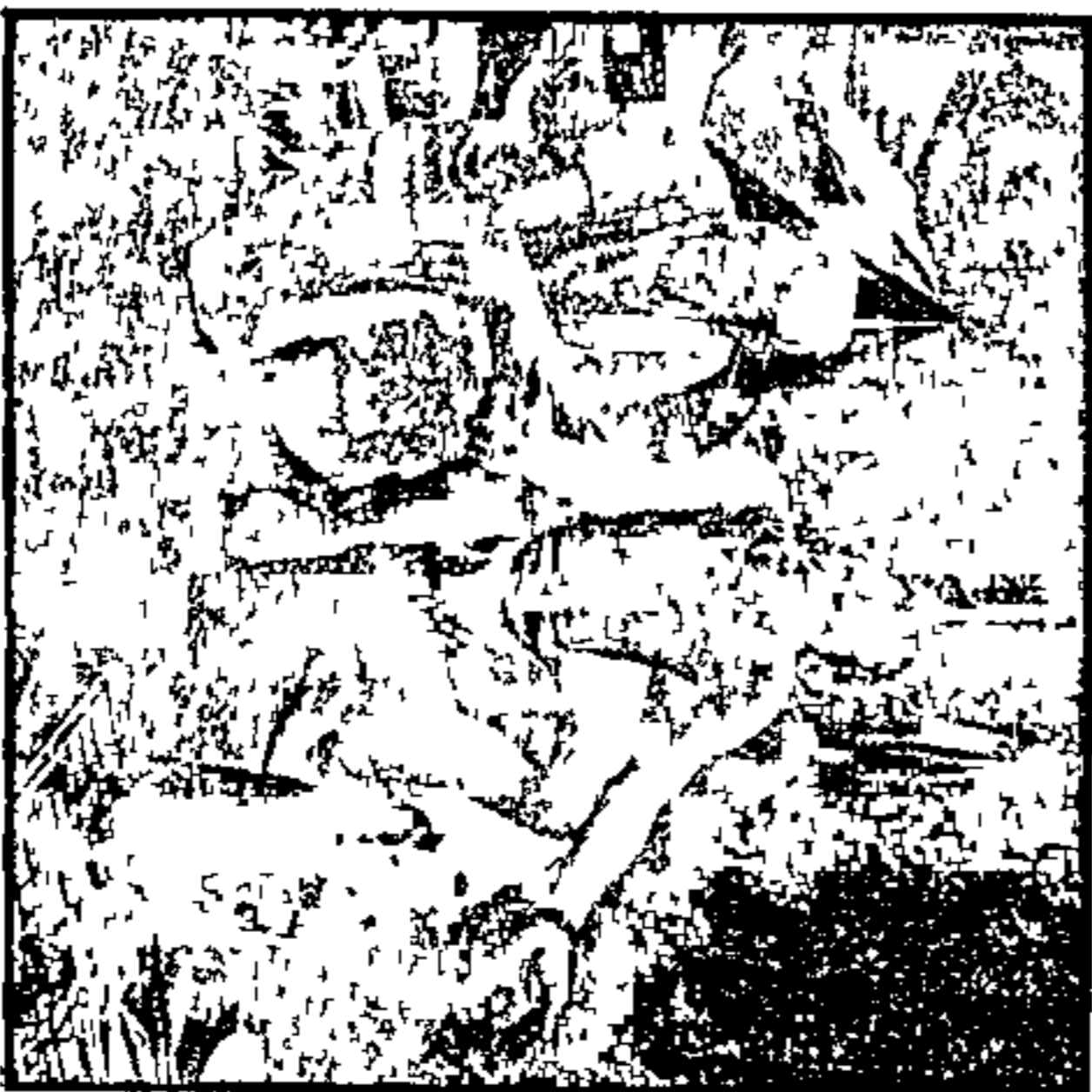
Their interdenominational committee, "Toevlugsoord", helps raise funds for this scheme.

Another project in the making is the establishment of a street kids' shelter 15 km outside Vereeniging, at De Deur.

The house, situated on a large plot, was donated by a Vereeniging woman to shelter homeless children, on condition they maintain the property.

"Peacehaven" residents Chris and Victoria Rondganger have been delegated by the church to care for the street chil-

NEW START ... Black and white children play together at the peacehaven creche established in Vereeniging to assist the needy. (Below) A destitute man and his wife braai fish on the banks of the Vaal River not far from the shelter at which they stay in order to receive three meals a day and a bed.
 ■ PLO EVANS BROWEN



A strict code of conduct is practised. Children may not lie or steal nor leave the house without permission. If these rules are broken they face being reprimanded or punished.

Children are permitted to pay their parents monthly visits, if they

made him work" for her. He enjoys the freedom of his new home and friends. "I want to be a soldier one day, because my parents have ill-treated me - now I want to ill-treat others."

These were the embittered words of 18-year-old Andrew Mmutle from Orange Farm. He took to the streets two months ago when his parents handed him to the police for allegedly stealing from them.

A 12-year-old, who was sexually abused by a white Vanderbijlpark doctor, said that his greatest dream was to be a policeman.

Scores of unemployed residents from surrounding townships waited outside the church every day to receive food parcels. Over 400 families benefit weekly from this aid.

However, many residents have complained that the feeding scheme in the townships is corrupt. Residents from Ewaton claimed that people assigned to distribute hampers were feeding their next-of-kin and not the community.

Pastor Sikhosane said he was not aware of this and did not know how to handle the problem. He had not visited the other feeding sites.

But Pastor Braze is positive. "I believe there is hope in Christ. I am apolitical. The man in the street has been forgotten. Politicians don't realise what they are doing to the people. We must care for one another. Our hope is in the will of God."

Townships take pity on white tramps

CP/press 31/1/93.
By CECILE ANTONIE

DERELICT whites have taken up residence on the banks of the Vaal River, ironically under the FW de Klerk bridge.

They are kept alive by compassionate blacks from the nearby township.

Cathy and Peter Storm, along with five other unemployed, barely survive. They avoid seeking aid from the "place of refuge" as Peter is an alcoholic.

Two tattered tents serve as a "home". They survive by catching fish in the river and selling Christian cards. (24) (25)

"I don't want to go to jail so I don't steal," says Peter.

Braaing his fish over the coals, he states that God gave him supper for the night and his stomach can be "happy" for the evening. Of his life he says: "I've done my best, but something went horribly wrong."

Further down the river banks, just across from the luxurious Riviera Hotel, Albie and George have taken shelter. Most days they walk the streets aimlessly in search of work.

During the winter months of last year Rev John Mgcina from the New Ethiopian Church in Sebokeng, together with township shopowner John Mofokeng, funded a feeding scheme in the park in Vereeniging for the white homeless. Mgcina said: "We want to practise living in the New South Africa."

Star 3/21/93
(241) (3/21)

Famine disaster looms, says Operation Hunger

By Michael Sparks

good nutrition to trying to keep people alive.

The number of children dying of starvation could increase to unprecedented levels, Operation Hunger representatives said at a Johannesburg press conference yesterday.

The organisation's deputy director Mpho Mashinim said South Africa was facing a disaster unless something was done about starvation levels.

Operation Hunger currently fed 2,2 million people, but more than 750 000 were on a waiting list.

However, national estimates indicated that 9 million people were in need of some form of food assistance.

The large number of people without any food assistance was forcing relief organisations to change their approach from developing

The organisation's national director Ina Perlman said the emphasis needed to change from nutritional development — with one month food packs for one person costing R37 — to famine prevention. In the latter case a month's food for one person would cost R12.

Operation Hunger field workers' reports from around the country told of widespread crop failure caused by the drought, creating more people who would become dependent on food assistance to survive.

Perlman said an added burden on feeding agencies was returning exiles, whose financial grants from international organisations had largely dried up.

'Horrendous' state of poverty in South Africa

Sowetan 3/2/93

■ Operation Hunger appeals to Government for more aid:

By Mzimasi Ngudle

OPERATION Hunger has appealed for more relief aid to avert a "horrendous norm of poverty and destitution throughout the country of which last year's drought was the last straw"

This is contained in the annual report released by executive director Mrs Ina Perlman in Johannesburg yesterday

Operation Hunger has to feed over two million people throughout the country and all regional directors have painted a bleak picture for the current financial year following last year's drought, violence and dismal failure in government feeding schemes

On waiting lists are more than 750 000 people in life-threatening situations who need urgent "famine prevention pro-

grammes"

Perlman urged the Government to adopt more realism in the allocation of funds in its next Budget

She said these funds should not be allocated to people who had no feeding skills or capability to consult with affected communities — a clear reference to the government feeding schemes

Perlman said that more than R30 million will have been spent on feeding by the financial year ending March 31

The institution relied mostly on donations from the private sector and foreign embassies for the bulk of its operating capital

Of more than R460 million in the Government's funding for hunger relief, Operation Hunger received only R16 million, she said

A PROGRAMME to develop a policy promoting mutually beneficial relations between SA and the rest of Africa is about to start.

It is being overseen by the African Centre for Development and Strategic Studies (ACDESS).

Included on its steering committee are the African Development Bank, Commonwealth Secretariat, Economic Commission for Africa, Institute for African Alternatives and the Organisation of African Unity.

The programme's proposal says "It needs to be recognised that the international climate is not favourable for the future of SA and that the marginalisation of Africa in the global system is an increasingly evident reality."

STEERING SA INTO AFRICA

By ZILLA EFRAI

"Accordingly, there is a mutuality of interest for Africa as a whole, including SA, and it is therefore particularly important that the continent looks first to its own resources and how, through co-operation, they may be optimally utilised."

The proposal states that prospects of improved interaction between SA and Africa for mutual advantage are partly hampered by tendencies of some elements in SA to seek opportu-

nitic business openings in Africa which do not have long-term benefits.

They perceive Africa as a mere hinterland for penetration. Also, the view that SA is a "northern country" remains a powerful psychological phenomenon.

The programme's preparatory workshop will take place in July in Kampala, Uganda, and cost \$162 800. It will take stock of existing relationships between SA and Africa and launch the research process. The programme will involve

scholars and policy-makers in Africa and Africanists in Europe and North America. The findings of its studies are expected to be published in the first half of 1995.

Other steering committee members include the Institute for Economic Research in Germany and the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Those from SA are the Africa Institute of SA, Institution for Democratic Alternatives for SA and the Centre for Southern African Studies at the University of the Western Cape.

Poverty relief

STIMULATING HOUSEHOLDS with an income of less than R600 a month now qualify for assistance in terms of an emergency social relief programme launched by the House of Representatives administration.

The Chairman of the Minister's Council in the HoR, Mr Jac Rabie, said funds would be made available to local authorities, who would implement the scheme in consultation with ministerial representatives.

The programme is an emergency relief measure aimed at bridging the immediate needs of people who are still awaiting the outcome of applications for formal social welfare assistance.

Mr Rabie said any household in which the income of the breadwinner did not exceed R600 a month and the spouse was unemployed, may apply for assistance. — Sapa

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focus on The IDT

PICKETS are never much fun when you are the target. Sit-ins are worse. Your space — and your privacy — are invaded, yet modern practice requires that you grin (or smile) and bear it.

Politicians may become used to this sort of thing but when it happened to us at the IDT, it cast a shadow over what the Trust is busting a gut to try to do, namely, to work with the community in breaking the cycle of poverty in this country.

The demonstrations were mounted by two student organisations, Sasco and Paso, to lend weight to their call for "the disbandment of the IDT, as it is apparent that it has failed dismally on resolving the financial crisis engulfing (tertiary) institutions".

As our director of education, Professor Merlyn Mehl, a deeply dedicated educationist, reminded the students, the IDT was not established to resolve the financial crisis at universities and technikons. Its primary thrust is to alleviate the plight of the poorest of the poor in four major areas: housing, health, job creation and education.

The major focus in education by the IDT is on pre-school and primary and secondary schooling, where massive backlogs exist.

Close to R400 million has been allocated to these areas. To children at primary and secondary level, education is a right.

Tertiary education, while vital to the country, remains a privilege. However, because Mehl looks at education in an holistic way, he consulted a host of interested parties — including student organisations — on how the IDT could best serve the disadvantaged in this field.

Back came the answer: Establish a loan scheme to improve access to tertiary education by academically deserving and financially needy students.

Catalyst

This the IDT has done. The scheme is managed by an interim committee of the Tertiary Education Funds of South Africa on which a wide range of organisations serve.

At no time was the IDT seen as more than a catalyst in the matter, ready to help with loan funding but certainly not to shoulder the responsibility for what is a severe funding crisis. That is for the Government and the universities and technikons to sort out.

As proof of its readiness to assist, the IDT has committed R80 million to the programme in three years.

In 1991, loans were made to 8 426 students at 17 universities and technikons, 56 percent at "historically black" institutions. Last year, 10 003 loans were made, 63 percent at "historically black" centres.

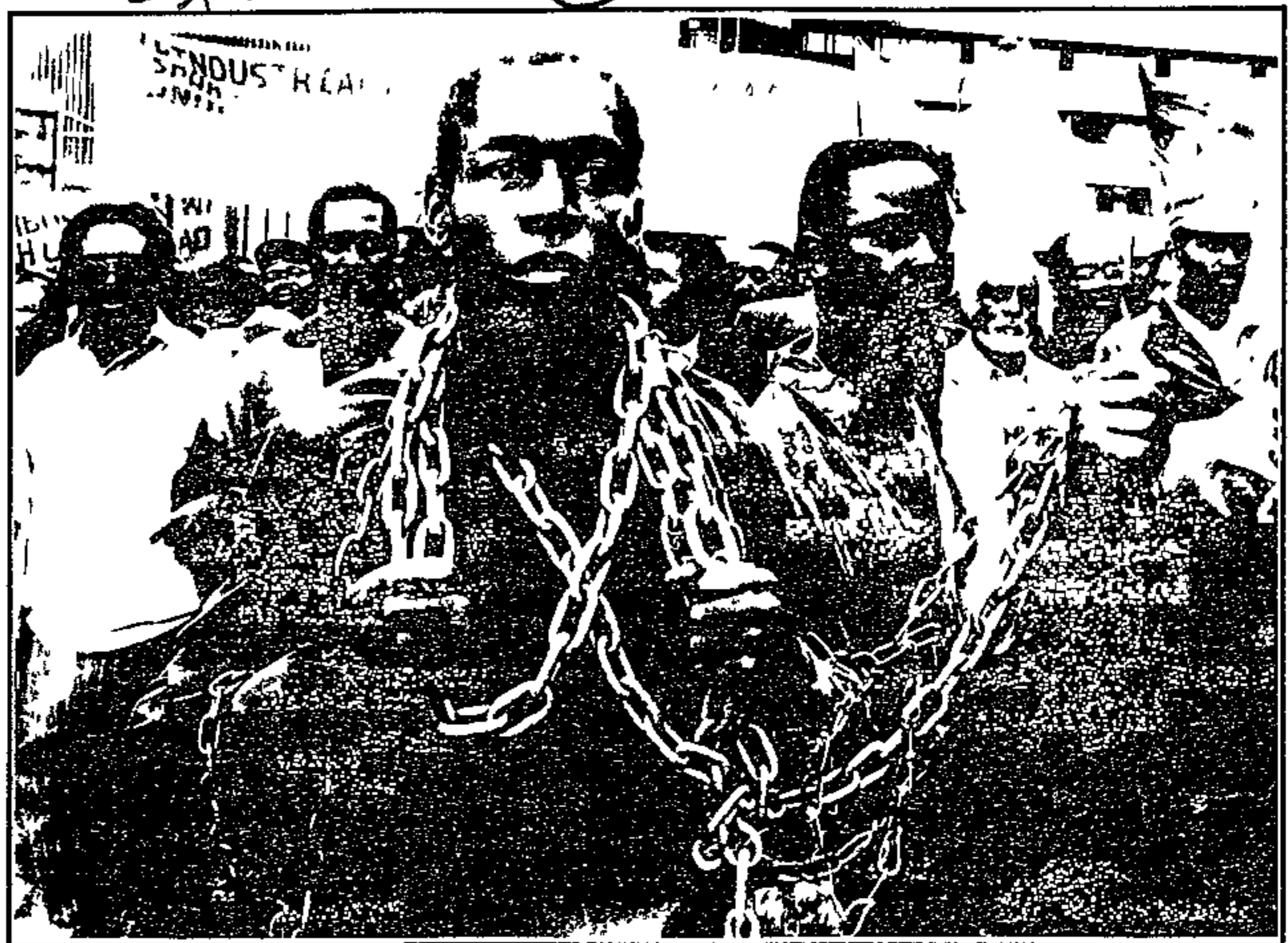
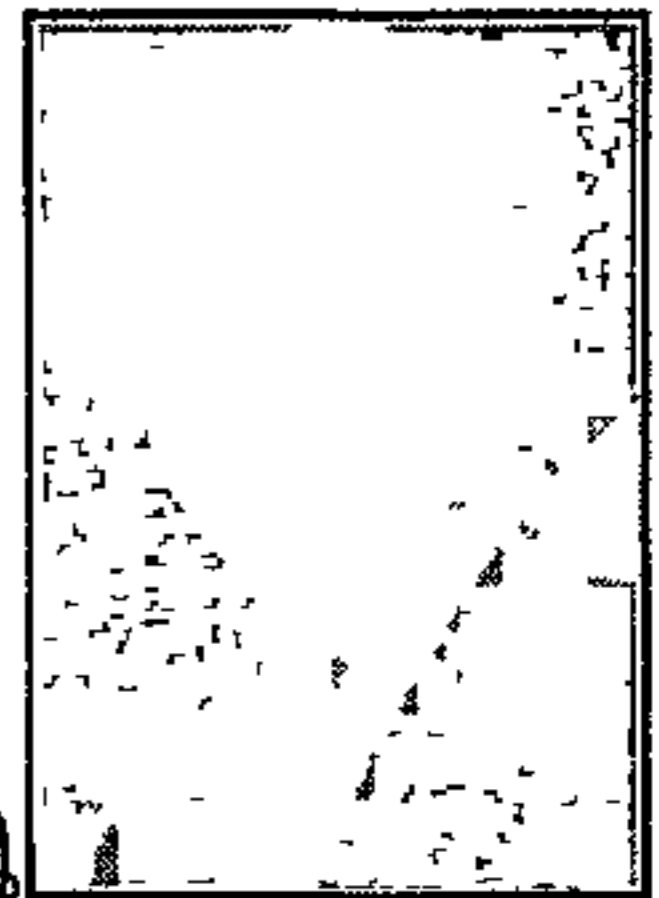
This year, over R30 million has been made

The Independent Development Trust is using R2 billion of the taxpayers' money to bring hope for a better future to the very poor of all races in South Africa. **Jolyon Nuttall**, IDT director of communications,

reports:

*Soweto
23/3/93.*

(Handwritten scribbles and the number 241)



Pickets ... never pleasant when you are the target.

available, and the "historically black" percentage has risen to 67 percent among a total of 26 universities.

Almost 100 percent of the students receiving loans at both the "liberal white universities" and the "historically black" institutions have been black.

In contrast to the students' demand for even more money, Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu, new chief executive of the IDT, expressed concern this week about the growing emphasis on loan funding for tertiary education. He believes that only in exceptional cases should students turn to loans.

"Otherwise," he says, "they will carry a terrible burden with them when they graduate."

"The Government must meet its obligations in terms of a subsidy formula, parents must make a contribution and the universities and technikons must reach an accord with students over their fees."

In truth, the IDT was made the scapegoat this

week for a crisis not of its making. Four decades of apartheid and deep cuts in university subsidies, coupled with economic recession, are the major culprits.

Which is why, when the sit-ins were over, we dusted off our chairs, removed the posters from our walls, and went on with our jobs.

The scoreboard shows that the IDT has supported 508 projects so far. My colleague, housing director Ben van der Ross, points out that the tally is much greater if we count the projects-within-projects.

He's right, in that sense. For example, our massive R800 million capital subsidy scheme for serviced land is counted as one project, but in fact it is being implemented at 104 different sites around the country.

The same applies to the building of clinics and to educare facilities, not to mention classrooms and schools.

Looked at on that basis, the total is well over 1 000 — and mounting.

ARG 20/3/93
(241)

One in five lives in poverty

LONDON. — A fifth of the world's population lives in grinding poverty and the number could rise to 1,5 billion by 2000, says the British charity, Actionaid.

A report on world poverty trends by Actionaid painted a grim picture of a growing "global underclass" of people barely subsisting and vulnerable to disease and early death.

It said that 1,1 billion people of a world population of around 5,5 billion lived in "absolute poverty" — defined by the World Bank as living on \$420 (R1 339) a year or less.

The problem was particularly acute in Latin America and Africa, it said.

The poverty figure could reach at least 1,5 billion by the end of the century unless there was a "massive global effort" to boost the economies of developing countries and ease the Third World debt burden, Actionaid said in its report.

Sub-Saharan Africa was said to have the bleakest prospects, with the number of poor expected to rocket from 184 million to 304 million on what the charity called optimistic economic growth forecasts.

Actionaid is Britain's fourth largest development charity and was founded 21 years ago. — Sapa-Reuter.

High demands on relief scheme

THE spread of poverty and hunger was clearly illustrated by demands on government's poverty relief programme, economists said yesterday.

They were commenting on National Health and Population Development Department figures which showed nearly 3-million people had been targeted between April and December last year for aid from the national nutrition and social development programme.

Of the programme's R440m budget allocation for the current financial year, R288,5m had been allocated so far to non-governmental organisations, department director-general Koen Slabber said.

But, budget allocation fell far short of what was needed to meet demand, he said. About 9-million people were without

GERALD REILLY

visible means of livelihood, he said. If the R440m was divided among them, each would receive R40 a year, "not enough to sustain life".

Of the allocations made so far, about R50m had been channelled to the TBVC states and the six homelands.

The amount actually spent from the allocations would be known only at the end of the financial year on March 31.

Slabber expected a similar amount to be budgeted for the programme in the 1993/94 financial year.

He said the department was generally satisfied that funds were being used wisely and effectively.

By Mathatha Tsedu

THE African communal life style of extended families has always meant that no one could go hungry

In fact, there is an African saying that hunger has no grave, which, as we all know now, is untrue as Somalia can bear testimony

As this lifestyle crumbled in urban townships, leading to many elderly people turning into vagrants and hobos who sleep on park benches, the rural areas always stood out as a saving grace.

Even work seekers who left their rural homes would eventually turn back home if things were not working out, knowing that no matter how low things have sunk, there would always be someone out there to lend a helping hand

But as the economic situation of black people, in particular, goes deeper and deeper into depression, even the rural areas are losing that quality that made them special

Deep in the rural areas of Venda, away from the madding crowd, children are being dumped in hospitals under false names by mothers who have no intention of ever returning

Child abuse, which was unheard of in many rural settlements, has also reared its head. Social workers say this is also due to frustrations caused by unemployment and poverty

Moved by this situation, a group of men, mainly church elders, started the Takalani Children's Home at Siloam in the Nzhelele district

Situated in thorn tree bushveld, Takalani, which literally means "be happy", provides a home for children who would otherwise be roaming the streets or wandering around in hospital wards without any hope of ever becoming anything in life

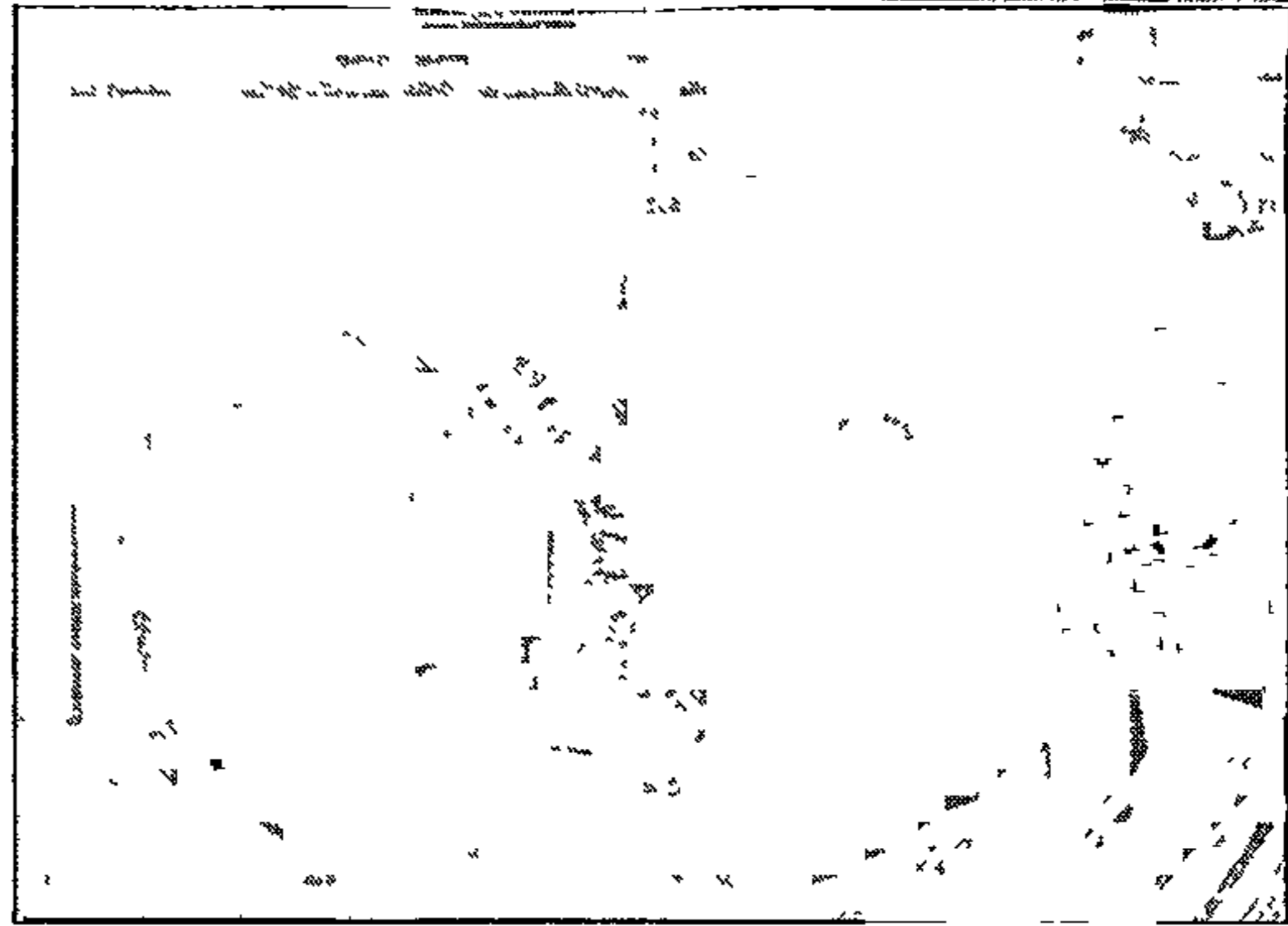
Opened in 1988 with four children, including a three-month-old orphan whose mother had died after giving birth, the centre serves as a referral for the nearby Siloam Hospital and Tshindzini and Donald Fraser hospitals

The centre consists of six rondavels and a kitchen. It is run by a staff of 10, which includes two night watchmen, the director Mrs Mukondelele Phaswana (32) and her assistants

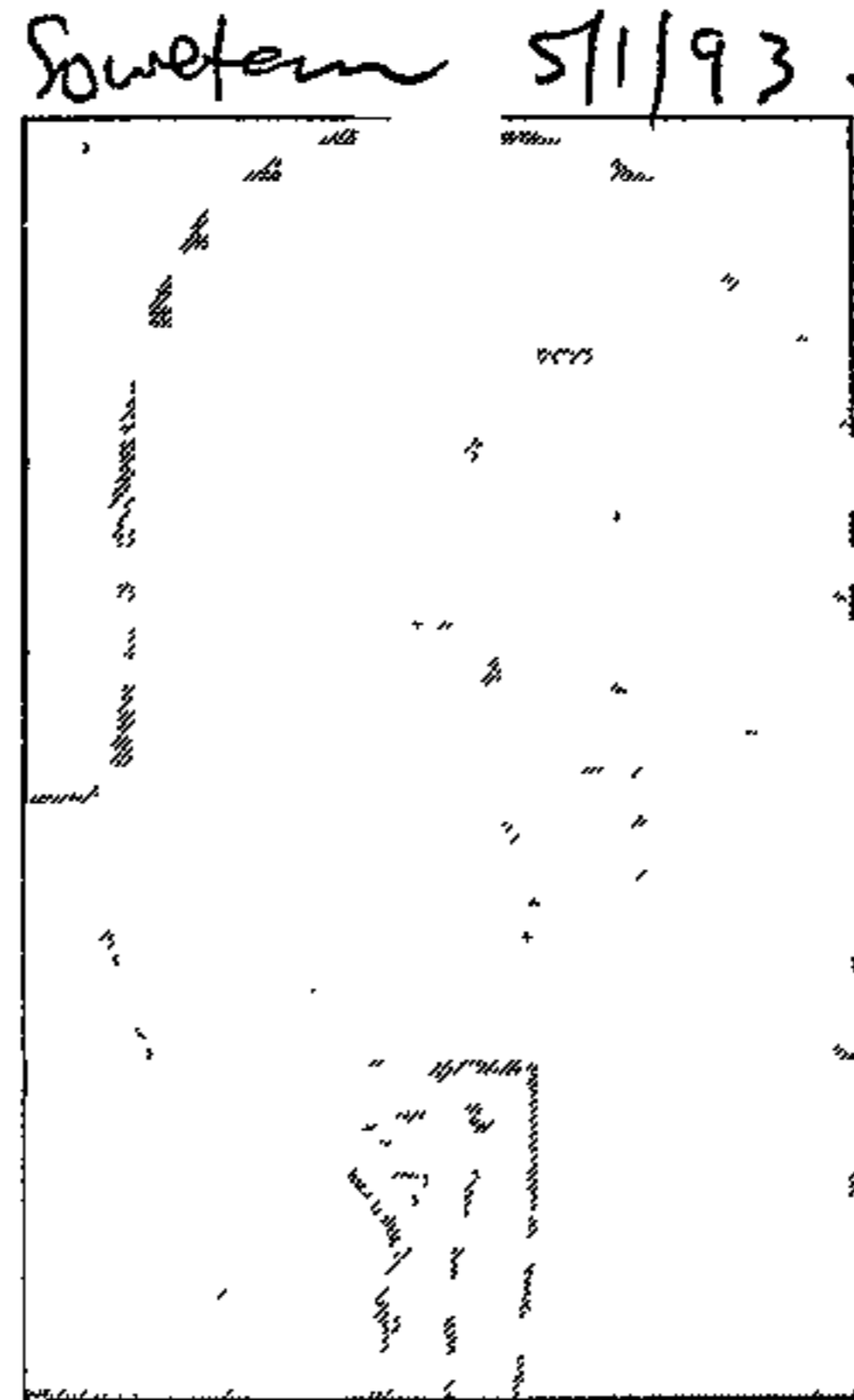
"Social workers who find cases of extreme need also refer them to us and this, with our present register of 35 children, is way above our capacity of only 20 toddlers

"The overstrained cash situation means the spectre of retrenchment hangs over staff members in this area where unemployment is higher than 50 percent," Phaswana said

Today its register includes children who are attending school at primary



Director Mrs Mukondelele Phaswana and Awelani Mukwevho, a seven-month-old boy whose mother died while giving birth to him and whose father is too old to look after him.



"It is really tough to keep this place open," Mr Paul Tshindane says.

and secondary level. The cost of caring for these children is borne by the centre. This includes clothes, food and transport for those who need it

"Dutch church donors have kept the Takalani home fires burning since its inception. But the rising cost of living, the change in the mood internationally as reform goes ahead in this country, and a dispute in the area which saw the mass departure of Dutch doctors, has seen a cut in aid to the centre," board secretary Mr Paul Tshindane said

But the needs of the centre are increasing by the day and directors have had to rely on local fund raising to keep the place going

"In 1992 the centre ran an overdraft of R20 000 which we are still trying to deal with," Tshindane said

For this year the centre's budget for running costs alone amounts to R325 000. Of that amount, R125 000 still has to be raised

"On top of that the centre needs an

241
Child abuse, which was unheard of in rural settlements, has also reared its head

additional R300 000 for expansion to handle the present enrolment as well as the many others who have had to be turned away because of overcrowding," Tshindane said

The children themselves look a happy lot, learning house chores in a non-sexist environment where all share in all duties

The centre can never replace the parents who either dumped them or have died, but for many of the children it is a home from no home that cannot be matched by anything else

It would be a pity if this institution, the only one of its kind in the region, was to close down because those who have the means will not save it

Its closure will mean closing the book on the future of these children, for whom Takalani not only means joy, but is the only home they can call their own

Contact info

Those wishing to assist can contact Mrs Phaswana at telephone (01595) 30273 or Takalani Children's Home, PO Box 226, Nzhelele, Venda.

Misery at end of trek of hope



FAVOURITE SPOT . . . unemployed Cornelius van Rooyen ponders the future

Picture: HORACE POTTER

By RYAN CRESSWELL

IN scenes reminiscent of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, destitute whites are leaving the hinterland and heading for the right-wing enclave of Richards Bay in search of a better life.

But their hopes are dashed almost on arrival. Jobs are as scarce in and around the North Coast harbour town as they are on the Highveld, and the unemployed are ending up in a white squatter camp.

Situated in a bush clearing next to the Greenhill police station, the camp consists of 10 tents, two small caravans, a plastic igloo and a make-shift kitchen. About 30 people, including a number of children and babies, are living in the camp, which is served by a single tap. Some distance from the camp are a few outside toilets.

Kitty

Residents pay nothing to stay in the camp, but are expected to work on the terrain by day. Should any of them find employment — at best on a casual basis — they would have to put 25 percent of their earnings into the communal kitty, but so far, no one has had any luck.

Welfare and church workers are frequent visitors to the camp, bearing food parcels and clothing.

Estate agent Das van Wyk and a group of fellow citizens calling themselves the Richards Bay Special Workers' Association leased the land from the Richards Bay town council some months ago, when they became aware of the plight of the families.

Jobless find refuge in Natal camp

Acting town clerk Johan Rossouw rejected any suggestion that it was a white squatter camp, insisting the "campers" were staying there legally.

"This land was leased to a local committee and this is just a transit camp where people stay while they look for work," he said.

But some of the residents have been there for several months and have run out of everything but hope. They are indignant that townsfolk have taken to calling them squatters.

"The real white squatters sleep in the bush at Palm Beach at night," said one.

Diesel mechanic Joe Herran, 52, who lost his job in the middle of last year and moved to the coast from Randburg in search of work, was one of the first to arrive. He hasn't worked since.

"But we have a good camp here. At first we had a few problems with troublemakers but we threw them out," says Mr Herran.

"Provided new arrivals agree to follow the rules, we let them stay. We can't turn people away."

"If Das van Wyk and his friends weren't helping, some of us would be on the street."

Welder Cornelius van Rooyen, 52, completed his last contract in Febru-

ary last year and has been travelling in search of work ever since.

He has been at the Greenhill camp for the last few months and spends his days slumped in a torn armchair under a tree.

On Wednesday morning, two new families, including two babies in arms, arrived at the camp in a car with fishing-rods on the roof and a small caravan in tow.

Bollermakers Louis Els, 27, and Rudolf Steyn, 27, were retrenched last month. They drove from Nigel, in the Eastern Transvaal, to Richards Bay in oppressive heat.

"The whole country is in a bad way. I know lots of people who have money problems."

"We have come down here because we heard there may be jobs," said Mr Els.

Mr Steyn said an "immediate cash flow" was his problem because he has three children to care for.

Housing

Alec van Rooyen, 20, of Empangeni, has been at the camp since completing his national service last June.

"I haven't been able to find a job since I left the army," he said.

Said Mr van Wyk: "There is a growing need for this kind of settlement for whites. More and more people will lose their jobs as affirmative action is applied."

"There are some low-paying job opportunities in Richards Bay but housing is expensive."

"A lot more camps like this will be seen this year. We already know of some in places like Germiston, Kempton Park and Hammanskraal."

Assault on poverty at heart of city's Olympic blueprint

□ Greenest of Games, says Ackerman

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

AN "UNASHAMED" goal of Cape Town's bid to host the Olympic Games in 2004 is socio-economic development, says the co-chairman of the planning committee, Mr Raymond Ackerman.

Addressing a packed "green" breakfast for the business community, hosted by The Argus and Fairest Cape, Mr Ackerman said such development would be based on holistic environmental planning, taking the Cape's "extraordinary" natural environment into account

The three cities vying to win the backing of the National Olympic Committee of South Africa (Nocsa) must present their bids on December 17, said Mr Ackerman. The winner would be named on January 28.

Should Cape Town be awarded the South African bid, a full-time environmentalist would be appointed to a senior position on the bidding team.

He or she would establish an environmental forum to work closely with the "green" community to guide the bid, Mr Ackerman said

One of the first products of such collaboration would be a Cape Town Olympic Environmental Charter.

"We're going to treat this as the greenest of green games — those are not just words, that's a promise," said Mr Ackerman

He added that there had been "an enormous amount" of community support for the city's Olympic bid.

Those doubting the wisdom or the reality of South Africa being awarded the 2004 games should "just think back", he said.

"We're moving towards a totally new society that none of us thought possible three years ago."

The goal of hosting the Games could support South African society during the difficult years ahead.

"The Olympic Games is the sort of dream and objective that can unite our country more practically than the politicians can," he said.

Planning for Cape Town's bid had been based on the principle of sustainable development, an environment of caring and of social upliftment — including the eradication of poverty and the creation of housing

"You can't just talk about the (natural) environment in isolation — you have to think of the human side"

Mr Ackerman said initial planning for the Games bid was being financed privately, but if the city became South Africa's official choice, all local



Raymond Ackerman ... "enormous amount of community support for Olympics bid"

authorities in the metropolitan area would be asked to contribute part of their normal capital expenditure

"In essence, we'll spend money that would have been spent anyway — and possibly spent in the wrong way," he said.

Mr Ackerman said he wanted to dispel the myth that hosting the Olympic Games meant an automatic financial loss.

"All the games since Los Angeles have made money," he said

President De Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela had expressed support for a South African Games bid. "They are right behind us"

● The next Argus-Fairest Cape breakfast will be on November 25, when Dr Guy Preston of UCT's environmental evaluation unit, will speak on practical ways of conserving water and energy.

Relief on way for ⁽²⁴⁾ Atlantis ^(P)

ARG 11/8/93

Staff Reporter

RELIEF is on the way for socio-economically depressed Atlantis, with a moratorium on arrears-related evictions, summonses and electricity and water disconnections

That was the result of talks between the Western Cape Regional Services Council and Atlantis community organisations yesterday

All arrears are to be considered frozen and negotiators have agreed to create a working group comprising community and RSC representatives to address the issue.

The moratorium is effective until January 31, according to a joint statement by the RSC and the ANC/Atlantis Residents' Association after the meeting

In a separate statement issued on behalf of the ANC, the ANC Youth League, Cosatu, the Communist Party, the Islamic Trust, the Islamic Society and the SA Democratic Teachers' Union, ANC Atlantis information chief Gert Witbooi said the breakthrough had been a long time coming.

'17 million live in dire poverty'

CI 3/8/53

(24)

DURBAN. — Seventeen million South Africans are living "within the international definition of extreme poverty", says Operation Hunger executive director Mrs Ina Perlman.

More than four million could be classified as the ultra-poor, whose children were in danger of dying of hunger.

In a statement yesterday Mrs Perlman said Natal's feeding programme alone had risen in nine months from 35 000 fed a day to 180 000.

She said more than 600 new applications

for participation in self-help programmes had been received this year.

Operation Hunger conflicted on this issue with development experts "who lay down rigidly the criterion of 'proven, long-term, economic sustainability', and tell us that many of our self-help programmes are continued aid in another guise".

"We accept the partial validity of their accusations, but we also maintain that in the past and current situation in South Africa we have often had to look at second best.

"We accept that, on a 12-square-metre vegetable plot, a woman, even if she works her heart out, will only be able to reach minimum survival level. But we feel that anything that will take people out of the feeding line is a start."

Mrs Perlman said the proof of the validity of this view was the number of vegetable-growing groups which, after a proven first success, had been able to get additional land and move from minimum survival to something approaching real economic sustainability. — Sapa

Atlantis needy turned away

241
387
CT 3/8/93

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 400 Atlantis residents queuing for their welfare food coupons were turned away yesterday after being told abuse of the scheme had led to its cancellation

The House of Representatives' intermediate emergency relief was cancelled after complaints that people not entitled to assistance had been given coupons

Atlantis Democratic Party chairman Mr Geoff Leonard said the HoR had "kicked the community in the face" by not telling them of the cancellation

Queues had formed outside the Atlantis Civic Centre since 5am yesterday and people were only told of the department's decision five hours later

Another 400 people were to claim their coupons today at Atlantis's Rebecca van Amsterdam

Hall, he said

"How many parents had told their kids before they went to school 'there will be some bread when you come home'"

One woman told Mr Leonard she had borrowed flour at the weekend to bake bread, confident she could repay her neighbour when the money came

The coupon system was established as immediate relief for people waiting for their welfare applications to be processed. Application forms were distributed by community organisations, local authorities and churches

The HoR has denied in the past the system was being abused

HoR director of social services Mr Schalk Broderick said the intermediate relief was cancelled because of reports from the community that some people not qualified to receive coupons had been given them

The department had been

"overwhelmed" by applications when the fund was established and it was suspended last week because of reports of "abuse and misuse", he said

The system had been operating for about six weeks

Local authorities were told of the cancellation, but given the time constraints it "probably wasn't possible" to tell everyone

"Checks and balances" were being built into the scheme to prevent abuse in future, he said

"We are not unsympathetic to their plight and will expedite the money as quickly as possible"

Mr Broderick expected it would take about two to three weeks for welfare to reach those denied their coupons yesterday

He conceded there were "probably individuals" who had had their welfare approved in May and were still waiting for their first cheque

Red Cross helps 15 000 families with relief aid

Blom 4/11/93

241

LLOYD COUTTS

THE spiral of unrest-related violence remained a major threat to true reconciliation in SA, International Committee of the Red Cross in SA head Toni Pfanner said last week.

Pfanner said some 15 000 families and 19 000 individuals had been assisted through a Red Cross emergency relief programme for victims of unrest-related violence in 1992.

Most of the aid had been distributed in Natal, followed by the Reef and the eastern Cape/Border region where food, blankets and kitchen sets were donated to people whose houses had been burnt down or who had been forced to abandon their homes.

Families who lost a breadwinner were also provided with funeral expenses.

Pfanner said the persistent need for assistance for victims of unrest was a tragic indication of the human cost of violence.

"The Red Cross deplors the continued attacks on unarmed civilians, of whatever race or ethnic group. The spiral of violence, whoever its perpetrators are, remains a major threat to true reconciliation and peace

"The Red Cross cannot resolve the political problems standing in the way of

peace, but it hopes that its action can help to foster a practical attitude of peace and tolerance among all South Africans."

The Red Cross was the only organisation systematically providing assistance to township residents, squatters and hostel dwellers, and its first aid teams provided what was often the only emergency medical structure at rallies and funerals

Pfanner said the Red Cross wished to encourage more people to learn first aid and to form local intervention groups to save lives when violence occurred.

The Red Cross had conducted unannounced visits since October 22 to over 50 police stations in the PWV, the Transvaal, Natal, the Cape, the Free State, Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, KwaZulu and Transkei, to check on the treatment and conditions of detainees.

"Our visits, which have a purely humanitarian purpose, fulfil an important function in overseeing detainees' treatment and conditions, and in a wider sense, in contributing towards a lessening of tension in areas of unrest," Pfanner said.

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PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz

No quick fix for hunger and disease in rural areas

New South Africa faces old dilemma

Star 9/12/93

■ BY CYRIL MADLALA

In the remote villages of Sekhukhuneland, hopes and expectations are running high as April 27 draws closer.

Rose Mazibuko, director of the Hlatlolanang Nutrition Project in the eastern Transvaal, said in a soft, clear voice, filled with faith, that the villagers' dreams of an escape from abject poverty might soon materialise.

One's heart went out to her and those who work and live in the many deprived rural communities where children die of hunger in a land of plenty.

Her quest is for tillable land, clean water, electricity and a share of the greenery that is all around on white farms.

They hope April 27 will deliver them from their misery

But are the people in the pin-stripped suits at the World Trade Centre listening?

If they are, rural communities are not aware, and the Kaiser Family Foundation recently assembled the media and health workers at a game lodge in the eastern Transvaal to learn a few

VILLAGERS in remote areas are daring to hope that the first free elections will bring them a share of the fruits of the land

truths about life in rural areas.

At Tintswalo Hospital in Gazankulu, non-immunised children are dying of preventable diseases. Some have diarrhoea because they have no access to clean water. (24)

The thin legs and swollen tummies and heads mirror TV images from Somalia.

On a bitterly cold and wet day, principal Evelyn Mnisi does not have all her 1 177 pupils at the Mpisi Lower Primary School.

Normally, the seven classes that don't have rooms of their own meet in the shade of the trees to escape the searing heat. On rainy days like this, the pupils stay at home.

Not far away, at the Nease nursery school, 166 young boys

and girls play on a bare cement floor

The R20 per family raised by the community to build the school is not enough to buy any teaching aids, let alone toys.

The litany of suffering in rural areas is endless and bears mute testimony to the dismal state of health services.

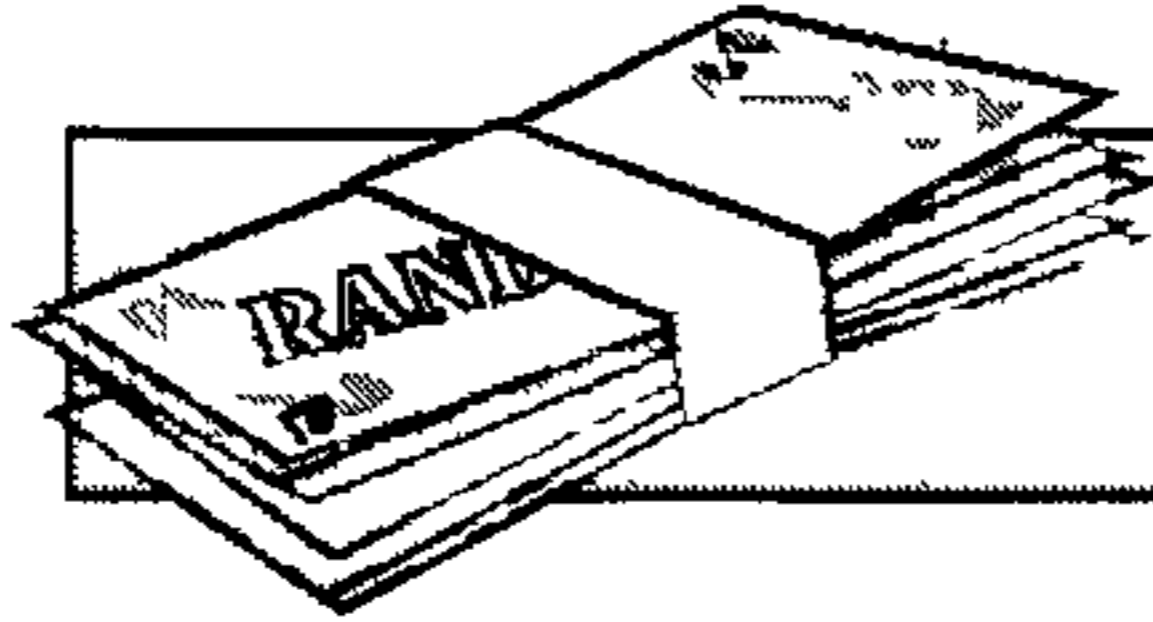
This is in a land that has pioneered heart surgery. This is in a country to which a head of state recently flew to receive the best treatment at a Johannesburg clinic. And some South Africans would rather close their eyes to the reality.

In rural Lebowa, Gazankulu, northern Natal and Ciskei, the story is much the same.

Yet, as Mazibuko says, immense hope and expectation is everywhere.

Hope that when Nelson Mandela becomes president the days of poverty will be ended and the fruits of the country will be distributed equitably.

If only Mazibuko's villagers knew that for a long time to come, the new South Africa might as well be the old.



Focus

World must fight deep poverty

Sowetan 17/12/93

■ **HEALTHY LIVES** Hunger stops

many from living normal lives: (241)

By Mzimkulu Malunga

ONE IN EVERY SIX PEOPLE in the world sleeps hungry every night, says the World Bank.

Be it the shantytowns of Latin America, rural parts of Africa or Asian slums, hunger still prevents many people from living normal, healthy lives

Two weeks ago, the world's poverty issue brought international figures together in Washington DC at a major conference held under the auspices of the World Bank to look into ways of tackling the problem

Speakers included United Nations secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, former United States president Mr Jimmy Carter and World Bank president Mr Lewis Preston.

Sustainable

In a lengthy interview published in *World Bank News*, the bank's vice-president for environmentally sustainable development, Mr Ismail Serageldin, who was also a speaker at the conference, said all international development agencies should work together to fight poverty

"Clearly hunger is not something we can resolve in a day, a week or even a year.

"But the world should still be committed to its elimination," he argued

Extreme poverty is found mainly in South Asian and sub-Saharan African countries, says Serageldin.

Though the poor as a percentage of the developing world's population appear to have declined from 36 to 20 percent over the past two decades, in actual terms the numbers of people living below the poverty line has not decreased as the world population has also increased, says Serageldin

Policy reforms

He said the World Bank's own contribution in the fight against hunger and poverty was its support for policy reforms and scrapping of income tax on farmers as well as other players involved in food production in member countries.

"The bank also finances a large number of human resource based interventions and nutrition projects which have been very successful," Serageldin said

To keep the issue of war on poverty alive, another conference will be held in Europe next year under the banner of the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Progress, but millions still living in 'absolute poverty', says UN

WASHINGTON — Unicef says in its annual "State of the World's Children" that while some progress has been made in battling deadly diseases, one-fifth of the world's families still live in absolute poverty and are increasingly desperate

The United Nations Children's Fund said "dramatic progress" had been made in recent years against some of the worst aspects of poverty, particularly against common diseases which were the primary killers of children

It said in a report that immunisation and oral rehydration therapy alone saved more than four-million children a year

But unless action was taken, the numbers of absolute poor

ARCT 21/12/93 (24)
would quadruple and in only 40 years the population of sub-Saharan Africa would almost treble from about 600 million to more than 1,6 billion.

Unicef said deaths from measles were down from 2,5 million a year in the early 1980s to about one-million in 1993. Deaths from diarrhoeal disease have fallen to less than three-million from more than four-million in the same period

It said whooping cough deaths had dropped from 700 000 to 400 000 and the number of infants killed by tetanus had been reduced from one million to just over 500 000 between 1980 and 1993

Polio cases had also dropped dramatically to an estimated

140 000 in 1992 from about 500 000 in 1982, it said

Unicef said progress had been made in family planning. Over half of all married wom-

en in the developing world now used some form of family planning, up from 10 percent a generation ago. This had sent the average number of births per woman down from 6 to 3,7

Unicef executive director James Grant said it would cost an extra \$25 billion (R82,5 billion) a year to eliminate many of the problems

He said the answer would be for governments in the developing world and international aid givers to double to 20 percent their spending for meeting basic human needs — Sapa-
Reuter

Destitute whites get a taste of squatter camp life

ARC
22/12/93

(241)

PRETORIA — While South Africa's homeless blacks swell squatter camps throughout the country, in the thorn scrub near here a whites-only settlement is mushrooming for destitute Afrikaners

Although the country's recession is showing signs of bottoming out after nearly four years, retrenchments continue without respect for South Africa's dying notion of white privilege.

"I know what it's like to have a house with a swimming pool and to drive a Mercedes," said boilermaker Hannes Olivier "But my life has taken a dive"

Mr Olivier is camp supervisor at Genadeplaas (Mercy Farm), a neatly laid out, church-sponsored settlement at the end of a dusty farm track 60 km from here

He lives in one of the few dozen tents that house about 120 homeless whites, some with babies, some crippled, many with the vacant gaze of a broken spirit

They have no electricity or telephone and three horses provide their only transport

"If someone is sick we have to ride 4 km to neighbours and beg to use their phone," said Mr Olivier

"We're running out of space. Every day we get more people. Already we have seven or eight in one tent."

Mr Olivier and a few others in the camp have part-time jobs, but most are unemployed and spend days tending the settlement's vegetables or staring into space

"We were thinking of starting some light industry, for example welding — like a kibbutz. But it's tough without power," said Mr Olivier. ARC 22/12/93

Mercy Farm residents have no luxuries apart from a twice-weekly donation of tobacco. On a recent Sunday they were treated to ice-cream, which they jealously measured out

Camp resident Martinus used to be an electrician on the coal mines in Witbank, but was laid off six months ago

"I've looked everywhere for work, but there's nothing"

Last year the public service, long a provider of sheltered employment for whites, retrenched 12 380 people. Thousands more have been laid off by mines and industry

In Danville, a working class white suburb near a giant iron and steel works, a church group hands out twice-weekly food parcels

● Blacks remain the biggest recipients of food aid — 2.6 million — Sapa-Reuter

(241)

The town where the poor go to jail

ST Times 14/2/93.

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LIVING ON HANDOUTS ... sisters Elizabeth and Susan Domingo with brother Alistair

A NORTHERN Cape municipality and its lawyers have been accused of callously squeezing money from destitute people they help put in jail.

Mothers and pensioners are among those rounded up in dawn blitzes in the town of Vryburg and driven to Kuruman jail 140km away — leaving starving families to find the cash to free them.

The municipality insists people are not jailed for debt, but for contempt of court — refusing to heed court orders to pay their debts.

“People are being pulled from homes and jailed without knowing they had to go to court,” claimed schoolteacher Mr Edwin Visagie, of the coloured township of Colridge.

To regain their freedom, debtors must arrange to pay not only their arrears to the municipality, but also all the costs of the legal process which put them behind bars.

This includes the fees of the attorneys who secured summary judgments against them and the costs of transporting them to Kuruman jail.

Bitter residents of Colridge — unemployment is

over 50 percent — struggle to pay municipal charges they claim are grossly inflated by the substantial perks of Vryburg officials. They point out that the town clerk, Mr Isador Els, drives an Audi 500, bought under a subsidy scheme



EDWIN VISAGIE ... ‘people a being hauled from their home

By **BILL KRIGE**

told how “the police the attorney’s bak came for her mother ria, early on January. “My mother we court on the date trial, but was told home as there was i She has a bad heart, father left us a lo ago,” said Elizabe



EASING THE SQUEEZE . . . the mayor of Vryburg, Chris Opperman, would like to end the jailings and start a work programme for the jobless
Pictures: COBUS BODENSTEIN

S. Times

14/2/93

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Health inspector Theo Volschenck owns a BMW 5 Series and the town treasurer, Mr Cliff van Rensburg, a Mercedes 200E.

The purchase price of any one of these luxury vehicles, they say, would wipe out the debts of the entire community.

Now the mayor of Vryburg has vowed to end the jailings

"I only heard about it yesterday and no one is as surprised as I am," said Mr Chris Opperman "You don't throw someone in jail for being in arrears"

Contempt

He said he had been told 300 households owed money, only some of them to the municipality

However, Mr Els said in a statement that 22 debtors had been jailed for contempt of court in the 10 days to January 21, but only eight had owed money to the municipality

But in Colridge, and nearby Floradene, it is clear the axe has fallen often enough and residents said people had been deported to Kuruman jail as early as January 3.

In some streets virtually every fourth household has lost its nominal head to what people wryly call "the holiday home".

In a two-roomed hovel, a tearful and anxious Elizabeth Domingo, 20, held her 17-month-old brother and

Her mother was subsequently re-arrested "We have no income. The neighbours give us a handful of flour when they can, and sometimes a meal."

She produced a letter written by her mother "Elizabeth," it reads, "you must see if you can't get money to pay the attorney. The debt is R500 and if I can't pay it I can't get out for a year. Elizabeth, are you satisfied that I must be here for so long with my illness? I close with tears in my eyes. Thank you"

On the wall hangs a faded religious exhortation 'God is Love, God is Faith, God is True, God is Right'. Not far away farmers were giving thanks for rain which, although it broke the drought, clogged township sewers and turned the streets into smelly quagmires.

In another dwelling, jobless Sylvia Finnis supports two babies, both sickly, after her daughter, who had a job, was jailed for debt. The money was paid

by her fiancé and she was expected home at any time

According to Mr Fanie Wentzel, of the legal firm Du Plessis-Viviers, which has the Vryburg municipality account, the judgment had nothing to do with municipal debt. But Mrs Finnis's newest municipal account showed her arrears cut from R746 to R39, thanks to her daughter's fiancé.

In an interview Mr

Wentzel was unable to say how many people had been jailed for debt — "it could be 10 — it could be 10 000", he said. He refused to disclose his fee for each case except to say it was according to scales laid down by the Law Society of South Africa.

"Yes, they must pay the costs of the sheriff for transport to Kuruman, but the amount varies. It depends if there are 10 in the van or one," he said. "A jail has been built in Vry-

burg, there are tar roads and a tennis court, but it has never been used," he said.

Mr Opperman defended the vehicle perks available to municipal officials as being in line with those stipulated by provincial ordinance for a municipality of Vryburg's grading.

"We are going to see what we can do to help I would like to get a programme started for the jobless people here," he said.

Times
14/2/93
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'Feed the hungry'

Sowetan 2/8/93

OPERATION Hunger executive director Mrs Ina Perlman has called for the re-introduction of a compulsory feeding scheme for primary school children throughout South Africa

Speaking in Durban, Perlman said the scheme, which was abolished in the '40s, should be accompanied by free and compulsory education — Sapa

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~~SP~~

Focus on HUNGER

OPERATION HUNGER IS BEING BESIEGED BY returned exiles who have been left destitute by the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of Refugees (NCCR)

The desperate people involved, most of them members of the ANC, are bitter that their contribution to the struggle for freedom has been forgotten by the leaders of organisations who now live in luxury while the cadres sleep in communes and railway stations

Since October last year, when the fraud at the NCCR became public knowledge, over 200 people have been referred to Operation Hunger by the NCCR and the ANC

"Our mandate does not extend to cases of this type. Initially we just helped but there is now a flood of people coming into our offices every day and we can't cope," Operation Hunger's deputy director for relief and development, Mr Mpho Mashimmi, said

Hungry returnees

We spoke to several returnees who told heart-rending tales of the hunger, homelessness, deprivation and loss of dignity that have become their lot

There was no escaping the feeling of regret that oozed from their attitude, regret at having given their all to a nation that finds it so easy to forget them.

They also told of large scale corruption within the NCCR, of officials who bought houses for cash in upmarket suburbs, coupled with cars to match the standard

While this happens, desperate returnees have been denied the R4 250 grant meant to help them resettle. There are many who did not receive even a cent of the money, they said

Mrs Grace Mokgadi (36) said she had seen the corruption while doing part-time work for the NCCR in Pretoria. She had returned to South Africa in August 1991

Homeless returnee

"My status as a former exile works against me when I look for a job. I have nowhere to stay. I have two children whom I left with my mother when I went into exile

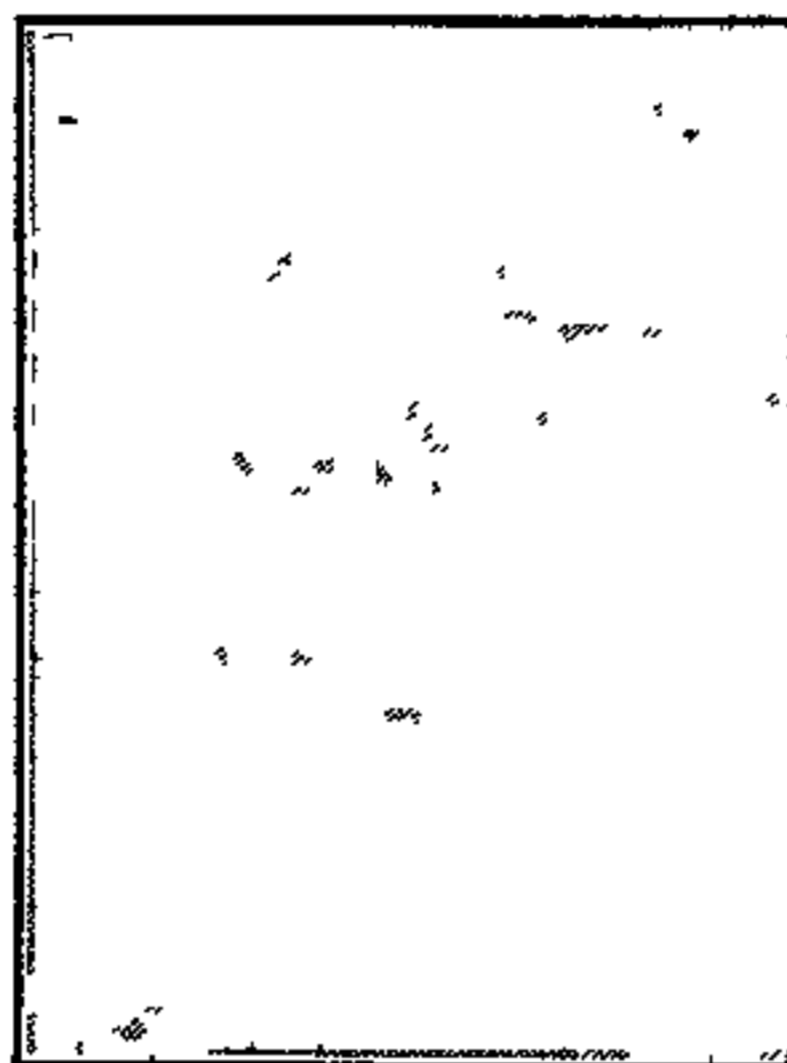
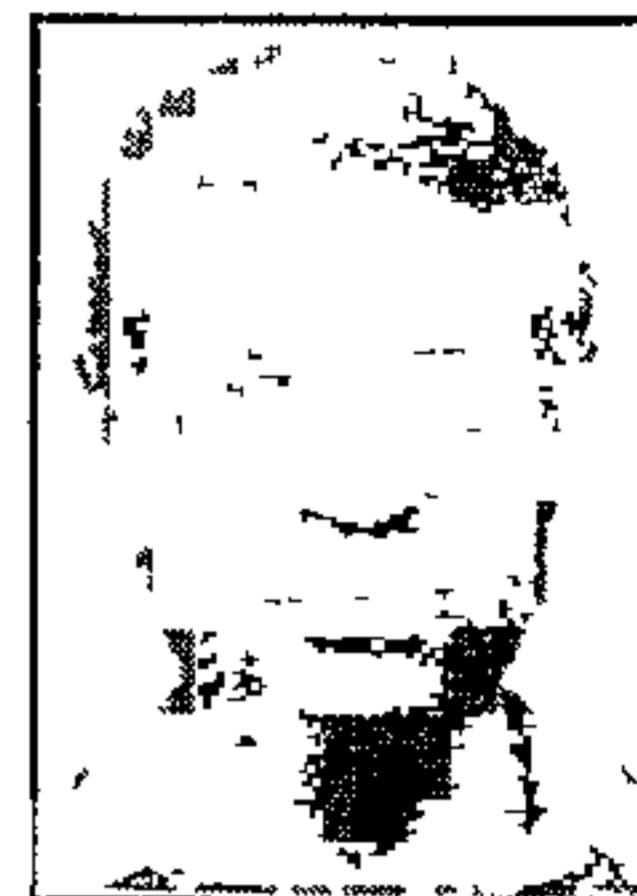
"I am a woman and it is not right that I should sleep at different places every night. Exile was much better because the ANC did everything for us. Now the ANC says there is nothing they can do for me and I do not know what to do

"I am not convinced that the ANC can't do more for us," she said as she broke down and cried

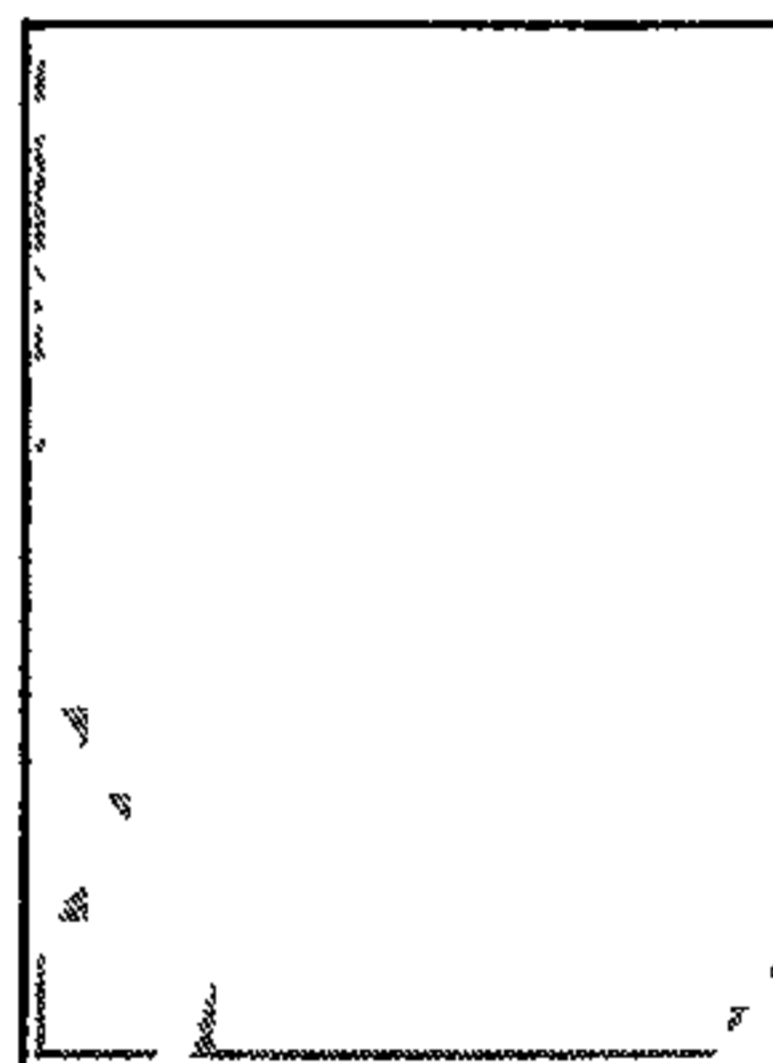
Another ANC member, Mr John Mkhwebane (45), said he left his family in Lesotho and came back to arrange for their eventual return. He was now preparing to go back himself - to stay

The NCCR has so far refused to give him the

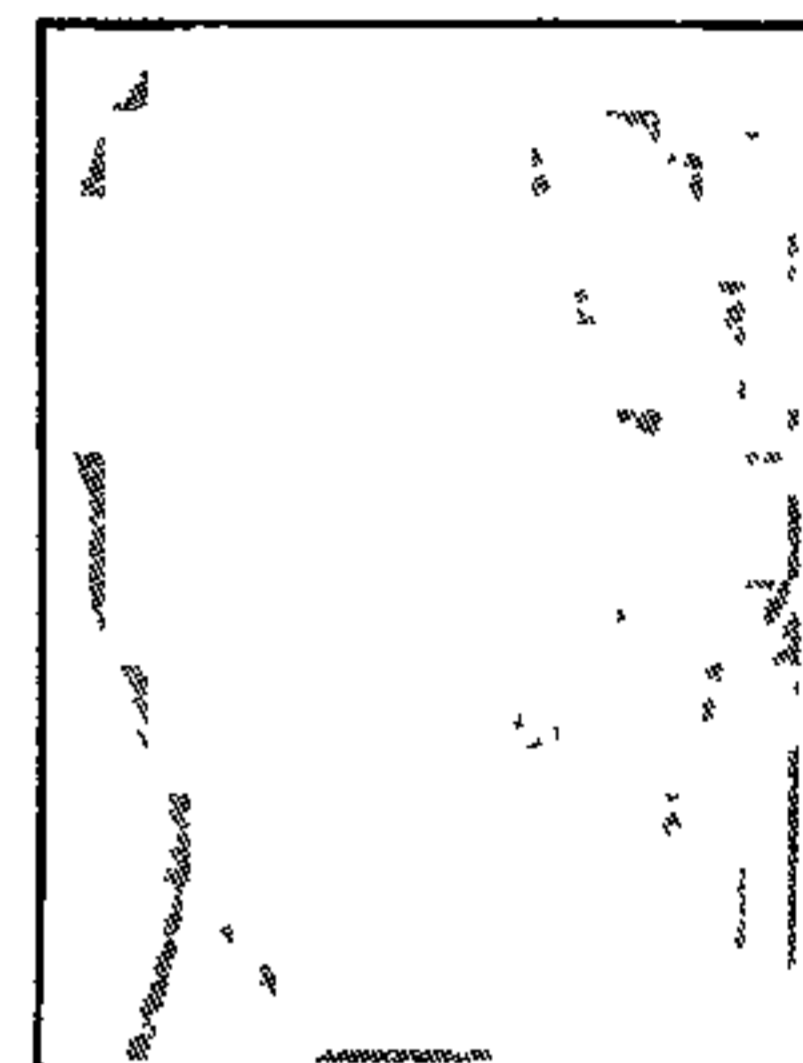
Returned exiles left destitute by alleged corruption in the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Repatriation of Refugees are bitter. They say their contribution to the struggle has been forgotten by their leaders. **Mathatha Tsedu** reports:



Grace Mokgadi ... "has seen the corruption".



John Mkhelane ... did not get the promised loan.



Jabulani Dumane ... ANC doing all in its power

Sowetan 3/2/93
I am a woman and it is not right that I should sleep at different places every night. Exile was much better because the ANC did everything for us

Mrs Grace Mokgadi - returned exile and mother of two children

R6 000 loan promised him before he came back, he said

Cheque stolen

His R2 000 grant cheque was stolen in the NCCR offices, he was told. It was never replaced and he has now been told that there's no more money left

Mr Samuel Mngqibisa (42) said he had been trying to get a loan to start a plumbing concern but the NCCR had told him there was no longer any money for loans

"We are trying to lead a straight life and to avoid resorting to crime. But if people who are

supposed to assist us are misusing the money and leaving people destitute, many are going to turn to crime," he said

The NCCR was approached for comment on the allegations and we were referred to either South African Council of Churches secretary general, the Reverend Frank Chikane, or Mr Mohammed Dangor. Both men were approached but calls were never returned

Charges of fraud

But a check through files reveals that several officials in Johannesburg have been arrested and charged with fraud following the disappearance of over R300 000. ANC regional co-ordinator for repatriation, Mr Jabulani Dumane (42), said the ANC was doing everything in its power to assist its returnees. He blamed the plight of the returnees on the economic slump, general unemployment and employer bias against former exiles

Dumane, a returnee who also serves on the NCCR committee that screens loan applications, said loan money was still available and disputed the assertion by the returnees we spoke to that they were informed that the money had run out

He said he had never heard anyone criticising ANC leaders for living in luxurious houses while their cadres lived in squalor

As the haggling goes on, Operation Hunger struggles to feed the victims of drought and the returnees who came back to the system they had run away from, following the reform rhetoric

FM licence for Wits radio

BIDA 4/21/93
KATHRYN STRACHAN

LISTENERS from all over Johannesburg can now tune into the Voice of Wits radio station next week after it was granted a five-day FM signal licence for a 50km radius. And the station is optimistic the licence will be extended permanently.

The move is seen as a relaxation of the stringent broadcasting laws enforced by the Home Affairs Department and the SABC.

Voice of Wits station manager Damian Hardy said he hoped the temporary licence could signal the beginning of "community radio" in SA.

The commercial station Showtime Music Radio and Pretoria University had also been given temporary FM signals, Hardy said.

The station can broadcast stereo on 95.9 FM within a 50km radius.

Homelands' water beyond govt control

BIDA 4/21/93

EDWARD WEST

GOVERNMENT had a water supply target of at least 15 litres a person a day in drought-stricken homeland rural areas, Water Affairs and Forestry Department deputy director-general Tiny Krige said this week.

Krige told the SA Association of Consulting Engineers forum his department was unaware of the serious problems of water supply in those areas as affairs of homeland governments were outside its jurisdiction.

Barring a few exceptions, homeland structures did not have the expertise or capacity to maintain existing water supply schemes, he said.

A survey by the department had found that during the past two months no maintenance work had been done and water pumps had broken down again.

The drought had emphasised the fact that SA, with its severe climatic conditions and water scarcity, could not fragment development and control over the country's water resources.

Central government should be responsible for overall development and control, with any work done at regional or local level falling within the policy framework determined by central government, he said.

Krige said government was developing a management strategy to deal with future droughts, but in the meantime it would continue maintenance work, supplying water by tankers to some areas and with a borehole drilling programme.

Drought Consultative Forum convenor Len Abrahams said in June 1992 the Development Bank of SA estimated that 2.5-million rural people could be faced with the need to relocate to survive the drought.

To date, the forum had provided drought relief aid to about 750 villages.

The forum concluded the underlying issues in black rural communities were mainly poverty, neglect, and inadequate investment.

Early warning system would help relief workers

BIDA 4/21/93

RAY HARTLEY

SA IS in urgent need of a national early warning system on food security to enable relief workers to respond to emerging crises more efficiently, says a Consultative Forum on Drought committee report.

The system would also need to provide early warning of "hazards that affect the ability of households to

obtain adequate food and water".

The report proposed a system involving the disciplines of meteorology, hydrology, agriculture, natural resource management and finance.

While the major risk was drought, others were pests, hail and flooding.

While warning systems were relatively well developed for large-scale farm production, the effect of weather on small farms and in the homelands had not yet been analysed fully.

Recommendations had been formulated for nutrition surveillance of children younger than five.



A policeman stands guard as a taxi is towed away after drivers tried to barricade a city street in Johannesburg yesterday. Picture: BRIAN HENDER

ANC misused R2,3m Norway

OSLO — Norway had demanded the ANC explain the fate of a R2,3m grant intended to help set up a print shop and provide jobs, the foreign ministry said yesterday.

Foreign ministry spokesman Ingvar Havnen said the 5-million kroner were placed in an investment company instead of being used to buy printing equipment, Sapa reported *BIDA 4/21/93*.

"Clearly, it wasn't used for the purpose for which it was allotted," said Havnen. "It is definitely in the best interest of the ANC to clarify this."

The ANC had asked for an urgent transfer of the promised funds, he said.

Norwegian state radio network NRK was available.

He said the matter had been referred to ANC NEC members and the organisation would comment as soon as information was available.

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NEWS Budget will try to redirect social spending ● Fatal shooting: cops suspended

the nation in brief

Several people feared dead

SEVERAL people are feared dead following running battles with the Bophuthatswana police in Maholoka yesterday

According to sources in the area police opened fire on a group of protesters marching on the local police station

Several people were feared dead from the alleged shooting incident Many of the victims were allegedly taken to nearby clinics and hospitals in a critical condition

Ninja gang members held

POLICE have arrested 21 members of the so-called Ninja gang which has been operating in the Eastern Transvaal for the past 18 months

Tzaneen police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Pine Pienaar said the three leaders of the gang were still at large
Charges being investigated against the suspects

Relief for poor blacks

By Ismail Lagardien
Political Correspondent

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THERE will be a brief respite for poor black people and a lot less for South Africa's middle class when the Minister of Finance, Mr Derek Keys, tables the Budget in Parliament tomorrow

The message about tomorrow's Budget is that it will attempt to redirect social spending from the privileged class to the poor but will hit consumers and taxpayers across the spectrum where it hurts most — in their pockets

Indirect tax, such as VAT, could increase by between two and three percent, while income tax is expected to increase noticeably

So-called "sin" taxes on cigarettes and alcohol will also increase

With the redirection of social spending — already more than 40 percent — more towards black people, the Government is clearly holding

one eye on the forthcoming elections

This is clear too from the announcement last week in the face of opposition from economists of the zero-rating of VAT on a wider range of basic foodstuff — the staples of the poor

It has already been announced that party in pensions is one of the aims of the Government but the effects of this will be felt only towards the end of the year

It is believed that education and health spending will also be increased for the poor — blacks. For example, South Africa's education budget is high by world standards (21 percent) but is heavily in favour of whites

This is Key's first Budget. He took over from Mr Barend du Plessis, who retired last year, reportedly from exhaustion



GOR055 EF

Appeal to ~~the~~ 241 Sowetan combat 9/4/92 poverty

A STRONG appeal to the Government for urgent and decisive action to combat poverty and malnutrition in South Africa has been made by Independent Development Trust chairman, Mr Jan Steyn

He was speaking on behalf of the Nutrition Society of Southern Africa and the IDT

Steyn urged the Government to adopt a committed and co-ordinated approach to malnutrition on a short as well as long-term basis

"The present ravages of the drought and rapidly escalating levels of unemployment are the recipe for a nutritional catastrophe of unprecedented proportions," he told the congress.

Steyn pointed out that the most basic survival needs of food and safe shelter, including safe water and sanitation, were inadequate for a large proportion of the black population

At least 12 per cent of black pre-school children suffered from chronic protein energy malnutrition, while 31 percent of rural children and 10-15 per cent of children in urban areas were underweight, Steyn said

He said certain key issues which had to be addressed included:

- The establishment of a directorate of nutrition within the health department, and

- The appointment of an advisory council to advise the Government. - Sapa

FOOD companies report an alarming drop in sales of basic foods in January, raising fears that hunger is spreading rapidly among the poor.

Tiger Oats, South Africa's leading manufacturer and distributor of staple foods, says sales in January — a traditionally poor month — were the worst in years.

Premier Group deputy chief executive Gordon Utian confirms the drop.

Mr Utian says: "January was much like hitting a brick wall. We've tried to analyse the reasons and have concluded that January can't be looked at in isolation. Sales must be coupled with those of December — when Christmas came too late to move stock and there was a huge carryover in stores.

"February sales recovered slightly and this carried through to March, although it was by no means a great recovery."

Luxury

OK Bazaars confirms that January was "very tough" on the retail side, the poor sales extending to February.

OK marketing director Arthur Solomon says the 40% increase in VAT and 10% in petrol are expected to exacerbate the problems of the poor and unemployed.

An IBIS marketing information service analysis of food sales for the year to December shows a big drop in "luxury and value-added items", such as condiments.

But there was a pick-up in products like pasta (11% higher in volume terms) and dry-packet sauces (up 23%). Manufacturers believe they are being used as substitutes for meat.

Soya substitute sales rose 13%. Chewing gum sales were off 16% and potato chips 7%.

An earlier analysis showed a huge increase in dog-food sales, heightening manufacturers' suspicions that impoverished people are turning to pet food for protein.

Sales of basic products, such as maize, salt and peanut butter, have been hit. Tiger Oats says people appear to be buying smaller quantities of staple foods.

A spokesman says: "Poverty is definitely spreading. This is most disturbing because it could mean hunger for the poorer sections of the community. There is no evidence of an upturn and with so many millions unemployed the picture is gloomy."

Results for the Barlow Rand subsidiary for the six months to March are likely to mirror the poor state of the market.

Hunger fears rise as sales of basic foods take a dive

ST. Ives (Buss) 28/3/93.

(24)

(15)

By CHERILYN IRETON

Foodcorp, which has a portfolio balanced between staple foods and value-added products, did not find January so dreadful. February was reasonable.

This is confirmed in the group's results published this week. The good bottom-line figures — earnings were effectively up 14% a share — disguise the fact that there has been no real growth in food sales for the past 12 months.

Foodcorp chief executive Dirk Jacobs does not expect any growth for the rest of the year. He says the recent Bud-

get will dampen consumer demand further.

Mr Jacobs says: "If you look at the rapid rise in urbanisation and population growth, it is obvious that people are eating less. But we believe that there is less waste. People have become more frugal."

He notes a strong trend among consumers to buy down and says this is reflected in growing demand for the products of his group's staple-foods operation.

National Brands, the Anglovaal subsidiary, has a small exposure to basic

foods. But group managing director John Bryant confirms a "particularly bad January in this category. February was slightly improved, but the outlook for the first quarter is below that of the previous year."

"The downturn in some markets is cushioned by better performances in other categories."

Mr Utian has several theories about the January decline. "The heavier burden on parents as a result of the switch to model C schools meant that a lot more money was spent on back-to-school items, although these people are not on the bread line."

Good rains may have resulted in more home-grown produce being eaten. Another possibility is that retrenchment packages, paid out towards the end of last year, have begun drying up.

Tiger has embarked on a programme to identify unnecessary costs in an attempt to counter the depressed state of the market and lower volumes.

Dump keeps children from hunger

Star 10/8/93

BY WINNIE GRAHAM

They are known as the dump children. (24)

While other boys and girls go home after school, these youngsters head for the refuse dump at Chloorkop, Midrand, to rummage for something to eat.

The dump children are the offspring of unemployed or retrenched workers at the Ivory Park squatter camp near Tembisa. To them, the refuse heap offers hope of a meal. Who cares if the bread is stale or the meat tainted?

Julia Chiloane, a minister of religion who co-ordinates the Read Out Community Projects and runs the Masisizane Nutritional Scheme at Ivory Park (when she has money), says the children are so hungry they have no option but to try their luck on the refuse dump.

Last year she conducted a survey and found 3 472 starving boys and girls among Ivory Park's population of 160 000. The figure, she says, is conservative. In the expanding population — illegal migrants push up the total daily — the numbers of the hungry are rising.

Chiloane approached the Department of National Health in December for assistance and was given R46 000. By April the money had run out.

"I have been unable to provide food for the 500 children for whom, at one time, we were preparing a balanced daily meal," she said. "Now they have drifted to the dump."

"I have asked them how they can eat dirty food but they say they wash it."

Chiloane needs R10 500 a month to feed 500 children and a further R4 500 to provide destitute families with parcels.

A dairy in Bryanston has offered her milk but, she needs transport. She has started self-help schemes, such as sewing and gardening projects, but needs materials and tools.

She can be reached at 925-4845 until 10 am daily and after hours.



Hope for the hungry . . . Municipal workers at the Chloorkop dump near the Ivory Park squatter camp, which has become a hunting ground for starving children.

NEWS FEATURE *Some young people steal to help balance the family budget*





READY FOR ACTION . . . A policeman takes up position.

No glimmer of hope for Norman

Sowetan 16/8/93

By Joe Mdhlela

■ COLD COMFORT *No words of encouragement or solace for victims of poverty:*  

NORMAN Maseko, a 22-year-old Soweto lad, is an example of what deprivation does to South African youth, especially those coming from poverty-stricken families

Like all kids, he had high hopes — a desire that one day he might be a pilot, a doctor, a dentist, an engineer

Instead he ended up in a jail cell for stealing cars

Not once, not twice but several times Dare society point an accusing finger at him? Maybe they should not He is the product of a society which fails to care about his well-being

Impossible luxury

His parents could not take him to school They themselves do not have accommodation Taking him to school would have been an impossible luxury

No one buys him clothes, not even relatives

Therefore it would have been illogical to expect his parents to buy him school clothes He goes through his young life without anyone whispering a word of encouragement Soothing words that say to him "We understand However it is not possible to do all these

things Maybe next year you will get the things you want for yourself "

But there is no "maybe" The future is bleak, with no glimmer of hope

Norman is one of many Sowetan lads under the tutelage of the National Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro)

By his own admission, Norman learnt to steal cars to make ends meet

However Nicro is doing everything in its power to ensure that our society produces fewer Normans Admitting that there "are no magic solutions", Nicro's Mr Bongani Nhlato insists that the "street culture" needs to be replaced by hope of a job and the acquisition of a home In a society where crime has become necessary to balance the "family budget", the solution can be found not only in rehabilitation and counselling, but in the provision of jobs

Social worker Ms Dudu Ndlovu admits that these are noble things to do, but advises that the most tangible ways of getting around the problem is the crea-

tion of employment "That is the tangible way of fighting crime We must provide people with jobs

"Counselling alone cannot help," she said

In small and humble ways, Nicro's headquarters in Motolo provide what it terms community-based job creation programmes These include arc-welding, bricklaying, carpentry and basic motor mechanics

These courses are basic, lasting between two and six weeks

In the final analysis, it is compulsory education that will bring hope to many would-be criminals

"We need to make education available to all if we are to succeed in combating crime," said Nhlato

Senior manager at Nicro Mr Shamane Khumalo suggested that poverty and unemployment contributed to the high level of crime in Soweto

To get an insight into what Nicro does in Soweto watch TSS at 9pm



GET IN . . . Policemen take away a criminal caught in Johannesburg.

This space was made possible by the support of the Positive Development News Initiative, which seeks to document a unique development model that is evolving in South Africa where people from all walks of life — Business, Labour, Grassroots, Democratic Structures, Development Agencies and Communities themselves — are coming together in focused alliances, to play a powerful role in reconstruction and reconciliation to build a common future that will provide the foundation of a peaceful and prosperous inclusive society in this wonderful land of ours

Core founders of this initiative are

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The Anglo American and De Beers
Chairman's Fund
Eskom

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R10489

'Vagrants still need help'

~~241~~ (241)

Staff Reporter

CT 24/8/93

THE lifting of the Group Areas Act saw people streaming into cities with nothing but hope and there were thousands of poor street people and children in need of care and assistance.

This was said by mayor Mr Frank van der Velde at a meeting of the city council's Vagrancy Committee at the Civic Centre last night.

Mr Van der Velde thanked the committee and individuals for their caring for the poor and impoverished but said more community and business involvement was necessary in the "mammoth task" of caring for street people.

Hunger is stunting our kids

Star 13/11/93

(241)

A STARTLING new report has found that malnutrition among black South African children aged between two and five is significantly worse than in many other African countries.

According to Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman, the recently completed World Bank Development Report found that 53 percent of South African children in this age group are stunted — the result of chronic protein deficiency — compared with a 39 percent average for the rest of Africa.

The health condition in South Africa, it said, "was comparable to Gabon".

"South Africa, which is still among the top 10 African countries in terms of economic wealth, has, on child death and malnutrition, a worse track record than Botswana or Mauritius — countries whose gross-national products are substantially lower than ours," Perlman says.

Severe malnutrition invariably leads to very

WE MIGHT be among the 10 richest nations in Africa, but our malnutrition figures are only on a par with Gabon, MANDY JEAN WOODS was told.

high levels of stunted growth.

A United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) report, released earlier this year, found that "more than twice as many South African children die from preventable causes before reaching the age of five years than could be expected from a country of its wealth".

Tragic

Research conducted by Operation Hunger showed that more than half the children surveyed in the Free State and Lebowa were malnourished.

"In the western Cape, PWV and Gazankulu, the incidence of stunted growth is more than 40 percent while Natal, eastern Cape and Transkei are all above 30 per-

cent," says Operation Hunger deputy director Mpho Mashinini.

"South Africans often claim that the country is richer and more developed than its neighbours north of the Limpopo, but this data tragically indicated that we more closely resemble Somalia and Liberia than South Korea or Taiwan," says Mashinini.

Worldwide, more than 35 000 children die every day from hunger-related diseases. Only 10 percent of these deaths are the result of natural and political causes, Perlman says. Many more battle against malnutrition.

"But they are the majority ineducable, stunted and underweight children who die by inches from the moment they are born," she says. "Even if they reach adulthood, their nutritional deprivation will have made them unable to be educated and reduce their productivity and capacity to contribute to their communities," she says.

Despite major changes taking place in the country, there was not much hope for improvement in the levels of malnutrition. "There are no instant solutions and it could take at least five years for a community to turn itself around."

Star 19/10/93

5-m children die yearly - Boutros

Windhoek — About 1,1 billion people lived in poverty worldwide and 5 million children died every year, UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali said in Windhoek yesterday (24)

These were figures that masked "immeasurable human suffering" and reflected high levels of illiteracy, hunger, malnutrition and disease, Boutros-Ghali said on International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

He called on industrialised countries, governments and the private sector to direct resources at anti-poverty projects

"As humans we cannot and should not tolerate that some of us live under conditions which are less than human," the UN chief said — Sapa.

The war on poverty

Part 4 of a series on reconstruction — by Cosatu general secretary
JAY NAIDOO

(24) APR 2/9/93

THE real scandal of the apartheid system is the grinding poverty into which the majority of our people have been locked. This poverty is the result of a systematic policy of controlling black communities to ensure an endless supply of cheap labour.

The system of apartheid social engineering — including bantustans, group areas, forced removals, pass laws, bantu education and the township system itself — were all geared to this end.

While some elements of apartheid are now collapsing, its legacy of poverty and social misery is deeply imprinted on our society. A programme of reconstruction, if it is to have meaning, must effectively attack this cancer.

Apartheid has created extremes of poverty for the majority. It has also created extremes of wealth for the few. In terms of the "Gini coefficient", the international measure to assess inequality in income distribution, South Africa is among the most unequal societies in the world.

But, poverty in our society goes beyond disparities in distribution of income. Rampant disease, hunger, homelessness and so on are also the direct result of deliberate denial of basic social services to oppressed communities. This exclusion has been accompanied by the creation of sophisticated services — virtually a welfare state for the minority.

The social deprivation created by apartheid is well known: an estimated 8 million are without basic housing, about 90 percent of African families, urban and rural without electricity, over 60 percent of African child deaths are due to malnutrition, 17 million live below the poverty line, 6-7 million are unemployed, and over 80 percent of the population have access to 13 percent of the land, much of it not arable.

The central aim of our reconstruction programme is to address this desperate poverty. Some argue that only a miracle can achieve this in the foreseeable future. Our view is that such a miracle is possible, and that many 20th century examples demonstrate this (including reconstruction of the infrastructure in post-war Germany, the wiping out of preventable dis-

ease by the Cuban health system, and so on).

To win this war against poverty we need coherent targets and timeframes, full involvement of ordinary people in the anti-poverty programmes, reorientation of priorities and resources, and the national will to succeed. We cannot plan to fail.

A legitimate question often asked is how the programme will be financed. We shouldn't rely primarily on external funds and assistance. Rather we need an internally-funded "Marshall Plan".

Preliminary results of research indicate that there is a vast amount of surplus liquidity (funds) which can be tapped for social investment. In workers' pension and provident funds alone, there is more than R200 billion, much of which is going into speculative investment.

A movement away from speculative investment, white elephants, wastage, corruption, and unproductive bureaucracies will unlock the resources to fund such a programme.

Investment in massive anti-poverty programmes is not only socially necessary, but will help put our economy on a new growth path. The other side of the coin is the restructuring of our industries, as the economic engine of reconstruction and development.

To deal with poverty the reconstruction programme must address certain priority areas: housing, health, infrastructure (including electricity, water, sewerage, refuse removal, roads), land and food prices. The programme must aim to ensure that all people, whether in rural or urban areas are given access to these basic necessities, within specified timeframes. A comprehensive social security net must be put in place for the most vulnerable, particularly the unemployed, elderly, and disabled.

We can't promise that, after elections next year, all people will have instant access to houses. But the programme must plan how many houses will be built in year one, year two, year three, of what quality and costing how much. The job-creating and training element of these programmes must be maximised, and ensure the in-

volvement of affected communities.

At the same time, social projects, to be effective, must be accompanied by education. A national health scheme, for example, won't work, unless literacy programmes, immunisation campaigns and anti-Aids education are carried out. We must also ensure that social programmes protect and improve the environment.

Combating poverty requires a strong emphasis on rural development and land reform. It is estimated that over 11 million of the 17 million poorest people in South Africa live in the rural areas. This is a direct result of apartheid policies which have trapped African people, particularly women, children and the aged, in rural poverty, landlessness and starvation.

Current attempts by parties such as the NP and DP to constitutionally freeze the exclusion of the majority from land, is a recipe condemning rural people to perpetual poverty.

Landless or land-hungry peasants in the present bantustans and white farming areas will have to be given access to land, to support themselves and to increase food production. A land reform programme also needs to address the subordinate position of women, to give them direct control over the lands they till.

Rural communities must be given access to adequate infrastructural development. This will not only raise the quality of life of rural communities, but also unlock their economic potential, as producers and consumers.

Electrification of rural areas will, for example, also encourage small business and industrial development.

A new society will have to deal with the legacy of large concentrations of economically and socially unviable "rural" communities created by apartheid. Our programmes of rural development should in this sense not set apartheid in concrete, by entrenching the isolation of unviable communities in remote areas. Such communities will have to be consulted about their needs and aspirations.

■ The next article in this series on reconstruction will look at Cosatu's approach to job creation.

'Half SA lives in poverty'

NEARLY half of all South Africans are living below the poverty line, says Sanlam's Cape regional general manager Mr Johnnie Roelofse

Presenting R86 500 to 16 welfare organisations at a function in Bellville yesterday, he said it was clear that no future government would be able to provide for the needs of all communities

Conservative estimates put the number of people living below the minimum subsistence level at 18 mil-

lion, he said

Poverty and unemployment not only held socio-economic implications for the country, but also psycho-sociological implications for the individual, family and community

The company supported the National Peace Committee's appeal to declare September a month of peace "Political violence has already caused far too much pain, disruption and grief in our country," Mr Roelofse said — Sapa

(241) CT 2/9/93

focus on

RECONSTRUCTION

Sowetan 27/12/93

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The system of apartheid's social engineering, including bantustans, group areas, forced removals, pass laws, bantu education and the township system itself, were all geared to this end.

While some elements of apartheid are now collapsing, its legacy of poverty and social misery is deeply imprinted on our society. A programme of reconstruction, if it is to have meaning, must effectively attack this cancer.

Apartheid has created extremes of wealth for the few. In terms of the "Gini coefficient", the international measure to assess inequality in income distribution, South Africa is among the most unequal societies in the world.

But poverty in our society goes beyond disparities in distribution of income. Rampant disease, hunger, homelessness, and so on, are also the direct result of deliberate denial of basic social services to oppressed communities.

This exclusion has been accompanied by the creation of sophisticated services — virtually a welfare state — for the minority.

The social deprivation created by apartheid is well known. An estimated eight million people are without basic housing, about 90 percent of African families, urban and rural, are without electricity, over 60 percent of African child deaths are due to malnutrition, 17 million people live below the poverty line, 6-7 million are unemployed and over 80 percent of the population have access to 13 percent of the land, much of it barren.

The central aim of our reconstruction programme is to address this desperate poverty. Some argue that only a miracle can achieve this in the foreseeable future. Our view is that such a miracle is possible, and that many 20th century examples demonstrate this (including reconstruction of the infrastructure in post-war Germany, the wiping out of preventable disease by the Cuban health system, and so on).

To win this war against poverty we need coherent targets and timeframes, full involvement of ordinary people in the anti-poverty programmes, reorientation of priorities and resources, and the national will to succeed. We cannot plan to fail.

A legitimate question often asked is how the programme will be financed. We shouldn't rely primarily on external funds and assistance. Rather we need an internally-funded "Marshall Plan".

Preliminary results of research indicate that there is a vast amount of surplus liquidity which

An internally-funded "Marshall Plan" is needed for South Africa's reconstruction programme in health, education and job creation, says **Jay Naidoo**, secretary-general of Cosatu:



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Combating poverty requires a strong emphasis on rural development and land reform

can be tapped for social investment. In workers' pension and provident funds alone, there is over R200 billion, much of which is going into speculative investment.

A movement away from speculative investment, white elephants, wastage, corruption, and unproductive bureaucracies to unlock the poverty programmes is not only socially necessary, but will help put our economy on a new growth path. The other side of the coin is the restructuring of our industries, as the economic engine of reconstruction and development.

To deal with poverty the reconstruction programme must address certain priority areas: housing, health, infrastructure (including electricity, water, sewerage, refuse removal, roads), land, and food prices. The programme must aim to ensure that all people, whether in rural or urban areas are given access to these basic necessities, within specified timeframes.

A comprehensive social security net must be put in place for the most vulnerable, particularly the unemployed, elderly and disabled.

We can't promise that, after elections in 1994, all people will have instant access to houses. But

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the programme must plan how many houses will be built in year 1, year 2, year 3, of what quality, costing how much. The job-creating and training element of these programmes, immunisation campaigns and anti-Aids education are carried out. We must also ensure that social programmes protect and improve the environment.

Combating poverty requires a strong emphasis on rural development and land reform. It is estimated that over 11 million of the 17 million poorest people in South Africa live in the rural areas. This is a direct result of apartheid policies which have trapped African people, particularly, women, children and the aged, in rural poverty, landlessness and starvation.

Current attempts by parties such as the NP and DP to constitutionally freeze the exclusion of the majority from land, is a recipe condemning rural people to perpetual poverty. Landless or land-hungry peasants in the present bantustans and white farming areas will have to be given access to land, to support themselves and to increase food production. A land reform programme also needs to address the subordinate position of women, to give them direct control over the lands they till.

Rural communities must be given access to adequate infrastructural development. This will not only raise the quality of life of rural communities, but also unlock their economic potential, as producers and consumers. Electrification of rural areas will, for example, also encourage small business and industrial development.

The creation of viable rural communities will allow the mass of rural people to establish themselves, without being constantly pressurised to move to the urban areas. At the same time, it must be recognised that much of the current population distribution is artificially created by apartheid, and that there will be an inevitable reorganisation of rural/urban patterns.

A new society will have to deal with the legacy of large concentrations of economically and socially unviable "rural" communities created by apartheid. Our programmes of rural development should in this sense not set apartheid in concrete, by entrenching the isolation of unviable communities in remote areas. All communities will have to be consulted about their needs and aspirations.

Productivity: (247) SA can learn from 'Kaizen'

BLOEMFONTEIN — South African managers could learn from the Japanese "Kaizen" concept, empowering workers to make suggestions to improve productivity, Anatole Goshi of the Nihon University in Tokyo said yesterday.

Delivering the keynote address at the EBM research conference here Goshi said Kaizen — empowerment and continuous improvement — could result in "astronomical" savings and improvements. In terms of the concept workers questioned their own efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and how their service and output could be improved.

The results of improvements were passed on to the workers in the form of bonuses and profit-sharing.

"Thus there is a willingness among workers to participate to get even more recognition in their company"

Management communicated the results of Kaizen to each employee, enabling them to apply new ideas, which ensured the momentum was sustained.

Goshi said Japanese management used to be autocratic but had introduced participative management, empowering joint consultation groups, consisting of workers and management, to decide on issues that affected them and the company — Sapa

Hunger respect

Star 4/12/93

OPERATION Hunger field workers are finding that poverty is colourblind. About 6 500 of the 266 000 people who are fed by the organisation in the Free State are whites, reports LOUISE MARSLAND.

IN A DUSTY squatter camp next to a railway line outside Bloemfontein, noisy children queue at an Operation Hunger soup kitchen with old men and women, mothers and young men just returned from looking for work.

Among the black faces is a white one: it belongs to Johan Wiese (24), a security guard who lost his job and was taken in by a black family

Wiese said he was there because, after he lost his job, he had received no help from his own family Philemon and Queenie Setlako took him in when he had nowhere else to go, giving him his own "room" at the back of their shack

"I want to live with these people. They help me. Whites think more of themselves than others. But here, if I need something, people help me."

On the other side of town at a soup kitchen in the white suburb of Oranjesig, 120 women and children queue up at midday for soup.

The women, with care-worn faces, trail barefoot children. All carry plastic containers to take soup back to family members at home.

Black community-health workers are feeding 6 500 whites at soup kitchens in Free State towns — the conservative heartland of South Africa — in addition to 260 000 black people.

A further 24 000 people of all races who have applied to join feeding schemes are on the province's wait-



There are many hard-luck stories - jobs lost because of the drought, the mines closing, farmers throwing families out of their rural homes. Hasie Bezuidenhout (65) was left with no income after her husband's death a year ago, soon after his business was liquidated.

"I was helpless. I came to Operation Hunger for help and they asked me what skills I had."

Bezuidenhout, who now embroiders linen to make ends meet, said she had never known such kindness. She said whites had not wanted to help her "I knew everything would work out all right when I came here."

Mother of four Gerty Jones, an epileptic on a disability pension, was left destitute a year ago when her husband went to prison. Now she makes R250 a month selling her goods through Operation Hunger. "I don't know what I would have done otherwise."

Bloemfontein Operation Hunger director Judith Mokhetle said it was a real eye-opener to have white families applying for aid. Initially, when going to white areas to assess needs, black field workers were chased away by dogs. They enlisted white colleagues to assist. Now they are invited into people's homes for tea.

"White poverty is a new thing for us. Bloemfontein is where the real new South Africa started. We never thought whites would come to a soup kitchen for pap."

"Of course, some of the people we are feeding are probably AWB. But if no one else will help them, we will."



POVERTY LINES: Destitute blacks (top) line up at an Operation Hunger soup kitchen outside Bloemfontein. Below: At the organisation head office in the Free State capital, whites in increasing numbers appeal for aid. ● Photographs: MYKEL NICOLAONI

s no boundaries

Star 4/12/93

LOUISE MARSLAND

Mother of People has given millions hope

THE malnourished child hung on to her mother's arm, too weak to lift her head. The mother, elbowing her way through the crowd clamouring for the attention of Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman, told how the local clinic refused to see her without a fee of R13.

Dipping into her purse for the money, an outraged Perlman promised to take action. A Bloemfontein clinic will soon be on the receiving end of Perlman's wrath.

For more than a decade, Ina Perlman has fed the hungry, the poor and the downtrodden of South Africa. They call her Mmabatho — Mother of the People. This month she retires after 13 years as Operation Hunger executive director, and she will be sorely missed by her staff and the millions she has touched.

A compassionate Perlman this week listened patiently to civic leaders in a dusty, wind-blown Free State squatter camp talk about the problems local residents are having with local contractors laying water and sewerage pipes.

The poverty-stricken community has been given fancy toilets which, after only three months, are overflowing into streets and vegetable and flower gardens because the pipes fitted were apparently the wrong size.

Armed with invoices and work specifications, she promised to get to the bottom of their problems.

Perlman describes Operation Hunger's constituency as the "ultra poor, the destitute and those right at the bottom of the heap who get left behind". What has motivated her all these years has been anger, yet



SHE HAS ENJOYED IT: Ina Perlman will be sorely missed when she retires after 13 years as Operation Hunger executive director.

she admits that she has been "one of those lucky people" who has always enjoyed her job.

"Obviously there have been the horror moments, but it is the greatest privilege in the world to feel you are doing something positive for others. Basically I'm a people person. I take each group as I find them — if I can help half, it's rewarding," she says.

The self-help schemes are the mainstay of her organisation. Perlman emphasises she is not "a lady bountiful with

a basket", adding "I have never handed out a cup of soup or a bag of maize in my life. We respond to community requests, we go in, and every feeding scheme is a partnership with the community."

Perlman recalls that one of the highlights of her job was telling off a group of beefy cotton farmers who had complained that Operation Hunger was feeding their workers so well that the people did not want to work.

"We found out that they had

been paying R3 a day to women to pick cotton, whereas the 1500 women in our self-help projects were earning R300 a month making beadwork and another 1500 families were earning R100 a month farming land we had obtained for them. So of course they weren't interested in jobs at R30 to R40 a month!"

The worst moments are seeing desperately hungry children probably damaged for life — all for the lack of 10c a day.

No "powder puff" speeches either. At one of her last official duties — at the Miss World fund-raising banquet last month — Perlman lectured on human rights and warned of the dangers if the extreme hunger and poverty in this country were ignored. "I thought that with all those corporate heads there, I wasn't going to miss that opportunity," she laughed.

Giving the people land, particularly the large tracts held in trust by the Government, was one of the only ways of ensuring that the rural population became self-sufficient. Perlman said that with the majority of the rural population functionally illiterate, land was the only answer. "They have no hope, there is no other means of survival for them."

But "Mmabatho" does not intend to just disappear and she has a firm mission over the next six months leading up to the election.

"When the political hot air starts, I have told my staff they must challenge every political party on 10 points — including proper birth control, free prenatal care, free compulsory education for all children, re-introduction of State school feeding schemes, literacy programmes, realistic housing projects and free medical treatment."



VICTIM... hungry and living in hope

world, NNSDP will be encouraging breastfeeding.

It also stamps out abuse by churches or politicians wherever this occurs, and has reported some R7-million worth of fraud and misuse of funds to the SA Police

It set up a task group to investigate itself, and sent Mrs Kloka on a six-week in-

vestigation of needs and problems in the community

There is a sense that the NNSDP is driven by both political considerations — the unempowered poor of today are tomorrow's voters — and by ethical motives

Having been badly burned by their attempt to play gracious patron to the masses,

Picture: HERBERT MABUZA

NNSDP workers are now evangelical about crafting a "proper nutrition policy" free from political constraints

They are even smug about the fact that "the National Party is our biggest critic"

"This makes us feel very safe," said Mr de Klerk "If we pleased them, then we'd be in trouble"

IN the Eastern Transvaal, a loyal National Party worker quietly slips an NP calendar into every food parcel he hands out. In the Eastern Cape, young activists stockpile the parcels and sell them. In the Free State, parcels handed out after church services are such a drawcard that residents joke about the sudden popularity of Christianity in the area.

When people are starving, food is valuable currency with which to buy political fealty or souls, when a guilty government throws more than R1-billion in conscience money at a

problem without planning how it will be spent, the result is a cycle of unmet need and unchecked greed.

This is exactly what the SA government did in 1991 when, to take the sting out of VAT, it set aside R440-million a year for food relief, now administered by its National Nutrition and Social Development Programme.

Now, after three disastrous years of ineptitude and political opportunism, food aid in South Africa has been taken back to the drawing-board.

This time, the NNSDP is determined to take its time, to plan properly and completely overhaul the shambolic nutrition policy of a country that does not even know how many children and young mothers are undernourished and vulnerable to disease.

A three-year plan to restructure the NNSDP has been mapped out by a task team from government and private agencies.

Phase one, which began recently and will last until March next year, will be devoted to tidying up house and identifying priority issues.

THERE will be no fundamental changes to the way the NNSDP is run — which would not be possible anyway, since a moratorium on unilateral changes to the programme was agreed to this year.

A national co-ordinator will be appointed, regions analysed and planning begun on regional pilot projects.

These will be implemented from April next year, when phase two begins. At the same time, work will begin on a national analysis of nutritional needs.

Incredibly, there is no system in place to identify early warning signs of serious malnutrition in communities, nor any national data base of the nutritional status of South Africans. Developing countries from Tanzania to Thailand have been busy with these studies since the 70s.

By 1996, the NNSDP hopes to understand the problem, and to have identified the solutions. The "new programme" will begin in April that year — phase three.

If all goes as planned, South Africa should have in place a social security net — and this time, one without holes that let through the young, and nursing mothers, and people too old or physically disabled to care for themselves.

The task team has given itself some latitude, and time to experiment, before outlining the new programme.

All that is known at present is that it will not amount to handouts of food parcels.

All this does — in the unlikely event of the parcels actually reaching those in need, and even if they have, by some miracle of corporate conscience, been made up out of the correct ingredients — is fill empty bellies.

Empty bellies are the

After three years during which it has been dogged by ineptitude and political opportunism, South Africa's food aid programme is being revamped. CLAIRE ROBERTSON reports

FOOD

SITimes 5/12/93

The unmet need and the unchecked greed

symptom of the problem, and not the underlying cause.

A Unicef framework used by the NNSDP identifies three causes of malnutrition: poor care of babies and their mothers, shoddy health services and an unhealthy environment, and not having enough money for food.

The eventual purpose of the programme will be to empower the poor to earn money and to be able to afford their own food.

In the words of Dr Urban Jonsson, Unicef nutrition guru: "The poor are no longer seen as passive beneficiaries, but rather as the main actors in poverty eradication."

Dr Jonsson encouraged nutrition aid workers to learn from the "coping strategies" of the poor.

NNSDP visitors noticed one such "coping strategy" worthy of Herman Charles Bosman on a recent visit to some homeland projects.

THE dirt-poor villagers felt they had to provide cakes and tea for the visitors. The spread included a grand, crumbling wedding cake.

That was at the first village. When the contingent reached the seventh project, the same cake dominated the tea table, the tilted plastic wedding couple still intact after a hasty relocation.

Having tried the most old-fashioned of strategies — handing out food — NNSDP is now mulling over relatively radical plans such as poverty banks and other measures to "help the poor to a position of self-reliance," as NNSDP manager George de Klerk put it.

"There is no use giving a person bread, but he dies of exposure," said Mr de Klerk.

He and his deputy, Dianne Kloka, openly admit the shortcomings of NNSDP Phase 1 — although they point out that there are some 7 000 projects up and running, not all of them feeding schemes.

"But most of the money went on short-term relief, and we simply don't have the money to carry on like this,"

said Mrs Kloka.

"Although we will always have to give relief to the unempowerable group — the very young, the very old, the physically disabled."

But there is considerable sympathy in government circles for phasing out food parcels — an approach that has the unequivocal support of a major player in nutrition circles, Pauline Khuzwayo, of the National Consultative Forum on Drought.

SHE points out that they are sold, stolen, used for bribes and political patronage. "And there doesn't have to be a flag on the parcel to know who it comes from," she said.

She and forum manager, Ahmed Dangor, admire the government for "not taking the easy way out and just abandoning the project despite the criticisms."

But there is a constant and increasingly urgent battle to depoliticise the issue.

"We have to remove this issue from the election crossfire. If we don't make an attempt to depoliticise this, we will damage the programme. People will see it as either belonging to a defeated NP or to the new government," said Mr Dangor.

The NNSDP gets scant help from its founder and parent in this regard. In a country where government is synonymous with the NP, and where the ruling party confuses governing a country with owning it, the problem was inevitable.

Health Minister Rina Venter, whose department houses the NNSDP, was accused by NP colleagues this year of failing to extract the necessary mileage out of the handouts. When ANC-friendly organisations delivered the food the ANC took the credit, NP members cried.

The fact is, the government could not have distributed the food without help from non-governmental organisations. And a few dedicated workers in the NNSDP have realised that they cannot frame a new policy alone.

Pretoria endangered even services

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the simple food parcel scheme time and again by delaying cheques, holding up approvals and even failing to provide full-time staffing at the start of the programme. This resulted in half of the money in the first year — some R200-million — staying in government coffers while people starved.

The start of the programme was also bedevilled by some astonishingly stupid decisions.

Early on, R40-million of the R440-million was set aside for the government-run Protein Energy Malnutrition scheme, PEM, which spent a great deal of the money on buying infant formula.

This encouraged mothers to abandon breastfeeding in favour of bottle feeding in areas where clean water was rarely available to make the mixture, and illiterate parents could not read the instructions anyway, exposing the babies to often fatal gastro-enteritis.

In line with the rest of the

IKE Muller raises interesting questions about public works programmes for SA (Business Day, January 8, Muller's prime intention, as he asserts, is "to temper the enthusiasm with an understanding of what they can and cannot achieve". To this end, he defines the concept of public works programmes and proceeds to consider its possible applications and related issues in SA.

To have a useful debate, we need to clarify what it is we are talking about Muller, with reference to the Keynes-Robinson debate more than 40 years ago, talks of public works programmes possibly as digging holes and filling them.

This is a misrepresentation of the concept. Neither in the international literature, nor in any of the organisations Muller refers to in his article, is there any such concept as the basis of a proposed national public works programme. Yet the concept means different things to different people, and a clear definition is necessary.

A labour-based public works programme should be a well-conceived and organised set of projects capable of large-scale employment creation (hence income generation). It is also a skill learning exercise for the participants and an infrastructure-creating process.

All three characteristics are essential components of any anti-poverty policy package. As such, the funding of the programme would come primarily, although not exclusively, from public resources, with emphasis on access to resources by all communities.

A national public works programme is particularly appropriate for SA. Reinforced by the mounting political uncertainties, and exacerbated by recurrent and ever expanding recessionary cycles, the levels of unemployment and poverty have reached alarming scales. Poverty in the country is concentrated in the rural areas and townships, where the great majority of people live.

Against this backdrop, one of the major components of a complex so-

A diligent public works scheme can deliver the goods

By IRAJ ABEDIAN

IRAJ ABEDIAN

tion to SA's socioeconomic problems has to be a co-ordinated grid of labour intensive public works programmes.

Public works programmes assist the target population by offering direct employment and training, while incorporating educational schemes as such, at the individual level. This is an "enabling approach". It avoids the pitfalls of indignity, dependence creation and dependency promotion so commonly associated with anti-poverty social welfare schemes.

Equally important, these projects also act as a catalyst in furthering grassroots participation in national development. At community level this is an "empowering approach".

Provided the public works programme is incorporated into the macroeconomic policy in a consistent way, it has further benefits:

- The programme can pave the way for economic growth. Internationally, public works programmes are shown to have the highest multiplier effect on the local economy.
- With its low propensity to import, such a programme will have minimal balance of payments effects.
- It will offer the most cost-effective means of redressing the backlog of socioeconomic amenities.
- The programme is affordable. Over the past decade every Budget

has had numerous allocations for projects such as "employment creation", "emergency relief", "training funds" and so on. What needs to be done is to consolidate all such allocations into a single fund for a labour-based national public works programme, and

□ It is the most viable means of attracting foreign and in fact, the conditions attached to many international donations are the very principles that underline public works programmes.

What about the homelands? Muller is concerned that scarce resources might be wasted on the homelands which, he says, are the least promising regions. Such generalisation is inherently invalid. True, none of the homelands is entirely economically viable. But many parts of them are. And many activities in these areas are sustainable, provided adequate supportive infrastructure is in place.

Assessments of the economic viability of an area and related issues are, to a large extent, those of individuals and communities, not the authorities' choice. We need to safeguard against a national public

works programme becoming yet another mechanism for a grand social engineering scheme.

Individuals must choose and communities must be involved, not only in project proposals, but more so in supporting and funding. Otherwise we would face endless wish lists. To the extent that the homelands and other rural areas in the country have economic potential, the public works programme will be instrumental in providing support for their economic development.

A labour-based programme should not separate the country into homelands and rural "white" SA. Muller's presumption that the discussion around a national public works programme is a "homelands-based debate" is completely misinformed. The emphasis must be on the existence of economic potential, not on the status quo of any given region or economic sector as such.

Muller says SA has "historically used too much capital to create too few jobs". What he ignores is that resource allocation does not take place in a vacuum. Much of capital intensification in SA is policy driven. It is the result of a misguided monetary, foreign exchange and fiscal policy mix of more than 20 years.

Much of this capital intensification took place between 1960 and

1980. Over this period the sector with the highest rate of capital intensification was construction. This is in sharp contrast to Muller's assertion that construction "is among the least of the culprits". Manufacturing and agriculture were second and third respectively.

Over the period, a combination of negative real interest rates, overvalued foreign exchange rates and substantial fiscal subsidies in the form of investment and depreciation allowances tipped the balance in favour of capital, as opposed to labour use. To reinforce this, the education and training policies of the country failed to address issues of productivity enhancement and skill generation. Faced with this combination, all sectors went capital intensive, some more than the others. The extent of capital intensity was also influenced by the technological parameters of the sector itself.

The question of capital versus labour use deserves much attention. Simple fiscal treatment of the subject, whether in full support of capital use or in favour of labour use, is bound to prove distortionary and counterproductive.

A programme would naturally have to be implemented in carefully planned phases.

A public works programme is neither a panacea against unemployment and poverty, nor an infallible cure. Among the more common reasons for the failure of a public works programme to live up to expectations are insufficient scale, technical hastiness and incompetence, ad hoc national development arrangements, organisational infirmities, imbalance between centralisation and effective local involvement, and a tendency to bureaucratisation.

Economic growth is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for poverty alleviation. As a high profile redistribution mechanism, a national public works programme would make a real contribution to stabilise the situation and make growth possible.

Abedian teaches economics at UCT and is a member of the National Drought Consultative Forum's employment task force.

PEOPLE'S LIVES *Vegetable gardening in the backyards, on rooftops and on flat balconies*



Jeremy Burnham waters the garden patch on his balcony

Permaculture

Sowetan 18/2/93

By Pearl Majola

NEW SYSTEM *Unemployed people*

AS THE RECESSION BITES deeper into the pockets of many South Africans and unemployment soars, permaculture, a system of vegetable gardening, may prove to be a

are taught and helped to feed themselves:

useful and sensible way of saving
The system, developed by Australian Mr Bill Mollison some years ago aims to help individuals feed themselves in a

way that is both inspiring and environmentally responsible

It can be applied by anyone anywhere It is simple and does not need

one to be an agricultural expert, nor does it require vast tracts of land to be cultivated From the small backyard gardens with ordinary soil of private homes to garden patches on roof tops and on flat balconies it works everywhere

Permaculture was introduced to South Africa in 1991 by Mollison and in January 1992 a group of 50 people, including farmers and community workers, were trained in permaculture Six months later the Permaculture Association of South Africa (Pasa) was formed

"Agriculture and industry have crippled ordinary people by keeping them from providing in their own basic needs especially food says Pasa co-ordinator Mr Jeremy Burnham

"People now depend on money to feed themselves But industry can't create more jobs which means that the people who have been dependent on money to get food are going to starve

"The only sustainable long term answer therefore, is to allow people to produce a significant proportion of their food" he explains

"Permaculture is more enduring because it uses nature's way of cultivating mixing a variety of things in one place vegetables fruit trees and animals For instance, in my garden patch which is on my balcony, I grow tomatoes beans some herbs and even a sunflower

Permaculture does not use fertilisers pesticides and other chemicals that are ultimately destructive to the soil says Burnham

Pasa is putting together projects in various areas The Thlolego Centre near Rustenburg functions as a permaculture farm as well as a school Another farm is based in Warmbaths

In Pretoria a project was started in 1991 under the Hlubukani Development Project All the projects are intercropping farms with a variety of vegetables and fruit Several courses including soil management, water harvesting producing and developing seedlings designing gardens and environmental awareness are taught

A national cultural organisation, the Ndlamu Cultural Association, has also shown interest in permaculture At the moment the organisation is involved in helping its members buy seed and plants collectively and has asked for help from people already involved in permaculture

Come to the zoo and see the National Symphony Orchestra play for peanuts.

Watch humans performing in front of animals at the Johannesburg Zoo Flutes, cellos and violins will fill the air while birds chirp, elephants trumpet and hyenas laugh

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have to be fed the normal entry fee at the zoo gates will be charged

It's a fun-filled family day not to be missed Pack a picnic basket and make sure you get there early

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N1416

Self-help for the needy

Sowetan 16/2/93 Sowetan

■ Programme to make the poor self-reliant while seeing to it that they don't starve:

By Joe Mdhlela
Consumer Reporter

FEWER handouts and more development. This is the driving philosophy geared to making the needy more self-reliant, manager of the National Nutrition and Social Development programme Dr Joos Hattingh said.

However, the philosophy also took into consideration that the hungry will first have to be fed, taking precedence over development itself.

Explaining this, Hattingh said: "There is no contradiction. Often the situation is so desperate that it is necessary to feed the poor. You cannot wait for another day."

"However, in the long term priority should be given to development if we are to give meaning to the often repeated truism about teaching people to fish and not giving them a fish."

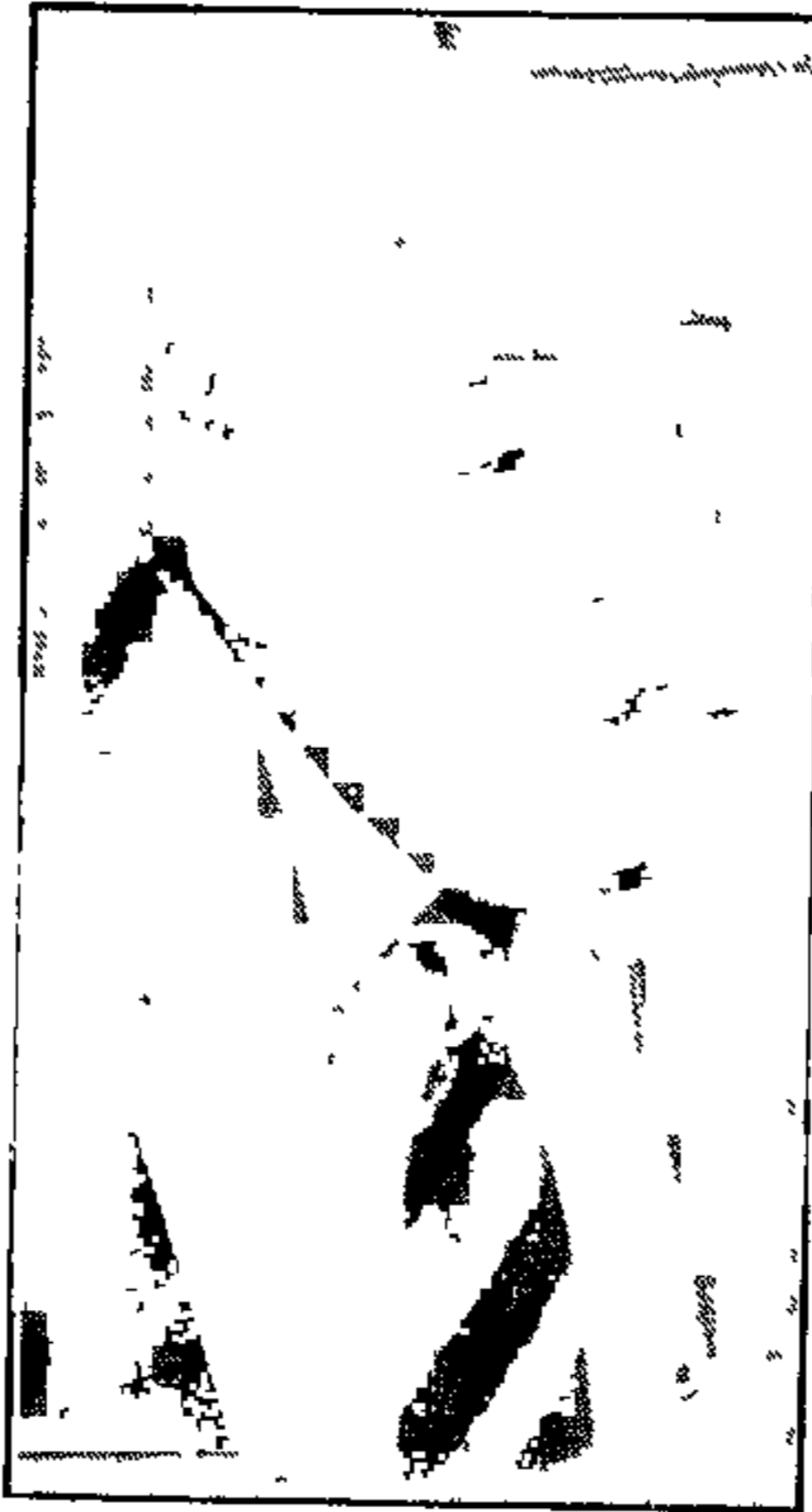
He said it was of utmost importance that the communities were empowered by developing their skills.

Hattingh suggested that more than 9 million South Africans were already at the rock-bottom of the economic and social scales.

"It is these people we wish to reach. They are desperate for food and the very basic needs of life," said Hattingh.

One of the most telling aspects of South Africa's situation was that 45 percent of the population lived below subsistence level, he said.

"They can either stay alive through crime or they may just die if no or-



Dr Joos Hattingh .. believes development is priority.

ganisation comes to their rescue.

"That is where this programme comes in, to give hope to those on the brink of starving to death."

Hattingh said the programme would remain a failure if it were to be politicised but accepted that it could equally be frustrated if leaders of the civic associations were not involved.

"It is the leaders at the ground who must identify the needs of the community. They should be involved and be partners in the programme, otherwise the programme will fail to bear

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It is the leaders on the ground who must identify the needs of the community

fruits," he said.

To show the programme was aimed at addressing the needs of the people, squatter camps throughout South Africa were deriving benefits from the programme.

Among them Holomisa Informal Settlement in Germiston and Mandela and Tambo squatter camps.

Also to benefit from the programme are various non-governmental organisations, including the South African Black Social Workers Association, Tembisa Society For Care of the Aged, Meals on Wheels in Alberton, Zicabangele Self-Help Association in Kallchong and Monde Primary School in Kallchong.

To carry out this project, the programme has been allocated R400 million.

Hattingh said even R400 million was not enough, hence the need "to go for the poorest of the poor."

The programme has the support of the Department of National and Population Development.