

P.S. Local Authorities - CAPE

1998

Transforming the city council from within

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IN THE past it was difficult for a black person to obtain employment on the Cape Town City Council. In the wake of the 1994 democratic elections, however, blacks are more readily employed by the council, but largely in subordinate positions.

The continued subordination of blacks occurs despite the much-vaunted "restructuring" which is presumably happening throughout the council to "correct historical imbalances". Limited space precludes a detailed and nuanced account of the emergent patterns associated with "restructuring" in the council, hence the somewhat truncated outline.

The former, mostly white, functionaries of the apartheid regime are well-entrenched in key council positions. They still occupy strategic posts and use the bureaucratic machinery to protect their interests. They are the faceless bureaucratic Mafia who use the tactics of interposition and nullification to entrench and secure their apartheid-derived privileges.

By means of dirty tricks, rumour-mongering, innuendo, red tape, undue delays and other tactics, they slander, humiliate and demigrate blacks and thus effectively counter the transformation of the dominant relations of power in the council. Indeed, these functionaries are determined to obstruct the advancement of competent, well-qualified black professionals.

Precisely by occupying key positions in the bureaucracy, they are able to distort and misrepresent the abilities and latent potential of blacks.

Consider, for example, the current situation in the council where the majority of blacks still have no clear job descriptions and thus no clear career paths. Most of the work entrusted to black workers reflects no direct link with their formal education or training. Indeed, for the most part, blacks are employed as mere tokens to soothe the "white" guilt. Thus, in practice, very little has changed in the Cape Town City Council since the elections of 1994.

The question arises: how does one explain the continuation of such subtle and not-so-subtle forms of racism in the council?

Here, a few pertinent points have to be borne in mind.

First, it has to be realised that centuries of racism and material exploitation cannot be wiped out by the mere stroke of the pen, nor can racist, oppressive, condescending, paternalistic, ethnocentric atti-



WHITE BASTION: The Cape Town City Council is under attack for failing to "transform" its workforce

tudes, nor can arrogance, an all-abiding and entrenched sense of superiority undergirded by an essentially missionary attitude which considers blacks as the "white man's burden", be eradicated by the mere abolition of racist laws.

Second, let me state quite clearly: racism is not a word, nor is it merely an idea. On the contrary, it is a living experience for the majority of people in this country. Racism is materially interwoven with the very texture of our daily lives. Attitudinally, structurally and existentially, racism empowers whites and disempowers blacks. To suggest that one should not refer to the tenacious effects of racism is to conceal, hide and purposefully distort the experiences of blacks in South Africa in general and in Cape Town in particular.

Third, racism is well and alive even while some people are talking so glibly about the "New South Africa". Indeed, the manner in which local authority has been engineered and exercised in South

Africa and the way in which it is being proposed for the so-called "New South Africa" *a la* "restructuring" reinforces dominant racist practices and, in a very real sense, it is but a subterfuge for the racially-structured power relations to which the majority of people of this country have thus far been subjected. "Restructuring", as it has thus far been applied in the Cape Town City Council, effectively negates any potentially corrective effect which affirmative action could have *vis-à-vis* black empowerment in the workplace.

Fourth, with regard to affirmative action, we need to remember that it is not something new. It has always been around. What were the "colour bar" and the "Group Areas Act" but affirmative action in practice? Indeed, affirmative action is as old as apartheid and as new as "restructuring". In short, affirmative action refers to power, power in the workplace, the power enjoyed by a largely white management to enforce and maintain their inter-

ests, benefits and privileges, frequently at the expense of the dignity and integrity of ordinary black workers.

Fifth, are the very people who were responsible for implementing job reservation, the colour bar, the Group Areas Act, etc now suddenly prepared to apply the principles of affirmative action, that is, are they prepared to promote blacks? In other words, are the oppressors of yesterday, the liberators of today? This simply sounds too good to be true. Indeed, reality makes a mockery of this sudden change of heart since, while management are prepared to appoint blacks to very junior positions, they make very sure that no qualified black, who can stand his/her own ground is appointed to senior positions. Also, the largely white management seems to be using affirmative action to promote mostly white women, the occasional promotion to higher echelons of a black male or female notwithstanding. At the risk of being termed racist, in reality this means entrenching and maintaining white privilege and white power.

In the light of the appalling situation in the Cape Town Municipality, where blacks with skills are systematically ignored, it is suggested that central government, implement the following as soon as possible:

- Appoint a commission of inquiry to investigate the effectiveness of existing transformation programmes in the city council
- Conduct a reliable skills audit in the council
- Scrutinise the current evaluation procedures used to screen candidates who apply for promotion in the council as the present procedures appear to merely function as a smokescreen to affirm the appointment of pre-determined candidates
- Monitor black advancement on a regular basis and set targets and time-frames for concrete, visible change throughout the council.
- Institute a rehabilitation programme to introduce and reorient management to the ethics and principles of non-racial, non-condescending humane employment practices
- Central government has an opportunity and, indeed, a duty to act against all forms of racial exclusion, marginalisation and subordination in the Cape Town City Council. Black workers expect nothing less.

□ Dr John J Williams is principal planning professional for policy and research at the Cape Town municipality

WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT

pm 9/1/98 (263)

Kriel's power grab may sow seeds of his downfall

Western Cape premier stakes his political future on his provincial power base. But it could come to naught if he fails to deliver

Ever since Cape Town lost the 2004 Olympic bid, the Western Cape's National Party (NP)-dominated government has been behaving as if the province is its fiefdom in perpetuity — and to hell with the consequences

When former NP leader F W de Klerk took the party out of the Government of National Unity in 1996, the Cape Nats — led by premier Hernus Kriel — conspicuously chose to retain the unity principle at provincial level

Indeed, Kriel at that stage foresaw provincial unity enduring well into the next century

The implication was the Cape Nationalists were not in lockstep with their national counterparts, and knew what was best for the Western Cape

Late last year, however, the pretence began to unravel and has now formally been abandoned

As ratified by the Constitutional Court, the regional constitution makes no provision for a government of provincial unity, and Kriel has served notice on the ANC members of the executive council that they must depart by January 15, when the regional law comes into effect and they are replaced by NP, Democratic Party (DP) and African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) Ministers

The split was first signalled by the ANC's refusal to vote for the 1997-1998 provincial budget, which legislated for a deficit of R247m despite objections from Finance Minister Trevor Manuel

The province's anticipated deficit, in fact, exceeds R1bn, with the worst effects being felt in education and health

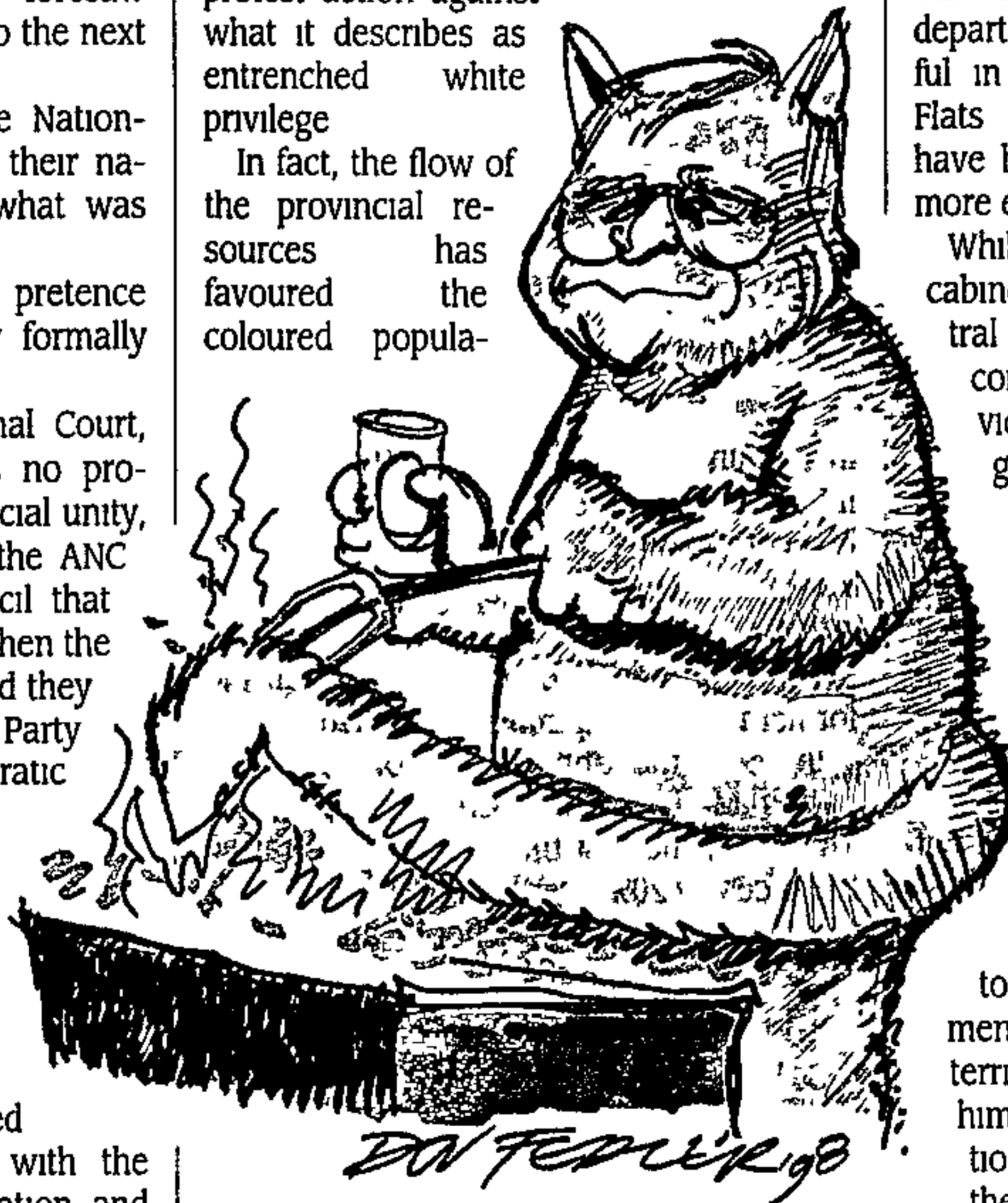
The split intensified with arguments over the provincial constitution, which the ANC rejected. The upshot was the ANC refused to accept an offer by Kriel for two ministerial positions and the premier has announced his enlistment of the smaller parties

Outgoing Health MEC Ebrahim Rasool (ANC) says the DP and ACDP have been

given 17% representation in the 12-member provincial cabinet, while the ANC enjoys 33% electoral support in the province but now holds no executive posts

In the ethnically divided Western Cape, this means the 1m African population of Greater Cape Town — many of its residents in informal settlements with scant access to health or housing — has in effect been cut adrift from executive consideration. Accordingly, the ANC has vowed to initiate widespread — though as yet unspecified — protest action against what it describes as entrenched white privilege

In fact, the flow of the provincial resources has favoured the coloured popula-



tion as well as whites — and the National Party relies mainly on coloured support for what it appears to regard as an unsailable base

The Western Cape was the birthplace of the ANC-aligned United Democratic Front (UDF) in the Eighties, which drew much of its leadership from the coloured intelligentsia

That phase appeared to have passed by

1994, when a majority of coloureds voted NP. But if the ANC can organise credibly — under the leadership of someone more charismatic than Justice Minister Dullah Omar (Rasool is tipped to be the new leader) — then it could well regain support as coloured and black communities cohere in an alliance against a common marginalisation

It would have served Kriel's political survival best if Rasool had been retained in Health, which goes to Pieter Marais (NP), and if Education had been given to an ANC figure such as Chris Nissen. The entirely ineffectual Martha Olckers (NP) has been relieved of Education and replaced by Nick Koornhof (NP), who will move across from the National Assembly

Kriel's new team is not impressive. Apart from the troublesome portfolios of Health and Education, where the NP will now have to take the blame for failures in delivery, Community Safety (formerly Police) will remain with Gerald Morkel (NP), of whose abilities the *Cape Times* remarks "Would that the community were safe (Morkel's) department has been singularly unsuccessful in curbing gangsterism on the Cape Flats. The formation of Pagad would not have been necessary had the police been more effective"

While Kriel had ANC members in his cabinet, he was safe enough blaming central government for under-funding and concomitant crises in key social services. Now he will be specifically targeted for such failures by the ANC, who will be able to rely on mounting discontent among poorer communities

An early casualty could be the relocation of parliament to another province, since Western Cape ANC members could be less inclined than before to fight for its retention

Perhaps, however, this is of minor importance to Kriel. He appears to be calculating that the NP will fragment in the 1999 election — except in his territory. If so, that would not just make him leader of the sole undisputed Nationalist province, but serve to eclipse the NP's new and untried leader, Marthinus van Schalkwyk, the floundering successor to De Klerk

All that could stain this dream would be such a dramatic failure by Kriel's NP to serve its traditional Cape constituencies that the ANC is widely seen as a functioning alternative to the Western Cape Nats. That realisation may take quite some time to dawn — hence the seeming complacency of Kriel and his cronies

Peter Wilhelm

Proposal for one 'megacity' heading for stormy passage

ET 12/11/98 (263)

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

HACKLES are rising in council corridors across the Cape Metropolitan Area as councillors and officials grapple with the green paper on local government's proposals for the formation of a single city or "megacity" to govern the entire area.

This comes scarcely six months after the current two-tier system rose from the ashes of 18 different administrations in one of the biggest unbundling exercises ever to take place in an organisation — public or private — in the Western Cape.

And at the African National Congress' national conference in December, the megacity model was endorsed by the governance commission after a scant five-minute debate. This as good as guarantees its inclusion in the white paper.

Critics at central government level say the current Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) and six Metropolitan Local Councils have failed to redistribute wealth and are expensive.

But National Party and Democratic Party councillors say the system has not been given a chance.

A megacity, they say, will simply take local government further away from ratepayers, affect the quality of services and lower the morale of 31 000 council employees already suffering from "transition fatigue".

"Imagine the current metropolitan area (which stretches from the Strand through Somerset West, to Atlantis and back down through Cape Town to Cape Point) becoming one municipality serving three-million people," said the chairperson of the CMC's executive committee, NP councillor Mr Pierre Uys.

At the moment, about 300 councillors represent ratepayers in the Cape Metropolitan Area.

"The single city system would be almost unworkable, with anything from 60 to at most 100 councillors serving the whole metropole. How would they be accountable? How would they serve constituencies of 30 000 people adequately and how would they be able to uplift communities?" asked Uys.

Snowed-under politicians would simply hand over the reins to officials, allowing a "30 000 strong bureaucracy" to run the show.

DP councillor Mr Gordon Merrington said: "We're in the middle of a major upheaval and services have already suffered. Can you imagine what will happen if we scrap all this and start again?"

But those punting the single city — one of four options outlined in the green paper — say it would avoid duplication, dramatically cut costs and result in a leaner administration.

Most importantly, it would redistribute resources from rich and main-

ly white suburbs to poor black townships, they say.

"We need one city, one entity, one standard and equality," said ANC councillor on the CMC Mr Mzukisi Gaba.

"Just think of the administrative costs involved in running the CMC and the six local authorities.

"One city would go a long way to streamlining this," Gaba said.

A member of the white paper portfolio committee pointed out that the current system was never intended to be the last.

"It began with the understanding that the status quo was merely part of the transition. Our immediate problem was to democratise and stabilise local government as soon as we could — and then take time working carefully towards an ideal new system."

And it seems as though local councils will have little choice in the matter.

"The division of powers and functions of the metropole and local authorities was a locally negotiated compromise. From a national point of view it represents very parochial interests. Local government is of national importance — it's where economic growth happens and we have to get it right now while things are still quite fluid."

● Parliamentary public hearings on the white paper on local government will be held next month.

(include graphic)

Disruption by change has only just ended

of 12/1/98 (263)

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

AT least 31 000 lives were disrupted by the shuffling in local government in the Cape metropolitan area last year.

In one of the biggest restructuring programmes undertaken in the Western Cape, about 10 000 people were transferred from the old Cape Town Council, says Cape Town's executive director for finance, Mr Phillip van Ryneveld.

On July 1, six new metropolitan local councils and the Cape Metropolitan Council rose from the ashes of 18 administrations. The new councils were the product of nearly four years of intensive negotiations and of the first democratic local government elections.

If legislation providing for "megacities" is approved by Parliament, the three major conurbations of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town will have to dismantle their councils again, elect a single council for each metropolitan area in the next local government elections — and begin the long process again. In the past year, 17 000 employees have been shed by the

old Cape Town administration alone. Some staff were moved from Cape Town to the Cape Metropolitan Council and some to the new South Peninsula Municipality. Others took up positions with the Tygerberg, Blaauwberg and the new City of Cape Town councils.

In effect, the old Cape Town City Council was split up in five directions. It no longer exists, Van Ryneveld said. "It was a major unbundling exercise involving one of the largest organisations in the Cape. Then came the amalgamation. The new City of Cape Town rose up from parts of the old, as well as Pinelands, Ikapa (which included Nyanga, Langa Guguletu, Brown's Farm and KTC), Crossroads and several other areas that previously fell under the jurisdiction of the old Regional Services Council."

Tackled next was the daunting task of determining which staff members should be allocated to which municipalities. "Some were easy — but what do you do with someone in the treasury department who ran the finances for the whole city?" Van Ryneveld said. "It involved an enormous process and each procedure had to be negotiated with all three unions. Then the administration politicians also had to agree."

All of this has been achieved and the changeover is almost complete. "For many people it was traumatic," Van Ryneveld said. "There was much uncertainty and anxiety among staff members and morale was low — but we're over the worst."

Morale was low — but we're over the worst... we're entering the new year with morale picking up.

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"I'm confident that we're entering the new year with morale picking up."

Above all — and in spite of the disruption to staff — the delivery of services was maintained satisfactorily, Van Ryneveld said.

Welfare organisations face closure as provincial funds dry up

Jacob Dlamini

EASTERN Cape welfare organisations could be forced to halt their operations and lay off hundreds of skilled personnel as the financial crisis crippling the cash-strapped province deepens.

The Uitenhage Child Welfare society had to close its doors yesterday after staff salary cheques bounced, while the Graaff-Reinet society was believed to have gone into overdraft by R160 000.

SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare director Andre Kalus said many private welfare organisations were likely to close down as government officials tried frantically to help the Eastern Cape raise money to meet its social security commitments. Last week thousands of pensioners

were turned away from pay points after the province said it had run out of money.

Kalus blamed the crisis facing welfare societies on the lack of government subsidies and said the Eastern Cape government had slashed subsidies for private welfare organisations by 42%.

This would have a devastating effect on about 5 600 destitute children who depended on the 19 private welfare organisations operating in the province for their well-being, Kalus said.

Kalus said 91 social workers and 28 auxiliary workers in Eastern Cape would lose their jobs unless government intervened and restored subsidies to private welfare societies, most of which depended on state subsidies for 60% of their salaries. Kalus said various meetings had been

held between the council and the welfare ministry in an attempt to avert the financial crisis but that these had failed. Welfare societies would now put pressure on central government to resolve the crisis.

Failure by government to intervene could lead to a collapse of the entire welfare system in SA, Kalus said.

Kalus blamed the Eastern Cape's financial problems on "ineffectual management" and poor budgeting and administration. He could not understand how the Eastern Cape welfare department failed to anticipate a budget deficit.

However, Eastern Cape welfare department spokesman Ganga Nokwe said the provincial government could not have anticipated last week's debacle. Nokwe said "The problems were mainly technical and

BD 13/1/98

not related to money." Geraldine Frasier, Welfare Minister, said progress had been made in her discussions with Finance Minister Trevor Manuel and Eastern Cape premier Makhakeni Stofile.

Fraser-Moleketi said Eastern Cape pensioners would receive their January pensions soon and that an announcement detailing measures intended to solve the crisis would be made today.

ECN reports that an announcement on how much money central government would be giving the Eastern Cape welfare department was expected on Friday, but this was delayed until today — ostensibly so that Finance Minister Trevor Manuel could attend. However, the spokesman for Manuel, Jennifer Wilson, said yesterday

that there had been a misunderstanding and Manuel had not been scheduled to appear at the news conference.

Meanwhile, hungry pensioners, some of whom had not eaten for five days, rushed for food distributed by the Salvation Army in East London yesterday.

Salvation Army Maj Miriam Claydon said there had been "bedlam" at the army's offices yesterday morning as hundreds of people came to collect food parcels that had been assembled over the weekend. Police were eventually called to control the crowds of pensioners to prevent people taking more than one parcel each.

One of the driving forces behind the East London food collection, Karen Claydon, said that besides pensioners, hordes of other un-

employed people had tried to get food from the Salvation Army.

Generous donations from bakeries, biscuit manufacturers and the public had enabled the Salvation Army to make food parcels, she said. A R10 000 donation from the Salvation Army headquarters had been a "lifesaver".

In Grahamstown concerned citizens banded together to raise R30 000 to back a voucher system as an emergency system for pensioners.

Social development centre director Thelma Henderson said a committee would set up a system allowing needy pensioners to obtain vouchers to purchase groceries at certain local stores until January 20, by when it was hoped that the pension problems would be sorted out.

Pension rescue for Eastern Cape

(263) (E) ET(BE) 13/1/98

CHRISTO VOLSCHENK

ECONOMICS EDITOR

Cape Town — Trevor Manuel, the finance minister, and his welfare counterpart, Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, have found a short-term solution to the cashflow crisis encountered by the Eastern Cape government, but details of the rescue package or the possible implications on the Budget were not released yesterday.

The Eastern Cape's money problems led to the non-payment of pensions to 632 000 pensioners last week.

All outstanding pensions would be paid but no extra money would be allocated to the province from the national government, Fraser-Moleketi said.

Fraser-Moleketi said she would announce tomorrow how the cash crisis would be solved.

She said that "some progress" had been made in negotiations with Manuel to help the provincial government find the



PAYOUT Welfare minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi

R800 million it needed to pay out pensions in the last three months of the current financial year.

Budget-watchers speculated that Manuel might have agreed to short-term relief in the form of a guarantee on a bank overdraft.

The welfare ministry estimated that the nine provinces would overspend about R1,5 billion on

welfare in the financial year.

In the Eastern Cape alone the over-expenditure on welfare could amount to R690 million, the ministry said, with KwaZulu-Natal estimated to overspend by R411 million and Northern Province by another R436 million.

Manuel reportedly told Fraser-Moleketi and the Eastern Cape welfare MEC Mandisa Marasha that the cash crisis was a problem to be solved by the welfare ministry and the provinces.

He reasoned that provinces decide how they want to spend the lump sums allocated them by the national government.

It is not clear what went wrong with the budgeting process in the Eastern Cape, but a spokesman in the finance ministry said "it was not necessarily an allocation problem", sparking speculation that administrative deficiencies and ghost pensioners might have led to mis-spending of money.

Kriel halts Madiba tribute ...but Ramatlakane renames road anyway

ARL 14 1198

(263)



LEON MULLER

Determined: Leonard Ramatlakane pushes on

CAROL CAMPBELL and ASHLEY SMITH
STAFF REPORTERS

The outgoing Minister of Transport and Public Works Leonard Ramatlakane openly defied Western Cape Director General Neil Barnard today by renaming the Stellenbosch arterial road Dr Nelson Mandela Drive.

About 100 ANC supporters chanting anti-National Party slogans joined Mr Ramatlakane as he cut the ribbon to rename the road.

Provincial authorities had earlier said Mr Ramatlakane could not rename the road because he had not gone through the normal procedures.

Chris Kooie, a spokesman for Western Cape Premier Hannus Kriel, said Mr Ramatlakane's plan was being stopped because he had not followed proper procedures.

These were important because of the "enormous implications" of changing a road name, because it affected things such as maps and addresses.

"Mr Ramatlakane did not follow these procedures and what he is doing is illegal. If he puts up the sign, it will have to be taken down," said Mr Kooie.

A road-naming committee had to approve all name changes to prevent chaos on the country's roads, he said.

Although Mr Ramatlakane was the minister and "free to do as he pleased", the premier had taken legal opinion on the issue and had been told the change was illegal.

At today's unveiling ceremony in Belhar, Tasneem Essop, ANC provincial member of parliament claimed that attempts by Mr Barnard to stop the ceremony from taking place were a ploy "to claim recognition for the building of the road after Mr Ramat-

lakane leaves his post this week."

Mr Ramatlakane said Mr Barnard had given no reason for trying to stop the ceremony. He said he would continue to defy the autocratic way in which the National Party was running the province.

People in the province were not fools, he said, and that their eyes would be opened to the National Party's heavy-handedness.

The road in question is the M12, the Stellenbosch arterial road.

Friday is the African National Congress minister's last day in office.

Mr Ramatlakane's spokesman, Dumnisani Ntuli said his minister had spoken to Mr Mandela, who had given the naming of the road his blessing.

"Remember Nelson Mandela was a Cape-tonian for 27 years while he was a prisoner on Robben Island and he deserves this honour," Mr Ntuli said.



LEON MULLER

No way: ceremony vetoed by Neil Barnard

Kriel gets his new constitution

Protests as signing marks end of office for ANC four

CLIVE SAWYER AND BLACKMAN NGORO
STAFF REPORTERS

Premier Hernus Kriel today signed the new Western Cape constitution into law, irrevocably changing the tone of politics in the province in the 14 months run-up to the next election

The constitution brings to an end compulsory power-sharing in the provincial cabinet and signals the end of office for four African National Congress provincial cabinet ministers

Protesting ANC supporters outside the provincial headquarters forced the removal of a red carpet for arriving dignitaries from busy Wale Street to the underground parking entrance in quiet Keerom Street

The demonstrators carried placards reading "Kriel goes backwards" and "No to Kriel's Apartheid Constitution"

Dozens of police with riot shields stood guard outside the building

The brief signing ceremony was attended by VIPs, including members of the provincial legislature, their spouses and senior police and defence force officers.

Speaking during the ceremony, Mr Kriel said by producing its own constitution the Western Cape had ensured that a liberal democracy was establishing itself at the southern tip of Africa. This liberal democracy meant hope for the future through the entrenchment basic freedoms and



Unveiled: Leonard Ramatlakane opens the Dr Nelson Mandela Highway



Protest: Dullah Omar's wife Fareda, right, joins ANC supporters in the demonstration

individual rights "We can be proud that the Cape of Good Hope has become the anchor of democracy through its unique provincial constitution"

The constitution was a symbol of hope and confidence in the future

Mr Kriel said it had a number of unique features, including

- a children's commissioner
- a commissioner on the environment

- provision for provincial symbols

- the principle of a market-driven economy

The constitution also provided for minority rights and stipulated Afrikaans, English and Xhosa as official languages

Outside the building, ANC supporters milled around, waiting to hear speeches due to be made by the ANC's leader in the Western Cape,

Justice Minister Dullah Omar, as well as by the out-going ANC members of the executive, Chris Nissen, Lerumo Kalako, Leonard Ramatlakane and Ebrahim Rasool

Fareda Omar said the National Party did not understand what nation-building or democracy was all about

"They are still steeped in their apartheid beliefs of white domination. We will fight all that," she said

The ANC pledged to "fight relentlessly for the total eradication of racism from all sectors of our society, to build a broad opposition to National Party rule in the Western Cape, and to work with our national and local government, building on the foundation which has been laid by the ANC for a better life for all"

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NP masters of corruption, says outgoing Nissen

BLACKMAN NGORO
STAFF REPORTER

Firing his last salvo in office, outgoing provincial Economic Affairs Minister Chris Nissen accused the National Party of "mastering the art of corruption".

"There is a huge conspiracy where whites in the National Party seek to entrench white privilege by any means possible," the African National Congress minister said

"Corruption is rampant here. It's no better than most of the African states to whom whites try to preach good governance"

Mr Nissen said it was "a sad day for the Western Cape that we don't have an African in the government. It creates the feeling that it is whites and coloureds against Africans"

"It would have been better to have had a spokesman for the African community. But you can't just look at the colour issue, it is performance that counts"

He also said he wanted the Western Cape's underprivileged to continue to benefit from the reconstruction and development programme.

Mr Nissen's successor, Hennie Bester of the Democratic Party, said the DP had tried its best to get

Premier Hernus Kriel to include an African in the provincial cabinet

Mr Bester said he was also committed to continuing the RDP programme

"We are going to expand the programme in the poor segments of the community," he said

"Kriel knows that we are committed to uplifting the standards of the people in the coloured and black communities. He knows my party's position"

"My department is entirely involved with the coloured and black communities. This will continue," he said

Meanwhile, ANC provincial secretary James Ngculu has compared the signing of the new provincial constitution by Mr Kriel today to Ian Smith's Unilateral Declaration of Independence in Rhodesia

He said "This is going to cost us jobs. We are going to get increasingly isolated. Investors will shun this province and we will be the losers"

"This is no time to celebrate. This is a reactionary constitution. It seeks to undermine the democratically elected national government"

"It is a black day for democracy. Our people should stand up and oppose it," he said



James Ngculu: this will cost jobs

Protest politics returns to Western Cape

ET 15/1/98

(263)

AFTER MORE THAN three years of co-operative government in the Western Cape, the relationship between the ANC and the NP is set to change today with an ANC protest against the signing of the new provincial constitution. Political Writer **ANDRE KOOPMAN** reports.

THE Western Cape returns to old-style confrontational politics today with province-wide demonstrations organised by an alienated ANC to mark the end of the government of provincial unity.

The ANC, with its alliance partners the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the SA Communist Party (SACP), has organised a demonstration outside the provincial legislature in Wale Street to protest against the signing of the controversial new provincial constitution, which signals the demise of co-operative government. A new, expanded cabinet,

without any ANC ministers, will be sworn in on Monday.

More demonstrations are scheduled for Plettenberg Bay, George, Knysna, Riversdale and other towns.

Premier Mr Hennus Kriel has issued last-minute requests to his guests to arrive at the signing ceremony 90 minutes earlier than the 11 30am event to avoid the ANC protest, scheduled for that time.

Kriel's spokesperson, Mr Chris Koole, admitted that guests had been asked to come 90 minutes earlier than scheduled to "avoid protest action".

The ANC had received permission to

start their protest at 11 30am, but if guests arrived before this, then they would not be affected. NP sources have said they believe the ANC will try to interfere with the proceedings.

Koole said that if the ANC started the protest earlier than 11 30am, "they are doing it illegally. If they do one thing illegally, then what stops them from doing more things illegally?"

But Mr Ebrahim Rasool, ANC leader of the provincial legislature and outgoing MEC of Health and Welfare, said ANC provincial chairperson Mr Dullah Omar was on record as saying the protest would be peaceful and within the law.

"Hennus Kriel should not try to prevent a low turn-out at his ceremony by blaming the ANC," said Rasool.

"We are a confident, constructive opposition and have no need or desire to

resort to desperate tactics and behave like bandits." He said it was a pity that Kriel had decided to create the impression that the ANC was intent on intimidation.

"It appears as though he and his director-general are acting in a way which attempts to provoke unnecessary tensions".

Political observers have predicted that Kriel's new cabinet, which will have the NP governing with the DP and the ACDP, will force a return to the politics of race and protest.

The ANC achieved 38% of the vote in the local government elections in the Western Cape in 1996, and according to the latest opinion polls it has majority support in the province. It is also the only party that has significant multi-racial support.

Echoing this, the ANC's provincial information chief, Mr Cameron Dug-

more, said yesterday that according to the latest Idasa poll the ANC led the NP by 34% to 31%. Given this, it was "suicidal" for the NP to try to govern the province without the ANC.

Dugmore said that in a province with a diverse population, Kriel appointed to his cabinet eight whites, only four coloureds and no African. "This is nothing less than racism".

ANC politicians resorted to attack mode yesterday when party speakers raised the level of invective against their NP opponents while addressing meetings to prepare for today's protest.

Another indication of the ANC's new confrontational style was the spat that occurred yesterday over the renaming of a road. Outgoing Transport and Public Works MEC Mr Leonard Ramatlakane defied

provincial director-general Dr Niel Barnard by renaming the Stellenbosch arterial road the Dr Nelson Mandela Drive.

Ramatlakane addressed a meeting of the National Education Health and Allied Workers' Union in the Old Assembly at Parliament.

At another meeting, Mr Philip Dexter, the provincial secretary of the SACP, told how after provincial managers had complained about the loss of free newspapers during a cost-cutting exercise, Barnard

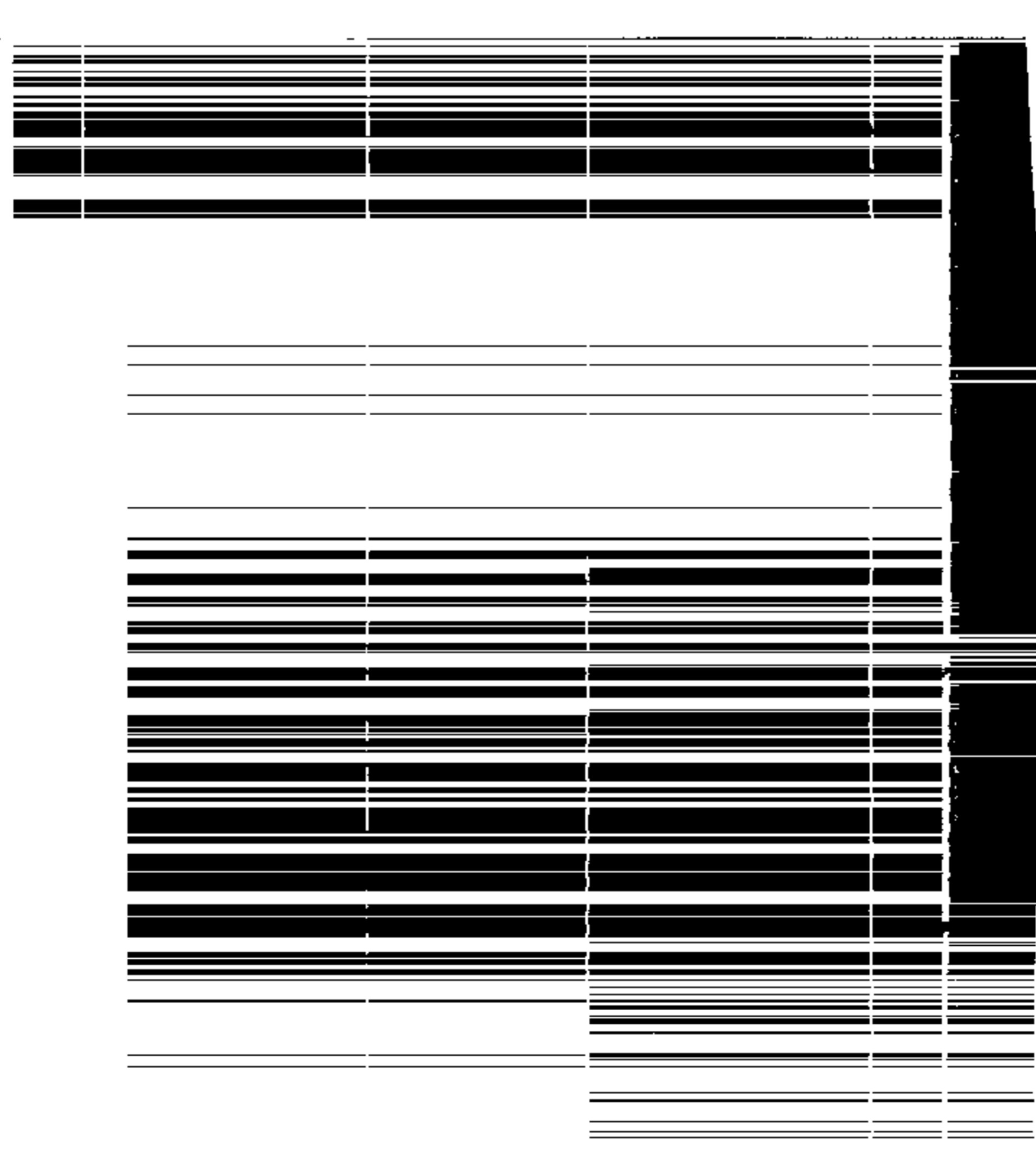
had been overheard to say take R2 and buy your Cape Times from "die kaffer op die hoek (the kaffer on the corner)".

Barnard was also accused of fomenting violence in the Western Cape.

Responding to these allegations, Koole said "Neither the premier nor Dr Barnard will degrade themselves by responding to such idiotic expressions".

He also said Ramatlakane had not followed the "correct channels" in renaming the road.

● Rasool exits amid healthy praise — Page 5



W Cape constitution becomes law

Cape Town - The Western Cape's provincial constitution was signed into law by Premier Hennis Kriel yesterday at a ceremony boycotted by the ANC.

The constitution - certified by the Constitutional Court late last year as complying with the national constitution - provides for Kriel to constitute his own cabinet, breaking up the government of provincial unity stipulated by the 1993 national interim constitution.

The ANC had four MECs out of 10 under the latter arrangement, but has chosen to be excluded from the new 12-member provincial cabinet to be sworn in on Monday.

The ANC declined to take up two posts offered to it by Kriel, arguing that as the second biggest party in the province in terms of the 1994 general election, it should have been entitled to at least the four seats it had previously.

The Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party have one post each in the new cabinet, with the

NP occupying the other positions.

After signing the new constitution in the council chamber at the provincial legislature in Cape Town, Kriel handed a copy to the Judge President of the Western Cape, Mr Justice Gerald Friedman.

Kriel has said the signing of the constitution - the first provincial one to become law in South Africa - heralded a new era in the country's constitutional process.

"We are making use of a constitutional right which can promote the eventual coming into being of a fully fledged federal dispensation."

The ANC, pointing out that the new cabinet would consist of eight whites and four coloureds, and no Africans, accused Kriel and his NP of "nothing less than racism".

About 200 ANC and SA Communist Party supporters sang and chanted in a peaceful protest outside the provincial legislature building while the signing ceremony was under way. There was a strong police presence. - Sapa

shaw 16/11/98

(263)

Western Cape constitution marks end of NP, ANC power-sharing

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel's signing into law yesterday of the provincial constitution marked the end of three years of compulsory power-sharing between the National Party (NP) and the African National Congress (ANC).

While the signing ceremony was taking place in the provincial legislature building, about 200 ANC and SA Communist Party supporters outside conducted a peaceful protest in the

presence of a strong police contingent. The ANC pulled out of the power-sharing arrangement after rejecting the NP's offer of two posts in the new 12-member cabinet to be sworn in next Monday. The ANC argued that, as the second-biggest party in the province after the 1994 general election, it was entitled to at least the four posts it had in the previous 10-member cabinet.

The Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party will each have one post. In what is seen as a return to protest

politics in the province, the ANC has vowed openly to defy the NP in a "new struggle" for political liberation.

The Western Cape constitution was certified by the Constitutional Court late last year as complying with the national constitution. It provides for Kriel to form his own cabinet, breaking up the government of provincial unity as required under the 1993 national interim constitution.

Kriel said yesterday that the signing of the constitution — the first provincial one to become law in SA —

marked a new era in the country's constitutional process. "The Western Cape has ensured through its own constitution that a liberal democracy is establishing itself at the southern tip of Africa." The province brought hope for the future through the entrenchment of basic freedoms and rights.

He said the constitution had a number of unique features, including the principle of a market-driven economy, a commissioner on the environment, and a children's commissioner. It also provided for minority rights and

stipulated English, Afrikaans and Xhosa as official languages.

The ANC accused the NP of choosing a path of conflict by ending the government of provincial unity and "kicking out" the ANC MECs. Pointing out that the new cabinet would consist of eight whites, four coloureds and no blacks, the ANC accused Kriel and the NP of "nothing less than racism." The NP had chosen a path which ran against nation-building.

Picture: Page 2

ANC's last government voice to be silenced today

I'm being booted out – Deputy Speaker
(263) APR 18/1998

BLACKMAN NGORO
STAFF REPORTER

The only surviving African National Congress office-bearer in the Western Cape provincial government, Deputy Speaker Mampe Ramotsamai, is expected to be ousted by majority vote today.

The National Party is expected to introduce a motion to replace her

Towards the end of last year, Speaker Willem Doman introduced Nick Isaacs, the man expected to take over from her, to his staff

Mr Isaacs comes from the old tricameral parliament

Ms Ramotsamai denounced the anticipated move as "underhand and typical of the way the National Party does its things"

"Nobody has informed me that I have to hand over to anybody. These people have been doing things without any consultation," she said

"The Speaker is a man I have regarded as a colleague, but Isaacs has already been in my office and spoken to the staff, but never to me. It's like there's nothing to hand over."

She described her relations with Mr Doman until now as "cordial"

Ms Ramotsamai said the ANC would oppose the expected motion

"We want to emphasise to the people that we haven't left the government of unity, nor have we walked out. We have been kicked out."

She said she was interested to see how the Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party, "the new-found allies of the National Party", were going to vote, since they had not opposed her election

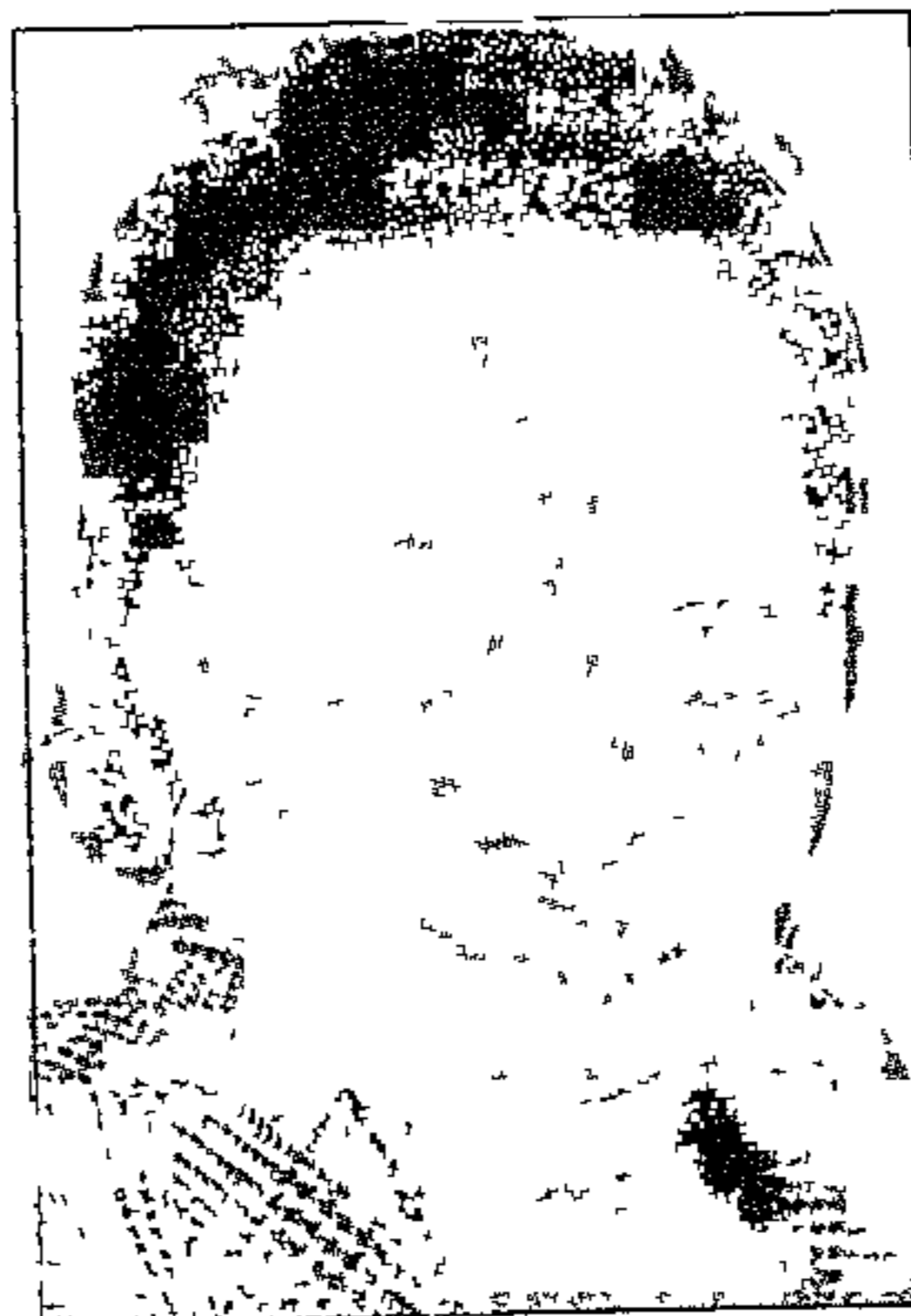
Ms Ramotsamai criticised the expansion of the provincial cabinet, describing it as "grandiose" after Premier Hernus Kriel's call for "meaner and leaner" government

"This is what this provincial constitution is all about – accommodating and rewarding National Party politicians of yesteryear."



ROY WIGLEY

Mass protest: ANC supporters demonstrate outside the provincial parliament yesterday



LEON MULLER

ERRANT CHILD WESTERN CAPE GETS ITS WAY

Divisions crack wide open as Kriel signs constitution

CT 16/1/98

THE NEW CONSTITUTION is the tool that has turned the crack in provincial unity into a ravine. Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

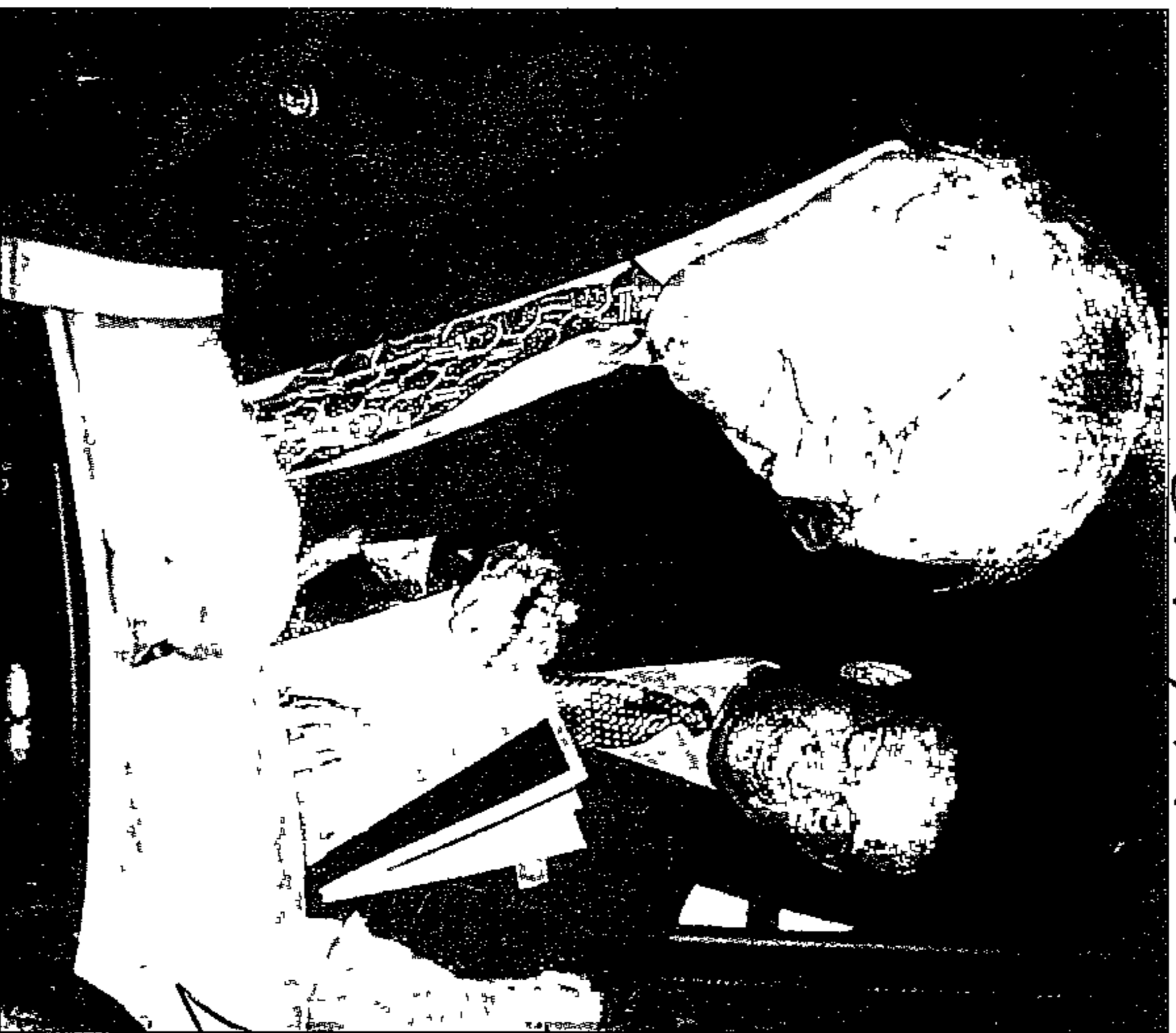
THE Western Cape has established a reputation as being the errant child of national government. It goes its own way, makes new rules when it disagrees with the common wisdom and distinguishes itself as the stubborn go-getter in a family of obedient provinces.

The Western Cape, ruled by the NP, has become a thorn in the national and provincial ANC's flesh and the signing of the provincial constitution yesterday was the culmination of months of strife between the two parties in the province.

Whether the provincial NP government should be praised for its individuality or scorned for swimming upstream, is moot. And while the NP believes a provincial constitution will instil provincial pride, the ANC believes the ruling party in the province is trying to protect white privilege.

The leader of the ANC in the legislature, Mr Ebrahim Rasool, provincial ANC leader Mr Dullah Omar and ANC provincial information chief Mr Cameron Dugmore say there are several examples of how the NP government is trying to protect itself from transforming with the rest of the country. They say:

- The NP is failing to embrace affirmative action policies and there are few Africans in top administration positions in the province and none in Premier Herrius Kriel's new cabinet
- While all levels of government have adopted a procurement policy favouring historically disadvantaged groups, the Western Cape still has no such policy framework in which to work
- Outgoing Education MEC Ms Martha Olickers passed a law in which she allowed old Model C schools to sell their land and pump the money back into their own coffers, when it would have been desirable to use that money to upgrade education facilities in poorer areas



NEW ERA: Western Cape Premier Herrius Kriel signs the new provincial constitution yesterday which has changed the face of politics in the province

● Nothing has been done to equalise police resources in the province and the ratio of policemen to citizens is still higher in white areas than in black and coloured areas

● Outgoing Local Government MEC Mr Pieter Marais' statement before the 1996 local government elections that the province belonged to the "Afrikaanses" shows the NP's reluctance that whites and coloureds share their province with Africans

● Despite national legislation indicating that district councils must be restructured, Marais has defied that law

● Attempts to exclude Khayelitsha from the Tygerberg metro area before the local government elections showed an unwillingness to integrate communities

● They were concerned about Community Security MEC Mr Gerald Morke's use of the word "secede" during a discussion on

parents have given them

"A crest and a flag will make us even more proud of our province, but it doesn't mean we will have broken away from the family."

In his speech before the signing of the constitution yesterday, Kriel said the provincial constitution was guided by apolitical principles, such as providing safety and security to the citizens of the province, promoting non-racism, creating jobs and protecting and helping the less privileged, the aged and children.

NP national leader Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk said there was no truth in the contention that the Western Cape was becoming a province of white privilege. The constitution was part of a broader process. "We are starting to give content to the idea of federalism. The constitution is the first step in making the people of the Western Cape really free."

Glamour, protest greet new charter

KARIN SCHIMKE

THE cool air-conditioned lobby on the sixth floor of the Western Cape provincial administration building shimmered with glamour yesterday morning.

Breezy summer perfumes tickled the air and cups and saucers clinked merrily. The sound of protest from Wale Street was only just audible.

The signing of the Western Cape provincial constitution was a quiet, polite, short affair. And if it were not for the faint sound of singing and cheering it could have passed for the most amicable of political functions.

Inside the provincial council chamber at 11:30 all eyes were focused on the middle of the floor where a young man executed a beautiful *Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika* and *Die Stem* on his violin.

"The constitution of the Western Cape," Premier Herrius Kriel told the assembly, "is more than just a law. It is a symbol of hope, of confidence in the future."



POLITICAL PROTEST: About 2 000 ANC supporters protested outside the provincial legislature. The protest, in Wale Street, ended peacefully after a march to the Grand Parade.

White privilege

ANDRE KOOPMAN

WHILE supporters of the NP, DP and ACDP sipped tall drinks in the provincial legislature celebrating the signing of the new provincial constitution, ANC supporters protested outside against the document, which they say "entrenches white privilege."

In sharp contrast to the red carpet treatment enjoyed by the guests inside, thousands of ANC protesters toy-toyed in the hot sun on Wale Street, chanting and carrying placards reading "Apartheid Constitution", "No to NP Volkstaat" and "Kriel goes backwards".

Scores of policemen milled around the Wale Street legislature and environs, and a phalanx of public order policemen stood at the front entrance with riot shields at the ready.

It seemed a bit of an overreaction, though, as the protest was peaceful. The ANC had four of 10 cabinet ministers under the old constitutional dispensation. They turned down Kriel's offer of two posts in his new 12-member provincial cabinet, which will be sworn in on Monday, ending the provincial

government of the province.

The ANC argue that the cabinet posts were given to ANC members because they acted in the best interests of the province.

The African National Congress Party (ANC) and the Democratic Party (DP) each got one of the new provincial cabinet posts.

Speaking of the signing ceremony, the ANC's own Health and Welfare MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool said that the province was "not ready to disrupt because of the signing of the constitution."

"You don't let the signing of the constitution by the government be a sign to black people that we are going to be a new cabinet, with any black members," he said. "We are going to be a new cabinet, with any black members, to all black people, to all black people, to all black people."

While the Western Cape is facing a crisis because of the R110 million on

Rasool, Mat successor

Clash in takeover fussle

(263) ARG 17/1/98

'Whites will get more under new minister'

ADELE BALEFA

New Western Cape Welfare Minister Arnold de Jager has been accused of slapping an "Africans language only" order on his staff and favouring white old-age homes.

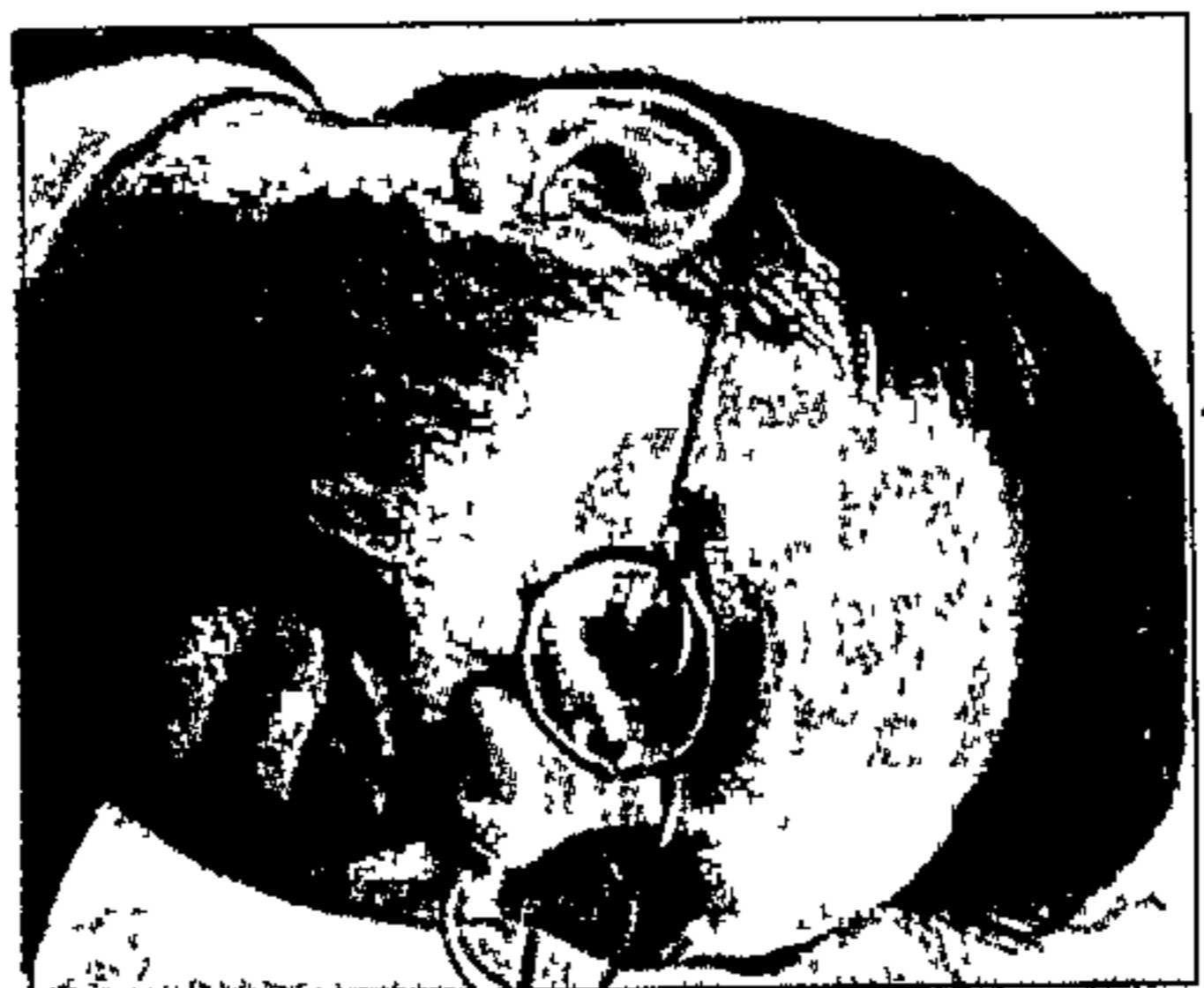
Outgoing minister Ebrahim Rasool said he was "outraged" when he heard that Mr De Jager had had "the gall" to speak to his department in December - before the province's new constitution was signed - giving the staff instructions on his language preference and instructing them about changes in policy and funding for old-age homes.

Mr Rasool said he was told by provincial welfare head Virginia Petersen at a weekly management meeting that Mr De Jager had given these instructions and that he had also described the office as a "pigsty".

"He also indicated that old-age homes would be subsidised on a sliding scale, meaning that those homes that performed well would be subsidised more. This is National Party speak for 'whites will get more'," Mr Rasool said. He said Western Cape Premier Hannus Krriel should urgently review the appointment of Mr De Jager as welfare minister.

But Mr De Jager has strongly denied Mr Rasool's accusations, saying they are "blatant lies".

"I said that customers must be spoken to in their own language whether they are English, Afrikaans or Xhosa. This is the policy of the Western Cape

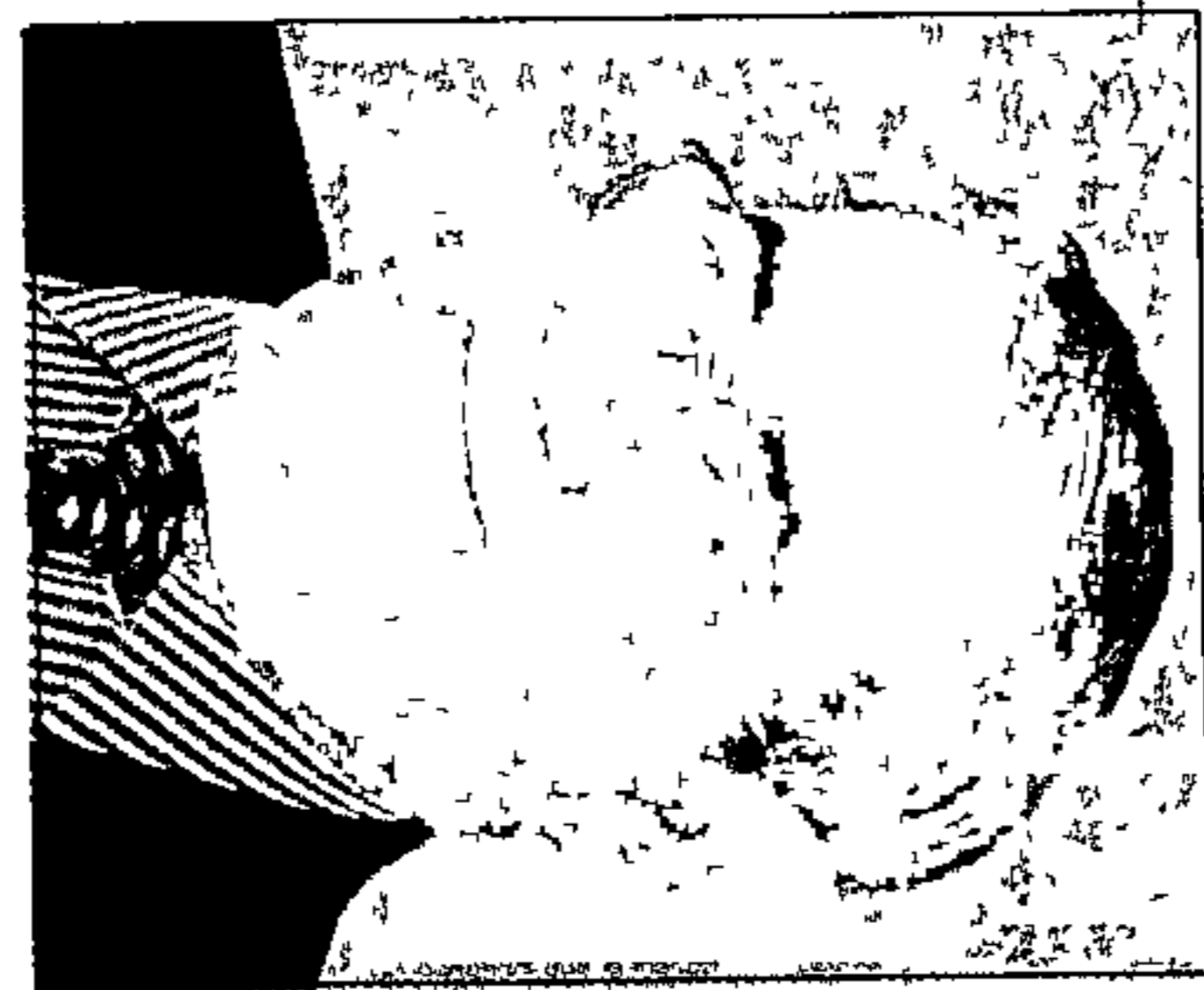


Outgoing minister: Ebrahim Rasool

government. English is not the only language spoken," he said.

On the issue of old-age homes, Mr De Jager said, "Subsidies will be given according to services rendered to old people. We will look at how the money is being spent and if the money is not being spent for what it is intended, we will have to look into that. That is what I said."

The row follows this week's signing of the provincial constitution, effectively ending the African National Congress's representation in the provincial cabinet. Members of the cabinet will be sworn in on Monday.



New minister: Arnold de Jager

The signing of the constitution took the province into a political lull - with the mainly-white National Party cabinet members and their conservatively dressed spouses seated in the legislature while ANC members, who boycotted the ceremony, protested and toy-toyed outside in Wale Street.

Mr Rasool said later that Mr De Jager was the "worst possible choice" for the welfare portfolio. He believed the NP would use pensions and grants for political gain and to buy votes.

He said Mr De Jager's history left much to be desired because he had evicted farmworkers from his Oudt-

shoorn farm. "This is hardly the kind of demeanour one would expect from a welfare minister."

But Mr De Jager has denied this claim, saying the evictions occurred on a neighbouring farm.

Mr Rasool said "He (Mr De Jager) has basically instructed that he will not take advice from structures in the districts and province but instead will rely on old, established welfare organisations, including the Afrikaner Christelike Vrouevereniging (ACVV) and the Christelike Maatskaplike Raad."

Mr Rasool said Mr De Jager's wife was head of the ACVV in the southern Cape. Mr De Jager had "on countless occasions spoken in the legislature in favour of the ACVV and opposed my proposals on equalising spending on old-age homes and integrating them."

He was concerned that Mr De Jager would overturn everything that had been achieved in welfare in the past three and half years.

Since 1994, the first old-age home for black people had been opened in Guguletu and the number of such homes for coloured people had been increased from 24 to 28.

The department had also succeeded in integrating the 107 white old-age homes. "We are worried that all of this will be reversed."

"There is no doubt that the ANC's warnings of a volksstaat are being realised even before these people have implemented the new constitution," Mr Rasool said.

Kriel's giant leap backwards

(263) ARG 17/11/98

Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the African National Congress in the Western Cape Provincial Legislature, gives his views on the new provincial constitution

When former National Party leader F W de Klerk took his party out of the Government of National Unity in 1996, the NP premier of the Western Cape opted to maintain the principle of provincial unity

Premier Hennis Kriel at that time predicted that provincial unity would last well into the 21st century, but two years on, his words have a hollow ring.

Like a latter day Emperor Nero, he has fiddled while Rome burns

On Thursday he said the signing of the new Western Cape constitution heralded a new era in the country's constitutional process. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In reality, Mr Kriel, with one stroke of his pen, put back the cause of reconciliation and non-racialism in this province by ten years

The stark reality of Mr Kriel's empire-building efforts in the last few weeks is that he has manipulated the constitutional process to pursue a narrow, sectional party political agenda.

He has put party and privilege before the people.

He may use the language of democracy, but the truth is, in the last seven days his actions have betrayed a political agenda which has nothing to do with bringing the people of the Western Cape together, but everything to do with creating division and discord



Fighting talk: ANC MPP Ebrahim Rasool

His cabinet does not include a single African. This, despite the fact that there are upwards of one million Africans in the greater Cape Town area.

His new team does not reflect the demographics of the Western Cape. Like the tri-cameral parliament of the apartheid years, which had four

whites for every two coloureds and one Indian, and no African representation at all, Kriel's cabinet tries to give the appearance of fair representation when in fact power very clearly lies with an old-boys' network of white privilege

It would be easy for the ANC to return to the politics of confrontation. That we will not do. In the following months we will act as a constructive opposition.

Where the NP fails to commit resources to those who need it most, we will speak out. Where they attempt to bend the rules to suit their own ends, we will expose them

We will not fail the people of the Western Cape. In standing committees, in the provincial legislature, in the constituencies, the ANC will act as the voice for all the people of the Western Cape.

To date the NP in the Western Cape has paid lip service to the needs of coloured and African communities

They have allowed Model C schools to sell their land, they have refused to reorganise rural local councils to make them representative and they have refused to appoint African or coloured people to top administrative posts within ministries and departments.

And they have singularly failed to tackle crime in our province by not deploying sufficient police resources to areas like Mitchell's Plain and Khayelitsha

The ink on the new provincial constitution was barely dry yesterday before the NP was up to its old tricks.

They tried to force through legislation that would have meant taxpayers would have had to fork out an extra R4-million a year to pay for

two new ministers who are not even members of the provincial parliament.

The public was given no opportunity to comment on this bill. Only determined efforts by ANC MPP's prevented this measure from being enacted immediately.

The NP will try once again next week to force this through the back door. So much for Mr Kriel's concern for democracy and transparency.

Sadly the NP have been aided in their efforts by the Democratic Party. It's difficult to believe that many DP supporters on the ground back the party leadership in their opportunism.

A year ago, the DP refused an offer from our president to join the national Cabinet in a genuine attempt to create inclusive governance

But now they are happy to join hands with the NP in the Western Cape. They could have stopped Mr Kriel's plans to end the government of provincial unity, but their deciding vote was instead used to enter a marriage of convenience with the NP. It was an act which they will live to regret at the ballot box in a year's time.

The problems that thousands of men, women and children in the Western Cape face did not disappear on the 15th January when Mr Kriel ended the unity government.

The ANC will not shirk its responsibility in the months ahead to defend the rights of all and to ensure that the transformation and reconciliation that is taking place in the rest of South Africa also happens here in the Western Cape.

Like Roman emperors before him, Mr Kriel may have cause to regret his impulsive actions

ANC officials will lose jobs, warns Kriel ^(2b3)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Key officials in the Western Cape administration appointed by former African National Congress (ANC) MECs would "undoubtedly" lose their jobs, premier Hernus Kriel said yesterday.

Reshuffles are expected in the departments of health, welfare, transport, public works and economic affairs. These departments received new MECs after the dissolution of the government of provincial unity and the ANC's refusal to participate in Kriel's new multiparty cabinet. The 12 members of the reconstituted cabinet took their oath of office yesterday.

Kriel said it was "normal" for top personnel appointed by previous MECs, in this case ANC members, to lose their top jobs to new political appointees. They would not be retrenched but transferred back to the departments.

Particularly vulnerable appear to be the chief director of health, Faried Abdullah, a vocal ANC supporter, district health directors and welfare director Virginia Peterson.

The new health MEC, Peter Marais, said: "There is no place in my department for those whose first loyalty is to the ANC or (Ebrahim) Rasool," Marais's ANC predecessor "They will have to pack up and clear their desks."

Rasool, leader of the ANC in the legislature, said it would be "absolutely regrettable" if competent professionals who had displayed a clarity of policy, administrative ability and integrity were sidelined for political reasons.

Marais planned to "refocus" the pro-

vincial health strategy from Rasool's emphasis on the primary health care sector. He wanted "greater equilibrium" and balance of funding between the primary sector and secondary hospitals. Private companies and individuals would be called upon to make contributions to upgrade hospitals.

As the only National Party (NP) health MEC in the country, Marais predicted an "interesting exchange" with Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma, who had so far been unopposed at meetings with all the health MECs.

Former NP MP Patrick McKenzie, who took over the provincial local government portfolio from Marais, said his priorities included the debate over a megacity — an idea he opposed; the redemarcation of wards in preparation for the election, and the division of the assets of the former municipal councils which were amalgamated to form metropolitan councils.

New finance and agriculture MEC Lampie Fick saw his major challenge as streamlining cash flow and implementing a programme to eliminate this year's budget deficit — estimated at about R1bn — within three years. To do this would involve cost-cutting across all departments.

Other members of the cabinet include: Hennie Bester (trade, industry and tourism), Gerald Morkel (police); Kobus Meiring (planning and general administration), Martha Olckers (environmental affairs and culture); Cecil Herandien (housing), Arnold de Jager (social services); Petrus Meyer (transport and labour); Nick Koornhof (education and sport), and Michael Louis (asset management and public works).

BD 20/1/98

Fick plan to use assets in private sector deals

W Cape bail-out bid
ARG 20/1/98 (263)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Newly appointed Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick plans to use valuable province-owned properties in joint ventures, yielding millions of rands to help the province out of its cash-flow crisis.

Also planned is a crackdown on waste and excessive spending.

Mr Fick will meet provincial finance management today, a day after taking office, for a full briefing on the Western Cape's financial position.

Mr Fick said it was expected that the province would turn in a deficit budget for the next two financial years, but it was hoped that it would break even in the 2000/01 financial year.

He will present his first budget on March 18, a week after Finance Minister Trevor Manuel announces his Budget.

Mr Fick inherits a deficit budget, with the province having plunged into financial and political controversy last year after budgeting for a deficit when its slice of national revenue was slashed by R780-million.

By October last year, as it became evident the province would go into the red before this financial year was out, departments were ordered to cut spending.

Projections are that the Western

Cape will slide into "negative cash flow" next month, with a balance about R119-million in the red. This will plunge further the following month to about R799-million.

The province has undertaken to honour salary and pension cheques.

The Western Cape is to ask the Finance Department to advance funds from next year's Budget, pinning its hopes on the precedent set by the assistance given by Pretoria to Mpumalanga and the Eastern Cape.

Mr Fick said it was probable he would make some changes to the draft budget for next year inherited from Kobus Meiring.

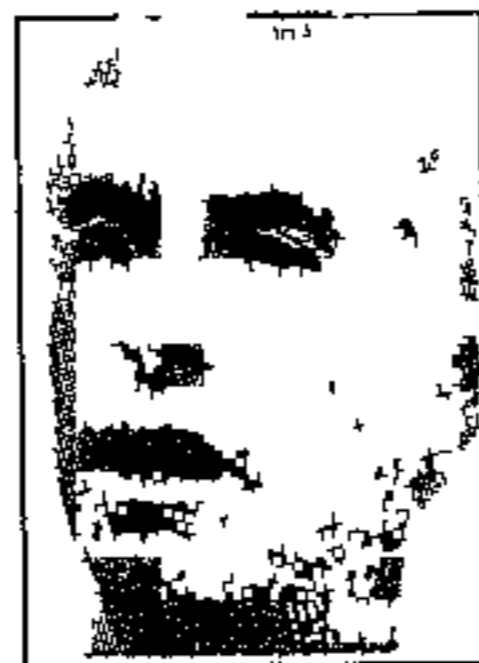
"My approach will be to support those sectors which can make the economy grow," he said. "Tourism is

one, agriculture is another."

The other side of the coin would be to discipline spending, in particular to ensure proper financial management in big-spending departments.

Mr Fick declined to comment on specific departments, but in the past there has been concern about inadequate control of spending by the health and education departments.

Asked whether assets would be sold off, Mr Fick said he would be working closely with the newly appointed Minister for Asset Management, Michael Louis, on joint ventures with the private sector, into which the province would enter using assets as equity.



Fick: new plans

WESTERN CAPE

Race politics return to the shade of Table Mountain

Ebrahim Rasool, tipped to become the ANC's next Western Cape leader, speaks of future battles in the land of the "Afrikaanses"

The windows were again shuttered in Cape Town's chic St George's Mall last week as Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel signed into law the new provincial constitution. The shopkeepers need not have alarmed the tourists too much — the crowd of demonstrators that gathered in Wale Steet to shout their disapproval of Kriel's coup was small, perhaps a little over 200 people. They were, however, almost all black, signalling the return of race-based politics to the Cape.

The regional basic law — engineered by Kriel and, after a hiccup, ratified by the Constitutional Court — disbands real power-sharing at provincial level. The premier has cut the ANC out of his 12-person cabinet.

With virtually token representation by the Democratic Party and the minuscule African Christian Democratic Party, the new order is dominated by the National Party (NP), with the ANC ensconced in opposition even as its hegemony at central level is tightened (*Current Affairs* January 9).

Former Health MEC Ebrahim Rasool (35) puts his finger on a common perception when he describes the Cape Nats as "unreconstructed." They lack "a commitment to transformation."

While Rasool — as the new leader of the opposition in the provincial legislature — intends to co-operate with the NP when they are aiming at common goals, he shares at least some of the views articulated by the street demonstrators that Kriel is a recidivist on social spending and upliftment, and, at worst, toys with the idea of a form of *volkstaat*.

In the run-up to the 1996 local authority election, Pieter Marais (NP), who takes over Health from Rasool, said publicly that the Western Cape "belongs" to what he called the *Afrikaanses* — that is whites and coloureds with a common language, Afrikaans. Africans in such a vision would be marginalised or excluded. The greater Cape Town area is home to at least 1m Africans, many locked into poverty and the sordid squatter encampments that scar the region. Under apartheid, these people were

subject to influx control in what was an official white and coloured labour preference area, and had no representation in the tricameral parliament.

The ANC frequently charges that public-sector affirmative action has deliberately neglected Africans, and even that housing subsidy schemes favour coloureds in terms of legislation drawn up long before 1994.

On crime, a far higher profile has been



ANC's Ebrahim Rasool ready for opposition mantle

given to attempts to resolve coloured gang-related violence on the Flats than to the endemic woes of townships like Khayelitsha, Guguletu and informal settlements.

The accumulation of these perceptions and grievances has been to polarise Western Cape politics, with the ANC looking to a combination of more efficient voter organisation — and population growth — ultimately providing the recipe to topple the Nats. While the region's civil dissent of the Eighties was spearheaded by a nonracial intelligentsia under the banner of the United Democratic Front (UDF), the defeat of apartheid and the return of the exiles has undermined that historic coalition of anti-apartheid interests.

One danger, therefore, of the exclusion of the ANC from local governance is that a

return to the streets could trigger a re-racialisation of Cape politics: poor Africans vs relatively better-off coloureds and whites. The ANC, while aware of this danger, continues to hold to its nonracial ideals. But there will be increasing ethnic conflict as the 1999 election draws nearer. The Cape NP will unquestionably employ again the propaganda weapon of fears of "engulfment" by African newcomers.

A further problem for the ANC is that it has been unfortunate in selecting provincial leaders. First there was Allan Boesak, then came Chris Nissen, who never indicated much more than desperate uneasiness with the role, and now there is Justice Minister Dullah Omar. However, moves are afoot to elect Rasool to this key post — and to give him enough time to make a difference before next year's poll.

Rasool suggests that his mooted candidacy is "a bit premature." However, certain "people have asked me to be available," he says, and, if asked, "I will consider the matter seriously." A provincial ANC congress is scheduled for September — which would not leave any new leader much time to prepare for the election — but Rasool indicates that the conference might be brought forward.

For his part, Omar has indicated that he would like to give his full attention to his ministerial duties — which would appear to open the door for Rasool.

A forceful speaker — very much in command of the facts — Rasool seems the logical candidate. He has firm views on the future of the NP itself. "There is a desperation there. Kriel has been the chief architect of withdrawing NP resources into the Western Cape."

For example, when Roelf Meyer — tasked with reforming the Nationalists by F W de Klerk — proposed enlisting greater black support, Kriel simply continued to demonise blacks, and Meyer was forced out, followed shortly — for more complicated reasons — by De Klerk himself. Marthinus van Schalkwyk, in Rasool's view, "was put in to compete with Roelf — to retain white support from defecting to Roelf or growing despondent. So the NP is being run from the Western Cape and Kriel is happy."

However, "if the NP can't deliver, the ANC must be an effective and vigorous opposition. The ANC will be a pressure group for service delivery, a direct conduit between the people and service delivery — not a desperate opposition. That is the key."

Peter Wilhelm

Kriel is set to quit as West Cape premier

HENRY LUDSKI

ST 25/1/98

WESTERN Cape Premier Henus Kriel looks set to quit his post, possibly as early as next month.

Kriel is expected to announce his resignation at the opening of the provincial legislature on February 9. His departure could pave the way for the provincial government to get its first coloured leader.

A senior NP source said this week "By stepping down now, Kriel would allow his replacement to build up a profile during



HERNUS KRIEL

the campaign for the 1999 elections."

Kriel's spokesman, Chris Koole, said on Friday that the premier had "no intention of getting out of politics."

He did not comment, however, on speculation that he was considering resigning as premier.

Peter Marais, health MEC for the Western Cape and a key player in Kriel's new cabinet, was quick to say yesterday that if a "vacancy" for the position of premier came up, he would make himself available.

"If the party decides I'm good enough for the job, or popular enough to get the votes, then I am available," he said.

Speculation is that if Kriel relinquishes the premiership, he will take the strategic back-seat post of regional party chairman.

The move is seen as a political gambit by Kriel, although he would retain strategic control of the NP, his move would allow a new premier to chase the region's crucial coloured vote.

Kriel has previously indicated that he would not make himself available for a second term of office.

"If Kriel waits any longer to make this move, the new person won't have enough time to get into gear to take on the ANC," a senior Western Cape government official said this week.

Although the NP secured a 54 percent majority in the region in the 1994 elections, the 1999 general election is set to be a neck-and-neck race.

The ANC pushed their percentage of the vote up by about five percent in the 1996 local govern-

ment elections in the province.

If Kriel does resign, the ANC and NP will contest next year's elections with new provincial leaders.

Franklin Sonn, South Africa's ambassador to the US, is tipped to take over the ANC's regional leadership from Justice Minister Dullah Omar.

Marais, who took over the job as health MEC this week, is seen as the person most likely to take over from Kriel.

But the other person in with a chance is Gerald Morkel, community security MEC.

Patrick McKenzie, local government and gambling MEC, is said not to be in the running.

"Marais is more dynamic, popular and articulate than Morkel. He could be the person to draw the votes," according to a senior NP source. "He also has more of a natural affinity with the coloured community."

Morkel and McKenzie could not be reached for comment yesterday.

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Kriel quashes rumours he may stand down

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hannu Kriel yesterday scoffed at resurrected suggestions that he was to stand down as premier in favour of a coloured leader.

But high-ranking National Party political leaders in the province said a Sunday Times report yesterday that Kriel was about to quit was "not far off the mark" and was something which had been discussed in the inner circles of the party. They hinted at a divergence of views within the NP about the provincial leadership question.

There is never complete unanimity on any subject and in the final analysis it's a matter to be decided by democratic process," a NP leader said.

The report said Kriel — who has previously indicated he did not intend staying on for a second term as premier — could announce his departure during his address at the opening of the provincial legislature on February 9 to allow the new incumbent to lead the party into the 1999 elections.

But Kriel dismissed the report saying: "It is not the first time that the Sunday Times has tried to write me out of politics: If I should consider such a step the Sunday Times would be the last to know about it."

His spokesman Chris Koole said Kriel had no intention of either quitting politics or the premiership, and lambasted the report as "ridiculous speculation".

He said, however, that Kriel would do whatever he thought was in the best interests of the province.

Sources close to Kriel described him as an "all or nothing" character who would not be prepared to take a political backseat either in the provincial cabinet or in the NP.

They pointed to the fact that he had fought and won a provincial constitution which laid down clear guidelines for the governance of the province and that he wanted to see this fully implemented. Cultural councils and children and environment commissioners still had to be appointed. Kriel, as a staunch federalist, was also committed to the Western Cape having its own emblem and flag.

Furthermore, he wished to carry forward his vision of a multiparty government.

"It makes no sense, having just laid the foundation for the provincial government to suddenly leave, especially after he refused the opportunity to become the national leader of the party," one analyst said.

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SCNDIOH TAPRAWI

ANC tackles Kriel over R10-million 'petty cash' fund

BLACKMAN NGORO
STAFF REPORTER

(263) ARG 26/1/98

The African National Congress has charged Hernus Kriel with mismanaging the Western Cape budget, demanding to know why R10-million of desperately needed funds is kept for his discretionary use.

The ANC's spokesman on finance in the Western Cape, Tasneem Essop, said she also wanted to know why the Western Cape was the only province to have such a premier's fund

National Party budget manager Marius Durandt said "The use of the vote is derived from critical infra-structural needs and job creation

"Its uses are very broad. Any projects which create jobs fit into that." The projects could be initiated by a government department, institutions, members of the society and communities

"But it isn't easy to get finance from this budget. Money will not be released until all other avenues have been exhausted."

Mr Kriel's spokesman, Chris Koole, said the fund was used for emergencies. It was like an office petty cash box - "if you need something quickly, you use it

"It is like a reserve fund". He said the two new NP cabinet ministers, Patrick McKenzie and Nick Koornhof, would be paid from the fund temporarily

Ms Essop said the ANC wanted the fund scrapped

"It is being used to push the National Party's vote-catching exercise," she said

"We must shut down that discretionary fund as it is a waste of the taxpayer's money which could be better used elsewhere"

Last year, R1,6-million of the fund was allocated to the Gambling Board even though it had an R8-million budget of its own

According to Mr Durandt, the additional money will help the board to get up and running and the ripple effect will create jobs.

"And if we hadn't given money (from the fund) to Langebaan when last winter's storms threatened the coastline and some houses, the sea would have been all over the town," he said

Said Ms Essop "If he doesn't use it to achieve political ends, how does he justify that the fund was used to give money to Langebaan and not to the communities whose shacks were consumed by fire?"

MARAIS, MORKEL CHIEF CONTENDERS IF NAT PROVINCIAL LEADER GOES

Kriel denies he's about to quit

Cape Times 26/1/98

INSIDERS BELIEVE it is time to elect a coloured provincial leader to prepare the National Party for the elections and broaden its coloured support. Political writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

WHILL it be the man with the "oomph" or the gentlemanly diplomat?

Mr Hermus Kriel may or may not be planning to retire as premier to prepare the electorate for a coloured National Party leader in the Western Cape in the run-up to next year's elections, but speculation about who will tread in his footsteps has been endless in the corridors of the provincial legislature

The contenders — highly-placed leaders in the NP and members of Kriel's provincial executive — are Mr Pieter Marais and Mr Gerald Morkel

"Pieter's got the oomph," an NP backbencher said "Gerald's the diplomat, the refined one, the man who knows which fork to use at the table."

Since the NP's provincial congress last year, there's been a buzz of rumour that will not go away, no matter how many denials have been issued from on high

Yesterday, a newspaper predicted that Kriel would quit as premier. The late of the resignation speech was said to be February 9, when the provincial legislature opens

Kriel's response, given through his spokesman, Mr Chris Kooole, was *The Sunday Times* has often tried to write me out of politics. If I was leaving, they would be the last to know"

No, Kooole said, his boss had no immediate plans to quit politics or the premiership

But others in the party say the time is ripe for the NP to bring in a coloured leader. They say it is crucial to do so before the 1999 elections so that the coloured voter base can be broadened and NP rule in the Western Cape consolidated

If this happens, it looks as if it will be a two-horse race. Morkel and Marais

NP members in the legislature debate the matter furiously, but refuse to have their names printed alongside that of their favoured candidate

Kriel, it is said, favours Marais. One report has it that Kriel recently told Marais to "prepare" himself

Formerly MEC for Local Government and now MEC for Health, Marais has had a high profile since the 1994 elections. Unafraid of confrontation — even apparently welcoming it — he has tackled the national government on more than one local government issue and elicited reams of written outrage from the ANC. This singing, banyo-playing, populist firebrand has an image that is out of sync with the NP's usually conservative public demeanour

Morkel, on the other hand, fits the image bill. He is often accused of sitting on his hands and doing little, if anything, to rein in crime. His defence has been that as long as national government constrains MECs' powers over police, his contribution will remain superficial



FIREBRAND: Pieter Marais has "oomph", says a Nat insider. He doesn't fear confrontation and is attuned to the coloured working class' heartbeat.

The feeling is that Marais, moving and swaying in time to the heartbeat of the coloured working class, will draw its support to the NP. Morkel, because of his measured, easy tone and inoffensive manner, will retain the loyal Afrikaner vote

Morkel and Marais have confirmed that, if offered the premiership, they would give it serious thought. But each also said it was premature to debate this

Premature or not, the talk is there. And there are signs too, that Kriel could be moving sideways, if not out of politics altogether

First, it is thought that the provincial constitution, signed recently, is the pinnacle of Kriel's premiership. He dream he hoped to have realised before 1999. Now that this has been accomplished, he could decide to leave on this high note

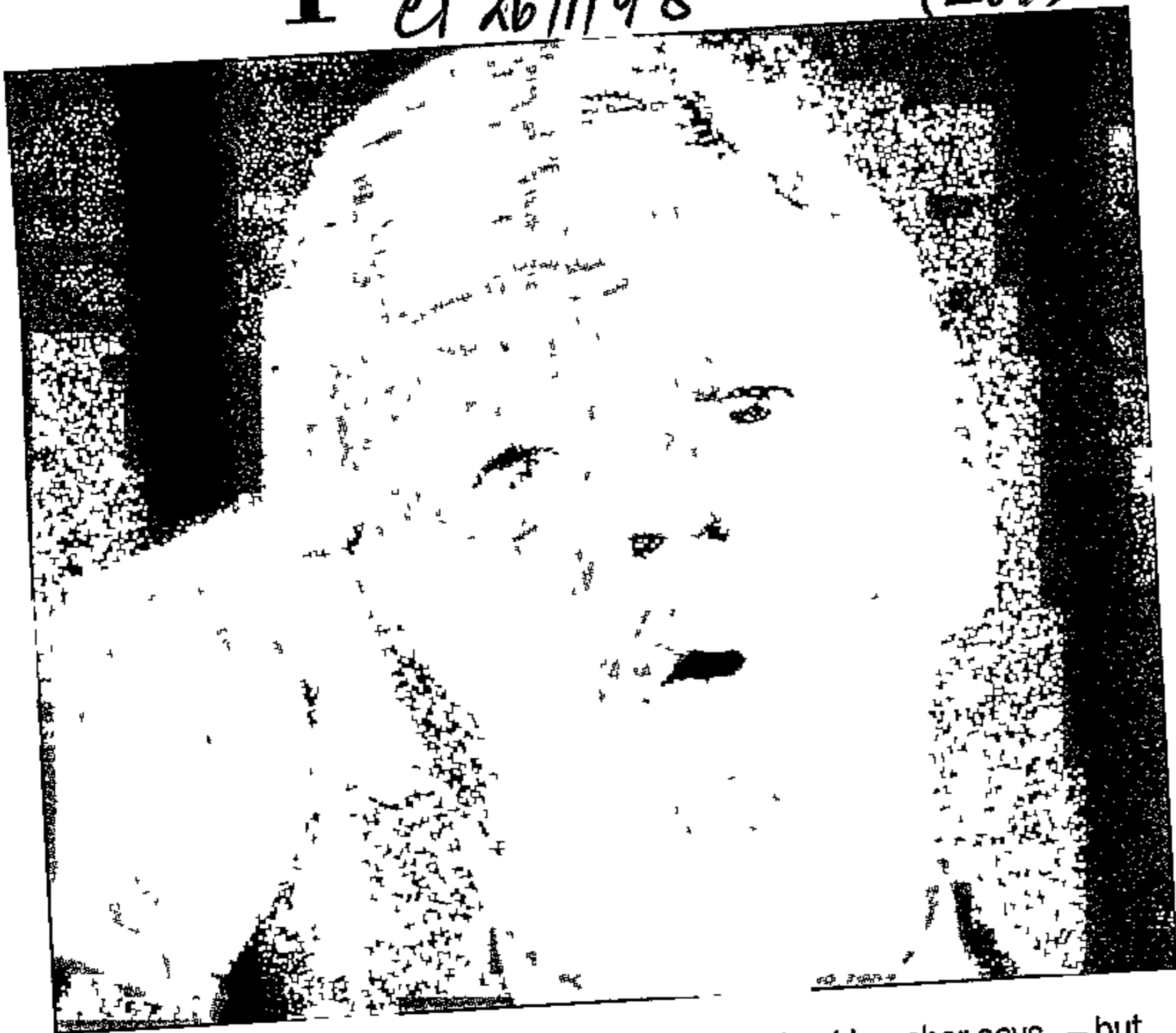
Second, he has indicated that he will not run for another term

Third, if this is so, his withdrawal from the race at the provincial congress — usually in September or October — would allow his successor to have more than a year to garner support and prepare the party in the province for the 1999 elections. If Kriel steps down

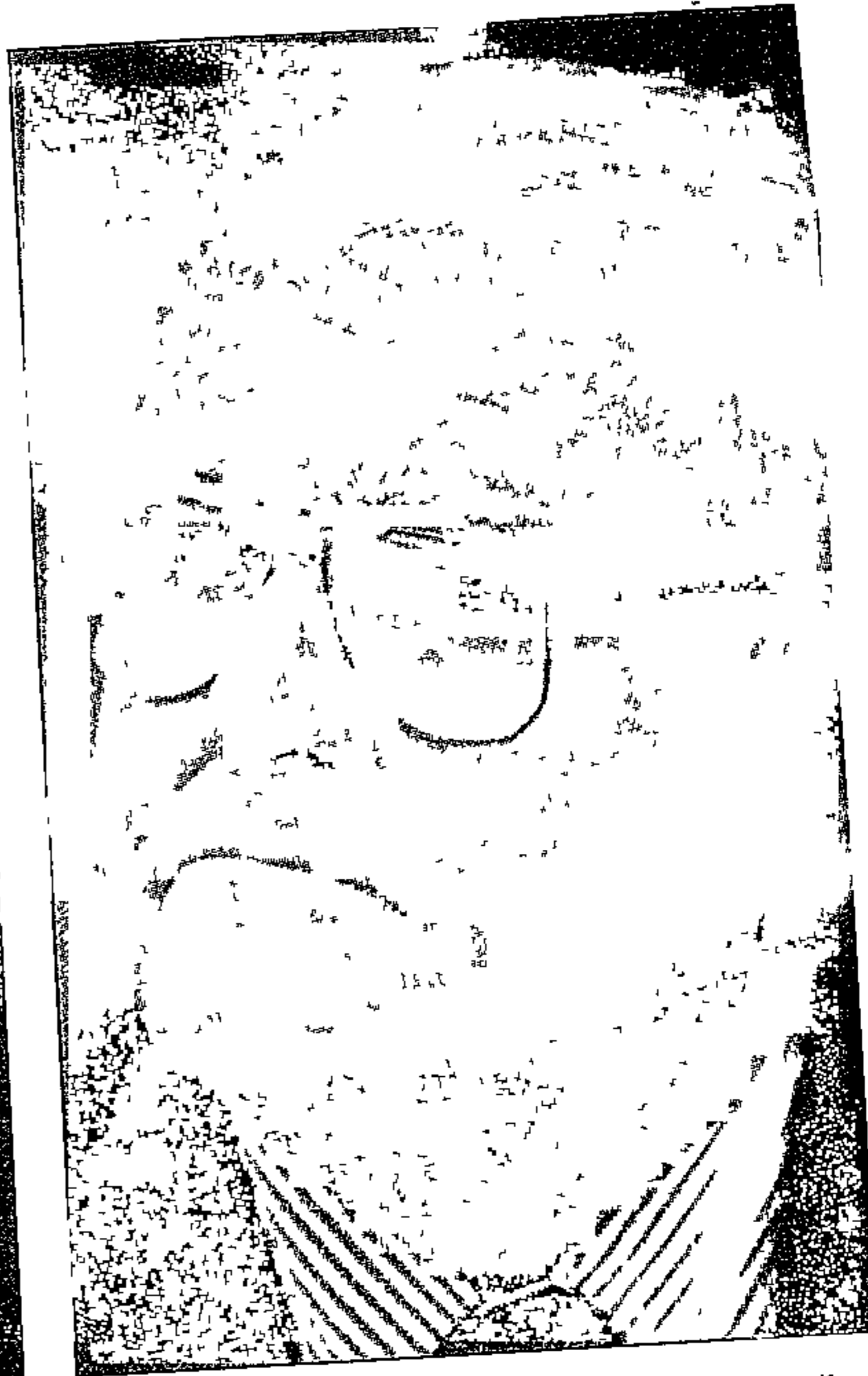
as premier

ET 26/1/98

(263)



'THE DIPLOMAT': Gerald Morkel is refined, a Nat backbencher says — but he has been accused of sitting on his hands and doing little to curb crime.



AT HELM: Unless he steps down earlier, Hernus Kriel's successor will be elected at the NP's provincial congress.

sooner, his successor will have a few months to ease into the job and plenty of time to prepare for the elections.

On a personal level, it has been said that Kriel's long political involvement has left him a little weary. He remarried last year and may want to spend more time tending the family hearth.

● **DONWALD PRESSLY** reports that opposition party members who joined Kriel's executive last week will keep their posts if the premier steps down.

Democratic Party provincial leader Mr Hennie Bester, MEC for Trade, Industry and Tourism, said he would

work with any premier who allowed him the same flexibility.

The DP joined the executive on condition that it would be free to criticise provincial government policy.

"One will have to reconsider our position if there is new personnel," Bester said.

The MEC for Public Works, Asset Management and Media, Mr Michael Louis of the African Christian Democratic Party, said he believed Kriel would complete his term as premier.

However, a change in incumbent would probably not affect the ACDP's participation, he said.

Megacity plan for Cape Town still in the balance

ARG 28/1/98 (263)

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

Cape Town is not necessarily going to become a megacity, says Valli Moosa, Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development.

He said the matter was still "very much" under discussion.

It is believed that a draft white paper on local government favours the African National Congress national position of a single-city metropolitan system, or "megacity", for the big cities.

Of the three provinces in South Africa with metropolitan government, the Western Cape and KwaZulu Natal have already rejected the megacity option.

There are claims that at the recent ANC conference in Mafikeng the party adopted the megacity option as its policy for local government.

Local government leaders in Cape Town say that having a single metropolitan council for the municipal area will mean taking local government away from the people.

There are also fears that a further restructuring process will have a detrimental effect on the



Valli Moosa: decision not yet taken

morale of the 33 000 municipal workers.

"It is totally false to say that a decision has been taken when the Cabinet has not discussed the matter," said Mr Moosa from Pretoria yesterday.

He said there had been broad consultation after the release of the green paper on local government last year, and at his meeting with the local government MECs of all nine provinces this week, various considerations and options had been discussed.

"There is broad consensus now in South African society that metropolitan government must act

as a redistributive mechanism and metropolitan government must be able to ensure equity across the entire metropolitan area"

The Western Cape MEC for local government, Patrick McKenzie, yesterday convened an urgent meeting with all local government roleplayers in the province to discuss the issue

Mr McKenzie said there was a "strong feeling" in most quarters that the only option on the table was the megacity one, but said Mr Moosa had come up with a new proposal at the meeting with MECs after lengthy discussions.

He said Mr Moosa had discussed amending the white paper to make provision for a single municipality with various sub-committees with delegated powers

But this would mean only one mayor and one budget for the municipality. This would in effect be little different from a megacity form of government

■ A megacity meeting to explain the concept to ratepayers and other interested parties will be held on Saturday at 9am at Muizenberg High School in Dover Road. For more details phone 75 5700. The meeting is being organised by the South Peninsula Municipality.

Claim of racial slur sparks walkout (263)

DIANE CASSERE

CT 28/11/98

EIGHT Southern Peninsula councillors walked out of a council meeting yesterday after one of them had been accused of racial incitement.

They were councillors Ms Aidelade Buso, Mr Hennie van Wyk, Mr Peter Gabriel, Mr Dicki Meter (all ANC), Mr Sulaiman Ebrahim and Mr Allan Phillips (both UDM), Mr Philip Bam (Logra Civic Association) and Mr Dave Sassman (NP).

The group walked out in support of Ebrahim, who remarked in a debate on an engineering item that the predominantly NP council seemed more interested in diverting resources to affluent areas than to disadvantaged ones.

Ebrahim was asked by NP mayor Mr John "O J" Jacobs to withdraw his remark, which he refused to do. The ANC then called for an adjournment to listen to the tape of proceedings and reported back to the council that they thought no racial slur had been intended.

"They called on the mayor to review his decision but he refused. We (the group who walked out) then recused ourselves in solidarity with Ebrahim and said we would return after lunch," said Bam.

"When we returned, we found that the NP councillors had pushed the agenda through and closed the meeting. That means they must have bulldozed through a couple of hundred pages, more than three-quarters of

the agenda, in an hour."

The group of dissatisfied councillors said that while no funds had been allocated for the upgrading of disadvantaged areas, council had approved increases of car allowances for themselves to about R9 000 a month.

"Their motivation was that other municipalities received that. What about the lowest paid workers such as street workers? If other municipalities pay them more surely we should be increasing their wages?" said Bam.

Ironically, the offending item was brought to the table by Phillips, who walked out in solidarity with his UDM colleague. The item dealt with the paving of Lekkerwater Rd which would ultimately serve both an informal settlement and a more affluent area.

"In areas such as this, development is essential. The road needed to be tarred. However, I think my item was used as a scapegoat and that there was power play involved. The remark (Ebrahim's) was not intended as a racial slur," said Phillips.

"The amount concerned was about R1 million," he said last night.

"I think we really should stop playing political games and get on with the job."

The Southern Peninsula Municipality serves the areas from Simon's Town to Wetton Road, Wynberg and over the mountain chain to Hout Bay.

Mayor Jacobs, could not be contacted for comment.

Two-tier metropolitan government called for

ET 29/1/98

(263)

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

WESTERN Cape MEC for Local Government and Gambling, Mr Patrick McKenzie, has called for a two-tier system of government — not the proposed megacity model

McKenzie said in a statement that he was concerned because the draft white paper on local government provided for only a single-city metropolitan system, whereas the initial green paper had provided for more than one type of metropolitan government

His statement followed a meeting of mayors, exco chairpersons and chief executive officers of the seven municipalities in the metropole and the Western Cape Local Government Organisation to formulate the province's position on the proposal

In the statement McKenzie called for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa to ensure provision is made for a two-tier system in the white paper

Meanwhile, Moosa said in a statement that the white paper had not been finalised and that speculation regarding options was premature.

While there was general consensus that metropolitan government needed to be enabled to play an effective role in co-ordinating metropolitan development and ensuring equity,

the detailed mechanisms for this were still to be finalised

The Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal have rejected the proposal, but it has the backing of senior figures in the government, including Moosa, Gauteng Premier Mr Mathole Motshekga and deputy executive chairperson of the Johannesburg metro, Mr Kenny Fihla

"This paper acknowledges that the present two-tier system is unworkable and is a move towards sustainable local authorities," Fihla said on Monday

The proposed ward committees are intended to counteract the tendency of metropolitan government to become distant and unresponsive to local needs but would have only advisory powers

Mayors would head their councils in an executive capacity, presiding over either an executive committee elected by councillors or a "cabinet" chosen by the mayor

Provincial governments would have to decide on the structural detail of local entities

The present 60:40 ratio of ward councillors to proportional representatives would be retained

The number of councillors countrywide would be significantly reduced, as many local authorities had more councillors than was "necessary or affordable, the white paper

says

Various approaches have been suggested to revamp administrative systems. These include performance-based contracts for senior staff and revised codes of conduct, privatisation of municipal services, encouraging public-private sector partnerships

A revamped financial framework is also proposed. The financial base of local authorities is likely to be beefed up by incorporating areas that are untaxed into the property tax net and revamping property rates

"A key decision which needs to be taken is whether there should be a uniform national system or whether there should continue to be a local choice in the matter," the paper says

It is proposed that a portion of the fuel levy be used to finance road development in local authorities. And a land tax is proposed for rural areas. The borrowing powers of local authorities should be extended

Fihla said a weakness of the paper was that it did not define clearly enough the sources of revenue for local government

In a press release Ms Nomandla Mfeketo, chairperson of the executive committee, said the City of Cape Town welcomed the proposal in the white paper to open up options for local government in metropolitan areas

Megacity 'could usurp the province'

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

IF government plans to turn the entire Cape metropole into a single city go ahead, the vast "megacity" could well usurp the less potent province in a bizarre power shift

"The population of the present metro area is 70% of the total Western Cape population," says Democratic Party Cape Town city councillor Ms Belinda Walker

The megacity, serving three million people, would leave only one million people in rural areas outside its boundaries for the province.

"This raises the question of the relationship between the province and the megacity," says Walker

"Given that the vast majority of inhabitants live and work in the metro and that it is responsible for the bulk of

the province's economic activity and future economic growth potential, would the current relationship between the spheres of provincial and local government be appropriate?

"There is a real possibility that the role of the province could be usurped by the megacity. If political control of the two is different, the relationship could be extremely strained"

The megacity proposal in the green paper on local government calls for a single municipality from Strand to Atlantis and down to Cape Point

This would be cheaper to run and more effective in distributing wealth to poorer areas, say government proponents of the plan. But Walker disagrees. "In reality it is not so simple. Firstly, because of the larger size there will have to be more layers of management to handle the large staff

"Obviously we will still need the same number of street sweepers and meter readers to service the area. So the staff component may well increase, in spite of the shedding of some top management posts

"Secondly, larger municipalities generally pay higher salaries than their smaller counterparts. Merging large and small municipalities will mean that wages of lower paid staff will be adjusted to match those of their better paid colleagues from other areas"

Megacity councillors will also be paid more than those in smaller municipalities. To a large extent, this will cancel out the reduction in the number of councillors, says Walker

"The potential for inefficiency, wastage and even corruption is also far greater in very large organisations, particularly those in the public sector."

Call for referendum on Western Cape megacity

PETER GOUSEN
Metro Desk

(263) ARK 2/2/98

Greater Cape Town should be allowed to hold a referendum on whether it wants to become a megacity or retain its present two-tier, seven-council system of local government.

This suggestion was made by Vice-Kabalin of Fish Hoek at a public meeting on megacities attended by about 400 people in Muizenberg at the weekend.

Mr Kabalin said the provincial government should be asked to stage a referendum to enable residents to

take a democratic decision

But megacity or not, the people of Cape Town want a say in the final form their local government will take

This emerged from the meeting, organised by the South Peninsula Municipality and convened by its chief executive officer, Jan Koekemoer.

Although some speakers were against a megacity - a White Paper on the subject is being discussed by the Cabinet at present - and some were for it, there was general consensus that Peninsula residents at least want a choice between a megac-

ity or the present system.

It was also agreed that there had been little or any public participation on the concept - it is believed the Muizenberg meeting was the first public airing of the subject anywhere in the country

The Government green paper on megacities showed that the South Peninsula would have three wards and three councillors instead of the present 36 councillors, who represent 10 000 ratepayers each. Under the megacity system there would be one councillor for 100 000 ratepayers. Several suggestions made at the meeting on what action to take will

be taken up by the South Peninsula. Mr Koekemoer, who said he was biased in favour of the megacity concept, said the South Peninsula had already asked for urgent talks with Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Vali Moosa to ask for extra time for the municipality and residents to have input.

It was also suggested by several speakers, including Hennie van Wyk of the SA Communist Party, that meetings be organised across the Peninsula to put the case to all, including those in disadvantaged areas. He complained that Satur-

day's meeting was attended mostly by whites from affluent areas

Local government authority Donald Craythorne said the main issue was that the draft White Paper on local government did not give a choice and this was challengeable on a legal basis and could be taken to the Constitutional Court.

The South Peninsula should facilitate the formation of a citizens' alliance made up of representatives of ratepayer and civic organisations, political parties and all seven Peninsula local authorities to campaign against a megacity form of local government, Dr Craythorne said.

Leading journalist Ameen Akhalwaya dies aged 52

STAFF REPORTER

Leading journalist and former Olympic Bid communications

Thabo Mbeki presented him with an extraordinary award from the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Southern Africa for his con-

of Surgeons in Dublin were cut short by the death of his father. He also flurried briefly with chartered accountancy.

World - he became the Mail's first black political writer in 1979. In 1982 he was appointed chief sub-editor at the Sunday Express.

assistant editor of current affairs and editor of Agenda in the first wave of the corporation's transition.

Call for referendum on Western Cape megacity

PETER GOUSEN
METRO DESK

(263)

ARL 2/21/98

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Court case threatened in megacity debate

CT 2/2/98

(263)

SHOULD the Cape metropole be governed by a single structure, or seven councils? The debate is hotting up, reports Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH**.



THE government could find itself before the Constitutional Court in the growing fray over proposals to impose a single city or megacity on the Cape metropolitan area

Addressing a highly charged meeting in Muizenberg this weekend, South Peninsula municipality chief executive officer Mr Jan Koekemoer said the white paper on local government could be unconstitutional

It would infringe on the rights of local government if it did not give municipalities at least two options, he said.

The white paper is due to be released some time this month

Koekemoer said once the white paper had been published, the Constitutional Court could be approached

"In terms of the Constitution, the government has given us the power to give input on the matter. Why not make use of this power?"

Local government expert Dr Donald Craythorne said the issue was simple. "The draft white paper gives us no choice. I'm very comfortable with the thought of challenging this on a legal basis in the Constitutional Court"

Although the Cape Metropolitan Council and its six municipalities were formed only seven months ago after a massive restructuring process, critics at central government level say the system has failed to redistribute wealth fairly among citizens and is expensive to run

But growing opposition to the megacity model, which calls for a single municipality from Strand to Atlantis and down to Cape Point, argues that the system has not even been given a chance to succeed.

A megacity, they say, will simply take local government further away from ratepayers, affect services and lower the morale of 31 000 council employees already suffering from "transition fatigue"

Rates could soar while property values plummet, say some

Dr Greg Munro, executive

director of community services at the South Peninsula Municipality, says the white paper — the government's statement of intent and the blueprint for local government — was scrutinised by the cabinet last week

Although unconfirmed, well-placed sources report that the white paper provides for only one form of local government — the megacity

It proposes that the 340 councillors currently serving the metropole be reduced to 40

This would mean one councillor to every 100 000 people as opposed to the current 1 to 10 000 ratio

"Some councils are not delivering what they should. But why keep changing legislation because of councils who do not deliver at the expense of those that are?"

Munro said
Saturday's emotional four-hour meeting threatened to erupt into a verbal and racial brawl when some councillors and residents accused the South Peninsula municipality of delivering a "one-sided and skewed" presentation

"And this meeting does not represent the whole municipality," said ANC councillor Mr Peter Gabriel, to jeers and boos from the floor

"Many of my constituents don't even know where Muizenberg is"

"The last word on the matter has not been spoken here," agreed Lotus River and Grassy Park Residents' Association councillor Mr Philip Bam

"I'm dismayed and disgusted at the attitude people here have displayed to those with differing opinions to their own. We must listen to all sides"

Bam called on the council to arrange similar meetings in disadvantaged areas like Lavender Hill

Mr Andre Olivier, director of

Strategic Support Services, said he'd "never ceased to be amazed at the naivety with which the future of local government is being contemplated — even at a national government level"

"We're talking about big business here. The six municipalities and the CMC manage a total budget of R5,9 billion

"You don't need to be a rocket scientist to realise that if something goes wrong with that, it will impact significantly on the local economy. It's in all our interests to make local government work

"Every citizen relies on our services every day of his or her life. We provide a cradle-to-grave service to our residents who are born in our clinics, travel on our roads, use our electricity and end up in one of our graveyards or crematoriums.

"If local government doesn't work, the level of inconvenience for everyone will be severe. It will affect everyone's quality of life

"It can't even be compared to, for instance, the navy shutting down. If local government fails there'll be no water in our taps — and that's another story"

Olivier pointed out that in contrast to overseas models, local government in South Africa is "virtually self-financing"

A total of 98% of local government income comes from the community through rates and

service charges

"This paints an interesting picture — he who pays the piper should call the tune," Olivier said

The meeting finally agreed to ask the MEC for Local Government, Mr Patrick McKenzie, to arrange a summit where all local authorities in the metropole could debate the issue

Meanwhile, attempts would be made to "put our views forward to the powers that be" before the white paper was published, said Koekemoer

If local authorities were to be given a choice in the matter, more time for discussion was needed. If the paper was published without giving municipalities opinions to choose from, "we'll come back to the community and decide where to go from there", he said

'I'm very comfortable with challenging this on a legal basis in the Constitutional Court.'

Official in land deals probe paid for 16 months at home

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

A GUN-TOTING official of the Western Cape administration has spent the past 16 months at home, drawing a salary of more than R5 500 a month, while allegations have been investigated against him.

Mr Barend Birk, a senior administrative officer in the Department of Public Works, has been investigated by the De Meyer Commission, which is probing alleged irregularities involving state land.

In its report, handed to President Nelson Mandela in September, the commission said it had found that Birk manipulated the sale of R2,4-million worth of state properties in favour of a partner who had later sold them for huge profits

Because of these deals, pensioners were denied potential housing, a Mowbray Hospital block of flats for staff was sold without the residents or hospital authorities' knowledge and performers at the Nico Malan Theatre were denied safe late-night parking.

At a meeting of the Western Cape standing committee on finance yesterday, it emerged that Birk had been suspended before fraud allegations against him had come to light and because he had been carrying a gun on duty.

"He was originally suspended from duty for threatening actions while in possession of a firearm on administration property," Mr Janie Morkel, director of personnel management in the province, told

CT 3/21 98

the Cape Times later

"After investigation, no disciplinary charges could be justified.

"The suspension was extended on 9 October 1996 for alleged fraudulent actions regarding the sale of immovable state property"

Birk's salary, for his position at lower middle management level, was around R69 381 a year.

Although the details of his package may not be made public, Birk has been receiving a monthly salary of about R5 781,75 — excluding perks or benefits — while he has been at home during his suspension

The administration was studying the De Meyer Commission's report to formulate disciplinary charges, Morkel said.

Western Cape auditor-general Mr Willie Brits gave a summary of the De Meyer report to the standing committee meeting, which was attended by a high-powered provincial administration delegation

According to the summary, there were four sales of property under the former Cape Provincial Administration that were allegedly irregular.

Birk apparently co-operated with two other people: a director of closed corporations and a Camps Bay lawyer

Through his involvement with one of the deals under investigation, Birk allegedly received R1,375m although "he did not

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obtain the necessary permission to engage in or perform remunerative work outside his employment in the public service"

In another deal, a "property that could have yielded R1,2m" had been sold to the director of closed corporations, through Birk's involvement, for only R750 000.

The MEC for Public Works, Asset Management and Media, Mr Michael Louis, said his department had noted the De Meyer Commission's report and saw its findings in a serious light.

"The matter will be taken to the highest level."

Relevant information on all the investigations would be sent to the law society and the Receiver of Revenue, Louis said

"May this be an example to the public that any form of fraudulent transactions within public affairs will not be tolerated," he said.

"Public Works will be strategically and managerially consolidated to avert any problem of this kind in the future"

Criminal charges could be brought against Birk

If disciplinary action is taken against Birk and he is found guilty, he may be fired.

The Western Cape's director-general, Dr Niel Barnard, undertook to report to the standing committee in two weeks on the status of the province's investigations into the allegations against Birk.

*'Public Works
will be consolidated to
avert this kind
of problem
in the future.'*

40% RATES HIKE ON CARDS

Municipalities face possible bankruptcy

(263) ET 6/2/98

DELAYS IN APPROVING the Cape Metropolitan Council's overdue budget have sent shock waves through the metropole. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

RATEPAYERS can brace themselves for a 40% rates hike in some municipal areas and a sharp decline in services if the central government does not approve a R209-million subsidy promised to local councils by the Cape Metropolitan Council.

No ratepayer will escape unscathed if the CMC's budget — already rejected once by the Department of Finance — is not approved in its present form.

The subsidy to the municipalities is being questioned by Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel.

Seven months into the financial year, officials and councillors in all six municipalities have been embroiled in talks to find a way out of the problem. The budget will be resubmitted for approval today.

The delay has already pushed municipalities into financial difficulties, and if the full subsidy is not approved and distributed soon, some will in effect be bankrupt.

"The only legal way we can increase our income is by upping our rates. We'll be looking at hikes of around 30% should the R38m we're expecting from the CMC not materialise," said South Peninsula chief executive officer Mr Johan Koekemoer.

In December Manuel refused to approve the CMC's budget because it was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poor areas.

The CMC also derives income from business levies, which are supposed to be used for building infrastructure — not subsidising the local authorities' operational budgets. Only 20% of the levy income — a mere R73m — can be

used in this way.

The amounts promised this year, which drew substantially on the CMC's reserves, would be difficult to sustain, Manuel warned.

Because of the delay, the six local authorities — relying on R209m promised to them by the CMC to balance their books — could not have their budgets approved either.

As a result residents can expect a drop in the services provided by municipalities.

"Until the budget is approved, they cannot give the go ahead on planned capital works... this will have a negative impact on service delivery," said a CMC financial expert.

In a hard-hitting presentation to the City of Cape Town's executive committee this week, Director of Finance Mr Philip van Ryneveld slammed the CMC "for massively expanding its bureaucracy and spending money on new headquarters while the councils suffer major financial stress".

Exco deputy chairperson Mr Saleem Mowzer agreed "It is of great concern that the CMC has budgeted only R5m (out of a R419m levy income) for new capital projects in the six municipalities, yet is spending close on R300m on a new headquarters when the future form of local government is still under debate. They've also advertised close on 570 new senior management posts.

"This raises serious questions about how the two-tier system is

actually working in the metropolitan area," he said.

Ironically, the City of Cape Town will be least affected if the subsidies do not materialise, because the R26m allocated to it was already R12m less than it expected. Since then a series of stringent belt-tightening exercises were conducted within the civic centre.

Without the subsidy, the city would be looking at rates increases of only about 5%. Even then, city manager Mr Andrew Boraine believes the council has enough money "to do the job".

But, warns Van Ryneveld, the real problem is not next year but the year after. "Given the way the CMC is absorbing all the levies, there'll be even less to go around in the future," he said.

And although the smaller municipalities are likely to be hardest hit, Blaauwberg's executive director for finance, Mr George van Schalkwyk, says

his residents "need not be scared". "We've called for the subsidy to be phased out over a number of years and are confident the Department of Finance will allow us to manage ourselves out of this problem," he said.

Tygerberg's CEO, Mr Dave Wilken, refuses to wait for approval before implementing the budget. "Waiting for more than seven months into the financial year for our budgets to be approved is way past the mark of being ridiculous, and we are going full out to provide the level of services we've promised our residents," he said.

"We cannot govern our city under these circumstances — it's not co-operative governance."

'We can't govern our city under these circumstances — it's not co-operative governance.'

POSSIBLE SCENARIO IF THE CAPE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL'S BUDGET IS NOT APPROVED AS IS

	CMC subsidy originally promised	Amount CMC may only get (20% of total CMC levy income)	Shortfall
Cape Town	R26.7m	R9.2m	R17.5m
Blaauwberg	R20.3m	R7m	R13.3m
Oostenberg	R31.4m	R10.9m	R20.5m
Tygerberg	R79.4m	R27m	R52.4m
Southern Peninsula	R38.6m	R13.4m	R25.2m
Helderberg	R13.4m	R4.6m	R8.8m

* All figures have been rounded off.



CT 6/2/98

Omar to resign as ⁽²⁶³⁾ ANC head

STAFF WRITER

JUSTICE MINISTER Mr Dullah Omar will resign as leader of the African National Congress in the Western Cape at a provincial executive committee meeting this weekend.

Asked whom he expected to replace him as the ANC's Western Cape premier-elect for the 1999 elections, Omar told the *Cape Times* he would support an "open and democratic process" in the election of his successor.

Omar — who assumed the leadership in September 1996 — said he had planned a thorough briefing for the provincial executive this weekend, touching on issues such as the state of the ANC in the province, its past record and the organisation's internal democracy.

Omar, who has been praised for his attempts to reform South Africa's justice system, indicated before the ANC's national conference in December that he planned to step down to concentrate on his duties as justice minister.

He said the ANC in the Western Cape needed a leadership that was available "24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week".

The names of possible successors being bandied about include former provincial health and social services MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool, ambassador to the United States Dr Franklin Sonn, Water Affairs Minister Mr Kader Asmal and Mr Tony Yengeni, MP.

Welfare department cleans up benefit payment system

Business Day Reporter

ED 10/21/98

CAPE TOWN — Irregularities had been uncovered in about 600 000 state welfare grants, and payments to about 149 000 beneficiaries had been suspended, Welfare Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi said yesterday.

The minister said a year-long "clean-up" of the social-security payments system had shown that about 20% of SA's 3-million welfare beneficiaries "were associated with irregularities" which resulted from a combination of "weak management and of fraud and corruption."

The suspension of payments was saving the state R61m a month, Fraser-Moleketi said.

By comparing the personal details of beneficiaries with the home affairs department's population register, it had been possible to remove 60 000 deceased beneficiaries from the system since July last year. A total of 12 000 were removed between December last year and January this year, leading to a monthly saving of R5,5m.

Fraser-Moleketi said duplication of names and names with multiple identity numbers were being eradicated. About 12 000 records were being checked, half of which might be duplicates. The potential savings to the taxpayer were R3m a month.

The welfare department was reregistering beneficiaries in the Free State and Eastern Cape. More than 20 000 people older than 18 had been removed from the children's register, resulting in monthly savings of R3,7m.

The department was also removing beneficiaries of temporary disability grants as their qualifying period — three months to a year — expired. About 45 000 beneficiaries were affected, involving payments worth about R20m a month.

Fraser-Moleketi said her department was comparing information with the civil pension records, the government salary system, the unemployment insurance fund and the revenue service to remove from the benefits system those who had other means of subsistence.

Teacher forums too 'disruptive', says department

Kevin O'Grady

ED 10/21/98

THE Northern Province education department yesterday threatened action against SA Democratic Teachers' Union (SadtU) members who attended SadtU-organised "teacher forums" during school hours.

Department spokesman Bernard Matsane accused SadtU of "deliberately undermining all efforts... to prevent further deterioration of educational standards in the province" which achieved a 31,8% pass rate in last year's matric examinations.

Matsane said the forums, which will run from today until February 27 in the province's six regions, would disrupt the normal functioning of schools. The forums were intended to give teachers the opportunity to discuss ways of improving the services which they deliver.

The department regretted that SadtU's actions "totally disregarded the constitutional rights of children" and that the union did "not have the decency to adhere to mutually agreed procedures for requesting time off", Matsane said.

The forums began just five days after a provincial education summit, which was convened specifically to address the issues which negatively affected education, producing poor matric results.

Kriel vows to resist central govt initiatives that lower standards

Linda Ensor

ED 10/21/98

(263)

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel yesterday said he would resist central government initiatives where these threatened to undermine existing "standards and good governance".

In his opening address to the provincial legislature, Kriel said his multiparty government was willing to work co-operatively with central government, but this did not mean jumping when commanded to do so.

One central government plan that would be firmly resisted by the province was the proposal to have a megacity in Cape Town. "I am not in favour of a huge monster Administration and international expertise suggests that this is not the way to go."

He also appealed for the Finance and Fiscal Commission to look urgently at a new funding formula for

the province. "A head count is just not good enough.... Other factors which must be taken into account include the so-called human resources index, the maintenance of an established infrastructure, services we provide for other provinces without getting any money for it, influx from neighbouring provinces etcetera. .. We don't want to be punished for sound economic management or for good administration, we want to be rewarded."

In an apparent appeal to the African National Congress, which declined a truncated offer to participate in his cabinet, Kriel appealed for all to "join hands in the interests of the province. We cannot afford to let political street protests, boycotts, stayaways and the likes hinder effective management. Let us differ ideologically, but never at the expense of true democracy."

Nkabinde counsel tells of 'interference'

MARITZBURG — The defence team in the murder trial of Sifiso Nkabinde suggested in the Maritzburg High Court yesterday that military intelligence and officials aligned to the African National Congress interfered in investigations of their client.

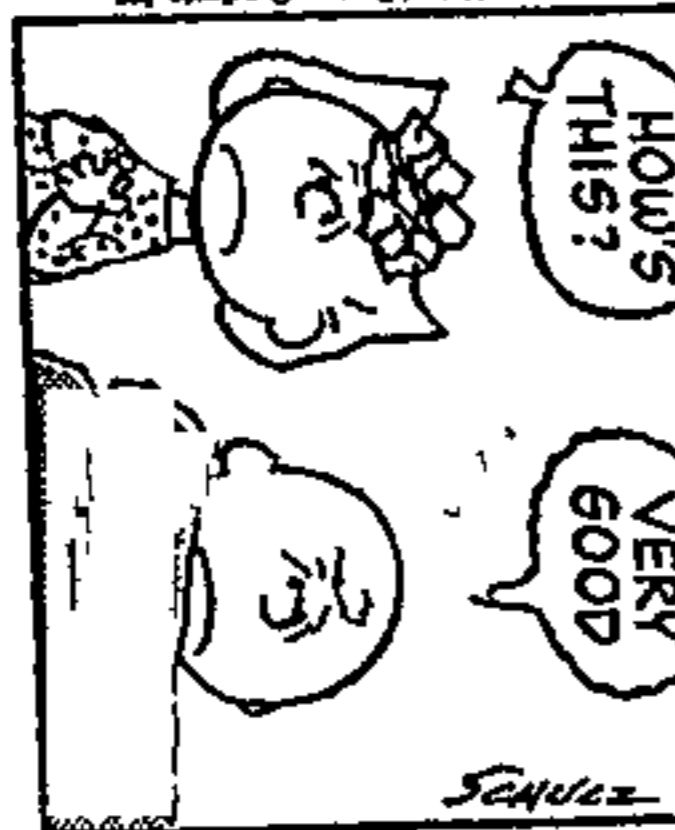
This emerged on the first day of the expelled ANC midlands leader's trial in which he faced 16 charges of murder and two of incitement to murder related to incidents in the Richmond area since 1993.

The claim was made by defence counsel Shane Matthews during testimony by a former national investigation task unit member in the midlands, Insp Deon Wilson. The evidence was related to an incident in which five ANC members were shot dead in Isimozomeni last July.

Wilson said the army took away two suspects held by the unit. Matthews said the incident was an example of military intelligence and ANC officials' interference in investigations of Nkabinde. — Sapa.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



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Court challenges NP to follow act

(263)
CHRIS BATEMAN

CT 10/2/98

COURT papers attempting to force local government MEC Mr Patrick McKenzie to comply with the proportional representation model for rural elections are to be served on his office and all 95 Western Cape municipalities by the end of this week, it emerged yesterday.

The Western Cape is the only province yet to comply with the Local Government Transition Act.

The High Court challenge — expected to be heard by June this year — is being mounted by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Mohamed Valli Moosa.

The National Party-led Western Cape has put in place district councils which have equal representation from transitional rural councils (farmers and farm workers) and transitional local councils (country towns) — a move allegedly favouring the NP in forthcoming elections.

The NP has traditionally had more support in the rural regions, while the African National Congress has secured strong support in the country towns of the Western Cape.

The outcome of the court case could prove crucial for the 1999 elections in the rural districts — and if Moosa wins, could sow bureaucratic confusion which could take months to untangle.

Cape gets new departments to boost efficiency

POLITICAL STAFF

(263)

Three new provincial government departments are to be created in the Western Cape as part of a sweeping reorganisation of the province's administration.

Provincial Director-General Niel Barnard announced today that a new Department of Labour Affairs and Transformation would be created to give special emphasis to "both the continuous transformation process and labour relations"

A separate Department of Public Works would also be set up to ensure more professional and efficient management of provincial assets. Previously these assets were administered by the Department of Transport and Public Works

Dr Barnard said that in order to focus on local government functions, the Western Cape would also set up a new Department of Local Government.

The changes, he said, were aimed at enhancing efficiency. But he did not say what the changes would cost, or whether the province would have to employ additional senior officials to run the new departments.

It is also not clear which of the province's executive committee members would have specific responsibility for the new departments.

The changes will come into effect on Monday.

ARC 12/12/98

Constitution 'costing Western Cape R20m'

(263)

KAREN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

CT 12/2/98

THE cost of implementing the Western Cape Constitution was R20 million, Ms Tasneem Essop of the ANC told the provincial legislature yesterday.

It cost R1,4m to draft the constitution, plus R4m a year to provide for the two extra provincial ministers in Premier Hennis Kriel's "bloated" cabinet, Essop said.

She was responding to Kriel's opening address on Monday in which he called the Western Cape a "state". His message, Essop said, was clearly one that he had set the province on a "path of secession and polarisation".

The R4m a year included two salaries of R770 000, R388 000 a year for air tickets, telephones and entertainment, R2m for extra ministerial staff and R316 000 to allow staff to travel, phone and entertain.

"This figure does not include R300 000 which has been spent on new carpets and curtains in the offices of the new ministers. Or the R1,6m to relocate the director-general to squeeze in the premier's new cronies," Essop said.

She said Kriel forgot to tell Western Cape taxpayers what the cost was of "creating his little empire here in the Cape" by drafting legislation which would allow him to promote a separate identity for the province.

"Mr Kriel on the one hand can afford to surround his colleagues in the trappings of luxury but on the other claims that those same resources can't be used to make a fairer, more equal society in the province," she said.

ANC loses last voice in W Cape government

CHENE BILIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

(269)
RAT 12/12/98

The African National Congress's last voice in the Western Cape government has been silenced with the ousting of Deputy-Speaker Mampe Ramotsamai. In what opposition parties

described as an "eye for an eye" approach, the National Party yesterday acted to remove Ms Ramotsamai from her post.

After a heated debate lasting nearly an hour, the motion was carried by 25 votes to 18. But the African Christian Democratic Party, the Democratic Party and

Freedom Front did not support the motion and argued that the post should be scrapped completely.

The NP's decision to get rid of Ms Ramotsamai had been on the cards since the ANC left the provincial government late last year. During yesterday's debate, the ANC accused the NP of "engineering"

the removal of the last senior African from the provincial government.

But the NP's attitude was that the ANC had only itself to blame for finding itself out in the cold.

Gerald Morkel of the NP told the Deputy-Speaker his party's decision was not levelled at her personally but was a political move.

KRIEHL SACKS OLCCKERS

How Mrs Olsckers scandal claims rock Nats

CHENE BLISNAUT AND CAROL CAMPBELL
STAFF REPORTERS

A defiant Martha Olsckers, the Western Cape cabinet minister accused of having an affair with her top aide, says she will not quit voluntarily.

But unconfirmed reports this afternoon claimed that Premier Hennis Kriel had fired her.

At the time of going to press, Mrs Olsckers, former education minister and now in charge of culture and environment, was in

in the head of the National Party, minus van Schalkwyk, whom she was briefing on the crisis which is threatening to destroy her political career.

She phoned her office to tell staff that negotiations on her future would continue into the afternoon, a spokesman said.

Mr Kriel gave Mrs Olsckers until 10am today to "sort out her problems or resign".

A spokesman for Mr Kriel said the meeting between the premier and his minister was confidential and it was up to Mrs Olsckers to disclose what had transpired.

Her spokesman, Johann de Wet - the man named as her alleged lover - said she would issue a statement later today.

Dr De Wet's wife Estelle is suing Mrs Olsckers for R150 000 for allegedly breaking up her marriage by having an affair with her husband.

Mrs Olsckers says she will counter-sue Mrs De Wet for making false allegations.

In the past 24 hours, there has been wild speculation that she will quit her post because Mr Kriel was reported to be "furious" that the National Party's image was

once again being tainted by alleged scandal.

Two weeks ago former state president and NP leader F W de Klerk admitted he was in love with a married woman.

There is a growing feeling in the provincial legislature that the allegations are a deliberate attempt to undermine Mrs Olsckers's political career. "This is as dirty as politics gets," said an inside source.

Apparently Mrs Olsckers's lawyers are to try to convince Mrs De Wet to withdraw the case to save her job.

Inside sources said if Mrs Olsckers

resigned today, her portfolios would be split between two National Party ministers.

At yesterday's session of the legislature, Mrs Olsckers put on a brave face at first, but is reported to have left in tears.

The African National Congress did not let the chance go by to use the latest allegations as ammunition in the debate on Mr Kriel's opening speech.

Leonard Ramatlakane said although the ANC did not judge Mr De Klerk and Mrs Olsckers, it felt that the NP should "practice what they preach".

ARLT 13/12/98

(263)

Kriel loses Olckers, faces no-confidence vote

BD 16/2/98

(263)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel, having just lost one of his cabinet members because of her alleged relationship with an aide, looks set to face an unprecedented vote of no confidence in the provincial legislature today.

Kriel stands accused by the African National Congress (ANC) of lacking vision and leadership.

Kriel had other things on his mind at the weekend after the resignation of Cultural and Environmental Affairs MEC Martha

Olckers following claims that she was having an affair with her personal aide, Johann de Wet, 41.

Olckers is likely to return to the legislature as an ordinary member.

Olckers, 56, denied the allegations made by De Wet's wife Estelle, 42, in a legal suit for R150 000 damages which she instituted against Olckers for having broken up her marriage. In a statement at the weekend, Olckers said that as the only woman in the cabinet she was being victimised by double standards.

Kriel had given Olckers until Saturday morning to sort out her personal affairs or leave his cabinet.

His spokesman, Chris Koole, said yesterday Kriel would be considering a replacement for Olckers this week.

He could either appoint a new minister immediately, or temporarily split the culture and environment affairs portfolios and delegate them to other members of his cabinet.

In a statement, Kriel thanked Olckers for taking the "honourable" way out by resigning to pay full attention to her personal problems.

It was in the interests of the party, he said, that the situation be resolved quickly. Thanking her for her services, he wished her well in her future political career, which apparently meant continuing as a member of the provincial legislature.

Western Cape ANC leader in the provincial legislature, Ebrahim Rasool, will bring a motion of no confidence in Kriel today because of his "lack of statesmanship" and the way he handled issues such as the education crisis.

The ANC said Kriel appeared unable to rise above the petty interests of his party and to get his "white constituency" to embrace social transformation.

Kriel said on Friday, in reply to the debate on his opening speech to the legislature, that he found it strange that after four years as participants in his cabinet, the ANC now found it necessary to bring a vote of no confidence in him.

Being coloured is a state of mind

Caught between two worlds, different identities evolve within the community
(21st ARK 16/12/98)

The label "coloured" draws different responses from those who wear it - almost all of it tinged with emotion

Firstly, it is not a term of their choice, but was designated by white rulers

Secondly, it was a label of separation - a rejection by the white group from whose loins the "coloureds" partly sprouted

The "coloured" group, by and large, also practised the same act of separation or rejection towards the Koi and Xhosa

The coloured group clung to the apron strings of the white minority - a situation paralleled in the reactions of blacks during the time of slavery in the United States

The offspring of the female kitchen-hand and white slave-owner were better treated than those of the field worker - particularly if their pigmentation was shades lighter than their counterparts in the fields

To escape the damnation of their "blackness", some coloureds and American blacks introduced a form of assimilation by passing as "white", trading on the fairness of their pigmentation to savour social and economic freedom

There was ambivalence from families whose members crossed over - acceptance that those who were successful in the transition were leading a "better life" and would be able to help those left behind, but also a feeling of betrayal at the desertion from their ranks

Like the American black, who was content to accept the term "coloured", most South African coloureds displayed no hesitation in responding to the term with which they were labelled.

The American blacks, though, later became more militant, choosing a label of identity with which they would be more comfortable, preferring to be known as Negro and later as African-American

With the emergence of Black Consciousness in South Africa, coloured militancy grew

Adherents resented and rejected the label of "non-European", again a term of identity bestowed upon them by the ruling whites

Those among them who were perceived to be collaborating with the white order were contemptuously branded as "non-whites" and "sell-outs"

They eagerly accepted the term "black" - a term of unification

The future of the Western Cape - politically, socially and economically - depends, to a large extent, on the political affiliations of the so-called Coloured people. With the approach of next year's general election, the battle has been joined between all political parties for the hearts, minds - and votes - of this influential community of 2.3 million people

In the first of a series of articles by selected writers, **JAMES MATTHEWS**, the distinguished poet and author, attempts here to define the psyche, the history and aspirations of his people

embracing all those who were not white

For some, it was also the repudiation of being known as a South African - not a rejection of the land, but the term itself, as it only held truth stamped upon a passport, but was not indicative of their treatment as citizens of the land

They were black and preferred to be known as Azanians - people of Azania, their replacement name for the country.

The acceptance sought by coloureds was not realised with the possession of a vote.

Their disenchantment was revealed when the African National Congress campaigned for the "coloured" vote in the 1994 general election

They were branded "betrayers" by some in the ANC when the National Party gained control of the Western Cape

Grievances at grassroots and, at times, in professional sectors, surfaced with the implementation of affirmative action when it was perceived that the policy favoured blacks who were not coloured.

This conveniently ignored the fact that in the Western Cape in the past, job preference was directed towards coloureds

Distrust was further engendered when a group that was not coloured occupied vacant houses in Delft, a former coloured township, set aside for coloured occupancy.

The ANC's delay in rectifying matters satisfactorily heightened racial discord on both sides

The following is an overview of reflections revealed by a cross-section of coloured people

For some, there is no problem being identified as coloured, as for them it holds no stigma

It is a term that was acceptable to their grandparents and parents, and they do not find it offensive to be addressed as coloured

They show their admiration for a black person as head of state, but show displeasure if labelled "black", although they do not express antagonism towards blacks, whom they perceived as Xhosas, Zulus and so forth

They are not eager to be incorporated into the white group

Anti-black racism has developed among some coloureds, and is on the increase among those who feel their position is threatened by what they see as the Government's favourable treatment of blacks

This fear of displacement stems from having been accorded second-class status in the past, by the United Party before it was displaced by the National Party

The National Party, even though it was responsible for apartheid, plays on people's fears by suggesting that the ANC represents the "swart gevaar" for the coloured community, and that coloureds will not enjoy all the privileges accorded to blacks.

That fear compounds the search for an identity - an identity binding them to strive for a "coloured homeland"

For those who have absorbed the policy of Black Consciousness, the acceptance of being coloured and black is not as contradictory as it might appear, because being black does not mean rejecting being coloured

Being black is part of their political stance - a stance they still feel necessary now - and does not exclude them their place in coloured ranks.

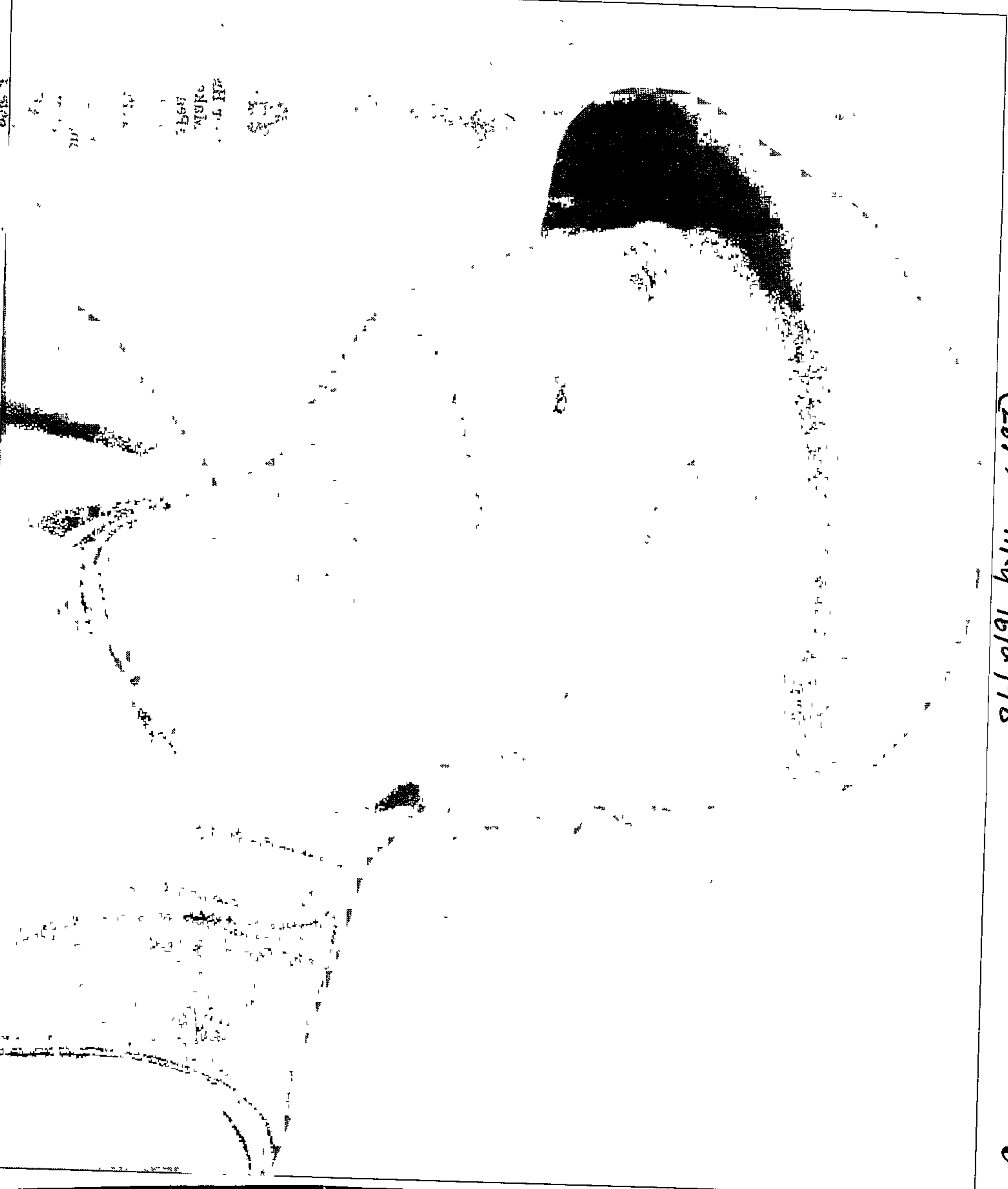
Some coloureds display their anger and disillusionment with the ANC, which persists in approaching

the next year's election on a racial level. For them, the colours of the rainbow nation have lost their glow.

The Government does not seem able to rid itself of its "colour-consciousness", the president still talks in speeches of African, white and coloured voters - a betrayal of

the "struggle" that was to bring about a country free of the confines of ethnic compartments

Confusion and bitterness has been brewing in the coloured mind for a long time, coming to a boil with the establishment of the December 1 movement and kindred bodies, with



ANDREW INGRAM

some of them having aspirations of establishing a Colouredistan

As a poet, I express the principles of Black Consciousness through my poetry - the affirmativeness of my "blackness" and its inherent dignity. I also state that

*Freedom is not the colour of my black skin
my blackness a cloak to flaunt
proclaiming that only I am free
because of the bondage suffered
freedom coloured by blackness is a dream
there is no time for dreams,
Being Coloured is a State of Mind*

Fury as Niel Barnard fails to heed Parliament's call

CLIVE SAWYER

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Parliament's public service committee is to subpoena Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard after he failed to attend an official hearing today on the state of the province.

In a letter sent by the committee last year, Dr Barnard was summoned to answer questions by the committee on issues raised

about the running of the Western Cape administration in a report compiled by Public Service director-general Paseko Ncholo

A four-person team from the province was due to appear today, but this morning Dr Barnard sent a letter to committee chairperson Salie Manie saying he could not attend because of urgent business

This sparked the ire of the committee with several members accusing Dr Barnard of treating it with contempt, saying that

other provinces were sending their directors-general

The meeting was adjourned and Mr Manie was mandated to subpoena Dr Barnard to attend African National Congress MP Philip Dexter said it was essential for the director-general, as the accounting officer, to be present

Mr Manie, speaking in his capacity as head of the ANC study group on the public service, told journalists after the meeting

that Dr Barnard's absence appeared to be revenge by the Western Cape government for this week's ANC motion of no confidence in Premier Herens Kriel

It gave substance to the rumours that the quest for a separate identity for the Western Cape was leading the way for the province to become a volkstaat, Mr Manie said

Dr Barnard's office said he was not available for comment because he was at a meeting away from the office for the day.

AR 17/2/98

(2633)

Kriel rides punch as ANC no-confidence vote fails

Provincial motion finds no backers

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel's position is intact after the African National Congress failed in the provincial legislature to get backing for its motion of no confidence.

None of the minority parties supported the motion, which was defeated by 30 votes to 12.

In yesterday's debate, Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the legislature, listed 10 areas in which he said the premier had failed the province.

These included education,



Position intact: Hernus Kriel

crime, failing to incorporate the province in the new South Africa, a lack of leadership and good governance and failing to

win the trust of ordinary people

Mr Rasool also accused the National Party of failing to live up to its own "self-righteous" values and standards, referring to the resignation of Minister for Environmental Affairs and Culture Martha Olckers over allegations of a love affair with her top aide

The NP rejected the ANC's motion as a "personal attack" on the premier

Hennie Bester, Western Cape leader of the Democratic Party, said the ANC's motion was also a motion of no confidence in him as a member of the cabinet and his party would not support it

At the same time, the DP would not support a motion of "the fullest confidence" in Mr Kriel

The African Christian Democratic Party's Michael Louis said the ANC was "playing dangerous political games" and "playing with the lives of the people of the province" by sending out a message of uncertainty

Eleanor Lombard of the Freedom Front asked Mr Rasool if he would have moved a motion of no confidence in Mr Kriel had he still been a member of the provincial cabinet

See page 10

Cape spurns Manuel

Thousands of jobs at risk — but cash

ALIDE DASNOIS
BUSINESS EDITOR

In spite of thousands of jobs being in jeopardy, the Western Cape government has refused Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's offer of financial help, claiming that it would give the central government too much power over the province's affairs.

"We don't need the money," Armand Le Roux, spokesman for provincial Finance Minister Lampie Fick, told the Cape Argus

Mr Manuel has asked Parliament to allocate R1,5-billion for conditional grants, to be made available to provinces undertaking to manage their finances better in future

But Mr Fick said in a speech to the provincial legislature this week that the Western Cape would seek other ways of managing its deficit, although he gave no indication of what steps, if any, would be taken to save the jobs of teachers and thousands of other provincial employees which are under threat because of the tight budget

The province's deficit for the current

financial year, estimated at R1,066-billion in September, was now estimated at R627-million, he said. It had been reduced by "drastic" and "painful" steps taken by provincial departments

Instead of taking up Mr Manuel's offer, the province would probably apply to the national treasury for an advance on next year's budget allocation to cover the deficit.

This would mean the Western Cape could avoid the "judicial management" to which it would be exposed under the constitution if it accepted Mr Manuel's offer of funds

Clause 100(1)(a) of the constitution, under which grants to struggling provinces will be made, gives the national executive power to intervene where a province does not meet its obligations, by issuing a directive stating what steps must be taken

Provinces which would like a slice of the R1,5-billion set aside for conditional grants will have to submit a plan to bring spending down in line with resources

Mr Manuel has said that the plan should include rationalisation of the provincial administration and cuts in such items as

refused

cellphones and official cars

"The conditions are too strict," said Mr Le Roux. "We'd be bound to submit to the Government's stipulations

"We don't need the money — we can manage on our budget"

The Eastern Cape, Kwazulu Natal and the Northern Province are expected to apply for the funds

Political Correspondent **Clive Sawyer** reports that provincial director-general Niel

To page 3

W Cape spurns Manuel's cash aid

From page 1

Barnard has said restructuring of Western Cape provincial departments will be completed by July 3

This is contained in a written report to Parliament's portfolio committee on the public service, tabled at a meeting which was aborted when Dr Barnard failed to appear

He had been summoned by committee chairman Salie Manie to brief the committee on steps taken by the province in response to a critical central government report which

exposed weaknesses in the administration

The committee declined to hear evidence from other senior Western Cape provincial officials who came to the meeting, saying that as accounting officer, Dr Barnard should have been present

He informed Mr Manie by letter early yesterday that he would be unable to attend because of urgent business

In his report, Dr Barnard said restructuring of the province in line with the white paper on transforma-

tion of the public service would be completed in July

This restructuring would include achieving the best use of funds and resources and avoiding duplication

Responding to a query about "right-sizing" the provincial administration, he said the Western Cape planned to reduce posts by 17%

The right-sizing process would make it extremely difficult to maintain proper service delivery

Giving voluntary severance packages had not helped service delivery either

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ARGUS

Treatment of Olckers 'sexist'

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

If former Western Cape Minister of Environment and Cultural Affairs Martha Olckers had been a man, she would still have her job.

This is the verdict of women across the spectrum who have come out in support of the embattled politician.

Mrs Olckers was forced to resign after allegations that she was having an affair with her aide. She has denied the claims and vowed to fight back.

She was told by her National Party boss, Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel, to "sort out" her problems or resign.

"It was very sexist," said Lynne Brown, African National Congress spokeswoman on gender issues, of the way Mrs Olckers was treated by her own party.

"Men have affairs all the time and they are not viewed in the same serious light," said Ms Brown, one of two women in the

To page 3

Women MPs say Olckers saga 'not fair'

From page 1

ANC who called Mrs Olckers to sympathise with her. "Infidelity is obviously viewed as a more serious offence than failing to do your job properly," Ms Brown said.

Eleanor Lombard of the Freedom Front said Mrs Olckers had been a victim of the NP's "oversensitivity" to sexual scandals after FW de Klerk's public declaration of his love for another woman.

She said the NP had "overreacted" to unproven allegations and Mrs Olckers had not been given "a fair chance" to tell her side of the story.

"Men often go away on business trips with their secretaries and nobody raises an eyebrow, but society is still not used to seeing a woman in this role," said Ms Lombard.

Mrs Olckers should have been evaluated on her performance as a minister, not on her private affairs, she said.

"The NP created this dilemma for themselves by using family values as one of the cornerstones of their otherwise empty campaign," she said.

Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, head of the ANC women's caucus in Parliament, said many powerful men had extramarital affairs and were not forced to resign because of them.

"The issue is not whether she had the extramarital affair, as the NP leadership seems to think, but whether there was an abuse of power," said Ms Madlala-Routledge.

Democratic Party stalwart Helen Suzman said it was "unlikely" a man in Mrs Olckers's position would have been "harassed into resignation".

"I feel sorry for Martha," said NP Member of Parliament and justice spokeswoman Sheila Camerer.

Parliament accuses Western Cape director-

David Greybe — Parliament's public service committee decided yesterday to subpoena Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard after he failed to attend a public hearing on provincial audit reports.

Committee members accused Barnard of showing contempt for Parliament by excusing himself at the last minute despite the fact that

he was summonsed in terms of parliamentary rules last December to appear yesterday.

Barnard sent the committee a fax yesterday which informed chairman Salie Manie that urgent business had arisen in the past few days which he was duty-bound to deal with and he could therefore not attend the hearing.

He did not specify the nature of the business.

He informed the committee he would be represented by two senior Western Cape officials instead.

However, the portfolio committee, which held public hearings into the provincial audit reports yesterday and on Monday disregarded Barnard's "late fax", postponed proceedings and instructed Manie to subpoena Barnard.

Manie, who was speaking afterwards as the chairman of the African

National Congress (ANC) public service study group, said that Barnard's failure to attend appeared to be linked to alleged attempts by the National Party (NP) to turn the Western Cape into "a completely different (political) entity".

"It does appear as if the rumour to use the Western Cape as a volkstaat is gaining ground," Manie said. This was of "grave concern" to the ANC.

He said Barnard's action also

appeared to be an act of revenge following an ANC motion of no confidence in the NP under premier Herinus Kriel in the provincial legislature this week.

Meanwhile, the Northern Province, in its submission yesterday, said fraud and theft were still a major problem in the province, especially in the following areas:

□ Government transport fraud such as abuse of car petrol cards, and theft

General of contempt

of government vehicles and vehicle parts. The police had so far been unsuccessful in prosecuting suspected officers.

□ Traffic control. There was fraudulent issuing of learner's and driver's licences and taking of bribes from the public. There had been "some successes" in prosecuting traffic officers;

□ A number of officials had been charged with "manipulating" the bookkeeping system, which involved

"large sums of money", and;

□ Abuse of tenders, petty theft, theft of medicines and cashing of fraudulent cheques.

Newly appointed Northern Province director-general Manching Monama said ethnic favouritism and nepotism were also a problem in the province.

To counter this, all posts were advertised and interview panels were carefully selected.

Council delays decision on expelling councillors

TWO COUNCILLORS who contravened the code of conduct may escape expulsion, says Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH**.

PLEAS for a reprieve for two Manenberg councillors facing expulsion from the Cape Town City Council for intervening in a council eviction earlier this month led to the matter being postponed for a week.

The debacle began early on February 3 when ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson and National Party member Mr Osborne Adams were asked by community members to help a Manenberg family which was being evicted.

"I explained to Mrs Jacobs (the tenant who had moved in illegally) the duty of the sheriff. She was so hysterical she asked me to phone Mr William Cobbett (Cape Town's director of housing) and ask him what she should do with her belongings... The situation then became volatile," said Sampson.

The eviction was taking place in terms of Cobbett's housing policy which had been adopted by all councillors late last year.

Both phoned Cobbett and tried to stop the legal action — in direct contravention of the councillors' code of conduct.

"The councillor (Adams) went further and accused my department of providing preferential treatment to Africans relative to coloureds," said Cobbett.

"Councillor Sampson, for his part, appeared to be playing to an audience close to the phone and made absolutely no attempt to listen to my replies."

The councillors' "behaviour, demeanour and language" asserted that the eviction was happening as a result of actions that he (Cobbett) had taken personally and not in terms of a policy the council had adopted, said Cobbett.

Instead of supporting staff carrying out council policy, they had sided with people who had broken



IN OR OUT? NP councillor Mr Osborne Adams (left) and ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson, stand accused of contravening the councillors' code of conduct and may be expelled from the council.

PICTURES: ALAN TAYLOR

'We're often in the line of fire when duty calls'

METRO EDITOR

EVERYDAY events can quickly escalate into life and death situations in the war-torn suburb of Manenberg — as Cape Town councillors Mr Mogamat Sampson and Mr Osborne Adams and court sheriff Mr William Kannemeyer discovered this month. Both councillors face expulsion from the council after intervening in an eviction of illegal tenants this month.

According to an affidavit presented to the council's executive committee yesterday, the councillors helped calm an unruly crowd that had gathered in the flat after Kannemeyer arrived to do his duty.

And then things really became nasty. "While we were busy in the flat, Solly Staggie (younger brother of Hard Liv-

ings gang leader Mr Rashied Staggie) and three of his friends came into the flat and started to make racist remarks and threatened to shoot me and my staff," said Kannemeyer.

"Solly Staggie began pushing me around and then kicked me on my leg. I then pushed him out of the flat door and phoned the police for assistance as the street was full of gangsters."

"Nobody can understand what it's like for us," said NP councillor Adams after exco delayed making a decision on his fate until next Tuesday.

"I get woken up and called out to intervene in situations all through the night. The stress and strain are too much."

"We're often threatened by gangs and must really be careful. I worry that my home could be petrol-bombed."

the law

After investigating the incident, city manager Mr Andrew Boraine

had recommended that the council "apply to the High Court for the termination of their membership

of this council" — if they didn't first offer to resign.

If councillors are not prepared to be held accountable for the policies and decisions they have helped to determine, and to abide by relevant codes or protocols, there will "inevitably be difficulties in the future", said Boraine.

"Given the enormity of the challenge facing Cape Town generally as regards housing and the particularly volatile situation that will develop unless these are dealt with effectively, I am extremely concerned that officials should not become the focus of community groupings' frustration and anger — especially in areas as volatile as Manenberg."

NP leader in the council Mr Clive Justus said that while he was committed to the Code of Conduct, Boraine's stand was perhaps too harsh.

"It's sad that out of concern for their constituent's safety both councillors are to be expelled — particularly since they are involved in an area in poverty and crisis," Justus said.

He reminded the executive council of its trepidation when it visited war-torn Manenberg last week.

"One can understand that in the heat of the moment, confronted by unruly elements seeking to discredit the council, one could act out of character. Logic does not always prevail in these situations," said Justus.

NP councillor Mr Howard Parker said he believed the councillors had acted in good faith.

They came from an area that was "historically disadvantaged" and may not properly understand the codes of conduct.

Deputy chairperson of exco, ANC member Mr Saleem Mowzer, then asked for the matter to be postponed for a week.

At his suggestion, the councillors were instantly suspended from their position on the housing committee "until exco has had a chance to study the recommendations" and take a decision on Tuesday next week.

CT 18/2/98

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FORMER MAYOR LINKS SHOOTING TO TESTIMONY

Councillor shot

'to silence her'

AN ASSASSINATION BID was made on a Tygerberg councillor on the eve of a hearing in which she was to give evidence against workers who had allegedly beaten up the mayor. **ERIC NTABAZALILA** and **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** report

(263) CT 18/2/98

TYGERBERG councillor Ms Buyiswa Kalako was shot to stop her from testifying against municipal workers who had assaulted and left former Khayelitsha mayor Mr Vuyani Ngcuka for dead late last year, Ngcuka alleged last night

As Kalako was being wheeled into a Groote Schuur operating theatre late yesterday, an angry Ngcuka urged the SA Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) to exercise control over its members

Samwu general-secretary Mr Roger Ronnie told the *Cape Times* that he was aware of the incident involving Ngcuka and "I know some of our members were arrested"

He said Kalako's shooting was "regrettable".

"If any member of the union is found to have participated in the shooting he or she will be expelled," Ronnie said

Kalako — wife of former Western Cape MEC for sport and recreation, Lerumo — was shot three times outside a friend's house in Khayelitsha on Monday night

Last night she was said to be in a "stable condition" after emergency surgery to remove bullets from her liver, stomach and an arm

Ngcuka told the *Cape Times* last night that Kalako had been due to testify at a disciplinary hearing of municipal workers — allegedly Samwu members — who had assaulted him in November last year

He was convinced that the attempted assassination of Kalako was linked to her "key" testimony at the hearing, scheduled for yesterday. The hearing was postponed

Ngcuka said a group of council workers armed with guns, iron rods and planks had burst into a council meeting at the Lingeletu Training Centre in Khayelitsha and started "gunning" for him. He

had been hospitalised for two days

The assault apparently had been sparked by negotiations to privatise municipal services in Khayelitsha. Ngcuka said Kalako had tried to intervene in the November 4 attack, but was also assaulted by "aggressive" workers.

Ngcuka said "I would find it strange if it does not link. During the hearing last month these Samwu members insisted that the case should be postponed and be heard in Khayelitsha. And now, before Buyiswa could testify, they try to kill her"

"This is a very strange coincidence. It is also a direct intimidation of the councillors, who are being prevented from doing their work," he said

Mr Lerumo Kalako said last night he was "puzzled" by the motive for the attack as nothing was taken from the car

"Though I'm looking at all possibilities, I'm convinced the motive was not hijacking or theft. These people did not even attempt to open the doors of the car"

He and his wife had gone to visit a friend in Site C, Khayelitsha, when the attack took place

As he entered the house he heard gunshots and came out running

"People from inside the house were shouting at me not to go to the car as I might be shot as well, but I wanted to go and save my wife. As I was running towards her I noticed that she had got out of the car and was running towards me, but she stumbled and fell. At this point the men had fled the scene. I picked her up and rushed her to Site B day hospital," he said

His wife could utter some words but the pain was unbearable. He said the doctors were worried about the bullet that had entered her liver

A boy who had seen the two assailants had given the police their description, Kalako said. No arrests have been made

'I'm convinced the motive was not hijacking or theft.'

Western Cape turns down Manuel's financial aid offer

(263) (24) *Nov 19/2/98*
OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town - Despite the fact that thousands of jobs could be jeopardised, the Western Cape government has refused Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's offer of financial help, claiming it would give the central Government too much power over its affairs.

"We don't need the money," said Armand le Roux, spokesman for Finance MEC Lampie Fick

Manuel has asked Parliament to allocate R1,5-billion for conditional grants to be made available to provinces which undertake to manage their finances better in future.

Fick said in a speech to the provincial legislature this week the Western Cape would seek other ways of managing its deficit, although he gave no indication of what would be done to save the jobs of teachers and other provincial employees which are under threat because

of the tight budget.

The province's deficit for the current financial year, estimated at R1,066-billion in September, was now estimated at R627-million, Fick said.

Instead of taking up Manuel's offer, the province would probably apply to the national treasury for an advance on next year's budget allocation to cover the deficit. This would mean the Western Cape could avoid the judicial management to which it would be exposed under the constitution if the province accepted Manuel's offer, he said.

Provinces which would like a slice of the R1,5-billion will have to submit a plan to bring spending in line with resources.

Clive Sawyer reports that provincial director-general Niel Barnard has said the restructuring of Western Cape departments will be completed by July 3. This restructuring would include achieving the best use of funds and resources, and avoiding duplication.

Cape constitution triggers race row

(263)

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ARG 19/2/98

Implementation of the new Western Cape constitution is worsening racial division in the province, warns Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Valli Moosa.

He spoke at the close of a National Assembly debate on an African National Congress motion that slammed political developments

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CAPE ARGUS, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1998

Constitution race row

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in the province surrounding the new constitution

Mr Moosa described as "most outrageous" the creation of a Western Cape Department of Labour Affairs and Transformation, citing the national constitution, which makes labour an exclusively central government matter

Holding up the front page of yesterday's Cape Argus, which featured the province's rejection of the terms of Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's bail-out package for provinces, Mr Moosa said the Western Cape had rejected as "too strict" finance ministry demands for it to cut down on cellphones and luxury cars.

The debate was closely linked, even in most participants' minds, to the forthcoming electoral battle for the Western Cape.

Randall van den Heever of the ANC said the National Party, in coal-

tion with the Democratic Party and the African Christian Democratic Party, was "reintroducing a volkstaat of white baaskap and divide-and-rule policies in the Western Cape"

According to an ANC costing exercise, the new constitution would cost taxpayers an additional R20-million in its first year of implementation

"Add to this a lavish carpet which the Nats have bought for the members' bar which costs R98 000," said Mr Van den Heever, to cries of "sies" and "skande" from his own benches

"The white man is still baas in the Western Cape

"White people control the Western Cape government, white people control the public service and white people control the private sector," said Mr Van den Heever. There was no black provincial cabinet minister

Zoliswa Kota of the ANC said the absence of women in Hernus Kriel's cabinet had created a "cabinet of broederskap and braskap"

Fick defends finance move

ARG 19/2/98

(2b3)

POLITICAL STAFF

Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick has defended his decision not to accept financial help from Finance Minister Trevor Manuel - arguing that to have done so would have placed the province under the "judicial management" of the national government.

And he has refuted suggestions that by turning down the offer of help, the province was putting thousands

of jobs at risk

In a statement, he says that the R1,5-billion offered to cash-strapped provinces by Mr Manuel is not a grant or an addition to their budgets, "but a loan that would have to be paid back"

"It will therefore not solve our deficit problem but only assist cash flow management

"We do in fact have a cash flow problem but it is manageable and we can and must handle our deficit without accessing the R1,5-billion"

It wasn't a snub, says Barnard

ARG 19/2/98

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard says he regrets that his absence from a parliamentary committee hearing was seen as a slight.

The portfolio committee on the public service this week voted to subpoena Dr Barnard after he failed to appear at a scheduled

hearing, giving "urgent business" as the reason for his last-minute withdrawal

In a letter to committee chairperson Salie Manie, Dr Barnard said "My absence was not intended as a slight and I regret it was perceived as such"

He cited previous correspondence, and his detailed response to written questions on the state of

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the provincial government, as evidence of the administration's commitment to assist the committee to the best of its ability

"In this spirit I hereby record my willingness to attend the next meeting of the committee," said Dr Barnard

Mr Manie said he had no mandate to drop the subpoena unless the committee decided otherwise

Kriel using coloureds as a buffer

Group must emerge from the shadow of the white 'master'

THE COLOURED PEOPLE MUST SOLVE THEIR IDENTITY CRISIS AND ASSUME THEIR RIGHTFUL ROLE AS MAJOR PLAYERS IN DETERMINING THE FUTURE OF THE WESTERN CAPE. THAT IS THE VIEW OF CAPE ARGUS STAFF WRITER **BLACKMAN NGORO** IN THIS, THE FOURTH ARTICLE IN A SERIES ABOUT OUR REGION'S INFLUENTIAL COMMUNITY OF 2.3 MILLION PEOPLE



The coloured people of the Western Cape are suffering from an identity crisis. Understandably

They, like other blacks, have lived so long in the shadow of the white "master" that their confidence to run affairs of state has been eroded almost completely.

The situation persists even today, in our new democracy. Western Cape Premier Hannus Kriel is using them unashamedly as a buffer.

He and his fellow National Party politicians go to bed at night with grins, knowing full well that the future is protected for them by the coloured people.

Meanwhile, in political terms, the black and coloured people in the Western Cape are increasingly being marginalised.

The coloureds, who some right-wing whites claim are even more racist than they are, should resist gangling up on the Africans.

Thus is playing right into the hands of Mr Kriel and his cohorts. No, they must rise up from the shadows of a political reality that discriminated against them as much as it did the African people and take their rightful place in helping to run affairs in their part of our world.

It may sound incredible, but there are coloured people - mainly domestic workers - who still call the whites who employ them "master" or "missus".

That is a colonial legacy intended to achieve and maintain domination. A coloured woman I know, who comes from Springbok, told me she worked in such an environment.

"I worked for a company where I was coached to treat my white bosses

with extreme courtesy," she told me.

"Even when a white person introduced himself or herself by name, my immediate boss - who was also a coloured woman - told me that, when speaking, I should always attach the word "master" or "miss" before every white person's name.

"The owner of the company employed that woman, my boss, as a domestic help.

"Over the years, she played the dual roles of wife and servant. She gave birth to a son - the boss's son. Yet she kept on calling him 'master'. The boss never objected."

Jonathan, an architect in Cape Town, saw this as being reflective of a form of decadence where white people in general exploited the helplessness of their coloured workers.

"In many ways, white men who behave like this don't trample on white women's rights in similar fashion," he said.

"They're inclined to treat them with the utmost dignity.

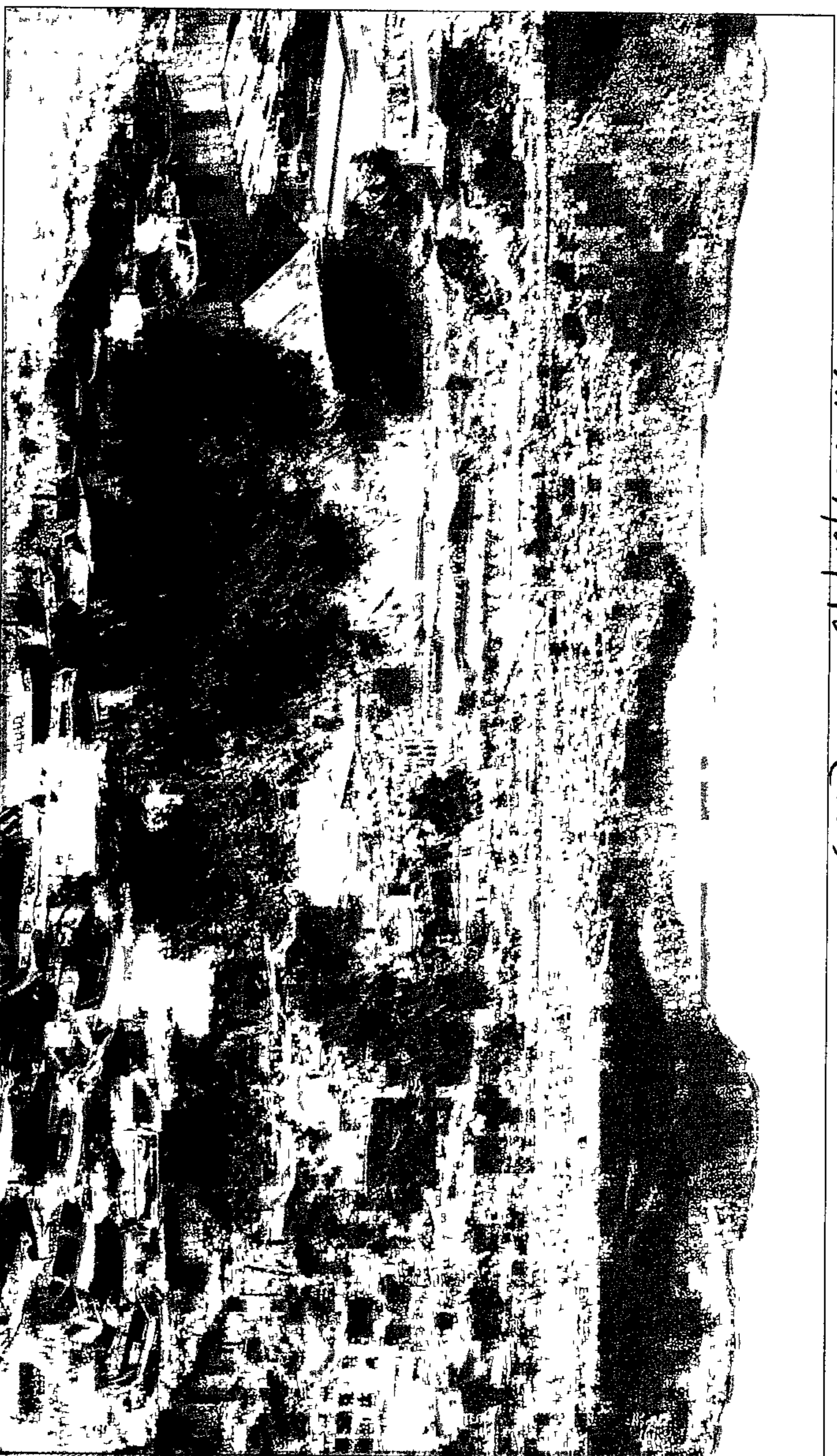
"They can trample on coloured people and their women because of the power they have over them.

"Those coloured women are treated like rags because a certain type of white man has always done that.

"Then he acts like he is doing the coloured people a favour by giving them a job."

Some white people do to the coloureds what would be found to be too shocking by their own society.

Domestic workers have no pension schemes. They work long hours. Many die while they are still employed. They have no benefits. Often the employer only helps with funeral expenses and has memory of the worker goes with the burial.



Echoes of the past: here in Springbok, domestic worker Beryl Williamson was taught not to address white people by name, but as 'mister' or 'miss'

However, there are many coloured people today who will not be treated like that.

Like Beryl Williamson (not her real name), the domestic worker from Springbok.

"I will not teach my child to be submissive," she said. "I'm not part of that crowd."

"Though I'm not political and don't like politics, I have a right to a fight against mental domination. "My daughter is dealing with this question every day.

"She grows up knowing on which side she must fall when the going gets really tough - her own.

"She will never be stupid enough to think she belongs with the

whites."

The opinion has been expressed that coloured people prefer a white boss to one of their own, let alone an African one.

"That way they know which way they are going," said Sam, a photographer.

However, there is also is another view. Benita van Eysen, a reporter with her roots in the coloured community of the Western Cape, now lives in Gauteng.

"For me, it's like I have abandoned my people," she said.

"I'm thinking in the same way as people like Cheryl Carolus, Bennie Alexander and Allan Boesak. "They may not have abandoned

their people, but it is as if they are thinking in terms of the black African people.

"The reason is simple. There is more to life than a bottle of brandy and coke - which, it seems, is what too many coloureds are about at this stage.

"At present, our community cannot stand up and say "This is what we are about. This is who we are. This is what we want."

"This inability to define an identity, coupled with no real cause and direction, poses serious problems," she said.

In political terms, many coloured people have an affiliation with the National Party.

"That has always been the political party which played ping-pong with their daily lives and with their futures," said Sam.

"I voted for the African National Congress," he said. "Me and my wife. "But my in-laws voted National Party and so did my parents.

"When they found out I had voted ANC, there was a lot of bad talk in our households.

"The reason why some coloured people have always ingratiated themselves with whites is that they think white favours are genuine.

"I get people who say their great-grandfathers were white. "I'm proud to say mine were the Sam people," he said.

We're not poor enough for aid, says Fick

CHENÉ BLIGNAULT
STAFF REPORTER

With thousands of provincial jobs in jeopardy, Western Cape Finance Minister Lampe Fick has found new reasons to reject the central government's offer of financial help. He claimed yesterday that the province would not qualify for Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's R1,5-billion aid offer because the province's financial affairs were

not "beyond redemption"

Yet the provincial government has repeatedly cited its budget constraints as the reason for having to lay off thousands of workers and has complained that it gets too little money from central Government.

Earlier this week there was apparent confusion in the Western Cape government over Mr Manuel's offer of help.

In a statement, Mr Fick said that the R1,5-billion offered to cash-strapped provinces was "a loan that will have to be paid back" to

central government and would therefore "not solve our deficit problem but only assist cash flow management".

But Jennifer Wilson, a spokeswoman for Mr Manuel's office, denied that the lifeline offer was a loan. "It is a grant to the provinces provided they meet certain conditions," she said.

"The conditions would have to be worked out by central Government and the province. Had the offer been a loan, the Government would not have had to ask Parlia-

ment for approval, she said.

Mr Fick said the Western Cape could manage its R627-million deficit for the current financial year through "normal management measures".

"We would probably not even qualify for it (part of the R1,5 billion)," said Mr Fick.

But today Ms Wilson said it was up to the provinces to apply for help and only then would it be possible to assess their request. By asking for help they would be admitting to having failed to keep within their budgets

(263) APR 20/21/98

Bid to free funds

(269)

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

ET 20/2/98

MUNICIPALITIES, stretched to breaking point by a more than eight-month delay in approval of the Cape Metropolitan Council's budget, may get a reprieve

The six local authorities are relying on getting R209 million from the CMC to balance their books

The shortfalls and allegations that the CMC was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poorer areas had led to questions by Finance Minister Trevor Manuel and the protracted delay

Yesterday CMC exco chairperson Mr Pierre Uys (NP) introduced a motion to start payments to the local authorities in defiance of the minister

"We've obtained legal opinion confirming that the Minister of Finance has no right to disapprove or approve our budget. His sole obligation is to monitor that maximum expenditure limits set by him are not exceeded — and this council's budget does not exceed these

"A final response from the Minister of Finance has been awaited for more than eight months and the situation has become intolerable."

Although Uys' recommendation failed to draw enough support, it is likely to be passed by the full NP-dominated council at the end of the month

Fick under the whip for refusing Manuel's cash

ARG 23/2/98
CHÉNE BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick's decision to reject the Government's financial help has had a mixed reception in the provincial parliament.

The African National Congress accused Mr Fick of basing his decision on "political reasons" during the second reading debate on the Adjustments Appropriation Bill on Friday.

But the minority parties strongly supported Mr Fick's decision.

They warned that by accepting the offer the Western Cape would be handing over control to central government.

ANC finance spokeswoman Tasneem Essop accused the National Party of "lying" to the people of the province about the

financial crisis and of "creating panic" over the past few months when "they knew they could have managed their finances differently".

Daniel Silke of the Democratic Party said the offer was an attempt to reassert control over the provinces.

"The Western Cape is being penalised for being a relatively prosperous province," he said

He said the package could not be used to save jobs but was intended to cover debt already incurred by the provinces.

Eleanor Lombard of the Freedom Front said the central government had a "hidden agenda" to take over control of the provinces.

Michael Louis of the African Christian Democratic Party said the province had to have "very good financial control" if it rejected the central government's offer.

INTIMIDATION OF OFFICIALS WIDESPREAD

City plans to promote fairness may be shelved



CITY COUNCILLORS who approve policies should work with officials who apply those policies, says city manager Andrew Boraine. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

HARD-HITTING policies aimed at reversing inequities in the City of Cape Town are in danger of being shelved because of widespread intimidation of council officials charged with implementing them.

So serious is the situation that a top official in charge of a department vital to the functioning of the city, was forced to vacate his office and has armed guards protecting his home after he received death threats.

Another involved in the city's programme to control hawkers has received several death threats and has taken similar measures to protect himself and his family. "It's terrifying, but we have to keep going for the sake of the city," he said.

Central to the widespread problem, said city manager Mr Andrew Boraine, was the failure of politicians (councillors), who approved the policies, to support officials in executing these policies.

Some actually side with unlawful elements against officials simply carrying out duties in terms of the policies.

"Council staff have to implement difficult policies in communities quick to resort to violent confrontation," he said yesterday.

"If council officials and councillors don't work together closely, there is no way policies can be implemented. Not only do councillors undermine council policy by not supporting the officials' action, but they go against it.

"It gets even worse when they identify a particular official as being responsible for the action," said Boraine.

In the process, the lives of officials in the Civic Centre and in the areas involved are put in danger.

"It's crunch time. This is turning into a big issue and we're taking it very seriously," he said.

"If councillors are not prepared to back council officials, I'll have to cancel all credit control measures in the city until such time as they can back us personally," he warned.

Caucuses of all political parties would be tackled over the problem.

The matter reached boiling point this week after the council's executive committee postponed a decision on the expulsion of two Manenberg councillors who breached the code of conduct by interfering in a legal council eviction.

Council officials were "appalled" when the matter was postponed for a week after Tuesday's pleas for clemency from other councillors.

Boraine had called for the councillors, NP member Mr Osborne Adams and ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson, to be expelled from the council.

"Staff are really angry. They put their lives on the line executing council policy. How can they take the council seriously if it's not prepared to back its decisions with strong action?" said Boraine.

Exco had heard how, during the eviction, both had phoned the head of housing and asked him to stop the process which was being carried out in terms of the council's new housing policy.

The councillors' behaviour and choice of language asserted that the eviction was happening as a result of actions the official had taken personally and not in terms of council policy. Aimed at bring-

ing order to council housing, the policy was unanimously accepted by all councillors, including Adams and Sampson, who served on the housing committee at the time.

The eviction drew a large crowd, who allegedly threatened to shoot the sheriff involved.

"The people's respect for governance and those in authority broke down over the past 20 years — quite understandably. While a legitimate government has been restored, we do not have governance. This shows — not only in extreme areas such as Manenberg — but generally in, for instance, people's complete disrespect for traffic rules," said Boraine.

In Guguletu, a small group complaining about issues of service delivery recently occupied a council building. For 10 days the council negotiated with them, met their demands and finally applied for an eviction order last week.

"The women were evicted and released on bail on condition that they didn't trespass on council property.

But they immediately came back with another 30 people and sat in again," said Boraine.

A ward councillor who intervened was taken hostage and freed by a council official who was beaten up by the women.

"Now they're threatening to burn down council houses occupied by other community members if the council evicts them again," said Boraine.

"For 10, 20, 30 years people have been doing what they like. They think they can get away with anything."

He said "For law and order to be restored, people must know that something will happen to them if they break the law. Someone must take a stand."

'It's terrifying, but we have to keep going for ... the city.' — Official who received death threats

Councillors await fate

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

CT 25/2/98

THE FUTURE of two Manenberg councillors, who face expulsion from the city council after intervening in a legal eviction, will hang in the balance for yet another week.

By contacting the council's head of housing and urging him to stop the evictions, ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson and NP member Mr Osborne Adams directly contravened the councillors' code of conduct.

After investigating the incident, city manager Mr Andrew Boraine recommended that the council "apply to the High Court for the termination of their membership".

Should the council agree with Boraine, it is believed the councillors will be the first ever to be expelled.

The pairs' actions highlighted how some councillors — who in the course of their duties approve council policies — fail to support officials in executing the policies.

Some actually side with unlawful elements against officials who are simply carrying out duties in terms of the policies, and even identify particular people in the civic centre as being responsible for the action.

And it's exactly this type of behaviour that led to a top council official being driven from his office by death threats last week.

Allegations of similar acts of intimidation of officials abound.

But, after hours of meetings by both the ANC and National Party caucuses, no consensus was reached about Adams and Sampson.

Both parties agreed the matter should be postponed for yet another week.

"Because of the serious nature of the item, it's important to make sure that you bring everyone on board," said exco chairperson and ANC member Ms Nomandla Mfeketo.

"I know it has been discussed twice but many councillors are still grappling with the issues and need time.

"It's important that we view this matter in the serious light it deserves. If we don't involve everyone, we'll take a decision as a head but the body will go against us."

DP member Mr Chris Joubert said his party had already studied the matter and "strongly supported the city manager and his officials".

"Whatever they (the other parties) decide, we will not waver on that," he told exco.

Acting leader of the DP caucus, Ms Belinda Walker, added: "We believe the director of housing should be given the strongest possible backing by all councillors and officials in his policy to achieve equity in rental housing and we fully endorse the recommendations by the city manager in assisting him to do so."

CAPE ARGUS ISSUES

Coloureds must resist ethnic entrepreneurs

Note-catching temptation will not fulfil hopes

AKG 26/2/98
(263)

Coloured people do not form an ethnic group or a nation, and it even stretches the imagination to call us a national minority. We are of different class backgrounds, but do not constitute a single class.

Instead, we are a society within a society, aspiring neither to be an ethnic group nor a nation, simply to be a respected and legitimate part of the process of democracy.

We need to remind ourselves that coloured people are of African, Asian and European origin. Lines of African descent are Khoi, San, and Bantu-speakers, Asian by way of India, Indonesia, Malaysia and wherever else the Dutch East India Company collected its slaves, and European by marriage, cohabitation and frequently by rape, prostitution, and casual sex.

In spite of our diverse continental heritage, we are a people of Africa. We are of this land, we have lived off this soil and we have breathed this air for more than the 300 years usually allotted to South African history.

The rock paintings of Namaqualand, one area of our origin, are over 1 000 years old. Take a look at those paintings and admire the aesthetic ability of a proto-civilisation.

In recent history, though, we were born of conquest, slavery and oppression. The land occupied by the various Khoi and San tribes became, by force, disease and bad judgment, the land of European settlers. The principal asset of capitalist modernity - land and agricultural capacity - became theirs, and we became the labour to tend the land, grow the crops and make the wine. Muslim Asians and black Af-

WHO ARE THE COLOURED PEOPLE OF THE WESTERN CAPE, A COMMUNITY OF 2.3 MILLION, WHOSE VOTE IN NEXT YEAR'S GENERAL ELECTION WILL VITALLY AFFECT THE FUTURE OF OUR REGION? HOW DO THEY SEE THEMSELVES AND THEIR ROLE IN CONTRIBUTING TO SOUTH AFRICA'S PROGRESS? DR WILMOT JAMES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH AFRICA, IS THE LATEST POLITICAL AND SOCIAL COMMENTATOR TO GIVE HIS VIEWS IN THIS CAPE ARGUS SERIES THAT HAS STIMULATED INTENSE DEBATE

ricans brought in as slaves were freed into occupational niches that resulted in their, quite literally, building the city of Cape Town.

The slaves had artisan skills in building, woodwork, metalwork and wagon-making.

Black Africans were part of the formation of the coloured people.

Brought in as slaves from central and East Africa, the "free blacks" (as they were known) of the Liesbeeck River were absorbed into the coloured population, liaisons of various sorts on the frontiers of the Eastern Cape produced its own variety, and urban liaisons and marriage made black people part of, and not foreign to, the formation of coloured people.

The cultural milieu of coloured-black interaction was characterised by a European-based occupational arrogance.

Blacks with skills were fine (thus the absorption of the free blacks), but the more recent newcomers from the Eastern Cape, bereft of industrial skills, were not.

Unions of coloured (and white) artisans went out of their way to

keep blacks out of their ranks.

The milieu was also characterised, painful as it seems today, by an aesthetic that deeply aspired towards whiteness. European culture and the ways and mores of the master. It was a love-hate relationship.

White people, especially the English, were ridiculed and mocked for paternalism in private, but deferred to in public.

It was a disease that ate at family relationships. Darker-skinned children were not as loved as the European-looking ones. They were kept out of sight, reduced to the lower ranks of the family hierarchy. Blackness was a curse, a source of sexual shame. Not everyone succumbed to this pattern, but many did.

It is not surprising, nor would it be chauvinistic to say, that coloured people came to associate largely with themselves, developed loose networks of solidarity and encouraged inward rather than outward affinities.

In a sense, we became a society within a larger society, without fixed boundaries, absorbing some black

people and allowing movement into white society.

Although some distinctive cultural characteristics emerged - a particular inflection of the Afrikaans language, a patois, a musical tradition, some dietary specialties, a manner of dealing with officialdom, and so on - at best, all of these amounted to no more than sub-cultural innovations of a broader milieu.

Nothing that we could call an ethnic group with, say, a distinct language or politics.

There was ease of identification, between coloured society and South Africanness. Not wishing to be labelled, many coloured people preferred simply to identify themselves as South African.

Opinion surveys today reveal that coloured people still prefer by far to be identified simply as South African. Being coloured in coloured society and South African outside of it was merely a theoretical problem.

Apartheid succeeded in doing what no amount of individual or family pressure could. It severed with the sharpest legal knife the tenuous relationship between coloured and black people, between coloured and white people, and imposed rigidity in race relations where none had existed before.

Lest we forget, racial classification and group areas were the legal instruments that tore families and neighbourhoods apart.

The monsters from Pretoria, aided by their local counterparts and the police, imposed a fictional racial purity and rigid boundaries between people they washed, in their madness, to be ethnic groups. The oppression of apartheid had

its consequences. People naturally began to regroup and establish new realities, although some - like Manenberg, Hanover Park and Lavender Hill - struggled to cohere, becoming the breeding ground of gangs.

The tightening vice of apartheid also generated its opposite: a depth and scale of resistance never before offered by coloured people.

Trying to coerce a distinct ethnic identity galvanised a people to search not for an ethnic identity, or a separate Volkstaat, but for a place in the sun.

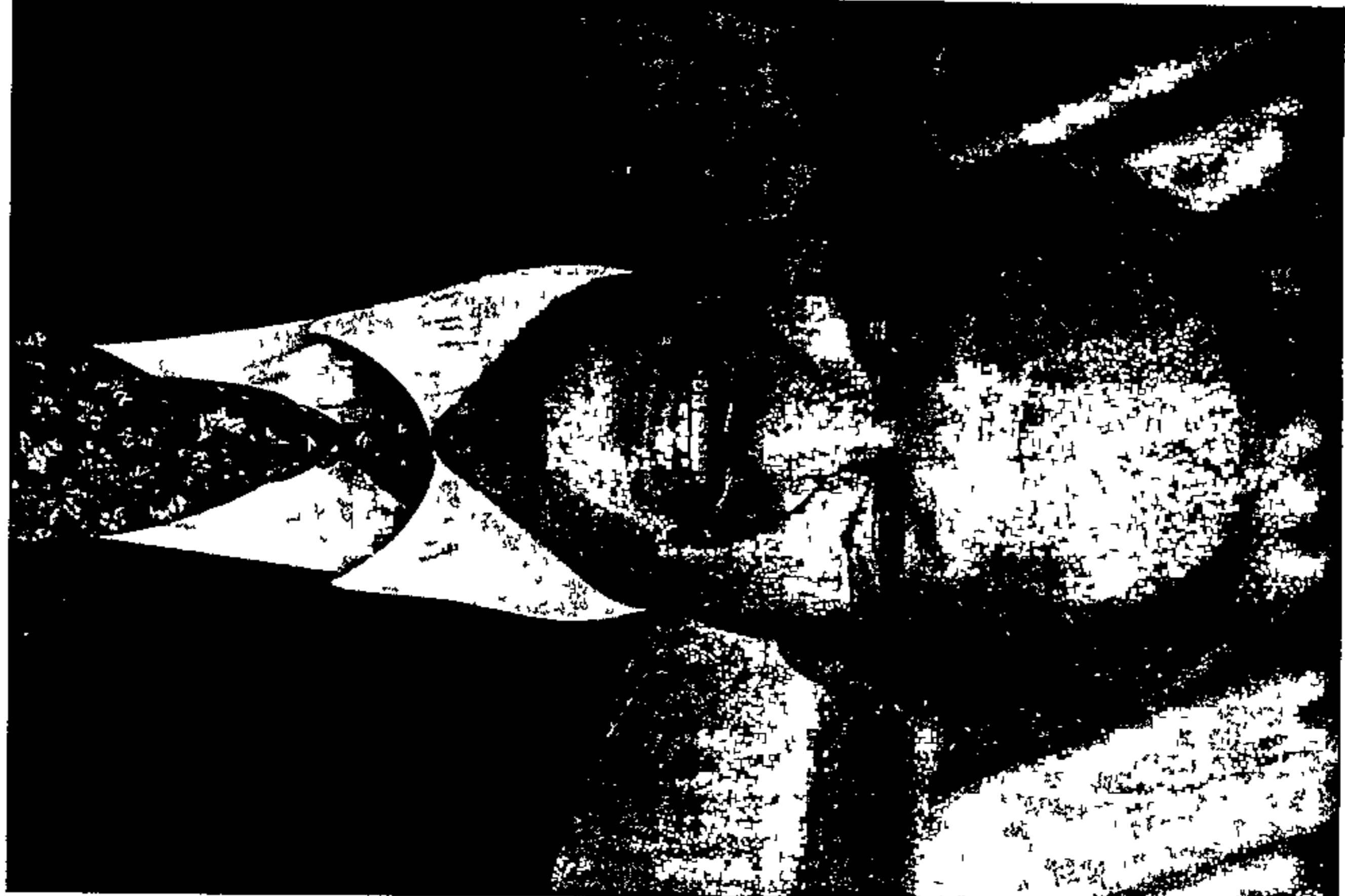
The United Democratic Front, the largest mass movement to involve coloured people, was a front of community organisations from all quarters, coloured, black African and white.

Nobody who was part of this movement was fighting for a coloured identity. In the post-1994 period, there were ephemeral efforts at inventing a coloured chauvinism. A few right-wing coloured separatist groups emerged.

One even affiliated with the Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging. But they failed to win popular support and lacked credible leadership.

There is enough uncertainty and ambiguity among coloured people today to make them vulnerable to the ethnic entrepreneurs and swartgevaar neanderthals who parade as politicians.

It is our moral responsibility to resist such vote-catching temptations and keep a perspective on the desire of coloured people to be a respected and legitimate part of the process of nation-building.



Mixed heritage: Dr Wilmot James believes coloureds do not constitute a single class

CMC defies Manuel on spending

JERMAINE CRAIG
STAFF REPORTER

(263)
ARL 26/2/98

The Cape Metropolitan Council has defied Finance Minister Trevor Manuel by deciding to go ahead with spending in spite of the minister's refusal to approve the council's budget.

The council has legal opinion that Mr Manuel does not have the right to approve, or reject, the budget in terms of new local government legislation.

The legal advice indicates that Mr

Manuel's sole obligation is to monitor that maximum expenditure limits set by him are not exceeded – and the CMC's budget does not do so.

At yesterday's council meeting the motion to ignore Mr Manuel was approved by 30 votes to 22.

In December Mr Manuel said he would not approve the council's R1,3-billion budget because it was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poor areas.

Cape Town's six local councils have warned that they may be forced

to increase rates considerably if the central government does not approve a R209-million subsidy promised to local councils by the CMC.

The CMC has been negotiating with the Department of Finance for the past eight months to get the budget approved, but yesterday the council decided to release the funds nevertheless. CMC executive committee chairman Pierre Uys said the council would release the R209-million to local councils on a pro rata basis.

CMC defies Manuel on budget

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

THE National Party-controlled Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) voted yesterday to ignore Finance Minister Trevor Manuel's concern that too little was being spent on developing impoverished areas and to implement its budget without his approval.

This means the six cash-strapped municipalities, which rely on R209 million from the CMC to balance their books, can get on with their business, knowing the money will be passed to them, on a date still to be determined.

Some may have been saved from bankruptcy by the move, which was taken on legal advice.

Central to Manuel's refusal to approve the CMC's budget last year were questions about the R209m subsidy and claims the council was spending too much on bureaucracy and not enough on improving conditions in poorer areas.

Manuel also said the amount promised to the municipalities this year would be difficult to sustain in future.

But according to senior legal opinion, the minister hasn't the

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power to approve or reject the council's budget. His sole obligation is to ensure the expenditure limits he sets are not exceeded — and the CMC's budget remains within these limits.

"It's eight months into the year and we've no approved budget," said the council's exco chairperson, the National Party's Mr Pierre Uys, who proposed the move.

"So a month ago we decided to get senior opinion on the matter to speed up the process. Flowing from this came a different angle — we do not need approval from the minister of finance after all.

"The situation is becoming intolerable. The local councils are experiencing severe financial difficulties because of the allocations made to them by the CMC not being paid over," he said.

"Service delivery by the CMC may also be placed in jeopardy."

Earlier this month, the *Cape Times* reported that ratepayers in some areas would face rates hikes of 40% and a sharp decline in services if the CMC's budget was not approved in its present form.

Rounds of nail-biting talks between financial directors from

across the metropole and the department of finance ensued — but the budget has failed to get the thumbs up from the minister or his department.

ANC councillor Mr Danile Landingwe said there were "various grey areas" in the legal opinion.

A colleague, Mr Mzukisi Gaba, asked whether the council was dismissing the minister's concerns as "irrelevant or ill-informed" by transferring the funds to the municipalities.

ANC members voted against the motion, which was carried by 30 votes to 22.

● A department of finance spokesperson said intensive discussions had been taking place at an official level to "conclude the matter" and that a decision on the budget was "imminent".

"The department only received the last batch of information needed to make a final decision, from the CMC at midday (yesterday). We are processing this now," she said. "But we've heard nothing official regarding the CMC's decision to proceed and can't respond until we do."

Poor management cost city R30m — report

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

POOR management by the old Cape Town city council lost the city and its ratepayers at least R30 million, the auditor-general revealed yesterday.

Presenting a performance audit report on services at selected branches at the Cape Town Municipality to the council yesterday, Mr Louis van Rooyen from the auditor-general's office disclosed:

- A total of 3 535 100m² of surplus land worth R7 419 200 could have been sold by the council and developed to the benefit of the community, but wasn't

In 1987 and again in 1992, offers had been received to develop the old Athlone golf course into an Olympic-sized swimming pool and gymnastics display area, shopping complex, office accommodation, cinema complex, parking area and community hall.

"The offer included a loan of R100m at 12% interest over 10 years to be used specifically for low-cost housing .. but the land remained vacant and undeveloped," said Van Rooyen.

- Land worth R1 025 980 had been bought for road schemes that were abandoned

- The impact of non-compliance with the year 2000 on the municipality's computer systems had not been properly investigated.

"Since the housing system, which deals with the billing of tenants, was written in 1972 and is not 2000-compliant, dates referred to on bills would be incorrect

"In addition, if interest were to be charged it might be calculated incorrectly, resulting in lost revenue. Measured against the current level of tenants' arrears of R35m, the annual level of interest in terms of home ownership debt would amount to R4m "

- Additional computer training for employees could have increased the productivity of the 4 300 users within the old city council by 20% a year. The saving, after paying for training, would have been R10,75m a year

- The Epping Market had not been rented out on non-market days to cover operating costs, which

amounted to R17 847 337 for the year ending June 30, 1996, alone

- Response times at the council's computer help desk were outside accepted standards and reduced productivity. During November 1996, it took 16 days on average to resolve a hardware problem which should have been resolved within a day

- Guarantees were not received from tenants prior to occupation of council houses, which increased the likelihood of losses in the case of lessees defaulting. By August 31, 1996, guarantees amounting to R97 340 had been outstanding from tenants for as long as a year and five months

- Information contained in the property data base was incorrect. By January 1997, the records of 11 000 out of 204 000 properties in the then-city council were incorrect or incomplete, ultimately delaying savings of R1 067 900 a year. In addition, R25 000 had to be paid to the Deeds Office for information about registered erven to correct the records

After the presentation, exco chairperson and ANC member Ms Nomaindia Mfeketo said "corrective measures were in place"

The DP's Mr Ian Iversen said the report was vitally important "But our reaction to it and how we deal with the problems is even more critical."

Exco member Mr Hamef Tiseker pointed out that many of the issues raised in the report had already been tackled by the new City of Cape Town.

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Cape Town gets top credit rating

METRO EDITOR

(263) (4/11)

THE City of Cape Town has been given the highest credit rating of any municipality in the country

International experts called in to scrutinise its financial affairs surprised the council by awarding the city an exceptionally high credit "quality".

"We knew we'd have to borrow money over the coming months to finance some of our capital development programmes, so we invited an international credit rating agency to do a full assessment of the municipality," said financial director Mr Philip van Rynveld yesterday.

"There are local authorities that are not regarded as financially sound and cannot borrow money, so we felt the best thing to do was to subject ourselves to this in-depth and thorough procedure."

A spokesman for the company that did the assessment, Fitch IBCA, said Cape Town came up with the "high" credit ratings of A1 for the short-term and A+ over the longer-term. This basically means that anyone who lends Cape Town money is likely to be paid back.

● See Page 7

NICOL DECISION 'NEXT WEEK'

Former town clerk still receiving top salary

A YEAR AFTER being axed from his R450 000 a year post, Keith Nicol may still be in line for a R1 million payout. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

FORMER town clerk of Cape Town Mr Keith Nicol is still at home receiving full council benefits nearly a full year after being axed from his R450 000 a year post.

Although Mr Nicol was told his services were to be terminated shortly after City Manager Mr Andrew Boraine's appointment was announced early last year, a dispute over his settlement was referred to the then-MEC for local government Mr Peter Marais.

In the meantime, Nicol sat in his Constantia home and waited while the council forked out around R37 500 a month.

In October, the *Cape Times* revealed that Nicol had been at home on a full salary since the beginning of April.

The "very complex" issue was referred to Marais for deliberation by the council's executive committee. He, in turn, asked Mr Joppe Le Roux, chairperson of the Cape Metropolitan Commission, to investigate and make



STILL WAITING: Keith Nicol — anxious for some answers

a recommendation back to him "as quickly as possible".

That was in December. The matter was finally raised again at last week's council meeting where DP councillor Mr Brian Watkyns tabled a series of questions regarding Nicol's bizarre situation. The answers, however, were

given on secret Green Paper.

A spokesperson for the new MEC for local government and gambling, Mr Patrick McKenzie, had more to say. "The report was handed to the minister on Friday. He will study it over the weekend and make a decision by about the middle of next week."

When contacted by the *Cape Times* on Sunday, Nicol said he had been waiting for a long time and was relieved to know that the matter was drawing to a close. He hadn't worked for the whole year.

"If I took another job I'd have had to resign from the municipality," he said.

According to council sources, the saga really began a year ago when Nicol's application for the new post of city manager was unsuccessful and he was told that his services would be terminated.

At the time it was reported he was in line for a payout of "well over R1 million" — a figure still bandied about in council corridors.

In early April, he received notification that there "was no longer any work for him and that he'd have to give up his office and secretary".

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Nats target ANC pair in research cash row

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CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Two former Western Cape African National Congress ministers have been linked to a private organisation which was paid hundreds of thousands of rands by provincial government departments for research work.

Former health minister Ebrahim Rasool and former transport minister Leonard Ramatlakane are directors of the Foundation for Contemporary Research, a non-government organisation which has undertaken substantial projects for the Western Cape government.

The ministers' involvement in the company came to light after a National Party member of the provincial legislature, Anwar Ismail, gave notice of his intention to ask questions about the company's research.

Today Mr Rasool talked openly to the Cape Argus about his membership of the foundation board, but said he had never tried to influence its "operational decisions".

"The transport report was paid for by USAid, not the provincial government, and was completed before Mr Ramatlakane joined the foundation," he said.

The economic report had been bought from the foundation and not commissioned by the provincial government.

Mr Rasool said he had worked for the foundation for some years. More recently, his role had been as a board member not directly involved in the daily functioning of the organisation.

The foundation, a section 21 company specialising in economic research, is a well known Western Cape NGO which, with several others like it, had been asked to undertake research for the Government.

A shake-up in the provincial cabinet last year meant portfolios previously run by ANC members were given to NP ministers.

The company was commissioned by the Department of Transport, headed by Mr Ramatlakane at the time, and the Department of Economic Affairs, headed by ANC minister Chris Nissen, to do several research projects.

Mr Nissen's department, which was taken over by Hennie Bester of the Democratic Party this year, budgeted to pay the company more than R500 000 for one of several research projects in this financial year.

Mr Bester said he had been "alerted" that "an inordinate amount" of money had been spent on research in his department and had launched an investigation.

The acting managing director of the foundation, Edgar Pieterse, said he would be "surprised" if the former ministers had had any direct influence in the awarding of the research work. They were voluntary directors and not paid by the company.

Two face axe in city eviction row

Bid for special meeting to settle councillors' fate

LINDSAY BARNES AND JOSEPH ARANES
STAFF REPORTERS

The fate of two Cape Town city councillors facing expulsion could be decided by the end of the week.

The council executive committee recommended yesterday that the councillors be expelled for trying to stop the eviction of illegal tenants from a council house in Mamelong.

The committee accepted in principle that Osborne Adams of the National Party and Mogamat Yusuf Sampson of the African National Congress were guilty of misconduct and recommended that subject to legal opinion, they be suspended without pay.

If they did not resign, it was recommended that a High Court application be made for their removal.

Executive committee chairwoman Nomamanda Mfeketo said she would see the mayor today about calling a special

meeting on the recommendation.

The alternative is that the recommendations will be put to the council at the end of the month.

The executive committee found that the councillors contravened the code of conduct when they attempted to use their political influence to prevent the eviction. Both men are on the council housing committee.

The tenants were being evicted in line with director of housing Billy Cobbett's policy, which was adopted by the council late last year.

The councillors telephoned Mr Cobbett to try to halt the eviction. Mr Cobbett reported this as a contravention of the code of conduct in the Local Government Transition Act.

City manager Andrew Boraine investigated the allegations and recommended that if the councillors failed to resign, the council should apply to the Cape High Court for an



NP: Osborne Adams

order terminating their membership. At yesterday's committee meeting, National Party councillor Clive Justus said the councillors had attempted to act in the best interests



ANC: Mogamat Sampson

of the community and their action had been "misinterpreted grossly". He said the committee's recommendations were an overreaction and it needed to interview the coun-

cillors to hear their side. "I think this overreaction reduces all councillors to eunuchs," he said.

Ms Mfeketo said that following threats to councillors and municipal staff, the council was working with the police and national intelligence to ensure their safety.

The Western Cape region of the African National Congress backed the decision to expel the councillors. Spokesman Cameron Dugmore said it showed that the council was committed to clean government. "The Democratic Party-led council in the past deliberately turned a blind eye to organisations and gangsters using housing for their own corrupt purposes," he said.

Mr Dugmore said this inaction directly resulted in the problem the municipality faced today - that of gangsters wanting to decide who got houses in their strongholds.

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Cape Town recommends councillors be expelled for violating code

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The council's executive committee recommended yesterday the expulsion of two councillors for violating its code of conduct, and warned Cape Flats gangs that the council, not the gangsters, controlled service delivery in the city.

The African National Congress, which runs Cape Town, said it was committed to stamping out corruption and would not tolerate corrupt councillors or officials.

The ANC would also not abandon its commitment to housing as "priority number one" despite death threats and intimidation of councillors and officials since the adoption of a tough campaign to eliminate corruption.

"We are fully committed to clean government and winning back the right to govern our cities," deputy chairman and ANC councillor Saleem Mowzer said.

"The gangsters are definitely not controlling Cape Town," chairman and fellow ANC councillor Nomandla

Mfeketo said after the ANC, supported by the Democratic Party, adopted the expulsion resolution.

The National Party opposed the recommendation on the grounds that the two councillors — the NP's Osborn Adams and the ANC's Moganat Sampson — had not been given a fair hearing and the council could be defeated in the high court.

Mfeketo said she would ask Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon to call a special meeting of the full council to adopt the recommendation.

The committee recommended that if the two councillors failed to resign, the council should apply to the high court for their expulsion. It also reiterated its support for the code of conduct.

Mowzer said the Cape Town council needed to send a clear message to its communities: "Work with us to ensure clean government, to stamp out corruption, to create a better life for all and to ensure we remain accountable to the people of Cape Town."

The death threats against councillors and officials followed the council's

attempts to remove the control Cape Flats gangs had over housing allocation. The councillors were found guilty in an inquiry by city manager Andrew Boraine of intervening in an eviction.

Housing director Billy Cobbett, one of the officials who received a death threat and who reportedly decided to emigrate, declined to comment on the resolution. A source said he was expected back from the UK soon to discuss his future with Boraine.

DP minister orders probe into W Cape 'mismanagement'

Bester says key funds not used

ANDREA WEISS

The department responsible for developing the Western Cape's economy failed to spend its budget on key projects to boost the region's economy.

The department, previously called the Department of Economic Affairs and RDP, was until recently controlled by Chris Nissen of the African National Congress, whose membership of the provincial cabinet ended after the power-sharing deal between the ruling National Party and the ANC folded.

Now, the new provincial minister, Hennie Bester of the Democratic Party, has ordered a financial audit into the affairs of the department.

He says it has failed to adhere to its budget and has been underspending on key projects.

The department is now known as the Department of Trade, Industry and Tourism.

Mr Bester said he was concerned about the financial management of

the department. However, this did not imply that any irregularities had taken place.

Among the issues Mr Bester was concerned about were the fact that internal reports from the province's own auditing section were never addressed by the former head of the department, Tony Ruiters.

Mr Bester said it also took him two weeks to get financial statements and when they arrived they were "cause for concern" because the approved budget had not been adhered to.

He said the financial "mismanagement" had seriously affected the ability of the department to perform its functions.

Among the duties of the department are to administer business regulations, including liquor laws and the Business Act, to promote business, especially small business and industrial development, and to be involved in local economic development and the RDP.

Mr Nissen, who now heads the Government's Masakhane campaign

aimed at getting people to pay for their services, said he welcomed the special audit by the provincial auditor-general.

He said it was quite normal for new incumbents to review the work done by the previous minister.

Mr Nissen said it was quite likely that money had gone unspent because the department, which he had to set up from scratch, had severe staff shortages.

He said the number of posts had been cut from 72 to 47, and the department had been frustrated because it had struggled to get appointments finalised.

Mr Nissen said Mr Ruiters, who is in America, had given him the reassurance that he would do everything to help in the financial review.

He also said that there had been a directive late last year that all spending above R50 000 should be approved by the provincial cabinet.

"I tried very hard to get the money out, but we did not have a full complement of staff," said Mr Nissen.

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'Coloureds' do need a label

Worldwide, people of mixed race want recognition

REPORT STORY

Shaun Mackay, in an article headed "Why the fixation with labels of race?" (Cape Argus, February 19), basically argues that attempts by "coloured" people in South Africa to differentiate themselves as a separate racial group are highly artificial, their attempts to foster their own inherent culture are false, and that racial classification was redundant after apartheid.

I disagree with most of these points, and I will draw upon my own experience as being a person of mixed racial origin from Britain to illustrate the points that I make.

I am a British citizen, but my mother is German (white) and my father was a Bengali Muslim (Asian), both first-generation immigrants to London.

I am, therefore, of "mixed race", and in a way I view myself as the British equivalent of a "coloured" person (although there are, of course, significant differences, which I will come to).

I was particularly interested in visiting the Western Cape to see how the so-called coloureds (for want of a better word) viewed themselves, whether they had developed their own culture over the centuries, and how they interacted with other South Africans.

Mr Mackay is quite wrong about how non-white people (and people of mixed racial heritage) perceive themselves in other countries. A black (ie, of African or Afro-Caribbean origin) or Asian (ie, from the Indian subcontinent) person with British citizenship is not generally viewed as "British" in the same way as a white citizen is in the UK. In spite of what liberal historians

Of mixed racial origin, UK lawyer **NICK SARKER** gives a British perspective on the dilemma being faced by coloured South Africans

try to tell us, non-white people attained a significant presence in Britain only from about the 1950s onwards, with the onset of major immigration from the colonies to alleviate the post-war domestic labour shortage.

'Born and brought up in this country, we are still tainted with being in some way foreign'

Even now, non-white people only amount to about 6% of the population, concentrated in specific cities (hardly something for white people to get worried about). I belong to the first main generation of non-white British citizens who were born and brought up in this country, and we are still tainted with being in some way "foreign", because in the overall scope of things, the ethnic minority communities in Britain (and other European countries) are relatively recent arrivals.

Statistics show we are discriminated against in housing, the labour market, education, etc, although such discrimination appears far less than what happens in South Africa.

It also tends to be much more subtle than overt racism, but, nonetheless, inequalities exist in our society. In British census forms there are specific questions on racial classification, and many mixed-race people have been fighting for the term

"mixed race" to be included as a separate category, rather than the "white-black-Asian-Chinese etc", which have previously appeared.

In the US there is a high-profile campaign for the same thing, involving the golfer Tiger Woods (who is of mixed Thai, African-American and, I believe, European descent).

The situation is further complicated in the US because most blacks/African-Americans (whichever you like to use) have some European and/or Native American ancestry anyway. In Canada the *metis*, people of mixed Native American and European descent, are separately classified.

Racial classification is very important in a liberal, democratic society. Apartheid used it to protect the interests of just one group (the whites) and to discriminate against everyone else. But in societies which are more racially tolerant and progressive than South Africa, racial classification is also used as a means by which people who might be discriminated against can monitor and ensure they are getting a fair deal.

To give a practical example, last year I went for a job interview with a UK civil service department, for which I had the requisite experience and qualifications. The brochure for the department had all the usual commentaries about how the civil service valued diversity and welcomed applicants from ethnic minority backgrounds. To cut a long story short, although nothing overtly racial was insinuated at the interview, I did not get the job.

I discovered through making inquiries (and threatening legal action) that for three years running all ethnic-minority candidates (who constituted 19% of all applicants) always "failed" to get selected at the interview, whatever their abilities.

This is a severe statistical anomaly suggesting indirect (ie covert) racial discrimination, which is also very difficult to act against.

(263) AAG 10/3/98

This information was available to me only because applicants and employees had to state to which racial group they belonged, so the racial mix could be monitored.

From my brief observations of life in present-day South Africa, racial discrimination appears to be far more prevalent than in Britain, even after four years of black majority rule. White South African attitudes are decades behind the racial views my white peers hold in Britain.

Given South Africa's late (and some would say forced) conversion to the idea of racial equality, and the entrenched attitudes and privileged position of the white Afrikaners (who do not generally appear even remotely repentant for the crimes perpetrated under apartheid), the only way non-white South Africans are going to be able to advance themselves is to use racial classification to help address the imbalances of the past.

As for talk about a "rainbow nation", that is but a pipe-dream. Members of a particular ethnic group are usually going to prefer to mix with, and consequently help, people of their own kind. Unless coloured people support their "community" and help each other, no one else will.

It is suggested that it is a fallacy for the South African coloured people to argue they have their own inherent, separate culture, given their diverse racial origins, and their links with other, non-coloured ethnic groups.

But is this not the binding situation which all racially mixed people find themselves in, be they the children of two immediate parents from disparate racial groups (such as myself), or those whose different racial origins (be it San, Malay or

'Non-white South Africans need to use racial classification to redress imbalances of the past'

The concept that other people who are racially mixed live in the same neighbourhood as me, albeit under artificial conditions forced by apartheid, is beyond my comprehension. I have felt part of a non-existent, unrecognised minority.

South African coloureds have been around for centuries and given their weight of numbers, and their new found freedom in post-apartheid South Africa, they should have the ability to be masters of their destiny.

But they will not achieve this unless they behave like every other ethnic group, which means supporting their own communities, and they also have the advantage that their origins allow them to build bridges between South Africans of differing racial groups.

Crossroads protest sparks Ikapa probe

Women hit out at councillors

MOSES MACKAY
STAFF REPORTER

Western Cape Minister of Local Government Patrick McKenzie has ordered an investigation into allegations of nepotism and mismanagement among Ikapa town councillors.

This follows a march by about 3 000 Old Crossroads residents led by Crossroads Women's Power, a multi-party pressure group, to the provincial administration offices in Wale Street.

The marchers handed a memorandum to Mr McKenzie detailing their unhappiness about the absence of development in the area, and called for the resignations of two Ikapa councillors, Depouch Elese and Melford Gwayi, who, the marchers claimed, had not delivered on election promises.

Mr McKenzie said he would pass the memorandum to the Cape Town council with a request for a

full report on the serious demands and allegations it contained.

"Councillors should conduct their affairs in an open manner and always be accountable to the people. They should not work in a vacuum," he said.

Mr McKenzie is to meet the women next Tuesday to discuss their demands and grievances.

Crossroads Women's Power includes members of the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress, the United Democratic Movement, the National Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party.

The women accuse councillors of "bullying tactics", of giving jobs to members of their families, and failing to provide nightsoil services. They claimed councillors had demanded fees from residents occupying unserviced sites.

Simmering discontent in Old Crossroads flared into protest earlier this year, when, the women

claimed, the council refused to meet them and discuss their demands and grievances.

Complaints included rent increases and that houses being built by the council were too small.

Residents occupied the former Ikapa council offices in January, demanding their grievances be heard. Some were arrested, but released the next day and the charges dropped.

Mr Elese, an ANC councillor, denied there had been mismanagement of funds, as the councillors "don't deal with money".

He said the women complaining about the size of houses being built were not even plot-holders. Most people had agreed to the building of 36m² houses.

The Reconstruction and Development Programme Forum was representative of all organisations, and Crossroads Women's Power was welcome to join them, Mr Elese said.

ARG 11/3/98

(263)

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R9,5-bn for W Cape - but it

just have a 'credible' plan

Manuel wants to end 'budget games'

ARL 11/3/98

(ab3)

Western Cape is to get R9,5 billion from the central government this year, the first in which the budget has been drawn under the new constitution. The Budget sets out the relations between national, provincial and local government.

The Budget tabled today in parliament by Finance Minister Trevor Manuel sets aside more than R90 billion for the nine provinces in the 1998-99 financial year.

Apart from the money comes in the form of conditional grants, but most of it - R79 billion - will be allocated according to a formula which takes into account education and welfare, unemployment, poverty, and population size in each province.

To overcome problems experienced last year when several provinces overshot their budgets, the government has set aside R2,8 billion as a grant which is conditional on provinces putting together "credible" budgets in line with national standards.

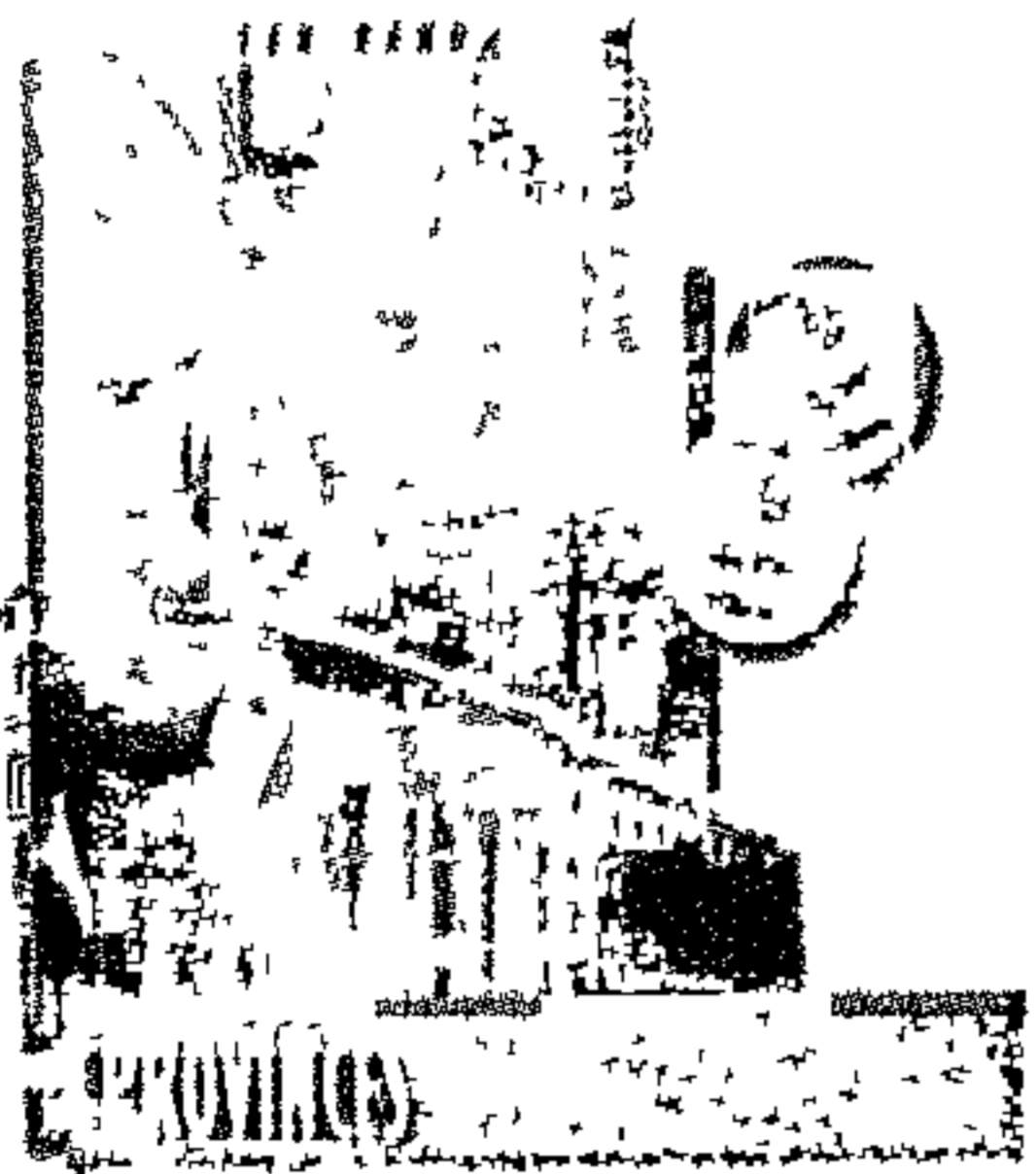
This, the Government hopes, will prevent provinces from playing "budget games" by deliberately budgeting for a shortfall on essential spending, then turning up all other funds and hoping for funding bailouts from central government.

Other conditional grants to the provinces in the 1998-99 year cover health services, including R3 billion for hospitals which serve people from more than one province, and R100 million for projects related to Reconstruction and Development Programme.

The Western Cape will get a general grant of R7,96 billion, an allocation drawing up the budget of R270 million. It also receives a conditional grant of R11,2 billion for health services and other conditional grants worth R56 million.

In addition, the province will be in line for a share of the R2,3 billion set aside by the state for improvement in the conditions of service of civil servants.

The allocations take into account



new figures in the 1996 census which found that the Western Cape and Gauteng had a bigger share of the total population than was previously thought.

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel said each province had determined its own priorities and had drawn up a budget in accordance with the resources available.

"With these powers come responsibility and accountability," he said. "Each province must make sure that it budgets adequately for each of the services it provides."

The Department of State Expenditure had set aside R100 million to improve financial management in national and provincial departments, Mr Manuel said.

In addition, R200 million had been allocated in the Education Department's budget and R100 million in the Welfare budget to train people and to improve information systems in the provinces.

The Government is also considering reviewing legislation which controls the borrowing powers of provincial governments in order to stop provinces using bank overdrafts unwisely.

"Sound financial management in the provinces has become a top priority," says the Budget Review tabled in Parliament today.

By the year 2002-2003, the Western Cape's slice of national revenue is due



ANDREW

All smiles: Trevor Manuel puts the final touches to the Budget in his office at Parliament.

to be cut to 9,6%, according to projections tabled in the Budget Review.

Provisional projections are that at the same time Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga will stand to gain in relative terms with Mpumalanga in line to take almost 20% of

money allocated to the provinces.

This is nearly 20% more than its current share.

All but 5% of provincial spending is sourced from the national Budget.

A total of R1 billion is set aside today's Budget for the municipalities

Less is more for W Cape

THE TWO 'rich' provinces are content to subsidise the rest of the country to avert massive immigration from their poorer neighbours Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

CT 12/3/98

(263)

THE Western Cape, like Gauteng, is once again getting less money than it contributes to the national treasury, but provincial Finance and Agriculture MEC Mr Lampe Fick said it remained a necessary part of the budgeting process until all provinces were more or less on an equal footing.

According to figures from Fick's office, the province contributed R81,8 billion to the national gross domestic product (GDP), which amounted to 13,2% in 1997/98.

"If we argue that we should get 13,2% of the national revenue, then we should have got R21,4bn but since it is based on an equality formula, this was of course not possible."

The national treasury is giving the Western Cape a total of R9,492bn to run the province for the 1998/99 financial year.

Of this, R270m comes in the form of a supplementary allocation the province was granted for having a certified and credible budget.

Also included in this is a conditional grant for health services of R1,2m which Fick said yesterday was to be used for academic hospitals.

Another R30m is a conditional grant for local government and its money the province will dish out to municipalities. Other smaller conditional grants come to R26m of the total.

Last year's allocation for the Western Cape was R8,779bn, R330m less than this year.

"It is more than last year, but it is never enough," said Fick.

He praised Finance Minister Mr Trevor Manuel's Budget, saying: "As a policy statement one should give him good marks, in excess of 80%. But my major concern is implementation and for that I can give him no more than four out of 10."

'The wisdom behind equitable sharing is sound because it works towards equal opportunity.'

The reason for this was that the objectives of jobs, economic growth and redistribution had not been achieved "because of circumstances not created by the Budget, but outside of the Budget as a result of crime and the labour legislation", Fick said.

"We won't get investment if crime continues and the question is 'Is it in the interest of the country to spend money on social issues while you are eroding social surroundings which will inevitably lead to further social uncertainty?'"

Commenting on the fact that the Western Cape and Gauteng keep having to pull their belts tighter in an attempt to give more money to poorer provinces, Fick said: "The wisdom behind equitable sharing is quite sound because it works towards equal economic opportunity and it will therefore eliminate the enormous migration of people from poorer provinces."

In the past, Gauteng has also

supported this attitude when it has come to budgeting, because of the enormous strain put on the two 'rich' provinces by people traversing provincial borders in an attempt to find better health care, education and job opportunities.

The revenue-sharing formula this year represents a break from historical funding patterns. Resources from central government are distributed to ensure the equitable provision of provincial services.

The Western Cape's budget will be delivered by Fick next week. He did not want to pre-empt it by giving away some of the spending possibilities yet, but promised the people of the province that the money would be spent wisely.

Manuel said yesterday in his speech that each province had to determine its own priorities and draw up a budget in accordance with the resources available.

"With these powers come responsibility and accountability. Each province must make sure that it budgets adequately for each of the services that it provides."

In line with this statement, the ANC's provincial spokesperson on

Division of provincial allocations

BUDGET 1998

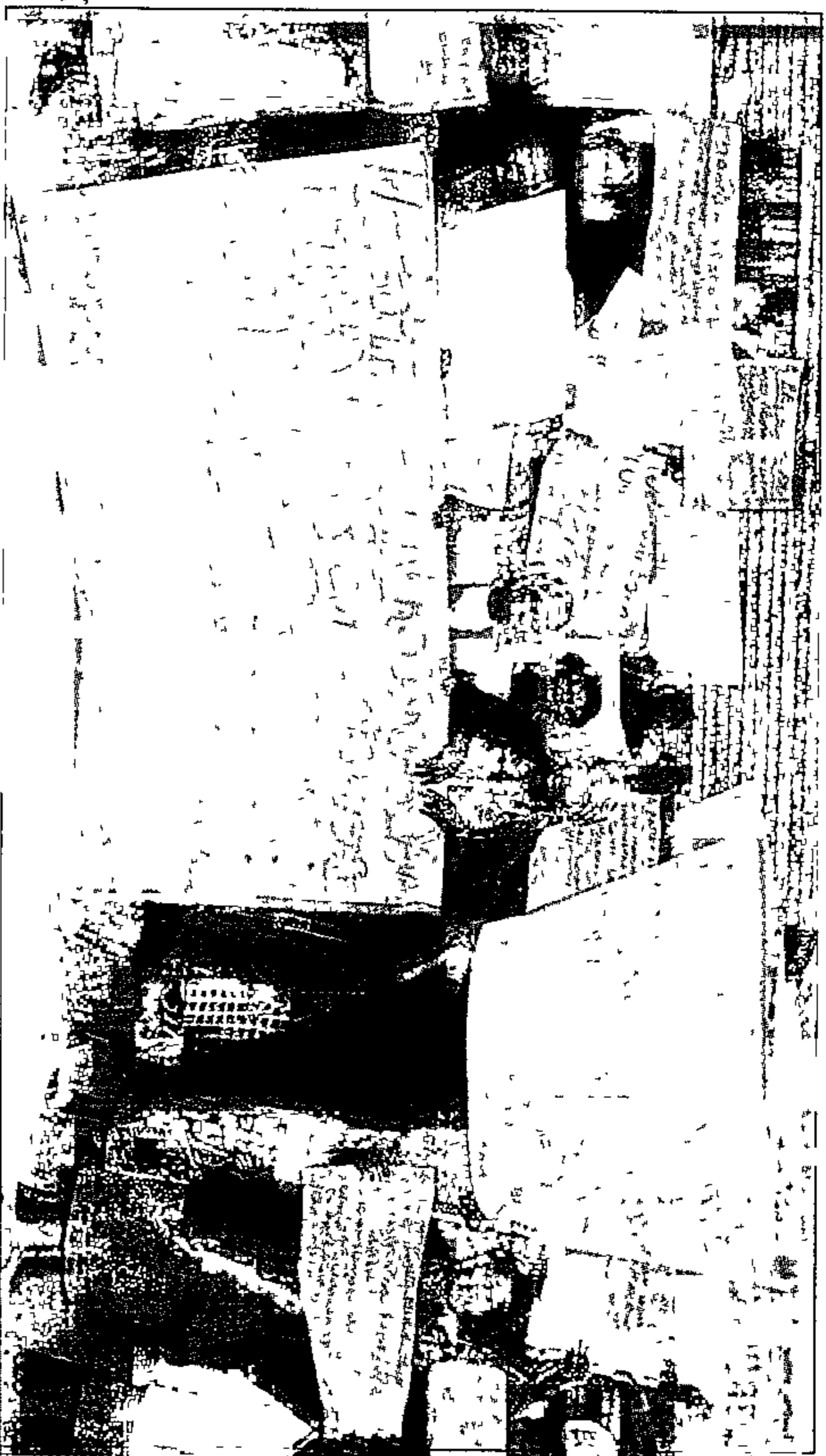
	1997/98	1998/99	Increase	Increase %
Total provincial allocation	R80,805bn	R88,14bn	R7,335bn	9,07%
Western Cape	R8,779bn	R9,492bn (10,7%)	R71,3m	8,12%
Eastern Cape	R13,802bn	R15,016bn (17,1%)	R1,214bn	8,79%
Northern Cape	R1,979bn	R2,064bn (2,3%)	R8,5m	4,29%
Gauteng	R12,932bn	R14,095bn (16,0%)	R1,163bn	8,99%
Mpumalanga	R4,811bn	R5,507bn (6,3%)	R69,6m	14,46%
North West	R6,797bn	R7,216bn (8,2%)	R41,9m	6,16%
Free State	R5,556bn	R6,003bn (6,8%)	R44,7bn	8,04%
KZN	R15,759bn	R17,628bn (20%)	R1,869bn	11,85%
Northern Province	R10,386bn	R11,066bn (11,1%)	R68m	6,54%

finance Ms Tasneem Essop yesterday said she welcomed the increase in allocation from the national government. However, the chal-

lenge was the province's, to see whether it could re-prioritise its spending to put more accent on education.

"It was proposed that R3,2bn be spent on education in the province this year, but we are calling on Fick to increase that to R3,8bn or more,

If possible," she said "R3,8bn is just enough to cover personnel expenditure. We look forward to Fick's budget next week."



Protest: disgruntled Crossroads women hoist placards to express their discontent with what they allege is mismanagement and nepotism at the Ikapa council

MANDLA MNYAKAMA

Women's sit-in carries on as minister orders probe

MOSES MACKAY
STAFF REPORTER

ARTS 16/12/98
(263)

The sit-in by Crossroads Women's Power at the Ikapa council offices in protest at alleged mismanagement and nepotism by councillors is continuing.

But the women's protest has prompted Western Cape Local Government Minister Patrick McKenzie to order an investigation into their allegations. This follows a march by about 3 000 people to Mr McKenzie's offices last week.

A delegation from the group - a coalition of African National Congress, Pan Africanist Congress, United Democratic Movement, National Party and Inkatha Freedom Party members - is to meet Mr McKenzie tomorrow.

The protests began in January when the women claimed councillors refused to meet them and discuss their

demands and grievances. Complaints included rent increases, the building of houses that were too small, the absence of development, and nepotism among councillors.

The women are calling for the resignation of two councillors, Depoutch Else and Melford Gwayi, who they claim have "not delivered on election promises".

ANC member Cynthia Jacela, a mother of six, said people preferred the four-roomed houses being built by the Urban Foundation in the Unathi Section in Old Crossroads. "The infrastructure and houses should be built by the Urban Foundation," she said.

ANC councillor Melford Gwayi said, "I don't know what they want. I have met them at the council offices on numerous occasions to try to discuss their demands and their grievances."

Cape budget dilemma for Minister Fick

CHENE BUGHNALT
STAFF REPORTER

The hands of Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick are tied in the drawing up of the province's budget.

This is the opinion of one of the province's new economic advisers, Servaas van der Berg, a professor of economics at the University of Stellenbosch.

Although much has been said about the provinces' "freedom" to determine their own budget priorities, they had "very little room to move", said Professor van der Berg.

This is in spite of the Western Cape getting an extra R180-million from the Government because it has more residents than previously estimated.

"The province always gets the blame if hospitals have to be closed or teachers lose their jobs. This is blamed on financial mismanagement, which does occur as well, but

we must remember that the province does not have a lot of leeway," said Professor Van der Berg.

The Western Cape budget for 1998-99, to be tabled tomorrow, will be based on a R9,5-billion grant from the Government plus the province's own sources of revenue, which include motor licence and hospital fees and betting taxes.

The Government grant includes a R7,96-billion basic grant and several conditional grants to be spent on specified services.

Mr Fick has to propose how this will be divided among the three key sectors of health, education and welfare.

Factors limiting Mr Fick's free hand include

- The province's share is shrinking,
- Educational, health and other needs continue to grow,
- Some 80% of the province's funds go towards nationally-determined welfare grants and salaries,

■ A R500-million budget deficit has to be paid back over two years, and

■ The province does not have the power to raise taxes or borrow money.

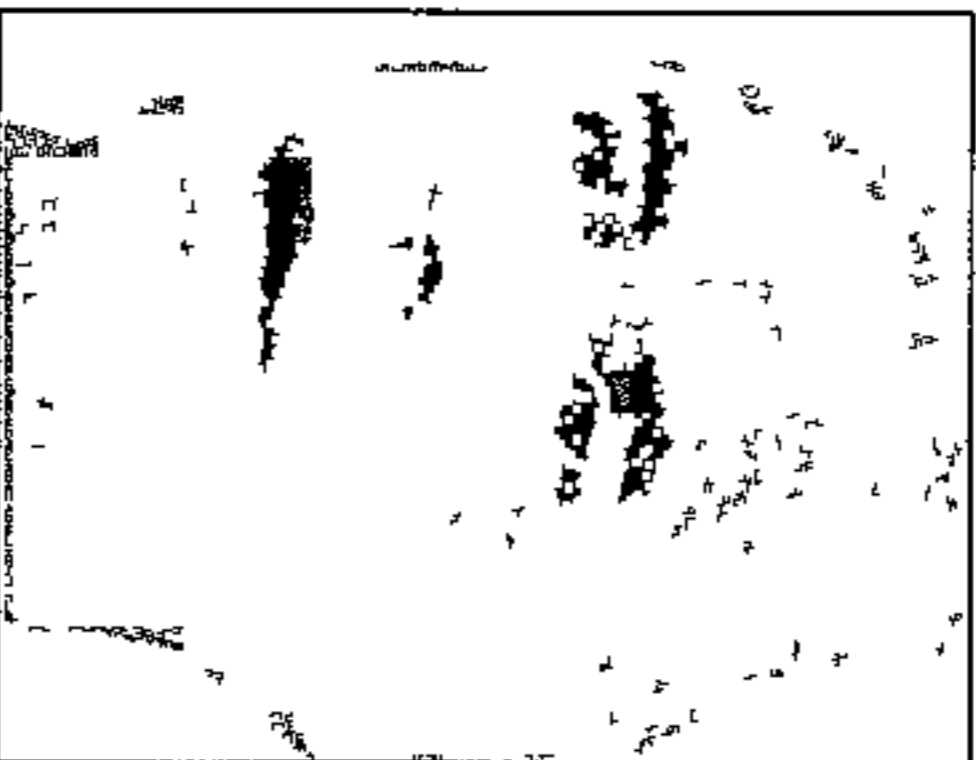
The Western Cape's share was far less than it used to be under the apartheid system and the needs of the province continued to grow.

Consequently there was not much room to shuffle funds from one sector to another, said Professor Van der Berg.

As much as 80% of funds are already committed to welfare grants in terms of national legislation and salaries in the health, education and welfare departments.

"The dilemma facing Mr Fick is that he does not have the discretion to change these factors

"This is because they are deter-



Hands tied: Lampie Fick

mined on a national level," said Professor van der Berg.

Public service salaries were negotiated nationally which meant the province had little power in this area.

The only way to cut salary costs was to fire temporary staff or to offer voluntary severance packages in an attempt to reduce staff, said Professor Van der Berg.

The province was still not making enough use of all its potential sources of income and should be recovering more costs for services in some sectors, said Professor Van der Berg.

These included raising hospital fees and entrance fees to public places such as nature reserves which should be channelled back to the specific establishments to encourage better financial management.

Province looks to Nico and Valkenberg for cash

ARG 18/3/98

(263)

POLITICAL STAFF

State assets like the Nico Malan Theatre complex and the Valkenberg estate could be leased to the private sector to boost Western Cape provincial income.

Provincial Minister of Public Works and Asset Management Michael Louis has proposed offering leases of up to 30 years on

state-owned land to private companies, which would be expected to provide infrastructure and meet the costs of maintaining existing structures.

The lease proposals, part of a plan to relieve the province's acute budget problems, are likely to emerge later this year after the necessary legislative framework has been established.

State assets like the Nico Malan complex are seen as likely targets for privatisation in the form of lease agreements because of the enormous costs of maintaining them

And many other assets, like the Valkenberg estate, are seen as having a high potential for generating revenue, but in present circumstances are largely a drain on state resources

Western Cape to cut 10 000 more public servants

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The Western Cape envisaged cutting its workforce by a further 10 000 by the year-end so it would be left with 70 000 public servants, provincial director-general Niel Barnard told Parliament yesterday.

This meant the provincial government would have slashed its workforce by about 27% — 30 000 — since the 1994 election, Barnard told the public service committee. The almost 20% already cut “has not been equalled elsewhere” in the public service.

His appearance followed a decision to subpoena him after he failed to attend a public hearing on the provincial audit report. He apologised yesterday.

The Western Cape received a reasonably clean bill of health in the audit report. The only major critique was that its management style was seen as too centralised.

Barnard disagreed. The province had adopted the most efficient model under the circumstances — a mix of centralisation and decentralisation. “It is accepted that a decentralised model best suits service delivery but it is also true that a decentralised model more often than not is more expensive.”

More progress could have been made but for a decreasing budget allocation. The administration wanted to ensure competent staff were available before devolving more functions.

He said the province was “not completely satisfied” with its progress on affirmative action. However, downsizing restricted opportunities and 65% of approved voluntary severance packages went to black workers. The province was confident the new labour relations and transformation unit would hasten affirmative action.

The unit’s head, Melvyn Joshua, called for a more focused retrenchment tool “whereby the employer can take the initiative, close a function and lay off workers”. The voluntary severance package had not resulted in a smaller public service. “There is no well-developed action plan.”

A payments audit had shown that there were no ghost workers.

W Cape's budget aims at new growth drive

KARIN SCHIMKE

THE Western Cape's provincial budget for the coming year is by no means a bright and happy one, but foundations are being laid for growth, even while social spending continues to gobble up more than 85% of the total budget.

However — in spite of major spending on health, education and social services and a slight increase in each of their allocations — retrenchment packages in education and health will remain part of the financial landscape for the coming year as the province works towards an ideal personnel

expenditure of only 53% of the total budget instead of the current 55%.

This translates into a (not unexpected) cutting of staff in health and education services. While provincial Health MEC Peter Marais would not commit himself to any figures until he had consulted with unions and other affected parties, he did indicate fewer than 4 000 people in the provincial health services would lose their jobs. This did not mean the figure was necessarily close to 4 000, he said.

Western Cape Education Minister Nick Koorhof said the speculated figure of 4 500 teachers who had to be out

of the system by the middle of this year was an overestimate; the true figure was about half of that.

But, while there are increases in the allocations to the "big three", this year will also see increased allocations for those areas of provincial administration that contribute towards growth. These include an increase in the tourism budget of 80%, an increased allocation to the province's economic marketing company Wesgro of 75% and an increase in the community safety budget of 30%.

This final increase would be spent on creating a healthy and safe investment and business environment in the

Western Cape, Community Safety Minister Gerald Morkel said.

In addition, a new form of income for the province is one step closer to being realised this year after Public Works, Asset Management and Media Minister Michael Louis tabled a new bill in the legislature yesterday allowing the province to buy or sell its land assets.

This was not, Louis said, an intention on the province's part to sell "the family silver", but merely a tool for managing the province's assets better.

He said almost 30% of the province's office accommodation was leased, a figure which could be reduced by housing

departments "effectively, efficiently and economically" in the province's own buildings.

The Western Cape finances, under political leadership this year of Mr Lampe Fick, are going to be run so strictly that there is no possibility at all for overspending in the 1998/99 financial year. Neither will the province budget for a deficit like it did last year, he told a press briefing.

Fick said that in the light of serious financial constraints, the province had a "fight or flight option" and it had decided to fight.

□ Turn to Page 6

ET 19/3/98

(263)

(494)

West Cape budget growth

□ From Page 1

Steering away from the well-worn argument that the province was being punished by the central government for being run by the National Party, Fick said in his budget speech yesterday. "We have accepted the uncomfortable reality of our budget proposals as a statement of what we have and what we do not have. We have accepted that there is no recourse elsewhere, no blame to be laid outside, no good Samaritan who will come and save us from our lot. We will have to manage."

But for some this attitude comes a little too late.

"This spirit of dealing with finances," said the ANC's Ms Tasneem Essop, "could have been adopted three years ago. First (the NP-run provincial government) goes and sows all this mayhem, all this chaos, all the instability, and now, suddenly, it changes its attitude. It's welcome, but it's late."

An ANC statement on the budget stated "On the face of it, this is a budget that accepts the national financial framework. The devil could yet be in the detail."

What remained to be seen, said Essop, was who would benefit from the increased expenditure on health, education and social services.

"For instance, in agriculture, will the increased expenditure be felt by small black farmers? Or will they still be seen as just an add-on to the agricultural community? This perception that to spend money on the province's disadvantaged is just a little additional responsibility must change. It is the responsibility."

Education cut, but funding welcomed

ANDREA BOTHA
STAFF REPORTER

(263)
ART 19/3/98
The provincial Education Department has welcomed its new budget of R3,6-billion, although it is less than the cash-strapped department spent last year.

Education chief Brian O'Connell said. "It is almost R400-million better than I thought it would be a few weeks ago and, while it is less

that was spent last year, this is only to be expected."

As the budget was not as small as initially feared, he foresaw greater stability for education.

The good news was that there would be R16-million more for text books and R4-million more for school equipment than last year.

The bad news was that there was R200-million less for teacher salaries. This meant there was no money to pay about 2 000 teachers

It was hoped these would take the voluntary severance packages.

Department administration would undergo some serious cuts to make it more streamlined and efficient. Staff expenditure had been cut by R17-million and it was hoped administration personnel would take severance packages.

The second-largest budget allocation would go to schools for pupils with special educational needs.

Bill allows province (263) (12/19) to broker land deals

ARG 19/3/98

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The Western Cape government will be able to sell provincial land with the passing of the Western Cape Land Administration Bill.

The bill was approved unanimously in the provincial legislature yesterday.

It was debated on budget day, indication of the urgency with which the measure was viewed by the provincial cabinet.

It is the first bill to emanate from the new portfolio of asset management, which falls under African Christian Democratic Party minister Michael Louis.

"This bill for the first time gives us the real rights to be accountable and responsible for our assets," said Mr Louis.

But he emphasised it was not the intention of his department to "sell the family silver".

The bill spells out criteria for the disposal and acquisition of state land.

It contains a clause referring to "co-operative government" with a view to co-ordinating the provincial government's

with the national objectives of land reform.

Rivals welcome Fick's 'no-choice' budget ⁽²⁶³⁾

'Devil could be in the detail'

CHENE BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

Most Western Cape politicians feel Finance Minister Lampie Fick did a reasonable job balancing his budget – faced as he was by tight constraints.

These include a R627-million deficit for 1997/98, which has to be repaid over the next few years, and the fact that he can no longer budget for a deficit

About 80% of the province's funds have to be spent on nationally-determined salaries and welfare grants

ANC finance spokeswoman Tasneem Essop welcomed the increased budget and the fact that the National Party had not repeated its "constant complaint" of being "punished" by the Government.

"On the face of it, the budget accepts the national financial framework. The devil could yet be in the detail," she said. Although the party welcomed increased spending on

health and education, it wanted to see what would be spent on the poor

"Will the additional R200-million for education be used to address the backlogs in schools in disadvantaged areas such as Bonteheuwel, Mitchell's Plain, Khayelitsha and Guguletu?" asked Ms Essop

The ANC believed the increased education allocation of R3,6-billion was still too little to ensure the "orderly transformation" of education

Democratic Party spokesman Daniel Silke said the 1998/99 budget had been a "no choice" budget

"We have to live within our budget or pay the price later," he said

The DP believed the budget was "severely hampered" by the fact that 94% of its income came from the Government in the form of a R9,5-billion grant, while only 6% was raised from the province's own sources

This meant the province had only R59-million more to spend in this financial year. Mr Silke said the province began the year on a negative

note because of the large deficit of R627-million, which he blamed on "bad management" in the departments of education and health last year. This, combined with the shrinking grant from the Government to achieve equity among provinces, left Mr Fick with little room to manoeuvre

The main challenges facing the province within these constraints were management, innovations and strict reprioritisation

Shortcomings identified by the DP included not providing for an improved management information system, and not boosting the financial management capacity of key departments.

Michael Louis, African Christian Democratic Party Minister of Public Works and Asset Management, congratulated Mr Fick on a balanced budget, but said he would have liked to have seen more funds for the upkeep of buildings and infrastructure

Only central govt grant saved Cape deficit

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — A tight Western Cape provincial budget only avoided a deficit because central government had advanced a four-year, R627m loan, provincial MECs warned yesterday.

Balancing the books would still require cuts in education and health services and the retrenchment of about 5 800 staff members, they said.

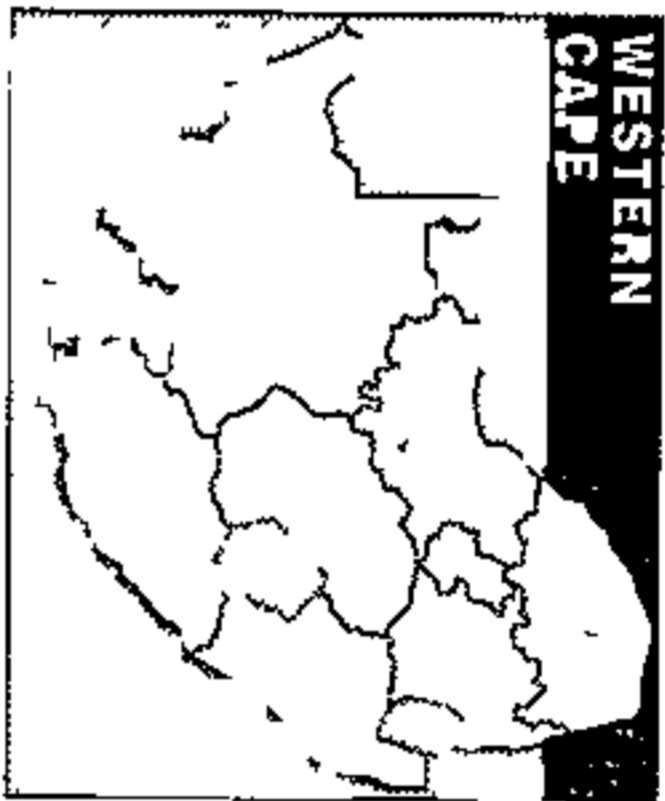
There was "no room for fiscal slippage", finance MEC Lampe Fick said in his budget speech in the provincial legislature.

The budget, in sharp contrast with the R247m-deficit budget tabled last year, was broadly welcomed by the African National Congress (ANC) as marking a final

acceptance of fiscal discipline and central government's growth, employment and redistribution strategy. However, the party would be examining the figures in detail to see whether the budget benefited the poor, said ANC finance spokesman Tasneem Essop.

Balancing the R10bn budget was predicated on government allowing the province to repay its R627m over-expenditure for the 1997/98 year over the next four years, with this year's repayment set at R100m.

This was reflected in the finance department's vote, which rose from R76m to R230m.



WESTERN CAPE

An estimated 2 000 teachers would have to leave the service this year, education MEC Nick Koorhof said at a news briefing.

Health MEC Peter Marais said the health department would have to shed about 3 800 — 1 600 from academic hospitals and 2 200 from other institutions. Four hospitals would have to close. Over the past three and a half years 6 000 health workers had left the service.

Central government's allocation of R9,5bn (R9,3bn) to the Western Cape — a decline in real terms — was offset by a 22% rise in own revenues to R625m

(R513m). This was made possible by the inclusion of R152m from casino licences, R244m from motor vehicle licences, R95m from hospital services and R134m from smaller sources.

However, taking into account the net R273m surplus at the start of the 1997/98 fiscal year, total revenue was only 0,6% (R59m) higher, at R10bn.

The health and social services budgets rose 1,52% and 1,13% to R2,9bn and R2,24bn respectively, while the education budget (35% of the total) dropped to R3,6bn (R3,8bn), much to the ANC's dismay. These three votes represented 87% (R8,8bn) of the total expenditure.

Health spending included the R29m cost of two new primary health care facilities, R16m for district hospital services

and an additional R23m for general hospitals.

To enhance trade and investment, Wesgro would receive R3,5m — R1,5m more than the previous year — while the Western Cape tourism board's budget was raised by 80% to R5,7m (R3m).

According to the Budget Review, personnel expenditure has grown 6% over the past three years from about 52% of gross expenditure to 58%. The aim was to bring this down to 53%. In 1998/99 the figure would be 55%, or R5,9bn.

The national government's allocation included R1,5bn in conditional grants, R1,2bn for academic hospitals, R270m as a supplementary allocation, R30m as a transitional reserve for local government, and R26m for primary school nutrition

(263) PDB 19/3/98

MECS

'Privatise Western Cape'

CHARL DE VILLIERS

Cabinet probe recommends province sells its hospitals, nature reserves, and transport facilities

ST (em) 22/3/98



(263)

A HIGH-POWERED investigation has proposed sweeping privatisation of the Western Cape's assets, including its hospitals, nature reserves, real estate and transport facilities

A report has found that the provincial administration lacks proper policy and suffers from wasteful duplication and inefficiency

Special Investigation Cabinet Assignment (SICA) consultants G Steinmetz and J N Hamman say the province needs an injection of private sector investment. To achieve this, it proposes a new investment body to attract fresh capital from the province's businessmen and get rid of money-guzzling assets.

Reporting to Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard and a management team, Steinmetz and Hamman call for a corporate structure headed by the cabinet and provincial administration.

One leg rests on a business development corporation to be established as a company, wholly owned by the province and driven by the Department of Economic Affairs. Known as the "Bus-DevCorp", the company should start with a stated capital of at least R100-million, say the proposals.

The other leg would constitute non-commercial, service-orientated statutory boards answerable to the province.

Proposals by a so-called Special Investigation Cabinet Assignment team have already sent shockwaves through Cape Nature Conservation, which fears that powerful interests in the provincial administration are intent on frustrating its bid to become a statutory board.

Senior CNC officials have warned that the proposals fly directly in the face of plans endorsed by the provincial cabinet two years ago to establish a Western Cape parks board with the independence to run reserves profitably and invest the surplus in conservation.

But this has been denied by Environment MEC Gerald Morkel, who this week said "It would be unwise to stall the transformation process of CNC at this advanced stage. I am strongly in favour of the board retaining its income and development of resources, and that the board's activities be open for public scrutiny."

Both Morkel and provincial deputy director-general Karel du Preez said the cabinet had not yet formally approved the SICA recommendations. However, the consultants' report dated September 17, 1997, stated that a task group had already been set up in the provincial treasury and Department of Transport and Public Works to "investigate the commercial possibilities of provincial assets."

Two other SICA teams were also looking at the provincial transport fleet and immovable property as means of "optimising" assets. More than one investigation was being conducted in the Department of Health.

THE Finance Ministry has sent out an unequivocal message: overspending will no longer be tolerated. The provinces are heeding the call and none of the nine budgets presented this week tabled a deficit for 1998/99. Whether they can keep to budget remains to be seen.

Kwazulu-Natal

Kwazulu-Natal's R1 9-billion overspend in the past financial year has effectively eliminated the province's safety net and put all provincial capital projects on ice, writes **MICHAEL SCHMIDT**.

Construction will grind to a halt and maintenance slow to a trickle under the R17 9-billion "austerity budget" announced by Premier Ben Ngubane at Ulundi on Friday. Despite Kwazulu Natal getting the biggest of the nine provincial budgets, and an increased central government commitment of 8.5%, the province received 21% less than it asked for.

Ngubane said the province's large population meant that its per-capita budget still lagged behind that of provinces like Gauteng and the Western Cape.

The freeze on capital projects has been dictated by the total elimination of all "roll-over" budgets, the funds usually reserved for long-term construction.

"This overexpenditure has eaten into everything," Ngubane said, adding that the province would "look at every source of revenue to try and finance capital projects and infrastructure."

Ngubane blamed the R1 9-billion "expenditure surge" over the previous financial year's R16 6-billion budget on increases in personnel costs and the payments of social grants.

The situation was exacerbated by an overexpenditure of R2 64-billion by the key education, health and welfare departments, which the national government has insisted get 85% of the budget

Provinces swallow the bitter pill:

cut and save

The provinces spend almost half of SA's Budget. They do so with mixed results. BT looks at the four key provincial budgets released this week

Ngubane said "it's a very tight budget and it's going to mean cutting every department to the bone — except health, welfare and education, but even those won't be fully funded."

With one in four people in the province infected with HIV, the health department welcomed its budgetary boost of 20% to R4 4-billion.

The troubled education and culture department — which will cut 5 000 temporary teachers' jobs at the end of the month — will get 12 2% more at R6 8-billion.

The welfare department's funding goes up by 18 8% to R3 9-billion.

In calling for a belt-tightening exercise, Ngubane resolved to put his own house in order first, cutting the budget for the premier's office by 32% to R59 4-million.

Gauteng

Like the rest of the country, Gauteng experienced poor economic growth in 1997/98, with new jobs proving elusive, writes **SVEN LUNSCHKE**.

ST (BT) 22/3/98

In fact, says MEC Jabu Moleketi, job losses amounted to 12 000, many of them in the depressed mining and manufacturing industries.

The R15 07-billion budget for 1998/99 holds out little prospect for public-sector led employment creation.

The reason 58% of the budget's total spending is devoted to salaries of the province's 122 000 workers, And, laments Moleketi, "the province has no mechanisms to reduce staffing numbers other than by natural attrition and voluntary severance packages."

The portion of funds dedicated to salaries is particularly high in education (86%) and health (60%) which combined employ 92% of Gauteng's public servants. This leaves only R1 2-billion of the Budget to be dedicated to capital spending, which Moleketi estimates will create 13 000 direct and 19 000 indirect jobs, less than 10% of which are sustainable.

He expects casinos to play a significant role in boosting job numbers. The four cas-

inos licensed to date will generate investment worth R4-billion over the next two years, creating 16 500 new jobs during construction and 8 800 long-term jobs.

Western Cape

Taking into account its R9 5-billion allocation from national government and the revenues it raises, the Western Cape will have just over R10-billion to spend, R59-million more than the previous

year. **MARCIA KLEIN** reports that about 86% of the total budget will go to education, health and social services. A budget deficit of R627-million from the past financial year will be repaid to central government in four yearly tranches, the first of which is R114-million.

The Western Cape received R9 5-billion from national government and will collect revenue of R624 7-million from motor and casino licences and hospital fees

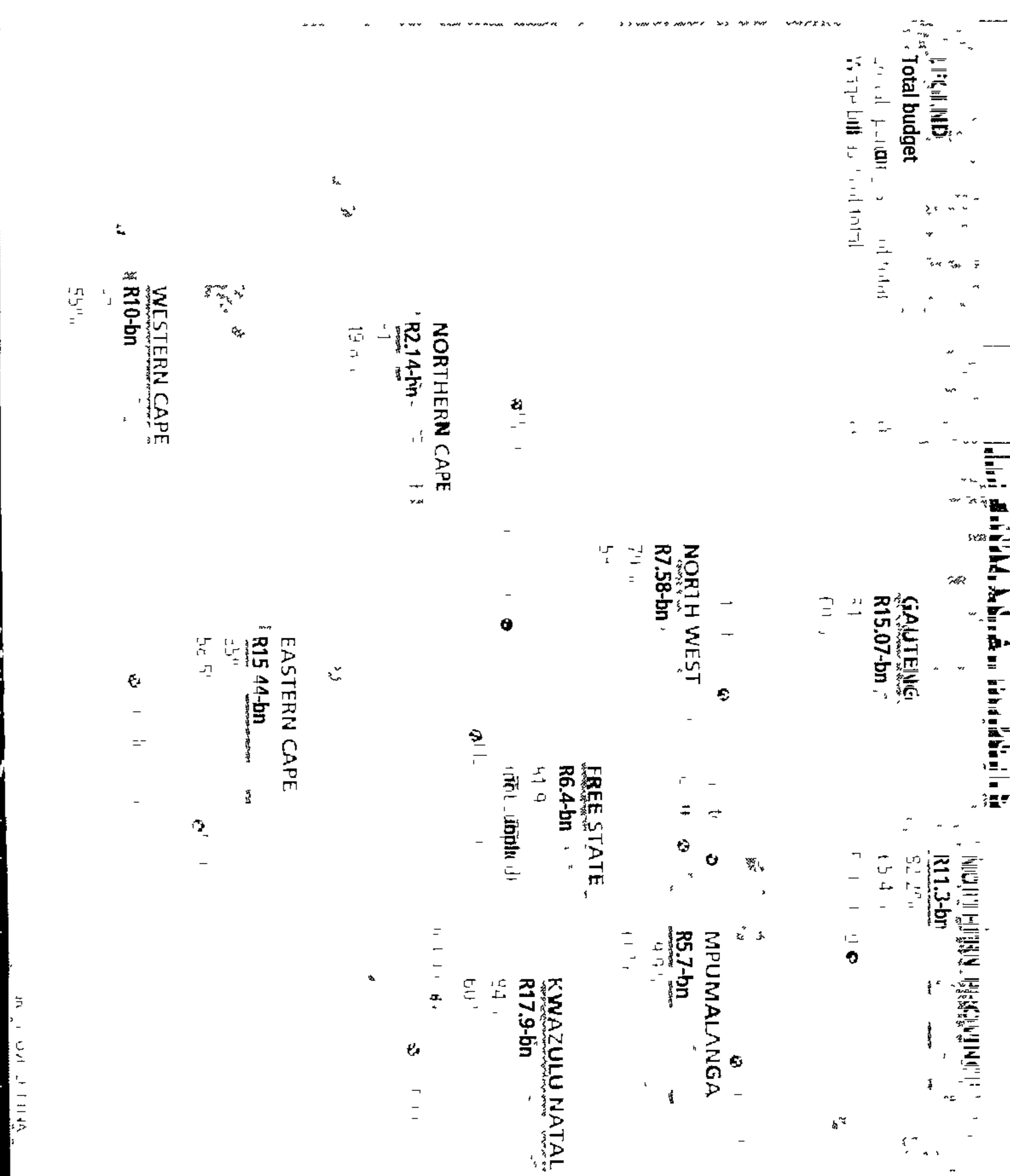
Personnel expenditure currently accounts for 58% of the total, and this will be adjusted to 55% during this year and 53% in three years.

The Western Cape is thriving compared with certain other large provinces. Last year its economy grew on average at 1% more than the national economy. There was a net loss of 10 000 jobs, but unemployment rates are the lowest in the country.

The province has budgeted for 3% growth in the cur-

rent fiscal year, but it expects formal sector jobs to grow by only 2%. Provincial MECs deny that 10 000 jobs will be cut this year. The education allocation of R3 6-billion was higher than expected, and will lead to fewer cutbacks than originally planned. About 2 000 people, and not the 4 500 initially expected, will lose their jobs.

Health, which this year receives R2 9-billion, has already shed 6 000 jobs in three-and-a-half years.



Opposition to proposed Cape development bill mounts

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Opposition to the draft Western Cape Planning and Development Bill mounted yesterday with political parties, trade unions and ratepayers' associations condemning the wide and arbitrary powers granted to the MEC

The African National Congress (ANC) warned that the draft bill would perpetuate the disorderly development in the province which was "seriously threatening the environmental soundness and scenic beauty" of popular Western Cape spots.

The national land affairs department, Cape Town city council, SA Communist Party and Congress of SA Trade Unions have also expressed reservations about the bill, particularly the power given to the MEC to throw out democratically adopted plans

The proposed legislation — which has been circulated for comment and is due to be the subject of public hearings — would be the provincial alternative to the national Development Facilitation Act. However, it would differ from the act in key respects: it made no provision for local authorities to formulate development goals and no provision for a tribunal to hear appeals.

The act was created to speed up development projects and address the inequities in land ownership, occupation and development inherited from the

past. It required local authorities to formulate integrated local development plans as a framework for their land-use decisions and laid down general principles for the development of land throughout the country.

However, the draft provincial bill would give the MEC of planning the "unfettered discretion" to override local authority decisions even when these involved widespread consultation and public participation. He would also be able to exclude developments from the ambit of the bill.

"If it is enacted the Western Cape Planning and Development Bill will be a serious infringement on the rights of local government authorities in the Western Cape to draw up and promote development in their areas," ANC provincial spokesman on development and planning, Garth Strachan, said.

He said the ANC thought the draft bill was unconstitutional, lacking in its provisions for environmental protection and running counter to the principles of co-operative governance, transparency and accountability.

Strachan said the draft bill gave "substantial status" to old apartheid structure and guide plans, according them the same status as democratically formulated, local authority plans.

He believed the bill was designed to protect and entrench vested interests and inhibit the transformation of apartheid land-use structures.

Municipalities revolt over planning bill

Nat councils take on province

JOHN YELD
ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

All seven of Cape Town's local authorities have told the Western Cape government its draft Planning and Development Bill is fundamentally flawed and should be withdrawn.

The move is politically significant because several of the councils are controlled by the National Party, which also dominates the Western Cape government

Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom has also expressed concern, telling Western Cape Planning Minister Kobus Meiring that

the bill will fail to reverse the apartheid-based planning legislation on the regional statute books.

These responses were made yesterday to the province's standing committee on constitutional affairs, local government, housing and planning.

The Cape Metropolitan Council and the municipalities of Cape Town, South Peninsula, Blaauwberg, Tygerberg, Helderberg and Oostenberg were opposed to the "wholesale subordination" of virtually all key municipal planning matters to the provincial parliament

"In view of the intractable, fundamental problems which beset the bill, the best course would be for the

provincial minister to withdraw the bill," they said

Mr Hanekom said the bill

■ Failed to lead the Western Cape into a new planning era "that will effectively undo the grim legacy of apartheid planning".

■ Concentrated excessive executive powers in the hands of a political figure (the provincial planning minister)

■ Failed to recognise the important new role of local government in planning and development.

■ Was largely an interim measure which would not take the Western Cape closer to "a new and transformed planning system".

(263)
ARG 25/3/98

NP accused of renegeing on education accord

Linda Ensor

BD 27/3/98

CAPE TOWN — The National Party (NP) in the Western Cape has been accused of renegeing on an agreement with the African National Congress (ANC) to reallocate R200m of the Western Cape budget to education.

The savings would come from several departments

The agreements were reached

during a meeting of the standing committee on finance on Wednesday but yesterday morning the NP members of the committee were hauled before the NP caucus and told to retract them, ANC finance spokesman Tasneem Essop said.

The executive arm of the provincial government had made a mockery of the oversight role of the committee by reducing it to a mere rubber-stamp of the execu-

tive, she said during a debate on the budget in the legislature.

Essop said the ANC believed that education, which required R3,8bn to maintain instead of the R3,6bn it was allocated, should be treated as a priority in the budget

The higher sum would have obviated the need for retrenchments, stabilised education and facilitated the achievement of equity, she said.

Hanekom objects to bill

Linda Ensor

BD 27/3/98

CAPE TOWN — Agriculture and Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom has objected to the Western Cape Planning and Development Bill, which seeks to govern development in the province, on the grounds that it concentrates "excessive executive powers" in the hands of the MEC and did not make sufficient provision for public involvement.

In a letter to newly appointed planning and administration MEC Kobus Meiring, Hanekom expressed regret that the Western Cape had decided not to follow other provinces in implementing the Development Facilitation Act, designed to overcome the "grim legacy" of apartheid.

He said the bill as proposed — which has met with wide opposition from various organs of civil society as well as the National Party controlled Cape metropolitan council — failed to recognise the important new role of local government in planning and development.

It failed to provide for integrated development and "effectively preserves the very different, and unequal, land use management and zoning systems applicable in apartheid's different race zones".

He said he was concerned that the Western Cape was still, in 1998, subject to pre-1994 planning legislation which in many ways formed the basis for the bill.

Clinton

Continued from Page 1

promise of your land". Quoting Max Weber's statement that politics was about the patient boring of holes in hard boards, he said he was aware that change was not always easy, but "the promise before you is immense".

Africa remained the world's greatest development challenge, with a need to overcome poverty, malnutrition and conflict. But democracy and economic development were progressing and the world was seeing what Mbeki had dubbed the African renaissance.

Asking what could be done for or about Africa, US policy had in the past posed the wrong question. What should be asked was "what can we do together with Africa to our mutual benefit". Effort should go into building strong economies, expanding democracy and preventing or ending conflict.

Accompanying the Clintons from Tuynhuys to Parliament, Mandela was joined by his companion Graca Machel. Two SA officers led the group, which was followed by a US Marine Corps officer in dress uniform

Clinton spent more than an hour in the parliamentary complex after his speech. After chatting to Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi on his way out of the chamber, he greeted African National Congress and SA Communist Party leader Blade Nzimande, raising a cheer from many MPs.

In Speaker Frene Ginwala's office he met the parliamentary leaders of the ANC (Max Sisulu), the Freedom Front (Constand Viljoen), the Democratic Party (Tony Leon), and the National Party (Marthinus van Schalkwyk), and the IFP's Joe Matthews.

More reports: Page 6
Analysis: Page 16
Delicious irony: Page 18

Johnnic

Continued from Page 1

Another issue being debated is Johnnic's portfolio investments in SAB and Premier. Some other institutional investors in the group believe a Johnnic-Nail merger would be feasible only if both stakes were unbundled out of Johnnic, leaving a more focused group. This will be one of the issues addressed by Johnnic's board subcommittee.

Johnnic's joint control with Liberty Life of SAB and Premier may be seen as giving it little or no influence over their strategic direction or management, but the preponderance of the

SAB stake's value compared to the other assets in the Johnnic portfolio leaves the Johnnic share price highly geared to SAB's stockmarket performance. Johnnic has a market capitalisation of R9,8bn, of which R6,6bn can be attributed to its stake in SAB.

It is unclear at this stage what Nail's view on SAB and Premier would be should the merger go through. Nail MD and executive deputy chairman Dikgang Moseneke said yesterday he could not comment as the companies were trading under cautionary notices.

Nail executives were canvassing some of Nail and Johnnic's institutional shareholders this week as part of protracted and thorough discussions on the proposed merger.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



Angry debate on councillors' fate

CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

CONFUSION and disorder reigned in the Cape Town council chambers yesterday, where it was finally decided that two councillors who allegedly broke the code of conduct by intervening in a council eviction in Manenberg, must go

After an angry debate — in which City Manager Mr Andrew Boraine was accused of being prejudiced and the entire National Party caucus walked out — the ANC and Democratic Party carried the contentious vote.

The case, involving ANC councillor Mr Mogamat Sampson and NP member Mr Osborne Adams, led to head of housing Mr Billy Cobbett being threatened by gangsters. In February, Cobbett took his family to England. He has since returned on his own.

According to Boraine, the councillors contravened the code of conduct by contacting Cobbett and urging him to stay the eviction — carried out in terms of a policy endorsed by all councillors. He recommended that the council "apply to the High Court for the termination of the councillors' membership" — and it is this that was agreed to yesterday.

But NP member Mr Leon Markovitz warned the council that it would emerge from the court case, which could ensue, with a



IN THE COLD: ANC councillor Mogamat Sampson

"bloody nose" and that he would personally contribute towards both councillors' legal fees

"What Adams and Sampson were doing that day was simply representing their people. They were just trying to delay the matter."

Markovitz said Boraine was prejudiced "He's a friend, too close to Cobbett to judge the situation fairly. What about the threats made to the councillors who live among the gangsters? I don't know where Cobbett lives — but I think not in Manenberg."

NP councillor the Rev William Bantom interjected throughout the debate and at one stage shouted "Julle gaan pak kry!" (You're going to get a hiding)

Those in favour of expelling the

ET 1/4/98

(263) (124)

pair "don't have to survive the Cape Flats every day, come from leafy Rondebosch, Camps Bay, Bishopscourt and Bantry Bay and can go to bed without a care in the world", Bantom said.

"We're being asked to hang brothers who live in areas where their lives are threatened on a daily basis. But when Mr Cobbett gets one threatening telephone call, he's given a guard at his house and a two- to three-week holiday in England."

During the eviction, Mr Sollie Staggie, younger brother of Hard Livings gang leader Mr Rashied Staggie, arrived at the house and police were called in.

"I would also have picked up the phone and called Cobbett if my life was on the line," said Bantom

To boos from the NP, ANC councillor Ms Daphne King said the code of conduct was also there to protect councillors from gangster elements "We need to send a clear message to our citizens that we are serious about governing our city. To our law-abiding citizens we must say that we will take control. And I'm talking from experience... ANC councillors do not come from Bantry Bay. We know what it's like to be manhandled by gangsters," King said.

Chairperson of exco Ms Nomandla Mfeketo said the time for "illegitimate governance" was over "What we see today is the

result of years of turning a blind eye to what's been going on... to crime and gross mismanagement

"We're talking about millions of people who don't have a roof over their heads. When we ignore the rules of conduct we are saying that these people must stay like this.. We have rules and a responsibility to govern. We have a responsibility to show communities that we will change their situation, but we will also follow the rules of council."

Deputy chairperson Mr Saleem Mowzer said councillors should lead by example "If we break rules and regulations, how can we expect our people to obey them?"

The DP fully supported the housing policy, said Mr Ian Iversen

"If we're not strong-willed, we'll lose the battle for housing. Cobbett has made it clear to us that we have virtually lost control of our housing stock. Without our support the policy will fall apart."

● The ANC in the Western Cape has accused the NP of "cowardice" for leaving the chamber before voting "We all have a duty to do everything to build up morality in our society. The NP have shown that they are not prepared to act against their own," it said

But NP leader Mr Clive Justus said his party did not believe the councillors had contravened the code and had left the chamber because debate had been stifled.

Angry debate on councillors' fate

ET 1/4/98

(263) (264)

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New hope raised on megacity

JERMAINE CRAIG
CITY REPORTER

ARG 8/4/98

(267)

(404)

There seems to be a glimmer of hope for Cape municipalities opposed to the megacity concept, but there are doubts that meetings to discuss the white paper on local government now are useful.

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Valli Moosa, recently released the white paper with two options, both providing for a megacity but giving municipalities a say in the type of local government to be instituted.

However, most opponents of the megacity concept say Mr Moosa's proposals are only minor

variations on a theme of strongly centralised metropolitan government (megacities) which would mean an end to the system of local councils operating since 1995.

Mr Moosa has appointed consultants to conduct further research with interested parties, mainly the councils, before the white paper becomes law.

Mr Moosa's chief consultant, Michael Sutcliffe, met representatives of the Cape's local councils yesterday to outline his brief.

Many of those at the meeting felt that enough consultation had taken place before the release of the white paper and questioned the need for further input.

However, there also seemed to be slight optimism that Mr Moosa

could somehow open the door for further options in the Cape.

The executive committee chairman of the Blauwberg municipality, George Mellet, questioned the need for further research, but hoped that through it Mr Moosa would look at other alternatives to the megacity concept.

The Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee chairman, Pierre Uys, said he had discussed the issue with Mr Moosa recently.

The minister had told him it would be "stupid" to put just one proposal forward.

Mr Moosa said that if local councils could justify the need for other proposals, they would be examined.

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Nats need a leader ...

CHENE BLUMAU
STAFF REPORTER

A top political scientist is strongly tipping the National Party to repeat its political success in the Western Cape in next year's election, whether or not provincial leader Hennus Kriel resigns.

Wille Breytenbach, a political science professor at Stellenbosch University, also says the NP desperately needs a coloured leader to ensure the continued support of coloured voters.

Political analysts are divided, however, about whether Mr Kriel will make his exit before the election.

They are also unsure whether provincial Health Minister Peter Marais or Community Security Minister Gerald Morkel will succeed Mr Kriel if he goes.

Professor Breytenbach said the main problem of appointing a coloured leader before next year was the lack of leadership potential among coloured cabinet ministers.

"There doesn't appear to be a crown prince to take over the reins," he said. An analyst, who asked not to be named, disagreed.

"Kriel can't afford to stay on as leader. He just doesn't have the same political appeal among coloured voters as FW de Klerk had. The party has also created too many expectations among coloured voters already. It would count against them if Kriel stayed on."

He said coloured voters were very disillusioned with the African National Congress, but that did not necessarily mean they were pro-NP.

"The coloured vote is a floating vote."

They may decide not to vote at all, he said.

The contest for the party's top position at this stage appeared to be between Mr Marais and Mr Morkel.

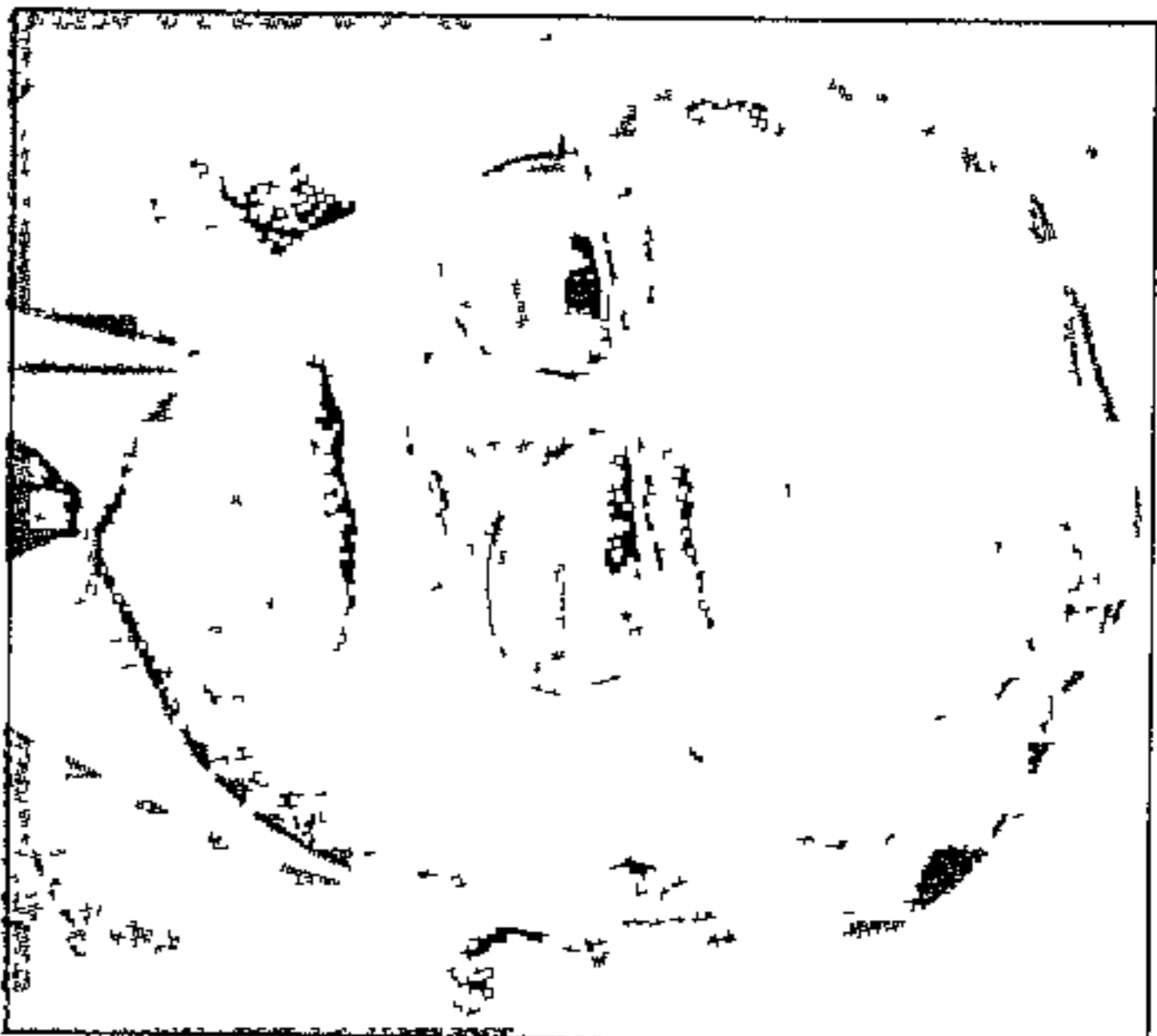
"Morkel is calm and neat, Marais is the fire-eater. The party has to decide which one will be the populist," he said.

Meanwhile, inside sources hint at the possibility of a split between coloured and white NP members about the urgency of appointing a coloured leader, with some whites apparently trying to stall such a move.

As far as the Nats' strategy for next year's election is concerned, it's not expected to differ much from their recipe for 1994.

Apart from the usual "swart gevaar" tactics, the party is again expected to blame the province's woes on underfunding by central Government. "They are likely to focus on issues such as law and order and social delivery, which they will say is better here than in other provinces. The province's gross national product is also way above the national average," Professor Breytenbach said.

The NP's national campaign would again differ quite dramatically from its provincial strategy.



Due to go? premier Hennus Kriel

"There are essentially two National Parties. One on provincial level and one on national level," he said.

The support base of the NP in the Western Cape consists mainly of white and coloured Afrikaans-speaking people and the party was not very concerned about black voters.

In comparison, the national NP could not afford to ignore the black vote, because 73% of the voters in the country were black, he said.

The national NP had been forced to embrace the rainbow nation concept, whereas the Western Cape NP was not expected to even try to woo African voters.

The NP's national leaders were not likely to interfere with the leadership race in the Western Cape because the party had always had a federal structure. "Besides, Kriel will not take orders from Marthinus van Schalkwyk (national NP leader) because he's too young and hasn't been in the job long enough," said Professor Breytenbach.

As in 1994, next year's elections would be run along ethnic and racial considerations.

He said although the Western Cape could be heading towards a hung parliament, he still thought the NP would secure more votes than the ANC, with or without Mr Kriel.

Nationally, there is not expected to be much of a political shake-up next year. This was likely to happen only if there was a split in the ANC which could lead to the creation of a strong alternative party for black voters.

The only other party with substantial support among blacks at present was the Inkatha Freedom Party, but its support base was confined to Zululand in the rural areas.

The only "dark horse" in next year's elections is the United Democratic Movement, under Roelf Meyer and Bantu Holomisa, which is expected to secure about 4% of the national vote.

Although the party would not be a significant factor in the Western Cape, it could replace the Democratic Party as the third most popular in the province.

While ANC focuses on particular issues

BLAKGMAN NEGRO
STAFF REPORTER

The African National Congress hopes to win the 1999 election in the Western Cape by focusing its campaign on coloured women, according to a leaked internal strategy document.

The ANC believes it is coloured women who hold the province's economy and welfare in their hands. The party has adopted the strategy in spite of its belief that there will be a low voter turnout at the election in the province.

They fear that the electorate feels cheated by the exclusion of Africans and coloureds from economic participation.

The National Party's election win in 1994 in the Western Cape gave it 53,2% of the vote, securing 23 seats, compared with the ANC's 33%, which secured 14 seats.

That election left the party with the challenge of overcoming a narrow racial interpretation of the poll. The leaked document, Popular

Mobilisation for the Consolidation of People's Power - Towards a Political Strategy, shows a visible departure from generalisations to particular concerns.

Abused women, working class women and women whose socio-economic position makes it difficult for them to live normal lives are being "adopted" by the ANC campaign.

The document said the party was going to "derail" the key strategic objective of the National Party, which was to "block the national project of transformation with its implications of equity and the assault on privilege."

The ANC women's campaign would be taken into the clothing industry, churches, farms and businesses.

Women across the racial divide would be asked to think about changing their lives.

"We must resolve the mistrust by coloured working-class women of the ANC by countering NP propaganda against the ANC," the document said.

"Inclusion of women in society, politics and economy is the norm now," the document said.

It added that the NP alliance was held together by fear, a "swart gevaar" strategy based on anti-African racism and fuelled by whisper campaigns about housing, jobs and pensions being only for Africans.

"The NP cannot only feed the coloured community on a diet of propaganda. It is aware of the need to 'patronise' the coloured community with targeted, handout type of delivery."

This was why the NP had decided to take control of the key delivery portfolios of welfare, health and the reconstruction and development programme, said the document.

The ANC intended to take advantage of the common socio-economic background between Africans and coloureds.

They saw this base as more credible than the NP's "white-coloured alliance", which it said was publicly presented as based on common lin-

guistic, religious and cultural experiences. "The future of rich and poor, black and white, is indivisible," the document said.

But it won't be all plain sailing for the ANC.

There are clear signs that the party is a bit edgy about the emergence of the United Democratic Movement (UDM), led by Bantu Holomisa and Roelf Meyer.

"We need to identify who the UDM is appealing to which age group? Newly urbanised people? Civic members? Disillusioned members? Then we need to find the right kind of interventions."

However, the cherry on the cake for the ANC would be to "expose the NP for not delivering, for breaking of promises and for being inaccessible."

It is expected that Ebrahim Rasool, the former provincial health minister and the man most likely to be elected ANC chairman of the Western Cape next weekend, will drive the campaign to the 1999 elec-

Parties draw the lines as election looms

Cape ANC looks to Franklin Sorn

Ambassador to US may be candidate for premier as leadership race heats up

ANDREA WEISS

The African National Congress may open the way for the return of Franklin Sorn, South Africa's current ambassador to the United States, as its candidate for premiership of the Western Cape, while electing either Ebrahim Rasool or Chris Nissen as its provincial leader.

The provincial congress, involving about 500 delegates, begins in Knysna today and indications are that there is going to be intense politicking over leadership positions to take the party into its 1999 election against the National Party. A resolution, tabled by an individual party member, to go before the provincial

congress today calls for the separation of the roles of provincial leader and premier to allow the ANC room to manoeuvre should it wish to bring in Dr Sorn as its candidate for the premiership.

But a counter-resolution tabled by the ANC's Metro south-east provincial region is to follow the ANC tradition of electing the same person for leader as is nominated as candidate for the premiership. In the meantime, indications are that the leadership tussle between Mr Rasool and Mr Nissen is far from decided, despite earlier indications that Mr Rasool was the runaway favourite.

Two of the regions - the Metro south-east and the Peninsula - together hold at least half of the votes required to win an election, while the other areas are the Karoo and the West Coast.

But this view goes against the actual nomination from the Metro south-east, which is for Mr Rasool to hold the leadership position while the West Coast has also formally nominated Mr Rasool.

A supporter of Mr Nissen suggested he would promote the interests of unity within the party, particularly as he also spoke Xhosa.

"We need unity now. We need a person who will fit all areas and who is accessible," he said.

Asked whether he was standing, Mr

Nissen confirmed that he had told the ANC he was not available for the position because he now headed the Government's Masakhane campaign.

However, he added: "I respect people's views and I will work for the best interests of the organisation. I'm greatly appreciative of the fact that people think I can play a role. I am totally committed to the ANC."

Together with the national executive committee, the ANC has drawn up a list of criteria it wishes its leader to fulfil. These include the ability to assist in building unity, broadening support particularly in the coloured community, consolidating African support, being available around the clock and drawing in disaffected members who have joined

the United Democratic Movement.

Yesterday, the ANC released the names of candidates for leadership positions. The top five office-bearers will be elected today, while the additional 13 members of the provincial executive committee will be elected tomorrow.

Earlier this week, members were asked to indicate their availability and accordingly to the ANC statement, Mr Nissen withdrew while Tony Yengeni was not present and gave no indication of whether he was available.

Mr Rasool was the only confirmed candidate.

The tussle for deputy chair is between two women Nomandla Mfeketo, now acting provincial leader, and Zou Kota, a member of the National Assembly.

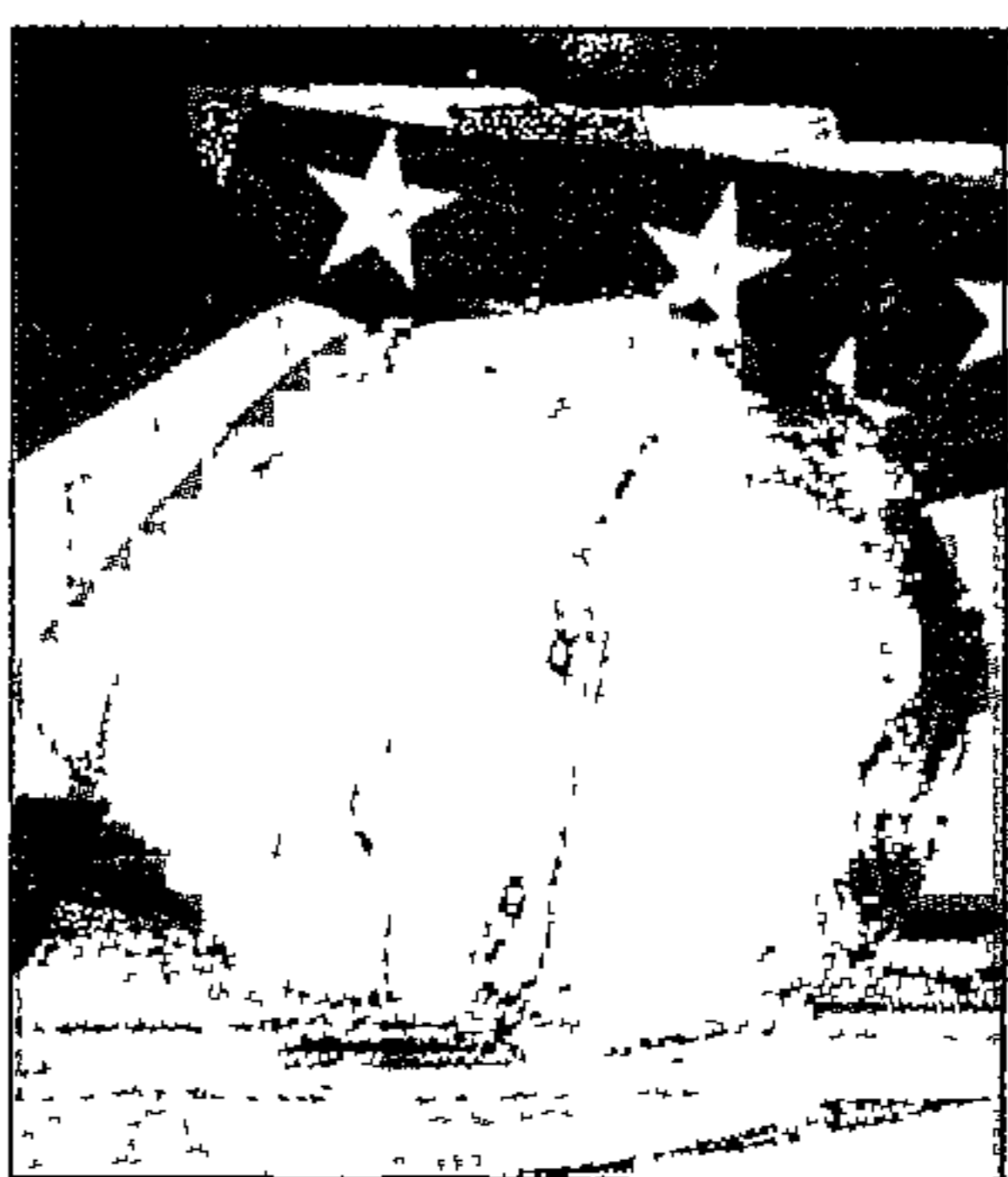
MORE

WHEELCHAIR

Indians give the nod to SA winner

Kriel set to quit

NP leadership battle in the



Ready to go: Western Cape premier Hennus Kriel

CLIVE SAWYER

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Premier Hennus Kriel is set to announce his resignation from the province's top post and the leadership of the National Party in the Western Cape today.

Mr Kriel will clarify his plans for his political future during his budget speech in the provincial legislature this afternoon

An election is likely within days, with Mr Kriel staying in office for a few weeks as a

ARG. 20/4/98 (263)

departure from office

Mr Kriel, law and order minister in the pre-1994 NP government, has been premier since the election in April 1994.

He took over from Dawie de Villiers as provincial leader of the NP in 1996

His most profound political legacy will be the new provincial constitution, which enabled him to remake his cabinet, bringing in two minority parties. A breakdown in negotiations precipitated the departure of African National Congress ministers

ARR

20/4/98 (263) *offings*

There has been considerable pressure for some time within the Western Cape NP for a coloured politician to take over as premier. Early today Mr Kriel's spokesman, Chris Koole, said he knew nothing about his boss's pending resignation, but this did not mean it wasn't going to happen. "The opportunity for Mr Kriel to make an announcement like this would be during his budget speech this afternoon," Mr Koole said

Changing of the guard for poll battle, page 4

Not for

ANC hails new beginning

ANDRE KOOPMAN
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

THE ANC Western Cape, accused of being one of the most fractious and divided regions, emerged united and re-energised after its Kuils River conference at the weekend under its new leader, Mr Ebrahim Rasool

This was the opinion of many of the 479 voting delegates canvassed and was emphasised by outgoing chairperson Justice Minister Dullah Omar, who said in his farewell address that the Western Cape had become "united" in its conference and was ready to tackle the National Party in the next elections.

Rasool echoed these sentiments in his keynote address, saying the "conference has been a turning point for our party. This weekend the ANC in the Western Cape came of age"

He said the ANC had been

disorganised and morale had been low after the defeat in provincial elections but it had now "rediscovered the unity that made the UDF a major force in the destruction of apartheid in the 1980s".

The sentiments of the two leaders were reflected in the election results for the top five positions on the provincial executive committee (PEC)

The leadership battle predicted by some political pundits did not materialise, and Rasool was elected unanimously and unopposed after former leader Mr Chris Nissen and Mr Tony Yengeni said they were not available

Ambassador to the US Dr Franklin Sonn, who was also punted as a new leader, said earlier on that he would not stand. Most of the PEC members were elected by a two-thirds majority or more

They are: deputy chairperson

Ms Nomandla Mfeketo, provincial secretary Mr Mcebisi Skwatsha and vice secretary Mr Marius Fransman. Ms Rhoda Joemat was elected unopposed as treasurer, the position formerly held by Rasool

The toughest battle fought was for the position of secretary, which is a key organising position on the PEC.

The incumbent, Mr James Ngculu, who has been criticised for poor management style was soundly trounced by Skwatsha, former president of the ANC Youth League and former political education officer for the ANC in the Western Cape

The character of the top five positions and the rest of the PEC is seen as a triumph for broad, participatory democracy as opposed to the more centrist kind of democracy practised by the ANC in exile. This was also

Turn to Page 5

Position of Africanists rejected

From Page 1

quite significantly reflected at the ANC national conference at Mafikeng in December

The Africanists grouping led by Ngculu were also soundly trounced, and township branches significantly rejected an Africanist position overwhelmingly, according to leading ANC members. Nevertheless major strains in the ANC are fairly well represented on the PEC, according to political analysts.

At the weekend conference, the ANC faced the coloured/African divide head on, stating in a key resolution that there was a need for African/coloured solidarity

In an attempt to embrace non-racialism, the conference stated in a resolution that the needs of the poor should be addressed.

This was an attempt to dispel the "myth that African/coloured unity was impossible because these communities had different experiences under apartheid", said Western Cape ANC publicity chief Mr Cameron Dugmore.

The level of unity achieved at the conference is seen as a function of a strategy document drawn up by a committee chaired by Rasool and widely canvassed among branches four months before the elections

In the past, the ANC discussed strategy and tactics at the conference. The political strategy document which called for, among other things, more communication within the ANC was adopted as a resolution

Key resolutions focused on non-racialism, the need to increase health care and objecting to the closing of

major hospitals such as Somerset, the crime problem, addressing the needs of women in the Western Cape and improving care for the poor

A resolution called for the need to transform rugby and to involve communities in this process

Another resolution about Mr Robert McBride, detained in Mozambique on suspicion of gun-running, stated that: "Attempts by reactionary elements within the state machinery to label Robert McBride a gun-runner has no basis and the ANC acknowledges McBride as a disciplined member of the ANC who has sacrificed greatly and whose integrity is not in dispute"

Rasool said the conference had been characterised by a "spirit of renewal, optimism and a determination to take the battle to the NP"

Changing of guard for poll battle

Kriel's future in balance as ANC elects new leader

ELNE SAMNER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The main rivals to win the Western Cape, the African National Congress and National Party, were poised today to begin preparations for next year's election under new leadership.

At its provincial congress this past weekend, the ANC elected former health MEC Ebrahim Rasool as new provincial leader.

And in a significant change for the movement in the province, for the first time the top structure of its leadership is fully representative.

The provincial executive has eight Africans, eight coloured people and two whites - and includes six women.

In another significant move, the Western Cape ANC approved a resolution calling for the reaffirmation of solidarity between Africans and coloured people, and for continued efforts to draw progressive-minded white people into the movement.

This building of solidarity was an important theme of the congress - the

first for the ANC since it went into opposition in the provincial parliament after the implementation of the new Western Cape constitution.

On the other side of the fence, speculation is mounting about the political future of Western Cape Premier and provincial NP leader Herinus Kriel.

Mr Kriel is expected to clarify his plans when he addresses the provincial parliament in his budget vote this afternoon.

Should Mr Kriel announce his retirement, a leadership contest between the two deputy leaders - Community Safety MEC Gerald Morkel, and Health MEC Peter Marais - is expected.

If Mr Kriel does not announce his departure today, it is widely expected it will be only a matter of time before he does so, and that he will not lead the party into next year's election.

In a speech to the ANC congress yesterday, Mr Rasool said it did not matter who took over the NP in the province because it would be the "same old party".

The succession from Mr Rasool to Mr Marais provided the basis for one of the resolutions approved at the congress, on an issue likely to be widely canvassed during the election campaign.

The congress vowed to ensure that the provincial health plan - proposed by Mr Rasool when he still held the post - was implemented, and delegates said they would oppose Mr Marais's plan.

The top five posts at the ANC congress went to Mr Rasool (chair), Nomamanda Mfeketo (vice-chair), Mcebisi Skwatsha (secretary), Marinus Fransman (vice-secretary), and Rhoda Joemat (treasurer).

Tony Yengeni, the other contender who was expected to contest the leadership, did not make himself available.

Sapa reports that almost a fifth of the crippling debt accumulated by the Western Cape ANC since the 1994 elections was settled without payment, according to a report released at the party's provincial congress.

The provincial ANC incurred

debts totalling R583 000 during and after the elections, and 14 months ago hit the headlines when its phones were cut because it could not pay its bill.

According to a report by Mr Rasool, R250 487 of the total was paid off over 14 months, including R80 000 paid "as a result of legal steps being initiated against the ANC".

Debts totalling R100 000 were settled without payment, and another R252 513 was raised by a gala banquet in Cape Town earlier this year.

"The ANC has successfully moved out of the red and into the black," said Mr Rasool.

Creditors had included Golden Arrow Bus Services, which wrote off all the money the party owed it.

According to the provincial secretary's report to the conference, other creditors included the company Nashua, which issued a letter of demand for R106 000 over equipment including copiers, leased by the ANC. The matter had been "successfully negotiated".

Mr Rasool said delegates would be

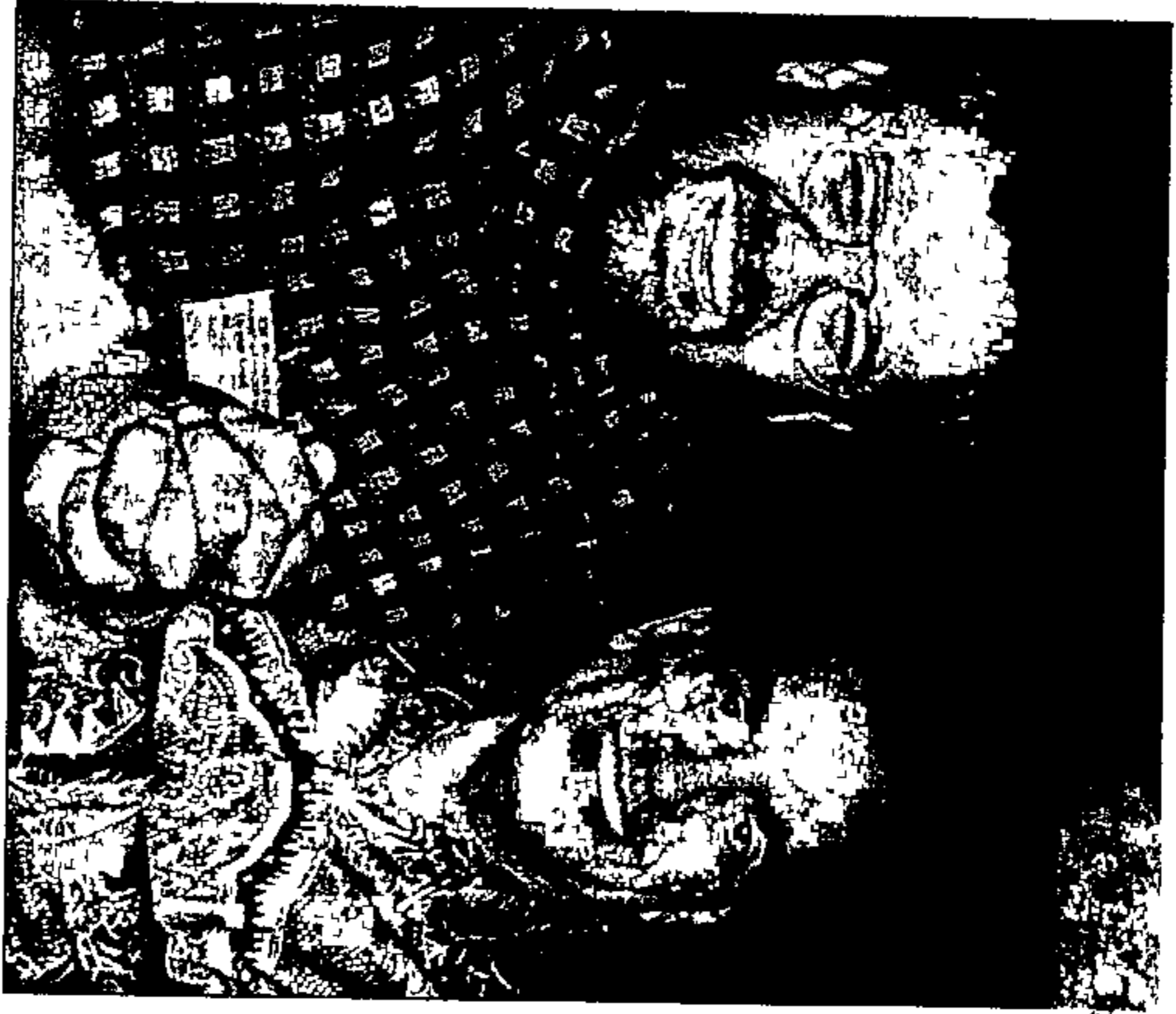
surprised to hear that the province was owed R80 340 by party members and structures.

"Because this report is a public document I do not want to embarrass these individuals (some are councillors) and structures. They know who they are and we will be sending them reminders," he said.

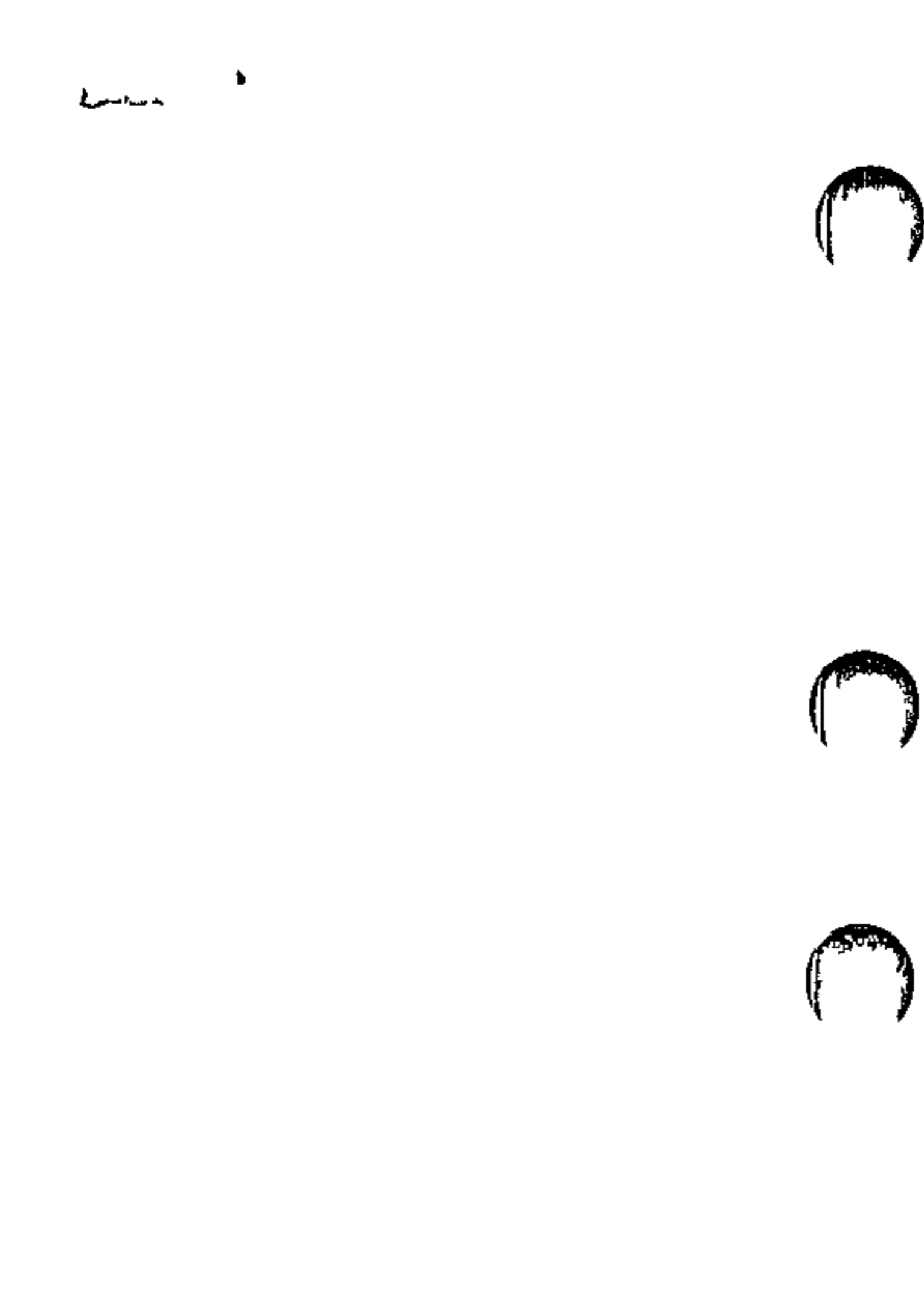
Mr Rasool said the ANC had set itself a provisional target of R85-million to fight the next election, the bulk of which would be raised between June this year and January 1999. The province was still dependent on grants from the ANC's national office, even though the proportion of grants to own income had shifted from about 70% to 30%, to its current level of 50%.

A spokesman for the ANC in the province, Cameron Dugmore, said that at present the organisation clearly did not have enough money to fight the election, but it did have enough to run the organisation.

"We don't have creditors hounding us, and there is no prospect of the ANC's phones being cut," he said.



Changing hands: new ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool with his predecessor Dulish Omar



Little grief in politics over Kriel's passing

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Western Cape political leaders today described Premier Hernus Kriel's resignation as a leap from a sinking ship.

Hennie Bester, leader of the Democratic Party and MEC for trade, industry and tourism, said the National Party was not as secure as it might seem.

Mr Kriel's departure yesterday marked the passing of the last of the NP old guard. Now the party faced an unenviable choice between the amiable but unproven Gerald Morkel and the energetic but often off-target Peter Marais.

Mr Bester said the agreement by which the DP was in government in the Western Cape would not allow the new premier to change the portfolio held by the DP. The party had entered the cabinet to ensure good governance and intended staying on until next year's election.

Eleanor Lombard, leader of the Freedom



Contenders: Peter Marais and Gerald Morkel

Front in the province, said Mr Kriel's departure had been prompted by his disillusionment with the political situation in the Western Cape.

Over the years, Mr Kriel had demonstrated his political acumen, and had done so once again in his decision to disembark from a sinking ship.

It was clear from his speech yesterday that the lack of powers for provinces made it impossible to run the Western Cape effec-

tively, she said.

Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the Western Cape, said it did not matter who the NP elected as its new leader on Thursday.

"Thursday will see simply more of the same because, although the face may change, the NP will continue to implement its same old discriminatory policies."

The ANC believed that the NP in the Western Cape remained firmly in the hands of those committed to preserve white privilege.

"The search for a coloured leader is a poor compensation for the fact that the coloured and the African community have not benefited from four years of NP rule.

"No NP leader can save the sinking ship," said Mr Rasool.

African Christian Democratic Party leader and Privatisation and Public Works MEC Michael Louis said Mr Kriel had been an outstanding and uncompromising leader and his party was indebted to him for including an ACDP representative in his cabinet.

A world view collapses as last white ruler in Africa bows out

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

In the paranoid world view of colonial governments and apartheid South Africa, the evils of the Dark Continent had to be kept from encroaching on white Western civilisation.

Rhodesia and South West Africa were among the "buffer states" that kept communism and majority rule at bay and helped keep South Africa safe.

This world view has collapsed with the elite who once held it to be gospel, and yesterday its final symbol quietly toppled. In the wood-panelled chamber of the Western Cape provincial parliament Premier Herens Kriel announced he was stepping down.

The last white male to head a cabinet anywhere in Africa had gone.

Not that Mr Kriel would in 1998 think of espousing the persecution philosophies of the apartheid governments. The cabinet which he headed was the fulfilment of the idea which, as he likes to tell, got him kicked out of the National Party youth league in 1961.

The young student said coloured people and Indians should have direct representation in government, earning him expulsion from the youth league at the hands of Janne Momborg - now on the government benches as an African National Congress MP.

In spite of this early blossoming of reformism, Mr Kriel was to spend much of his later political life labelled a verkrampste Back'in favour in NP circles after his indiscretion, Mr Kriel was elected to the

Cape Divisional Council in 1974 and in 1977 to the Cape Provincial Council.

A by-election in 1984 brought him into the House of Assembly as MP for Parow and in September 1989 F W de Klerk appointed Mr Kriel Minister for Planning and Provincial Affairs, later adding national housing to this portfolio.

The Inkatha scandal toppled Adriaan Vlok from the police portfolio in August 1991 and Mr Kriel succeeded him in time to have to counter criticism of the police and allegations of their involvement in the Trust Feeds and Boipatong massacres, as well as a high rate of deaths in police custody.

As Minister of Law and Order, Mr Kriel rejected any suggestion of police complicity in violence, announced in 1991 that all police secret projects had been terminated and in 1992 announced the moratorium on police recruitment that was to outlast his government.

It was on Mr Kriel's watch that the first tentative steps began in teaching the police about community policing, and moves were made towards advancing officers who were not white.

His image as a hawk was to be reinforced in his role on the government negotiating team at Kempton Park, where enmity was said to have set in between Mr Kriel and NP negotiator Roelf Meyer over concessions given too readily.

The May 1993 crackdown - on the Azanian People's Liberation Army - endorsed by Mr Kriel, sent shockwaves through the negotiations process.

The provincial election campaign ensued

and in May the following year he was sworn in as the first Premier of the Western Cape.

His reputation for combativeness now entrenched, Mr Kriel set about gaining and defending turf for his tier of government and his province.

He hit on the themes which were to be repeated throughout his premiership: more autonomy, more provincial control over policing to make it more effective, that the Western Cape was being systematically starved of cash by a control-obsessed central Government.

It won him support in certain circles of his party, where Roelf Meyer was seen as a hensopper and Mr De Klerk as co-opted. Mr Kriel was unafraid to lash out at "ANC-TV", doorstep Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi about crime, and go to see Finance Minister Trevor Manuel to demand money for the Western Cape.

When Mr Meyer was quoted as saying the NP in the Western Cape could go its own way in a "Bavarian option" departure from the rest of the party, the incensed reaction of Mr Kriel was instrumental in Mr Meyer's own swift departure from the party.

The Western Cape, the second most economically viable province in the country, boasting high education standards and modern infrastructure, is at the same time plagued by unresolved racial tensions, festering gangsterism and violence, and a budget deficit.

These will be the challenges facing the premier who next year will ask voters to allow the NP to continue to lead the Western Cape in the next millennium.

(263) ARS 21/4 1998

Why 'old guard' Kriel quit politics

CT 21/4/98

(263)

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

HIS voice thick with tears and his face flushed with emotion, Western Cape Premier Hennus Kriel yesterday announced his retirement from politics.

His retirement signals the final death throes of centuries-old white rule in Africa, with Kriel being — as far as can be ascertained — one of the last white rulers on the continent. Unless, of course, Kriel's successor turns out to be white, which seems unlikely at this stage.

The premier's announcement ended months of speculation that he considered the time ripe to bow out and hand over the leadership of the province.

The more than two-year-old rumour that he will be succeeded by either Mr Gerald Morkel or Mr Peter Marais — both high-profile black members of the NP and the provincial cabinet — will have to wait until Thursday evening to be settled.

That is when the voting takes place in the party's provincial head committee.

The new premier will be sworn in by Justice Gerald Friedman on May 11.

With Kriel goes one of the last pillars of the so-called old guard of the NP. Former president and National Party leader Mr F W de Klerk bowed out of politics last year, making way for the younger Mr Marthinus van Schalkwyk.

Referring several times to his maxm that turning in politics was everything, Kriel said: "The timing is correct if the evaluation is correct that we will have elections by May, June, July next year. It will give my successor a chance to establish him or herself."

Kriel, freshly recovered but still somewhat misty-eyed at a press conference in the late afternoon, told journalists about



LEAVING POLITICS:
Premier Hennus Kriel

his retirement plans.

Using what he called his "not always appreciated sense of humour", Kriel said "I will tell you what I'm not going to do. I'm not going to paint my house. I'm not going to paint the fascia boards. I'm not going to start a business manufacturing burglar bars and I'm not going to tell anyone that I am more busy now than I was when I was the premier."

"I will enjoy not having to read the *Cape Times* when I wake up."

His last comment refers to an often-stormy relationship with the English-speaking media in the Western Cape.

He said he would go into business "here and there", but what exactly that would be would be clear only towards the end of this year, when he and his new wife Annemarie

plan to return from extended travels in South Africa and, perhaps, overseas.

He would not, as reported, be buying a caravan, because "quite simply, I don't have the money."

When the province's first couple vacate Leuvenhof at the end of Kriel's premiership, they will be returning to the heart of their constituency. The Kriels have bought a townhouse in Welgemoed in the northern suburbs.

Kriel, who has been in politics for more than 20 years and served as Minister of Law and Order just before South Africa became a democracy in 1994, said he had no desire to carry on with politics.

"If you're out of politics, you should stay out of politics. It is something that changes and has a dynamic development of its own. I will be a has-been as of next month."

Who should replace Hennus Kriel as Premier? Phone Teleletters today on (021) 488-4722, between 10am and noon.

□ See Picture Page 6

Local govt plan 'only a mirage of democracy'

The latest plan for local government is nothing but a megacity in metropolitan drag, argues Ian Davidson
(26a)
22/4/98

THE recent publication of the white paper on local government will inevitably see the debate between megacity and metropolitan models of our cities gaining pre-eminence.

Our cities generate about 80% of SA's gross domestic product and therefore the local government system adopted in these areas takes on a national importance.

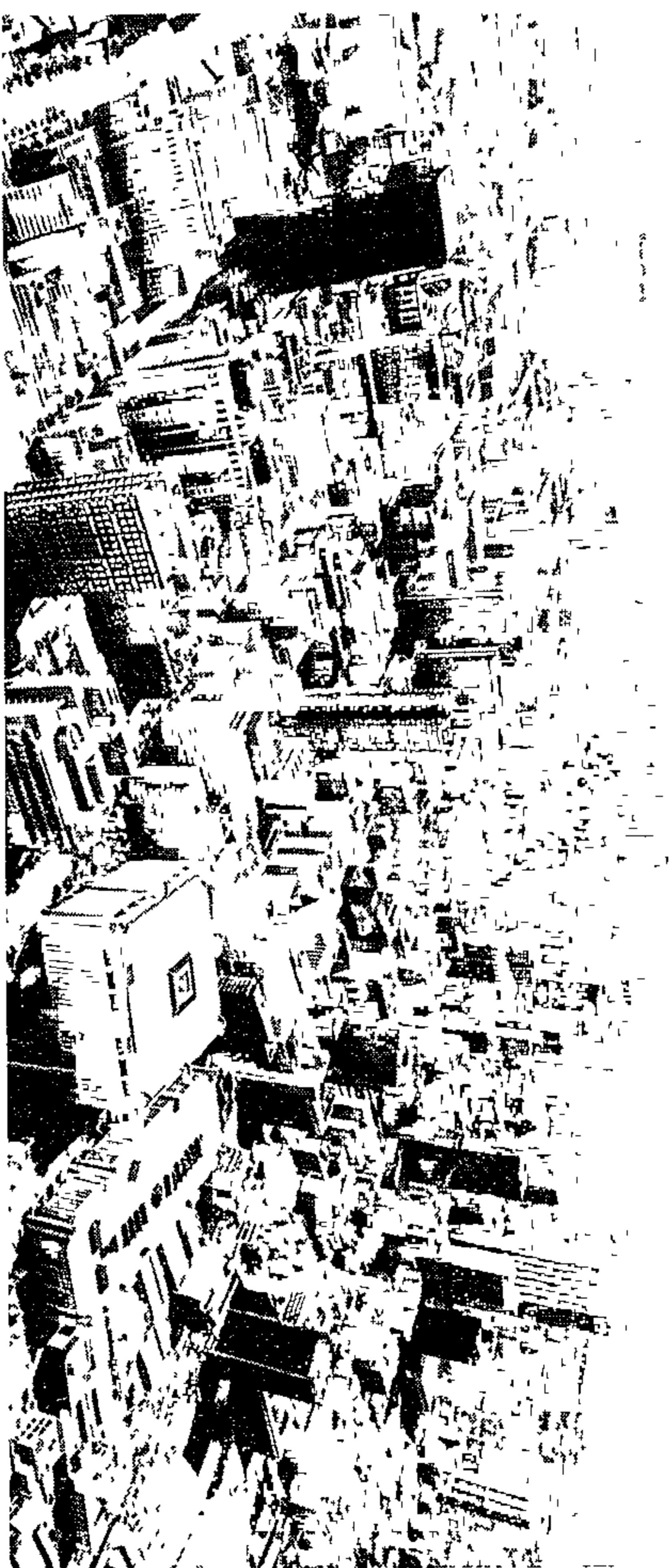
Inevitably, analysis of that went wrong in Johannesburg will heavily influence the debate. This is unfortunate, because much of the city's present problem has little to do with the form of local government.

More important are the incompetent boundary decisions by Gauteng's provincial government and the fudged decisions on the allocation of powers and functions between Johannesburg metropolitan and local council levels.

The city's top political office bearers have demonstrated fundamental incompetence by failing to define a clear vision for the city, a programme of implementation and a functional modus operandi. What we had instead was continuous power plays between the metro and the local councils and between factions within the ruling African National Congress (ANC).

Crispan Oliver, the deputy director-general of the constitutional affairs department, claims one of the white paper's central themes is the rebuilding of local democracy. The Democratic Party (DP) believes, on the contrary, that the document is a calculated move to destroy genuine local democracy and impose a top-down approach in the decision making process.

The claim that the megacity option will build local democracy is farcical. It includes a provision for ward committees but these bodies have no power and no decision-making capability, a remote metropolitan council takes all decisions. Ward committees have nothing more than the right to be "consulted" and advise the metropolitan council on specific issues. They will be nothing but toy telephones.



Johannesburg has problems not replicated in any other city

The second option is just as insidious — perhaps more so in that it creates the illusion that the present two-tier system of metropolitan government is being maintained.

This is not the case. The white paper's "substructures" are not municipalities in their own right. They will have no original powers and no right to impose rates, approve budgets or raise loans. The metropolitan council will devolve specific powers down to them.

The councillors who will sit on the substructures will be metropolitan councillors — inevitably individuals with a metropolitan perspective unlikely to be in touch with the real interests of local communities. This option is nothing but a megacity in metropolitan drag. Both options have

to be seen in the context of another recommendation, that the number of councillors be reduced to about 45. Even if it were 60, greater Johannesburg has a population of 3- to 4-million people. That would mean between 50 000 and 60 000 people a ward.

The only result of the proposed system is that both councillors and metropolitan council will inevitably be come more remote. This remoteness will affect other aims of local government: economic development, efficient service delivery and fair and transparent redistribution of resources.

On the issue of redistribution, the ANC has persistently argued that two-tier metropolitan government does not cater properly for redistribution of resources within a region. If this is the case, it is more the fault

of the politicians than of the current system.

The DP believes that two-tier metropolitan government best serves the interest of large urban areas. We need both metropolitan councils focusing on regional interests and local councils able to focus on the interests of local communities they serve.

Johannesburg has problems not replicated in other cities. These can be addressed in the context of the present system if the ANC genuinely wants to.

Maybe, though, the real agenda is not to broaden democracy — which implies catering for different views and political power blocs — but consolidation of ANC power at the centre.

Davidson is a DP member of the Gauteng provincial legislature

Two lead field in premiership race

(267) CT 22/4/98

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

IF ever there was a race in which punters were hesitant to bet their money it is that for the premiership of the Western Cape

Will it be the gentlemanly Mr Gerald Morkel or the political pugilist Mr Peter Marais?

For several years there has been talk that when Mr Hernus Kriel stepped down as leader of the National Party in the Western Cape he would be followed by a black leader and that it would be

Morkel or Marais. Both are members of the provincial cabinet and hold senior positions in the party

Kriel announced his resignation from politics on Monday. Voting for the next leader takes place tomorrow evening, but the debate is as murky as it was two years ago when the speculation started.

The NP's head council meets at 7pm tomorrow when its members will vote for those candidates that make themselves available. Both Marais and Morkel have indicated their interest in the position.

There are ditherers aplenty in

the all-consuming leadership debate and it seems a combination of Morkel and Marais' personalities would probably make the best leader of the NP in the province that is seen as the party's home base.

Besides Morkel and Marais, the other pretenders to the crown are provincial Education minister Mr Nick Koorhof and local Government minister Mr Patrick McKenzie.

There is, however, a technicality that would have to be overcome for either to be considered: they are

not members of the provincial legislature and therefore cannot become premier.

Both were co-opted from the central Parliament to serve on Kriel's cabinet, in line with the new provincial constitution.

This leadership race — unlike the ANC's recent provincial leadership contest in which Mr Ebrahim Rasool was clearly the front-runner and was elected unopposed — is a tight one.

Even the most fanatical gamblers seem to be hedging their bets this time.

Marais is the man, if NP want power

MARAIS is a jolly old soul and his raucous laughter, propensity to break into song and showbiz manner goes down very well with many, but if he does become the next leader of the NP in the province, he will certainly be trashing the mould.

The words most often used to describe Marais are "firebrand", "loose cannon" and "unguided missile". Marais is seen by many as the man who can clinch the oft-debated "coloured vote", but what happens after next year's election? Will his unrestrained style serve him, or will it blow up in his face?

Marais is a worker and a fighter. Not content to be dictated to by the central government, he fights his wars with it at the highest possible level. In his previous position as a provincial minister for local government he made headlines time and again with his stance on controversial matters.

His short term as a health minister has been marked by dispute over how to keep health services running within a tight budget. He



FIREBRAND: Peter Marais

presented a plan to the public to close some hospitals in the province and has had to field a tidal wave of indignation.

Marais never backs off from a fight and never gives up. He is decisive and sure of himself and controversy does not frighten him.

If the NP's main aim is to win next year's election, Marais is most likely to become premier.

Measured Morkel could unite Nats

MORKEL slots right in with the image of the National Party: old-fashioned good manners, a large (though somewhat unreliable) dose of diplomacy and a considered and polite manner.

Although he comes across as the eternal statesman, he is comfortable among the lowliest and the highest and was once described as a man "who knows which fork to use at the table".

Because of his measured, easy tone and inoffensive manner, he is the more likely of the two to retain the loyalty of white Afrikaners.

What counts against him is the fact that he is not seen as a particularly hard worker. However, his current portfolio in the Western Cape cabinet as minister of community safety does not leave much room to manoeuvre, hampered as it is by a lack of provincial powers and a puny budget.

It does not help his case though, that in a province racked with ghastly gang violence and ever-escalating crime, he appears to throw his hands in the air and



STATESMAN: Gerald Morkel

whinge about central government. Morkel, it is said, does not have political shrewdness and off-the-cuff wit. With a strong team around him, in which responsibilities and decisions are shared, he could, however, be a uniting force for the NP.

If the head council looks beyond the 1999 elections, Morkel is the probable choice.

Whose ambition burns brighter? *(Abg). ARlt 27/4/98*

Marais up against Morkel in battle for the premiership

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT

STAFF REPORTER

The only thing Gerald Morkel and Peter Marais have in

common is a burning ambition to be the new premier and National Party leader in the Western Cape.

The two front-runners in the race to replace Herrus Kriel, who quit politics this week, are as different as night and day

Whereas Mr Marais is short and stocky with a jovial, outgoing nature, Mr Morkel is a far more reserved and dignified mien

Mr Morkel, 57, a bracklayer by trade, has excelled in cricket Mr Marais, 54, likes to strum his guitar and write songs in his spare time. He studied law, never qualified, then worked for an underwear company.

Always seeking the limelight, Mr Marais likes to show off and perform on and off the political stage, raising his voice as often and as controversially as possible

Mr Morkel, on the other hand, prefers to keep a low profile, operating behind the scenes and thinking carefully before he opens his mouth

Hot-headedness has earned Mr Marais a reputation as a "loose cannon" and "unguided missile", while some say Mr Morkel would make a better foreign diplomat than a premier because of his undynamic personality

Mr Morkel's strength is said to be his level-headedness, while Mr



Hot-headed: Peter Marais — the 'loose cannon'



Low profile: level-headed Gerald Morkel with President Mandela

Marais's impulsiveness and unpredictability count against him

Mr Marais's reputation as a go-getter who will go for the jugular contrasts sharply with Mr Morkel's apparent inability to tackle problems effectively. But both men are veteran politicians, having cut their political teeth in the tricameral parliamentary system

Both men have been fighters for coloured rights. But, Mr Marais is said to have more support among working-class people while Mr Morkel appeals more to the upper echelons of the community.

Both are respected as shrewd politicians and good negotiators and

both are highly ambitious

Mr Marais made his entry into politics in the late-1970s, when he formed the People's Congress Party

Although it was never a roaring success, it earned him a seat on the now-defunct President's Council

In 1987, he merged his party with the Democratic Party in the House of Representatives and the Progressive Reform Party in the House of Delegates to form the United Democratic Party

Less than a year later though, he abandoned his own party to join Allan Hendrickse's Labour Party.

His final political move to the National Party happened in 1991,

after the Labour Party endorsed English as the only official language of the country

As one of a few coloured leaders in the National Party, Mr Marais has shot up in the political ranks since then

After being chosen as one of 12 NP delegates to represent the party at Codesa, Mr Marais was appointed a member of the executive committee of the Cape Province responsible for works and traffic control

Then followed his tenure as Minister of Local Government from May 1994 to January 1998, a time marked by vicious political rows

Since his appointment as Minis-

ter of Health earlier this year, Mr Marais has again become embroiled in bitter fights over his controversial plan to close some of the Cape Town's major hospitals

Mr Morkel's political career began when he was elected to the tricameral parliament for the constituency of Retreat in 1984 and appointed spokesman for the Labour Party on environmental affairs, public works and planning

From 1988 to 1991, he was chairman of the Peninsula region of the Labour Party, its largest region

In June 1991, he resigned from the Labour Party and joined the National Party

He was appointed a member of the executive council of the Cape NP and later served in the party's management at provincial level.

In January 1992, he was appointed Minister of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services in the Ministers' Council

After the NP's victory in the 1994 election in the Western Cape, Mr Morkel was appointed provincial Minister of Housing and Leader of the House

In 1996, he became provincial Minister of Police and Minister of Community Safety earlier this year

He now also has the portfolio of environmental affairs

Mr Morkel has come under fire often over the past few years for his tendency to "blame Pretoria" for local police problems, instead of taking firm action

Grassroots appeal 'puts Marais in lead'

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

(263)
ARLT 23/4/98

Peter Marais appears to be leading the nailbiting race to move into Leeuwenhof.

Inside sources say his "grassroots" appeal has already secured him 49 of the 86 potential votes

The provincial Minister of Health's main rival in the race to replace Hernus Kriel as premier and National Party provincial leader is Minister of Community Security Gerald Morkel

The party's head committee will elect the new leader tonight, ending months of speculation about which coloured politician has what it takes to secure the coloured vote for the NP in next year's election. The party has been under pressure to appoint a coloured leader for some time

Although party members strongly deny a split on the issue on racial lines, there is believed to be some resistance among whites

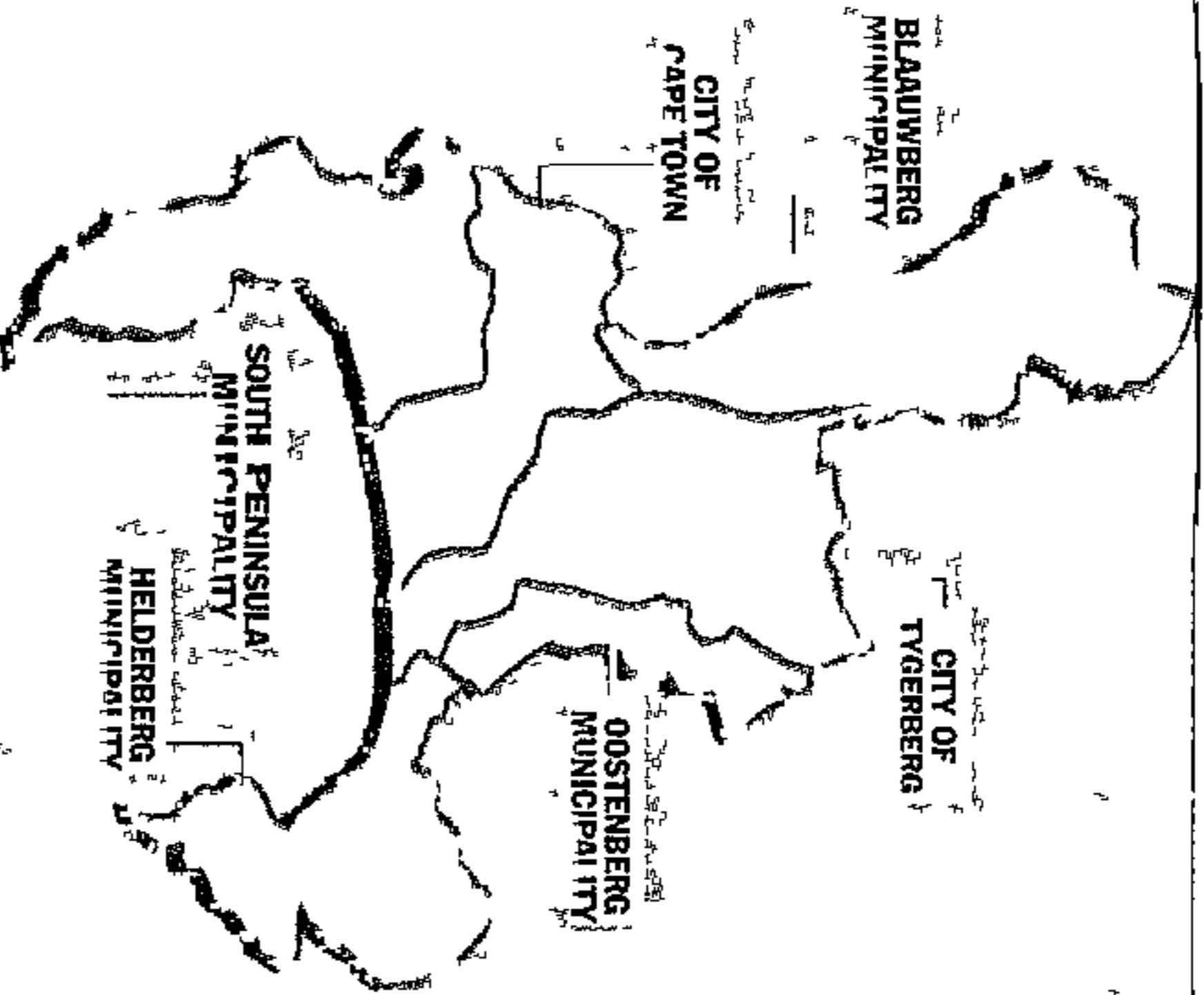
The NP's 90-strong voter college is made up of MPs and members of the provincial parliament and district councils in the province, local government representatives, youth and women's leagues and party faithfuls. Only 86 members, of whom 39 are white men, are expected to be present to vote

Inside sources said 49 members had already indicated their support for Mr Marais. The rest could vote for Mr Morkel, but a significant number were expected to abstain because they did not support a coloured leader, a source said

Few changes are expected to the Western Cape provincial cabinet after today's election, Clive Sawyer reports

'Last chance' to engineer reforms

By 29/4/98 (263)



BORAINES 80/20 SYSTEM METROPOLITAN COUNCIL OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES — Not a separate council of administration

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix potholes • Collect rubbish • Sweep sheets • Pass plans • Pass by-laws • Can tax • Raise money • Traffic • Inspect buildings etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix potholes • Collect rubbish • Sweep sheets • Pass plans • Pass by-laws • Can tax • Raise money • Traffic • Inspect buildings etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix potholes • Collect rubbish • Sweep sheets • Pass plans • Pass by-laws • Can tax • Raise money • Traffic • Inspect buildings etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fix potholes • Collect rubbish • Sweep sheets • Pass plans • Pass by-laws • Can tax • Raise money • Traffic • Inspect buildings etc
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FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK • **LOW INCOME HOUSING POLICY** • **TRANSPORT PLANNING** • **TOURISM PROMOTION** • **REDISTRIBUTION MONEY THROUGH FAIR FORMULA** • **LANDUSE PLANNING ETC.**

PUBLIC COMPANIES

- Water + sanitation
- Solid waste
- Electricity

CURRENT TWO-TIER SYSTEM OF LOCAL GOVT

300 COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING 3 MILLION PEOPLE

Cape metropolitan council

- Plays a co-ordinating and facilitating role
- Redistributes resources where needed
- Responsible for those bulk services which can be more effectively rendered on a metro-wide scale i.e. bulk water, sewage
- Funded by business levies

Six metropolitan local councils

- Autonomous bodies which render basic services directly to community
- Funded by property rates

PROPOSED SINGLE CITY OR 'MEGACITY'

60 - 100 COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING 3 MILLION PEOPLE

One centralised council

- Local councils replaced by management committees with no legislated powers and functions
- Common collection of funds allowing maximum amount for redistribution to needy projects
- Fewer staff members

BORAINES 80/20 SYSTEM

- Neither a megacity or two tier system
- Keep 80% of local government transactions close to residents
- Local councils (like the existing ones) would together make up a Metropolitan Council of Local Authorities (MCLA)
- 20% of council business (policies and frameworks that affect the metropole as a whole) would be handled by the MCLA
- Would do away with large metropolitan council administration
- Tariff funded services like electricity and water and waste would be run by public companies removed from the councils

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS in dire need of an overhaul because it has failed to redistribute funds fairly. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

THE current system of local government — a Cape Metropolitan Council and six municipalities — has achieved much, but has not succeeded in redistributing funds fairly or in a way that helps the poor, Cape Town's City Manager Mr Andrew Boraine said yesterday.

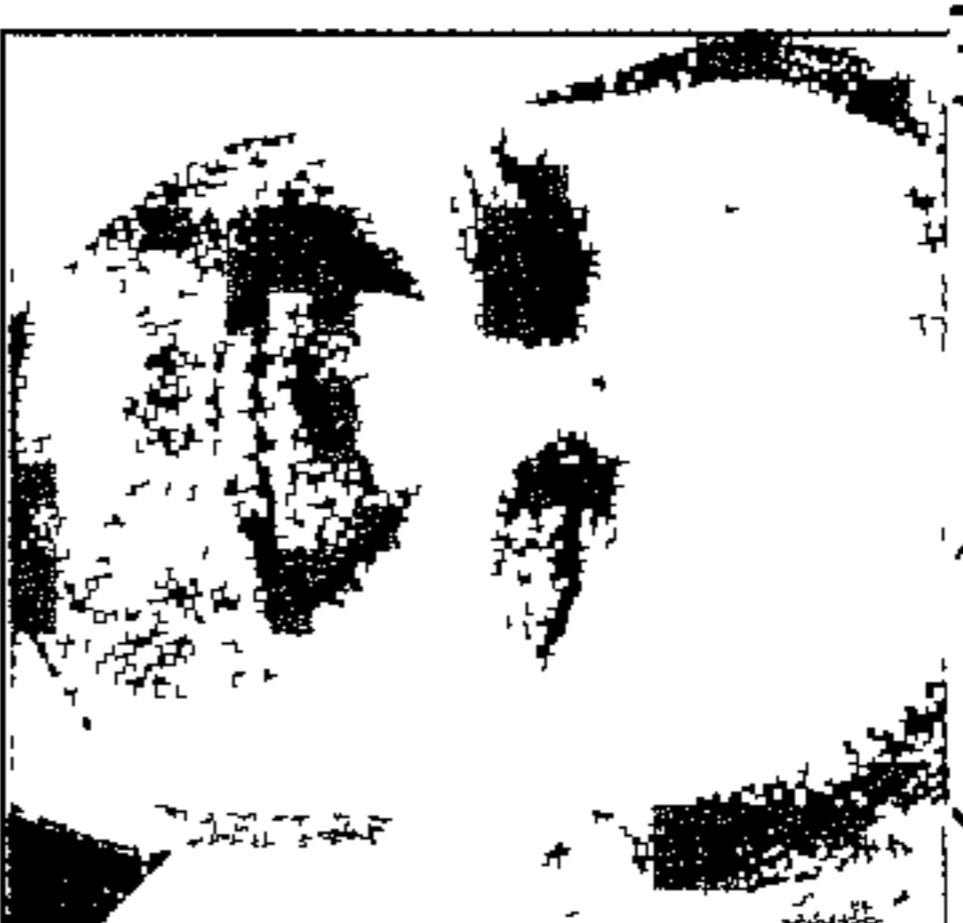
"Over the past two years, the system of redistribution to local councils has been arbitrary, inequitable, unpredictable and open to manipulation," he said at the Cape Times/MTN breakfast.

"Perverse incentives" rewarded councils spending more money than they earn and penalised those with financial discipline.

"Local authorities like Cape Town with by far the highest poverty factor received the lowest share of transfers," he said.

Destructive competition between local authorities had also occurred — "with negative consequences for residents".

The lack of level playing fields has contributed to the increase in salaries and wages in the metropolitan area, competition over staff and unsustainable increases in the growth of metro level (CMC) bureaucracy



ANDREW BORAINES: Local government must change

"There is a distinct lack of accountability in the two tier system, particularly at the metropolitan level," he added.

Also addressing the break-fast, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Valli Moosa pointed out that the current system of local government was always intended to be interim.

To reform and change local government is always difficult and many inner cities in America that were unable to tackle this issue have collapsed, he said.

"We'll not always have this unique opportunity to engineer the reform of our local government — it's our only big chance and once done it's unlikely that we'll be able to do it again in our lifetime.

"It may be painful, it may lead to restructuring administrations once again. But if it takes that we must use this as our only opportunity."

Megacity not only option — Boraine

CT 23/4/98 (263)
CLAUDIA CAVANAGH
METRO EDITOR

A WAY out of the megacity debate that is threatening to divide councils countrywide was proposed yesterday by Cape Town's city manager Mr Andrew Boraine

Speaking at a *Cape Times*/MTN breakfast, Boraine introduced a detailed third option into the heated debate now raising hackles in municipal corridors — neither a megacity nor the present Cape Metropolitan Council and six municipalities

Boraine's plan would keep 80% of municipal business — including

rubbish collection, road repairs, traffic control and street sweeping — on the local council level

"Only 20% of business takes place on a metro or mega level," he said

Boraine agreed with the contention of fellow speaker Constitutional Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Valli Moosa, that the present two-tier system of local government had failed to deliver the goods

Before the meeting, Moosa told the *Cape Times* a megacity would not be imposed on the Cape Metropole "if it won't work"

While agreeing that a single tier



THIRD OPTION: City manager Andrew Boraine has a plan

was "desirable", Boraine stopped short of endorsing the much-debated megacity which, if imposed, would create a single, three million-person municipality from Strand to Atlantis and back down through the city to Cape Point.

He stressed that his council had

adopted no formal stand on the matter and that the ideas he put forward were "entirely my own".

"The problem with the conventional megacity approach is that it collapses all the business of local government into a single structure that is not equipped to deal with 80% of the tens of thousands of daily interactions and transactions that take place," he said

His model provides for a single group of elected councillors who would serve on their local councils and simultaneously on a "metropolitan council of local authorities"

This body would have no administration of its own but would decide on those 20% of issues — like a financial framework, tourism and transport planning — which are far better determined on a metro level. But the same elected councillors would sit on both a local and a metro level.

"It requires a bit of lateral thinking but is a viable option to both

□ Turn to Page 7

Plan to pool municipal revenue

□ From page 1

models," Boraine said CT 23/4/98 (263)

In contrast, the present Cape Metropolitan Council is a large administration, separate from the six independent municipalities. Sixty percent of the councillors on the CMC are nominated by their municipalities and 40% come from party lists

Boraine proposed that tariff-funded services — like water and sanitation, solid waste and electricity — should be organised into public companies and separated from

all other local government functions

All revenue would have to be pooled and shared on an equitable, predictable and sustainable basis

"Local government in our Cape metropolitan area is a R5-billion business. It employs 30 000 staff and services over three million residents. It is in fact a larger business than certain provinces."

After the meeting, Moosa said Boraine's plan fell within the second option provided in the White Paper

ANC spurns Morkel olive branch

Western Cape's new NP leader 'face from the past'

AR 24/4/98

(263)

GLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Minutes after being elected the new leader of the National Party in the Western Cape, Gerald Morkel offered the African National Congress a place in his cabinet - and the offer was as quickly spurned.

Addressing supporters and the media yesterday from the steps of the DF Malan Building in Burg Street soon after he became the first coloured Western Cape provincial leader of the NP, Mr Morkel said he was prepared to offer the ANC participation in the multiparty cabinet on the same basis as other minority parties.

Mr Morkel was understood to have been willing to consider expanding his cabinet to include the ANC. Ebrahim Rasool, newly elected provincial leader of the ANC, did not hesitate to reject the offer.

The NP was trying to plug holes in a sinking ship and the ANC was not prepared to help it with the job, Mr Rasool said.

Mr Morkel defeated provincial cabinet colleague Peter Marais to succeed Hernus Kriiel as Western Cape NP leader.

He will be premier of the Western Cape from May 11.

Mr Morkel, a veteran of the Coloured Representative Council and the tricameral system, joined the NP in 1991 and was appointed to the Western Cape provincial cabinet after the 1994 election. His election by the party's head council will be ratified at a provincial congress in September.

Unveiling his vision for the Western Cape, Mr Morkel said he wanted to reduce crime significantly and boost economic growth. This could be achieved by unity, co-operation and good governance.

He thanked business leaders for their support, particularly for the Business Against Crime initiative, and in a message to religious leaders said he looked forward to working closely with them.

He told the crowd in Burg Street "My goal is to help you and others not here tonight to achieve your dream as I have tonight achieved my dream. I fully accept the challenges and responsibilities placed on my shoulders by my colleagues."

He reminded a clearly disappointed Mr Marais that each had promised the other his support after the leadership poll.

"We will make our province the

flagship of growth and development in South Africa," said Mr Morkel, who added that he was looking forward to next year's election.

Mr Rasool claimed at a press conference in the provincial legislature building that Mr Morkel had a dismal record in government "Far from being a face for the future, Mr Morkel is a face from the past. He is one of yesterday's men."

Democratic Party Western Cape leader and provincial cabinet minister Henrie Bester said Mr Morkel was a "band-aid" leader called on to fill the yawning gap left by Mr Kriiel.

That passions stoked up during almost a week of feverish lobbying had yet to subside was evident in Burg Street last night.

The crowd of fewer than 100 people who awaited the election results included Marais supporters who reacted with less than grace when Mr Morkel's victory - which had been expected by party sources and most observers - was announced.

The Marais camp had argued strongly in favour of his dynamic and combative image being an electoral campaign trump card, but Morkel backers countered that what was required was stable leadership beyond the 1999 election.



But the official result was 53 to 34 in favour of Mr Morkel, prompting Mr Marais to say he had been betrayed by a clique in the party, and would reconsider his future.

last night

City evictions row goes to Parliament

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

(267) ART 24/4/98

The row between the African National Congress and National Party about attempts to expel two Cape Town city councillors for allegedly interfering in evictions has spilled into Parliament.

Willie Hofmeyr (ANC) told the National Assembly he would ask it to approve a motion accusing the NP of putting party loyalty before the need to eradicate corruption. Cape Town city manager Andrew

Boraine recently proposed the expulsion of city councillors Osborne Adams of the NP and Mogamat Yusuf Sampson of the ANC.

He said they had violated the code of conduct for councillors "in a way that amounted to corrupt practices".

Mr Hofmeyr said the ANC, the governing party in the Cape Town council, had demonstrated its seriousness about stamping out corruption and misbehaviour in the council by voting that the councillors be expelled, even though one was an ANC member.

The NP, on the other hand, had put party

loyalty before the need to get rid of corruption, and had voted against expulsion.

"The NP went even further and publicly pledged to give financial support to the NP councillor to challenge the decision."

Mr Hofmeyr's motion will ask the Assembly to express concern that the NP seemed happy to criticise the ANC for not dealing with corruption, but took no action when its own elected representatives were guilty of misbehaviour.

It urges the NP to follow the ANC's example by taking firm action against Mr Adams.

What is good for the Cape goose is foul for the gander

IT IS not often that one should allow oneself a sympathetic thought for a political party — generally they deserve only the closest possible scrutiny. But one could be forgiven a teeny-weeny sympathy for the National Party in the Western Cape in the wake of the resignation of the province's premier and provincial leader Hennis Kriel.

While Kriel was at the helm, the African National Congress insisted that this was an indication of the unreconstructed racism of the NP. He was, after all, of the old guard who founded apartheid.

Then, when it is mooted that a coloured member of the NP should succeed Kriel, this is described as more of the same because, of course, this would be tokenism of the worst kind to capture the coloured vote in the province.

It sounds rather like you are damned if you do and damned if you don't. And it must not be forgotten that this criticism from the ANC comes from an organisation that has been engineering the elections of its provincial leaderships across the country, in many cases on racial lines.

Take for example the palpable manipulation which saw Ebrahim Rasool elected to the leadership of the ANC in the Western Cape last week. ANC branches in the black areas of the province, particularly the peninsula, are particularly strong and active when compared with those in coloured and white areas. This means that, proportionally, they were stronger at the provincial congress and yet their obvious first choice, Tony Yengeni, declined to stand.

The ANC has clearly demonstrated that to improve its electoral performance in the province it needs a coloured leader, but when the NP makes a similar decision that it needs a coloured

With the retirement of its Western Cape strongman Hennis Kriel, a renewed focus has been placed on the politics of the province, writes political correspondent **Wyndham Hartley** (263) MD 24/4/98

leader to maintain the majority it won in 1994, then that is racist.

It has been pointed out also that the three coloured candidates for the provincial leadership of the NP are all from the old tricameral parliament and that they defected from the Labour Party to join the NP.

It is too easily forgotten that the list of ANC public representatives is liberally sprinkled with defectors from the Labour Party and indeed, many of the oldbantustans.

These are extraordinary double standards which, remarkably, have created the space for a little sympathy for the beleaguered NP.

Beleaguered because the three candidates, rather than being historically suspect, are really of no great stature and they will have to follow a tough act.

Kriel, while he undoubtedly entered politics during the dark days of grand apartheid in the mid-70s, never saw service in the cabinet, or indeed as a deputy minister under PW Botha. He was first appointed to the cabinet by FW de Klerk where he was given the task of overseeing the scrapping of two of

apartheid's most pernicious laws governing group areas and separate amenities.

Ironically he was moved later to law and order to try to restore its image after Inkathagate had led to Adriaan Vlok's demolition

Last year when Roelf Meyer, then regarded as the crown prince of the NP, was ousted, Kriel was credited with having engineered it. The assumption was that Kriel was quite happy to maintain his personal fiefdom in the Western

Cape at the expense of the party's national power base and that was why he opposed Meyer's desire to collapse the NP into a new movement. Insiders tell a different story. They say that one of the options on the table was the so-called Bavarian one with the Western Cape going it alone. Kriel emphatically rejected the idea and insisted that the NP should not simply retreat into an Inkatha-like position in the province, they say.

Tough, shrewd and pragmatic, Hennis Kriel was not the classic ideologue he has often been made out to be. Indeed it would probably be more accurate to describe him as a political chameleon who made his decisions on the basis of understanding the power dynamics in his own party and later in his region.

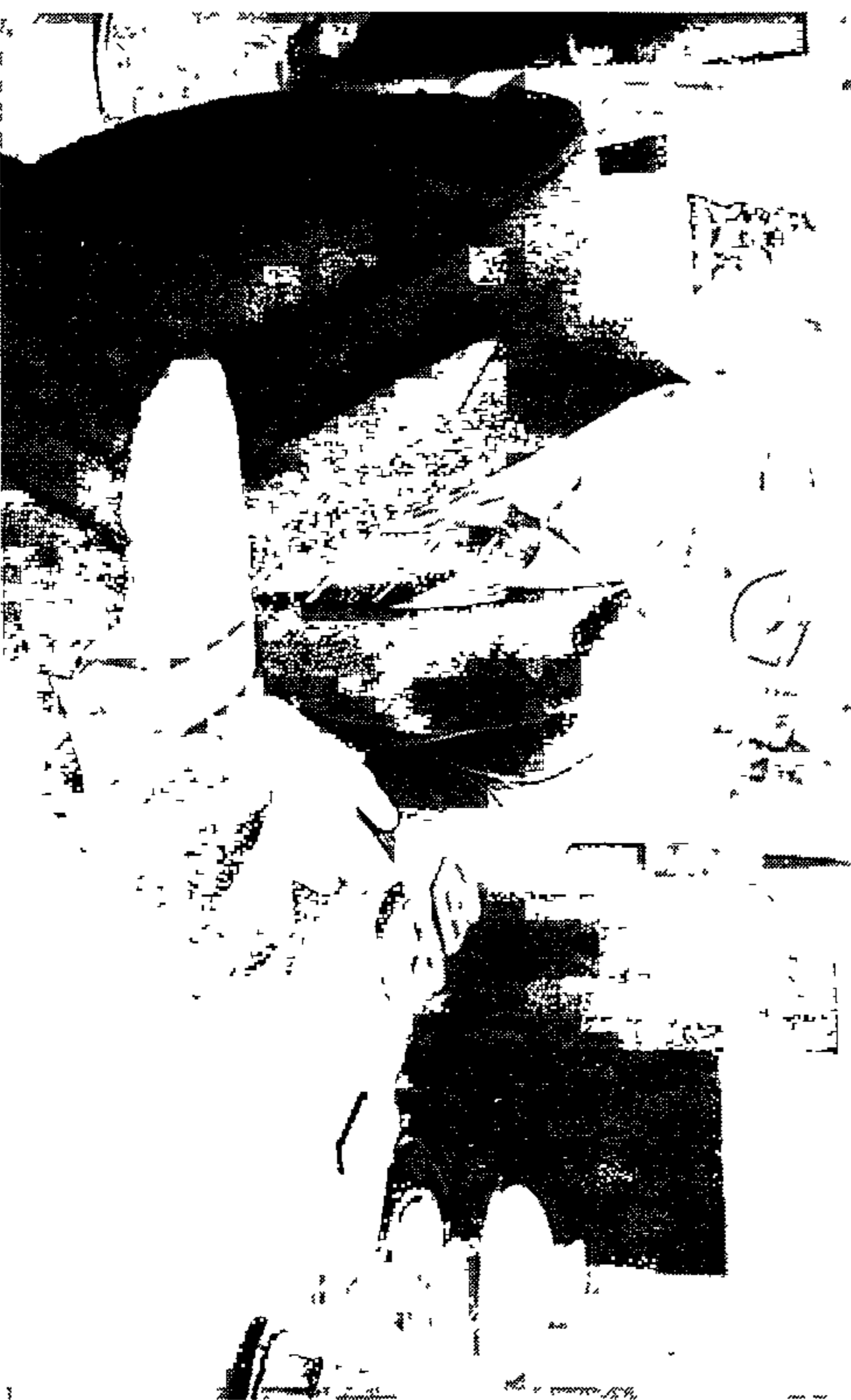
For example, despite repeated predictions that he would stand for the national leadership, he significantly never did so. Whether you hate the man, his style of politics and his apartheid pedigree, you have to concede he was a politician of stature that brings us to the NP's latest prob-

lem in the province — none of the candidates has real stature. Peter Marais is a firebrand and conservative. He has been described as a cowboy. Gerald Morkel is calmer, more assured, if a little colourless, and he is the choice of business in Cape Town. Patrick McKenzie is described as having a share of both qualities, a bit of a cowboy and a bit of assurance, but not enough of both. Ironically the ANC had a similar sort of problem — Yengeni, the firebrand, or Rasool, the moderate.

The real problem for the NP has been its inability to attract any coloured leaders of real stature. To what extent this will affect the polls next year remains largely conjecture at this stage. There are those who suggest that the ANC has started to reel in the NP and will do better than the 33% it earned in 1994.

Others argue that the material conditions which lay at the heart of the NP victory have remained substantially unchanged. They say that there is increasing coloured disillusion with affirmative action and one of the keys will be who carries the can in the eyes of the electorate for the gang violence — national ANC government or provincial NP government. You can bet the NP will continue to emphasise the resistance of the ANC to granting significant policing powers to the provinces.

Of course, there are the wild cards — the Democratic Party and the United Democratic Movement. The DP can be expected to win back some of the support it lost to the NP in one of its strongholds and the UDM should also manage a few bites from that support base. The chances of a hung legislature are quite good. What is interesting is that the ANC and the NP have both gone into battle with a coloured leader



Hennis Kriel was not the classic ideologue he was made out to be

Morkel emerges as clear winner in Western Cape leadership

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The battle for the leadership of the National Party in the Western Cape ended last night with a decisive victory by Gerald Morkel, community safety MEC and NP leader in the legislature.

Morkel secured the votes of 53 members of the NP provincial head committee, 19 more than the other contender, health MEC Pétér Marais.

The electoral college also adopted a motion that the provincial leader

would become the NP's Western Cape premier candidate.

The election of the premier will take place in the NP-dominated provincial legislature before his scheduled inauguration on May 11.

Addressing NP supporters outside the party's headquarters last night, Morkel gave special thanks to the business community for its support.

Party sources said he had been chosen because he was a moderate leader with a calm, considered approach and the ability to unite the province

Marais was seen as unsuitable for the premiership because of his aggressive political style.

Morkel said his primary aim was to reduce crime and promote economic growth in the province. Apparently striking a conciliatory note, he said this could be achieved only through co-operation and good governance.

He repeated the NP's invitation to the African National Congress (ANC) to participate in the provincial executive council.

Calling a tearful Marais to the podium,

he reaffirmed a pledge each had made to the other in the run-up to the election that the loser would back the successful candidate.

Although NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk had insisted that colour played no role in the choice of the new Western Cape leader, pressure had mounted in the party in recent months for a coloured person to take the reins ahead of next year's general election.

The ANC's election of a coloured politician, Ebrahim Rasool, as its Western Cape leader at the weekend

intensified pressure for a similar strategic move in the NP. The election contest in the Western Cape is expected to be particularly tough with a re-invigorated ANC determined to topple the last bastion of NP power.

The ANC was critical of the appointment of a coloured leader saying it would not change the NP's discriminatory policies and its attempt to end trench white privilege in the province.

Profile: Page 2
Renewed focus: Page 9

969
24 14198

battle

WESTERN CAPE

(263)
OFM 24/4/98

Kaleidoscope shifts again

Battle's on for the disgruntled vote

By week's end, the Western Cape will know the name of the new provincial National Party leader — which means the new premier. The resignation of self-admitted old guard stalwart Hennis Kriel opens the way for a coloured supremo, who the NP believes will secure it the 1999 election.

The new leader — probably Peter Marais (MEC for health) or Gerald Morkel (community safety) — will have a year to revitalise an NP grown arrogant but also vulnerable. What is certain is that NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk needs to hold the Western Cape against what is shaping up as a strong ANC challenge.

After much stumbling, the ANC has found its own new regional leader — Ebrahim Rasool, who succeeds Justice Minister Dullah Omar. Rasool is young (36) and dynamic, with a seasoned activist record.

He also has experience in governance. During his stewardship of the health portfolio in the now-defunct government of provincial unity, he consistently and credibly deflected the NP's charge that budget

cuts were a result of central government's animosity towards the Nat-led province.

Rasool had a major part in the drafting of a key strategy document for last weekend's ANC conference at Kull's River. It echoes his thinking in an interview with the *FM* (*Current Affairs* January 23) by isolating certain challenges to the Western Cape ANC.

NP morale is low. Kriel's leadership style was marked by triumphalism, predicated on an economic and political alliance between whites and middle-class coloureds. Since coloureds make up 57% of the Western Cape population, the NP has chosen to forge this alliance negatively — by suggesting that "Afrikaanses" (a phrase invented by Marais) must stand together against blacks.

Against this, Rasool proposes forging strong links between Western Cape blacks — who come last in the socio-economic queue for health, education and housing — and working-class coloureds. A key to this still-mooted unity could be women, who head many households stricken by poverty, gangsterism and neglect.

The Western Cape's unique ethnic mix cannot be avoided. In the long run, the influx of blacks into the region could throw the province to the ANC. But that is not inevitable. In 1994, racist anti-ANC pamphlets were used in coloured areas to sway anti-black sentiment.

Now, however, voting patterns are changing. As of last September — accord-

ing to an Idasa poll — 34% supported the ANC, 31% the NP, and an astonishing 30% were undecided or apathetic.

If these figures remain static in 1999 — which is unlikely — the ANC would take the province on a low turnout. However, the party aims to increase its support in coloured working-class areas. "There are possibilities in the white communities," the strategy document notes, "but this would not be sufficient." (The ANC should maintain its African base and ensure that apathy and the United Democratic Movement don't affect the turnout of our base.)

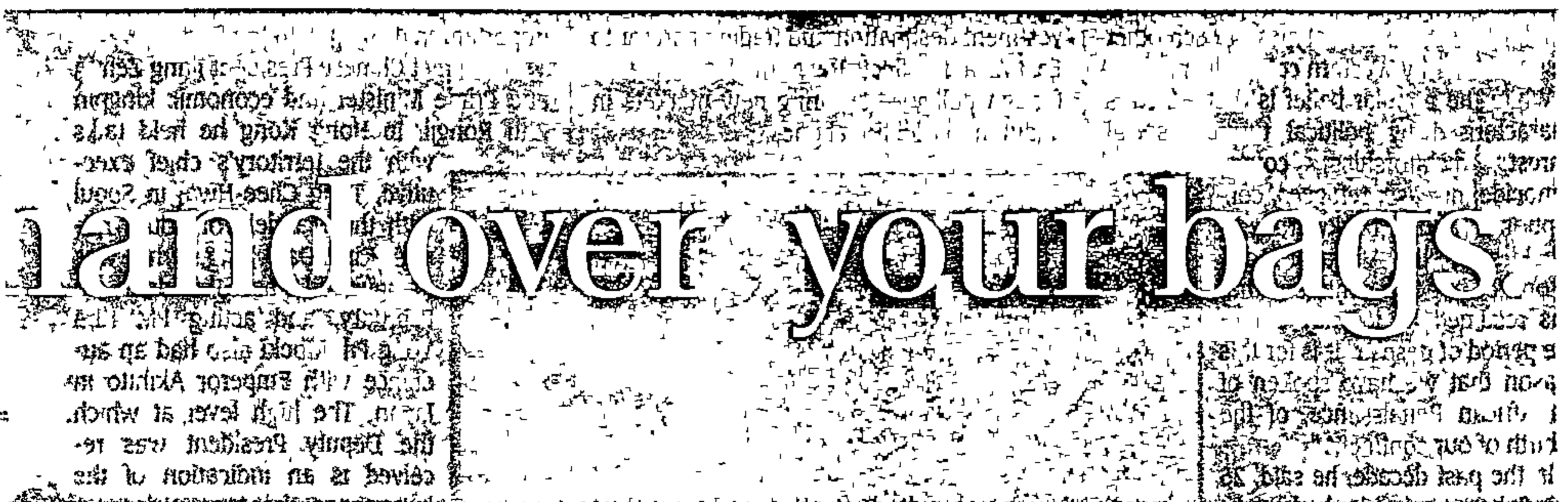
The fear is that the UDM could provide an alternative home for former ANC supporters disillusioned by failures of delivery. Even more alarming is the prospect of UDM mobilisation leading to township conflict.

Rasool charges the NP with seeking to skew economic growth in the region to create "an island of privilege for the few politically maintained by the fear injected into mostly the coloured working class."

So the ANC must address the question: "What fear holds the NP alliance together, what is the glue that holds our solidarity together?"

The suggested answer lies in an electoral drive aimed at specific communities — the rural poor, demoralised teachers, women and simply those grown weary of NP rule and the stigma of its past associations with repression. If Rasool succeeds, he will almost certainly become premier, breaking the NP stranglehold.

Peter Wilhelm



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When brown counts

POLITICAL parties are now gearing themselves for the 1999 elections and already there is a suggestion that Parliament should close shop earlier – in September – to give members enough time to prepare for the campaign

In the Western Cape the two major parties, the African National Congress (ANC) and National Party (NP), are already strengthening themselves for a tussle for the votes of the majority coloured community

Recently, despite reports of organisational disarray, the ANC came out united and elected a popular coloured leader, Ebrahim Rassool, to lead the party into next year's elections

As a former executive member of the now-disbanded United Democratic Front and founder of the Call of Islam – an organisation that mobilised against apartheid among the Western Cape's Muslim communities in the 1980s – Rassool is believed to have the potential to deliver the coloured vote to the ANC

His party also hopes that Rassool's previous performance as MEC for health – when he had relative success making health services accessible to the poor before he was deposed by the NP's Hernus Kriel – will be another feather in his cap

Not to be outdone, the NP is likely to have a coloured premier after Kriel's announcement this week that he is retiring from politics. Kriel's departure is seen as part of a strategy to retain the coloured vote that the NP received in 1994 when it pipped the ANC in the contest for Western Cape

The 1999 election is important – it is the first after the ANC took power in 1994 and is therefore a litmus test of whether the party is on the right track in its mission to transform the country from apartheid into a fully democratic society

Natural progression

Already surveys indicate a decline in support for all the political parties – with more people claiming to be independent. Indications are that even the ANC will not get the 62 percent support that it got in 1994

Such a decline in support is however explained by one analyst as a natural progression as the political milieu returns to normality after the hype of the first nonracial elections

In Western Cape the ANC's main challenge is seen by many to be firstly to win the hearts of those coloured voters who put the NP into power in 1994

To woo the coloured voters, who hold the key to power in Western Cape, the ANC should show how it intends to address gang-related violence on the Cape Flats

The second major challenge facing the ANC in the Western Cape is to strengthen its base in African communities

Although the party commands majority support in those areas, it still has to deal with the threat from the Pan Africanist Congress and lately from the newly formed United

Sawetan 24/4/98 (263)
As the 1999 elections draw closer an interesting and often amusing battle is being waged in Western Cape to woo the coloured vote. **Ido Lekota** explains why...

Democratic Movement (UDM)

Co-led by the former popular ANC MP General Bantu Holomisa, the UDM recently showed its presence in some townships, where there were claims and counter-claims of intimidation by its supporters and ANC members

Unemployment is another issue that the ANC should convincingly start to address

This will also strengthen its position in the marginalised African communities

The ANC intends to strengthen its hand by showing a commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in the poorer communities of the province

A sign of this intention is the recent appointment of the former MEC for economic affairs and the Reconstruction and Development Programme,

Flashback .. an ANC election rally in Cape Town in 1994.

Reverend Chris Nissen, as head of the Masakhane campaign

For the NP the main challenge is to prove to their coloured supporters during the 1994 elections that the party remains their political home and that the NP will ensure that they become beneficiaries of the process of transformation which the country is currently undergoing

The NP also faces the mammoth task of proving to the coloured people that it has delivered something besides being in opposition to the ANC

As it is, it is generally felt that the party has failed to address poverty and the ongoing gang-related violence in the Cape Flats, where inno-



cent children have often been victims caught in the crossfire

The other challenge, of course, is to make inroads into African communities in line with the party's new non racial image

However, in this regard the NP is seen by many Africans to be contradicting itself because of its continued opposition to whatever policy is put before Parliament aimed at improving the quality of their lives – be it affirmative action, the new Employment Equity Bill, the move by the Government to integrate education or even the integration of previously black and white municipalities, such as their opposition to the move to integrate Khayelitsha and Bellville

Defeated Marais says vote 'rigged'

CT 24/4/98

(263)

JUDITH SOAL, KARIN SCHIMKE AND FATIMA SCHROEDER

DEFEATED National Party leadership candidate Mr Peter Marais early this morning accused the National Party of rigging the vote for leadership of the party and premiership of the Western Cape

An emotional Marais told the Cape Times that "canvassing and triple-checking" showed that he had 54 votes and the winner, Mr Gerald Morkel, 32 votes, in the lead-up to the final ballot. But when the results were announced, Morkel was said to have won by 53 votes to 34.

Marais said, "There is a clique in the party that betrayed me and it hurts. I would like to know what made them change their minds and who gave them instructions. It eats me up."

Asked to elaborate, he said "I am too upset to talk about this any further."

He was earlier quoted as saying: "I am going home to my wife and kids to reconsider my future in the party."

Whatever the truth or otherwise of Marais' words, in the final analysis, stability won a convincing victory over flamboyance last night in Morkel's election as new NP leader in the Western Cape

The new leader takes over from Premier Hennis Kriel, who announced his resignation on Monday. Morkel will become the premier on May 11

Morkel, who is not known for his charisma, immediately announced his intention to "get back to basics"

"My desire is to reduce the crime rate and enhance economic growth so as to create jobs," he told the crowd outside the NP offices after his victory was announced last night.

"Nog net meer promises," shouted a heckler, reflecting a large section of the 200-strong crowd's preference for his opponent

The people weren't the only ones favouring Marais. Insiders said yesterday the fact that the firebrand leader was also Premier Hennis Kriel's choice did not sit well with ex-Labour Party members

Cynical commentators say Morkel got the nod because

□ Turn to Page 3



BACK TO BASICS:
Gerald Morkel

Morkel 'more controllable' than Marais

(263)

□ From Page 1

he is more controllable than Marais, who has a tendency for unpredictable outbursts.

Also, Morkel's image is seen to be more acceptable to the loyal white constituency that is the backbone of the NP

Kriel was seen consoling a tearful Marais after the announcement, but said later that Morkel was "a wise choice"

Asked if Marais was angry, Kriel said it was "more a question of disappointment"

An ANC statement said the election of Morkel "changes nothing in the Western Cape"

The party said Morkel had already failed the province

"As an NP cabinet member he sidelined African and coloured business when it came to contracts with the province and as Community Safety MEC he has presided over the highest crime rate in the country."

The DP called Morkel a "compromise" candidate

"We regard him as an honourable man who has been placed by his peers in a caretaker role to patch up a party in trouble."

Yet Morkel was in a magnanimous mood last night. He invited Marais to share his platform and promised to support him in his work. He also offered the ANC a role in provincial government

CT 24/4/98

Nat peace bid after votes row

ARG 24/4/98

(263)

Beaten Marais backs off

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

After a post-election outburst, Peter Marais, trounced by Gerald Morkel in the Western Cape premiership race, has assured National Party leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk of his loyalty, and is not expected to quit the party.

Mr Morkel said today he fully expected Mr Marais to be back at his post next week

Remarks by an unhappy Mr Marais, who was quoted as saying he believed last night's provincial NP leadership election was rigged and was reconsidering his political future, were described by Mr Morkel and Mr Van Schalkwyk as the result of the emotions of the moment.

But while the national and provincial leadership issued assurances all was well, it was clear an air of rancour remained in NP ranks.

Mr Morkel's election was welcomed by President Mandela during a meeting with the Inter-Religious Commission on Crime and Violence at Tuynhuys.

Mr Mandela described the new premier of the Western Cape as "a very balanced person" and said he had congratulated Mr Morkel this morning.

He said he had had extensive dealings with Mr Morkel in his capacity as provincial Minister for Safety and Security and that he had no doubt that as the leader of the NP, he would be co-operative and help to strengthen ties in the province.

But while Mr Mandela was congratulatory, the African National Congress in the Western Cape was more challenging.

It said Mr Marais should quit the NP or ask for an official investigation into possible irregularities in the election.

Calculations late yesterday in the Marais

camp were that he could count on a majority 54 votes in the electoral college which met last night.

But the official result was 53 to 34 in favour of Mr Morkel, prompting Mr Marais to say he had been betrayed by a clique in the party, and would reconsider his future.

Early today Mr Marais's spokesman, Johan Smit, said the defeated candidate was not available for comment.

Provincial ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said Mr Marais's comments showed the provincial NP in the province was divided as never before.

Mr Marais should either call for a probe into the results, which were arrived at by secret ballot, or should quit the party, Mr Dugmore said.

There were signs of open division in the NP, indicated by the small crowd which turned out to witness the election result, and the fact that Marais backers continued their vocal support for their candidate after Mr Morkel's victory had been announced.

Mr Dugmore said Mr Morkel was the choice of the old guard in the NP and was a "dead man walking" who would lead the party to electoral defeat.

Mr Marais's reaction to the result was only one of the reverses for Mr Morkel after his victory.

His offer to the ANC of participation in the provincial multiparty cabinet, essentially on the same terms as those under which the African Christian Democratic Party and the Democratic Party hold portfolios, was rejected without hesitation by ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool.

The ANC said it had spent an extensive amount of time and effort debating whether to agree to enter Hernus Kriel's remade cabinet after the implementation of the new Western Cape constitution, and would not change its decision not to do so.



Peter Marais: loyalty assured

Kriel's big day marred by row

Spokesman claims radio station misinterpreted premier's emotions

(263) ARS 25/4/98

GLYNIS UNDERHILL
AND CHENE BLIGNAUT

Western Cape Premier Hennis Kriel's emotional exit from politics has been dampened by speculation about his unstable conduct in the provincial parliament.

The furor began when Cape Talk Radio described Mr Kriel as not being "entirely sober" during his historic resignation speech on Monday.

In a live broadcast, presenter Bobby Brown said Mr Kriel, who headed the National Party, had been tongue-tied when he mistakenly called his party the ANC.

Mr Kriel had later slipped and clutched a bench, and had not appeared "entirely sober".

But Mr Kriel's spokesman, Chris Koole, said the description of the premier by Cape Talk was "vicious" and "disgusting".

"He was emotional and it was not how it looks. What Cape Talk said was disgusting and vicious.

"Mr Kriel does not want to respond to these allegations," said Mr Koole.

Mr Kriel was "very, very emotional" when he announced his resignation after 22 years in politics.

"He literally cried when he delivered his speech. He was very emotional about this.

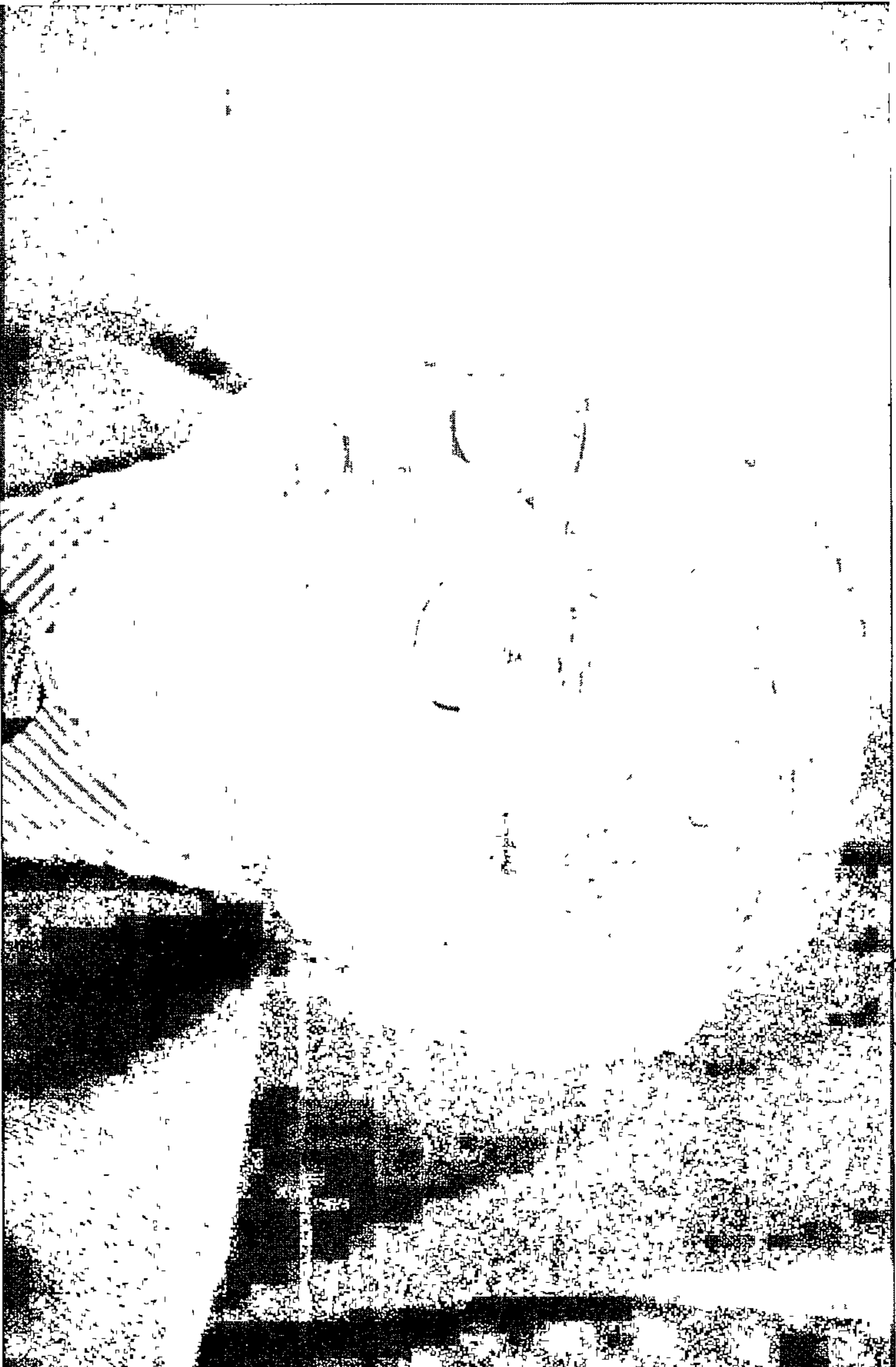
"It was an important thing for him. He read his speech to the end, but his voice was breaking and he was sobbing. That could be misconstrued," said Mr Koole.

Cape Talk Radio caused a stir when Brown said on air the premier was a "little bit tongue-tied today".

"He made a few mistakes earlier. He started off by saying, 'We in the ANC', meaning, of course, 'We in the National Party'.

"I think that is going to go down as a blooper," said Brown.

He told thousands of listeners that immediately afterwards, when he was talking about slipping up in government, Mr Kriel had actually



CAUSING A STIR Hennis Kriel's stumble prompted a talk show host to ask 'dear me, you don't suppose there was something in his tea at four o'clock?'

slipped and almost fallen. Gaye Davis, back in the studio, asked "Dear me, you don't suppose there was something in his tea at four o'clock?"

"I don't know, but apparently there was a bit of a celebration earlier on and I think he probably had a beer too many," replied Brown.

After delivering his speech, Mr Kriel wept.

When asked live on air by Davis whether, in his opinion, the premier had been entirely sober when he made his speech, Brown replied he did not think he had been "entirely sober".

"Premier Kriel is not a man known to get his thoughts mixed up or tongue-tied very often.

"He has done that fairly often today.

"I think he has probably had a whisky or two, not necessarily a bad thing, given the circumstances. No, I don't think he was entirely sober."

Asked whether Mr Kriel had consumed alcohol before making his speech, Mr Koole said the premier might have had a glass of wine at lunch.

But he had been in an emotional

state of mind, even when he had said goodbye to his staff that afternoon, he said.

"He sobbed like a baby," said Mr Koole.

Mr Koole said Mr Kriel might be a "streetfighter", but he had a "small, little heart" and this had been displayed at the recent funeral of a friend, when he had collapsed and had not been able to say a word of his

prepared speech.

But Mr Kriel's state of mind on the day of his resignation is being widely discussed in the provincial legislature. Two high-profile National Party politicians were overheard in the legislature raising serious concerns about his behaviour on Monday.

And Daniel Silke, a Democratic Party member of the provincial parliament, said Mr Kriel had been "unstable on his feet".

"Obviously the emotion of this historic moment had its effect, whether it was pure emotion or assisted emotion, I can't judge," said Mr Silke.

However, he did think Mr Kriel's reaction to the DP's speech had been "off the mark" because it didn't respond to anything that had been said, which he thought was "out of character" for Mr Kriel.

African National Congress spokesman Cameron Dugmore said there was a "strong perception" about the drinking habits of leading members of the provincial cabinet and legislature.

"There is a strong perception that leading members of the provincial cabinet and the provincial legislature engage in extensive alcoholic consumption from early on most days.

"Whether Mr Kriel's performance on Monday was as a result of such activity will never be proved.

"However, his very obvious stumble, his tired and emotional state, and response to other speeches in the debate clearly added to that perception," Mr Dugmore said.

Other reporters present in the provincial legislature described Mr Kriel as being "unsteady on his feet" during his opening speech.

They told Saturday Argus he stumbled after losing his balance and appeared to be fumbling for words.

On Thursday night, Gerald Morkel was elected Western Cape National Party leader and will take over as premier from Mr Kriel on May 11.



RECONCILED Peter Marais, left, and premier-elect Gerald Morkel confirm their loyalty to each other and the NP after a bruising leadership battle

Picture: BRENTON GEACH

Marais, Morkel kiss and

make up

ANDREA WEISS
APR 25/14/98

Leading National Party members Peter Marais and Gerald Morkel have made their peace after the bruising battle for the premiership of the Western Cape

Loser Mr Marais now says he was never annoyed at Mr Morkel or the NP, but at those within the party who had "led" about which way they would vote. He had entered the election confident that he had secured at least half the votes needed to win.

The party moved swiftly to counter any lingering perceptions that the leadership battle between Mr Marais and Mr Morkel reflected internal conflict after an angry Mr Marais accused the NP of vote-rigging on Thursday night.

Sources say Mr Marais had appeared confident of victory and had laid on a party at his office to celebrate the outcome - but the planned celebration quickly turned to rancour and a minor political crisis for the NP

But Mr Marais's press officer Johan Smut dismissed

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P.T.D.



SERVICE DELIVERY IS STILL PRIORITY

New leaders pledge an era of integrity

CT 27/4/98 (263)

MORKEL AND RASOOL RE-AFFIRM their commitment to the 'integrity' of the political debate and to the delivery of services in the Western Cape. **ANDRE KOOPMAN** reports.

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela had the new Western Cape leaders of the National Party and African National Congress, Mr Gerald Morkel and Mr Ebrahim Rasool, to lunch yesterday in a move to improve the level of co-operation between the two parties in the province

At a press conference outside his official residence Genadendal, Mandela described both men as his friends and said he would continue "worrying them" to find commonality across the political divide to increase nation-building

Morkel, the premier designate, and Rasool said that they would be committed to the "integrity" of the political debate and delivery of services in the province, a theme which was emphasised by Mandela

Turning towards Mandela, Morkel pledged that he would not allow racism or "swart gevaar" tactics to be employed by his party,



'COMMITTED': Gerald Morkel

the NP

"If it comes to my attention, I will deal with it as soon as possible," he said looking at Mandela. The President nodded

Mandela said that he had no doubt that Morkel, as new Western Cape premier, would strengthen co-operation between all parties in the province

He said he had often dealt with

Morkel in his capacity as provincial Community Safety MEC, and had always found him to be a very balanced person

Mandela said that while the ANC was the strongest political movement in South Africa and had delivered more services to the people than any other government in the previous three centuries of oppressive rule, the ANC did not wish to show "contempt or arrogance" towards other political parties

Morkel described Mandela's statements as "most important" adding that "irrespective of political differences", political parties should be committed to building the nation

He said that while he and Rasool were bound to disagree, he would make every effort to improve the integrity of the political debate and co-operation in the province

Rasool said that he was committed to non-racialism in politics and the the integrity of the political discourse.

Delivery of services to the most vulnerable in society should be a priority, he said

ANC mishandled budget, says new trade minister

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The investigation by provincial auditor-general Willie Brits of the financial dealings of the Western Cape economic affairs ministry while it was under African National Congress control should be finished within three months.

The investigation was requested by Hennie Bester, who inherited the ministry, now called trade, industry and tourism, after the cabinet reshuffle in the wake of the new Western Cape constitution.

An absence of regular and accurate financial statements had allegedly led to the department failing to spend substantial sums of money on worthwhile projects, Mr Bester said yesterday during his budget debate.

He had also referred "one specific matter which had been raised by certain members of this house" to the auditor-general.

Contacted for comment, Mr Bester declined to disclose what

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this matter was.

Mr Brits confirmed he was conducting an investigation and a performance audit.

As was standard procedure, the performance audit would investigate financial matters and issues such as the cost-effective use of money in the department.

Asked whether he had found irregularities, Mr Brits said investigations were still at an early stage.

He confirmed he had sent two "management letters" to Mr Bester's department requesting information. His findings would be ready in about three months.

The economic affairs portfolio was held first by the then provincial ANC leader Allan Boesak, who was succeeded by Chris Nissen.

Mr Nissen has since left the ANC leadership and the legislature to head up the Masakhane campaign.

Mr Bester told the provincial legislature the department he inherited had had serious management problems.

His first task when he took over had been to bring stability and certainty to the financial management of the department.

He had requested the auditor-general's investigation and had set up an audit committee consisting of representatives of his department and the auditor-general's office.

An experienced government accountant had been appointed on a contract basis to regularise the systems of financial approval, accounting and payment in the department.

It was hoped with these measures to have regular and accurate financial statements available to the management team of the department.

"The absence of such statements was a major problem in the past (and) resulted in the department failing to spend substantial amounts of money on worthwhile projects in the previous financial year," Mr Bester said.

Mr Nissen could not be reached for comment.

Meiring scorns ANC claims of Western Cape 'planning crisis'

Draft Bill will not be steamrollered through legislature

AR 30/4/98

(ab3) (P)

JOHN YELD
ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

Crisis? What crisis?

That's the reaction of Western Cape Planning Minister Kobus Meiring to charges by the ANC that the provincial government has created a planning and development "crisis" that is threatening the environment and will undermine tourism if allowed to continue.

"I think that's absolute nonsense," Mr Meiring said yesterday after the ANC press briefing at which the accusation was made.

Mr Meiring also rejected the ANC's call for the province's draft Planning and Development Bill to be scrapped immediately.

"The bill is far from final because

it is so comprehensive and because we're consulting as widely as possible. We are taking our time on this," he said.

Comments on the bill which were made during public hearings of the provincial standing committee last month were now being analysed by the planning department and any constructive criticism would be taken up.

"I think it's totally unfair to shoot down our bill as if it's something from the devil," Mr Meiring said.

"I will under no circumstances steamroller a new bill through our legislature. We've got the numbers to do this but I don't want to politicise this bill. I firmly believe that this province deserves its own unique Planning and Development

Bill"

He said the province's legal advisers had gone through the bill clause by clause and were absolutely confident it was not unconstitutional, as claimed by the ANC.

Mr Meiring also rejected charges by conservationists that his government was pandering to developers at the expense of the natural environment and that the bill would exacerbate this.

Earlier, Wildlife Society spokesman Andy Gubb said concerns raised by environmental and civic organisations were often ignored by the province.

"We definitely believe that in the Western Cape the environment is not being given due consideration. Our cries for support and under-

standing are still falling on deaf ears."

Alda Croudace of the Red Hill Property Owners' Conservation Group accused the provincial government of raising a "smokescreen" by pretending to support green issues.

"(Environmental) laws are not being properly administered," she said.

But Mr Meiring, who had the environmental affairs portfolio before taking over planning in the January provincial cabinet re-shuffle, said he had accepted the counsel of his environmental advisers and planners "99% of the time".

"But I feel very strongly about balance and I will go out of my way to find a happy balance between devel-

opment and conservation."

Using as an example the development of the Saldanha Bay industrial area - home to the Saldanha Steel and Namaqua Sands projects - Mr Meiring said it was essential for local authorities to appoint "over-arching monitoring committees" to oversee developments in their areas.

He also believed there had to be a statutory appeal procedure to a higher authority like the province, as local authorities did not always have sufficient capacity or knowledge to deal with planning and development issues properly.

"You cannot allow a local council to take the lone or full responsibility. There are often bigger and broader ramifications that you cannot leave just to the local people," he said.

Dispute over controversial planning bill

Linda Ensor

(263) ~~263~~
CAPE TOWN — Controversial Western Cape legislation which would concentrate power over planning in the hands of the MEC would not be bulldozed through the legislature and was open to negotiation, planning and administration MEC Kobus Meiring said yesterday.

However, Meiring said there was no way the provincial government, as the elected representatives of the people, could be excluded from the process.

He emphasised that the Planning and Development Bill had not been finalised. All submissions would be carefully scrutinised.

The African National Congress and a range of community and non-governmental organisations have protested that the bill gives the MEC unlimited discretionary power to override the views of local authorities and the public.

Even the National Party-controlled Cape Metropolitan Council was against its provisions, ANC planning spokesman Garth Strachan said yesterday.

Strachan called for the bill, which the ANC believed was unconstitutional, to be scrapped. He also urged the establishment of a commission of inquiry to investigate the "planning crisis" in the province which was threatening its scenic beauty. A task team should also be set up to draft alternative legislation, he said.

The proposed bill circumvented the national Development Facilitation Act, which was promulgated to hasten the demise of apartheid planning. The bill also failed to include meaningful environmental protection measures.

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Leading the blind

(263) M+G 30/4-7/5/98

The extent to which he will be able to share their aspirations or help realise them is moot — as is whether his election will be enough to persuade them to repeat at the polls the voting behaviour which swept the NP to its 54% majority in the province in the 1994 general election. Some political analysts suggest it is not, citing general disillusionment among voters in the Western Cape.

Morkel is the NP's third provincial leader of colour, joining David Malatsi in Mpumalanga and Pieter Saaman in the Northern Cape.

NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk has said Morkel's election represents the party's countrywide renewal, but then Van Schalkwyk is probably too young to remember that Morkel was first elected to the tri-cameral parliament in 1984 by his Retreat constituency, and thus is essentially a retrained Labour Party politician. No matter, Van Schalkwyk will no doubt

be regularly reminded of this as the 1999 election campaign — already under way — heats up.

A key election issue will be the crime wave threatening to swamp the Cape. Morkel's tenure as MEC in charge of policing has been spectacularly ineffective.

He was given the portfolio in April 1996 and was re-appointed in January this year after the ANC left the government of provincial unity.

Morkel has met escalating criticism of his management of the portfolio chiefly by complaining that the fault lies with central government.

It is true he enjoys only supervisory and monitoring powers over local police and that he has no say in how the bulk of the police budget is spent, but such details are lost on an increasingly

frustrated public and it has to date been Kriel who has led the provincial charge on shortcomings in the system of cooperative governance.

Whatever the party may say, Morkel's election hardly represents the accession of a

Party leaders wanted, and got, someone who would take over the helm without rocking the boat

new guard in the wake of Kriel's departure.

Kriel may have been the last of the NP old guard to hold a position of power anywhere in the country. But rather than a break with the past, Morkel represents for the party the best chance of giving the impression of change without any fundamental shift taking place.

So it seems safe to predict that the NP in the Western Cape will continue in its old ways, looking after its traditional constituency. As political analyst Robert Schurte has noted, that means *Die Burger*,

Vital Statistics

Born: Fifty-seven years ago in Harfield, Cape Town

Defining characteristics: Worthy, but dull

Favourite people: Cricketers

Least favourite people: African National Congress voters

Likely to say: "Make mine a double"

Least likely to say: "I know my own mind"

the farming community and white business. Marras, caricatured in press profiles as a banjo-strumming, populist firebrand, will no doubt be used to lure the folk to the polls — assuming he can overcome the humiliation of his defeat.

Morkel — labelled by the press as "a gentleman" and described by an NP source as someone who "knows which fork to use" — will have his time cut out for him managing his portfolio (which he says he wants to keep), the premiership and keeping the lid on a party that — judging by the closeness of the Morkel/Marras race — appears to be anything but unified.

As for the rest of us, we'll be hoping for the day when Western Cape politics not only changes its complexion but gets some real spice in the mix.

M+G

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WHO IS . . . GERALD MORKEL?



Stranger to controversy: Gerald Morkel might lack dynamism, but is at least capable of first engaging his brain before opening his mouth. PHOTOGRAPH: DOUG PITHEY

The NP bland

Gerald Morkel, the man who will replace Hennis Kriel as premier of the Western Cape on May 11, is best described as a politician who has risen without trace

A stranger to controversy, one could say his very blandness ensured the job would be his

It was a two-horse race, with many pundits backing the wrong one

Most surprised of all by the result was the also-ran, MEC for Health Pêter Marais, who burst into tears and immediately accused his own party of vote rigging

This was, perhaps, the most graphic illustration yet of just why the National Party's electoral college chose to put their money on Morkel, who might lack dynamism but is at least capable of first engaging his brain before opening his mouth

In replacing Kriel, party leaders were

faced with Hobson's choice, despite Kriel's claim that his departure would leave no vacuum because of the depth of leadership in the NP in the region

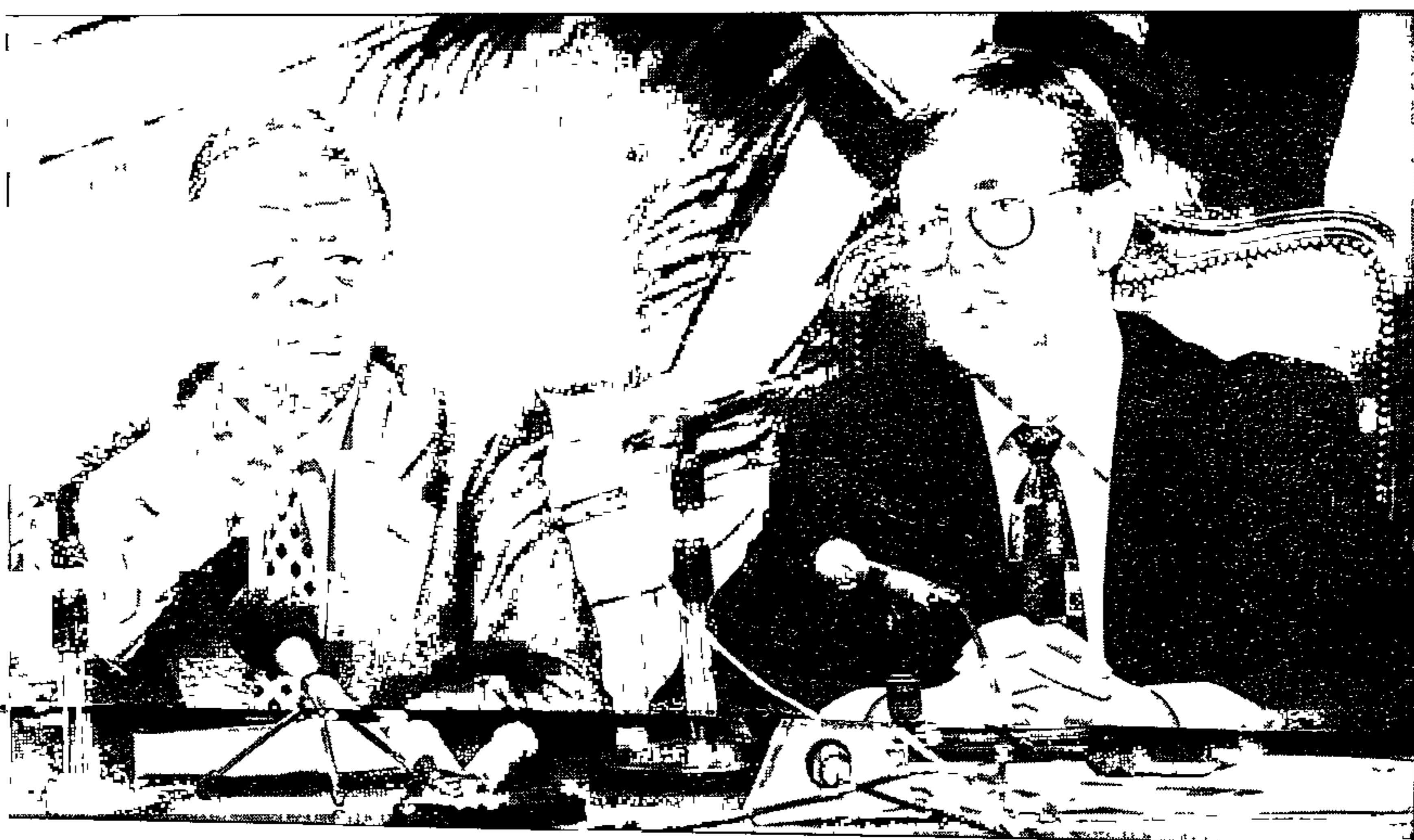
While insisting that race wasn't the issue, they knew that to elect another white man would have given the lie to the party's claims to have re-invented itself

So they had the option of choosing Marais — feisty, a powerful speaker, but with all the tact and finesse of a pitbull — or Morkel — moderate, considered, but devoid of charisma. They chose Morkel, the grey man of Western Cape politics

Party leaders wanted, and got, someone who would take over the helm without rocking the boat. Morkel is safe, predictable and, say the cynics, pliable

In him, the majority of voters in the province will have a leader who shares the colour of their skin

'The ANC managed the whole affair': Gerald Morkel, the National Party's new Western Cape leader and provincial police MEC, and Marthinus van Schalkwyk. PHOTOGRAPH: TERRY SHEAN



Why cops probed smear

Andy Duffy

The National Party's new Western Cape leader, Gerald Morkel, played a central role in propelling a convict's outlandish sex claims against NP chief Marthinus van Schalkwyk into the public domain

Morkel, provincial police MEC and now premier elect, was party to the decision to put senior investigators on to the case. His office says Morkel had wanted to avoid later accusations that police had failed to investigate properly, or claims of a cover-up.

It has also emerged that one day after thief John David Hermanus laid the complaint against Van Schalkwyk, his torrid claims had circulated among police and politicians stretching from Table View to Pretoria.

The *Maul & Guardian* decided to report the probe last week following an approach by Senior Superintendent Attie Trollip — the province's top sex-crime sleuth who was quickly assigned to the case. Until then, the *M&G* had withheld the story of Hermanus's allegations because of a lack of independent corroboration.

Morkel's office says the decision to give the case high priority was justified. The possibility of the resultant publicity was not a consideration.

Morkel's representative David Frost says that, as the case had already been lodged, "there was an expectation it would come out in any country, if the leader of the opposition is involved in any allegation it will surface."

"It was a case of being 100% sure that no one could say the police did not investigate properly," he adds. "It was good judgment on his part to give the instruction to see if there was an offence, and to put a senior man on to it to investigate the facts so there could be no cover-up."

Willie Fourie, NP MP and Van Schalkwyk's legal adviser, says "Sure, the fact that Attie Trollip is on the case will attract everybody's attention, and more likely that [a journalist] will be in a position to write a story."

"If it was a normal policeman, the possibility is that no one would have paid any attention to the matter."

He adds the NP does not believe the case could have been handled more discreetly. "We appreciate the fact that a lot of police were involved, and that it was investigated at the highest level."

Trollip is one of the top officers in the serious violent crime division, and a key figure in the fight against Cape gangsterism.

Morkel did not check whether the key claim against Van Schalkwyk — consensual sodomy with an adult — was a crime. The investigation ran for 10 days before Trollip decided the allegation did not constitute a crime — as the *M&G* reported last week following a call to

provincial Attorney General Frank Kahn

Frost adds that he "daily" sees cases where consensual sodomy between adults is lodged as a common-law offence. Morkel would have left that decision to Kahn.

Morkel's role in the affair sits uncomfortably with the NP's attempts to portray Van Schalkwyk as victim of a smear campaign orchestrated by the African National Congress.

Morkel's involvement came the day after the NP voted him successor to Hernus Kriel as its Western Cape leader — a contest he won thanks, in part, to Van Schalkwyk's lobbying.

Morkel called Van Schalkwyk hours after he was briefed on the Hermanus charge. "I have been aware about the allegations for some time and considered issuing a public statement at one point," Van Schalkwyk told the *Saturday Argus* last weekend.

"However, when I was phoned by Gerald Morkel, who informed me that Hermanus had laid a charge, I decided to allow the police to investigate and not to make a statement."

The NP has spent much of the past week vigorously denying Hermanus's claims, alleging the ANC managed the whole affair (which it denies), and threatening legal action against Hermanus and the *M&G*.

The party failed to get support for a parliamentary motion condemning the *M&G* report. The motion noted "the possible involvement of journalists and party political members and/or functionaries in the events leading up to the publication" — which, taken to its logical conclusion, would also include Morkel.

Trollip expects to finalise his investigation over the next few days. He says he found nothing to substantiate Hermanus's claim that Van Schalkwyk had paid the convict R20 for gay sex in Bloubergstrand more than two years ago. He says the house identified as the site of the alleged incident did not check out.

Voorberg prison, where Hermanus is serving seven years for theft, has no records to support Hermanus's claim that NP representatives visited him to discuss buying his silence.

The prison records show only four visits to Hermanus since the start of the year, three by *M&G* reporters and one by ANC branch executive Steve Carolus — Hermanus's initial contact and the target of the NP's fight back.

Trollip discussed the legality of consensual sodomy with his superiors this week and decided that "the question of the sodomy case does not exist, so there can't be such a charge."

The closure of the central charge affects the second alleged offence — that Van Schalkwyk had dispatched minions to shut Hermanus up. "You cannot corrupt anyone over something that is not a crime," Trollip adds.

The allegations initially did appear to

constitute a sex crime, Trollip says, but he changed his mind after further, undisclosed discussions with Hermanus.

Trollip is now looking at other possibilities, including bringing charges against Hermanus for wasting police time.

He is also studying statements from Carolus and *M&G* reporters.

The *M&G* has identified the official links in the chain that pulled Hermanus's claims from a jail cell to the public arena. Hermanus laid the charge with Porterville police station on Thursday April 23 — the day Morkel was elected new NP leader in the Western Cape.

Porterville sent the docket, 120/4, to Table View police station — which has authority over the area of the alleged offence — the next day. It arrived late in the afternoon. Station commander Jackie Litzenborgh says he found it "funny" that the charges had been laid more than two years late, and that he knows the alleged offence is not a crime.

He nevertheless called East Metropole area commissioner Neil van Heerden for guidance. Van Heerden called Smit (who assigned the case to Trollip), Provincial Commissioner Leon Wessels, National Commissioner George Fivaz and Morkel.

Van Heerden says the decision to put a senior man on the case was made "because it's a politician. I thought this would all surface far sooner. When politicians are involved in any case, it's a big story. This was a serious case."

Hermanus called the *M&G* on Friday morning. Reporters confirmed the basic details of the docket at Porterville, and contacted Litzenborgh before the long weekend. Litzenborgh called the *M&G* over the weekend to direct all inquiries about the case to the police public relations unit.

Trollip contacted the *M&G* before it could make any further inquiries — a call that finally persuaded the paper to publish.

In a statement sent to Trollip's office, one *M&G* reporter stated "He [Hermanus] said he wanted to lay a charge. I told him that was probably pointless, first because sodomy wasn't a crime, second because he had left it more than two years, and third because I suspected the police, even if they were interested, would struggle as much as we had to build a credible case."

Hermanus told the *M&G* this week he did not regret laying the charge, nor had he considered withdrawing it. He also denied, as the NP claimed, that he had told police Carolus advised him to lay the charge. Trollip supports his denial.

"I'm glad I placed the charge because now the law is on my side," he says.

M&G 8-14/5/98 (263)

'Sure, the fact that Attie Trollip is on the case will attract everybody's attention'

Protest was not misguided — union

Criticising unions' activities will not take away the fact that the Western Cape has failed to bury apartheid, writes
Andre Kriel, national education officer for the Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union

9/10 19/5/98

(2/5)

YOUR editorial Playing politics (Business Day, May 12) where you accuse union federation Cosatu of unfairly directing its attack at the Western Cape's NP government smacks of arrogance. You would have done better to check the substance of the issue with Cosatu before making uninformed comments. We would like to point out the following:

At the march in Cape Town on Monday, the SA Democratic Teachers' Union (Sadtu) outlined in detail the union's problems with the national education ministry.

In fact, in the very same edition of your newspaper, you carry the Sadtu critique of the ministry quite prominently. You quote them as follows: "Although this protest action is taking place at provincial level, central government and the national education department need to play a role in ensuring that redress takes place at schools."

I don't know how you then come to the conclusion in your editorial that we have only targeted the Western Cape provincial government.

You should not run away from the following facts:

□ When we originally raised our concerns about the retrenchments of temporary teachers, it was only the Western Cape provincial government which

refused point blank to address our concerns. All the other eight provinces, at the time, either agreed not to retrench or seriously considered alternatives.

□ It is an undisputed fact that the NP holds political power in the Western Cape legislature. As such, it is that government which carries the responsibility to ensure that redress, equity and transformation are achieved in that province. However, they have failed to do so.

Even if the African National Congress was in power in that province and there was a lack of concrete transformation, Cosatu would have taken the same stance. We take our own decisions, based on the mandate of our members and not based on a conspiratorial alliance with the ANC.

□ Cosatu is on record as saying that the growth, employment and redistribution strategy (Gear) is not a macro economic policy for workers. We have warned consistently that arbitrary pursuit of deficit reduction targets will cause severe socioeconomic hardship to the workers and the poor. You conveniently ignore this in your comment because you agree with Gear.

□ It is the Western Cape provincial government which announced at the end of last year that Western Cape schools will have to carry 30% of municipal costs. This money will come out

of the pockets of workers. It is not an ANC decision.

□ It is the Western Cape government which wasted millions of rands on extending its cabinet, not the ANC. This money could have been better spent on resolving the education crisis.

□ It is the Western Cape government, not the ANC, which threatened to stop the bus transport of learners from areas where there are no schools, because of apartheid.

□ It is the Western Cape government which decided, unilaterally, to increase educator-learner ratios immediately, not the ANC.

□ It is the Western Cape government which decided not to reprioritise its budget to reflect the need for redress in coloured, African and Indian areas, not the ANC, and

□ It is the Western Cape provincial government, not the ANC, which spent tens of thousands of rands on failed Labour Court interdict attempts against Cosatu, to try to prevent workers from exercising their constitutional right to protest, money that could have been better spent on resolving the education crisis.

We can go on and on. The fact of the matter is that our concerns about education are based on the mandate raised by ordinary clothing, municipal, hospital and other workers, not by the

ANC. We are determined to fight for their demands, which you acknowledge are just, whether the ANC agrees with us or not.

We did not sit down with the ANC in some dark corner and devise a devious plan to attack new premier Gerald Morkel, as you appear to infer. We pride ourselves on our capability to take independent decisions, and where there are interests and concerns about transformation which are shared by the ANC, it is a bonus for workers and the poor. That is why workers have won many victories and new rights since our democratic election in 1994.

We do not always agree with the ANC. You sarcastically forget to mention this fact, as it does not suit your agenda.

Lastly, your comment that "politics is a funny game and few play it funnier than union federation Cosatu" is in itself a joke. We are not so sure though that the tens of thousands of workers, who supported our protest action on Monday, will be impressed to hear that their fight for redress and transformation, for their children to be afforded the opportunity to take up their rightful place in the new SA, is regarded by you as a comedy.

Do not try to deflect valid criticism from the Western Cape provincial government's failure to bury apartheid.

Morkel picks ex-parabat as police minister

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

(267)

ARG 14/5/98

**New Western Cape police minister
Mark Wiley says he will be looking for
solutions and not excuses in tackling
crime in the province.**

"I am an ex-paratrooper, and paratroopers make do with what they can and use their own initiative," he said

He was responding to a question about his approach to his new job in the light of the severely limited powers provincial police ministers have under the constitution

Mr Wiley's appointment was announced yesterday by Western Cape Premier-elect Gerald Morkel, who until now has held the community safety portfolio

It will take effect when Mr Morkel takes office as Premier on May 11

Mr Wiley was a member of the Senate's correctional services and environmental



Mark Wiley: hot seat

affairs committees and this gave him a sound background for the portfolio, Mr Morkel said

Mr Wiley said he considered his appointment an honour and a challenge

It was "early days" to spell out his vision for combating crime in the province

While sources close to Mr Morkel have indicated that other changes are unlikely to the cabinet inherited from outgoing Premier Hennis Kriel, a question mark remains over the future of former culture minister Martha Olckers, who resigned after court action over an alleged extra-marital liaison

State land sale battle looms

Radebe vetoes bid to privatise Cape assets

ARMS 19/5/98 (16/5) (1998)

CHENÉ BLIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The Western Cape government is heading for a showdown with the central government over the sale of state assets.

Provincial Minister of Public Works Michael Louw yesterday announced plans to privatise state properties to "help stimulate the Western Cape economy".

But a spokesman for Minister of Public Works Jeff Radebe said the central government would not allow Mr Louw to go ahead.

In his budget speech in the provincial legislature, Mr Louw said the plan would include setting up a private company to manage and develop provincial properties, valued at more than R25-billion. Central to the plan was selling or leasing provincial assets to generate money.

The province has the power to buy and sell land in terms of the Western Cape Land Administration Act published in March.

But Mr Radebe's spokesman said a decision had been taken at an inter-governmental forum earlier this year that all proceeds of sales or leases of provincial assets revert to the Government.

The grounds were that the central government had been paying the rates on the properties for years and state land should not be sold on an ad hoc basis without taking into account the country's broader needs.

At the heart of the problem is the interpretation of the powers bestowed on provinces under the constitution, specifically whether provinces have the power to sell state land. If the matter is not resolved, the province may have to defend the validity of the Land Administration Act in the Constitutional Court.

Mr Radebe is expected to tackle the issue in the National Council of Provinces tomorrow.

In his speech Mr Louw said he was aware that the Land Administration Act was "not without controversy".

He said he had been unable to get hold of a copy of the minutes of the inter-governmental meeting where it was decided that proceeds from selling provincial assets would revert to the central government.

In terms of Mr Louw's plans the name of the department would be changed to "Western Cape Properties".

The provincial government would be the main shareholder in the proposed property development and management company, but its board of directors would come from the Government and private sector.

Mr Louw said the company would "resist the temptation of short-term profits by quick sales and instead

endeavour to develop the land on a leasehold or joint venture basis wherever possible".

The company would invest some of its strategic properties in a development fund, which would be established to invest in projects which would contribute to reconstruction, development and empowerment.

The African National Congress criticised Mr Louw's plans, saying they would not address the problems of unemployment in the Western Cape.

"This new vision is clearly based on profit and not service as such," said the ANC's Leonard Ramatlakane.

He warned that the plan would create a "top-heavy department" and said Mr Louw had failed to address corruption in his department.

"You cannot create a private sector within the public sector unless you want to serve the interest of those who have already benefited."

First state land management company on the cards

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — A private company dedicated to the management and development of the Western Cape government's extensive property portfolio is to be created before the end of the year, MEC for public works, asset management and media, Michael Lous, said yesterday.

The province's public works department, to be called Western Cape Properties, would be the first in SA to be privatised.

Lous told members of the provincial legislature on his budget vote that the firm, fully owned by the province and with its own board of directors, would aim to maximise returns

and enhance socioeconomic transformation.

Strategic properties would be included in a development fund, which would be set up to invest in development projects.

"At the same time it will optimise exceptional investment opportunities and ensure market related returns for investors," Lous said.

"Because of the strategic placing of the Western Cape, I believe it would make Western Cape Properties the leading development fund in SA."

The board of directors of the company would consist of heads of departments, as well as representatives of finance, commerce, labour, and the property

and construction industries.

Quick sales to generate short-term profits would be resisted in favour of developing provincial land on a leasehold or joint venture basis.

There would also be properties earmarked for private sector participation.

"The company's modus operandi will be to seek innovative ways in which existing land and structures in its portfolio can be improved on to generate long term recurring income for the Western Cape," Lous said.

He motivated the creation of a private company on the grounds that it would enhance the integrity and transparency of the sale of state assets.

Also, a company would be able to operate more efficiently than a government department as it would not have to submit to bureaucratic red tape and would be able to offer competitive salaries to top professionals in the field.

"Any additional costs incurred in going the route of a private company will be more than offset by increased income from the professional management of the property portfolio," Lous said.

"We are dedicated to proving that professional property portfolio management and viable commercial development can take place in a socially responsible way."

(263) 19/15/98

Council coup plot rocks Nats

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The United Democratic Movement has launched a bold initiative to try to seize control of the South Peninsula municipality from the National Party.

It aims to persuade selected NP councillors to cross the floor to form a coalition with councillors of the Democratic Party, African National Congress and independents.

Preliminary approaches by the UDM to its potential partners have been made at senior level.

The developments follow last week's vic-

tory by the DP in Bergvliet-Meadowridge, a ward of the South Peninsula municipality.

They are the latest turn as the NP reels in the wake of by-election defeats and defections of its municipal councillors elsewhere.

But the UDM approach has put the DP in a dilemma because of an existing 1996 deal with the NP on power-sharing in the metropolitan council.

On a political level, the DP has campaigned in recent by-elections on the basis of it being an effective opposition to the ANC. A coalition at local level with the ANC could jeopardise this image.

ARLT 20/5/98

To page 2

Council coup plot rocks Nats

From page 1

There are 36 seats on the South Peninsula council. Twenty-one of these are held by the NP, nine on the proportional representation list and 12 in wards.

The ANC has three proportional representation seats and one ward, the DP has two proportional representation seats and two wards and the UDM has two wards. There are three independents holding ward seats, one by the Lotus River and Grassy Park Civic Association and one is vacant, with a by-election due in September.

With only 15 of 36 seats in non-NP hands, it would require a considerable feat for the UDM to pull off its scheme because seven NP councillors would have to defect. Any on the proportional list would forfeit their places if they leave the party.

ANC provincial spokesman Cameron Dugmore said the party had not been formally approached with regard to the attempted moves but it was clear the realignment being attempted by the UDM was a further indication of the crisis facing the NP.

The UDM moves are not the only troubles faced by the NP. NP Youth Action members yesterday met Premier Gerald Morkel to discuss their role in the party and relationship to senior leadership.

The NP faces another test today as voters in Bloekombos settlement vote in a municipal by-election.

ANC expects easy victory, page 5



IT'S FOR YOU: Archbishop Desmond Tutu told the crowd gathered to celebrate his becoming a freeman of Cape Town that God had told him South Africa was going to succeed

Arch gets freedom of city he helped to free

ROGER FRIEDMAN AND BENNY GOOL
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS TEAM

DESMOND TUTU said yesterday he was honoured to receive the freedom of the City of Cape Town on behalf of all anti-apartheid leaders who were jailed, exiled and banned, whose enforced absence from the fray created the space for him to become a "leader by default".

"I receive it, really, in a representative capacity," an emotional archbishop told about 1 500 people squeezed into the Civic

Centre concourse, "on behalf of the women who were extraordinary in their resilience, the youth, the religious community, all the citizens of Cape Town.

"Where would I be without you? What is a leader without followers? You wouldn't see a leader unless other people were holding him or her on their shoulders," Tutu insisted.

He said South Africa had much to celebrate. "Sometimes when I am a little depressed I go to Parliament and sit in the public gallery I look at all these people sitting there, all these 'terrorists' sitting there, but

now you have to call them The Honourable Minister of Finance and so on. It is quite extraordinary what God has done with us."

Tutu said South Africa should celebrate the fact that the recent racial tension centred around Vryburg High School in North-West Province was an aberration, not the norm. And the country should celebrate such things as Melame Verwoerd, granddaughter-in-law of the architect of apartheid H F Verwoerd, sitting in the ANC benches in Parliament.

Tutu paid special tribute to his wife, Leah, asking that she be given a warm round of

applause. She received a standing ovation.

Afterwards, he told the *Cape Times* "People actually don't know that Leah is much more radical than I am, politically. And that she's a great deal more intellectual than I."

"I'll tell you one thing about Leah. Louis le Grange, the former minister of law and order, at one time attacked me saying I talked too much. I asked Leah if she would like me to shut up. She said she'd much rather have me happy on Robben Island, than unhappy outside. It was not a light thing for her to say."

● See Page 6

(263) CR 211519B

Row flares over state asset sales

Province sticks to its guns

(269) ARG 21/5/98

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A major row has erupted between the Western Cape government and national government over an attempt by the province to sell off millions of rands of public property and keep the money for itself.

Michael Louis, provincial minister of asset management, public works and media disclosed details of the row in a speech to the National Council of Provinces yesterday

The provincial legislature last month approved the Western Cape Land Administration Act, which provides for acquisition and disposal of immovable property by the provincial government.

Mr Louis said the bill had been initiated by his African National Congress predecessor, Leonard Ramatlakane, and approved unanimously by the legislature.

The bill provides for a provincial capital account into which the proceeds of any disposal of provincial state land must be paid.

Mr Louis said he had been told at a meeting of national and

provincial ministers of public works that all proceeds of all sales of assets and leases in the provinces should revert to the Government.

He was told this decision had been taken by the inter-governmental forum.

"We are unaware of such a decision and after various requests to the (national) director-general, in the past two months and personal promises by him, we are still not in possession of any minutes recording such a decision."

Premier Gerald Morkel and Director-General Niel Barnard also were unaware of such a decision, he said.

The matter was serious and had to be solved in a spirit of co-operative governance, said Mr Louis. But he made it clear the province intended sticking to its guns.

The Western Cape stood by the rights given it by the constitution.

"We will regard all assets that are linked to provincial functions as provincial assets and the proceeds from the sale of such assets are to be paid into a provincial capital fund."

Mr Louis said it was "impossi-

ble to understand" how the Western Cape or any province should have to close schools and hospitals and retrench teachers and not be able to look after infrastructure.

This had to be turned around by looking after assets by good property management.

"Many buildings are standing empty, vast tracts of land are undeveloped and we continue to rent buildings from other landlords when, by innovative good property management and development, we could provide the accommodation ourselves."

But a spokesman for national Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe said the Exchequer Act determined that the proceeds of the sale of public assets, as was the case with the proceeds from the restructuring of assets like parastatals, had to be paid into national coffers.

The sale of provincial land was not included among sources of provincial revenue recognised by national law.

The Western Cape's law would be raised at the next meeting of national and provincial ministers and an attempt would be made to resolve the issue in discussions.

Blow to Nats as member of South Council defects to DP

'NP's days numbered'

(263)
ARG 21/5/98

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Southern Peninsula councillor Bill Stibbe, elected as a National Party member but who subsequently resigned to sit as an independent, today joined the Democratic Party.

The move follows closely on the heels of a United Democratic Movement scheme to use defecting Nats and an alliance with other parties to oust the NP from control of the council.

The Democratic Party has refused to play along with the scheme, sinking its chances of success, because it will not enter an alliance which includes the African National Congress.

Mr Stibbe said today the NP had failed to adjust to its role as an opposition and it was apparent to all that the party's days were numbered.

"I have joined the DP because of the good leadership of Tony Leon in Parliament and Hennie Bester in the Western Cape

"The policies of the DP are those of a democratic society and are in the best interests of all South Africans."

Mr Stibbe said he identified with the DP's respect for the individual and the encouragement of free thinking in the party.

"The tide has turned in favour of the DP. After some research in my ward, I am of the opinion that the majority of voters in Plumstead-Southfield-Diep River support Tony Leon and Hennie Bester."

As a ward councillor, Mr Stibbe retains his seat in spite of changing party allegiance, unlike councillors elected on party lists.

Mr Bester, outlining reasons for the Democratic party declining to take part in the UDM Southern Peninsula takeover plan, said: "The African National Congress already has far too much power in South Africa."

"It is in the interest of good government and democracy that the ANC not be allowed to extend its power further."

Top-ranking ANC, NP members defect to DP

JOVIAL RANTAO

CT 22/5/98

(263)

A SENIOR National Party MP and a high-ranking member of the ANC have defected to the Democratic Party, boosting the morale of a party that has scored a hat-trick in recent by-elections in Gauteng and the Western Cape.

Minutes after he had delivered his speech during the public service budget vote as an NP member, Donald Lee walked to the office of NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk to table his resignation and hand over his seat in the National Assembly. He became the first national politician to cross the floor since the establishment of a democratic Parliament.

In the Eastern Cape, Ncwana Nondumo, a member of the ANC Women's League national executive committee and deputy chairperson of the ANCWL in Tsitsikamma, has joined the DP.

Yesterday another NP member, Bill Stibbe, of the Southern Peninsula municipality, also joined the DP.

At a news conference later, Lee, said he had decided to leave after it became clear that a clique in the NP in the Eastern Cape was bent on ensuring that blacks and coloured members did not reach the highest positions in the party.

"Events in the NP in the Eastern Cape

over a long period have made me, like many who have resigned from the party, very uneasy. After last weekend's caucus and head council meetings, however, I realised that nothing has changed.

"Last year, membership lists were being rejected to ensure that coloured people would not have a significant voting influence at the congress. This year there are problems with the lists of black people from the Transkei. All this is driven by a power-hungry clique that is unassailable. They're untouchable. I have decided that I can no longer associate myself with a party that subordinates the interests of its voters to those of its leaders," Lee said.

He said at least 6 000 NP members in Port Elizabeth north had also joined the DP.

Douglas Gibson, chairperson of the DP's Federal Council, said Lee would be instrumental in broadening the DP's appeal.

He said the defections would help the DP to replace the NP as the official opposition.

Nondumo said she had joined the DP because she felt "the need for change". "I've learnt what it means to have checks and balances in government. A strong opposition is necessary in the interest of democracy."

More office bearers join NP defections to DP in the Cape

(263)
Linda Ensor

22/5/98

CAPE TOWN — The defection of National Party leaders in the Eastern Cape to the Democratic Party gathered momentum yesterday when MP Donald Lee announced he would resign immediately from Parliament to work fulltime for the party.

ANC Women's League NEC member Nocawa Nondumo from the Eastern Cape and Bill Stibbe, a former NP councillor in Cape Town's southern peninsula council, also joined the DP.

Lee, said to be a close friend of prominent Eastern Cape defector Tertius Delport, said he had had enough of racist manipulation of membership lists by the Eastern Cape NP leadership. This was aimed at depriving him of his legitimate power base and his ability to influence decisions in the party.

"Last year membership lists were rejected to ensure that coloured people would not have a significant voting influence at the congress. This year there are problems with the lists of black people from the Transkei," Lee said.

After the NP's caucus and head council meetings last weekend, he realised that nothing had changed in the party. "A bitter struggle for positions of power is once again brewing."

Sapa reports that Lee said at the media conference immediately after he had told NP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk of his decision to quit, that the actions to which he had taken exception were "driven by a power hungry clique which is, for some reason or other, unassailable".

Lee said that he believed the DP and NP shared common basic principles, but that the racism in the NP prevented it from implementing those principles. His task in the DP would be to broaden support, particularly among coloured voters. Lee had decided he could no longer associate himself with a party which subordinated the interests of its voters to those of its leaders. "The DP is the only party with a solid base of principles which can offer a political home to voters who oppose the ANC."

Welcoming Lee into the party, DP federal council chairperson Douglas Gibson saluted his courage. "Make no mistake, vacating your seat in Parliament is not an easy choice for anyone to make," Gibson said. The party knew of many more public representatives in the NP and other parties who would like to cross the floor to the DP.

Stibbe said the departure of former NP leader FW de Klerk had been the final nail in the coffin of the party which could not adjust to its role in opposition.

Nondumo said she believed a strong opposition was in the best interests of democracy. "We have had political change, but for years little economic change and empowerment has taken place," she said.

DE JAGER SOUGHT AID FOR HOME'S TRAINING PROJECT

Memo clouds MEC's denials

CT 25/5/98

(263)

PREMIER GERRARD MORTEL is to ask to see Department of Social Services correspondence about aid for Helen Bellinganhof House, Political Writer **KARIN SCHIMKE** reports.

WESTERN CAPE MEC for Social Services Arnold de Jager did order his department to investigate urgently the possibility of granting extra money to an old age home in which he had an interest.

This came to light in a document leaked to the *Cape Times* three days after De Jager told the newspaper "There are criteria for every cent given out and I have nothing to do with the evaluation (of applications for state funding)".

De Jager reiterated yesterday that he had not made anyone give the home extra money.

Last week, he found himself at the centre of a furore over Helen Bellinganhof House, Oudtshoorn, the board of which is chaired by his wife, Diane.

Workers at the old age home are on a legal strike to press demands for minimum wages of R1 000 a month. Some earn as little as R350 a month. The home is run by the Afrikaanse Christelike Vroue Vereeniging (ACVV). Mrs De Jager is head of the ACVV in the southern Cape and one of the wings of the old age home is named after her.

The home recently received a special grant of R170 000 to train nurses working with the frail aged as well as a bonus of R58 000, according to De Jager. The bonus was one of several given to welfare institutions and paid from savings

made within the department. These grants have raised the ire of workers living below the breadline and led to accusations of nepotism against De Jager.

Interviewed on Thursday, De Jager told the *Cape Times* it was nonsense that he favoured Bellinganhof.

"This is not the first time people have made false allegations against me," he said.

The *Cape Times* is now in possession of an internal memorandum that shows De Jager brought some pressure to bear on the allocation of the grant to Bellinganhof.

The memo, written by the Western Cape director of social security, Dr **Wendell Terblanche**, explained that De Jager had requested the department to "urgently investigate and consider" the possibility of funding the training of nurses working with the frail aged.

According to the memo, 10 such nurses are trained at Bellinganhof every year, but "the facility will have to close because of a lack of funds". The memo also says that the home would like to train 12 nurses a year.

It adds, however, that the home gets its funds for training from the student nurses, from homes for the aged that send the students for training and from the community.

The memo is addressed to the head of social services, Ms Virginia Petersen, and two other officials

The final paragraph reads: "I explained our role and our subsidy criteria and that it will have to be investigated. If it is found to be outside our funding criteria and it is seen as a funding possibility and priority, treasury will have to be approached for approval. An amount of about R200 000 is required per annum."

De Jager yesterday said "At no point did I put pressure on anyone to give Bellinganhof's application attention."

"All I did was ask Mrs Petersen what she thought of the training project and whether it stood a chance and she told me to leave it to her. If the training project didn't get money from somewhere, it would have had to close down."

"I don't understand what it is people think I did wrong. The training enriches people and creates opportunities for them. There is nothing at all abnormal going on."

Last week, Mrs De Jager had a run-in at the Oudtshoorn post office with a number of Bellinganhof workers. According to De Jager, she was sworn at and verbally abused because of the wage issue.

A motion was put forward in the provincial legislature that the confrontation be condemned and a fervent debate followed on Friday.

During this debate, the leader of the opposition, Mr Ebrahim Rasool — leader of the ANC in the province and the former MEC for Social Services — referred to the funding question.

National Party members said he should stick to the question of the confrontation between Mrs De Jager and striking workers.

"What (the NP) don't want me to say is that there are grounds for suspecting serious nepotism by the

run-in at the Oudtshoorn post office with a number of Bellinganhof workers. According to De Jager, she was sworn at and verbally abused because of the wage issue. A motion was put forward in the provincial legislature that the confrontation be condemned and a fervent debate followed on Friday. During this debate, the leader of the opposition, Mr Ebrahim Rasool — leader of the ANC in the province and the former MEC for Social Services — referred to the funding question. National Party members said he should stick to the question of the confrontation between Mrs De Jager and striking workers. "What (the NP) don't want me to say is that there are grounds for suspecting serious nepotism by the



'NOTHING ABNORMAL': MEC for Social Services Arnold de Jager

MEC of welfare," Rasool responded. "What they are covering up is that Bellinganhof has a staff-to-resident ratio of one to one. That is, for every resident there is a staff member."

"Above all, the National Party should be ashamed that, in this new South Africa, the (MEC) of welfare is party to — and continues to support — an old age home that can find place for only one coloured person out of a total of

193 residents" Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel said yesterday he would ask De Jager to send him the correspondence.

It was not unusual for politicians to ask people to look into problems in the areas from which they came, Morkel said. "Members of Parliament do it all the time." "It is not outside the norm, but perhaps in (De Jager's) position it is questionable."

Western Cape, Gauteng tops in administration

JOVIAL RANTAO
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

THE Western Cape and Gauteng are the best run provinces in the country, while Northern Province and the Eastern Cape are the worst, according to Auditor-General Henn Kluever.

In a report tabled in Parliament yesterday, Kluever said financial administration in the provinces remained a source of grave concern. He said Parliament should reconsider its role in the governing of provinces where 54% of public spending occurred.

Kluever said most of the problems faced by the provinces arose from the amalgamation of the former TBVC homelands. The result of an audit of the former TBVC states confirmed the White Commission's report that R1,5-billion

(266) (263)
in salary over-payments had been made in those areas.

There was a serious lack of internal checking and control over a wide spectrum of the activities of certain provinces, he said, creating opportunities for irregularities.

Problems included:

- Inadequate financial and budget control.
- Inadequate asset control.
- Non-compliance with treasury instructions and other financial regulations.
- Insufficient control over pension payments.

Kluever noted, however, that there were encouraging efforts in some provinces to address the inefficiencies and corruption. "Some provinces have embarked on specific anti-corruption campaigns with good results."

26/5/98
26/5/98

CT 27/5/98 (263) (12/13)

said outcries about the council being understaffed were outweighed by the need to run the most efficient council that did not pose unnecessary burdens/costs on ratepayers

"We must start a culture of a workforce being used to its maximum benefit

"The key thing for me is that this council is going to spend less than last year in real terms but, do more

"Doing more with less is what it is all about," said Mfeketo, whose operation was given the same A- credit ratings as organisations like the Natal Building Society, Boland Bank and Pick 'n Pay Stores

Being rated as such a good creditor and competitor with the private sector is an attribute all local authorities had to strive towards if local government was going to be successful, said Mfeketo

But she stressed that prudent, ingenious spending was not enough

Instead of being concerned with council matters only as far as rates increases were concerned, Mfeketo sent a plea to ratepayers to become more active and interested in municipal affairs

She warned that local government would not reach people effectively unless they participated and put pressure on elected representatives to perform in key areas

NOT a hint of fat or gravy and no room for employee salary increases. That's the city's new R3,2-billion budget that puts the poor first. And, although there is more to be done with this budget — which is less than last year's in real terms — ratepayers will not be asked to dig much deeper into their pockets

The 10% across the board rates increase that was approved by the Cape Town City Council yesterday is less than last year's 12,5% increase

Rates and tax bills that average households receive after July 1 will be up by between 8% and 9%, while water and electricity charges will rise by 7% and 12% respectively

"We will have enough money for the essential priorities, which are to maintain services in the established areas while concentrating on essentials like housing, sanitation, water and infrastructure for the poor," said the city's financial director, Philip van Ryneveld, in a pre-budget interview with the *Cape Times*.

"There are tens of thousands of poor people who still do not have these basic facilities"

Council income will effectively be less than it was last year because of the lower rates increase and because all indicators point to a 25% cut in the national government subsidy that the city receives

Because this budget has not increased from last year, there is less money to do more with this year

While existing services have to be maintained, over one-sixth (R56 million) of the new budget will go to low-cost housing and new water services

Shortfalls will be made up and development stimulated by keeping the tightest reign on spending and by making the most of revenue-generating opportunities, said Van Ryneveld.

For example, significant changes to the traffic services will be made by making sure that transgressors are caught and fined so that the money can be channelled to upgrade and maintain traffic services

"We plan to make R20 solve 80% of the problems," said Van Ryneveld, playing on the popular 80/20 concept that describes how 80% of the population has always benefited from only 20% of the wealth

Another budget ploy to "do more with less" is to create jobs by attracting businesses into the council's domain with a far smaller increase in charges for electricity (3,5% to 6%) than domestic users.

Costs have also been cut in this budget by a precedent-setting move that bases expenditure on the number of employees the council currently has

This is a break from the common practice by local authorities to include vacant posts in budgets in order to leave "room to move" or space to accommodate unforeseen costs and salary increases

"Any extras will have to come from cuts and possible restructuring," said Van Ryneveld

Executive Committee chairperson Nomamdia Mfeketo



DOING MORE WITH LESS:
Nomamdia Mfeketo

NO RATES SHOCKS

City Council's

new budget

rationing gravy

THE CAPE TOWN CITY COUNCIL HAS opted to keep spending lean and mean by increasing rates a mere 10% across the board — a 2,5% drop from last year's rates hike — to spare ratepayers additional costs. **TROYELUND** reports

Fick warns Cape on year of pain

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

(263)

ARG 28/5/98

It will be a year of pain for the Western Cape, with no overspending and no additional funds available for the health and education departments, provincial Finance Minister Lampie Fick warned today.

But there would be light at the end of the tunnel within two years, Mr Fick told a press conference on the province's finances where he was joined by Health Minister Peter Marais. They announced that.

■ National government departments and other provinces owed the Western Cape a

No one is fighting for us, page 3
Into the unknown, page 11

total of R238-million, which could be used to employ hundreds of teachers and nurses

■ Valkenberg Hospital would definitely close, except for the forensic unit

■ Sixty beds would close in the north wing of Somerset Hospital

Mr Marais said "Let me remind people there are three other psychiatric hospitals in the province - Lentegeur, Stikland and Alexandra hospitals"

Mr Fick said that if the province could save on health and education this year,

there would be a surplus of funds within two years. Public servants could then again be employed for specific professions.

He said other provinces "owed us R148-million and national departments R90-million". Interest on the money owed by other provinces, for the rendering of specialised health and education services, was running up to R22-million a year.

These funds could have been used to employ about 600 nurses and 220 teachers.

Mr Marais appealed to health workers not to apply for voluntary severance packages after September because the savings for his department would be too small. Workers could apply before July 1, he said.

Cops press their case for cash

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi is continuing his pleas to Finance Minister Trevor

Manuel to help make up the shortfall in the budget for basic policing.

But at the same time he says appointing more police is not necessarily the solution to the country's crime problems.

In a briefing for parliamentary journalists and a speech to the National Assembly, Mr Mufamadi said shrinking numbers of police had set free money

for improvements to training and equipment.

It was intended to reduce the number of police over five years, meaning a saving of R420-million a year, Mr Mufamadi said he expected many would complain about this approach.

"We don't believe in 'more cops, less crime'," he said.

It would be more effective to have better-paid and better-motivated police.

Mr Mufamadi said police pleas to Mr Manuel to make up the R600-million shortfall in the basic policing budget had had a "not unsympathetic" response. Freedom Front MP Joseph

Chiole said that South Africa in effect had only 80 000 police, given that of the reduced establishment, about 45 000 did not have driver's licences, and warned against allowing numbers to shrink further.

Democratic Party MP Douglas Gibson said South Africa was not underpoliced by international standards, but police were under par in training, motivation and resources.

Inkatha Freedom Party MP Velaphi Ndlovu urged decentralisation of police powers to the provinces, and criticised the lack of transformation in the police service.



Call for cash: Sydney Mufamadi

W Cape gets tough on R148-m debt

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

The cash-strapped provincial Finance Department may take legal action against other provinces which owe it more than R148-million, says Western Cape Finance Minister Lampie Fick

At a press conference yesterday, Mr Fick said: "We have a

programme to get the money owed to us. If no agreements can be reached with the provinces soon, court action will be taken within the next month.

He said other provinces owed more than R148-million and state departments R90-million.

Money owed by national departments was "not really a problem because we are hopeful they'll pay".

Interest on the money owed by provinces, for rendering specialised health and education services, was running to R22-million a year.

These funds could have been used to employ about 600 nurses and 220 teachers, he said.

Provincial Health Minister Peter Marais, said at the conference that he envisaged saving millions of rands through

rationalisation and retrenchments

"If we can't get people to leave the public service voluntarily, the Government will have to give us a retrenchment tool"

Mr Fick said the provincial budget council had decided to ask the other provinces to pay up and to formulate a business plan aimed at saving costs in the various departments.

'Life-saver' sparks blazing row

Device aimed at preventing shack fires is turned into a political football

(263) ST(CM) 3/5/98

BABALWA SHOTA

THE Cape Town inventor of a device aimed at preventing shack fires found instead that it became the focus of a blazing political row.

John Jackson said he never expected his fire prevention devices to spark such a negative reaction. The gadgets had been designed to protect Primus stoves and keep lamps and candles upright so they do not set the shacks alight.

"I am disappointed that things have turned out this way. The kit was designed to save lives and not be used as a political football."

The drama started when the NP-controlled Western Cape government bought 150 000 kits for R2.2-million to be supplied free to informal settlements.

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool reported the purchase to Mr Justice William Heath, head of the government's special investigations unit, complaining of "irregularity and nepotism" because there had been no public tender.

The ANC also said Jackson's lawyer had been a special adviser to former NP provincial leader Hernus Kriel.

Denying that there were irregularities, Jackson said "What happened is that the report that was leaked to them did not contain the documentation of the South African Bureau of Standards. But we did get their approval and have documents to prove it."

Jackson said he had tried in vain to discuss the invention with Rasool late last year.

This week the launch of the Ufudo fire prevention kit was welcomed by the residents of Site C, Khayelitsha.

One resident, Nomgcobo Danti, who lives in a shack, said she was thrilled that something had at last been invented to help prevent the accidental fires that claimed lives and wreaked havoc in the settlements.

Jackson said he planned to distribute his Ufudo (the Xhosa name for tortoise) invention countrywide as it had been received with much interest by burn units around South Africa.

Overseas companies were also interested in the product and he was looking at the possibility of exporting the Ufudo.

Notwithstanding the initial row, Jackson is positive that the politicians will not overshadow the "real issue, which is saving people's lives."



COOL SOLUTION: Nomgcobo Danti of Khayelitsha with two of the devices that could prevent fires. Picture: AMBROSE PETERS





HELLO: An emotional Desmond Tutu greets the people who marched through Cape Town in his honour yesterday

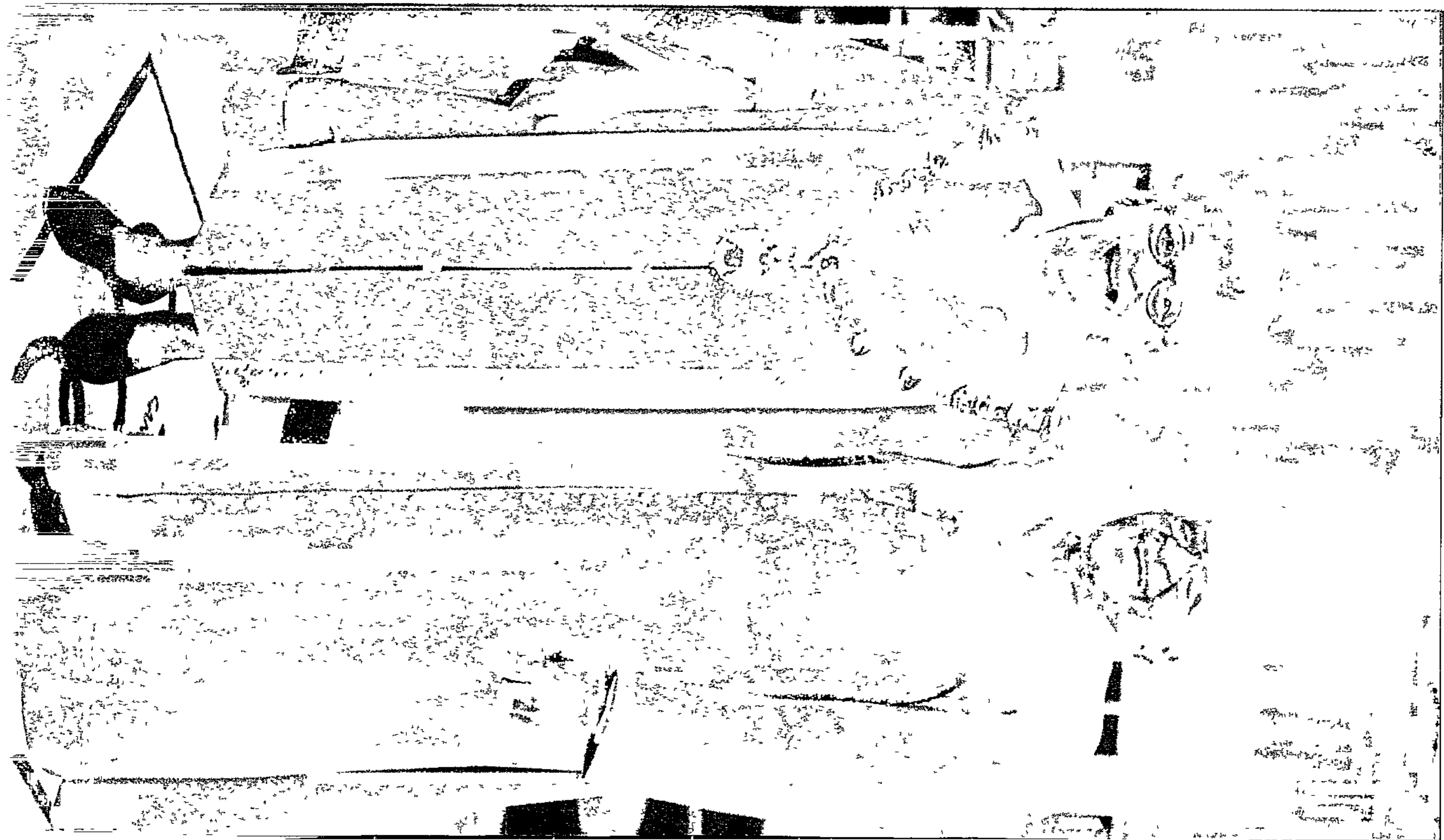
Freedom overwhelms Arch

CT 21/5/98 (203)

THE Archbishop, who has received major awards in countries around the world, including the Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of his courageous stand against apartheid, had butterflies in his stomach and was momentarily — uncharacteristically — lost for words. His wife was in tears. Special Assignments Team **ROGER FRIEDMAN** and **BENNY GOOL** report.

DESMOND Mphlo Tutu, the chairperson of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, did not return to work after being awarded the freedom of Cape Town yesterday. He went home after the ceremony

Tutu urges South Africans to re-dedicate themselves to improving the lives of the disadvantaged and questioning the value of political freedom to people who are homeless, without water and electricity. He also speaks out against gangsters, drugs, child-abuse and violence against women. He is given several standing ovations. The archbishop is elated, but



totally overcome. He perspires profusely as he shakes hands with well-wishers and poses for photographs, for about 45 minutes. It's 2pm and he needs a break. "I really am overwhelmed. For a long time I have not had those kind of butterflies in my stomach. I was terribly anxious that today should not fall flat on its face. God is good and our people are good. I am going home to sleep," he says.

mill in his laundry (he prefers to walk outdoors but the treadmill is a concession to security). He is deeply contemplative as he walks. He devotes the first three to four hours of his day to communion with God, which includes his

march in honour of her husband. She says he looks very nervous, and jokes that the only way to shut him up is to tell him how good he is or to praise what he has done. A red-robed Solomon welcomes them into the mayor's parlour. Her

He termed South Africa's peaceful transition from totalitarianism to democracy a miracle. The honour bestowed on him yesterday could be viewed as his own personal miracle. Though he hails from Gauteng, Tutu fought apartheid in Cape Town and was denounced by apartheid politicians in Cape Town yesterday set him free.

This is the first time I am tongue-tied. Hello. I love you. I am free, you are free, we are all free

"We, the people of Cape Town, are proud to bestow upon him this, our highest civic honour, as a token of his great value to our city," said Theresa Solomon, mayor of the city.

"This award is our humble recognition for all that you are and all that you have done." The civic centre was awash with dignitaries — including cabinet ministers, diplomats and religious leaders — and dripping with purple. Tutu's favourite colour. Proceedings kicked off around 11.30am with a "March for the Arch" led by many of the people who marched against apartheid at Tutu's shoulder.

But the archbishop's day had begun much earlier. When the *Cape Times* arrived at his home in Milnerton at 5am he was already striding purposefully on the tread-

drive to work, the silent reading of the day's prayers at his desk and the taking of the Eucharist in his office with his personal staff.

He serves boiling water with honey to his wife in bed, and coffee to the policemen at his gate, around 6am. He is a man who thrives on routines. Everything he does is done vigorously. He listens to Bach on his way to town, changing the six compact discs in his boot each week. One of the first things he does in his office is switch on the computer, to music mode. He chooses Abdullah Ibrahim's *Cape Town Flowers* this morning, adjusts the volume and settles back to read and think.

After the Eucharist and fond greetings all round to commission staff, the Arch reads the morning newspapers. He has a single appointment before his appointment with the city, a meeting with Frank Ferrar, vice-president of a New York development agency.

Leah Tutu arrives and it's time to go. The Arch does not utter a word on the drive to the Civic Centre. Leah Tutu says she feels humbled that people are turning out to

star Jonathan Butler and Chris Barnard (also a freeman of the city) and his wife Karen are already there.

Tutu sits in a deep chair with his head in his hands, thinking. It is noisy in the room and he is led to a quiet place to spend a few minutes before going downstairs for the festivities. Just after midday he moves outside the Civic Centre to greet the marchers. A big smile on his face, he waves to the crowd of about 800. He struggles for words. "I don't know what to say, this is the first time I am tongue-tied. Hello. I love you. I am free, you are free, we are all free."

At 12.15pm he is led into the Civic Centre by a praise singer. They ascend the podium, the Arch kisses his wife, they hug briefly.

Solomon officiates. Chorus sing, then it is Butler's turn. "Your Grace, I am so honoured and I just want to say that I really thank God for the privilege and honour of spending this special day with you," he says. "This song is for you."

"The boy became a grown-up man the moment they said you never came," he sings, the opening line of his 1991 hit, *Head over Land*. Leah Tutu is overcome. She dabs at her eyes.

At 12.45pm the deed is done, the archbishop is the sixth honorary freeman of Cape Town. The fifth was President Nelson Mandela. There are no freewomen, yet Tutu rises to speak, but is clearly still finding it difficult to find the right words. "What can I say?" he asks. "Amazing Grace," a voice responds from the floor, breaking the ice.

He reminisces, tells one of his trademark jokes at his own expense, rambles about the natural beauty of Cape Town, touches on the city's "famous graffiti" then gets into his stride.

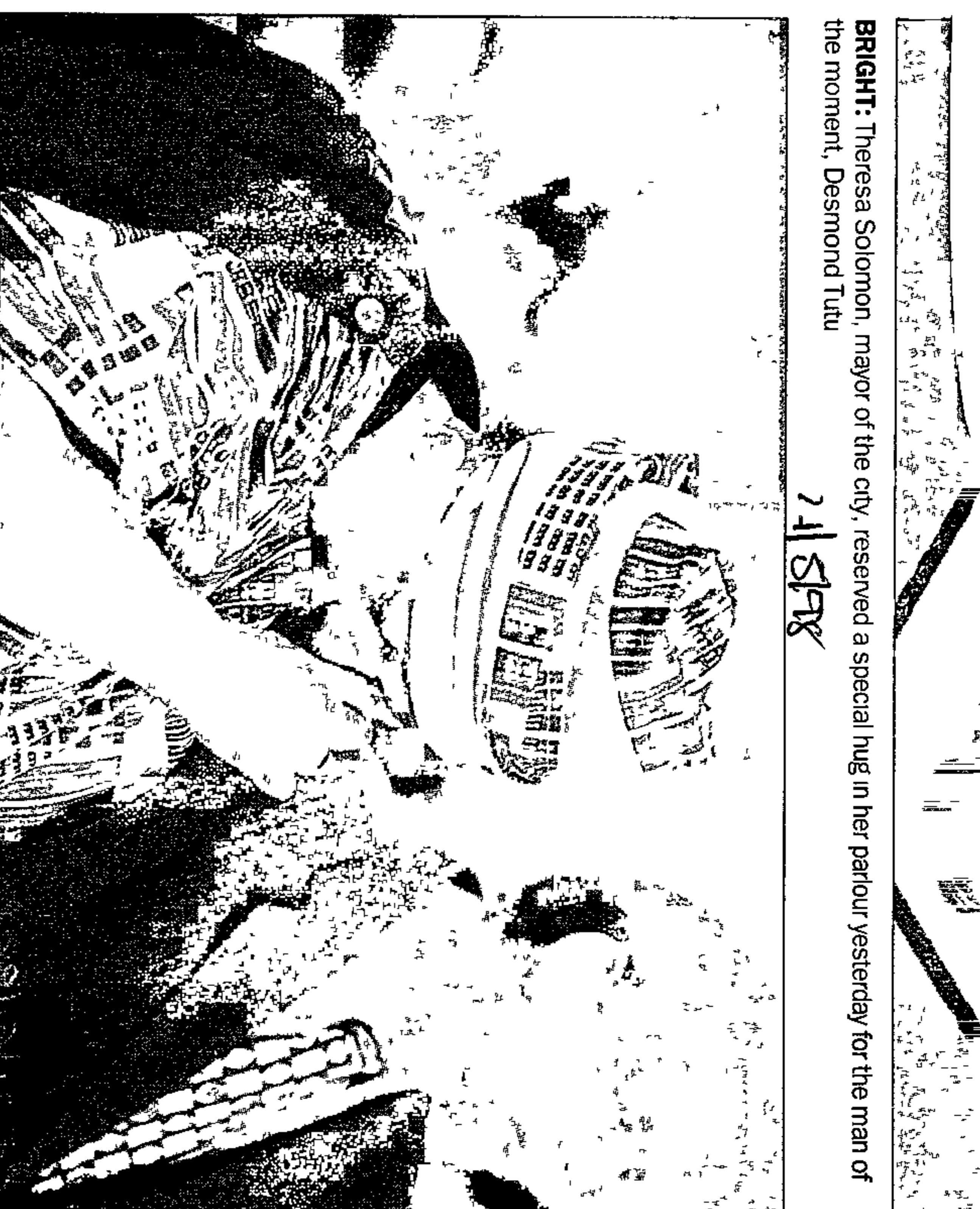
"Who will ever forget September 13, 1989?" he asks. "There was deep, deep distress in Cape Town as to what was happening to people who were protesting the apartheid elections."

"And we said, 'We are going to march!' And 30 000 people marched. We had never seen anything so massive. We came out and went to the Grand Parade. Thirty thousand people. And I said to them, 'Let us demonstrate we are disciplined. Keep quiet. I want to be able to hear a pin drop.'"

"And 30 000 people were *hoepshil* (dead quiet). People of all races, we marched in Cape Town and the Berlin Wall fell. We marched in Cape Town and they began to march in all the other cities of South Africa. And apartheid fell."



FREEMAN: The archbishop addresses Cape Town from a raised podium in the Civic Centre concourse

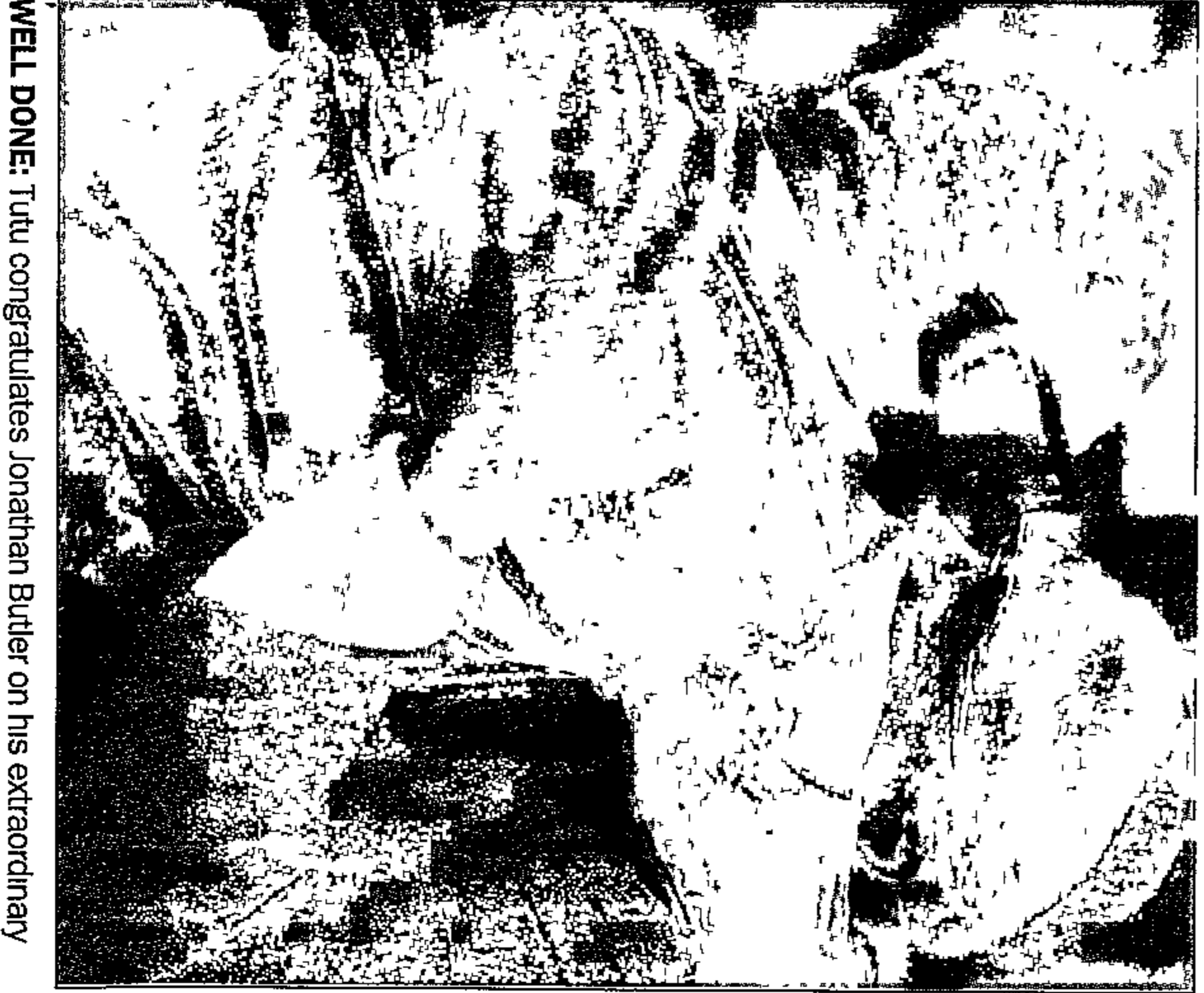


BRIGHT: Theresa Solomon, mayor of the city, reserved a special hug in her parlour yesterday for the man of the moment, Desmond Tutu

OVERCOME: Leah Tutu weeps as she listens to the words of Jonathan Butler's song. Next to her is Chris Barnard



MARCHERS: Participants in yesterday's March for the Arch included Frank van der Velde, Jonathan Butler, Theresa Solomon, Tony Yengeni, William Bantom, Gordon Oliver, Jakes Gerwel and Andrew Boraine.



WELL DONE: Tutu congratulates Jonathan Butler on his extraordinary

Redesign mooted for prisoner privilege system

Prisoner privilege system

BY VUYO MNTUYEDWA
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

A DRAFT proposal for the redesign of the privilege system for prisoners was presented to the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services yesterday, aimed at ensuring a safe and disciplined environment for prisoners and warders.

Prison service director Frankie Venter said a uniform privilege system had to be established to deal with overcrowding, the various privileges categories of prisoners, abuse and misinterpretation of the current system and security risks.

The privileges deal with visits to inmates, purchases at tuckshops making telephone calls, the number of letters written or received, toiletries, stationary money, private television, books and clothing.

He said the main aims of the proposed privilege system were to minimise the possibility of corruption, the inflow of unauthorised articles into prisons and to establish an effective privilege system.

Depending on behaviour an inmate may be promoted or demoted according to a set of criteria to various privilege groups.

He said the proposals were sent to provincial commissioners, area managers, prison chiefs, trade unions and the Human Rights Commission for their contributions.

Govt firm on lease exploitation

ANDRE KOOPMAN
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER FRANK Radebe warned yesterday that he would come down hard on private and public officials who exploit the government in lease agreements.

Speaking in the NCOP during his budget debate he said: "We are not going to get debate he said. We are not going to get a money-making market for unscrupulous landlords and corrupt officials who end up sneering the name of the property sector and public service."

"The message we wish to send out is a simple one — the government will no longer be exploited in the area of lease agreements."

A specialised unit to combat fraud and corruption would be established in his department, Radebe said.

The unit would work with improved return audit structures aimed at reducing waste duplication, poor accounting and delayed payment procedures.

The initiative followed successful programmes introduced over the last two years which had led to revamping the department's leasing policy. An audit had revealed "enormous problems" with the leasing system.

New measures and controls, if national level had resulted in significant improvements and savings to the state, Radebe said.

State land should be managed as a state asset in a way that allowed the government to identify and dispose of superfluous property that had become a liability. Sale of public land should be determined within the framework of the reconstruction and development of the country, Radebe said.

The impetus behind disposal of land should not be short-term financial gain for the state nor should it be speculative and irresponsible. We will not let it be identified estate agents with an eye on the commons sense we can make.

A number of steps had been taken to ensure that a major portfolio such as state property does not become subject to knee-jerk politics aimed at the short-sighted alleviation of so-called provincial budget shortfalls. Provincial legislatures should be in no doubt that revenue from the sale of superfluous state assets should flow back to the centre if revenue fund according to normal procedures.

Regardless of their political location state assets remain state assets and any benefit that accrues from their sale or otherwise shall be determined by the state itself according to constitutional requirements.

New image for improved Reaction Units

BY VUYO MNTUYEDWA
21/5/98

THE country's 89 Reaction Units are to be retrained Emergency Support Teams and to be restructured and retained from the beginning of July until October. Deputy Director of Security, Hendrick Steyn said at a meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services yesterday.

Steyn said he was aware that some members of the units had in the past not complied with standards which led to deficiencies in their performances. Retaining would play a major role in changing that.

The units, he said, would deal with crisis situations such as riots and hostage taking and to stabilise situations.

There would be no women on the teams.

Two representatives from each reaction unit will be trained as trainers. They will then retrain their own units during September/October 1998, he said.

The units are distributed as follows: Eastern Cape 19, Mpumalanga 14, Western Cape 13, Gauteng 11, KwaZulu Natal 10, North West seven, Free State six, Northern Cape six and Northern Province three.

Trade training for inmates

PRISONERS are to be trained in trades to combat unemployment and to benefit the department of Correctional Services and the community.

Frankie Venter, the director of prison services, said this at the Correctional Services portfolio committee yesterday.

He said the objectives of prison labour were aimed at reintegrating inmates into the community to combat idleness and to strive for self-sufficiency among the inmates.

Venter said that during the 1997/1998 financial year the department generated R3 million by hiring out prison labour. R2m from prison workshops such as carpentry, welding and motor mechanics, and R1m from agricultural farms owned by the department.

He said improvements in prison labour would include hand craft skills development and involving of communities for more job opportunities — Parliamentary Bureau.

Shap's for snaps

BY TERRY PORTER

SHAP'S Cameraland on the corner of Long and Shortmarket Streets in Cape Town has invested R1-million in new digital technology and purchased the latest top-of-the-range state of the art Kodak photographic equipment for the processing of all your photographic needs.

With the new Kodak lab which boasts world-leading negative scanning technology, Cameraland will provide the best quality available. The new lab removes the element of human error and allows Cameraland to do so much more. They can now scan negatives and produce photographic quality prints with or without borders, print charming black and white pictures from colour negatives and even offer a same day service for mat prints and enlargements up to 400x500mm. Prices

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MARCHERS
Participants in yesterday's March for the Arch included Frank van der Velde, Jonathan Butler, Theresa

CAPE TIMES
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1998

PARLIAMENT & POLITICS

'SYMBOLISM NOT ENOUGH'

Reconciliation must come from all — Mbeke

ELIMINATING the inequalities of apartheid was not the responsibility of the government alone, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday. **JOVIAL RANTAO** reports

THE reconciliation in South Africa could only be achieved once racism, poverty and other inequalities brought about by apartheid had been adequately addressed, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki told Parliament yesterday.

Speaking during an interpellation requested by National Party leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk, Mbeki said the elimination of the legacy of apartheid was central to the process of reconciliation and nation building.

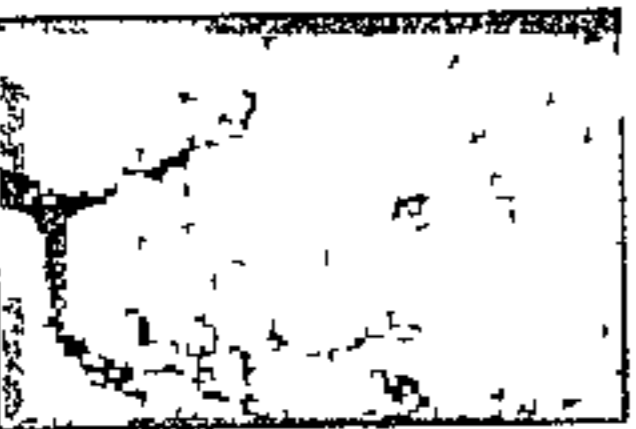
He said the achievement of nation building and reconciliation was not the sole responsibility of the government and challenged opposition parties to contribute towards the process.

"This matter stands at the centre of the future of our country," it is contained in our Constitution. Our Constitution talks about a non-racial society, about a non-sexist society. I think those matters stand at the heart of this issue.

"One of the issues that is fundamental to the issue of nation building — which is why the Constitution addresses it — is the elimination of the legacy of racism.

"When you have poverty defined in this country as black, you can't talk of national reconciliation.

"When you have a distribution of resources defined by what was done by the apartheid system, you can't talk of national reconciliation. I think that's why the Constitution thought it must address the question of a non-racial South Africa. We need to discuss this question. Are we proceeding in the right manner at the moment with regard to the creation of a non-racial



Thabo Mbeki and Marthinus van Schalkwyk



Thabo Mbeki and Marthinus van Schalkwyk

nation is to recognise them and unlock their potential. If the minorities feel safe they will become enthusiastic contributors. If they feel threatened the natural reaction is to withdraw. What serious concerns us are the increasing racist attacks from within the ANC on minority communities." Van Schalkwyk said.

Freedom Front MP Pieter Mulder said if reconciliation was to be achieved at the expense of the Afrikaner

The Deputy President emphasised that the issue of reconciliation could not be dealt with along party political lines. He said incidents that had produced anger among the majority of South Africans did not help national reconciliation.

"I'm concerned that there is a certain rage being generated within our society, born out of this area of our activity. When President Nelson Mandela ends up in court that produces a particular response of rage. When someone says 'Do not touch rugby' because it is an Afrikaner sport that produces rage. When people think that people are excluded from taking positions that are due to them because of our judiciary — such as the deputy president of the Natal bench — it produces rage.

"This matter cannot be dealt with along party political lines. It requires very serious discussions," Mbeki said. He asked for a two-hour debate so that most MPs would have an opportunity to address the issue.

Van Schalkwyk said South Africa had so far achieved symbolic reconciliation as seen during the Rugby World Cup final, and Mandela having tea with the wives of ex-prime ministers.

"Nation building and reconciliation cannot consist of symbolism only, even if it is important. Symbolism must be underpinned by concrete steps.

The NP believes in the proper balance between the rights of the majority and the rights of the minority. We believe the most constructive way is to make minorities part of the

majority. We believe the nation is to recognise them and unlock their potential. If the minorities feel safe they will become enthusiastic contributors. If they feel threatened the natural reaction is to withdraw. What serious concerns us are the increasing racist attacks from within the ANC on minority communities." Van Schalkwyk said.

Freedom Front MP Pieter Mulder said if reconciliation was to be achieved at the expense of the Afrikaner

More state tenders go to black business

JOVIAL RANTAO
PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

BLACK construction previously denied access to the private market have started to access the contracts valued at millions of rands. It has been disclosed in Parliament.

Public Works Minister J. Radebe said as a direct result of the government's affirmative action procurement policies, black contractors have been awarded prime contracts of 11 construction tenders valued at R283.4 million.

Radebe also announced that the cabinet has approved the amendment of government specifications to ensure that 90% of future national projects, 25% of local

government projects and 15% of projects produced by parastatals were awarded to previously marginalised contractors.

He said the change to the specifications was brought about by the realisation that although the participation of black contractors had increased to about 44% of all public works projects, there had been a negligible increase in participation at prime contractor level, especially in the project category above R2m.

"We've determined to use procurement systems as a way to fulfil the constitutional obligations we have to work for the reversal of previous discrimination. These new projects will be in Western Cape, Gauteng, Free State, Kwazulu Natal and Eastern Cape. Projects in Gauteng include one of

Who will ever forget September 13, 1989?" he asks. "There was deep distress in Cape Town as to what was happening to people who were protesting the apartheid elections."

"And we said, 'We are going to march! And 30 000 people marched. We had never seen anything so massive. We came out and went to the Grand Parade. Thirty thousand people. And I said to them, 'Let us demonstrate we are disciplined. Keep quiet. I want to be able to hear a pin drop.'"



BRIEFS

Radio denied licence

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Jay Naidoo said that Radio Islam had been refused a licence by the Independent Broadcasting Authority because the station discriminated against women in reply to a question in Parliament yesterday.

'Up medschool intake'

MEDICAL schools will be obliged to ensure that intake of first year students in 1999 was racially representative, Health Minister Dr Nkosazana Zuma announced yesterday.

No action on tobacco ban

THE Government had not taken action against companies violating the ban on tobacco adverts but five individuals have approached the courts to seek relief.

In a reply to a question from Ken Andrew (DP), Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma said of the five, Ken Shepherd of The Tobacco Action Group had brought successful action against Die Burger. The newspaper was found guilty of contravening the Tobacco Control Act and fined R300.

ANC criticism 'bad omen'

THE ANC's consistent criticism of the country's judiciary bordered on the fascist and totalitarian, the Pan Africanist Congress said yesterday.

"It seems to be paying lip service to democracy," said PAC deputy president Mosiso Phiso. The ANC's persistent criticism of the judiciary was a bad omen for the rule of law and violated the Constitution.

"A government which even in the slightest interferes with the independence of the judiciary qualifies and marks itself out as fascist and totalitarian," Phiso said.

Sapa, Parliamentary Bureau

Sarfu apology to Madiba

SOUTH Africa's rugby administrators will apologise to President Mandela today for dragging him to court to justify an executive decision.

Louis Luyt — who last week quit as South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) president and who has refused to apologise — will not be among them.

The delegation is expected to include Sarfu chief executive, Rian Oberholzer, and the four black members who resigned in disgust after an initial refusal by Luyt to step down, but who were later co-opted back onto the executive.

The meeting at the president's Cape Town office, Thursday, follows a decision by Sarfu's executive to send a delegation to apologise for his court appearance in March.

The union, then headed by Luyt, challenged Mandela's decision to appoint a commission of inquiry into its running of the sport.

Judge Wilhelm de Villiers, who ordered that Mandela had to give oral evidence in support of his action, later ruled in Sarfu's favour. — Sapa

JEFF RADEBE

The Public Works Minister gave the low down on his department.

FILE PICTURE

GENTS TROUSERS
READ ON IF YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR A GOOD FIT

Gloves come off in MEC

De Jager's nepotism battle

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

THE battle over whether Western Cape Social Services MEC Arnold de Jager is guilty of nepotism intensified yesterday when new accusations were hauled out and used in blistering attacks and counter-attacks in the legislature, where a motion that he resign was being debated.

The motion was not carried and De Jager remains the MEC.

However, management in his department was questioned further by new revelations; one brought by the ANC and the other by a former director in his department, who accused De Jager of forcing staff to make an extra grant payment to an old-age home he and his wife Diane have a long-standing relationship with.

Another shock ingredient was added to the debate when Health MEC Peter Marais pointed out that ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool, the former Health and Social Services MEC, had employed his sister as a secretary in his department and that she had been promoted within nine months from this position, earning R25 000 a year, to an assistant director earning R85 000.

"That is unparalleled promotion in the state," Marais stated.

Rasool's answer was that he would gladly debate his sister's position and challenged the NP to bring a motion so that it could be discussed in the legislature.

(263) CT 28/5/98
In the meantime, Premier Gerald Morkel has received a letter from Fidelia Maforah, former director of social development in the Social Services Department, saying she and her staff were forced to make a payment to the old-age home Helen Bellinghanhof in Oudtshoorn.

The home has been the centre of attention since workers started striking to demand a minimum wage of R1 000 a month. Some earn as little as R350 a month.

They are particularly bitter because the home recently received a frail-care nurses' training grant in excess of R170 000, over and above the normal state subsidy.

In her letter, Maforah — who is now the chief director of social development in the national Welfare Department — tells Morkel: "The funding of the Bellinghanhof home was not in line with departmental funding procedures. The minister forced me and my staff to fund the nurses' programme at the home."

"He clearly stated that unless a cheque of R220 000 was made available to him that Friday, when he would be leaving for Oudtshoorn, he would not approve or let us finalise the capacity-building programmes that were submitted to him."

"In short, the minister held us hostage and the only way we could make progress was by awarding a cheque to Bellinghanhof. We therefore negotiated with him to bring the figure down to R177 000."

New party may be a home for gangsters

ROGER FRIEDMAN

A NEW political party was launched in Belhar on a wave of born-again Christian and coloured nationalist rhetoric.

The United Democratic Alliance, launched on Saturday, is expected to provide a political home for gangsters and former gangsters, though none were in sight when Community Outreach Forum (Core) president Pastor Albern Martins introduced the party to the media at "Faith City", headquarters of the Faith Welfare Organisation, Core and the Western Cape Vision Board.

Martins, who became a reborn Christian after being jailed for fraud, said a leader for the party had not yet been elected. He expected his name and that of Mr Eric Stoltz would come

into consideration. Perhaps Stoltz, who cut his political teeth with the Inkatha Freedom Party, was the logical option, he said.

Banners held by young children outside Faith City pointed to the party's envisaged constituencies: "Faith Christian Fellowship Gangsters, prisoners, prostitutes, drug addicts — Jesus loves you," proclaimed one. Another urged: "Coloured people's children, keep fighting for our recognition."

Martins said the party hoped to be "an asset for the rainbow nation", but he attacked the government for allegedly ignoring the aspirations of, and problems in, coloured

communities. One of the major problems was gangsterism, which Martins termed "the whore's child of the old South Africa".

"We tried to be too white under the National Party, and now we are trying to be too black under the ANC. Let us be what we are," Martins said.

He said the party would hold public talks within 14 days with the leaders of Core, which includes on its executive a number of gang bosses who claim to be seeking a new direction. These talks would determine the relationship between Core and the party. Asked if the party would accept funding derived from the



ALBERN MARTINS

proceeds of crime, he responded that "the wealth of the wicked belongs to the righteous".

"If Rashied Stagge wants to finance this party then I'll jump in the air and say 'Thank the Lord' All Rashied Stagge's money belongs to God," Martins said.

Stoltz said the party had been "recognised" by the Independent Electoral Commission and planned to enter candidates in next year's elections for seats in the National Assembly.

It had already devised detailed health, education, housing and safety and security plans, as well as a plan to provide water to every citizen of the Northern Cape within 30 months, he said.

ET 20/5/98

(213)

More jobs, less crime the

Way to boost Cape growth

Report says 6% to 7% rate is the target

AKG 15/6/98

(263)

GENE BIGNAUT
STAFF REPORTER

The Western Cape is wealthier than the rest of the country, but the province has to create more jobs, boost productivity, and reduce crime before it can compete with the rest of the world.

This is trade promotion agency Wesgro's assessment of the state of the provincial economy in a 70-page report tabled in the provincial legislature yesterday. It gives guidelines for future growth and will be repeated every second year.

The provincial economy grew 3% in 1997, about 1% higher than the national average, but low compared to Asian and, recently, even African standards, the report said.

Between 30 000 and 40 000 new jobs were being created in the province every year, scarcely enough to absorb the 40 000 new entrants into the job market.

Thus still left 300 000 people (17% of the

provincial population) without jobs.

"At least we have not been going backwards," said Western Cape Minister of Tourism, Trade and Industry Henne Bester at a press conference yesterday.

Although the province had been doing "remarkably well", Mr Bester said it would take a "Herculean effort" to improve economic growth beyond the present rate.

Wesgro chief executive officer David Bridgman agreed. "There is no quick fix, for the province's economy. In the end, it boils down to better management and doing the small things better," he said.

The province's achievements in recent years included an increase in tourism, both in the metropolitan area and the platteland, a property boom which stimulated new developments, increased industrial and agricultural exports and visible progress with small business, affirmative action and black economic empowerment.

Challenges facing the province included

increasing economic growth to 6% or 7%, creating more jobs, reducing crime, boosting productivity and creating more opportunities for small businesses.

The report said the province had to focus on a few sectors such as tourism, attracting corporate and institutional headquarters, wine, beverages and fruit-juice niches, developing a hi-tech sector, strengthening shipping and harbour facilities, expanding film, video and TV production and developing new niches in agriculture and fishing.

Mr Bester emphasised the importance of developing partnerships with top companies in other parts of the country.

Although infrastructure was well developed, serious bottlenecks existed. These included the need for a convention centre, an inner-city mass transport system, upgrading of train services, upgrading of informal housing areas and re-use of vacant public buildings and the fight against crime, the report said.

'Fat of land' plan for public works

ET 19/5/98

(263)

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

A GROUND-BREAKING plan has been proposed to transform the Western Cape Public Works Department into a property company on private sector lines

This could see schools, hospitals and other public buildings being maintained and upgraded better and more quickly and cost-effectively

If the idea becomes reality, the money generated by running the department as a business would be used to improve roads, infrastructure and buildings. The province's economy would be boosted and job-creation would follow.

Mr Michael Louis, MEC for Public Works, Asset Management and Media, told the legislature yesterday how the department could be turned into "Western Cape Properties", which would manage and develop provincial land and maintain state property

"It is impossible to understand how a province with land in excess of R25 billion must see itself get rid of teachers, close schools, close hospitals and not look after our roads and our infrastructure"

He assured the *Cape Times* this did not imply the wholesale selling of "the family silver". Provincial assets were the source of future wealth if properly managed.

There would be no short-term profits from quick sales. Where possible, land would be developed on leasehold or in joint ventures. The province's property company would try to find ways to improve the land and structures in its portfolio to generate recurring income

Although Louis' vision that the department become the best property manager in South Africa appears to be endorsed by the Democratic Party and the National Party in

the legislature, the ANC is concerned this would not be in the spirit of job-creation

Louis also mentioned another potential hitch: a national decision that the proceeds of sales of assets and leases in the provinces must revert to the national government

"For the national government to say that any proceeds must go to a national fund is treading on dangerous ground. The implication that money we make here must be used to build schools in other provinces could cause major havoc."

Louis emphasised that the provincial government would be the sole shareholder of the proposed company

He gave six reasons for wanting to go the private company route

- Creating a private entity would enhance integrity and transparency
- The company would be able to operate at the level of the efficiency required by the private sector

- Better staff appointments could be made, so competition with the private sector could be stimulated "It is ludicrous that the greatest owner of property cannot attract and pay the best professionals in the industry to enable it to achieve the best results," Louis said

- Prospective tenants would not have to wait while a landlord went through "extraordinary" bureaucratic procedures to develop his property

- Property market competition is fierce and the province needed to be ahead of its competitors

- There would be more money from the professional management of property.

A register of the province's property is being drawn up. Louis has found that the province spends R70 million a year on office accommodation in buildings owned by others — although there are vacant offices in provincial buildings

Buthelezi said the IFP's philosophy of self-help and self-reliance was the basis of its vision of federalism and

to the people

Mamoepa said the ANC-led government had laid a firm foundation for creating a better life for all — Sapa

Council fights proposed board

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The possibility of a constitutional challenge to the Municipal Demarcation Bill on the grounds that it limited provinces' powers to establish municipalities of their choice was raised by the Cape Metropolitan Council at a parliamentary committee meeting on Friday.

As a result of the objections, which were also supported by the Inkatha Freedom Party, constitutional affairs director-general Zam Titus undertook to discuss possible amendments with Minister Valli Moosa and his officials over the weekend.

It is understood the amendments will be tabled before the Constitutional Development Committee today.

The bill has to be passed quickly through Parliament if the proposed demarcation board is to complete the groundwork for next year's local government elections in time.

The nub of the objection was that by giving the board the power to determine municipal boundaries before

provinces had decided on the types of municipalities they wanted, the bill in effect robbed the provinces of their power to decide on the types.

Advocate Andrew Breitenbach, appearing for the Cape council warned that local government would be vulnerable if unconstitutional local government demarcation legislation was passed. He also questioned the constitutionality of the Municipal Structures Bill published for comment last week.

Breitenbach said both bills gave the minister and the board roles in the establishment of municipalities and metropolitan areas to which the council objected. The effect was that the minister had ultimate power to decide whether and where a megacity should be established. Furthermore, the demarcation board would have the unconstitutional power to decide what municipalities' core cities or towns would be.

Breitenbach argued that the constitution required national legislation to define the different municipal types. Only then could the board perform.

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Amendments relieve demarcation bill impasse

Linda Enisor

ED 2/6/98 (263)

CAPE TOWN — The threatened impasse over the constitutionality of the Municipal Demarcation Bill was resolved yesterday when certain amendments were made by constitutional affairs director-general Zam Titus, with the agreement of the Cape Metropolitan Council.

The bill will create a demarcation board and establish criteria for determining municipal boundaries. The council argued that the bill was unconstitutional in that it infringed on its power to establish municipalities of its choice, and opposed the powers given to the minister to decide whether and where a municipality should be established.

Titus said the controversial sections of the bill dealing with the metropolitan councils had been transferred to the Municipal Structures Bill which would deal comprehensively with the issue of all categories and types of municipalities.

A transfer of a clause of the bill dealing with the policy objectives of the board to the regulation section would get around the council's concern that the public have a say in the determination of policy objectives of the board.

"We are in fact not agreeing with their argument that this is unconstitutional, but we have taken into account their concerns," Titus said.

Ebrahim Rasool of the ANC argues that local government is anything but transparent

'NP can't hide the stench of corruption in W Cape'

ART 6/6/98

(269)

There is something rotten at the heart of the Western Cape government. The stench of corruption is in the air, a bad smell that the National Party can no longer hide.

This is not a statement, I, as African National Congress leader in the Western Cape, make lightly. Nor do I make it to score a cheap political point. I say it because I care about how our province is governed and how it governs on behalf of the people of the Western Cape.

The fact is there is something seriously wrong with the government in the Cape when senior figures in the provincial administration feel free to bend rules to suit themselves and their friends.

Earlier this month, on his inauguration as premier, Gerald Morkel told the Western Cape legislature that he would take ultimate responsibility for the conduct of his ministers. And that the Western Cape, under his leadership, would set a benchmark for good governance.

Less than a month after making these comments, Mr Morkel's words have a hollow ring. In the past week, we have seen two scandals unfold which cast doubt on the validity of the premier's words in the legislature.

The NP is behaving badly, very badly indeed.

On Monday, the ANC uncovered a "cash-for-care" scandal, involving the MEC for social services, Arnold de Jager, and the provision of a R170 000 training grant to an old-age home with which he and his wife

have a longstanding relationship. In fact, Mrs De Jager is chair of the board. Mr De Jager dismissed the charge that he had favoured the home and claimed he had nothing to do with the grant it received.

But later in the week, it became clear that not only did he know about the grant, which was not in line with departmental procedure, but that he had actually forced senior department staff to make the payment.

As if that was not bad enough, Mr De Jager and his colleagues were also at the centre of another scandal, involving the purchase of R2,2-million worth of fire-safety kits for informal settlements.

The contract for the kits, which were supplied to Mr De Jager's department, was not put out to public tender and the attorney for the company that produced the kits was a special adviser to Hernus Krriel when Mr Krriel was premier of the province.

Both stories could be dismissed as aberrations, particularly as this week saw the auditor-general praising the province for being one of the best-run in the country. But even the auditor-general would raise his eyebrows at the NP's brazen behaviour exposed by the ANC in the past seven days.

Its behaviour raises questions not just about the conduct of individuals but questions that go to the very heart of what the government of our province should be about: questions of accountability, transparency, integrity and competence.



LOCAL IS NOT LEKKER Ebrahim Rasool of the African National Congress

Yet, when these matters were brought to the attention of the premier, they were met with a stony

silence. So much for Mr Morkel's promise to take responsibility for the conduct

of his ministers. So much for setting standards. So much for accountability. So much for leadership. The pre-

mier has gone into hibernation on these issues.

The only response from the NP provincial government to date has been to throw up a smokescreen, besmirching my name and that of my sister, who was employed on merit by the province.

In place of the truth we have had smear and innuendo.

The NP has attempted to deflect attention from the fact that taxpayers' money has been used to line the pockets of NP cronies and to pump the pet projects of individual ministers. It is the kind of desperate response we have come to expect from a NP that sees the writing on the wall and knows its days are numbered.

What we have seen this week is an NP that has shown complete contempt for the people of the Western Cape and the people's right to know how their money is spent.

Left to their own devices, the NP would be accountable to no one. It has only been through the ANC's efforts that the facts were uncovered.

It was the ANC that called for an independent investigation into the De Jager scandal.

It was the ANC that called on the Health Commission to investigate improprieties in the granting of the contract for fire-safety kits, and it was the ANC that pressed for a debate in the provincial legislature to bring the facts before the public.

There is only one party that is seriously committed to openness and accountability in the Western Cape

and that party is not the NP of Gerald Morkel and Arnold de Jager.

Over the course of the past weeks, the NP has tried to con the people of the province.

By changing faces at the top of the government, they've tried to convince the voters that this is a new NP, a party committed to clean and open government.

But this is one NP trick that won't fool the public.

And the people have voted with their feet in Bergvliet, Bloekompos, Wolseley and Doringsbaai.

From the metro to the squatter areas, the rural hinterland and the coastal towns, the people are turning their backs on the NP. The voters are not fools.

Although the faces at the top may have changed, scrape the surface and it's still the same old NP, a NP that believes in patronage and privilege, a party prepared to bend the rules to suit itself, a party that governs for the few, not the many, and a NP that runs the Western Cape as its own private fiefdom.

The people of the Western Cape deserve better.

In his inauguration speech, Mr Morkel said he was deeply aware of the fact that a leader is only as good as the team that he or she leads.

On the evidence of the past seven days, the NP in the Western Cape should advertise for a new leader. In the meantime, they should clean up their act.

Ebrahim Rasool
African National Congress

Bid to save towns from financial collapse

(263)
Mother-hen system mooted

WILLEM STEENKAMP

The Western Cape government launched a programme this week to ensure the financial future of the province's rural towns. The move follows news of the fiscal collapse of the town of Noupoot, in the Eastern Cape, last week.

The small town owes more than R1-million to Sanlam. The town apparently ignored several requests by the assurance company to repay the debt.

The sheriff of the court arrived in the town last week to attach the graveyard, a historical church and other municipal property.

The land and buildings were to be auctioned off. But Sanlam has decided to postpone any action in order to give the town more time to repay the money.

Noupoot's mayor, Mkhonto Mfazwe, said the debt was a legacy of the apartheid era and could not be adequately serviced because of the culture of non-payment and high unemployment in the town.

Numerous other local authorities in the Eastern Cape are in a similar position as funds dry up and debts escalate.

In the Western Cape, about 20 small towns are already in financial trouble, or could soon be. They include Citrusdal, Clanwilliam, Knysna, Montagu, Robertson, Plettenberg Bay, Darling, George, Tulbagh, Albertinia, Wolseley, Beaufort West and Prince Albert.

Patrick McKenzie, the provincial minister of local government and gambling, said the Western Cape had launched an innovative project to ensure small towns could meet their financial commitments.

training programme for inexperienced councillors and officials to ensure sound financial management," he said.

"We will also propose to the new demarcation board that new boundaries be drawn in the province. However, this will only happen after the next elections (in 1999).

"We have found that certain small local authorities are simply not viable and will not be able to survive financially."

Mr McKenzie said their tax bases were too small and revenue from rates too low. "The culture of non-payment for services is playing havoc with their finances," he said.

"What we have in mind is to link small non-viable local authorities to a larger mother-hen local authority. This means that the cost of services, such as ambulances, refuse removal and fire-fighting equipment, will be shared among the smaller local authorities."

Mr McKenzie said management audits had already been carried out in most of the towns facing financial problems.

"This is not a political issue. We have to ensure these towns survive. I have told the town clerks in the different towns they have to report any financial mismanagement to the provincial government.

"They will be held responsible. I have told them that even if they resign, they will still be called to task if financial mismanagement took place while they carried the responsibility."

Mr McKenzie said councillors had, in the past, deviated from budgets. "I have told town clerks that these instances must immediately be reported to my department. Towns must stay within the budget."

He said local authorities in the Western Cape were in a much better financial position than those in other provinces. Of the 136 local authorities in the province, only about 20 were facing financial problems.

"I believe this is the case because, in most local authorities in the Western Cape, power is shared between political parties.

"This is true democracy and these political parties keep each other on their toes. It has to a large extent ensured sound financial management."

"We have built up a database of the financial situation in each town. We have also sent out directives to local authorities which we have identified as having financial problems or will soon have a cash-flow problem.

"I have sent out strict instructions and guidelines to these local authorities to apply sound financial management. They must now keep us updated and advised about what they are doing to ensure their financial future.

"We have also instructed town clerks to inform us immediately if local councils deviate from approved budgets.

"We will also launch a financial

Single city system 'will work in Cape'

(263) ARG 9/6/98

CHARLES PHAHLANE
PARLIAMENTARY BUREAU

A single city management system would be suitable for the Greater Cape Metropolitan Area with optimum centralisation of services, according to the single-city modelling exercise study released today.

The research was aimed at evaluating the suitability of different models proposed in the White Paper on Local Government and their practical applications to different cities. It will also inform the Municipality Structures Bill that will go through Parliament.

Commissioner Bill Sewell, who conducted the study on the Cape metro, said recent steps taken to integrate strategic planning, accelerate decision making, redistribute resources and maintain standards of service delivery and financial prudence, would form a sound basis for the model.

Big is better for metros — study

ET 10/6/98

(263)

THERE is a compelling administrative and financial need for single-tier municipal government in metropolitan areas, says a regional planning study released yesterday.

Its author, Michael Sutcliffe, formerly of Natal University, said most metropolises had centralised effectively, although there were difficulties in the Western Cape.

Sutcliffe's conclusions are largely in tune with the Local Government White Paper.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa attended a Sutcliffe briefing yesterday.

He said Sutcliffe's findings would influence a Local Government Municipal Structures Bill. It was published in the Government Gazette on May 22. The public has 30 days to comment.

He hoped Parliament would approve the bill in September before its sitting ended, Moosa said.

The Municipal Structures Bill provides for municipalities to comply with defined categories and types. It sets out a number of responsibilities of municipalities and regulates their functions — Sapa.

CMC given top credit rating

METRO EDITOR (263)

THE Cape Metropolitan Council has been given the highest credit rating of any local authority in South Africa

Following research into the financial affairs of all six municipalities in the metropole and the CMC, independent consultants recently awarded the council a short-term rating of D1+ and a long-term one of AA

The report also shows that the CMC has "the strongest balance sheet position among all metros in the country"

Among other things, the rating was based on

- The CMC's strong financial profile and high liquidity levels

- Its strong tax base to fund metropolitan financial functions

- The relatively favourable socio-economic characteristics of the metropolitan area

- The CMC's "experienced and stable management team".

The major risk to the council, says the report, is the possibility of a protracted rates and service payment boycott or continuing low payment levels

"A further risk is that the local councils will continue to operate at a deficit, requiring continued substantial support from the council," it says.

Earlier this year, the City of Cape Town was assessed by an international company which came up with "high" credit ratings for this council too.

Its short-term rating of A1 and A+ over the longer term gave it the highest credit rating of any municipality in the country

This basically means that anyone who lends Cape Town money is likely to be paid back

CMC's R1,4-bn budget passed by angry ANC

'Council can't meet needs of poor'

(263) ART 19/6/98

JERMAINE CRAIG
CITY REPORTER

The African National Congress has supported the Cape Metropolitan Council's R1,4-billion budget, in spite of lashing out at the council's "lack of transformation" and inability to address the needs of the poor.

After executive committee chairman Pierre Uys delivered his budget speech yesterday, ANC caucus leader David Dlalal attacked the council for not implementing affirmative action and spending "shocking" amounts on administration and not enough on services to poor communities.

A solution to addressing the financial "crisis" in the Western Cape was to cut costs by abolishing the two-tier system of local government and implementing the mega-city concept

Mr Dlalal said the ANC supported ratepayers who objected to rates increases and said local authorities, including the CMC, should not keep on increasing rates but should rather re-prioritise their budgets.

In spite of objections, the ANC voted to pass the budget.

Mr Dlalal said afterwards the ANC had information that the National Party-controlled CMC would get the budget approved by NP provincial Local Government Minister Patrick McKenzie if they did not get enough support at yesterday's meeting.

"Even if we go all out to say the budget must not be approved, it will be a fruitless exercise and delay the funds - which should be sent to the metropolitan local councils which have to finalise their budgets by the end of June," said Mr Dlalal.

A major part of the budget was

R505-million in grants and contributions to local councils and other outside bodies. The council allocated R70-million for housing with R69-million going to the Integrated Serviced Land Project, which is building more than 40 000 houses.

Operational assistance to the six local councils to balance their books decreased from R209-million last year to R176-million.

The council is contributing R38,5-million to the Metropolitan Transport Fund to improve the city's transport system, and R8-million is going towards a regional soccer facility.

The council has scaled down its capital expenditure from R357-million to R275-million, with R200-million being spent on bulk services and R75-million on other infrastructure.

Salaries account for R281-million, nearly 20% of the budget.

SPENDING KEPT TO MINIMUM

Budget performance fails to amuse ANC

(263) CT 19/6/98

THE NEW CMC budget is designed to keep spending to the minimum, but the ANC came close to not approving it because "it does not address transformation or the policy factor at all", reports Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH**.

AN unusual curtain-raiser to the Cape Metropolitan Council's budget debate yesterday failed to amuse ANC members, who nearly blocked the all-important budget

They were visibly shocked when the proceedings were disrupted by a pensioner shrilly demanding her rights.

But their shock turned to dismay and then disapproval when the 20-minute performance, punctuated by comic allusions to members of the house, turned out to be just that.

As a prelude to his budget speech, executive council chairman and National Party member Pierre Uys had arranged for three players from Shoestring Productions to provide some light relief at the usually sombre occasion

And while most National Party members guffawed at references to water and waste committee chairman David Erleigh dressed in a G-string, driving a Porsche and delivering Pernier water to old-age pensioners, and to Viagra development bonds being a "growth industry", the ANC remained unimpressed

"It was a National Party campaign and made no sense," said ANC leader David Dlahi

"Oh, it was just an icebreaker," countered Uys, who proceeded to present a lean budget that kept spending to a minimum

Business levies were not increased at all and the overall operating expenditure increased by 5,9% to R1,4 billion.

Operating expenditure for the next year will be funded mainly by business levies (R475 million) and income from the supply of bulk water and waste services to the six metropolitan local councils (R535m).

Operational subsidies to the six councils have been cut from R209m last year to R176m to comply with the central government policy to phase out subsidies and

Cape Metropolitan Council keeps tight rein on spending

- No increase in business levies.
- Total operating expenditure increased by 5,9% to R1,4 billion.
- R176 million in subsidies to be divided among six municipalities
- Capital budget pruned from R537m to R275,9m.
- Expenditure on salaries and wages 19,2% of total
- R35m for RDP projects.
- R70m for housing and catchment management.
- Integrated Serviced Land Project to get R69m

make local authorities more self-sufficient

But the ANC was not happy and, according to Dlahi, came "very close to not approving it".

"It does not address transformation or the poverty factor at all. In fact it's the kind of budget we've become used to over the years and are making it clear that while we've approved it, that's not what we wanted to do," he said.

Dlahi also attacked the CMC's "huge administration" and the number of people employed by it

"Salaries are only 19,2% of the total expenditure," countered Uys "You can test this against any other local authority in South Africa and you'll find 30% to 35% and even up to 40% in some cases"

Democratic Party councillor Pat Hill said the budget was "even better than it sounds because it covers our traditional functions as well as those dumped on us by the national government without any funds to carry them out".

"I think we should publicise the real achievement here," he said.

With the debate concluded, it was time for the real game to begin

"Councillors, councillors, I must remind you that Bafana Bafana is starting very soon," said CMC mayor William Bantom as he speedily wrapped up the proceedings

NEWS

CT

19/6/98

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CAPE TIMES
★ FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1998



CAUGHT IN THE ACT: Cape Metropolitan Council deputy mayor Isobel Edelstein (DP) and mayor William Bantom (NP) exchange a joke as pensioner Mavis (actually Jaci Smith from Shoe-string Productions) reminds councillors of their responsibilities during the budget debate yesterday

PICTURE: GARTH STEAD

Moosa wins order against province over rural voting

(267)

ARL 7/7/98

ASHLEY SMITH
COURT REPORTER

Provincial Affairs Minister Valli Moosa has won an order from the Cape High Court that the Western Cape's seven rural district councils be elected on a proportional representation basis.

Mr Justice John Foxcroft yesterday ruled that the seven district councils had been improperly constituted for a full year in terms of the Local Government Second Amendment Act no 97 of 1996.

He ordered that the provincial government ensure that the councils were reconstituted on the basis of proportional representation within 60 days.

This decision is expected to have far-reaching implications for the past year's decisions and financial dealings of the councils - the West Coast, Breede River, the Winelands, Southern Cape, Little Karoo, Central Karoo and the Overberg.

The judge ordered the Western Cape government to pay the costs of the application.

Mr Moosa brought the application last month to force the Western Cape's MEC for Local Government to implement a 1996 amendment to the Local Government Transitional Act that the councils be elected proportionally rather than on a 50-50 basis.

Pieter Marais, the former Minister of Local Government, had failed to implement the amendment by July 1 last year.

The judge said Mr Marais's actions "suggest he would have continued to oppose the new method of election of district councils for as long as possible". Before the High Court ruling yesterday, the platteland district councils had been made up of members of rural councils and of transitional local councils elected on a 50-50 basis.

Mr Moosa said in the application that the status quo benefited the NP-supporting rural councils because they had equal representation on these councils, in spite of their relatively small numbers in relation to the number of people who elected them.

The High Court decision effectively swings the balance of power in the rural areas to farm workers.

ops a bite...

Gore flips for braai safety

Marais cries foul over ruling

(263) ST (cm) 5/7/98
AYESHA ISMAIL

FORMER MEC of Local Government Peter Marais has slammed a Cape High Court judgment ordering the province to reconstitute seven rural district councils on the basis of proportional representation.

Speaking from Sydney, Australia, Marais, now MEC for Health, accused the ANC of running to the courts whenever it

was unhappy with a National Party decision.

He said he was shocked and disappointed at the judge's ruling and believed there was "a serious flaw in our justice system".

The rural district councils comprise members of rural and town councils elected on a 50-50 basis.

The court found the councils had not been "properly elected" on the basis of proportional representation required by the Local Government Second Amendment Act no 97 of 1996. It ruled in favour of a central government model, which works to the advantage of the ANC. Marais's model is seen as favouring the NP.

"Last year three High Court judges ruled in my favour in the Worcester and Robertson cases," Marais said.

"The court found the model I used was fair and just and that it was within my powers."

Marais accused the ANC of circumventing the court order and getting the Local Government Act amended to make him change his model.

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Valli Moosa, had sought the help of the High Court to make him restructure his model.

"This means that every time the ANC is unhappy about something, it can amend legislation."

Marais said he had implemented his model after widespread consultation.

The MEC for Local Government, Patrick McKenzie, would have to decide whether to appeal against the court order.

"This judgment will have serious implications for decisions taken by the councils in the past year and for their budgets," said Marais.

After the court ruling, Moosa said "It was (Marais's) stubbornness that compelled me to approach the courts."

CAPE ARGUS, TUESDAY, JULY 7, 1998

Dying CBD needs a kiss of life - expert

Waterfront-style team needed

ARG 7/7/98

(263)

SHARKEY ISAACS
STAFF REPORTER

Congested, dirty streets ruled by "parking terrorists" and gangs of street kids, unmaintained public space, faulty traffic lights, broken signage, scruffy buildings ...

This is the bleak picture of a dying Cape Town business district painted by a property expert who has appealed for the proper management of the city centre to stop the flight of commerce and capital.

Theodore Yach, commercial property director of a leading property company, told the economic development and property committee of the Cape Town municipality yesterday that the CBD was in an unhealthy "Catch 22 situation"

Office tenants were clamouring for more parking and municipal planners were increasingly restricting private vehicle access to the city to force people to use public transport.

He said the city had no perceptual management and this was one of the "negatives" for the promotion of commerce and tourism.

On the positive side, the CBD was central and had entertainment, excellent views, good shopping, proximity to the sea and mountain, atmosphere, national monuments and character.

He recommended the creation of a joint council-stakeholder task team and a non-profit management company like that which ran the Waterfront.

Committee chairman Hanief Tiseker said the establishment of a

CBD management similar to that at the Waterfront was out of the question in terms of the constitution. But the committee noted Mr Yach's suggestions and asked him to approach the city manager with his advice.

Councillor Belinda Walker of the Democratic Party said that while she supported most of Mr Yach's suggestions and perceptions, the DP had mooted several plans to improve the situation and make the CBD safer.

She claimed city planners were putting the "cart before the horse" in limiting parking to force people to use public transport. The public transport system left much to be desired - and now Metrorail was proposing to reduce security on trains. Bus and minibus taxi services also had their problems, Ms Walker said.

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Only good leaders will take right road

(263) AD 7/7/78

Pretoria now has an opportunity to turn its back on its history as the capital of apartheid, which left it with a fragmented and divided metropolis, and forge a very African future, write Ann Bernstein and Jeff McCarthy

THE history of Pretoria since 1950 is that of a city built around "ethnic exclusion and ethnic patronage". The tide has turned. Pretoria at the end of the 20th century is now a city in search of a new identity.

Pretoria is one of the least African of SA's metropolitan areas. It is a city surrounded to the north by poorly serviced dormitory suburbs in which conditions are even worse than those in the former black areas within the boundaries of the greater Pretoria metropolitan council.

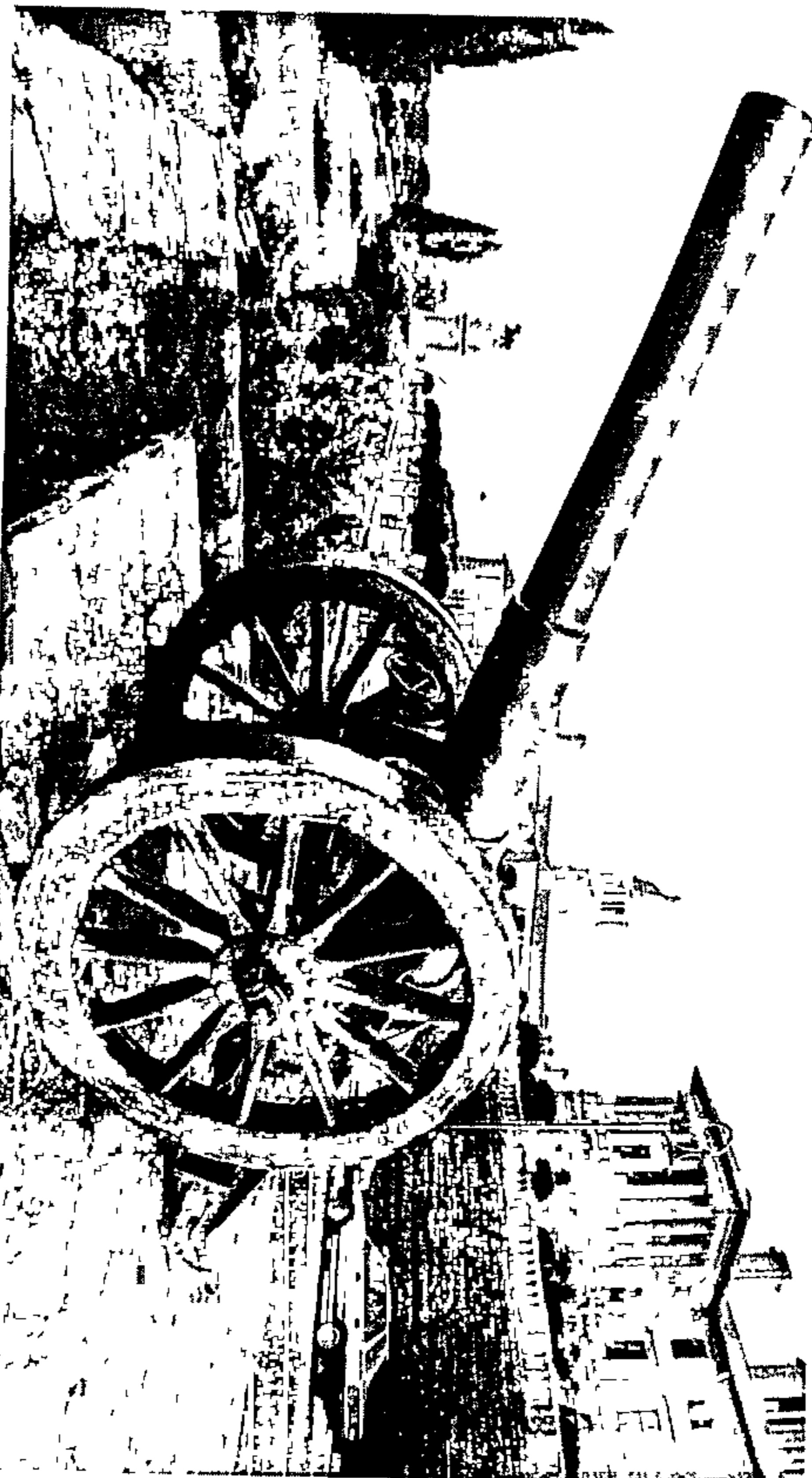
Functionally, Pretoria is a three-jobbed metropolitan complex of about 2.5-million people of whom about half are located in the former homelands. These three lobes — a southern core (official Pretoria), a northwestern satellite (Winterveld) and a northeastern satellite (former KwaNdebele) — are highly interdependent, yet each is separated from the others by considerable distances, agricultural land and political boundaries. Nowhere else in SA has intra-metropolitan apartheid and segregation been so pronounced.

Winterveld is one of the most glaring legacies of apartheid, a settlement of about 200 000 people, most of whom live in shacks with poor servicing levels. More than 80% of those who work do so in Pretoria, unemployment is estimated at more than 40%. In many respects the area is administered as a geographically marginal outpost of Mafikeng (North West government). Winterveld — like the settlements in KwaNdebele — is not a town in its own right and is dependent for its economic survival on links with a proper city, Pretoria.

On average, socioeconomic conditions in legal Pretoria are better than those in other SA metropolitan areas. But this is because Pretoria has effectively excluded a large part of its population. Most are to be found outside city boundaries. While black households in legal Pretoria increased their real incomes by 17% between 1985-95, real incomes in Winterveld dropped by 12%.

In 1994, the new provincial boundaries perpetuated a racially divided Pretoria. This functional metropolitan region is bureaucratically located in three different provinces. This allows legal Pretoria to externalise the costs of its growth and development by passing off responsibility for the poor to other, less resourced authorities (North West and Mpumalanga provinces) — rather like what apartheid planners of the 1960s and 1970s had in mind.

Pretoria has become what it is today, a highly fragmented and divided metropolis, through a concerted political programme of division and separation lasting more than 50 years. The detrimen-



Pretoria — a new lease of life for the former apartheid capital

ty communities that depend upon and serve Pretoria have been politically and administratively excluded from their claim on the budget, capacity, resources and energy of the country's third largest city. They have been condemned to perpetual marginal status.

But it was not only apartheid that was exaggerated in Pretoria. So was the public sector component of the economy and parastatal industry. Average size of an industrial enterprise (86,5 workers) is almost twice that of Johannesburg-Randburg (44,1). The percentage of white employees in industry (86,3%) is nearly twice national average (20%). Pretoria industries are more capital-intensive than the national norm, less profitable and more often established with government support. With a downsizing, restructuring public sector and several parastatals (Iscor, Denel) scaling back, the city's economic pattern is unlikely to endure. Pretoria has to find a new economic base.

The city is suffering from an identity crisis which relates in part to continued exclusion of blacks from the city, its sustained public sector focus and a failure to come to grips with the past. A bold move to deal with all three of these inhibiting factors towards a truly non-racial and regionally oriented public-private partnership is a more realistic, sustainable way forward. What is needed is an agreed and inspiring vision of the city's future — a growth orientated vision of focused excellence.

Developing such a vision will need a thorough understanding of the Pretoria economy and trends affecting it. This of all cities could position itself cheekily as the capital of the "African renaissance" but the Centre for Development and Enterprise failed to find any-one thinking so boldly about Pretoria's future.

Parliament for Pretoria is an insufficient focus for the city's development. If this campaign is allowed to dominate public conceptions of the city's future, it could

dvert attention away from more fundamental issues. It has been calculated that there are only 960 jobs directly and 3 665 jobs indirectly linked to Parliament, although about 8 700 other jobs could be affected.

Some other possibilities are: Pretoria has probably the most advanced and concentrated research, development and training capacity of any city on the African continent — pool these resources into an interationally competitive consortium focused on the needs of the continent.

Pretoria has some of the country's best highways, hospitals, sports stadiums, zoos, libraries, museums (35) and public parks — about 66 nature reserves, game farms, holiday resorts and spas in and around the city, and the renowned National Zoological and Botanical Gardens.

Market the city as a domestic tourist attraction through public-private partnerships aimed at attracting visitors to the diverse physical, cultural, historic and

symbolic assets, old and new, Build on Pretoria's advantage as one of SA's most liveable cities to attract further investment — crime rates are lower than the rest of urban Gauteng, and schools are good, and

Build on Pretoria's manufacturing strengths, for example in the motor industry, which could increasingly be focused on exports (particularly to Africa). Metropolitan government must work with the motor industry, understand its needs and ensure the city does not lose to coastal metropolises.

Probably more than any other SA city, Pretoria faces critical decisions concerning its future. Making those decisions will not be easy, because much is at stake — economically, culturally, politically and symbolically. Bold and courageous leadership will be needed to move beyond the current cautious mode of "adaptive modernisation" which could gradually lead to the city's decline.

What kind of vision do the new national and local political leaders

have for Pretoria? Or is there a perception that things were not that bad in apartheid's capital? No city should assume that the future will be like the past. Cities that do not find a new local, regional or global niche will decline.

The central message of the centre's research is that in the context of the twin processes of political democratisation and economic globalisation, Pretoria has the potential to become an African rising star. This will require a radically new approach to the city and its future. Pretoria needs to:

- Build a new foundation for sustainable and inclusive economic growth in greater Pretoria.
- Resolve its identity crisis by adopting a bold and unifying new growth and development vision in which the city emerges as a place with something for everyone.
- Look northwards for cues on what form this new identity might assume, and focus as much on its potential links with the north as on its actual links with the south.
- Pursue a new developmental agenda centred on the city's potential to become the entrepreneur, training, research and development hub of central and southern Africa, drawing upon its established strengths in these areas, but making Africa as a whole its new frontier.
- Face its interdependence with poor, commuter communities now located in North West and Mpumalanga and develop a wider vision built around this reality.
- Lobby for the relocation of Parliament to Pretoria but use this as a lucky trigger to unleash the city's broader development.
- Offer the country a *quid pro quo* for parliament's relocation to Pretoria by making a significant and long-lasting commitment to the development of the neighbouring marginal settlements of Winterveld and KwaNdebele, and
- Cultivate a new multiracial, multiclass "growth coalition" with the common purpose of fostering the expanded city's future growth, development and prestige.

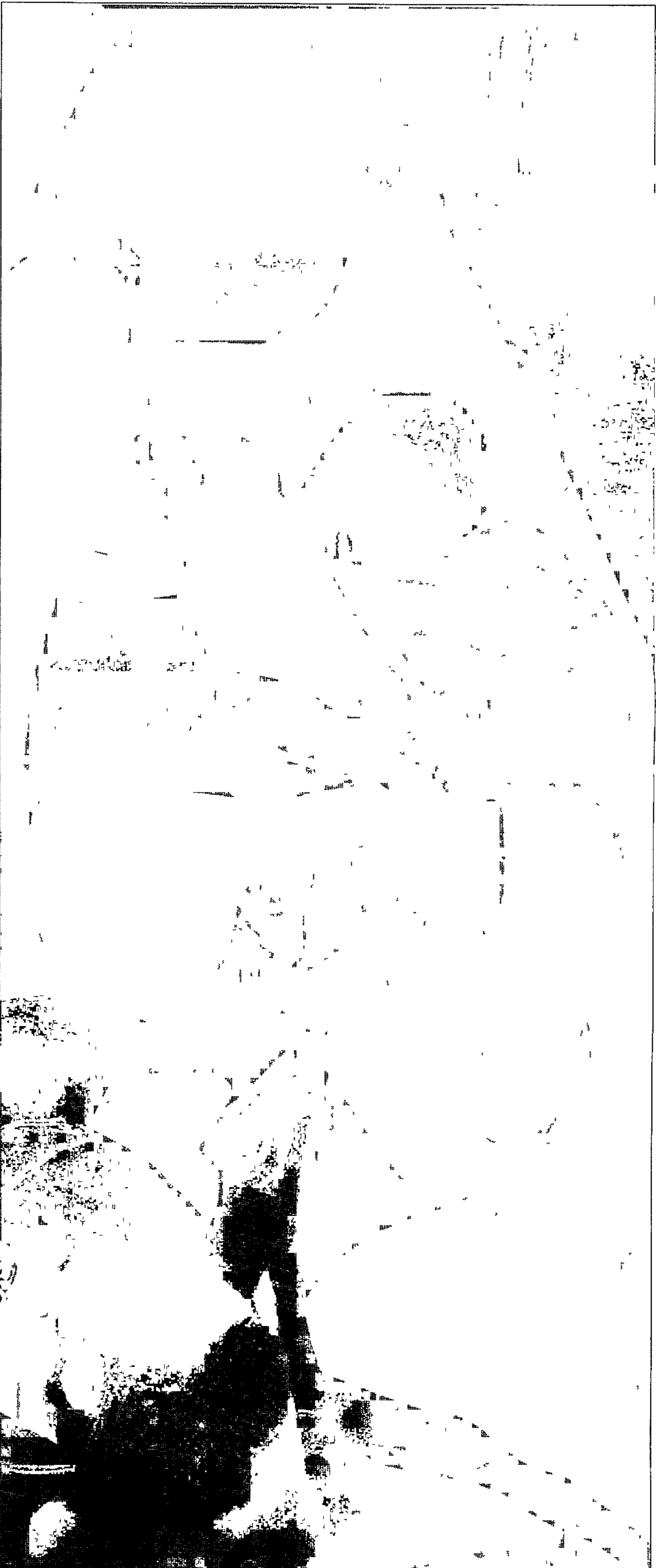
Pretoria already has much going for it in terms of physical and cultural infrastructure, local metropolitan finances and capacity, at least physical closeness to the new state, and closeness to the emerging commercial and industrial hub of SA (Midrand, Sandton and Johannesburg).

The challenge is to find the "champions" who can build a leadership class for Pretoria that will reflect a new inclusive vision and a more diverse set of interests. Subtle national intervention might be required to encourage leaders, across the city, to emerge

Bernstein is executive director of the Centre for Development and Enterprise. McCarthy is a CDE consultant and professor of the Graduate School of Business, University of Durban-Westville.

It may have lost several significant seats in local government

by-elections, as well as stalwart Roelf Meyer and former leader FW de Klerk, but the National Party is confident that it will retain its support in the Western Cape in next year's general election. This is the second article in a series focusing on political parties in the Western Cape by Political Correspondent Estelle Randall



NATIONAL FERVOUR: the key to NP victory in the Western Cape next year will be what alliances it is able to strike and how motivated voters will be to prevent an ANC two-thirds majority nationally

Picture: LEON MULLER

NP confident of WC gauge victory

in 1999 in spite of forecasts

(269) RRG 18/9/98

Despite losing several significant seats in local government by-elections, the National Party is confident that this does not reflect how people will vote in next year's general election

Gerald Morkel, premier and NP leader in the Western Cape, says he estimates the party will only need a national campaign budget of about R40-million to help it retain power in the province and prevent the African National Congress from getting a two-thirds majority nationally

"We know how to fight an election on a shoe-string budget," Mr Morkel says

Mr Morkel himself was this week preparing to visit Britain for "an intense programme of meetings"

"Party business" is all he will say but there is speculation that he and Marthinus van Schalkwyk, NP national leader who is also making the trip, may be lobbying for funds

But Mr Morkel is not above canvassing, even when being interviewed

"So which way will you vote?" he asks, and is reminded that, as in 1994, a person's vote is secret

Mr Morkel says the NP expects to release its election manifesto in early December and will be appoint-

ing an advertising company to manage its campaign in the next few months

Mr Morkel wants the company to be a local one, unlike last time when international advertising company Saatchi & Saatchi advised the party

"If I had my way - and I am likely to get my way - we'd go for a South African company," Mr Morkel says

"There are people in this province who could do the job, who understand the politics," he explains

Meanwhile, the NP is consolidating its party machinery and courting others

Speculation is dismissed that Peter Marais, who lost provincial party leadership and premiership to Mr Morkel, is still smarting from that defeat and may leave the NP

"I've only ever heard him pledge support for the NP and he is one of our key people in the election campaign," says the party's Western Cape secretary Tommie Immelman

Mr Immelman acknowledges that there is some despondency among NP supporters

"We went through a sticky patch last year when Roelie (Roelf Meyer) left and then FW (de Klerk, former NP leader), but we've recovered from that. We have a new leader who is establishing himself"

He admits this could take a while

"Two years ago Tony Leon was not that well-known. The same with Tony Blair - it took him two terms (eight years) to establish himself," Mr Immelman says

Mr Morkel himself has had to establish his presence as new NP provincial leader and premier

"It was a bit of a culture shock in the Western Cape," he admits, "because it was the first time in the history of the party that a person of colour became premier and party leader"

"Afrikaans organisations like the Afrikaners Handelsinstituut, the Afrikanerbond and the Rapportryers, yes, when I address them they ask me lots of questions about the party but they also pledge their wholehearted support at the end"

The NP may have consolidated itself since its change in national and provincial leadership, but a lingering concern is the effect which the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) hearings may have had on its constituency's perception of politics

"People need to regain trust in politicians," Mr Immelman says

"The TRC has shocked many people but people seem satisfied with our answer that we were in a semi-state of war, a low intensity civil war

which required certain measures to be taken and that not even ordinary politicians knew about all those measures"

Mr Morkel adds "The present NP government in the Western Cape wasn't part of that"

The key to NP victory in the Western Cape will be what alliances it is able to strike and how concerned voters will be to prevent an ANC two-thirds majority nationally

Mr Immelman says "Supporters want alliances with other parties to prevent the ANC from getting a two-thirds majority. That's the clear message we're getting"

"Now it's up to our leadership to work something out"

Mr Morkel believes an election alliance is possible in the province - with the Democratic Party, Freedom Front and African Christian Democratic Party

"The differences between us aren't that many. We shouldn't allow the few that there are to keep us apart, especially," he says, "since the ANC wants to get a two-thirds majority nationally and wants to get its hands on the Western Cape"

Mr Immelman, "in the game for 22 years", says the NP will be relying mostly on its women members

"They're the backbone of our party in the province - very conscientious about party work and without them, we wouldn't be able to do the job (of winning the elections in the Western Cape)"

Mr Morkel dismisses a 1997 Idasa survey which found that Western Cape voter support for the NP had dropped to 32%, less than the 34% said to favour the ANC

The survey also found that identification with the NP in the Western Cape had dropped from 41% in 1994 to 18% in 1997 and that coloured voter support - the NP's main support base in the province - had slid from 53% in 1994 to 28% in 1997

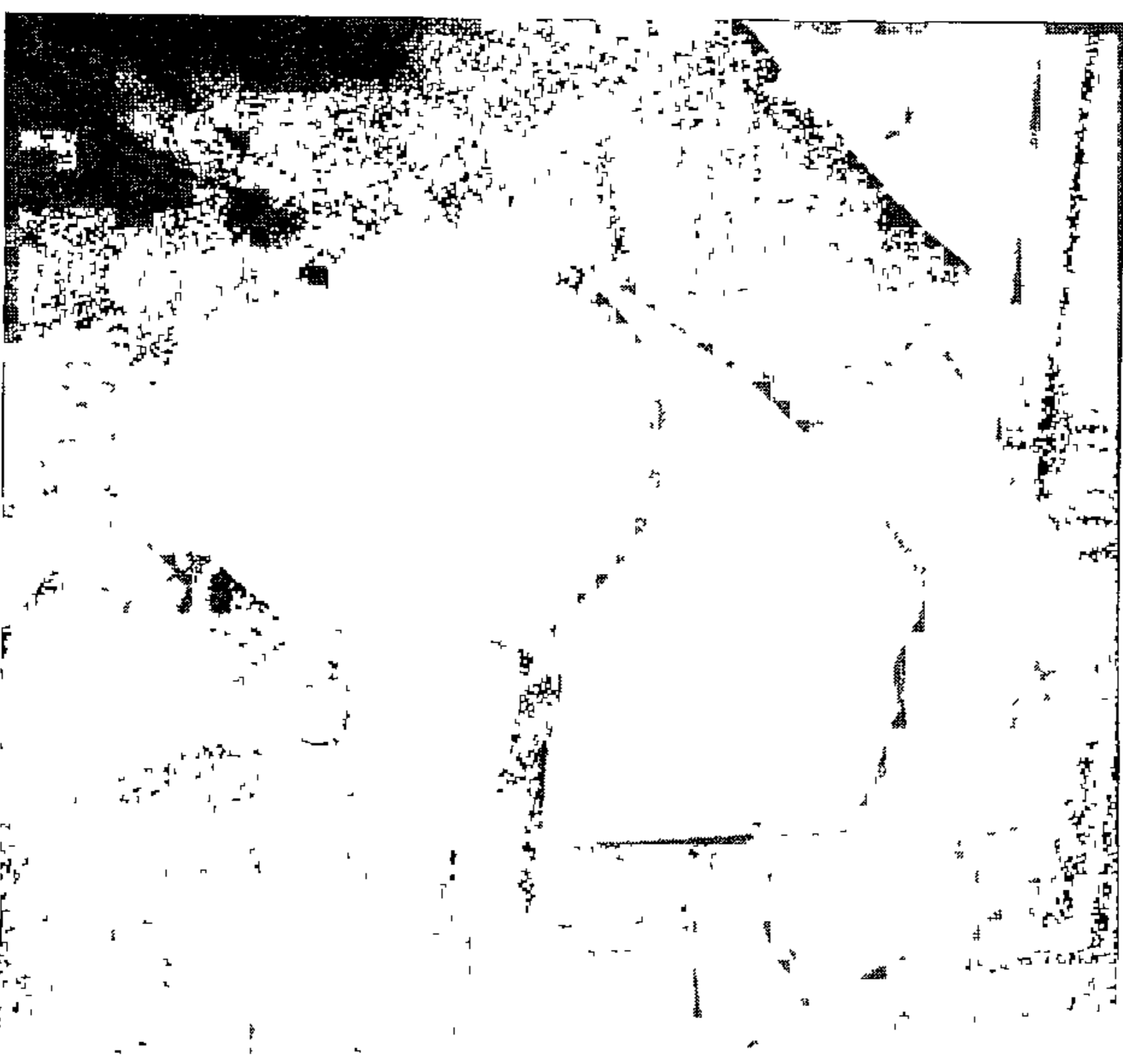
About 44% of coloured voters, the survey found, showed no support for any particular political party

"I take the results with a pinch of salt," Mr Morkel says, "half those surveyed probably didn't even understand the questions"

He points to the predictions made in 1994 by Saatchi & Saatchi, who advised the NP on its 1994 election campaign

"They said we'd get something like 11% nationally, but we got 25%," Mr Morkel recalls

He admits "People may be disheartened because of what's happening in the rest of the country and the crime in the Western Cape but when it comes to election time we have a track record"



GERALD MORKEL, at the helm in the Western Cape. Picture ROY WIGLEY

SIRRY MORKEL

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SENIOR OFFICIALS SUSPENDED

Council's new war against corruption

CT 21/7/98 (263)

INVESTIGATIONS into alleged corruption, theft and fraud by City of Cape Town officials will help clean up local government, Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

THE City of Cape Town has drawn the battle lines in its war against a time-honoured culture of corruption, irregular conduct, poor performance, bad management and the theft of public money and assets.

An investigation into the council's civic amenities branch has already led to the immediate suspension of two senior officials. The involvement of a senior manager in the "numerous scams and irregularities involving council resources" is also being examined.

These include ticket scams at major concerts and sports events and the use of council employees, being paid overtime, to clean up stadiums after events. Organisers are billed for the work but the money doesn't reach council coffers.

At present, the council is also investigating:

● Claims that National Party councillor Louisa Jansen took money from a homeless resident as an "advance payment" for trying to secure him a house. If this is true, the councillor may have violated the code of conduct and committed fraud. Although the *Cape Times* was unable to contact Jansen, NP leader Clive Justus said he would look into the matter.

"But as in the case of (Osborne) Adams and (Mogamat) Sampson (two councillors who face being removed from their posts after allegedly breaching the code of

conduct), we reiterate our commitment to clean government. All councillors are bound by the same code of ethics and we will ensure that all adhere to it strictly," he said. "Irregularities will not be allowed to continue. But first, every issue must be investigated."

● The fact that the city built show houses, without plans, on private land in Tambo Square. It appears one of the homes is owned by ANC councillor Cynthia Mzamane and her husband. She or her family appear to be living in this house. At worst, the apparently innocuous item on this month's housing committee

agenda points to corruption in the highly emotive area of housing allocation — at best, a scenario of confusion involving public funds.

The matter is further complicated by the fact that the councillor serves on the council's planning committee. City Manager Andrew Boraine has initiated an investigation.

Contacted yesterday, Mzamane declined to comment.

Speaking to the *Cape Times* yesterday, Boraine said council electricity department staff members had already been prosecuted for irregularities.

"One incident has been taken

to the Labour Court as a test case," he said.

When simmering political differences between opposing Crossroads factions erupted into pitched battles this year, a variety of allegations were made.

An independent inquiry headed by veteran human rights lawyer Essa Moosa was commissioned by Boraine.

Depoutche Else, one of two ANC councillors representing the area on the Cape Town City Council, survived being shot at in April, but was then accused of nepotism

and mismanaging funds by Women's Power — a rival political group in the area.

Women's Power, in turn, has been accused of trying to burn down political rivals' houses and staged a prolonged sit-in at iKapa coun-

cil offices early in the year. Hearings in this investigation are under way.

And when two Cape Town City councillors allegedly contravened the code of conduct by interfering in a legal council eviction in Manenberg in February, protracted debate led to an application to the High Court for their expulsion from the council.

The incident, involving the NP's Adams and the ANC's Sampson, led to gang-related death threats being issued to Director of Housing Billy Cobbett, who subsequently left the country. Cobbett has since returned

"The message we're giving is loud and clear. We are determined to stamp out corruption, to hold both councillors and officials accountable for the decisions they take," said deputy executive committee chairperson Saleem Mowzer yesterday.

"Anyone against clean government should leave right now because we will systematically root out all corruption. The council is expending ratepayers' resources while the poorest of the poor sit without houses.

"The council has never had a performance management mechanism in place, so traditionally, employees have had jobs for life without having to account for their actions or for when things go wrong. I must compliment the trade unions for successfully negotiating such Rolls Royce benefits for their members," he said.

But all this is set to change with the setting up of a multi-party corporate management team which will negotiate with trade unions on things like conditions of service, the redeployment of staff and performance management.

"New employment contracts for staff may even be negotiated," said Mowzer.

Director for Protection Services Alan Dolby said the council was embarking on a major theft-and-loss awareness campaign.

Theft costs the city at least R3,7m a year. And this figure includes only those items recorded in an inventory or register.

"The wastage and shrinkage of material is difficult to account for," Dolby said.

**Anyone
against clean
government
should leave
right now**

Battle joined on Cape megacity

OF ARG 22/7/98 (263)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The battle has begun in Parliament over whether Cape Town and the other five municipalities of the Western Cape metro area should remain independent, or all merge into a single megacity.

The megacity concept, backed by the African National Congress, but opposed by smaller parties that fear they will lose control over the few local government structures they now administer, is set out in the Municipal Structures Bill.

At hearings in Parliament yesterday, the

Cape Metropolitan Council and the Western Cape Local Government Association claimed the bill was unconstitutional

The claim was made by Jeremy Gauntlett SC in evidence to the constitutional affairs committee on behalf of the two bodies, which also argue that the bill gives too much power to central and provincial government to decide on local government models

The bill presented fundamental, logical and constitutional problems, he said. The constitution bound Parliament to providing criteria for the size of municipal areas, but the bill did not

CMC executive committee chairman

Pierre Uys said the single-city option was not the right way forward for the Cape metropolitan area.

He questioned the code of conduct for councillors provided for in the bill, which he said duplicated earlier legislation and which failed, among other things, to take account of the new executive role for mayors proposed in the bill

The CMC was worried that central government would rush the legislation through Parliament before the end of this year's session, without full consideration being given to more viable options such as the integrated two-tier model advocated by the councils

Court battle looms over Nicol salary

Impasse remains

STAFF REPORTER

ARG 23/7/98

The row over whether the Cape Town municipality should continue paying the R34 000 a month salary of former town clerk Keith Nicol is likely to be settled in the Cape Town High Court.

No date has been set for the court battle but the council's deputy executive committee chairman, Saleem Mowzer, said the council found it "completely unacceptable" that it was expected to continue paying the salary of an official who no longer worked there.

Mr Nicol lives in Constantia but does not work

The impasse over the salary began in April last year when the council appointed a new chief executive officer. Mr Mowzer said that in terms of the local government proclamation, which deals with the appointment and early retirement of chief executive officers and heads of departments, the council had followed all the correct procedures in dealing with Mr Nicol's case.

"With the restructuring of the the council, the job of chief executive officer was advertised and several people, including Mr Nicol, applied for the position. It is a known fact that Andrew Borane was appointed

"In trying to come to an amicable agreement with Mr Nicol, the council offered him a package of almost R500 000. He rejected this and instead put in a counter-offer totalling several millions of rands."

The previous minister, Peter Marais, appointed a commission to investigate the dispute. At the beginning of the year it sent its recommendations to the department, which in turn told the council to continue paying Mr Nicol until he reaches retirement age of 65.

W Cape slated for rural council

Countless decisions invalid as taxpayers foot the bill for

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The Western Cape government has been attacked for its insistence on sticking to its formula for rural district councils, which is costing

taxpayers hundreds of thousands of rands while leaving countless decisions by these councils invalid.

The provincial government came under fire over the issue from Provincial and Constitutional Affairs Minister Valli Moosa and African National

Congress colleagues during a minute debate in the National Assembly

Mr Moosa said the Local Government Transition Act required all district councils to be constituted proportionately according to the size of municipalities
But the Western Cape continued to

use a formula of half of representation being given to rural councils and half to urban local councils, which distorted the political balance to favour the National Party

At Mr Moosa's request, the Cape High Court has ruled against the Western Cape government and

ordered it to comply with the Act, but leave to appeal had been requested

Mr Moosa said he had done all he could to resolve the issue, including meetings and exchanges of documents
Melanie Verwoerd of the ANC alleged that anomalies caused by the

'Imbalances'
NP ruling

NP included a council where half the representation went to a municipality of 56 people and the other half to a municipality of 50 000. The High Court's ruling meant that all decisions and spending by these district councils had been illegal, resulting in a crisis of huge proportions

R34 000 A MONTH FOR STAYING AT HOME

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE
SALDRU LIBRARY

Lifetime salary for axed

city boss?

CT 23/7/98

FORMER TOWN CLERK of Cape Town Keith Nicol should be paid his full salary and benefits until he's 65 years old, says Local Government MEC Patrick McKenzie. This could cost city ratepayers about R6 million. Metro Editor **CLAUDIA CAVANAGH** reports.

IMAGINE having one of the best paid jobs in Cape Town, — and not having to do anything for it. This is what Local Government MEC Patrick McKenzie feels the former town clerk of Cape Town, Keith Nicol, deserves.

Fifteen months ago, when Andrew Borame was appointed city manager of Cape Town, Nicol was told that his services as town clerk were no longer required.

Nicol, with years of experience in local government, bunkered down in his Constantia home and then waited while the mess was sorted out.

While he waited, he received full pay of R34 000 a month (including all benefits). He is also eligible for an eight percent increase in line with other council executives.

When the city and Nicol could not agree on a severance package, the matter was referred to the then-MEC for local government for a decision late last year.

At least six months later McKenzie, in a letter to Borame, delivered his ruling that

- Until the dispute is resolved, Nicol is still an employee of the city
- He is entitled to compensation for his pension and the salary he would have earned up to the age of 65
- A salary increase of eight percent as from July 1997.

● The restructuring process which cost Nicol his job in the first place, could not have been foreseen by Nicol when he was appointed to the post three years before.

● At no point was a post offered to Nicol to accommodate him in the new City of Cape Town structure.

● A gratuity for all leave to his credit up until the severance package becomes applicable.

The city had offered Nicol a gratuity of R373 502 and an annual pension of R104 622.

But Cape Town is not taking McKenzie's "peculiar" ruling lying down.

"The city is challenging the minister's power (in court) to give such advice," a spokesperson for McKenzie said yesterday.

Contacted at his Constantia home yesterday, Nicol was reluctant to comment.



COINING IT: Ex-town clerk Keith Nicol, who still gets R34 000 a month for doing nothing

"The outcome of the court case between the council and the minister will still not finalise the matter. It won't resolve the situation, but simply put it at a particular point. I still can't get on with what I want to do," he said.

Deputy chairperson of Cape Town's executive committee Saleem Mowzer was more vocal on the matter.

"We're not prepared to pay money that is not due to him. It's clearly unacceptable to milk that kind of money out of the council."

"As a council (we) will have a responsibility to manage the resources of our citizens in a responsible way. It's all part of running a good, clean government."

● What do you think of the deal for Nicol? Phone Teleletters between 10am and noon at 488-4722.

City council to get 7,6% pay hike

ST (cm) 2/8/98

(263)

TOM HOOD

CAPE Town councillors voted themselves a 7,6 percent pay rise this week — the maximum allowed by the government — and are demanding transport allowances that could almost double the city's payments to councillors.

Annual allowances paid to Mayor Theresa-Solomon and exco chairman Nomandla Mfeketo have been given a rise of R12 312 to R174 312, according to a report to the council this week.

The deputy mayor and exco members get a rise of R9 234 to R130 734 a year. For other councillors, the rise is R3 078 to R43 578.

Councillors' allowances will now cost the city R4 270 644 a year, up by R301 644. The R1-million a year paid towards their pensions will also go up.

The increases have not been budgeted for and the council's corporate finance service has been asked to find a source of funding.

Behind the scenes, councillors are demanding transport

allowances in line with payments by other Western Cape councils, in addition to their all-inclusive allowances.

City manager Andrew Bourne warned that the present general allowance was intended to cover transport and a special transport allowance could be barred as unauthorised spending.

Alternatives to transport al-

lowances, such as a car pool, were also being considered.

Several other services to help councillors are being discussed by exco.

Councillors can now buy back pensionable service and the buy-back period has been extended from six months to two years. If all bought back their maximum, it could cost the city R2,4-million

CT 3/8/98
**Council
ups its pay
7,6% and
seeks perks**

STAFF REPORTER

(263) (188)

CAPE TOWN councillors are to receive a pay increase of 7,6 per cent — at a cost to the city of an extra R4 million a year — and are pressing for a transport allowance.

The increase, which councillors voted for last week, has been approved by the cabinet and is the maximum allowed by government.

As it has not been provided for in the budget, a source of funding is to be found by the council's corporate service

The mayor of Cape Town, Theresa Solomon, and the head of the executive committee, Nomandia Mfeketo, are each to receive R130 734 — up by R12 000 — a year.

The councillors also want to be paid transport allowances in line with those paid to other Western Cape councils — a move that could almost double the city's bill

However, Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine says councillors' allowances are intended to cover their transport expenses

For this reason, granting councillors a special transport allowance could be deemed unauthorised expenditure.

The matter has been referred to the council's finance committee for further consideration.

Other arrangements to assist councillors — such as a car pool — are also being considered

The R1 million a year paid towards councillors' pensions is also to be increased.

A scheme allowing councillors to buy back pensionable service is already in place

However, the maximum period that they are permitted to buy back has been extended from six months to two years

This decision could also have financial implications for ratepayers and residents

If each member of the council were to buy back pension time, this could cost the city an extra R2,4 million a year

Now it's Cape Town Ltd

Private company to wipe out crime and grime

WHAT PUBLIC-PRIVATE ADMINISTRATION WILL MEAN

- A top-up levy in addition to rates to be paid by businesses - but in return there will be:
- More privately paid policemen on the streets
- More city street cleaners
- A flat-out drive to make the city tourist-friendly
- An increase in demand for office space in the city centre

CAROL CAMPBELL
SPECIAL WRITER

The Cape Town municipality and business leaders are in talks to set up a private company to run the city's business areas - which would mean big improvements in such services as cleaning and crime prevention.

Their dream is for Cape Town to remain a bustling centre, but with clean, safe streets full of foreign tourists buying local goods with pounds and dollars.

City centre firms will be asked to pay a "top up" levy to improve municipal services, an amount which has yet to be

negotiated. A by-law is being considered to enable the new company to collect the money.

At the helm of the company will be a chief executive officer - a Ms or Mr Cape Town - who will co-manage business districts with the council.

Cape Town city manager Andrew Borane confirmed that within two months, an "interim" structure would be set up to make this partnership between the city council and city businesses a reality.

"It may take a year to get the whole thing up and running. We (the council) will define a minimum standard for the running of the city's business areas based on what we can afford."

Although Cape Town is still South Africa's premier tourist destination, the inner city is plagued by crime and grime. Municipal funds are so stretched that the council cannot afford to throw money at the problem.

The move by business to get involved in the running of the city is regarded as an investment which could reap huge returns, especially with an increase in tourism.

Mr Borane said consultation with all parties involved would come next. Inner-city business leaders have promised they will provide expertise to expand the idea to other areas such as Mitchell's Plain, Athlone and Claremont.

The city manager is running a tight ship. He is also responsible for the development of infrastructure in many poverty-stricken townships.

Although the lion's share of Cape Town's rates is raised from businesses in the CBD, a substantial part of the money is being used to subsidise development in the townships and to maintain suburbs.

"The advantage of a partnership is the ability to combine resources and keep costs down all round," Mr Borane said.

Wendy Hartshorne, co-ordinator of the Western Cape council of the SA Property

ARG 3/8/98 To page 3

Council and business link up to save CBD

From page 1

Owners' Association, said the municipality would still have to perform such basic functions as street cleaning, refuse removal and, with the police, crime prevention - services paid for by ratepayers.

"The top up levy will be used to expand and jack up essential services"

The city has been divided roughly into "precincts" and, although there will be an over arching management policy, businesses will have the discretion to decide how some money is spent in their area.

Charl Adams, human resources manager for the Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said there was good business support for the initiative.

"You can't expect business to take over the responsibilities of the local council, but we understand partnerships and are prepared to work with the council on this initiative"

Ms Hartshorne aims to raise at

least R1 million to launch the project.

"Gauteng has passed provincial legislation enabling Johannesburg to run a similar project."

David Jack, managing director of the V&A Waterfront, said a city could lose out quickly to competing suburban centres if streets were dirty and crime-ridden.

"People want to work and shop in a pleasant environment, otherwise they go elsewhere"

And, when the demand for office space dropped, buildings stood empty and became run down, as property owners no longer had the resources to keep them maintained.

"What happened in the centre of Johannesburg - where areas were actually abandoned by businesses - cannot be allowed to happen in Cape Town. This city survives on tourism and we have to make it a pleasant place to work and shop"

■ This report on future plans to manage the business district of Cape Town is the first in a series on the inner city

ARG 3/8/98

Death-bed letter implicates Kriel in R50-m bribe

Star 13/8/98 (263)

By ROGER FRIEDMAN
Cape Town

A dying man wrote a letter alleging that former Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel was offered a R50-million bribe to ensure that the Cape Metropole casino licence was awarded to a subsidiary of Sun International.

Kriel's lawyer laughed when he heard his client stood accused by a dead man, but the Office for Serious Economic Offences (OSEO) has confirmed that it is scrutinising the claims contained in the letter written by the terminally ill David Price.

Price, describing himself in the letter dated June 14 as an "ex-bookmaker and professional casino gambler", died on July 2. He had instructed an associate to release the letter to the OSEO, members of the media, government departments and political leaders after his death.

"By the time this letter reaches you I will be dead. My name is David Price, ex-bookmaker and professional gambler. I have always been an honourable gambling man living by a code of ethics which is fair play. I have instructed an associate to release this letter after my death as I did not wish to be questioned and labelled a tell-tale in the last days of my life. I am dying of an incurable disease. I believe that the following disclosures I am about to make are in the interest of justice," he wrote.

According to Price, two men, whose names lawyers recommended we did not publish, concluded a deal between themselves and Sun International for the purchase of Goodwood Showgrounds.

"A package deal of R100-million was offered to Sun International, which included the delivery of a casino licence for the Cape Metropole."

The letter continued that the property was transferred for R46,5-million. "The other R50-million will be paid to the Ex-Premier Hernus Kriel for making sure that SunWest will be awarded the Cape Metropole licence."

Price wrote that Kriel insisted on the appointment of a certain member of the Western Cape Gambling Board, to "ensure" SunWest was awarded the licence.

Kriel's lawyer, Jeff Malherbe, said he could not comment on the letter as he had not seen it.

A close associate of Kriel's told The Star that Kriel was waiting for the OSEO to complete its investigation. Thereafter, Kriel would sue ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool for bringing the original allegation - involving a R1-million bribe - to public notice.

OSEO assistant director Tommy Prins said he was personally involved in conducting

a preparatory investigation into matters arising from the casino licensing process.

"Our first source was not the letter from Price," he said. "In view of the seriousness of the allegation, we decided to institute a preparatory investigation."

Some of Price's former gaming associates this week expressed surprise that he would have penned such a letter. They described him as a "compulsive" and "addicted" casino gambler.

According to deeds office records, the Goodwood Showgrounds site was transferred in two pieces from the Western Province Agricultural Society to H Investments No 55 Pty Ltd in August 1994 and April 1995 for a total of R46,58-million. H Investments No 55 Pty Ltd subsequently changed its name to SunWest.

► Sun West's statement

... Page 8

Kriel to sue for R15m over bribe allegations

ET 14/8/97

(263) (1997)

ROGER FRIEDMAN

FORMER Western Cape premier and apartheid-era police minister Hennis Kriel has instructed his lawyer to sue the *Cape Times*, Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool and the ANC for R5 million each, for defamation.

The proposed legal suit relates to allegations of bribery and corruption in the run-up to the awarding of a single, lucrative casino licence for the Cape Metropole. The allegations are presently the subject of a preparatory investigation by the Office for Serious Economic Offences.

Lawyer Jeff Malherbe confirmed last night he had received instructions from Kriel to issue summons "in view of the continual spreading of defamatory reports against him".

Allegations that Kriel was under suspicion of accepting a R1m bribe to influence the casino licence process surfaced publicly at a press conference on July 23 called by the ANC and addressed by Rasool. Rasool called for a full investigation into the allegation.

Then, yesterday, the *Cape Times* published a letter alleging that Kriel had been offered a R50m bribe to ensure that the Cape Metropole casino licence was awarded to Sun West, a subsidiary of Sun International.

The letter was written by the dying David Price — a self-described bookmaker and professional casino gambler — who instructed that it only be released after his death. He died on July 2.

Sun West dismissed Price's allegations as a pack of lies aimed to discredit its casino licence bid.

Malherbe said last night he could not com-

ment on Price's letter because the matter had become sub judice the moment he received instructions to sue.

Rasool and the ANC are already being sued for R1 million each by Western Cape director-general Niel Barnard over Rasool's handling of the July 23 press conference.

Responding to Kriel's proposed legal suit, the *Cape Times* Editor Ryland Fisher said it was Kriel's "democratic right to take whatever legal action he wants to take".

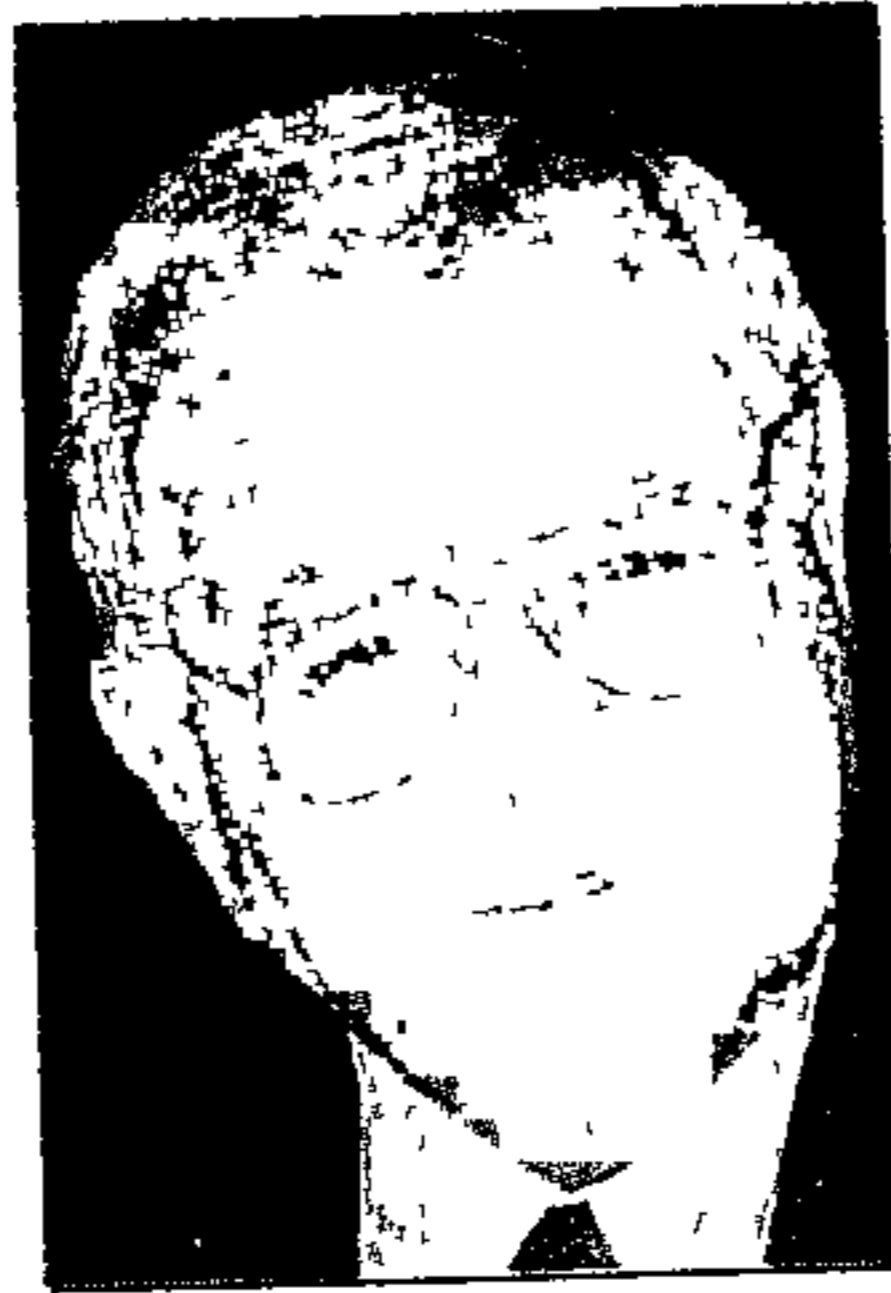
Fisher said: "We stand by the stories we have published so far. We have published these stories as we believe they are in the public interest, and not because we are part of any campaign to defame Mr Kriel or anyone else."

Approached for comment, the Western Cape ANC said last night it had not received any official notification from Kriel or his lawyer.

The ANC said: "Mr Kriel has every right to resort to the courts. The ANC Western Cape will defend any action instituted by him. Our initial decision to make public allegations in order that they

may be fully investigated was based on fulfilling our mandate as the official opposition in the legislature. This is both a moral and public responsibility we have. It was done in the public interest.

"Earlier this evening, our provincial executive committee reaffirmed its full support for the leadership collective and in particular our provincial chairperson, Ebrahim Rasool. The leadership was also mandated to intensify our campaign to bring to the fore all allegations of corruption so that they may be fully investigated. No one will stop us from playing the role of whistle-blowers."



LEGAL SUIT: Hennis Kriel is suing for defamation.

Bester welcomes leaner local government

ANDREA WEISS
POLITICAL REPORTER

(763)

Western Cape Trade, Industry and Tourism Minister Hennie Bester has welcomed the restructuring of the provincial government from 15 to eight departments.

The changes are expected to pave the way for a cabinet shake-up

They also put Mr Bester, of the Democratic Party, at the political helm of the third largest provincial depart-

ment which, in future, will deal with economic affairs, agriculture and tourism

He said the DP had always emphasised the need for stronger financial management – and by restructuring departments, the administration would be able to place financial managers in bigger departments.

“This makes financial sense,” said Mr Bester. “The DP welcomes the strong emphasis on economic development of the province

ARC 18/8/98

“It has become increasingly clear that national government can best look at the macro economic environment. To date national government has failed to stimulate enterprise and the creation of jobs. These outcomes can only be achieved through micro-attention that provincial government can provide.”

Mr Bester said the experience of the past four years had vindicated the writers of the constitution, who put co-responsibility for industrial development and trade at provincial level

“If the job summit is to have any value in terms of job creation, it will have to focus on actual projects driven by provincial authorities.”

He said this proved the elevation of economic development as the third largest department was an “eminently wise and prescient step.”

“In creating this new department of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Tourism, the Western Cape will lead the other provinces in its focus on economic growth and job creation.”

Heath special unit now probing corruption cases totalling R7-bn

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

(263)

ARG 21/8/98

Special investigating unit head Judge Willem Heath said today the government of the Western Cape was not as clean as it appeared.

Replying to questions after an address to the Cape Town Press Club, Judge Heath said his commission was investigating a couple of cases in the province.

The positive aspect of this was that these had been brought to the attention of the commission by the provincial government itself.

Judge Heath said his unit was probing thousands of cases of alleged corruption involving about R7-billion.

He said it was seldom necessary for the powerful commission to use the special investigating powers conferred on it by law. "People are

so sick and tired of corruption and maladministration we find ourselves flooded with information," he said.

The commission was turned into a national special investigating unit by legislation approved by Parliament in 1996.

In its previous form, it had recovered or saved the country R10-billion, said Judge Heath.

He criticised under-budgeting of the commission, but said he would rather keep the operation economical than impose a moratorium on its operations.

He pointed out that, in what he termed two small cases, the amounts recovered had been equal to the commission's annual budget.

Detailing some of the cases under investigation, he said that in two provinces the commission was investigating a total of 63 000 cases of abuse of the Government's housing

subsidy scheme. In another case where a province had asked the commission to investigate irregularities involving Government-owned vehicles, it had been found that one vehicle had been "repaired" by five different dealers in one day.

In that province, 372 vehicles had been recovered with a book value of R33-million.

In another province where tender regulations had not been followed, the commission had prevented the incident leading to mispending of R126-million. And in a case in a province which Judge Heath declined to name, a premier had been unaware that R23-million was missing from his budget.

Judge Heath paid tribute to the press, saying the publicity given to the work and achievements of his commission had helped it in its role in assuring clean government.

ANC is losing Cape Muslim support

Muslim political protest is not new in SA. Farouk Chothia looks at rising militancy and its political implications

(Abg) 1990/11/19/98

BEHIND the violence raging in Cape Town lies a history of political militancy within the city's Muslim community.

Unlike many of their counterparts in Johannesburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth, Cape Town Muslims have historically fallen on the left of the political spectrum in SA.

In the past, their energies were directed at fighting the apartheid government. Kaŷyah-clad youths burning tyres in the Cape Flats, policemen storming the Gatesville mosque, Imam Hassan Solomon rousing the crowd at the launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF), theologian Farid Esack marching with a Koran under an SA Communist Party (SACP) flag, these were some of the images that captured the involvement of Cape Town Muslims in the 1980s liberation struggle.

Their activism — and support for the UDF, the internal wing of the then banned African National Congress (ANC) — was motivated largely by the belief that it was the religious obligation of Muslims to fight for justice and equality. They called for majority rule, rather than the creation of an Islamic state (which would have resulted in one minority government replacing another).

They placed the liberation struggle in an international context, drawing parallels between the ANC and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), urging people to topple the apartheid government just as the Shah was toppled in Iran. They did not promote religious exclusivism, joining hands with leaders like Archbishop Desmond Tutu and giving an Islamic definition to the "liberation theology" advocated by Catholic priests in Latin America.

Similarly, most Cape Muslim leaders are more conscious of gender issues. Women always prayed in Cape Town mosques. History was made recently at the Claremont mosque when a woman delivered the Friday sermon.

In contrast, many — but not all — Muslim leaders in the other major cities are conservative



Muslim militancy on the rise members of the Islamic group Muslims against Global Oppression march to the US embassy in Cape Town

Mosques are out of bounds to women, and their voices could not be heard on the Johannesburg-based Radio Islam, which has since lost its licence because of this discriminatory policy.

Many Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth Muslim leaders preferred apartheid rule as they saw the ANC as a communist organisation. In the global context, they were seen to be in the Saudi camp, though they had reservations about its close ties with the US, while their Cape counterparts, though they were Sunnis, supported Iran and Libya.

Against this backdrop, Cape Town Muslim leaders, unlike their counterparts in the other cities, have featured prominently in the new political order.

ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool was a senior member of the Call of Islam which mobilised support in the Muslim community. Solomon is an ANC MP. Esack is on the Commission for Gender Equality.

Their move into government or other state institutions, and the dismantling of the Call of Islam with other UDF affiliates, created a vacuum at grassroots level. It

seems to have been filled by Qibla, a Muslim organisation that has former Robben Islander Imam Achmet Cassiem as its leader.

Unbanned with other organisations in 1990, Qibla has historically been seen to be aligned to the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC). However, Qibla opposed participation in the 1994 elections on the grounds that the negotiated settlement was a "sellout".

The anti-election call went unheeded. This was not surprising as in the 1980s and early 1990s Qibla was not a major political force, having been eclipsed by the

ANC and allied Muslim groups

However, in the post-1994 period Qibla seemingly exploited the crime scourge by playing a role in the formation of People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad). It struck a chord with many people, including one-time ANC activists in the Muslim community.

At the same time, contradictions, which were masked by the liberation struggle, came to the fore within the ANC. Devout Muslims, like their colleagues in other faiths, were opposed to the party's liberal policies on abortion and pornography, and watched helplessly as Pagad mobilised support around the issue.

Pagad's campaign was shored up by Cape Town's Radio 786, owned by the Islamic Unity Convention, in which Qibla is also a leading player.

On economic issues, some ANC-aligned Muslim leaders tried to give the theological perspective to the reconstruction and development programme (RDP) in a bid to retain support. But, like the SACP, they were disappointed when the growth, employment and redistribution strategy (Gear) was unveiled. Gear had led to, as one Imam put it recently, the RDP being put on the backburner.

Similarly, ANC-aligned Muslim leaders watched in dismay as US interests grew in SA. Although they have condemned the blast in Planet Hollywood, they are not surprised that it took place "Planet Hollywood is a very potent symbol of what the US represents for many people in the world, including religious extremists. It is a symbol of cultural imperialism and capitalism," Esack says.

He argues that the SA Police Service (SAPS) made a mistake in asking the Federal Bureau of Investigation to assist in investigating the blast. "It shows up incompetence in the SAPS, and reinforces the perception that the US government regards its own jurisdiction as borderless."

ANC-aligned Muslim leaders have also been on the retreat on the Middle East. They are bound by ANC policy to support the PLO, and again watched helplessly as constituents streamed to Gatesville Mosque to listen to a live Radio 786 interview with Hamas leader Sheikh Yassin.

In a nutshell, a constituency that once supported the ANC seems to have drifted away from the party. Worse for the ANC, some activists seem to have joined up with Qibla activists — now openly calling for the creation of an Islamic state — in Pagad.

However, Pagad's support has diminished as its campaigns have become more violent. More moderate leaders have quit the organisation, while religious leaders outside Pagad — including Sheikh Nazeem Mohamed, president of the Muslim Judicial Council — have criticised it.

Mohamed's house was recently attacked. Cape Town academic Ebrahim Moosa's house was also attacked as he became increasingly vocal in his condemnation of Pagad. Such attacks are further eroding support for Pagad, as it is seen to be fomenting Muslim-on-Muslim conflict.

Nevertheless, it will not be surprising if Qibla participates in next year's election (probably in the Western Cape only).

Qibla seems stronger now than it was in 1994, and it might decide that Pagad-supporting Muslims need a political voice in the legislature.

The PAC would probably welcome Qibla's participation, with leader Bishop Stanley Magoba having earlier this year paid tribute to its role in the anti-apartheid struggle. Although Qibla advocates the creation of an Islamic state this is unlikely to stand in the way of a Qibla-PAC alliance.

The ANC might lose some Cape votes to Qibla, but it, too, would probably welcome the movement's participation in the elections because it could then be locked into the parliamentary system.

Tygerberg's R100-m boost

NORMAN JOSEPH
STAFF REPORTER

AR 6 7/9/98

(263)

The Development Bank of South Africa has lent Tygerberg Municipality R100-million.

The huge cash injection will help the municipality provide much-needed facilities and urban infrastructure.

Johan de Villiers Botha, the bank's executive manager, and Gys Hofmeyr, municipal corporate services director, signed the loan agreement.

Mr Hofmeyr said the loan was intended for development to improve socio-economic opportunities in the Tygerberg area.

It would be used to lay on water and provide sanitation, electricity, roads,

stormwater drainage and other facilities in areas where it was needed most.

The programme was supported by the Western Cape government and would be implemented in line with the objectives of the Reconstruction and Development Programme, said Mr Hofmeyr.

The boost comes on the heels of the official opening of a 2,5km double highway in Belhar, part of a R9,1-million upgrading project, by Tygerberg Deputy Mayor Oliver Nqubelani and Cape Metropolitan Council Mayor William Bantom.

The project was funded by the metropolitan council from the priority Olympic development projects budget of R192-million.

Proposed increase in the flow-rate of the

ANC's Seymour ousts Nats from Grassy Park

STAFF REPORTERS

(263)

The African National Congress has won a municipal by-election in the South Peninsula, taking the seat from the National Party.

But general apathy saw the voter turnout for the day particularly low, with a poll of only 18,7% for ward S16 in the Grassy Park/Lotus River area.

ANC candidate Vernon Seymour, a University of the Western Cape researcher, took the seat with 657 votes to National Party candidate Raphael Koopman, a minister of religion, who drew 444 votes. Of the other two parties, the United Democratic Front's Essack Allie got 165 votes, while the African Christian Democratic Party's Mannie Naidoo drew only 56 votes.

ANC southern suburbs secretary Khalil

span 10/9/98
Mullagie said he believed his party's victory was due to the NP-controlled South Peninsula municipality's rates rise and also to the broader issue of crime in the Western Cape.

He said crime in the Grassy Park area was a particular problem.

The previous ward councillor was controversial NP councillor Raj Pather, who was twice convicted of fraud and theft - but he hung on to his seat pending an appeal. He was finally ousted from his seat for failing to pay his municipal accounts.

The last by-election in the South Peninsula, in Bergvliet/Meadowridge, was taken by the DP, which did not put up a candidate for this by-election. This result gives the ANC its fifth seat on the NP-dominated council.

Western Cape ANC spokesperson Cameron Dugmore described the victory as a watershed result in the Western Province.

IN W CAPE

ARG 18/9/98

(267)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

The African National Congress has overtaken the National Party in the Western Cape to become the party with the most popular support, says an independent opinion poll by a leading research company.

Although the margin by which the ANC leads is narrow, at 31,6% to the NP's 30,1%, the provincial ANC leadership is confident the trend will continue.

Its optimism is reinforced by three victories in local government by-elections in the past month, including one where the ANC took a seat from the Nats in the Cape Town metropolitan area, and five previous election victories where the ANC held four seats and took one from the NP.

The Cape Argus today exclusively reveals the province-by-province breakdown of party political support according to a Markinor survey conducted in July.

In the Western Cape, the ANC has 31,6%, the NP 30,1%, the Democratic Party 14,5%, the United Democratic Movement 5,2% and the Freedom Front 0,5%.

Provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool said the survey confirmed the trend shown in the five consecutive by-election victories of the party.

It also confirmed the decline in white support for the NP and that the Nats' coloured support was increasingly apathetic and disillusioned with the party's performance.

The Pan Africanist Congress, which has no seats in the provincial legislature, polled 0,8% support.

Significant numbers of those polled refused to say or did not know how they would vote (7,9%), while 7,3% said they

would not vote.

Although the ANC is ahead on points, this does not necessarily mean it would form the provincial government should the trend continue.

Going by the poll results, the NP and DP could form a coalition cabinet by putting their votes together to add up to 44,6% against the ANC's 31,6%.

The DP's federal council and its Western Cape congress have backed a policy of forming coalitions where necessary after next year's election to keep the ANC out of provincial government.

At the same time, senior DP insiders have indicated the party would not do a deal with a strict set of principles and conditions being laid down.

Asked to comment on a possible NP-DP deal, Mr Rasool said the moral challenge to the DP was whether it should go into an all-white alliance with the party of apartheid or support transformation and change in alliance with the ANC.

However, the ANC would not be content with the 31,6% majority and would work hard to win an overall




majority in its own right, he said.

Analysis of the Western Cape results by the ANC election office noted that support for the NP has dropped by two percentage points since March, while support for the DP has risen four points.

The ANC is also likely to be encouraged by Markinor's figures of national support for parties by race, which shows the ANC to have 32% of coloured support, although this is still behind the NP, with 40,8%.

The Markinor poll also showed the ANC led, even in Kwazulu Natal, where Inkatha has the majority, and in the Northern Cape, where the ANC majority is precarious.

How they line up in W Cape

	31.6%
	30.1%
	14.5%
OTHER	23.7%

Poll puts cat among the pigeons, page 10

ANC LEADS

Morkel names Markovitz Western Cape finance MEC

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Former city councillor and millionaire businessman Leon Markovitz has been brought into the Western Cape provincial cabinet as finance MEC in a surprise move by premier Gerald Morkel, who was unanimously elected provincial leader of the National Party (NP) at its provincial congress yesterday.

Former chairman of the Helderberg metropolitan council Freda Adams will become minister without portfolio in Morkel's office responsible for transformation, gender and youth affairs.

Health and welfare MEC Peter Marais, Morkel's only possible rival for the uncontested position of provincial party leader, gave him a public show of support by nominating him for the position and in turn got the most votes in elections for the three vice-chairmen.

The other two were Marika Badenhorst and Frik van Deventer, the director of elections. Local government and gambling MEC Patrick MacKenzie lost the race.

Commenting on his appointment, Markovitz said the position involved more allocation than fundraising, which provincial governments were precluded from doing. He was "deeply impressed" by Morkel's vision for the

Western Cape.

Morkel also announced the 12 members of his reshuffled cabinet which followed the reduction in the number of provincial departments.

MEC Lampie Fick lost his finance portfolio, kept agriculture and gained property asset management, which Morkel identified as the two cash-generating portfolios.

Kobus Meiring was shifted to environment, sport and recreation, Cecil Herandien retained housing, Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Henne Bester kept business and tourism, Nick Koornhof kept education and Mark Wiley community safety.

The African Christian Democratic Party's Michael Louw lost property asset management and was given development planning. Piet Meyer will be transport and public works MEC. Former welfare MEC Arnold de Jager lost his portfolio in order to become provincial representative on the National Council of Provinces.

Today the provincial congress will focus on formulating strategies for the forthcoming elections which NP leaders said yesterday the party was determined to win.

Marais noted that the party would come under intense attack by the DP and the United Democratic Movement

Morkel's 'lean' cabinet sports two new faces

CHRIS BATEMAN

(263)

A FORMER Cape Town mayor, Leon Markowitz and a veteran school principal, Freda Adams, were yesterday appointed to Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel's new "lean-looking" provincial cabinet

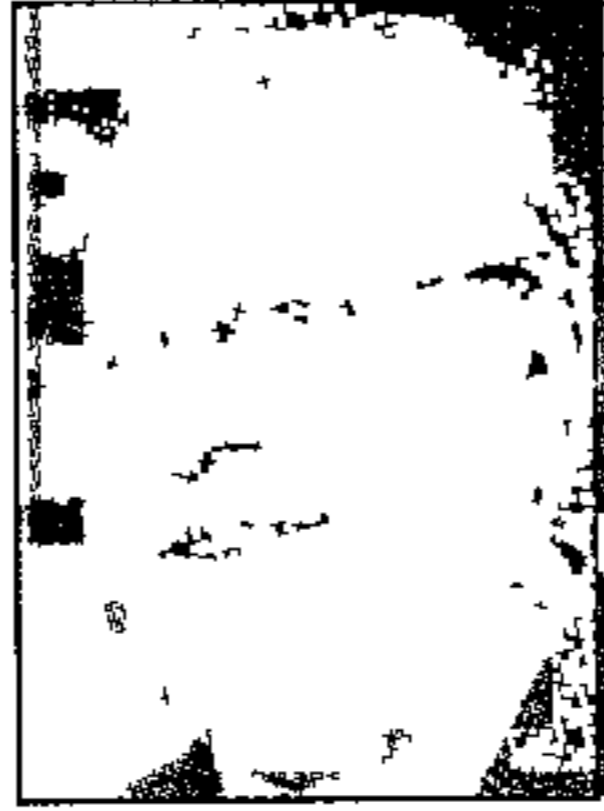
Markowitz, who was mayor of Cape Town from 1985 to 1987 and leader of the National Party in the City Council, resigned as a city councillor in May to "cultivate roses at the bottom of my garden," but was approached by Morkel to take the provincial finance portfolio three weeks ago

Freda Adams, a teacher for 35 years at the Tonko Bosman Primary School in Somerset West, was elected chairperson of the Helderberg executive council last week after rising rapidly through that council's ranks

CT 25/9/98



GENDER AFFAIRS:
Freda Adams



LEON MARKOWITZ:
Finance portfolio

She will instead become MEC for Transformation, Gender Affairs and Youth in Morkel's office — becoming only the second woman to serve in the New National Party-led provincial cabinet

Adams, who sat on the national bargaining council, Helderberg's Labour Forum and the South African Local Government Association, was chairperson of Restructuring and Staff in the Helderberg Council

She spent the Past 15 years as a principal of Tonko Bosman Primary, resigning in June before returning as an acting principal to "help out with the teaching crisis"

Morkel also informed his party congress yesterday that the environment portfolio had been

shifted from Community Safety MEC Mark Wiley back to former incumbent Kobus Meiring

Meiring adds sport and recreation to his existing culture portfolio.

Former NP provincial party whip, Petrus Meyer, who retains the Transport portfolio, gets Public Works from the African Christian Democratic Party's Michael Louis, who loses another portfolio, property management, to former Finance MEC Lampie Fick. Fick retains his agriculture portfolio.

Louis remains in the executive with the consolation prize of development planning, as does the DP's Hennie Bester who retains his business promotion and tourism portfolios

Wiley's loss of the "green" portfolio may prove controversial, as he was beginning to be seen as the most progressive local MEC in this field since the federal system of government began

The Education portfolio remains with skilled negotiator and diplomat, Nick Koornhof, as does Housing with Cecil Herandien

Morkel said he had chosen "capable people and astute politicians". He revealed that he wanted to develop a "disability desk" for addition to Adams' new duties in his office

Tygerberg politician Frik van Deventer was elected as a new deputy chairperson of the NP in the province

● See Page 3

Council cracking up

TOM HOOD

Official says the odds are against a decent service

SOUTH Peninsula municipal officials were battling against the odds to provide a decent service, said building survey director Bill Carter at a public inquiry into the council's building and land-use directorate this week.

Responding to complaints made by residents' organisations last week, he said that, for example, more than 12,500 phone calls a month were made to the building survey offices. But there was no budget to hire a switchboard operator.

The calls were answered by "anyone who happens to be passing", he told the inquiry, which was set up by the council to identify problems and improve its service.

Carter said there were many other reasons for the demoralisation of staff — high levels of stress, pressure on staff to seek jobs outside the municipality and deteriorating service. Carter said the problems had multiplied since the local govern-

ment shake-up last year.

Councillors were under pressure to perform and the easiest option was making demands on the staff to provide answers to every issue raised, he said.

"There is little trust of the staff by the politicians or ratepayers. Ratepayers' organisations have also been aroused by the focus on local government. Every decision is now questioned and the time spent researching and replying to concerns raised by these bodies is ever increasing," said Carter.

Information systems were not in place and "educated guesses" were sometimes made.

"This adds to suspicions that nothing is being done and that we do not care. As it is, the capacity does not exist to provide an acceptable level of service and provide definitive replies to complainants from ratepayers and politicians."

Carter said the department had no senior administrative staff to resolve problems.

Since the municipality's building survey branch was formed in 1977, it had moved to Wynberg and later to Plumstead. There was no provision for the move and staff worked unpaid overtime to get the files in order. When the department opened to the public, it had no files, phones, computers, tracking system, zoning maps, logging system or cleaners.

Staff doing the same job had salaries differing by up to 50 per cent.

A shortage of plans examiners meant a backlog grew out of all proportion with about 600 applications awaiting scrutiny — a backlog of three months.

Zain Solomon, a building inspector representing the SA Municipal Workers' Union, said resources and council vehicles

ST(CM) 11/10/98

were not being used properly.

"We have a highly experienced staff but we need effective direction. We are under pressure and we get the blame when people complain that their requests for information are not being answered. Planning approvals could be speeded up by changing the system," said Solomon.

John Groenewald, a land surveyor, told the inquiry the survey service faced a crisis.

An inability or unwillingness of municipal staff to take responsibility contributed to delays.

"They would rather stall, shuffle paper around and wait to see which way the wind is blowing than make a decision," said Groenewald.

● Beulah Smith, chairman of the housing services committee, has denied a claim by the New Retreat Estate Residents Forum in last week's Cape Metro that their only warning of a night shelter in Retreat was a small advertisement in a newspaper. She said the forum was consulted on the proposals for a night shelter.

See Letters: Page 4

(263)

Cape Town to move closer to integration

David Greybe

BD 31/12/98 (263)

CAPE TOWN — Institutional change aimed at creating a single, integrated city would accelerate next year

This would include new ways of delivering services, a new affirmative action policy and the introduction of performance assessments, a senior city manager said yesterday

Philip van Ryneveld, the city's executive director of corporate finance, said Cape Town was still marked by disparities of service delivery and infrastructure provision between historically black, white and coloured areas

"We know that in some areas service delivery is sub-standard and infrastructure has been severely neglected, while in other areas service delivery is of a relatively high standard," he said

Transformation

The city needed to review the distribution of staff, facilities and finance

"We also need to provide new kinds of services. Flexibility is needed among employees in terms of what jobs they do, when they do them and where they do them," Van Ryneveld said

He said staff cuts were "not high" on the city's agenda — "over the last year we have reduced staff numbers by over 10% to about 11 000"

This was achieved through a restructuring of the pension fund to a defined contribution fund, and not through retrenchments or incentives to leave, Van Ryneveld said

Preliminary discussions with trade unions about the city's plans to speed up transformation had already begun

Early in the new year unions would be presented with a formal document outlining the council's proposals, Van Ryneveld said

Many of the details of the planned changes would only be finalised in negotiation. The city took a decision earlier

this year that transformation would be driven from within its organisational structure as opposed to relying solely on outside change managers

About 50 project managers from a cross-section of the organisation were trained in project management

Priority projects were in the pipeline, and in some cases had already been initiated, in four broad areas: business improvement, affirmative action and representivity, performance management and workplace re-organisation

"It was also recognised that the people in the organisation needed to be brought on board and ownership developed for transformation to be successful," Van Ryneveld said

A priority change management project was subsequently developed

The city, as employer, had also identified the need for the "urgent development" of:

- More "customer-focused" business processes and systems
- "Outsourcing" could also gain momentum next year
- "The financial challenges facing Cape Town will force us to review what services are provided and how we should provide them in order to meet our strategic priorities", Van Ryneveld said,
- A performance assessment mechanism for both staff and organisational units,
- A new affirmative action policy that, while addressing racial and cultural tensions, "encourages diversity and meets the legislative requirements",
- A single set of conditions of service for all employees in order to improve operations and integrate the administration
- Because of the local government reorganisation in Cape Town, five sets of conditions of service exist,
- New organisational structures which will allow for "ongoing improvements" in the city's performance, particularly service delivery, and,
- Mechanisms to promote the ownership of the transformation programme by the employees

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Cape Metro Council set to fight megacity act in court

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

(263)

ARL 12/11/99

The Cape Metropolitan Council is to seek legal opinion after President Mandela's signing of the Municipal Structures Bill which allows for the creation of "megacities".

The CMC said that if their lawyers considered the new act unconstitutional, it would be challenged in the Constitutional Court "in the interest of communities".

Last week, Mr Mandela signed the bill which will see the drastic restructuring of local authorities and the formation of megacities in metropolitan areas country-wide.

Western Cape local government minister Patrick McKenzie also recently threatened a Constitutional Court bid to stop the Government changing Cape Town into a megacity.

Mr Mandela approved the new legislation, despite requests by some political parties to refer the bill to the Constitutional Court for scrutiny before promulgation.

A megacity for Cape Town will mean that about three million residents will be governed by a single local authority.

It will replace the seven local authorities formed only two years ago when 18 councils were merged in a shake-up that is still incomplete.

The city will be managed by a New York-style executive mayor and about 40 full-time councillors - in place of the present seven mayors, seven chief executive officers and 340 councillors - and will operate with a R6-billion budget.

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Megacity system: 'too big, too costly'

ARG 14/11/99 (263)

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

A megacity system of government in greater Cape Town would cost far more to run than do existing local authorities.

This is the view of Pierre Uys, leader of the Cape Metropolitan Council executive committee.

A CMC delegation, including Mr Uys, visited megacities Toronto and New York last month on a fact-finding mission

This was part of the CMC's research into whether a megacity system of government was suitable for Cape Town

Greater Cape Town is divided into six municipalities, which deliver services at local level, and the CMC, which has an umbrella function. A megacity system would mean the city, from Helderberg to the South Peninsula via Tygerberg, would be governed by a single local authority

Mr Uys said his council was compiling a report on the megacity system to be handed to the

Metropolitan Co-ordinating Forum

The forum is made up of the six local authorities and the CMC. It meets once a month to discuss topics of mutual interest

Mr Uys said Toronto councillors had told the Cape Town delegation to do all they could to prevent the implementation of a megacity in Cape Town, because it caused major problems in areas such as service delivery.

He said that, while Toronto was made to set up a megacity in terms of provincial legislation, the South African enabling legislation was national

But the Toronto council had no party politics or caucuses

Mr Uys said that in Toronto councillors were more interested in serving their communities than their political parties. He said the Toronto council met weekly, unlike the councils in Cape Town

And meetings often continued the following day

Mr Uys said that although there were positive factors about megacities, among the negative issues

were that the city management was too big - which affected service deliveries and was not cost-effective

The report being prepared by the CMC is likely to say a megacity will crush local democracy.

It will also say megacities of over a million people have been shown around the world to cost between 40% and 100% more than the two-tier system. This would be bad news for ratepayers.

Responding to whether he was in favour of a megacity covering just the Cape Town and Tygerberg areas, Mr Uys said even this council would be too big, because of the size of the population in the area - considerably more than a million people

Last week President Mandela signed the Municipal Structures Bill into law

And the CMC is waiting for a report from the central Government about implementing it. The council has appointed an advocate to scrutinise the new act to see whether it is constitutional. Court action has not been ruled out

Muslim vote key to election in Cape

BD 18/1/99 (263)

The ANC's campaign is facing intensified terrorism, intolerance and intimidation, writes Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN The election in the Western Cape will take place against a backdrop of intensified terrorism, rising intolerance and intimidation which could create difficulties for the African National Congress's (ANC's) campaign, warns provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool.

This in turn poses the threat of a backlash by ANC members in the Western Cape townships.

Confronted with attacks on and threats against their leaders, ANC members had been urging more aggressive action — including marches on the homes of leaders of People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad).

ANC leaders were trying to prevent an escalation in political conflict.

Rasool said he had received death threats and had resorted to the use of bodyguards. A theologian who led the United Democratic Front affiliate The Call of Islam in the eighties, he was recently prevented from speaking at a mosque in

Rondebosch East. Other moderate or left-leaning Muslim clergymen had also received death threats.

The tense climate in the Western Cape is borne out by the withdrawal of the film *The Siege* because of its portrayal of Muslims as terrorists.

ANC leaders said Pagad and a range of associated Muslim organisations, such as Muslims Against Global Oppression, Muslims Against Illegitimate Leaders and Qibla had the power to deny ANC leaders access to political and religious platforms and promote anti-ANC policy, despite their limited membership.

"The interest of the ANC is to persuade as many Muslims as possible to support us," said provincial party spokesman, Cameron Dugmore. "If we do not win over the Muslim vote — there are an estimated 250 000 Muslims in the greater Cape Town area — we are effectively allowing the National Party to stay in power."

"The ability of these organisations to

intimidate third parties in the Muslim community could affect our ability to get access to the community and engage it in a debate as to why its members should support the ANC.

"Also, through their use of community radios, they can manipulate the political debate, and project the ANC as being fundamentally anti-Islam because of its views on abortion, the death penalty and gay rights."

The anti-ANC complexion of Pagad is becoming increasingly clear. In a recent demonstration at the Waterfront, a member bore a placard saying "God Help us if the ANC wins the Western Cape". The ANC government is seen as colluding with major powers such as the US and Britain, regarded as imperialist oppressors of Islamic countries such as Iran and Iraq.

Some observers believe Pagad, originally an anticrime vigilante group, has been taken over by Qibla. The latter supports the notion of an international Islamic

revolution.

The bombings of Planet Hollywood and a Cape Town synagogue and the recent car bomb explosion at the Waterfront are being seen in some quarters as the more extreme expressions of the ideology which has also led to protests against US missile strikes in Iraq, Sudan and Afghanistan and a march against the visit of British prime minister Tony Blair.

Apart from the full force of the state being brought to bear on the outlaws, the ANC has devised a strategy to isolate Pagad from the community, politically and ideologically, and is mulling over the possibility of instituting a treason trial against its leaders.

Rasool said "We believe that there is a Muslim middle ground that can be spoken to and who will support the state in its bid to deal with any threat to the well-being of ordinary citizens."

New municipal law heading for court

CMC to challenge Government over bill

INSIDESTORY



The fight over whether or not to turn South Africa's urban centres into megacities is set to go to the constitutional court as the Cape Metropolitan Council, backed by the Western Cape government, squares up to the national government.

The Local Government Municipal Structures Bill, expected to be passed by Parliament today, will mean the national government has a far greater say in how municipalities are structured.

This is not pie-in-the-sky legislation but a law which will affect how quickly or, if at all, a citizen's municipality gets the rats out of his roof, removes the rubbish off the pavement or tars the potholed road outside his house.

It's about real issues and it is threatening to divide Cape Town.

Pierre Uys, chairman of the Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee, said he had not seen the final draft of the legislation but earlier drafts had worried him.

"The bill, as it was, infringed the autonomy of local government which is protected by the constitution."

"We made recommendations for this to be corrected in the final draft and, if it has not been changed, we will be forced to take the matter to the constitution court."

He is backed by the Western Cape minister of local government Patrick McKenzie, who is angry at what he perceives to be a high-handed approach to the provinces by the national government.

On the other side is the ANC Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Valli Moosa, who believes the best way to run a city is for a giant "metro council" to take all policy decisions.

Smaller issues, like how often the verges in Grassy Park are mown, should be taken by sub-councils whose members are also on the

The Local Municipal Structures Bill is expected to be passed by Parliament today, but the CMC and Western Cape government have indicated that they plan to challenge it in court. Special Writer CAROL CAMPBELL reports on how the issue is threatening to divide Cape Town

metro council.

This "mega" or "uni" city will save money on management salaries and cut out bureaucratic duplication, he says.

There will be only one town clerk, one city treasurer, and one mayor.

Right now, apart from the umbrella body of the Cape Metropolitan Council, greater Cape Town has six local municipalities which means there are six bureaucracies - and petty fights over hypothetical boundaries.

"A total waste of ratepayers' money," says Mr Moosa.

Mr McKenzie (National Party) believes the city is just too big for it to be governed by one local authority.

Already dozens of apartheid era local authorities have been dismantled to "reduce duplication".

"We are not finished yet and now they want to begin it all again."

But Dr Crispian Oliver, deputy director general of local government for the national department of constitutional development, said the new law made allowance for the "personal touch" in local government.

"Yes, the big metro council will take overall policy decisions for the city but the smaller sub-councils, made up of a cluster of wards, will continue to work among the people."

"These sub-councils would be the first line of complaint for citizens and they would raise bigger issues on behalf of their communities in the metro council."

There would be a single budget for the whole city which meant the cross-subsidisation of poor communities would be much easier to implement.

Under the current system, he says, local governments have fought to be rid of townships like Khayelitsha which they see as a drain on resources.

Job losses, he agreed, would be at management level and would cut out wasteful duplication.

"We need to expand and improve services so the number of ordinary workers will not be cut."

"The challenge for big cities now is to improve productivity."

For Mr McKenzie the new law threatens provincial autonomy.

The structure of municipalities will now be determined by national government when it should be a provincial function.

He wants the new law to give provinces a choice on how they structure local government.

"This law is being steamrollered by the ANC and my complaints to Mr Moosa have fallen on deaf ears."

"The ANC appear to be blocking their minds to the very constitution they helped to create."

It is for this reason Mr McKenzie is taking legal advice on whether or not he could win a constitutional court battle to overturn the law.

"I concede that there are some aspects of the new legislation which make sense."

"However, on the whole the megacity idea has been a disaster in other parts of the world so why are we trying to do something which hasn't worked anywhere else?"

Mr Oliver is confident that South Africa's cities can be managed no other way.

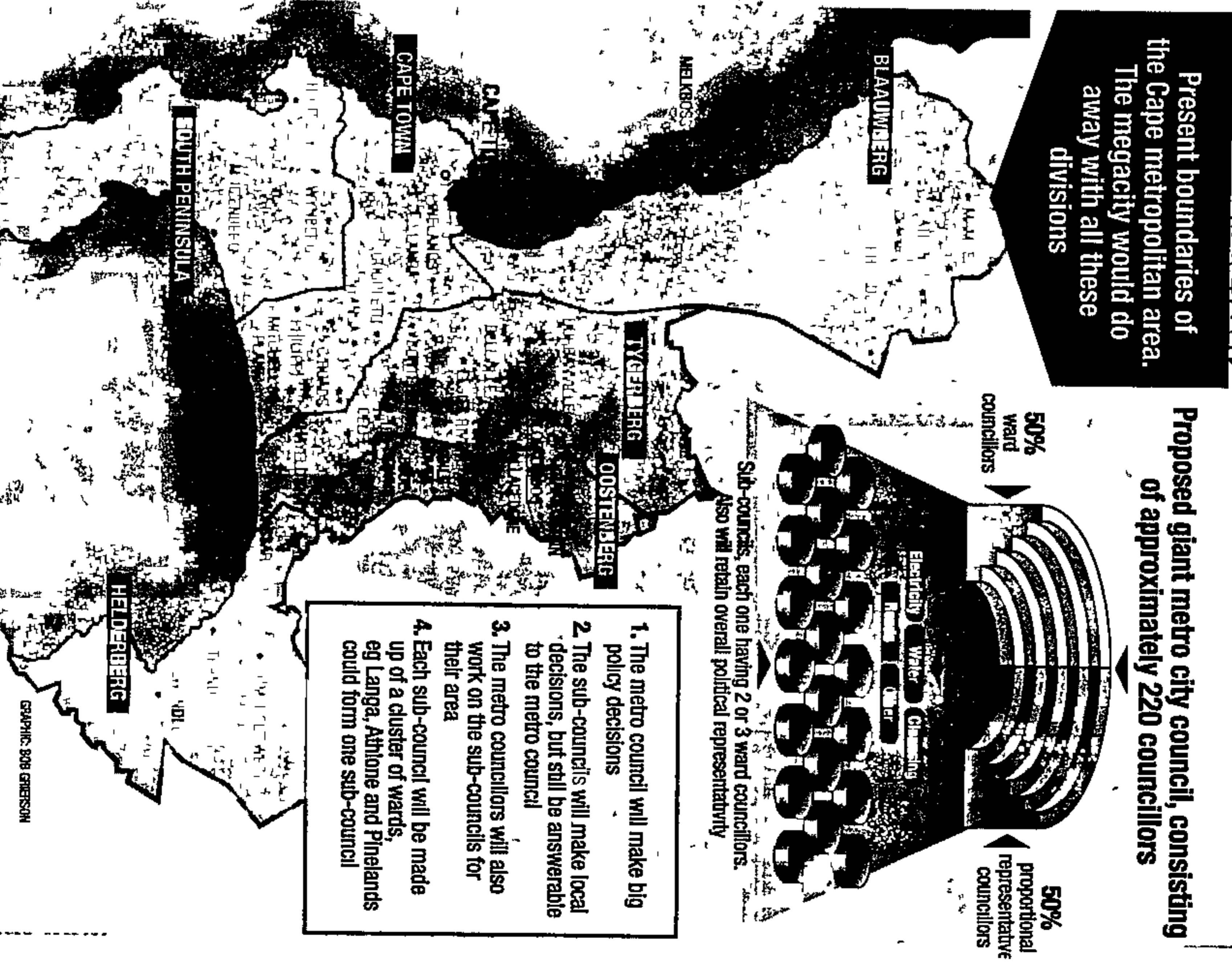
Once the bill is voted in by parliament it will be put to the National Council of Provinces for final ratification (probably on November 10) and will then be handed to President Mandela for signing.

Mr McKenzie is writing to the president asking him to hand the matter over to the constitutional court.

However, if the president chooses to back his party, it looks as if the Western Cape government will be in the constitutional court fighting to retain the status quo.

'The needs and interests of individual communities are going to get lost...'

'We need to expand and improve services so the number of ordinary workers will not be cut...'



Apartheid came to taunt us in the naming of streets ...

April 27 1994 saw the emancipation of the people of South Africa from the shackles of apartheid and heralded the birth of a democracy in our country.

This was the culmination of decades of struggle and sacrifice by the oppressed of South Africa.

Apartheid had already exacted its toll on the hundreds of lives that were lost during those years. It had suffocated and repressed our people physically, mentally and emotionally. In our schools, our natural potential and innate talents and abilities were stifled and we were subjected to an inferior apartheid education.

The apartheid government laid the basis for its oppressive rule in our education system and schools - and from there it spread into our homes, into our communities and our cities and permeated every aspect of our lives. It dominated us politically, economically, socially, culturally and personally.

Later it came to taunt us in form of memorials and statues, and the naming of streets and other apartheid symbols - airports, dams, schools, and public buildings - reflected apartheid dominance.

These were symbols of apartheid, and most of these names were the names of "heroes" of the apartheid ideology.

But to the majority of our people, these so-called "heroes" epitomise the indignity, inhumanity and injustice of apartheid rule.

They tried to destroy the minds and spirit of our people. They flaunted these names in the hope that, with time, we would come to accept them, but these names were also a further means of their policy of divide and rule.

Part of this strategy was to make the Western Cape a "Coloured preferential area", thereby making

"Africans" third class citizens. As part of the apartheid ideology, the apartheid government forcibly removed our people and dumped them into Group Areas.

Our African brothers and sisters were held into little shanty towns on the outskirts of the city - or rather into "Native Yards" as the National Party preferred to call them. Thence the naming of roads in the townships into NY1, NY29, etc.

These elements of apartheid symbolism degraded our people. We found it all insulting, derogatory and dehumanising.

These names were forced on us without our participation, negotiation or even our knowledge. This made them even more unacceptable.

But we persevered in our struggles with the certain knowledge that, one day, we would attain our freedom and achieve our democracy. We would restore our pride and dignity and then we would forever remove all vestiges and reminders of apartheid, and with the full participation of all our people, change these names and symbols to ones that would instil national pride and acceptance.

In transforming and normalising our society, we therefore have to acknowledge that there is still much apartheid rule. Changing this legacy will require both material and symbolic changes. To celebrate and embrace a new culture of restoring human dignity to our people, who were denied basic human rights, is the least we can do.

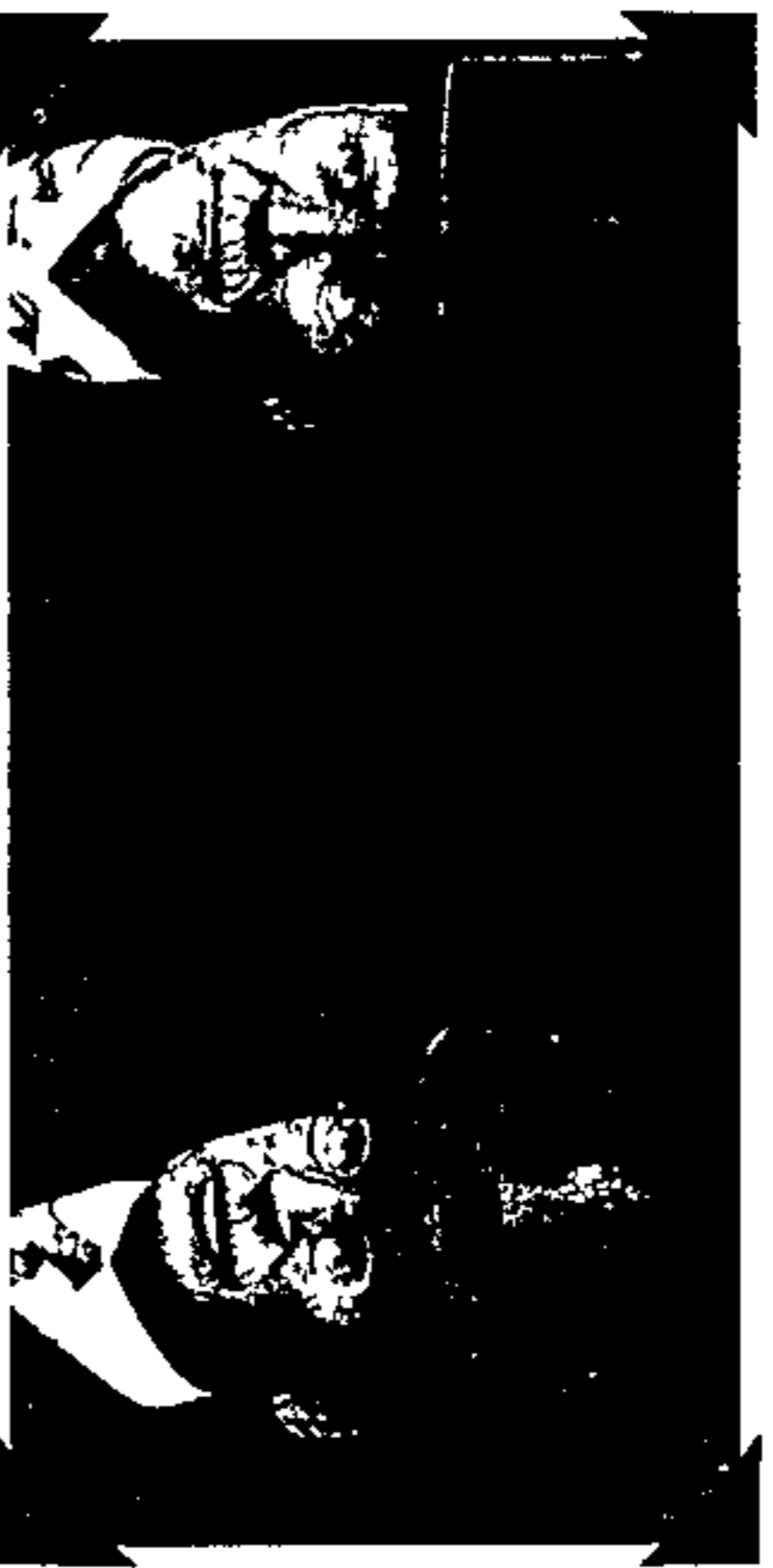
It is for these reasons that the ANC in the City of Cape Town has made proposals for a process of renaming all apartheid-named places, roads and other symbols around the city.

We believe that in view of the council's commitment to an integrated city (the city's first strategic priority), fairness and democratic principles - which are the antithesis of the old apartheid way of governance - the city should consider this issue.



SALEEM MOWZER, chairperson of the executive committee of the City of Cape Town, says that changing offensive names of the past will serve to unify and integrate the people of Cape Town, and will create one people who can be proud of their city and everything it represents.

(213) ARS 17/11/98



Time to change? General J B M Herzog, right, photographed with General Jan Smuts in 1937. The City of Cape Town is considering proposals to change the names of some city streets, like Herzog Boulevard on the Foreshore, as a token of reconciliation, unity and peace.

views, opinions, values, cultures and traditions.

■ Promotion of peace and love for fellow human beings

■ Promotion of a culture of morality and humanity - a human rights culture.

■ Practice and promotion of equality and the upliftment of the lives of all our people

We believe that if we can achieve this we can go a long way towards unifying the people of Cape Town.

But by showing our commitment to change and our commitment to the consideration of the views and feelings of the majority of people who were oppressed during the apartheid rule - and therefore changing apartheid names and symbols - we can truly start unifying and integrating the people of our city, to create one people who can be proud of their city and everything it represents.

■ Fairness and equitable service delivery to all the areas of our city

■ Treatment of all our citizens with dignity and respect.

■ Respect for the diverse cultures and religions in the city

■ Development of a tolerance and mutual respect for other people, their

process carelessly or dismissively. Now we are calling for an irresponsible and arbitrary renaming of all places in Cape Town. We are merely proposing the changing of names that evoke harsh, disturbing and unhappy memories of the inhumane and disruptive apartheid rule. We are merely trying to restore to our people their self respect, and their pride and dignity.

We believe that this is an important part of transformation in our city and it is an essential part of restoring human rights and dignity to our people.

We plan to engage in discussions and consultations with people across the city and not merely authoritative force names upon people in the way that the National Party apartheid government did throughout their years of repressive rule.

This is the reason behind our request for a process which:

■ Is transparent, inclusive, participatory and democratic.

■ Will institute a proper investigation of the practicalities of this proposal.

■ Takes into account all the issues involved, for example the financial and the technical implications.

■ Is not party politically biased.

■ Unifies different and diverse communities.

■ Will have a broad public participation and mobilise communities to take part in the affairs of the city.

■ Involves a broader section of community members, educationists, experts and city officials, and so on.

■ Is guided by the city's vision and conforms to the Seven Strategic Priorities of the City.

If we are to face the future with a clear conscience and an enlightened and hopeful spirit, we must be able to resolve and banish the hurt and indignity of the past.

We, as the new architects of the City of Cape Town, owe it to the people of this majestic city. We have suffered together, grieved together and persevered together. We have stood together as kindred spirits, steadfast in our belief in the uniqueness and oneness of our people. Our hopes and dreams have guided us, and we are on the road to victory.

We owe it to the woman in the shack, the student in the classroom, the person in the street, the worker in the factory, who in various ways took the brunt of the physical and psychological violence of apartheid. We owe it to Achmat Davids, Mama Zikhlanu, Oscar Mpehla, Ashley Krriel, Ray Simons, Adele Searle, Oliver Yambo, Steve Biko, Amy Biehl, and so on.

There are many things we cannot change now, many things we cannot reverse or make up for, but we must remember and honour heroes and heroines from all walks of life - heroes and heroines of whom we are all proud and whose memories we would all like to cherish.

We must honour them with dignity, pride and respect.

To continue to honour those who tortured, named and killed masses of our people would be a travesty of justice and would disgrace the memories of those who died for their belief in peace, freedom and democracy for all. We cannot retain the names of those people who tried to humiliate, dehumanise and destroy us because we dared oppose apartheid.

So, renaming these roads and places is but a small token towards reconciliation, unity and peace. Yet it is a significant part of the emancipation of the minds and hearts of our people. It is a process which encourages public participation, community involvement and acceptance.

This is the least that we can do - We cannot fall now! Now is the time!

Warts and all, we are

A tearful princess can tell us about



Attempting to make Cape Town less reminiscent of itself risks being self-deceiving or, worse, merely vain. Special Writer **MICHAEL MORRIS** argues against proposals to tamper with the historical record

(267) ANT 17/11/98

As Spaanschemat River Road curves into the bend at the Constantia Reformatory, where the shaded pine forest ends and the raked landscape of the vineyards begins, there is an inconspicuous bridge that bears the name of the Prinskasteel River.

It's not much of a river at all.

But what's interesting about it is its story

There was a time, legend has it, that the Elephant's Eye cave high above the pine plantations of Tokai was the retreat of a Khoekhoe princess.

The cave, in fact, used to be called Prinseskasteel.

The princess was reputedly held captive in the cave by Portuguese sailors, and her tears formed a stream which created the river, now called Prinskasteel, and dammed up on the flats to form Princess Vlei

This princess is an intriguing character, or, more properly, an intriguing fiction

In her story are the clues of a history

One can picture this matriarch being bullied into submission

Or merely ignored, left to watch from her mountain the gradual usurpation of her realm under the steady attrition of civilisation, and the cultivation and land-ownership that went with it, the precursor to the colonial domination that would last for the next few hundred years

It's remarkable that, especially since it's almost certainly apocryphal, "her" memory survives

The phoney inclinations of politicians or toadying officials of the past might well have led to the erasure of this story in favour of a token renaming which, at the time, to them, would have seemed apt, generous, intelligent, rational, historical even

That's the trouble with renaming things

The ANC's proposal to the City of Cape Town to find new names for some city streets and squares is understandable

The natural impulse of any new order is to "reshape" the past to its liking, especially a past filled with the suffering and pain that characterised the apartheid years.

Recognising this, the renaming of

the NY - "native yard" - prefixes of township streets is one element of the proposal which it is difficult to find fault with, though it should be up to the residents themselves to decide. And some way should be found, symbolically, to remember that that is what they were called.

But expunging irksome names from the record is another thing.

People like J B M Hertzog and Oswald Pirow, founding spirits of white nationalism and the racist ideology that went with it don't necessarily deserve to be honoured, but it would be a mistake to forget them, or pretend they were not who they were in their time.

I am inclined to think that Cape Town can never be what it was not.

On the face of it, this appears to be a puzzling, self-contradictory nonsense, an illogical notion.

YES OR NO?

Should the names of places, streets, buildings and bridges that remind us of the old South Africa be changed?

Have your say: Fax 488 4793 Write to the Editor at 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town, 8001. Or e-mail arglet@ctn.independent.co.za

Of course Cape Town can, will - and should - become something other, but it's being, the place it is, is an accretion of histories no amount of revisionism can actually change

Cape Town can only be different in the knowledge of what it was, of knowing itself

The layered history of the place is the key to its integrity, and the flawed pretence of wishing we had not been what we were merely raises the prospect of a future of forgetting

The most challenging demand of a painful history is the need to remember it, and, invariably, cultivating amnesia is the first step on a hapless return journey

There are even times that I think that an H F Verwoerd building turned, through democratic elections, to serve the party that

represents the greater mass of South Africans is a more potent, perhaps honest, symbol of transformation than a building that has quietly assumed the innocent name of 120 Plein Street because, at the time, changing it was such an obvious relief from the oppressive symbolism of the old regime's nomenclature, and the easiest nominal means by which to reflect its defeat.

Perhaps, on reflection, an H F Verwoerd building would be intolerable

But I still think it's arguable.

The cost of changing street names will be the focus of much criticism of the ANC's proposal.

And there is an argument that cosmetic changes of this kind, as many critics will see it, will barely alter the difficult socio-economic reality of the city, and that the money might well be spent to better effect elsewhere

I don't necessarily find the economics offensive

I would argue that there is every reason to spend money on acknowledging the city's past, but by augmenting the record, not by erasure and denial.

The city would do well, in my book, to use innocuously named roadways such as the N1 or N2 or Eastern Boulevard to honour significant figures from the past, to write them into a public history from which to a greater or lesser extent they have been excluded.

The city might also consider commissioning public sculptures for the purpose, and drawing on elements of unacknowledged history in naming new streets and new buildings

Among the figures who could provide a provocative counterpoint to the colonial or racist imprint might, for instance, be Harry the Strandloper, who was also known as Herry, or Autshu mao, chief of the Goringkhakonas

He learned enough English from early contacts with British sailors to act as an interpreter, and was in close contact with Van Riebeeck in the 1650s

Relations were, predictably, difficult, and Harry was banished for a time to Robben Island

His niece, Eva, who grew up in

REGIS
WIVERST
Maver Cobrine

Very Cape Town: Archbishop Desmond Tutu is synonymous with many Cape Town signal events, and should be an obvious choice, says Morris

ARGUS ISSUES

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Van Riebeeck's household and did her best to intercede on her uncle's behalf, is another possible candidate, as are two other local Khoekhoe figures, Coree and Doman.

I would have thought Archbishop Desmond Tutu, an outspoken reconciler, and a man synonymous with so many signal events in Cape Town's struggles, would be an obvious choice for public acknowledgement.

Helen Suzman is another, a lone liberal fighter for so many years in the parliament that has given Cape Town fame and infamy

Eastern Boulevard, perhaps, could fittingly take the name of Philip Kgosana

On March 30, 1960 - just nine days after 69 people had been shot at Sharpeville - Kgosana, a member of the Pan Africanist Congress, led a march of 30 000 people into central Cape Town

This mass of people coming in on the freeway from Langa was a fearful spectacle - shops were closed, and children were fetched home from school.

Troops marched to Parliament to join policemen armed with fixed bayonets

Wearing shorts and a jacket, the 21-year-old Kgosana seemed impossibly young for the role

The ironic consequence of his courage was summary detention

In fact, he had made a deal with a senior police officer, Colonel Terry Terblanche, to persuade his followers to return home peacefully in exchange for a meeting with the Minister of Justice that afternoon

The deal was overridden by then Minister of Police Frans Erasmus, who had Kgosana detained

He was eventually charged with incitement, but later skipped the country while on bail

An unexpected sequel came in 1988, at the death of Terblanche.

A statement in his will revealed his anguish at the betrayal of Kgosana.

"I felt like a traitor," he wrote "It stamped me as breaking my promise."

This story illustrates the pitfalls of tampering with the record

The memory of Kgosana, and the scores of other deserving figures from the past, would not be well served by a

selective cleansing of the record, because the whole record - including for instance what Terblanche felt about his actions - is part and parcel of their history, too

It would be a pity if those opposing name-changes were automatically taken as sympathisers of past iniquities, or as opponents of the beguiling idea of "transformation".

I say this not least because all of us, our families and forebears, are in one way or another, responsible for our history.

Changing the way we reflect that history does not make it any less true.

There is a danger, in having the power to alter the record, of being tempted by the tacit deception that, today, we are wiser, braver and less prone to political greed or error than those whose names we seek to erase, or than the society that impelled them and gave them their imprimatur to act as they did.

I fear that would be a false and spurious vanity.

It would be - and would deserve being - derided by future generations who, no doubt, will look back at these times with sagacious disdain, wondering to themselves how it is we lacked their superior insight.

Writing last week in the local press, artist and commentator Stanley Hermans argued that street names and monuments form a record that tells the story "as it is".

He warns that we "ought to be very careful when we intervene in that record" . . . not least because "the way in which we intervene, itself part of this ongoing record, tells its own tale of who we are and how we live"

"It may be cathartic in the short term simply to change a name. It could be as therapeutic as burning a witch simply to remove offensive and painful resonances of a past that has indeed caused a great many to suffer

"But," Hermans asks, "does it really change who we are and does it offer anything other than a temporary panacea for pain that should quite rightly run deep in all of us, since we are all responsible for that pain?"

The ANC's commitment to consult and hear the views of others contrasts with the altogether more imperious approach of their predecessors.

It might well be that the majority of Cape Town's people will decide that "cleansing" the historical record is desirable, and that it will be cathartic

The risk is that the catharsis in these things is too often short-lived, while the amnesia endures

'The most challenging demand of a painful history is the need to remember it'

Cape Town's Archbishop Desmond Tutu is synonymous with many Cape Town's signal events, and should be an obvious choice, says Morris

South Peninsula service record slated

ARG 17/2/99 (263)
'Ratepayers treated as if they are nuisance'

PETER GOUSEN
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The South Peninsula Municipality has been slammed by an official probe into its delivery of services and its treatment of ratepayers.

This follows a public inquiry by attorney John van Niekerk of Silberbauers, appointed by the council, and further internal and external investigations into the south's building survey and land use development directorates are now expected

The South Peninsula's executive committee released Mr Van Niekerk's report yesterday, and said matters needing attention would be investigated urgently

Mr Van Niekerk said he had great sympathy for officials who

appeared to have been dumped into a fledgling local authority which at first had no proper infrastructure and apparently had been established without appropriate planning

"It is unthinkable that a large directorate such as building survey should rely on municipal forestry trucks to transport files, or that proper provision had not been made to accommodate them.

"It is also unthinkable that in this modern age it should have had to wait for six weeks for the cabling for its computers to be completed

"Similarly, it must have been a nightmare of horrendous proportions to have attempted .. to operate and run this directorate initially with one cellphone shared by about 45 officials," said Mr Van Niekerk

"Nonetheless, no matter what strains and stresses have been and, in fact, still are being endured by its officials there can be no excuse for treating ratepayers as if they are a nuisance," he added

The executive director of urban and environmental services, Chris Sullivan, told the inquiry. "If we have a look at the metropolitan restructuring forum, the entire emphasis was the transition restructuring

"Very little attention was given to service delivery or the continued maintenance of service delivery

"There is, in fact, no middle management to speak of, and the result of that has been that the directors, including myself, find that their ability to manage effectively is seriously compromised"

Union off the hook in R4-m 'scam'

Cape Town council drops charges, but workers may take court action

The City of Cape Town has decided not to press criminal charges against a municipal trade union which allegedly stole about R4-million from a group life insurance scheme.

At a lengthy meeting today, the council decided against charging the leadership of the municipal trade union, South African Association of Municipal Employees (Saame), saying it would be difficult to pinpoint those responsible for the scam.

The council's executive committee was today briefed by its legal team headed by advocate Gerrit van Schalkwyk and attorney John van Niekerk.

NORMAN JOSEPH



METRO REPORTER

They told the meeting that municipal employees could, however, lay individual charges if they wanted to do so.

Mr Van Schalkwyk said the previous council had known about

Saame's scheme, but had kept quiet. Documents to this effect had been found hidden in council offices.

Exco leader Saleem Mowzer and city manager Andrew Boraine came under fire from some councillors, especially Democratic Party councillor Owen Kinahan, for taking a decision last week to accept an out-of-court settlement.

After a debate, agreement was reached that their decision was taken "in the interest of the ratepayers".

Last week, the city council and the leadership of the Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (Imatu) reached an out-of-court settlement in the Cape High Court that the union

would pay back R500 000 to the council. Legal teams of both parties appeared in the Cape High Court in a civil matter.

Imatu is a formerly all-white Cape Town municipal trade union known as the SA Association of Municipal Employees (Saame).

Saame, which functioned from 1987 to 1993, rented office space at the city's civic centre and represented more than 4 000 members at its Cape Town branch.

In 1987, the trade union organised a group life insurance scheme and informed its members that they would pay a cheaper monthly rate.

The Saame leadership organised

that 56c for every R1 000 of members' contributions be paid to an insurance broker each month.

But in 1993, an emerging union known as the Professional Staff Association (PSA) gave evidence in an industrial court hearing that Saame had been paying the insurance company only 48c per R1 000 a month.

The difference allegedly had been kept by the Saame leadership and Mr Morrison said the total amount could be as high as R4-million.

The council laid a criminal charge against the union in February 1995. Mr Mowzer said the out-of-court settlement was negotiated "in the interest of our ratepayers".

Inquiry hammers South Peninsula Municipality

TOM HOOD

(263)

ST(CM) 2/12/99

IF THE South Peninsula Municipality had been a business, its doors would have now been closed and its assets sold off by a liquidator

This was said by John van Niekerk, chairman of a lengthy inquiry initiated by the council into its building survey and land-use directorates.

In his report Van Niekerk, a Cape Town attorney, said he had great sympathy with officials who had been dumped into the fledgling local authority, which had been established

without proper planning

However, it was clear that many ratepayers and professional people were dissatisfied with the municipality's service delivery and the way they were treated by officials.

Van Niekerk suggested the council should appoint an ombudsman to hear complaints and form an advisory committee of ratepayers and keep them abreast of municipal affairs.

He said the procedures, practices and systems used to handle applications for building plans and land use were neither appropriate nor effective. The two directorates did not have

the capacity to do their jobs

He said serious allegations of corruption and irregularities had been made. But these could be properly investigated only if an inquiry was appointed which was able to issue subpoenas, call witnesses and have them examined under oath

In a nine-page submission to the inquiry, chief building inspector William Kingwill claimed preference had been given to large developers in allocating provisional approvals, while individual owners were often dealt with in a discriminatory fashion

He also complained of:

- Incidents of approval of ap-

plications being dealt with irregularly;

- Complex applications being approved quickly while straightforward applications took ages;

- Miscalculation of scrutiny fees. Surcharges which should have been imposed for unauthorised work were overlooked;

- Members of staff were drawing and submitting plans for members of the public, to earn extra cash; and

- Certain developers, architects, designers, councillors and owners seemed to get preferential treatment in the processing and approval of their applications

"There have been allegations of field staff receiving favours but this has not been established. The possibility exists that isolated incidents of such misconduct are occurring," said Kingwill. "We are adopting a vigilant stance and any substantiated cases of misconduct will be severely dealt with."

The inquiry report was debated by the executive committee behind closed doors this week

Afterwards, the committee said steps had already been initiated to remedy some complaints. All other matters needing attention would be urgently investigated

Equity lacking, say 50 city staff

MOTSHIDISI MOKWENA

A GROUP of Cape Town City Council employees has alleged that the council has not made visible progress on affirmative action and staff development.

But city manager Andrew Boraine has rejected their claims, saying the council is "committed to the principle of transformation" and is busy implementing the Employment Equity Act.

Boraine was approached for comment after a copy of a staff petition — addressed to him and signed by about 50 employees — was handed to the *Cape Times*.

Copies were also delivered to Cape Town mayor Nomandla Mfeketo, the Department of Labour, the Commission of Employment Equity, the Public Service Commission, the Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (Imatu) and the South African Municipal Workers' Union.

The gist of the employees' complaints was that provisions contained in the Employment Equity Act had not been applied.

The signatories claimed there was no real commitment to transformation and that there were bar-



'DEBATE IS ENCOURAGED': City manager Andrew Boraine

riers that made it difficult for people to make career progress.

The petition also stated that there was no discernible employment equity plan.

"For instance, there are officials who are not getting promotions or being given any jobs and are being rendered redundant," a council source said.

He added that the council was not taking steps to ensure that all sections of the council work force

enjoy equal opportunities.

"There is no clear policy on how to retain staff, no mentoring and developing of people, and the council is not implementing appropriate training measures to ensure that they function and succeed," he added.

In an interview with the *Cape Times*, Boraine said it was unfortunate that people saw the need to go to the media with issues pertaining to the council, rather than tackling the matter internally.

He said constructive public debate was encouraged, but not in a manner which could jeopardise the process.

"The issues raised in the petition are valid and should be addressed. The petition would be understandable if we did not have people and structures in place dealing with these issues," Boraine said.

He added that the council has a team of people who are "working hard and putting an enormous amount of work into the transformation of the council".

Transformation officer Judy Sibisi, who was also present during the interview, said the transformation process in the council was representative because there were pro-

ject teams made up of people within the organisation.

"We encourage our people to be part and parcel of the process," she said. "Transformation is not easy — it is a very complex process."

"It is important that people work together because this is a challenge for every one of us," Sibisi said.

Council affirmative action manager Alfred Mahlangu said there were certain requirements in the Employment Equity Act that necessitated organisations such as the council having audits of policies and practices.

The act also requires that targets and time frames be spelt out and all players be consulted.

"As is the case with transformation everywhere, not everyone will be happy," Mahlangu said.

Imatu spokesperson Gawie Beukman confirmed that the union had received the petition, but he said he could not comment until the union had met the signatories and discussed the matter.

Beukman said a meeting had been scheduled for tomorrow with the council's consultative bargaining committee "so that we can get a sense of what the problem is".

CT 4/3/99 (476)

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ANC GRABS TOP NATS



Move over: McKenzie

**JOE ARANES, BLACKMAN NGORO
AND CLIVE SAWYER**
STAFF REPORTERS

The New National Party was today dealt its worst blow yet in the season of defections when three of its heavyweight black members - Western Cape cabinet minister Patrick McKenzie and national MPs David Chuenyane and John Gogotya - defected to the African National Congress.

In a move rich in symbolism, Mr McKenzie and Bukelwa Mbulawa, who earlier this week was prompted by disillusionment to quit the Democratic Party for the ANC, were sworn as members of the National Assembly this afternoon.

The ANC's newest acquisitions from the Nats, all of whom have long been openly critical of the lack of transformation in the New NP, were received with jubilation and embraces at the final meeting of the

ANC's national parliamentary caucus this morning.

The ANC says the future of its newest members will, like all other members, depend on the decisions of its deployment committee.

Mr McKenzie, who tonight will address an ANC meeting in Bonteheuwel, spoke with considerable emotion at a news conference about the odyssey that led him to the ANC.

"It has been a long struggle in my mind," said Mr McKenzie, who was

MP for Bonteheuwel in the tricameral parliament and has been variously provincial minister of police, national Minister of Welfare and provincial minister of local government.

He said he had enjoyed his time in the NP, which he had joined nine years ago after being inspired by the reformist initiatives of FW de Klerk.

But outright refusal by the Western Cape New NP to form a united opposition front, and its political shift to control by a "Broederbond" faction,

had disillusioned him. (263)
Mr McKenzie, who said he saw himself as left of centre, said he was no longer at home in a party which had retreated into a laager.

Mr McKenzie said that in joining the ANC, "I have come to plug in where the power is ... to be constructive in the new South Africa."

Mr Gogotya, until now a Western Cape member of the National Assem-

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ANC grabs Nats

From page 1

(263)
bly, said it had become increasingly clear to him the New NP catered only for sectarian interests. Black people were only "garnishing" for the NNP, said Mr Gogotya.

Mr Chuenyane, of Gauteng, said he had first joined the NP because it came from a background of having uplifted Afrikaners from poverty into power and should be able to do the same for everyone.

But he, too, had been disillusioned. He said he discovered that those who questioned the party's leadership were immediately treated as suspect.

Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool, welcoming Mr McKenzie, said the ex-Nat had shown his commitment to serving the poor and such people were always welcome in the ANC.

ANC national chairman Patrick Lekota said the move by the three former Nats was a tremendous development for the country.

Asked whether the appointment of Mr McKenzie and Dr Mbulawa was a breach of the ANC stance that members should be of five years' good standing before being appointed to executive posts, ANC Chief Whip Tony Yengem said he did not think the constitution of the ANC stood in their way.

NATATTACK

Defections put key Cape Town municipality in the hands of the ANC

KEN VERNON and NATALIE KAMMIES

(263) ST(CM) 98/3/99

DEFECTIONS from the National Party have given control of the Tygerberg municipality to the ANC and the party has launched an assault to gain control of local government in greater Cape Town

Following the defections of three top NP members to the ANC on Friday, ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool said yesterday he was confident the drive for defections, dubbed "Operation Natattack" by the party, would give the ANC control of the Cape Metropolitan Council in the coming weeks

However, DP national chairman Douglas Gibson accused the ANC of abandoning its principles in trawling for NP defectors

"President Mandela warned at the Mafikeng Congress late last year that the ANC should be wary of careerists joining the party for personal advancement"

Gibson said the ANC had agreed that people should not be appointed to office unless they had belonged to the party for at least five years

"The DP is watching with amusement as the ANC throws its principles aside," he said.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore confirmed that NP Tygerberg ward councillors Carol McKenzie and Martha Japtha had deserted to the ANC yesterday, giving it control of the municipality

"The ANC now has a majority in council and Rasool has instructed the ANC caucus to reject the draft council budget when it is presented tomorrow," said Dugmore

"The ANC will send the budget back with instructions that it be restructured to better reflect the priorities and needs of poor black and coloured communities such as in Khayelitsha and Elsies River"

McKenzie also sits on the Cape Metropolitan Council, where the NP holds a precarious majority, often governing in alliance with the DP

Under the Local Government Structures Act, McKenzie would be required to relinquish her seat once she changed parties. But ANC sources said it was relying on a legal "window of opportunity" because of the recent passing of the Act that will allow her to keep her seat

ANC sources said the party was concentrating Operation Natattack on ward councillors in Mitchells Plain, as well as in Blaauberg. They expected several ward councillors in Atlantis to cross to the ANC. This could help give the ANC the same number of CMC seats as the NP in coming weeks

This would put the DP into the powerful position of being able to broker either party into power

However, the chairman of the NP's CMC caucus, Pierre Uys, said the ANC had got it wrong in thinking McKenzie could keep her seat

The differing interpretations mean the two parties could face another bruising court battle over local government control

ANC has control of Tygerberg

(263)

Defections from NNP to ANC 'now unstoppable'

BD 31/3/99

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The African National Congress (ANC) won absolute control of the Tygerberg metropolitan council yesterday after the defection of former New National Party (NNP) councillor Carol McKenzie to the party.

The signing up of two former NNP Cape Town city councillors, representing Mitchell's Plan, was also hailed by the ANC as a sign that this NNP stronghold was vulnerable to attack. The addition of councillors James George and Louisa Jansen increased the ANC's majority on the city council and further council defections are expected later this week.

And in another development, NNP deputy chairman Peter Marais is expected to have discussions with party leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk and Western Cape premier Gerald Morkel today.

Marais, who is understood to be aggrieved that he has not been given greater recognition for being the party's big vote-

catcher, would not comment on the content of the talks, nor on who had initiated them. There have been persistent rumours that he is about to cross the floor to the ANC, but he could use the meeting to demand a more high-profile position within the party.

McKenzie's departure from the NNP followed that of her husband, former local government MEC Patrick McKenzie last week.

Her presence gave the ANC 37 votes on the Tygerberg council compared with the NNP's 33, the Democratic Party's two and the African Christian Democratic Party's one.

ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool said the floodgates had opened "and the stream from the NNP to the ANC is now unstoppable".

NNP Cape Town council spokesman Clive Justus said the defection of George and Jansen was an attempt to evade an investigation into their alleged breach of the party's code of conduct.

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Unicity will speak with one voice – Boraine

CHANTEL ERFORT
STAFF REPORTER

(263)

et 9/4/99

City Manager Andrew Boraine told the Cape Town Press Club that one of the key benefits of a "unicity" would be that "we would have one name and a single voice, speaking to investors".

The unicity, he said yesterday, would enable the Cape Metropolitan Council, along with the six municipalities to market itself as one entity, under one name.

He said, though, that one of the drawbacks of implementing the one-tier system would be a possible slowing down of existing service delivery.

"What could arise is an inward focus on administration instead of an outward focus on the community and the people we serve."

He added that the unicity would "eliminate the current competition that occurs in the two-tier system."

With the improvement of delivery services in the city being the main focus of his speech, Mr Boraine said that many of the city's present systems of service delivery were 15 to 20 years outdated by international standards.

"Service delivery is the core business of local government and it is unacceptable that 200 000 families in Cape Town have no access to proper shelter or services," said Mr Boraine.

"The main crisis facing the city is what is happening in the informal settlements," he said.

"The political violence in these settlements and inefficient delivery of services poses the most serious threat to the stability of the city."

He said. "Local boundaries are becoming borders. What we need is an efficient land-release programme for lower-income families."



LEON LESTRADE

Andrew Boraine: 'one name, one voice for speaking to investors'

Mr Boraine also accused local authorities of living beyond their means and said costs had to be reduced in order to increase the efficiency of local government.

"There is no reason to fear the unicity," said Mr Boraine. "This type of restructuring is an opportunity to modernise local government."

With resources already being shifted toward the improvement of cleansing and law enforcement services, the city manager said the next challenge authorities were facing was integration of the city.

Cape probes huge medicine theft ring

Hotline yields string of corruption cases

(267) (21/33)

ARU 15/4/99

The Western Cape government is investigating a multi-million-rand scam involving the theft from state depots of medical supplies that are being filtered to criminal syndicates.

The discovery was made after one of a string of tip-offs via a corruption hotline set up in the province in October last year.

This emerged at the two-day summit convened by the Government in Cape Town to try to crack down on corruption, which has cost taxpayers more than R20-billion.

Deon van der Westhuizen, head of the Western Cape's internal audit unit, said 96 potential cases of corruption had been reported on the hotline, and 24 investigations were close to completion.

The unit had handed over 48 cases to police in the past 12 months. Better financial controls were introduced where problems were found.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said the investigation into the theft of medical supplies valued at millions of rands would probably take a year to complete. Some cases had already been referred to the police.

The unit has a staff of 10, but is at



WEISS

POLITICAL REPORTER

present "building capacity".

It was also engaged in a review of 4 500 provincial vehicles to see which officials were abusing them.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said the abuse of state vehicles was probably the most visible form of corruption.

Other cases being investigated by the unit included:

- An amount of R500 000 paid via the central Government to non-governmental organisations which did not have proper financial controls.

- Inadequate accounting of overseas trips by members of the former Department of Economic Affairs and Tourism.

- Cash stolen from hospital ATMs, with amounts ranging from R3 000 to R21 000.

The conference is focusing on

interaction between the public and private sectors and how to introduce tougher measures to protect witnesses, blacklist firms involved in fraud and ensure clean tender and procurement procedures.

Western Cape Premier Gerhard Morkel said "Corruption in the country has already cost the taxpayer R21-billion, which is twice the Western Cape's total annual budget."

"Judge Willem Heath personally told me that he was investigating 100 000 cases and only four of those were in the Western Cape."

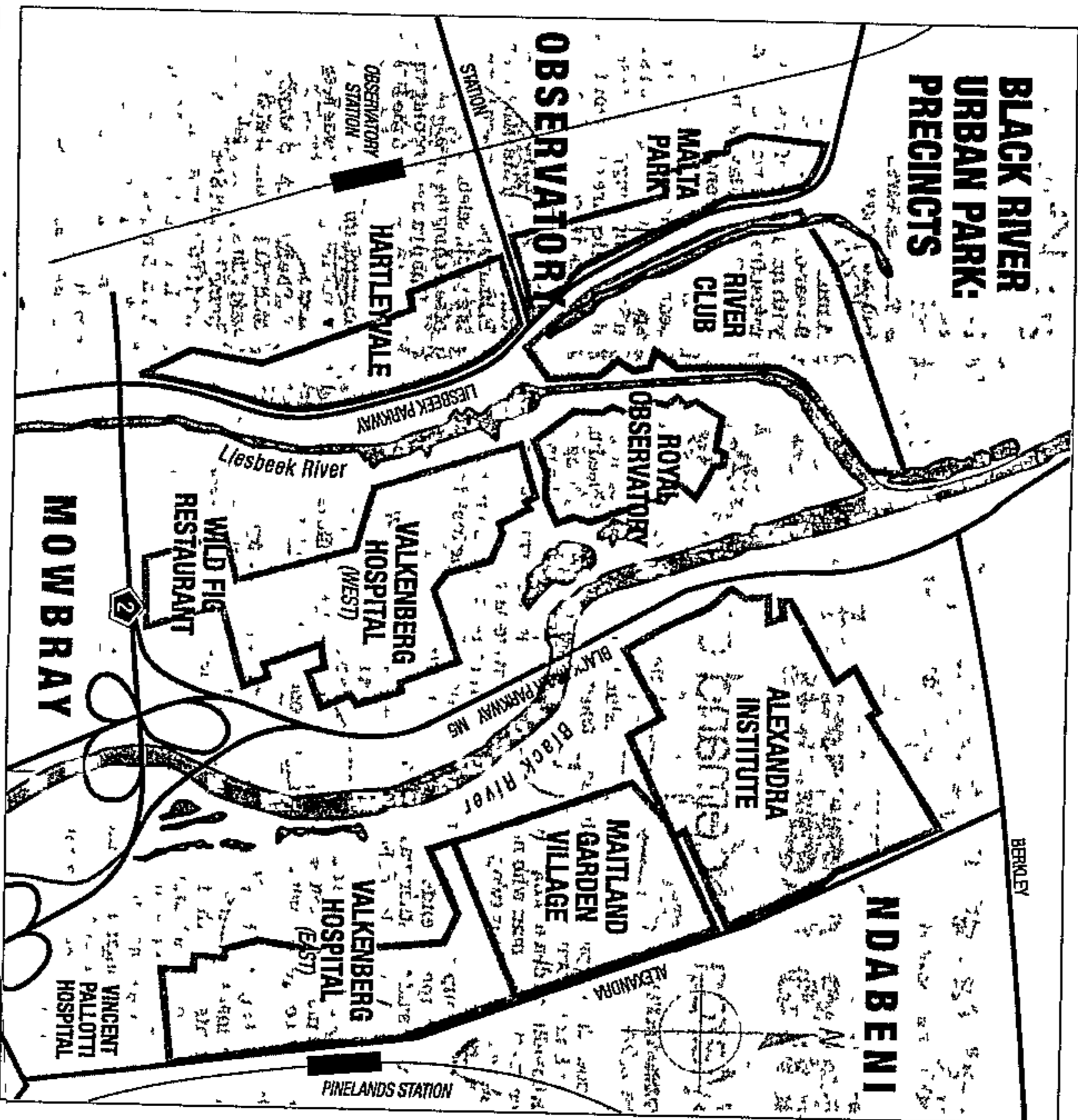
Among the Heath special investigating unit investigations is a fraud and theft probe at the Cape College of Education in Kuils River involving at least R870 000.

Another case centred on fraudulent authorisations within the Department of Public Works for public buildings.

Earlier this year, the Western Cape was criticised for not reporting cases to the Heath investigating unit quickly enough.

The unit has access to a special tribunal which enables it to recover state assets from people who have been defrauding the Government.

Mowbray/Observatory



Joint effort on river land

Proposals flood in for desirable but eco-sensitive area

JENNY WALL
Staff Reporter

For years there has been speculation about the future of the land at the confluence of the Black River and the Liesbeek River, a vast piece of ecologically sensitive land close to the city and major transport routes.

A draft Black River Urban Park Development Framework report has been drawn up, a joint effort of the City of Cape Town, landowners and interest groups.

The document is a working document, and no final decisions have been made. The participation process continues with a public meeting on April 17 at 10am at the River Club to discuss the development framework.

The 80ha area consists of sensitive ecological systems and habitats, open space and significant institutions, historical buildings and landscapes close to fairly dense residential, commercial and industrial developments.

The area is an ideal space for the creation of a park that fulfils a variety of human needs as well as the needs of the natural and built environment, says the report.

The ecological sensitivity of the site is well known. Recently, however, the area has come under consid-

Neighbours

Send your neighbourhood news and notices to Jenny Wall at 488 4218, fax 488 4075 or e-mail nhood@cn.independent.co.za

erable development pressures as landowners begin to rationalise their land holdings and threaten to release substantial tracts of land for private development.

Many proposals and ideas have been put forward for the land, including headquarters for His People Christian Missionaries, a plan for a private teaching hospital attached to the University of Cape Town, office park developments and a working farm village where mentally ill and disabled people can live and work.

It is highly desirable land, it is big, largely undeveloped, close to the

N2 and M5 and the Mowbray taxi and bus stations. Most of it is public land, either state or council-owned. Transnet owns a large portion of it.

Development in the area has always been sensitive because of ecological concerns. The report notes that additional development within the park is essential to ensure sustainability.

The report acknowledges that a balance between development and parkland must be achieved. The framework provides landowners and prospective developers with guidance to the location, scale and intensity of future development and how development will be integrated in the park.

The framework aims to conserve ecologically sensitive areas such as the wetlands and the city's only remaining nature reserve, the Raapenberg Bird Sanctuary. It also wants to conserve historically significant sites, and upgrade and rehabilitate degraded open areas and ecological systems.

The land has been divided into eight precincts for the purpose of the framework: Parkland, Valkenberg West (where what remains of Valkenberg Hospital is situated), Valkenberg East, Alexandra Institute, Maitland Garden Village, the River Club and the South African Astronomical Observatory, Matia

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Park and Hartleyvale.

Most of the proposed development is in the Valkenberg West, Valkenberg East and Matia Park precincts.

Where development is allowed, the framework envisions relatively dense, mixed use urban development. The majority of development will be limited to the edges of the park. Development within the park will be confined to a limited area.

The report says development should respect the ambience of the park.

Development has been proposed only on land considered underutilised or less environmentally valuable.

Managing the area cannot be the responsibility of the City of Cape Town alone, the report says.

One option is to establish a "special purpose" organisation, legally constituted and representative of all interests in the park.

The need for a park in this area has been questioned. But, says the report, the city is in dire need of quality places for relief, recreation and small scale production.

"With further metropolitan objectives to consolidate the city and intensify activity within the existing urban boundary, and continued population growth, quality recreational areas are a necessity."

Allocation of funds to the poor 'inequitable'

PRISCILLA SINGH

et. 6/5/99

A WAR of words has been triggered between the City of Cape Town and the Cape Metropolitan Council following the declaration of a dispute with the CMC over the "unfair and inequitable" allocation of funds to poor communities.

The ANC-dominated council voted to declare the dispute with the NNP-led CMC because a R50-million fund meant to upgrade poverty-stricken areas was allocated to projects in a vote-catching exercise.

In a statement yesterday, councillor Pierre Uys, chairperson of the executive committee of the CMC said "Firstly, it was agreed by the executive committee of the CMC that each MLC should be allocated approximately R8 million. The five other MLCs accepted this allocation, which I believed to be fair and equitable."

At the heart of the dispute is the CMC's allocation of money for local functions and services to councillors appointed on a "proportionate representation" basis, in the areas where they live. In other words, they are not ward councillors, yet they have been allocated money for services in their residential areas.

Saleem Mowzer, chairperson of the City of Cape Town exco, said yesterday "We are arguing that the allocation of the funds should be consistent with the spread of poverty."

He added that according to census statistics, Cape Town and Tygerberg together have 69% of the total population of the metropolitan area, and an estimated 68% of all those in the metro area who are regarded as living in poverty.

"Yet these two councils together get R16m or one-third of the total funds being allocated. Blaauwberg, Oostenberg, Helderberg and South Peninsula with collectively 31% of the total population and 32% of those in the metro area living in poverty get R32m between them, or two-thirds of the total funds allocated," he said.

On another issue, Uys said that in the past financial allocations made by the CMC to the City of Cape Town for special projects identified by their council had not been spent. He alleged that of the R70m allocated for 20 projects, only R38m had been spent.

Mowzer said these projects weren't completed because the plans were approved 10 years ago and did not reflect present realities.

"We did technical assessments and it became clear that we needed to change the scope of the projects. The CMC refused to approve the amendments and we were unable to proceed because the plans were more than 10 years old," Mowzer said.

Millions destined to help Western Cape's poor are 'put on hold'

(263) ARG 11/5/99
NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

The Cape Metropolitan Council called off a meeting with the City of Cape Town to resolve a dispute over a R48-million fund earmarked for upgrading disadvantaged areas.

The metropolitan council yesterday cancelled the meeting scheduled for 4:15pm after getting a letter from the Government's Department of Finance querying the way in which the money was being allocated.

Pierre Uys, chairman of the metropolitan council's executive committee, said the council would discuss the issue with the department of finance.

Last week, the African National Congress-controlled city council declared a dispute with the metropolitan council, headed by the New National Party.

The dispute arose because the CMC allocated about R8-million to each of the six local councils, while Cape Town had asked for a larger share on the grounds that it was responsible for more poor people.

But the metropolitan council argued that any adjustment to Cape Town's share would prejudice the other local councils.

In a letter to the metropolitan council, the Department of Finance approved the allocation of R48-million for infrastructure projects subject to certain conditions.

These included that the funds be used "to address capital infrastructure backlogs in poor areas", that they be distributed equitably among local

councils based on the relative extent of the backlogs and that agreement be reached with the local councils on the operating budget implications.

Details of the allocations have to be sent to the department within 60 days.

Mr Uys said in his response that this would set back the infrastructural development.

He said that poverty-stricken communities in the Cape metro area would suffer from the delay.

Most of the 80 projects approved by the metropolitan council in consultation with councillors from the six local councils were targeted at poor areas.

Approached for comment, Democratic Party councillor Brian Watkyns, who is a member of the city council and the metropolitan council, said that, because of the ANC's actions at the city council, it was unlikely any of the projects would be completed in this financial year.

Mr Watkyns said "My claim that these actions are motivated by party politics is confirmed by the fact that the Department of Finance has used the same wording in its letter to the metropolitan council as the ANC resolution adopted by Cape Town last month.

"The DP once again calls on all parties, including the Department of Finance, to make a genuine attempt to resolve differences in the interest of the communities."

ANC councillor Saleem Mowzer, city council executive committee chairman, said "We have made it clear that the R48-million fund must be spent on poor and poverty-stricken communities."

R50m for 'poor' on ice

PRISCILLA SINGH

THE Cape Metropolitan Council has taken a decision to scrap the controversial R50-million fund meant for poverty relief and to look at the matter afresh.

This decision follows a meeting yesterday at which the CMC and the City of Cape Town examined the allegedly unfair allocation of the R50m to cushy projects instead of to more urgent needs in poor areas.

The ANC-dominated Cape Town City Council declared a formal dispute with the NNP-led CMC about two weeks ago, saying that the CMC's about-turn on the criteria for the allocation of the money was "illegal, inequitable and unconstitutional". The CMC in turn accused the City of Cape Town of party politicking.

At the heart of the dispute was the CMC's allocation of money for local functions and services — in the areas where they live — to councillors appointed on a proportional representation basis. In other words, they were not ward councillors, yet they were giving money for services in their residen-

tial areas in what was believed to be a vote-catching exercise.

The CMC apparently ignored the City of Cape Town's list of areas badly in need of upgrading and proceeded to earmark R1,8m for protection against beachfront erosion in Camps Bay, R1,44m for the Hugo Lamprecht Music Centre in Parow and R530 000 for the upgrading of the Boshoff Gates in Newlands.

Saleem Mowzer, chairperson of the City of Cape Town executive committee, said the council welcomed the CMC's decision to scrap the "inequitable allocation of the R50m discretionary fund".

"We believe the position we have taken on the matter for the past four weeks has been thoroughly vindicated," he said. "We look forward to working with the CMC and other local councils in ensuring these funds are properly allocated to meet the needs of the poor on an equitable basis and as rapidly as possible."

Mowzer said the CMC's decision would affect equitable allocation of all local government funds in the future.

(499)(263) et 11/5/99

The battle is on for the hearts and souls of the Cape's coloureds, whose votes will decide the outcome of the most fiercely contested provincial election JANET HEARD and CAROL PATON report

MAGDALEINE Schultz might be 75 years old but she still felt strongly enough about politics to punch her daughter (from behind) outside the Bonteheuwel civic centre on Tuesday when she told her mother to shut up

Schultz, who "worked 25 years" for the National Party and before that the Labour Party, will die a Nat she says. Her daughter, whose affiliations are unknown, just wants her to stop shouting her mouth off

"This is South Africa, not Africa. They [ANC supporters] shouldn't have crossed the border — they were supposed to stay on the other side," says Schultz, shouting at a group of ANC canvassers

Her diatribe support will continue she says despite the fact that her second greatest political hero (after F.W. de Klerk) — Cape Flats firebrand Patrick McKenzie — betrayed her and crossed over to the ANC. For some, such as Schultz, the issues remain clear. McKenzie is a "Judas" and the NP is still the strongest buffer between party supporters and "the others" across the border

But for many more the choice is no longer that clear. Since 1994 when coloureds gave the NP their unflinching support the picture has changed dramatically. For probably the first time coloured voters face a political dilemma. Either they stay with the NP — faltering and in disarray — hoping to still benefit from the old racial hierarchy that put coloureds ahead of blacks. Or they throw in their lot with the ANC hoping that together they can launch a concerted assault on white privileges, which have ostensibly remained intact since 1994

In this battle Peter Marais — a robust leader with US gospel preacher style — is the NP's chief vote-catcher. With years of sales experience — including a stint selling underwear — behind him before he entered politics, Marais is the kind of man who can sell anything to anyone



ELECTION ESSAY



VORACIOUS VOTE-CATCHER: The NP's Peter Marais not only speaks the people's language, he sings it — karaoke-style



PARTY POOPER: NP defector Patrick 'Judas' McKenzie flanked by four new-found ANC friends while electioneering for his adopted party in the Cape this week. Pictures: AMBROSE PETERS

'Brown Afrikaners' ready to stand fast in Cape of storms

ST 16/5/99 (269)

held-created coloured "dormitory town" outside Cape Town. It is his 17th speech in three days and his voice is hoarse. But as he enters the packed hall he gets carried away by the moment

— 90 minutes later he's still going strong, to rousing applause. Marais not only speaks the people's language, he sings it (karaoke-style) and has responded to an appeal among blue-collar workers and the unemployed in Atlantis, he tells them "We represent 60 percent of the population in the Western Cape! No one will govern unless we say so — this is why suddenly everyone is your friend

"The NP is the natural home of brown Afrikaners — you must stand up and be the boss." But the reality is that coloureds have the same problems they did before. Poverty is almost tangible in the two-storey walk-ups of the Cape Flats, adorned with gang insignia and faded rows of washing. The water is frequently cut off, children play truant and the gangs remain the most powerful — and the richest — influence. Alcohol, drugs and joblessness add to social problems, the greatest refuge from which is in religion. It is into this environment of despondency that the ANC has

launched its critique of the NP, playing the race card to excellent effect. Its basic argument is that, in 1994, people in the Western Cape gave the NP a chance. But, the argument goes, "they used almost tangibly in the two-storey white privilege"

All over the country, people are getting a chance for a better life. But in the Western Cape people feel they have been left out. It's an argument that leaves many coloured people visibly rattled. Little can be more convincing than an argument cast in racial terms, which for so many years has provided the rationale for everything. But despite these

home truths, the ANC remains an unlikely political home. For a year, it has tried hard to change its cultural image, electing a new leadership — in particular, Ebrahim Rasool as leader — and incorporating aspects of Cape culture into its approach. "Die ANC nu op in die Kaap — dis duidelik" (The ANC is advancing in the Cape — it's clear) is its newest election sing-along *wofsiedie*. At rallies, youngsters sing alongside mbaqanga artists and everyone takes to the floor to live to Brenda Fassie. These efforts and the recruitment of prominent coloured NP leaders are sure to have some

to McKenzie persuading, cajoling, convincing Bonteheuwel, home to Schultz since she was moved there in 1960 — ironically by the party she'll die supporting — is also McKenzie's stamping ground. While there are many who say he has betrayed them, these people are also long-time NP voters, now thinking hard about where to place their vote. Gangsterism, violence and the counter-violence of Pagad are all factors that will impact on voting — most probably having a negative effect on the turnout. According to Marais, as many as 40 percent of coloureds have not registered to vote. For the marginalised, gang violence increases the alienation they feel from the political process. It creates "a fear of being under siege by gangsters and the belief that they could be the next target," says conflict analyst Eldred de Klerk. For some among the better-off, the Muslim fundamentalism aroused by Pagad is also likely to make them less willing to vote. A low turnout among coloureds is sure to benefit the ANC most, allowing it to make the most of its extremely strong support in black areas. Blacks make up about 22 percent of the province's population. Among whites — also about 22 percent of the population — the ANC has about seven percent. Adding up the figures, ANC strategists say they would certainly not need more than 40 percent of the coloured vote to win the province. Outright victory for the ANC, however, remains unlikely. Recent opinion polls put the ANC and the NP neck and neck, with 30 and 31 percent of support. Second prize for it would probably be to emerge as the biggest party in an ANC-led coalition government, including the NP and smaller opposition parties, but excluding the DP, which has said it will not join any coalition that includes the ANC. But the NP, together with the DP (which at last poll held 11 percent), could still keep the ANC out in the cold by forming their own coalition. But what if you get what is a question over which the Cape voters will keep political parties in suspense until the last minute. Surveys say that nearly a quarter of voters are still undecided, waiting to see which is the winning horse to back. Their decisions could tip the scales either way. With only 17 days to go to the election, the Western Cape race is still wide open.

Muslims ready to boycott elections

BD 18/5/99 (263)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Political tension in the Western Cape is mounting ahead of elections, with the situation likely to become even more volatile as Muslim groups start a campaign to boycott the polls.

Muslims Against Illegitimate Leaders (Mail) spokesman Abdurahman Khan says the organisation will be putting up posters, distributing leaflets and canvassing at political meetings to discourage people from voting. He spoke after organisations affiliated to the Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) met and decided at the weekend to encourage people not to vote.

The IUC claims to have 340 affiliates, representing thousands of Muslims countrywide. Its resolution against voting was based on the fact that no political party expressed the religious aspirations of Muslims, who could not support a secular state. It was also a protest against the lack of delivery, government's failure to act against crime and government's support for homosexuals' and prostitutes' rights.

Khan said the only party vaguely appealing to Mail was the Pan Africanist Congress because it supported having criminals punished by amputation.

Meanwhile, police say they have uncovered plans by People Against Gangsterism and Drugs to launch a nationwide bombing campaign to disrupt elections. It allegedly began with the bombing of Athlone police station earlier this month.

Central government officials said they were more concerned about the security situation in the Western Cape than in

KwaZulu-Natal. Intelligence information from the Western Cape appeared less reliable, and police management there was still dominated by the "old guard".

Tension escalated yesterday with New National Party premier Gerald Morkel claiming that political intolerance was threatening to destabilise the province.

Morkel cancelled a visit to Vrygrond squatter camp on the Cape Flats, where he was scheduled to launch a home-building programme, after police advised him of the "life-threatening" presence of the African National Congress. The matter would be reported to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, Morkel said. He claimed he was also prevented from addressing a meeting in the Riviersonderend town hall by ANC supporters last week. "The ANC claims to support democracy, but creates 'no-go' areas for anyone not of their political persuasion," he said.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore said Vrygrond's community had the right to protest against Morkel's presence.

At the weekend, the United Democratic Movement's attempts to canvass in the ANC stronghold of Nyanga drew hostility from ANC supporters. IEC and Network of Independent Monitors officials and soldiers kept the two groups apart.

ANC provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha said it was becoming difficult for the party to restrain members.

The IEC is concerned about the threats. However, IEC officer Courtney Sampson says the IEC is confident security forces will be able to deal with them.

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IUC to exercise right not to vote

RHODA DAVIDS

THE Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) denies it is calling for a boycott of the election but says its members will exercise their right not to vote

"The IUC is not inciting others not to vote. It is our members who have decided to exercise their political right not to," Imam Achmad Cassiem, national chairperson of the IUC, said yesterday at a press conference.

Cassiem emphasised that the IUC is not a racial or ethnic group, but rather a mass of people who have been oppressed. He added that there are more than 300 organisations within the IUC and all have expressed a vote of no-confidence in the political parties taking part in the election.

"We believe that the parties contesting the election cannot fulfil the aspirations of the oppressed masses, especially with the two cornerstones of the apartheid regime, racism and capitalism, still intact," said Cassiem.

He added that alternatives to not participating in the election have been discussed, including an option that all Muslims should vote for the party of their choice. However, this was ruled out because the views of political parties could clash with the "moral standing" of Muslims.

Also considered was whether Muslims should be encouraged to vote for parties to the left of the ruling party.

"But to support a party, you have to support all its principles. Because all the principles of parties such as the PAC and Azapo cannot be endorsed, that too was ruled out," Cassiem said.



ABSTAINING: Imam Achmad Cassiem of the IUC.

ET 19/5/99

ANC wins battle for Tygerberg

Court rules against New NP

METRO REPORTER

ARLW 26/5/99 (263)

The African National Congress has won a High Court battle with the New National Party for control of the City of Tygerberg, and has pledged to speed up transformation in the area.

The ANC caucus yesterday called for a special council meeting within seven days to transform the council structures.

The ANC aims to re-direct the council's budget towards uplifting poor communities.

It made the call at yesterday's council meeting in Goodwood. The New NP learnt yesterday it had lost its Cape High Court bid to prevent the ANC from restructuring

the council, taking over key positions in standing committees and replacing the mayor.

The New NP had also asked that the court declare vacant the ward seat of Carol McKenzie, who crossed the floor in March from the New NP to the ANC.

The party claimed that Mrs McKenzie, wife of ANC MP Patrick McKenzie, agreed two years ago not to defect to any other party.

The New NP claimed that, in terms of the agreement, Mrs McKenzie was obliged to resign from the council and vacate her ward seat.

With Mrs McKenzie's defection, the ANC became the majority party in the council. Mr Justice John Foxcroft said in



High five: City of Tygerberg executive committee chairman Michael Naicker, left, attorney Peter Williams, ANC provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha, Carol McKenzie and ANC MP Leonard Ramatlakane after the ANC's court victory yesterday over the New NP

his five-minute judgment yesterday that he was not satisfied that the New NP was entitled to "any of the relief sought and the application is dismissed with costs".

Judge Foxcroft, with Mr Justice André Blignault concurring, said the New NP had no basis for bringing the case to court.

ANC councillor Michael Naicker, the council's executive committee chairman, then asked the New NP caucus to call a special council meeting on either Friday or Monday. ANC attorney Peter Williams said the New NP's court application

could be seen as a desperate attempt to stem the tide of defections from its ranks, while Claude Iperser, New NP councillor and its attorney, said "Obviously we are disappointed".

"We will consider the judgment. There are a few questions. This litigation is not taken lightly."

Mrs McKenzie said she was looking forward to her party's control of the council and its budget "so that our poor communities can benefit". Mr McKenzie, who attended the court hearing and council meeting with other top ANC members yesterday,

said the New NP should realise it could not use people's money to "run to court all the time".

With the ANC's court victory, the party could now redirect resources to much-needed areas, he said.

ANC provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha said the court's decision might pave the way for more defections from the New NP. ANC MP Leonard Ramatlakane, the party's provincial housing spokesman, said one of the first issues the ANC-controlled council would tackle was the availability of land for housing.

IAN LANDSBERG

IEC DECISION OVERTURNED

Last-minute court case gives W Cape 42 seats

27/5/99 (263)

JOHANNESBURG: Within days of the election, rival political parties in the Western Cape have welcomed a Constitutional Court judgment that bolsters the province's constitution.

THE Constitutional Court yesterday overturned a decision by the Independent Electoral Commission to allow the Western Cape legislature only 39 members instead of 42 after the June 2 election

The decision is not expected to influence the coming election, the court was told

Constitutional Court president Justice Arthur Chaskalson handed down judgment following an urgent application by Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel

The matter was moved forward to yesterday because the election was only a week away

"The number of 42 members in the Western Cape legislature is governed by section 13 of the constitution of the Western Cape," Chaskalson said

"The determination by the respondents (IEC) that after the election there would be only 39 members is invalid"

The application was dismissed with costs. It was unanimous and reasons for the decision will be

**ELECTION
countdown
06 DAYS TO GO**

given at a later stage

During argument, Justice Albie Sachs contended that the number of seats would not affect democracy — only the size of the legislature

The national Constitution allows for deviations from the norm, he said

In March this year the IEC determined the size of provincial legislatures for after the June 2 election

It ruled that the Western Cape would be allowed to have only 39 members in its legislature instead of the 42 provided for in the provincial constitution

The figure was determined by the IEC in accordance with a formula prescribed by national legislation. The formula allows for one representative for every 100 000 of the population

Using statistics from the 1996

population census putting the Western Cape population at 3 956 875, the IEC determined that the legislature should have only 39 members.

The Western Cape government argued on Wednesday that this decision by the IEC was at odds with the province's constitution.

Legal counsel for the applicant, advocate Janet Kentridge, submitted that the number of seats in the Western Cape legislature was validly determined by the provincial constitution

She argued that national legislation allowed for a number of between 30 and 80 representatives in the legislature. The Western Cape number of 42 fell well within this ambit

The IEC, represented by advocate Ishmael Semanya, argued that the votes cast by the Western Cape electorate would not carry equal weight to those cast in other provinces

Premier Morkel expressed delight at the court's decision, declaring it a "victory for the electorate in the province governed by the New National Party"

The Democratic Party spokesperson for the province, Hennie Bester, said the party is "thrilled" with the unanimous ruling by the court — Sapa

ELECTION

(263) PM 28/5/99

QIBLA'S VAIN CRUSADE

Most Muslims likely to vote

By the beginning of this week, a small number of Muslims working for the Independent Electoral Commission had resigned after getting death threats. One obvious conclusion was that this was a consequence of last week's call by a body called the Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) for Muslims to boycott the June 2 election.

After the resignations, the IUC immediately denounced the death threats. It said its boycott call had arisen because it could not accept a secular state, and that none of the contesting parties represented its viewpoints on issues like the death penalty, prostitution and gay rights. It also objected to a general failure to curb crime and fulfil election promises.

IUC chairman Achmad Cassiem is also the leader of Qibla, usually described as a fundamentalist group pressing for an Islamic state. There seems to be a great deal of overlapping between Qibla and the IUC, though the number of people involved is unknown. "They have never come clean," says an Islamic theologian.

Qibla has also been named in connec-

tion with the activities of Pagad, the controversial anticrime group linked to the assassination of known gangsters and to assorted terror bombs in the Western Cape. The connection has not been proved, however, and there are suggestions that there is antagonism between Pagad and Qibla.

The IUC claims to represent 342 affiliates with a total national membership of 100 000 Muslims. If true, this would be almost a quarter of SA's 450 000 Muslims, about 1,3% of the population. Yet in 1994, when two overtly Muslim parties stood for office, not one made the slightest headway. Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool, a Muslim, has slammed the IUC for being unrepresentative of Islamic opinion, which he says vests largely in the Muslim

Judicial Council representing imams from 100 mosques in the province.

So just what is the IUC? Farid Esack, a leading Muslim scholar, says its membership claims are "a lie". He concedes that Cassiem's Convention has legitimacy within the community, that it has both an executive and a radio station (the Islamic Radio 786), and that Cassiem has played an important mentoring role with Islamic youth. But "while the IUC has an element of being an umbrella body, there is no coherent interaction between the executive and the claimed affiliates", Esack says. In addition, it lacks any legitimate mandate from its claimed 342 "affiliates".

Esack adds "The IUC has consistently been challenged over the past five years to prove its bona fides. The least it owes the public is a membership list — and it has refused to furnish one."

When the IUC was launched in 1994, a number of Muslim clerical organisations refused to attend the inaugural meeting. In the absence of proof to the contrary, the "affiliates" could merely be an arbitrary list of those Muslims who did attend, with or without their permission to be claimed as falling under the IUC aegis.

Esack notes that the IUC has a perfect right to resist the prevailing order. But it has not chosen to accept the democratic process of making its objections more widely known, he says. Opposition parties ranging from the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) to the Freedom Front field programmes with many of the same conservative social views as the IUC. Cassiem and his men, he argues, are "trapped in the logic of non-co-operation".

➤ The least the IUC owes the public is a membership list — which it has refused. ➤
Farid Esack

Cassiem's utterances are frequently pseudo-profound, reducing to little on inspection. Thus "If the truth is on your side you will always be in the majority, even if you are in a majority of one." And "Racism is an absurdity. Multiracialism is racialism multiplied." Such statements, Esack says, amount to the rhetoric of fascism — unconstitutional rule by decree. As for the illusion that SA could become an Islamic state, Esack notes that even Pakistan, with a overwhelming Muslim population, has not yet become one.

Peter Wilhelm

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'5 000 TO STAY AWAY ON MORAL GROUNDS'

Muslim body shuns polls

ET 31/5/99

(263)

ABDURAHMAN KHAN, head of Muslims Against Illegitimate Leaders, says he prevented a speaker from delivering the Muslim Judicial Council's appeal to Muslims to vote. **GASANT ABARDER** reports.

MUSLIMS Against Illegitimate Leaders (Mail) claimed yesterday that its 5 000 members would not go to the polls on Wednesday even though they had registered to vote.

Chairperson Abdurahman Khan also disclosed that he had been responsible for preventing a speaker from delivering the Muslim Judicial Council's (MJC) appeal to Muslims to vote just before Friday's prayers at the Gatesville Mosque.

On Friday, sheikhs and imams at 100 mosques in the Western Cape urged the Muslim community to take part in the elections. However, at the Gatesville Mosque, the president of the Muslim Youth Movement, Naeem Jeenah, was shouted down before he could deliver the MJC's appeal.

"We knew Jeenah would attend the mosque and we allowed him to speak," Khan said. "We were tolerant. He spoke

about moral issues but side-stepped questions of immorality. It was when he made sweeping statements that Muslims made use of prostitution, that their children were having abortions and that they participated in gambling that I had to stop him.

"The MJC has no right to impose its opinions on people in this way."

The prayers continued, Khan said, and he escorted Jeenah out of the mosque to ensure his safety.

It was "sinister" that several members of the police and media were near the mosque at the time, Khan said. Members of the congregation had been irate.

The chairperson of the Gatesville Mosque, Sataar Parker, said: "Jeenah was invited to speak about why Muslims could vote if they so desired."

"This was a sequel to imam Achmat Cassiem's lecture, given the previous Friday, about his decision not to vote," Parker

said. "We felt it was important that members of the Gatesville congregation should hear both sides so they could make an informed choice."

Outlining the reasons why Mail and its members — which he said number 5 000 nationally — would abstain from voting, Khan said a state that supports prostitution, gambling and abortion could not be endorsed.

"We want to call on the community — Jewish, Christian, Hindus and all religions, especially the oppressed — in joining what is right and forbidding what is evil."

A state "must be based on some sort of religious principles", Khan said.

"As a taxpayer I have the right to oppose a government that is based on lies, deceit, corruption, immorality and broken promises. I want to bring into question the legitimacy of this government."

Khan said he had heard of the threats that prompted Muslim members of the Independent Electoral Commission to resign. He gave an assurance that Mail would not disrupt the elections, although it would monitor them.



Where there's smoke: Hendrick Jacobs, 76, and his daughter, Willemina van Sitters, live in a clay house over 100 years old

Thirsty Zoar set to cast vote for water

UDM gains ground in stricken Karoo corner

RRK 116/99 (263)



Report
ASHLEY SMITH



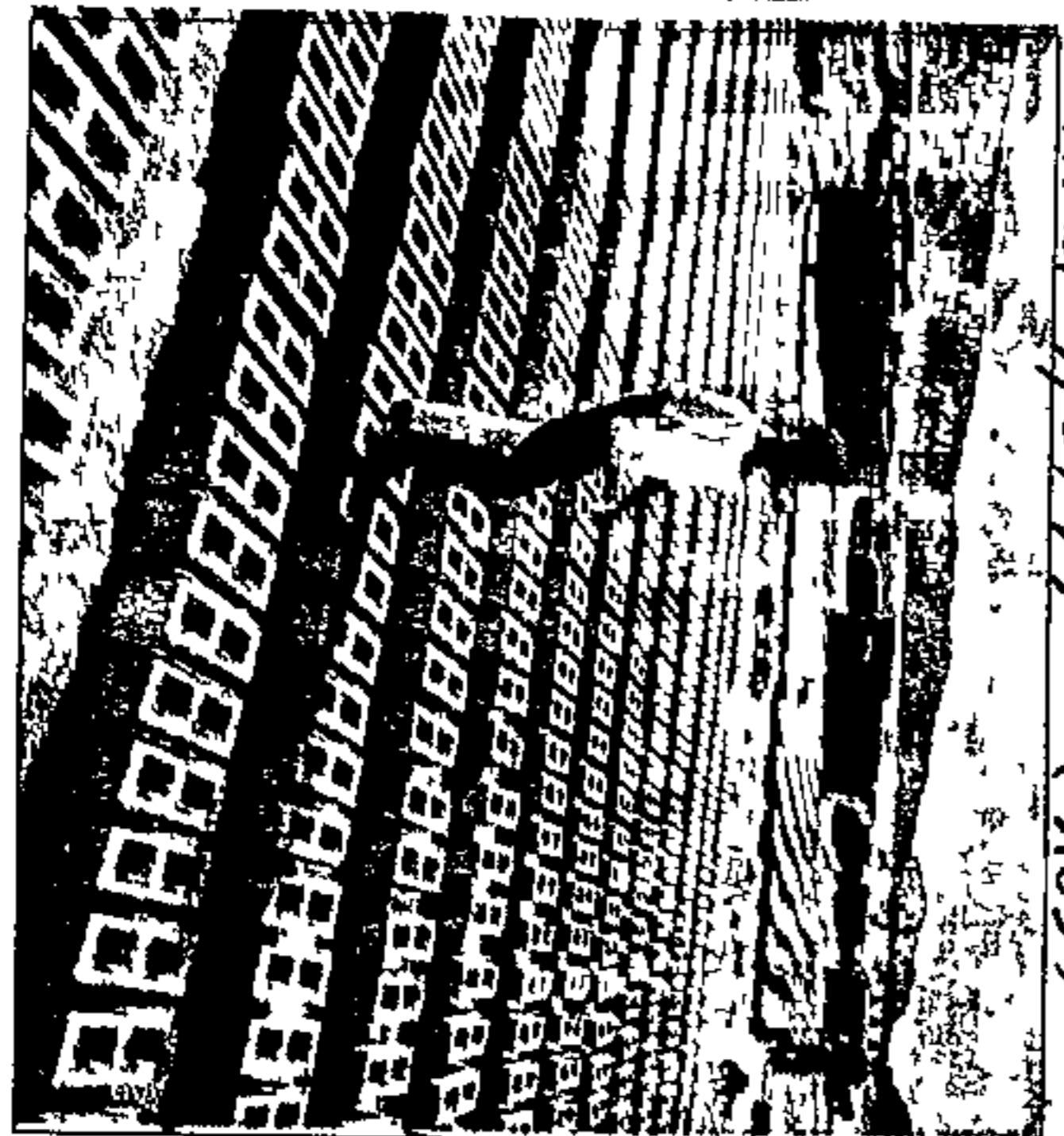
Pictures
LEON MULLER

The poverty, despair and desperation of the people of Zoar, battling for survival between the affluent towns of Oudtshoorn and Ladismith, hover over the dry, thirsty village like a flock of vultures.

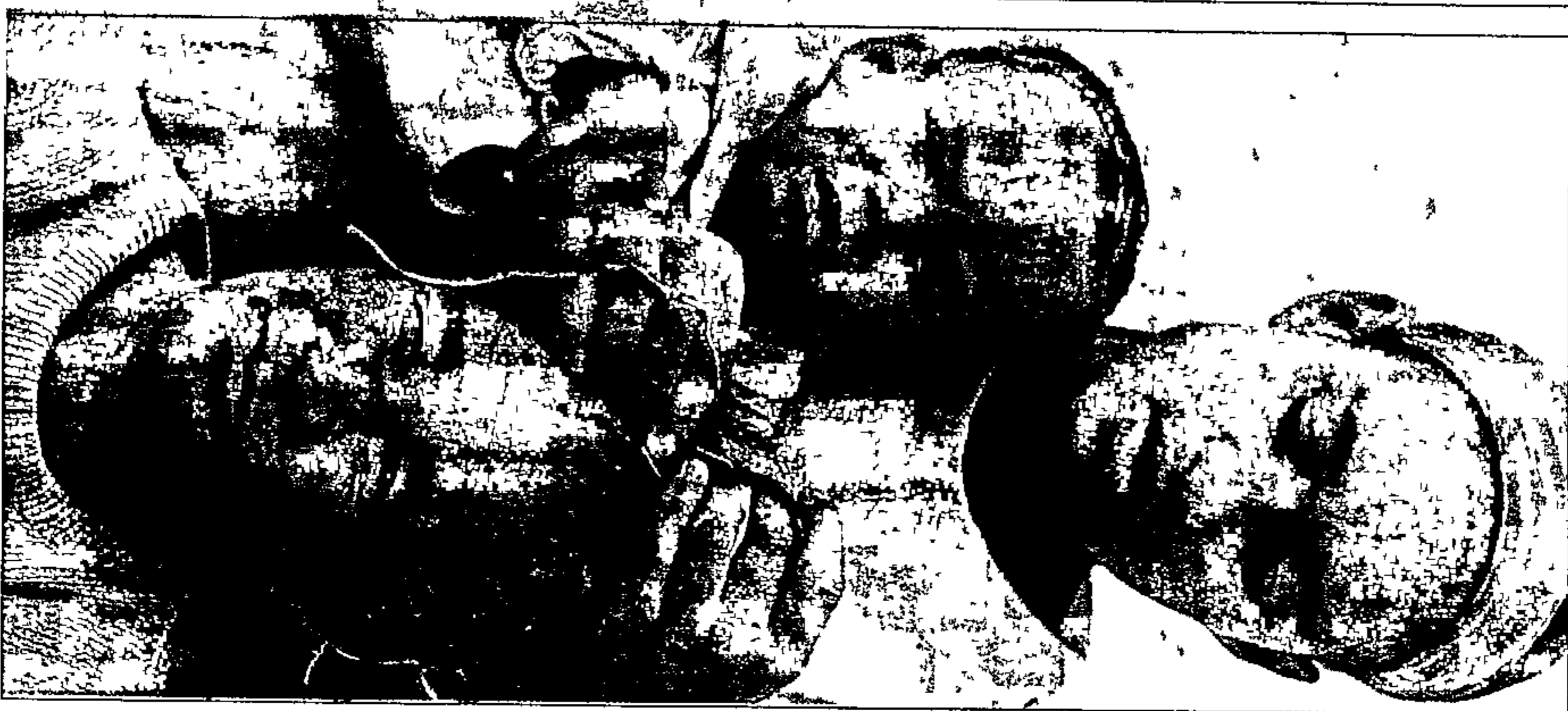
As long as the oldest person in Zoar can remember, the problem has been essentially the same. Zoar, which came into being in 1817, is parched. There is no adequate water supply for local farmers to grow food for the impoverished 3 000-plus inhabitants.

Since the 1994 election, won by the African National Congress here, not much has changed from the days when a possible lifeline to Zoar, the plentiful nearby Nels River, flowed through white owned farmlands only.

Even today progress seems to be passing Zoar by. The village, which had a proud record in the anti-apartheid struggle, is dying a slow death. Most of the better-educated children have left for better futures in large towns and cities. Few villagers are "farmers" in the



Legwork: Grant Kortom, 12, plays among the bricks for a low-cost housing development in Zoar



Generations: Zoar residents Willemina van Sitters, 54, daughter Geraldine, 22, and granddaughter Shamone

REPORT '99

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Few villagers are "farmers" in the true sense. In summer, the surrounding valley greenery still stretches into the distance. Sparse Zoar vineyards and small patches of fruit orchards lend colour to the otherwise rocky and dusty mountain slopes, dotted with dry Karoo bushes.

When Zoar goes to the polls tomorrow, the encroaching winter will have made the landscape even bleaker.

But now one of its "prodigal sons", who left for Cape Town years ago, has returned - bringing with him the "gospel" of the United Democratic Movement.

On April 21 the UDM won a municipal by-election, giving the party the balance of power in the ANC-run council.

The UDM's Frederick Konstabel, 44, a former ANC supporter who returned to Zoar two years ago after living in Belhar in Cape Town, became chairman of the town council.

His 80-year-old father, Marthinus Konstabel, a former ANC town councillor and legendary anti-apartheid campaigner in the area, says he is not angry about his son's political re-alignment.

He accepted the ANC had been unable to address the town's problems.

His son had crossed to the UDM because after five years of ANC rule Zoar remained the same, the elder Mr Konstabel said. Before the by-election he had himself quit the town council.

The younger Mr Konstabel said he had come back to Zoar because he believed he could make a difference to the lives of villagers, who continued to suffer in spite of the advent of the new South Africa.

"It is true that the ANC could not make an impact on Zoar's water problem. People have turned to the UDM, but even we can foresee no short-term solution to the problem. People will continue to suffer."

He said the UDM aimed to give priority to the water shortage problem.

Zoar residents interviewed wanted change - and wanted it fast.

With the ever-present water problem has come the growing spectre of unemployment, with most working people finding employment on white-owned farms in Ladismith or as domestic servants.

Geraldine van Sitters said she would vote UDM tomorrow. She works for a white family in Ladismith and was forced to remain overnight in the neighbouring town during the week. She earned R25 a day and could not afford to travel back and forth every day, she said. Her two-year-old daughter Shamone stays behind in Zoar.

Her mother, Wilhemina van Sitters, 54, earns R20 a day working for a neighbouring farmer.

"When it rains the farmer does not pay us a day's wages.

"Last week I was paid for only three days' work - and I have a son who is in matric this year."

ELECTION '99



THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL



Farmer Andnes Raadlof

Legwork: Grant Kortom, housing development in 7

Late crowds a security concern

(263) BD 3/6/99
 Officials calm tense situations in Cape Peninsula

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Congestion at 12 polling stations in the Western Cape led to at least one incident of violence where security forces had to be called in to restore order.

Crowds of up to 4 000 were keen to cast their votes, and provincial electoral officer Courtney Sampson said the situation was extremely tense. However, waiting people calmed down once they realised they would be able to cast their votes.

While voting got off to a smooth start at most polling stations — 60% of registered voters in the province had voted by 5pm — voters became frustrated as the day progressed and queues lengthened. This was especially so at Cape Flats townships such as Khayelitsha, Crossroads, Nyanga and Guguletu. In Khayelitsha, frustrated people started pushing, and damaged the polling station.

Political leaders described the queues as “unbelievable”, “excessive” and “unacceptable”. As night fell, the queues raised security concerns.

According to election officials, the delays were exacerbated by the arrival of declaration voters, following a late change to the election regulations which allowed people to vote away from their registration points.

Many Cape Town-based voters from the Eastern Cape made use of this concession. Sampson could not say how many declaration voters there were, but he believed they were adding significantly to the overcrowding.

The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) decided that all those still queuing to vote at the 9pm deadline would be allowed to vote, however late. Staff and resources from underutilised stations were redeployed to black areas.

The African National Congress

(ANC) complained that black areas had been underresourced, and said it would not accept losing votes because of this.

Despite recent clashes between ANC and United Democratic Movement (UDM) members, no violence was reported. There was a hoax bomb threat at a Nyanga polling station.

Two presiding officers were investigated for bias. One in Kyamandi in Stellenbosch was removed after the UDM claimed he was suggesting to voters that they choose the ANC.

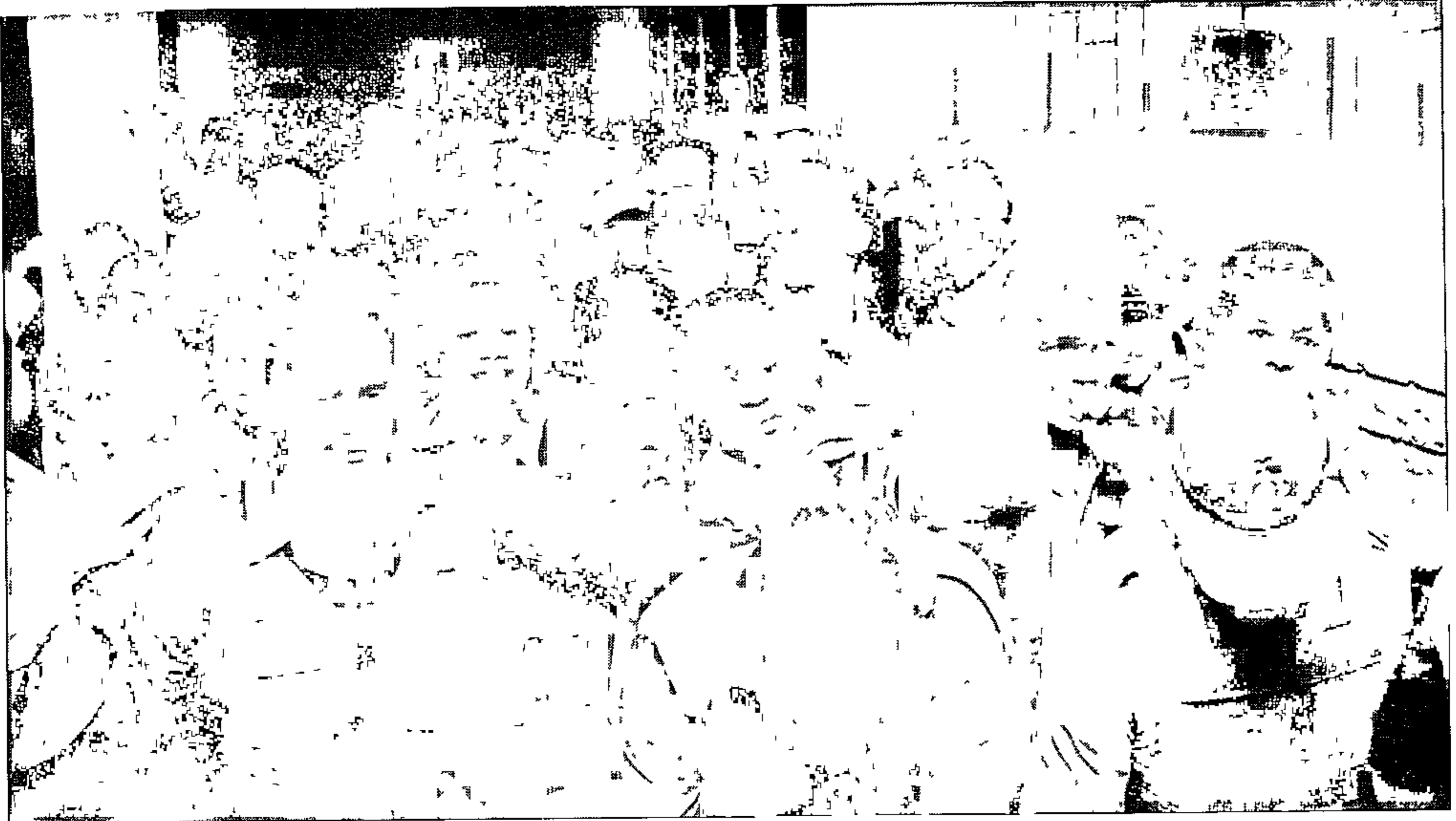
Political parties kept a vigilant eye on their rivals, inundating the IEC with complaints of intimidation and irregular canvassing. Some charges were laid.

The DP lodged a complaint that the presiding officer in New Crossroads, Dwakala Ncabela, had threatened its agents with death and forced them out of the station. The ANC lodged a complaint with the police about a farmer who refused to allow people onto his farm to vote at the polling station there.

The ANC's highly visibility at the perimeter of polling stations, where information tables had been positioned, led to numerous complaints about improper canvassing — even though this practice is allowed by the Electoral Act. The Inkatha Freedom Party complained that ANC officials were campaigning inside the perimeters of voting stations.

Problems with ballot papers and other equipment meant some polling stations opened late. However, by 1pm all stations were operational.

After party officials complained that tender ballot papers had been used at several polling stations, instead of proper papers, the IEC decided with the concurrence of all the parties that these ballot papers should be counted. Tender ballots are designed for those not on the voters' roll who insist they have registered, and may be counted if the Electoral Court gives the go-ahead.



MISH-MASH: At 10pm last night — an hour after polling stations were supposed to close — there was chaos at the Joe Slovo High School in Khayelitsha where thousands of residents waited for hours to vote

PICTURE: JACK LESTRADE

'POLLING STATIONS UNPREPARED'

Raw deal for black voters

THOUSANDS of people in African areas were unable to vote yesterday because of long queues and short resources. In predominantly white and coloured areas, voting proceeded smoothly **JUDITH SOAL** and **JOHNSON MESI** report

SHORTLY before midnight last night, hundreds of people were still queueing to vote at the Nozukile Educare Centre in Khayelitsha

At Joe Slovo High School, down the road, police and would-be voters almost came to blows until a second classroom was turned into a polling station — at 10pm

At nearby Chumisa Primary School about 800 voters packed onto the school concourse at 9pm to avoid being locked out of the premises. It was much the same in Gugulethu, Nyanga, Langa, Philippi and Crossroads. All day people queued around the block, waiting in the hot sun to cast their votes.

Many waited up to eight hours before they could vote, others gave up long before that.

Yet in the southern suburbs the queues were virtually non-existent. In Mitchells Plain you might

expect to queue for about two hours, in Woodstock less than half that.

"This is just completely unacceptable," said ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool last night. "We warned the IEC that this would happen after we saw the trend with the special voting, but still nothing was done."

Rasool was travelling between polling stations in Khayelitsha last night to see the queues for himself.

The ANC believes that 50 000 people, mostly ANC supporters, were prejudiced by this "administrative blundering".

"In white areas there are whole polling stations for 500 voters, but here you have 6 000 (people) supposed to vote in one tiny room," he said. The IEC employs the same number of staff to run the small stations as for the large ones.

"We are going around seeing

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where the problems are and what can be done," Rasool said. "But this is the IEC's job, they should be here. What is remarkable is that the voters are still here, I applaud them for their patience."

But not every one was so patient. It is impossible to say how many people went straight home when they saw the long queues or gave up after a few hours' wait.

One of these people was Miriam Bomvana. Bomvana and a group of her friends arrived at the Gugulethu Civic Hall at 10am, before the sun was at its peak. By 3pm, after standing outside with her child on her back for close on five hours, she gave up.

"This is enough," she said. "I am tired and my child is hungry and we are going home."

Earlier police had to call for reinforcements at the station because some people in the queue became impatient and started pushing to get into the hall. No one was hurt but the mood remained tense throughout the day. At another station a steel gate was pushed down when voters

tried to move forward. In Khayelitsha a woman's arm was broken when she was crushed by a crowd of people trying to get into a voting station.

ANC party monitor Vuyani Ngcoka said 60% of the polling stations in the Khayelitsha area were not using scanners. "Some places don't have electricity and there are no batteries, some of them don't work, sometimes people don't know how to use them. It is a problem." Because voting was set to continue into the early morning, no results from these areas can be expected until late today. There is no doubt that these are ANC areas. And there's no doubt that the areas where voting went smoothly are likely to favour the NNP.

ANC spokesperson Cameron Dugmore was uncharacteristically sombre last night. "These people have suffered enough," he said. "Was this really necessary?"

He said the fact that some election officials were trying to find generators to provide light at 9pm was a "clear indication of neglect and disregard".

Cape Town Muslims defy call to boycott election

Many join queues 'to exercise democratic right to vote'

SHARKEY ISAACS
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Many of Cape Town's estimated 150 000 Muslim voters streamed to polling centres in open defiance of a call from the Islamic Unity Convention to boycott the general election.

Yesterday, the chairman of the Majlisush-Shura-Al-Islami (Islamic Legislative Assembly), Igsahn Behardien, joined scores of Muslims at the polling centre at Druuweweler, Manenberg.

Mr Behardien of Surrey Estate, Athlone, a predominantly Muslim area on the Cape Flats, said "As a South African citizen, I felt the right thing to do was to exercise my democratic right to vote

"The Shura ruled that voting was a personal matter best left to the discretion of each individual, but I personally believe everyone should demonstrate his or her right to vote."

Bo-Kaap resident Hassiem Saie said he, too, had ignored the boycott call and had gone to vote.

"There was a constant flow of voters at a polling centre near my home, indicating many people agreed with me," he said.

Mitchell's Plain's champion power-lifter Moegsien Philander, winner of gold medals at the international Master's Championships, voted near his home at Westridge. "I was glad to see that I had reached consensus with lots of people."

A Woodstock community work-

er, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he had cast his vote after standing for hours in a long queue. Nothing could be achieved through the stay-away call.

"I felt I have boycotted long enough because I have been boycotting since 1951 and I've now grown tired of these calls," he said.

The IUC call urged all Muslims not to vote and to register a vote of no-confidence in the Government and all other political parties.

It was met by counter-calls from prominent Muslim scholars and religious and community leaders, who urged Muslim voters to exercise their vote "in good conscience."

Among them were Professor Abdul Kader Tayob from the University of Cape Town, Farouk

Cassiem of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Imam Rashid Omar from the Claremont Mosque, Shaikh Suraj Hendricks and Farid Essack of the Commission on Gender Equality.

They emphasised that while they did not believe any particular party could give full and complete expression to all the aspirations of Muslims, they also believed Muslims had a social responsibility to take part in the elections.

They said in a joint statement "These elections have not come cheaply; they are the result of many years of struggle wherein many of our citizens, including Muslims, gave their lives. Muslims have been in this country for more than 350 years and are an integral part of its present and its future."

Counting on Woodstock



Totting up: Independent Electoral Commission officials empty



Queuing for Africa it was a long and winding wait for these voters outside a polling station in Crossroads

ROY WILEY

Row over township queues

IEC under fire as voting drags through the early hours

APR 3/6/99

(2/3)

STAFF REPORTERS

People who were unable to vote yesterday in Site C Blue Hall were protesting outside it today, demanding their say.

Police station presiding officer Mlungisi Mngandini said about 1 000 people had been unable to vote yesterday because of long queues. Shortly after the polling station closed at 3am today, angry people said they would not allow Mr Mngandini and his voting officials to leave the polling station until they were allowed to vote.

Police had to intervene to free the voting officials.

Mr Mngandini said that people waiting in long queues yesterday for hours had left, planning to return. "But when they came back this morning, we were already finished." Provincial electoral officer Courtney Sampson acknowledged that in some instances "there were people who came to vote after the polling stations closed, but obviously the time for voting had ended and we informed them of that."

He said IEC officials were not aware of problems arising from this, but would be getting in touch with the police to verify claims that problems had arisen.

He said that no violent incidents had been reported during the election process.

Mr Sampson said that outstanding results from the Cape Metropolitan area and the Tygerberg area would be announced later today in all likelihood.

"Little progress has been made with the counting in Tygerberg, since at most of the stations it began only this morning, with two of the stations having closed after 3am."

"The counting in the province is still in full swing and we hope we will be able to announce all the results by this afternoon," he said.

While the Independent Electoral Commission has been praised for a successful election in most of the Western Cape, several parties strongly criticised the IEC's "unacceptable" handling of the elections in Cape Town's townships.

In some areas, particularly Khayelitsha queues were thousands long, and voting continued well in to the early hours of today.

The last voter went through the St John's Church polling station in Khayelitsha about 3am. Representatives of the African National Congress, the United Democratic Movement and the Inkatha Freedom Party strongly

criticised the IEC's performance, but the New National Party and the Democratic Party praised it.

Mr Sampson agreed that voting conditions in some areas had been unacceptable, and called for a thorough investigation.

He said he had not considered whether the IEC itself should investigate, or whether this should be left to outside auditors.

The parties' complaints came in a series of news conferences at the IEC media centre at Customs House on the Foreshore, where IEC officials were still trying to accommodate an estimated 20 000-plus voters about 9 30pm. They had been caught in queues in the townships.

This estimate was based on information supplied by the parties and IEC records of the numbers of voters registered near the affected stations.

By that time, most of the province's 1,86-million registered voters had already been to the polls.

But in Stellenbosch, Kraaifontein, Nyanga, Khayelitsha, Langa and Philippi, presiding officers and election monitors were battling to keep the lid on the frustration of people who had queued in the sun for hours, and were facing the prospect of a chilly night out.

By 2am today, two Khayelitsha polling stations still faced a total of 1 200 voters. These were the last stations in the province still open.

Asked to respond to the charges Mr Sampson asked how the IEC could be expected to reproduce in a place like Nyanga the infrastructure that existed in Tamboerskloof. Elections reflected the state of the societies in which they took place. It could be argued that the IEC had failed to rise above these circumstances, but in reality it had merely reflected the imbalances that were part of the community.

"What we can do now is to push ourselves beyond the negativity, the weaknesses, and the inconsistencies, and achieve something to believe in," he said.

"Given the circumstances, we have come a long way to what can be called a free and fair election."

Police and soldiers were on standby at various polling stations where voters ignored queues in an attempt to make it to the polls before closing time.

In Khayelitsha, windows were broken in one station, while at Brown's Farm, Philippi, about 4 000 voters queued in the dark, while reports from Langa suggested that between 300 and 1 500 people were waiting to vote.



They also serve who only stand and wait: hundreds line the street in a polling queue in Khayelitsha waiting for their chance to vote

ROY WILEY

Spirit of change sends winelands to the polls

ASHLEY SMITH

The spirit of freedom, hope and political deliverance which five years ago fuelled the rebirth of South Africa from its racist past is still alive.

This was the overwhelming sentiment yesterday of voters in Stellenbosch, Paarl, Wellington and Worcester, who make up the majority in the Boland, the country's biggest wine-producing area.

Although the differences between the haves and the have-nots in the Boland have not diminished, voters felt their vote would make a difference and remained optimistic.

Even former National Party leader F W de Klerk expressed optimism and enthusiasm about the new South Africa over which he and Nelson Mandela had negotiated after 1990.

But it wasn't a day for politicians ordinary South Africans had the last word.

In Stellenbosch, Moses Lavens, 54, a New National Party supporter, woke up at 5am to get ready to cast his ballot.

"I believe my vote will make a difference. Many people forgot very soon what could have happened in South Africa if we had not found

political peace in 1994," he said.

In spite of the problems of unemployment, crime and frustration in the Boland, people still believed in the future. "It was a miracle in 1994 - we must remember," he said.

Adam Beukes, 50, of Paarl, who is unemployed and homeless, said he had woken at 4am at the Haven night shelter to go out and vote.

"Although we looked for a better future after 1994 - and looking back, there were a lot of broken promises - I still believe in South Africa and I believe that my vote makes a difference," he said.

Paarl itself was abuzz with last-minute political canvassing. Residents drove around in cars adorned with political posters screaming support for their party of choice.

In Wellington, queues started forming at 5.30am at some polling booths and those who had already voted prepared to celebrate the success of their party with braais later. But there were disappointments too.

In Ceres, a farmer allegedly refused his workers permission to vote, and in Wellington, about 30 angry African National Congress supporters could not find their names on the voters roll. Cameron Dugmore, ANC spokes-

man for the province, said the Ceres farmer had been reported to the Independent Electoral Commission.

In Wellington, tempers were soothed by presiding officer David Seale, who said he had told the 30 ANC supporters their names were probably on another voters roll in the same ward.

An ANC supporter, Harry le Codeur, tore up his identity document outside after being told he had to vote elsewhere.

A bitter Maart van Wyk, 78, who was told that the identity numbers in his old and new identity books did not match, also left without voting.

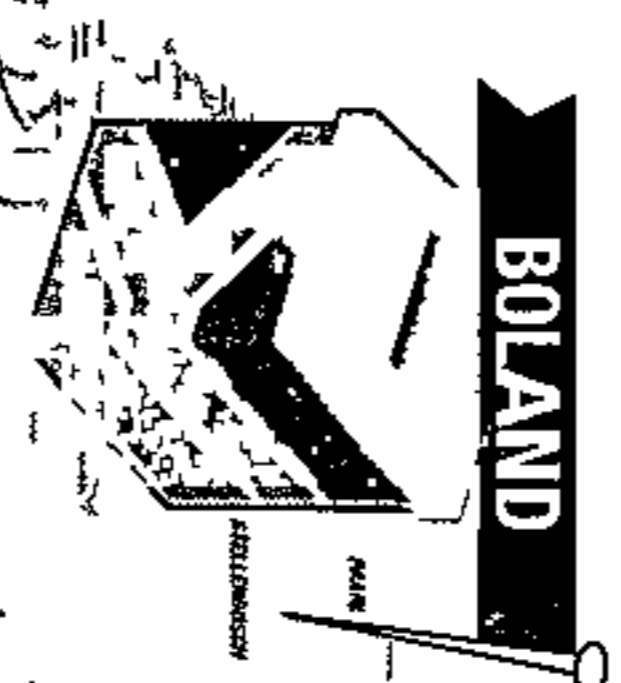
In Worcester, as the sun set at 6pm, André Theron and his wife Trix cast their ballots. The couple, who work as a prosecutor and a magistrate respectively in the local courts, said they were optimistic about the future.

They believed the country had taken the right route in 1994, but expected the new government to crack down to curb crime.

In Esselen, Worcester, Valerie Esau said that by 6pm at least 628 of a possible 939 registered voters had passed through the polling station.

Elizabeth Mxakau, 41, of Mbekweni township in Paarl, said she had voted in 1994 because she wanted things to change.

Thus time around there were no dreams of a fairytale ending, just a wish that things would get better.



Hang on: this mother had to take a breather during her six-hour wait to vote in Samora Machel informal settlement in Phillipi East.

BRENTON GEACH

It's still neck and neck for the Peninsula vote

DP's showing puts it among the Big Three

MICHAEL MORRIS
SPECIAL WRITER

Votes were still being counted in the close contest in the Western Cape early today, but clear patterns of support have emerged in the six municipal areas of the Peninsula.

With 47,7% support, the African National Congress is dominant in Cape Town central - which includes the central city, the Atlantic seaboard, Guguletu, Langa, Nyanga, Crossroads, Philippi and Mitchell's Plain

But the New National Party is ahead elsewhere, with its best showing so far (56,7%) in Helderberg, covering Strand, Somerset West, Gordon's Bay, Macassar and Lwandle, and Oostenberg (49,5%), which includes Kraaifontein, Kuil's River and Blue Downs

In spite of its second-fiddle performance in the City of Cape Town - where its tally is under 30% - the New NP's average support of more than 44% in the Peninsula as a whole is significantly higher than its average throughout the province, now standing at about 39%

Signs of the Democratic Party's broadening appeal beyond its traditional support base showed in its more than

22% share of Blaauwberg votes in the West Coast district, from Milnerton and Melkbosstrand to Atlantis and Mamre, and its 11,6% share of votes in Oostenberg

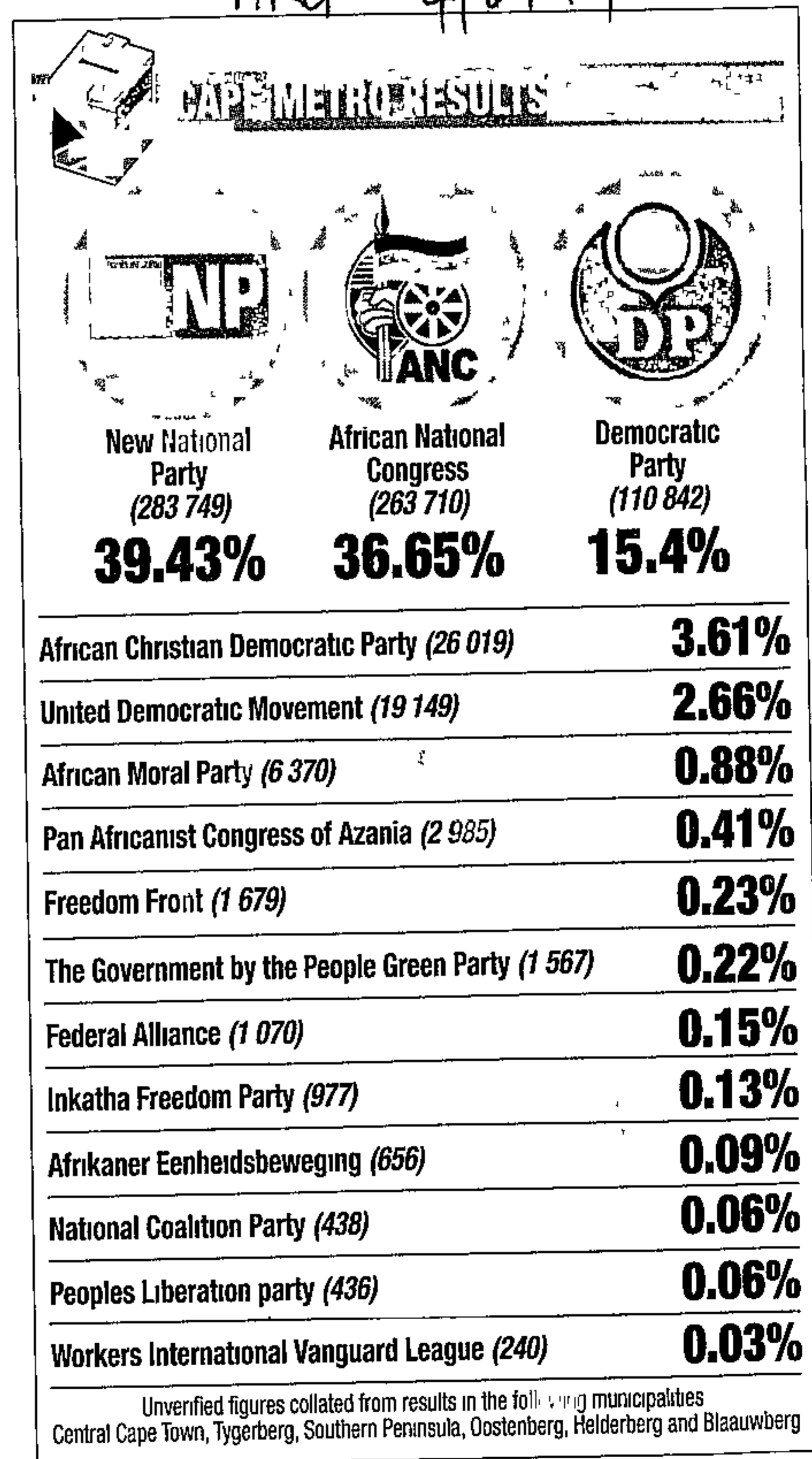
The DP's highest tally of 28% in the South Peninsula - covering Wynberg, Constantia, Muizenberg, Hout Bay, Retreat and Grassy Park - puts it in second place here, confirming its consolidation of the party's traditional urban support

South Peninsula is the only metropolitan area in which the ANC trails in third place, with 18,6% of the vote

In the other five metropolitan areas, the New NP and ANC are the primary contenders. The African Christian Democratic Party scored its highest tallies in the South Peninsula (5,5%) and Helderberg (4,7%)

The United Democratic Movement has drawn its highest support so far (3,4%) in the Cape Town metropolitan area, while the Pan Africanist Congress appears to be a spent force in the Peninsula. It failed to garner a full percentage in any of the six metropolitan areas

Intriguingly, political newcomer, the African Moral Party, won 1,6% of votes in the Cape Town metropolitan area, and just more than 1% in the South Peninsula



Cape rivals sideline ANC

Leaders of Nats, DP and ACCDP continue coalition talks today

Talks on a coalition government for the Western Cape are under way between the New National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party

A "grand coalition" between the New NP and ANC, likely to have an equal number of seats in the provincial legislature, has been ruled out by the Nats but is likely to continue to be seen as an option by some New NP members

New NP leader and current Premier Gerald Morkel, DP leader Henne Bester and ACCDP leader Michael Louis met last night and discussions would continue today, party sources said

They would involve other smaller parties in the discussions

Sources indicated today that negotiations were at an early stage and the issues of the proportional shares of cabinet seats and which portfolios would go to which ministers had not been reached

Party leaders discussed their respective proposals with aides early today before returning to a second-round meeting of principals at about midday

It was unclear for how long negotiations would go on, with those close to the talks noting that the new legislature is scheduled to be sworn in only on June 14, allowing plenty of time for deal-making

There is a considerable number of positions to distribute in the Western Cape, with the constitution allowing up to 14 cabinet posts in the 43-seat legislature, as well as the posts of Speaker and Deputy Speaker

Election results at noon showed the ANC in the lead at 40,68%, followed by the New NP at 39,05%, the DP at 12,68%, the ACCDP at 2,84% and the UDM at 2,29%

In spite of the New NP-DP-ACCDP talks, ANC provincial spokesman Cameron Dugmore continued to insist that inter-party moves at national level could impact at what happened in the province and keep the way open for a Western Cape coalition



CLIFF SAWYER

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

- Nats on top in Peninsula ... 2
- All over bar the sleeping ... 2
- Mbeki back to business ... 3

government including the ANC

ANC president Thabo Mbeki was to be involved in initiatives with other parties towards a Western Cape multi-party cabinet involving the ANC, Mr Dugmore said.

DP provincial leader Henne Bester said yesterday that if the ANC approached the DP with a view to a coalition, he would give them a warm smile and remind them of the DP's mandated stance favouring coalitions which kept the ANC out of power.

"I said before the election that we would not serve in a coalition led by the ANC. The DP will keep its word."

Mr Dugmore said the DP was painting itself into a corner by ruling out a coalition with the ANC

Today the New NP in the Western Cape confirmed that Mr Morkel had secured the agreement of national leadership before embarking on talks with the DP and ACCDP

New NP Western Cape spokesman Ludwig Andersen said coalition between the Nats and ANC had been ruled out.

Observers noted that a deal which excluded the ANC could carry a risk of the Western Cape being "punished" in the allocation of national resources, could spur the ANC to cut back on provincial powers, and could raise emotions against the Cape to the extent that Parliament would be moved away from Cape Town.



Hugs all round: President-elect Thabo Mbeki embraces a supporter at ANC headquarters in Midrand after it became clear his party had won the election

REUTERS

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(263)

'OUR CONFIDENCE HAS PAID OFF'

(263)

Rasool sure of W Cape win

ANC WESTERN CAPE leader Ebrahim Rasool was last night confident of attaining the major share of the province's votes **ANDRE KOOPMAN reports**

ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool, riding in a celebratory motorcade around the city late last night, said he felt confident about the latest unvented results which had the ANC getting about 42% of the vote to the NNP's 39%, and the DP's 12%.

Meanwhile, NNP leader Gerald Vorke was unavailable to the press for much of last night, apparently because he was consulting possible coalition partners, including the DP and ACDP about forming a coalition government. And the DP's Henne Bester said he was delighted with his party's support which looked set to double.

Rasool said the ANC was confident that it would be the party with the most support since stations from the grant Khayelitsha area, where the ANC has solid support, were among the 20% of the vote still to come in last night.

However, he said the party would have to see whether it was not "messed up" by the IEC on election day where voters in African townships battled to vote with some of them standing in queues for up to eight hours.

The party would have to determine whether significant numbers of its supporters had not been effectively prevented from voting, Rasool said.

Asked about a possible coalition with the NNP if the ANC did not attain a clear majority, Rasool said it would be necessary to consult the ANC national leadership.

"As we have said, we are not in principle opposed to a coalition with the NNP since we have been in coalition with them for four of the last five years."

Nat Attack — in which the ANC poached top NNP representatives — which showed the NNP as a "fallible party and not as invincible as it appeared to be", said Rasool, who attached much significance to the "psychological damage" inflicted on the NNP.

Rasool, sometimes criticised for lack of charisma, nevertheless appeared to impress voters, especially at issue-driven debates, with his sincere and even manner.

Asked about this, he said the ANC's improved showing had to do with its "humble approach" and that he had "not tried to lead the ANC in a way that is not me".

"I don't have the kind of brash personality. What I do have is the ability to work hard and hopefully a sincerity to which people can relate."

DP leader Henne Bester, who had every reason to grow because his party could become the official opposition nationally and was about to double its support in the Western Cape, said he was "delighted" with the outcome.

Bester, who could be the kingmaker in the province if none of the parties gets an outright majority, said he was "really look forward to getting the final result".



BURIED ANC supporters in Khayelitsha hold a coffin with a poster of NNP leader Martinus van Schalkwijk aloft during the organisation's celebrations last night after preliminary results showed the organisation was poised to take the Western Cape. **PICTURE: JACK LESTRADE**

Picture and graphics: Magsamad Jacobs

Cape power deal on knife edge

ACDP holds province's future in its hands

as big contenders fail to secure clear majority

ESTELLE RANDALL AND ADELE BAILETA

In a dramatic turn in the fight for power in the Western Cape, the tiny African Christian Democratic Party has emerged as the kingmaker.

With results yet to be verified as chaos reigned at the Independent Electoral Commission's nerve centre in Pretoria last night, it appeared that a New National Party and Democratic Party coalition might fall just short of commanding a clear majority in the 42 seat provincial legislature.

The ACDP, which provisionally had 2.6% of the vote, will get at least one seat, maybe two, giving it the balance of power. The ANC has 41.7%, the NNP 38.9% and the DP 11.8%.

At national level, the African National Congress was close to a two-thirds majority with 65.5%, but there was confusion over which party was second. After initially giving this honour to the Inkatha Freedom Party, the IEC apologised for its blunder and put the DP second with 9.6%, the IFP third with 8.3% and

the NNP a poor fourth with 6.9%.

The IEC at one stage withdrew 883 000 votes it had erroneously given to the ANC and 281 000 it had credited to the IFP.

ACDP Western Cape leader Michael Louis said last night he realised his party had a critical role in the province. "We are a cross-cultural party and can facilitate in drawing in all communities."

He said all parties had approached the ACDP for a deal. "We would want to negotiate with all parties to the benefit of all people and for stable and effective government."

He said "The ANC has enormous strengths to deliver. We would prefer to see a broad cabinet in the province that includes everyone who could benefit the people. It should include the ANC."

"Every political party has benefits and problems. The DP is very much opposed to

what we stand for. But we are prepared to talk to them and to see if they can benefit the people of this province."

He said the ACDP had appointed four members to negotiate with the parties that had approached it. He said the matter of a coalition government should be concluded within five days.

"There will have to be a lot of negotiation at national level for parties such as the ANC and the NNP. Parties are going to have to adopt a holistic position that takes account of factors outside the province as well," Mr Louis said.

The NNP and DP in the Western Cape had hoped to cut the ANC out of the provincial deal, but the ACDP's surprise elevation as the kingmaker has wrecked their plans.

There also appears to be division in the NNP with its Western Cape leader Gerald Morkel favouring a deal excluding the ANC.

RRV 5/16/199 (263)

More election coverage on pages 3, 19, 20 and 23



PARTY TIME Finance Minister Trevor Manuel and the candidate for Western Cape Premier, Ebrahim Rasool celebrate the ANC's overwhelming election victory. Picture ERIC MILLER OF IAFRIKA PHOTOS

and national leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk and possibly Western Cape number two Pieter Marais keen to deal with the ANC.

Mr Van Schalkwyk said, "Gerald (Morkel) agrees about what should happen. He understands that we have to have a constructive relationship with the ANC, although the ANC is our main opponent."

"The ANC is a reality. We have to convince our supporters not to foster hatred against the ANC."

Cameron Dugmore, the ANC's Western Cape spokesman, said that as the biggest party in the province, the ANC should lead its government and that all parties should be included. He confirmed that power was balanced on a knife edge. He said the ANC was meeting the ACDP today.

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said a coalition excluding the ANC would be a "betrayal" of the Western Cape's electorate. "People in the province have voted for transformation, whether they voted NNP or ANC," he said.

The unlikely king-maker

Election surprise: Tiny party could hold key as politicians thrash out coalition to rule the Western Cape

(263) ST(Em) 6/6/99

HENRY LUDSKI

MICHAEL Louis, the provincial leader of one of South Africa's smallest political parties, has emerged as the man who could hold the balance of power in the Western Cape. The 40 000 votes — equal to a solitary seat in the 42-seat legislature — that were cast for his African Christian Democratic Party make him an unlikely kingpin in the race for power.

The late surge of support for the ANC which saw it edging ahead with 41 per cent of the vote against the NP's 38,4, forced both parties to court coalition partnerships with the DP and the ACDP.

Unverified results released yesterday evening gave the NP and its natural coalition partner, the DP, a total of 21 seats, not enough to rule without the ACDP's help.

The ANC (18 seats) would have to go into a coalition with one of the bigger parties to ensure an outright majority. Unverified results put support for the NP, DP and ACDP at 38,4 percent, 12 percent and three percent respectively — just enough to form a coalition government sidelining the ANC.

Yesterday Louis, development planning MEC and the millionaire grandson of a man who built his business empire on a popular brand of chocolate drink, said from his Bishops Court home, "I'm talking to everyone."

He said the ACDP wanted the new representative government to be as broadly representative as possible.

"The ACDP believes in a multiparty democracy and we will make a decision on going into a coalition based on what is best for the province.

"We will wield our power to bring uni-

ty to the region," said Louis, who has urged that the ANC should not be left out of the coalition equation.

Louis yesterday ruled out the prospect of entering into an alliance with the ANC saying their combined strength would not be enough to secure an outright majority in the province.

However, Ebrahim Rasool, Western Cape ANC leader, yesterday vowed to oppose what he called an anti-ANC alliance.

Saying it would amount to a "betrayal" of the mandate of the electorate for the ANC not to lead the new provincial government, Rasool said "The ANC deserves to govern the Western Cape."

He said the ANC would not allow "partners who were rejected at the polls to think they can gang up against the ANC and keep it out of government."

"Anybody who tries to stop us must know that they will not be allowed to rule without the mandate of the people of the Western Cape."

"There is a lot of anger in our communities and the ANC will certainly try to stop this coalition through negotiations, but, if necessary, we will have to let the electorate show its displeasure," said Rasool, who hinted at a similar campaign of protest action which followed the ANC's withdrawal from the government of provincial unity a year ago.

Later yesterday the ANC's provincial executive called for it to be included a coalition representing all parties.

Hennie Bester, the DP's Western Cape leader, said it would be premature to comment on negotiations until a final result was received from the JEC. Gerald Morkel, the NP's Western Cape leader, said he could not comment in isolation until negotiations on a coalition were finalised.

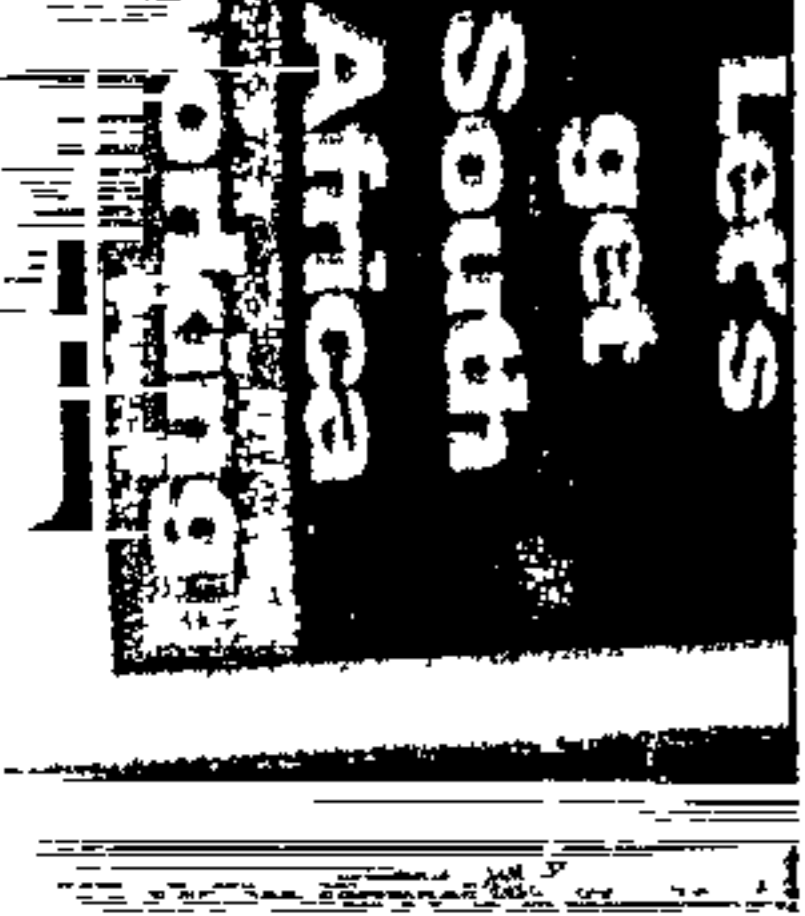
● How they voted Pages 2 and 3



JUBILANT: Ebrahim Rasool, Western Cape leader of the African National Congress



MAN IN THE MIDDLE: Michael Louis of the African Christian Democratic Party, who, unlikely as it may seem, could hold the balance of power in the Western Cape's political arena



Let's

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GUTS

TO

FIGHT

BACK

And the big winner is ... apathy

Support for Nats slumps by half

HENRY LUDSKI

ST (GM) 6/16/99 (263)

VOTER apathy has emerged as the silent winner in the Western Cape elections which experienced a dramatically lower voter turnout than five years ago.

About 700 000 fewer voters than in 1994 made their mark this week at the 1 309 polling stations in the province.

A massive 2 137 742 turned up at the polls in the 1994 euphoria surrounding South Africa's first democratic elections.

The provincial elections got off to a bad start when 1.8-million voters registered — about 270 000 fewer than the number of voters who went to the polls in 1994. And about 300 000 of these never turned up to vote this week.

The NP was undoubtedly the party worst affected by the low turnout and according to provisional results released last night saw its support in the province drop from 1 138 242 votes in 1994 when it had an outright majority to 609 000.

The dramatic fall of the NP is further pronounced by the fact that support for the other parties either increased or remained reasonably stable.

Despite the dramatic drop in the number of voters, the ANC managed 650 000 of the votes compared with the 705 576 it received five years ago.

At the expense mainly of the NP, the Democratic Party showed an increase of about 45 000 on the 141 970 votes cast for the party in 1994, while the number of African Christian Democratic Party votes increased from 25 731 to about 43 000.

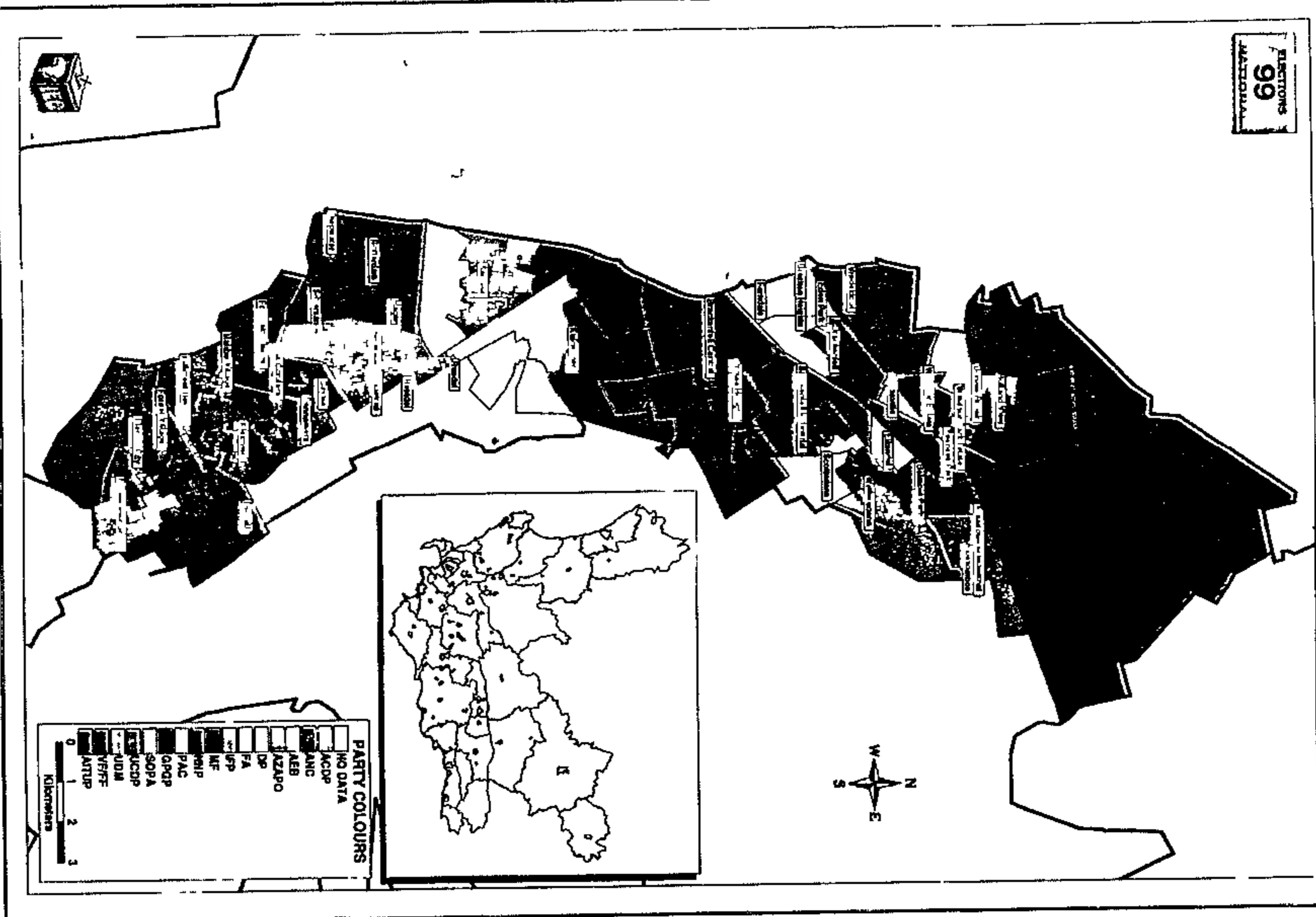
In 1994 the NP dominated the election winning 56 percent of the vote in the Western Cape compared with the ANC's 34 percent and four percent for the DP.

However, despite a significant change to the overall picture in the region, key voting patterns have remained remarkably consistent with the NP still strong in predominantly coloured areas and the ANC sweeping the region's African vote. The vote in traditionally suburban white areas has swung sharply to the DP with the ANC also capitalising on the swing away from the NP.

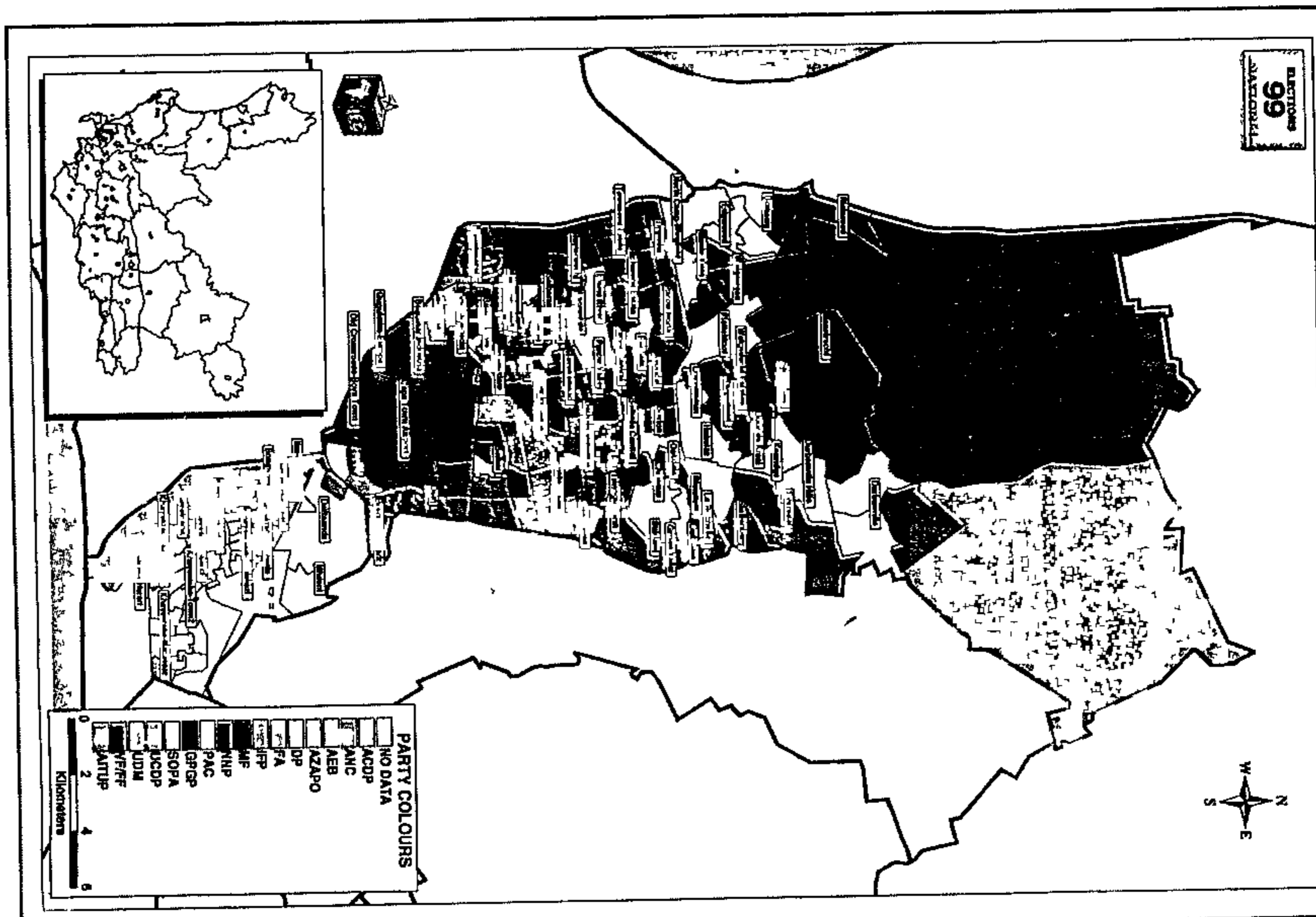
In the Western Cape the ANC raked up about 90 percent of the African vote with the United Democratic Movement failing to gain a foothold in the region as had been predicted.

However, while the ANC swept the board in densely populated Khayelitsha with close to 100 percent sup-

OOSTENBERG - LEADING PARTY PER VOTING DISTRICT



TYGERBERG - LEADING PARTY PER VOTING DISTRICT



How Cape Town voted

BOBBY JORDAN

UNVERIFIED election results released by the IEC

port in greater Cape Town. A results breakdown of each of the city's six metropolitan suburban areas shows how each

the ANC fared best with 45.8 percent of votes followed by the NP with 30.3 percent and the DP with 14.3 percent. At the other extreme the Freedom

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ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

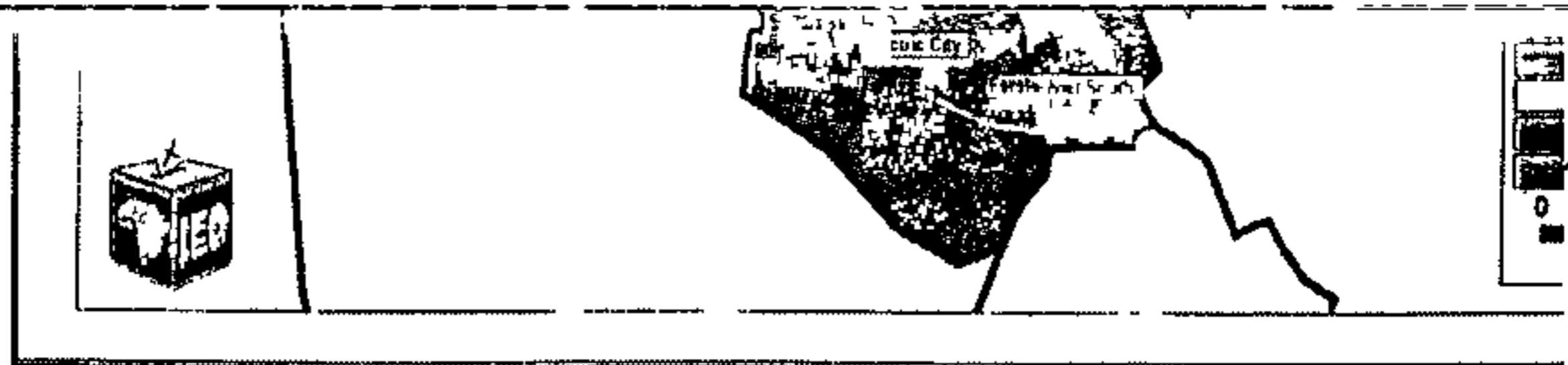
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In the Western Cape the ANC raked up about 90 percent of the African vote, with the United Democratic Movement failing to gain a foothold in the region, as had been predicted

However, while the ANC swept the board in densely populated Khayelitsha with close to 100 percent support, support for the NP remained firm in sub-economic areas such as Bonteheuwel, Manenberg and Bishop Lavis



How Cape Town voted

BOBBY JORDAN

UNVERIFIED election results released by the IEC yesterday afternoon revealed an interesting geography of political sup-

port in greater Cape Town

A results break-down of each of the city's six metropolitan substructures shows how each party fared in the provincial vote

● In central Cape Town

the ANC fared best with 45,8 percent of votes, followed by the NP with 30,3 percent and the DP with 14,3 percent. At the other extreme the Freedom Front, the National Coalition Party and the Workers International Vanguard League managed only 0,05 percent each

● In the Tygerberg municipality the ANC was marginally ahead of the NP with 43,3 percent compared with the NP's 40,4 percent. The DP was a distant third with 9,3 percent. The only other parties to score more than one percent were the ACDP with 2,6 percent and the UDM with 2,7 percent. Bottom of the log was the African Moral Party with 0,03 percent

● In the Helderberg municipality the NP topped the list with 48,6 percent compared with the ANC's 29 percent. The DP was third with 14,4 percent and the ACDP fourth with 3,9 percent. Of the other parties only the UDM broke the one percent barrier with 1,9 percent

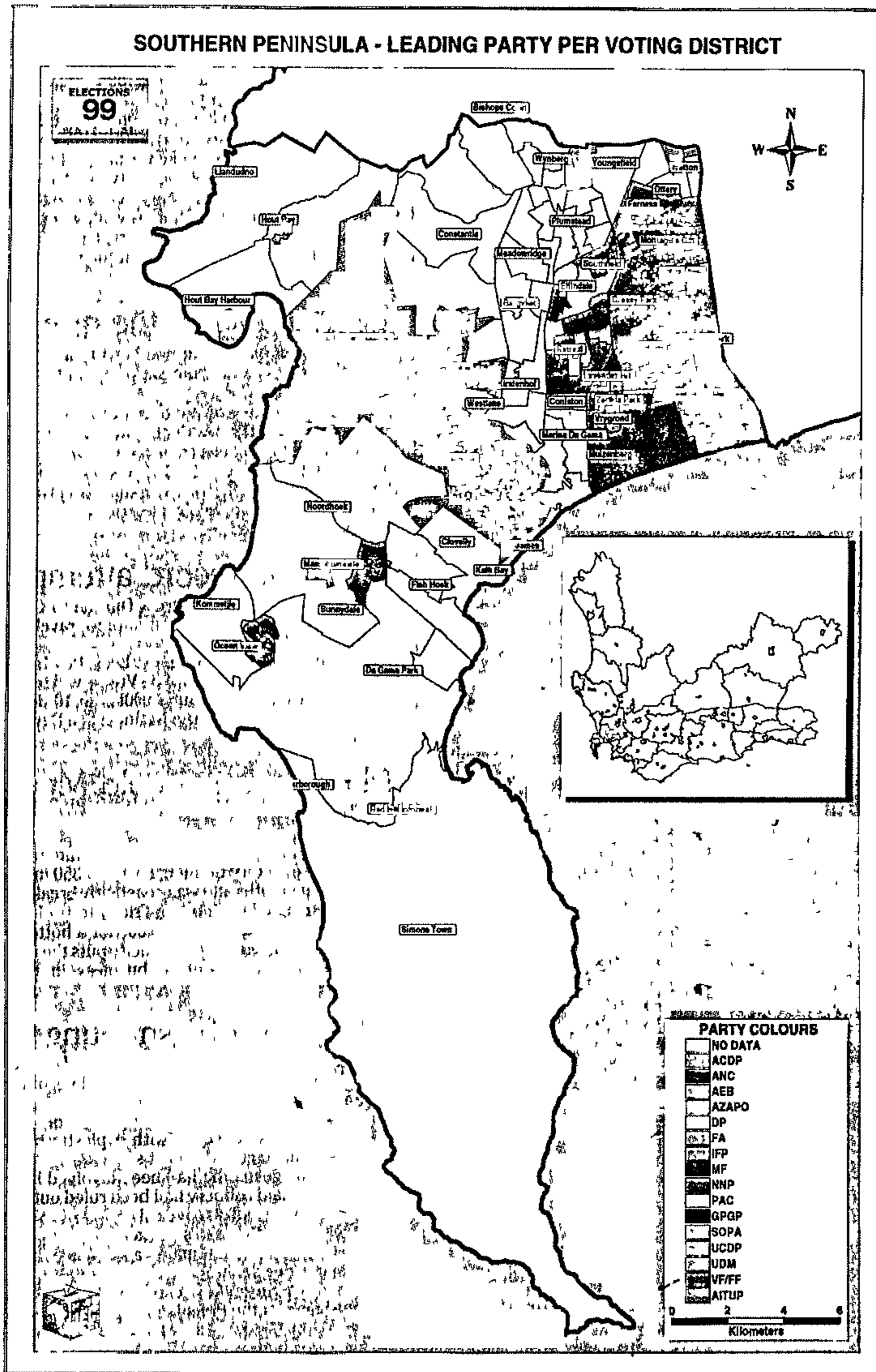
● In the Oostenberg municipality the NP scored 48,4 percent compared with the ANC's 32,7 percent. The DP was again third with 10,5 percent and the ACDP fourth with 3,7 percent. Bringing up the rear again was the Workers International Vanguard League with only 0,03 percent (25 votes)

● In the Blaauwberg municipality the NP scored 46,05 percent compared with the ANC's 27,37 percent. The People's Liberation Party managed only 12 votes or 0,03 percent — five votes more than the Workers International Vanguard League

● In the South Peninsula the NP scored 42,71 percent compared with the ANC's 20,8 percent. In second place was the DP with 26,6 percent — it's strongest showing of all the voting areas. Bottom of the log was the WIVL with 50 votes, or 0,04 percent

The most votes were cast in Cape Town central (344 169), Tygerberg (313 813) and the South Peninsula (129 831). Of the lesser populated substructures, Oostenberg registered the most (80 443) followed by Helderberg (56 536) and Blaauwberg (47 914)

SOUTHERN PENINSULA - LEADING PARTY PER VOTING DISTRICT



Abandoned: ballot papers found thrown under a tree

ARG 7/6/99

(263)
NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

Eleven ballot papers packed in an unsealed ballot box have been found abandoned under a tree in Belhar, a stronghold of the New National Party

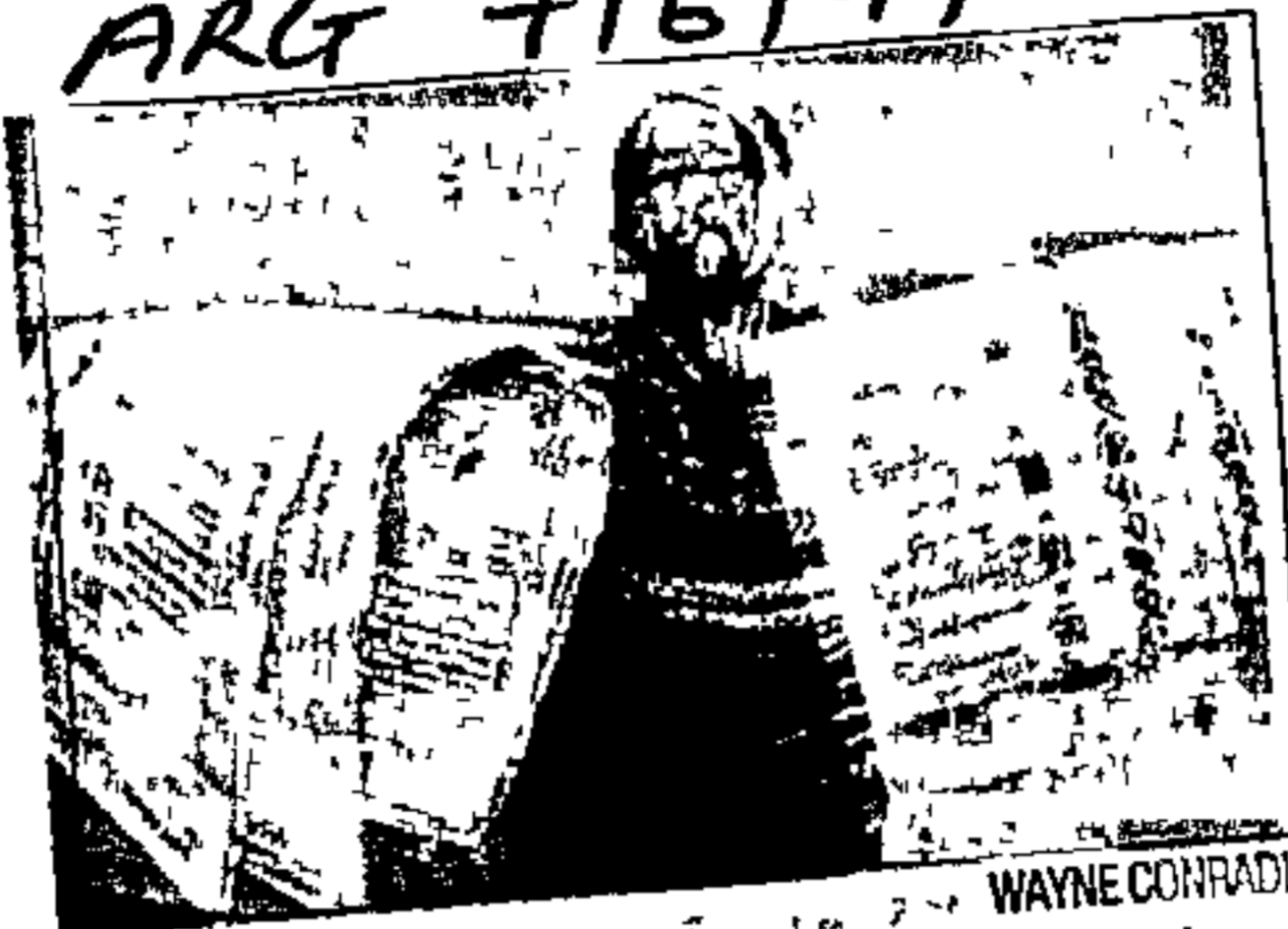
The papers, national and provincial ballots, are all spoilt except for one - which is marked "dispute"

The ballots, folded neatly together, were discovered by Belhar resident Donald Holmes, who spotted the box as he walked by. He has made a statement under oath to Belhar police

New NP MP Stan Simmonds and City of Tygerberg New NP councillor Gerald Siljeur were informed and took the papers to the Independent Electoral Commission office in Parow.

Tygerberg IEC officer Pieter van Gendt said the incident was the first of its kind in the Western Cape election and that the issue would be investigated.

He said ballot paper accounting had not been done yet. Boxes had been sent from the IEC in Pretoria and not numbered - and



Wayne Conradie
Abandoned: New NP MP Stan Simmonds shows the ballot papers found in Belhar

at this stage IEC officials could not establish from which polling station it came

Mr Simmonds said. "The discovery is a reflection on the competence of IEC officials who did duty in the Belhar area"

Mr Siljeur, a Belhar church pastor, said the discarded ballot papers could make a difference in the elections

"This is a small amount, but what of the other areas?"

Mr Van Gendt said the IEC officials would investigate the issue today.

MANAGERIAN PETER SAVI

Nats split on coalition

Marais set to call for power-sharing deal with victorious ANC

GIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Simmering resentment between the New National Party's Peter Marais and Gerald Morkel was set to erupt today when the party's federal leadership met to decide post-election issues, including coalition government in the Western Cape.

The federal executive, consisting of a range of New NP office-bearers, including those shocked and furious at the loss of

More election reports ... Page 2

their seats in Parliament and provincial legislatures, was meeting at a secret location outside Stellenbosch to chart the party's future.

Division on the issue of whether to include the African National Congress in a Western Cape government deal continues in spite of a public vow by national leader Martinus van Schalkwyk that there will be no deal with the ANC.

"There is going to be a fight," a party source said last night, predicting that Mr Marais would spearhead scathing criticism of the provincial leadership's handling of the election campaign and the opening stages of coalition talks.

As the New NP headed into a bleak winter of discontent, division over the issue of which parties should be approached to help it secure a governing majority complicated the issue of the party's future leadership.

The ANC, which leads the New NP in the province but does not have a majority large enough to govern, is deeply unhappy at moves to exclude it from a governing coalition.

To page 3

Cape Nats split over coalition partners

From page 1
executive decision leaving the way open for discussions with the ANC could severely jeopardise his future.

There is continuing speculation in Western Cape circles that ANC president Thabo Mbeki has offered Mr Van Schalkwyk a Cabinet post as part of a proposed trade-off for ANC participation in the Western Cape government.

Mr Van Schalkwyk rejected this as "the biggest nonsense".

But New NP sources indicated that the party was deeply split on the coalition issue, with the direction to be taken depending in large measure on the stance taken by strongmen

such as Erik van Deventer, believed to be open to co-operation with the ANC, and Henrie Smit, veteran organiser and senior MP.

Those in favour of a deal with the ANC are floating permutations including an offer of the provincial safety and security portfolio to the ANC provincial leader, Ebrahim Rasool, in the belief that this would mean a synergistic link to the national government's anti-crime efforts and a possible solution to some of the tensions that bedevil crime-fighting in the Western Cape.

They warn that the other side of the coin is the potential backlash from an excluded ANC "Wale Street" will become a camping ground for

toying people - every issue will lead to a march," said a source close to party discussions on the issue.

There is also resentment within New NP ranks that Mr Morkel and cabinet colleague Leon Markovitz have already had discussions with the DP, appearing to be at the beck and call of a party that has severely damaged the Nats.

Senior DP members continue to be quietly confident of being part of a governing coalition.

Parties have until June 15, the date scheduled for the first sitting of the new legislature, which will elect a premier and name delegates to the National Council of Provinces, to finalise a coalition deal.

Eleven ballot papers packed in an unsealed ballot box have been found abandoned

Paul ...

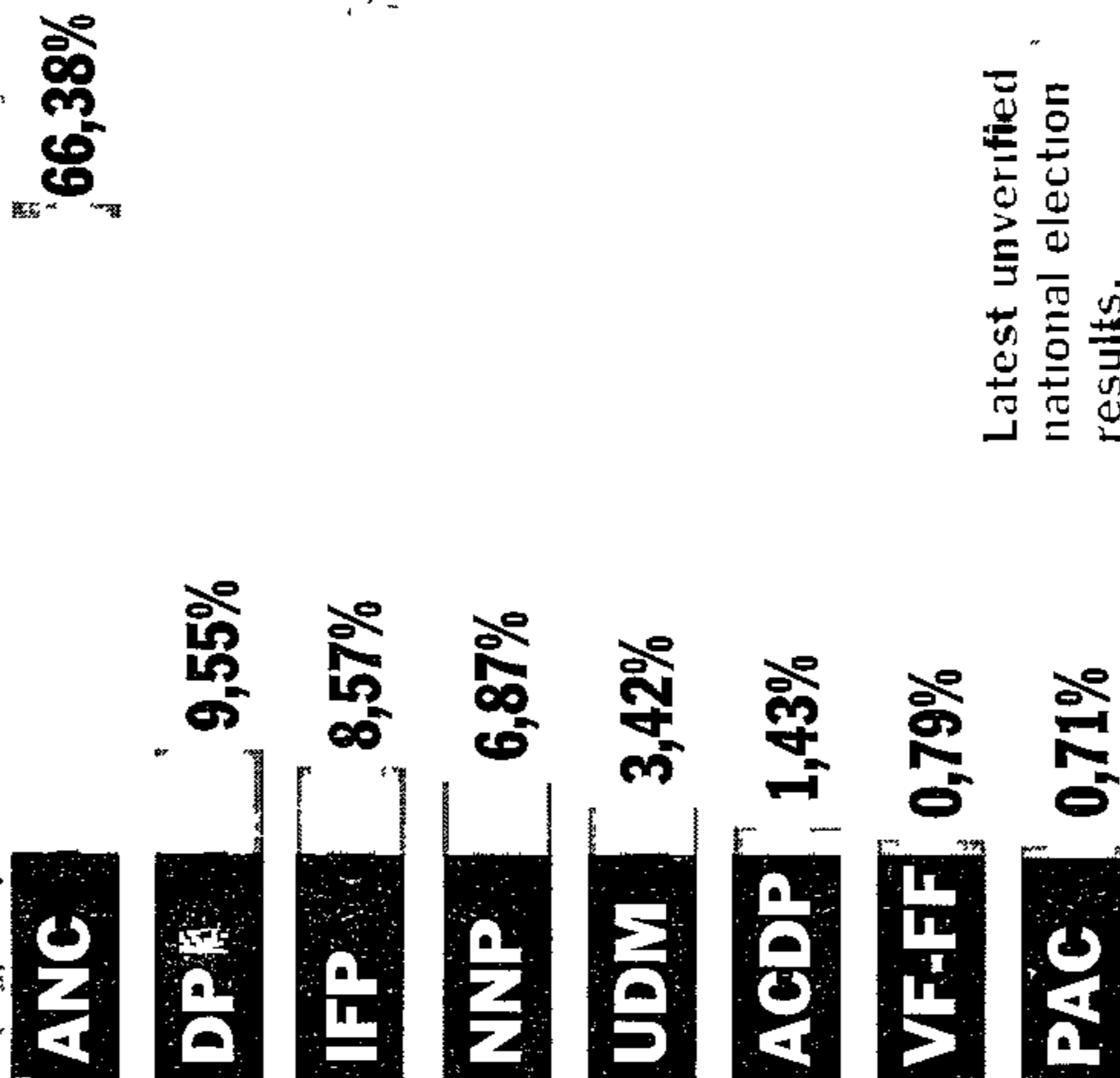
insuring with

FRANTIC COALITION TALKS IN W CAPE

Scramble for power

ET 7/16/99 (263)

ET 7/16/99



Latest unverified national election results.

possibility, but our instinct is that the disadvantages (of ruling with the ANC) far outweigh the advantages. It seems highly unlikely."

Meanwhile, President Nelson Mandela yesterday told voters the ANC would not abuse its election majority as the party hovered close to the two-thirds majority mark.

Although the ANC appeared to

be falling marginally short of the 267 seats needed for a two-thirds majority in the National Assembly, Mandela seemed confident that the party will reach that mark.

With only a few thousand votes still to be counted last night, the ANC had 10 582 485 votes, or 66,39% of the nearly 16 million votes cast.

WITH NO OUTRIGHT WINNER in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provincial elections, parties were still busy last night with coalition caucusing in bids to secure the most seats in these provinces. **ANDRE KOOPMAN, KARIN SCHIMKE** and **ROBERT BRAND** report.

THE African National Congress, which won the majority vote in the Western Cape — giving it 18 seats in the 42-seat provincial legislature — was last night wooing the tiny African Christian Democratic Party, which won a single seat, to bolster its own negotiating position.

The New National Party, with 38,39% of the vote (16 seats), the Democratic Party, with its 11,91% (five seats), and the African Christian Democratic Party, with its 2,79% (one seat), announced at the weekend that they were busy with an initial round of talks aimed at achieving a coalition which can keep the ANC out of government. The UDM is expected to get one seat. The final seat has not yet been decided.

Although the election results are unverified, there are unlikely to be major changes when the official results are released later today.

ACDP provincial leader Michael Louis said he would talk to all parties about having "an inclusive government" in the Western Cape. He confirmed that he was to meet the ANC last night to discuss "multi-party government".

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said after the meeting that it was "constructive" and that "we came away with the impression that the ACDP will not gang up against the ANC and that it respects the fact that the ANC has emerged as the major party".

Louis, who appears to be playing a king-making role in the sensitive coalition talks, admitted last night that he is adopting a "facilitating position". He said his party is ideally placed for this as it has no "hidden agenda" and has taken a decision at national level "to debate the issues and not fight political parties during the election".

Meanwhile, top business leaders indicated yesterday that it would be unwise to exclude the ANC from government in the Western Cape. They are set to express these sentiments today, according to reliable sources.

The ANC provincial executive had a meeting yesterday

□ To Page 8

(263)
Coalition talks

□ From Page 1

to thrash out coalition issues. The NNP's federal executive and the ANC's national working committee are due to meet today.

Rumours intensified yesterday that NNP leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk — whose party was devastated at the polls — will be offered a cabinet post to sweeten a deal in the Western Cape whereby the ANC would lead the government in coalition with the NNP.

Some NNP sources said Van Schalkwyk and Health MEC Peter Marais are in favour of this while Premier Gerald Morkel and the "Broederbond cabal" are against it. Others said Van Schalkwyk would not accept this deal since it would be seen as capitulation.

It is understood that a similar deal will be sought for KwaZulu-Natal, where Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi — who has moved closer to the ANC recently — would become the country's deputy president. In return, ANC KwaZulu-Natal leader S'bu Ndebele would be appointed as the new premier in a coalition government with the IFP.

The DP's James Selfe said yesterday it had been his party's stance all along that it would not govern with the ANC. "The DP's decision-making structures are discussing the various scenarios and will weigh them all up. A government of provincial unity is a

Western Cape deal in balance

Linda Ensor

(263)

20 8/6/99
the 42-member provincial legislature, the DP five, the ACDP one and the United Democratic Movement one. This secured 24 seats for the coalition, against the ANC's 18. To elect the premier a party or coalition needs 22 seats.

CAPE TOWN — The question of African National Congress (ANC) participation in the Western Cape government appeared last night to have created a stumbling block to negotiations between the New National Party (NNP), the Democratic Party (DP) and the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) on a coalition agreement.

A news conference to announce the agreement was cancelled 45 minutes before it was due to happen.

DP provincial leader Henne Bester, who is opposed to ANC participation, would not comment on a suggestion that he had threatened to withdraw from the coalition should the ANC be offered a provincial cabinet position.

Earlier in the day the NNP's federal council decided to explore its views on "inclusive government" with its two possible coalition partners in the Western Cape.

It transpired that premier Gerald Morkel had offered the ANC one cabinet portfolio, the deputy speaker's position and chairmanship of the public accounts committee — an offer ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said was "deeply insulting".

The election results announced by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) last night gave the NNP 18 seats in

Rasool noted that parliamentary convention abroad dictated that it was the biggest party which initiated negotiations on coalition. Yet Morkel had refused to return the six calls he had made since Thursday until 4.15pm yesterday. His request for a meeting late yesterday after announcing a news conference was "contemptible".

Rasool called for the start of bona fide discussions "to come to an agreement which reflects a much broader consensus".

The ANC's national working committee yesterday gave the ANC in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal a mandate to explore the possibility of a coalition government with the NNP and the Inkatha Freedom Party respectively, but only if it was based on principles.

Congress of SA Trade Unions provincial secretary Tony Ehrenreich was disturbed that the decision on a coalition had been made despite considerable pressure for the ANC be represented fully. Cosatu would meet tomorrow to consider what action to take.

Horse-trading starts in earnest: Page 4

www.bday.co.za

It's make or break for Cape coalition

CLIVE SAWYER, JOSEPH ARANES
AND LYNNE RIPPENAR
STAFF REPORTERS

Negotiators from major parties in the Western Cape legislature today resumed a delicate salvage operation to float a coalition government with a fair share for all parties including the African National Congress.

Representatives of organised business are putting parties under pressure to reach a co-operation deal to bring stability and prosperity to the province and avert conflict with the national government.

A news conference, which was to have been held last night to announce an agree-

ment giving a role in the provincial cabinet or major legislature posts to each of the five parties, was called off after the ANC, which won the largest share of votes, rejected the "insulting" share of posts offered to it.

Final results give the ANC 18 of the legislature's 42 seats, the New National Party 17, the Democratic Party five, the African Christian Democratic Party one and the United Democratic Movement one.

Reports today said the ANC had been offered the cabinet post of safety and security, the deputy speakership and the chair of the standing committee on public accounts

At an ANC victory celebration last night, provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha said the offer was "an insult not only to the ANC, but the people of the Western Cape".

He said the ANC was ready to negotiate with other parties, and criticised them for trying to gang up on the ANC.

"Any ganging up as a majority party is cheating the electorate."

Mr Skwatsha said that the ANC wanted an inclusive government in the Western Cape.

It had spoken to members of opposition parties like the ACDP and the DP, but the only person who would not speak to the ANC was New NP provincial leader Gerald

Morkel

The ANC pointed out yesterday that it was Cosatu, and not the ANC, which had issued a weekend statement warning of mass action if the ANC was excluded from government in the province.

Mr Morkel said the discussions between his party and the DP and ACDP were in line with the pre-election promises of each party to seek coalition.

He accused the ANC of grandstanding and "struggle mentality" tactics.

After a meeting of its federal executive in Stellenbosch yesterday, the New NP said it hoped its co-operation initiative with the

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To page 3.

Make or break for W Cape coalition

From page 1 .

DP and ACDP would be the starting point of broader co-operation including more parties.

In a statement, senior New NP Western Cape member Henne Smit said he strongly objected to reports suggesting he favoured a coalition with the ANC.

"My viewpoint is that co-operation agreements can only be con-

cluded with like-minded parties. A coalition with the ANC-Communist party is taboo and an insult to the people who supported us."

Denis Skeate Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry president said it was essential that a coalition government be put in place soon.

"It's important that this coalition is stable, efficient and clean. The function of the new provincial government is to work with the national

(263)
ART 8/6/99

government to bring down the high crime levels, establish sound business conditions and to give business the opportunity to develop and grow and thereby create new jobs."

Today's discussions were to involve parallel processes, on the one hand involving the detailing of the coalition arrangement between the ACDP, New NP and DP, and on the other hand attempting to accommodate the ANC.

PARTIES PLAY FOR TIME

Western Cape coalition falters

THE INDEPENDENT Electoral Commission has announced the final results of the elections, which have been hailed internationally as free, fair and a triumph for democracy. Political Correspondent **ANDRE KOOPMAN** reports

ANC president Thabo Mbeki, whose party won just less than its desired two-thirds majority in the National Assembly, says he has accepted the election results and that democracy is here to stay.

"There is nobody who can seek to change this system to take away from people this right to govern," the president-in-waiting said.

Quoting W B Yeats — "things fall apart, the centre cannot hold" — Mbeki said the centre had held in favour of people's being able freely to say what they thought.

IEC chairperson Brngala Bam announced that the ANC had gained 266 of the 400 seats

in the National Assembly, one seat shy of a two-thirds majority. The Democratic Party, with 38 seats, becomes the official opposition. The IFP gained 34 seats and the New National Party, 28.

Signalling his party's intention of drawing the IFP closer into the government, Mbeki said President Nelson Mandela had instructed him and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi to receive the election results.

In the Western Cape, where none of the parties has emerged as the outright winner, the coalition dance continued last night when the NNP, DP and ACDP called off at the 11th hour a press conference at which they had

intended to announce a coalition government that would have excluded the ANC. The ANC gained 18 seats, the NNP 17, Democratic Party five, the African Democratic Party one and the United Democratic Movement one.

An incensed Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the Western Cape, slamming what he described as "contemptible" behaviour by his NNP counterpart, Gerald Morkel, said Morkel had asked for a meeting with the ANC only at 7pm — just hours after he had issued a press alert at 4pm about the impending media briefing, which was later cancelled. Morkel had not returned any of the six calls he had made to him since the results began firming up, Rasool said.

Responding, Morkel said the briefing had been called off to "facilitate further communication" with the ANC and to allow Rasool time to respond.

"The NNP, DP and ACDP agreed in principle to form a coalition and approached the ANC in good faith to discuss its position," he said. "Unfortunately, Mr Rasool responded in bad faith. We are holding the door open to the ANC for further discussions (today) to make the process as inclusive as possible to the benefit of all people in the Western Cape."

It was customary for proportional representation systems around the world to discuss coalitions.

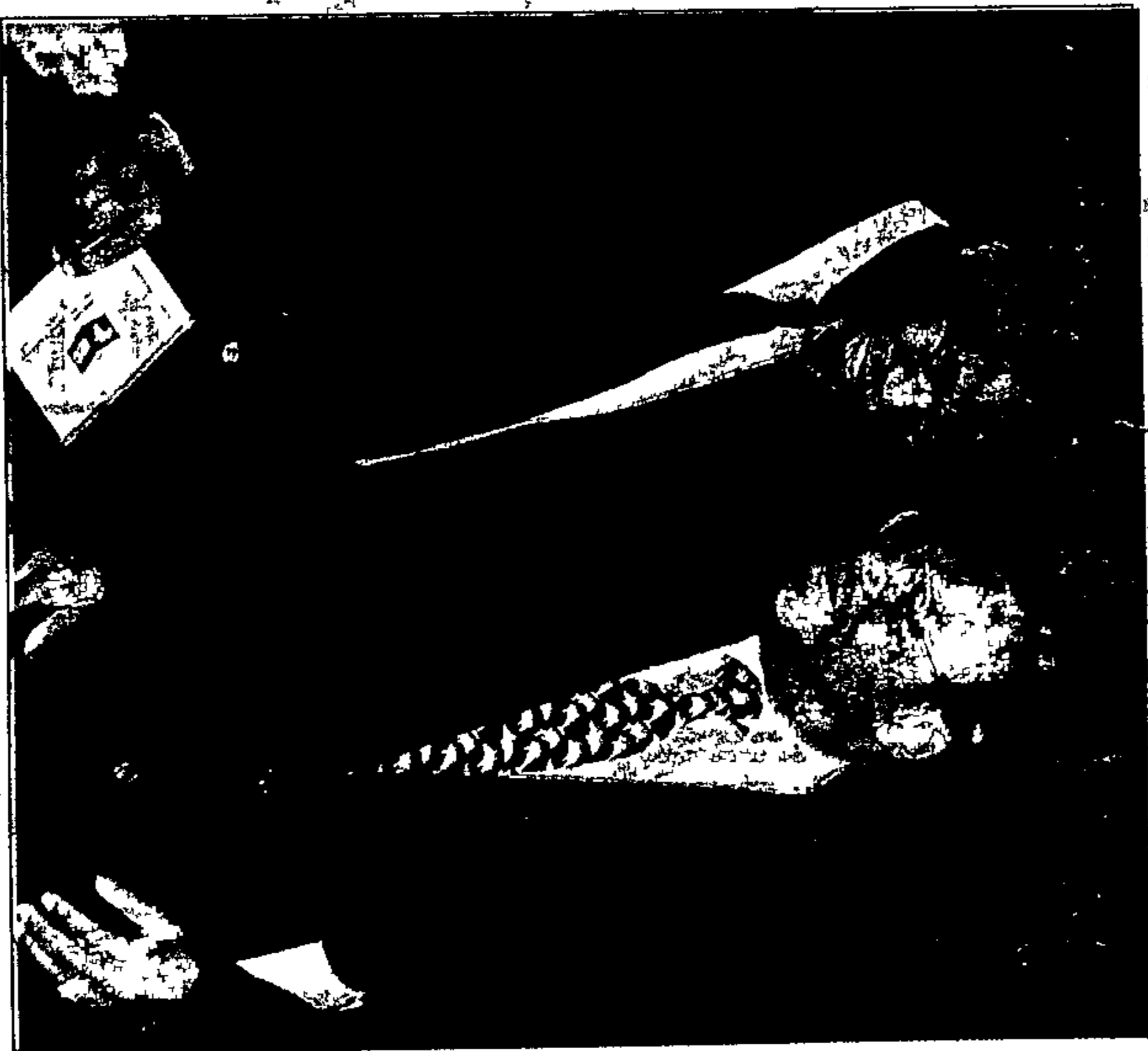
"The ANC is unfortunately grandstanding to upset a normal democratic process," said Morkel.

NNP sources had said earlier that a split within the NNP over which parties it should include in a coalition — with Peter Marais favouring the ANC and Morkel opposing that — had apparently been smoothed over at the federal executive's meeting at a secret venue in Stellenbosch.

A party insider said yesterday afternoon that the NNP would possibly make the ANC an offer, including a low-key cabinet position, which it "could only refuse", but that the NNP would then hold the moral high ground as it would be seen to be trying to achieve multi-party government.

Rasool said the NNP's offers of a cabinet position, the deputy speaker's chair and the chair of the public accounts committee were "deeply insulting to the ANC and the majority of the people of the province".

The ANC's support had come



VOTE OF CONFIDENCE: Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi joined Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on the podium at the IEC Electoral Centre in Pretoria to accept the election results. In asking Buthelezi to join him, Mbeki signalled that he accorded him the status of second-in-charge. **PICTURE: AP**

coalition government which was broad-based, reflective of the wishes of the majority and representative of all sectors of the province's population.

There had been no talks with the NNP and the ANC provincial leadership would initiate discussions, Masebe said.

Commenting on

democracy, and it is bad for business and economic development because it advocates confrontation and not co-operation, Ramathakane said.

Provincial DP leader Henne Bester said Cosatu's threat to mobilise demonstrated its "contempt for democracy". It was important to point out that "58% of the people

reports.

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New National

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that would have excluded the ANC. The ANC gained 18 seats, the NNP 17, Democratic Party five, the African Democratic Party one and the United Democratic Movement one.

An incensed Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the ANC in the Western Cape, slamming what he described as "contemptible" behaviour by his NNP counterpart, Gerald Morkel, said Morkel had asked for a meeting with the ANC only at 7pm — just hours after he had issued a press alert at 4pm about the impending media briefing, which was later cancelled. Morkel had not returned any of the six calls he had made to him since the results began firming up, Rasool said.

Responding, Morkel said the briefing had been called off to "facilitate further communication" with the ANC and to allow Rasool time to respond.

"The NNP, DP and ACDP agreed in principle to form a coalition and approached the ANC in good faith to discuss its position," he said. "Unfortunately, Mr Rasool responded in bad faith. We are holding the door open to the ANC for further discussions (today) to make the process as inclusive as possible to the benefit of all people in the Western Cape."

It was customary for proportional representation systems around the world to discuss coalitions.

"The ANC is unfortunately grandstanding to upset a normal democratic process," said Morkel.

NNP sources had said earlier that a split within the NNP over which parties it should include in a coalition — with Peter Marais favouring the ANC and Morkel opposing this — had apparently been smoothed over at the federal executive's meeting at a secret venue in Stellenbosch.

A party insider said yesterday afternoon that the NNP would possibly make the ANC an offer, including a low-key cabinet position, which it "could only refuse", but that the NNP would then hold the moral high ground as it would be seen to be trying to achieve multi-party government.

Rasool said the NNP's offers of a cabinet position, the deputy speaker's chair and the chair of the public accounts committee were "deeply insulting to the ANC and the majority of the people of the province".

The ANC's support had come from all people in the province and it was clear Morkel had failed to act in the best interests of the province.

"He has acted selfishly and in a short-sighted manner," Rasool said.

Cosatu has threatened to mobilise mass action to press for the ANC's inclusion in the provincial government, while business leaders

are lobbying opposition parties, pointing out that it would be unwise to exclude the ANC, given its overwhelming national majority.

Political analysts, including Richard Calland of Idasa, noted that dealing the ANC out of provincial government would be a body blow to reconciliation as the majority of the African population who had voted for the ANC would see themselves as excluded again from government.

ANC national spokesperson Thabo Masebe said the party's national working committee had instructed the Western Cape leadership to talk to the NNP about a possible alliance.

"The meeting decided that negotiations with the NNP (should) explore a provincial



VOTE OF CONFIDENCE: Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi joined Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on the podium at the IEC Electoral Centre in Pretoria to accept the election results. In asking Buthelezi to join him, Mbeki signalled that he accorded him the status of second-in-charge.

PICTURE. AP

coalition government which was broad-based, reflective of the wishes of the majority and representative of all sectors of the province's population."

There had been no talks with the NNP and the ANC provincial leadership would initiate discussions, Masebe said.

Commenting on unconfirmed statements that the ANC was prepared to give the NNP a cabinet post to sweeten a Western Cape deal, Masebe said: "We can't talk about demands now. We will have to begin discussions first."

The chairperson of the SA Communist Party in the Western Cape, Leonard Ramatlakane, warned that excluding the ANC from government would be a "disastrous step". The ANC was the majority party and supported by the "overwhelming majority of African people, the majority of people in rural areas — and it won significant support in the coloured community".

Excluding the ANC on the back of a negative campaign that appealed to white people to "fight back" would alienate African people in the province. "Such a move is bad for community relations. It is bad for

democracy. and it is bad for business and economic development because it advocates confrontation and not co-operation," Ramatlakane said.

Provincial DP leader Hennie Bester said Cosatu's threat to mobilise demonstrated its "contempt for democracy". It was important to point out that "58% of the people .. voted for parties opposing the ANC", he said. "If the ANC is genuinely committed to the Constitution and the values it embodies, it and its political allies should be prepared to consider the possibility of being the loyal opposition."

The UDM, contesting its first election, took 14 seats in the National Assembly, while the ACDP increased its seats from two to six. The Pan Africanist Congress, the United Christian Democratic Party and the Freedom Front each won three seats, the Federal Alliance two, and Azapo, the Minority Front and Afrikaner Eenhedsbeweging — one each.

In KwaZulu-Natal, the IFP won 34 seats, ANC — 32, DP — 7; NNP — three, Minority Front — two; ACDP won one seat, and the UDM one.

In Gauteng, the ANC took 50 seats, DP — 13, IFP — three, NNP — three, ACDP — one, FA — one, and UDM — one.

Western Cape Election Results

Party	Seats
ACDP	6
ANC	18
AEB	1
AZAPC	1
DP	7
FA	2
JEP	3
ME	1
NNP	17
PAC	3
UCDP	3
UDM	14
VF/FF	3

National Election Results

Party	Seats
ACDP	6
ANC	252
AEB	1
AZAPC	1
DP	7
FA	2
JEP	3
ME	1
NNP	28
PAC	3
UCDP	3
UDM	14
VF/FF	3

Koornhof, Zille may get posts in W Cape cabinet

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

CT 8/6/99

FORMER MEC for Education Nic Koornhof and former journalist and UCT spokesperson Hellen Zille could serve in the cabinet of the new Western Cape government depending on the deal struck on a coalition government between the DP and the NNP.

Both are in the top five of the DP's provincial election list.

According to the final tally for seats in provincial legislature revealed last night, the ANC will get the most seats in the legislature, namely 18. Topping the list is provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool, followed by former Cape Town mayor Theresa Solomon and former Transport MEC Leonard Ramatlakane. Cameron Dugmore, Tasneem Essop, Yusuf Gabru, Lynne Brown and Garth Strachan all retained their seats.

The NNP will get 17 seats.

According to the last NNP's provincial list, the top Nats in the legislature will be

(163)
current Premier Gerald Morkel, Peter Marais (formerly health MEC), Piet Meyer (formerly Transport MEC), Freda Adams (in charge of the aged, disabled and youth in the premier's office), Leon Markovitz (formerly finance MEC), Pierre Uys (formerly chairperson of the CMC's exco), Willem Doman (formerly the Speaker of the Western Cape parliament) and Ryno King (chief whip).

Mark Wiley, Community Safety MEC in the former government, and Housing MEC Cecil Herandien, also make it into the provincial legislature.

The DP has received five seats in the legislature. This means Hennie Bester (provincial DP leader and MEC for Trade, Industry and Tourism in the last government), Glen Adams (businessman and former ANC member) and Daniel Silke (DP spokesperson on finance) will be in the legislature, along with Koornhof and Zille.

The UDM and ACDP will get one seat each. Archie Lewis will represent the former, and Michael Louis the latter.

CAPE ARGUS ISSUES

Why an ANC-run W Cape is inevitable

Election results signal the Nats are devolving into a narrow-based regional force

ART 9/16/99

(267)

The fate of the New National Party is inextricably tied up with the politics of coloured nationalism in the Western Cape, writes CLIVE SAWYER, our Political Correspondent



Let me be the first to congratulate the African National Congress on winning the 2004 election in the Western Cape

Assuming, of course, that by then no move has been made to diminish the status of provincial governments or to reduce them to small clusters of provincial ministers hand-picked by Pretoria, as the National Party government did when it abolished an earlier form of provincial government in the mid 1990s

The change signalled by the Western Cape election results is inexorable

Much weight has to be given to the poll results because of the high turnout, about 86% of the Western Cape's 1.8 million registered voters

Western Cape election results from 1994, recorded in the official Independent Electoral Commission final report to Parliament, were that the then National Party attracted 1 138 242 votes and the ANC 705 576

This year, with the system refined to include a voters roll and tighter rules on identification of voters, the New NP got slightly more than 609 000 votes and the ANC about 668 000

The lower numbers for each can in part be ascribed to the lower voter turnout overall, although one has to be cautious in comparing the figures, because 1994 was a somewhat less precise exercise than the high-tech 1999 poll

Much of the story of the ANC's strong performance in the Western Cape in this election has as much to do with the prolonged death throes of the New NP as a national political force as anything else

The New NP garnered a little more than half the votes it did in 1994, and this year's results bear out that it appears to have lost out in the first vital phase of groundwork towards election victory - the registration



Happiness is: Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool and Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel in an upbeat mood at the ANC's offices in Athlone

roots mobilisation was more effective

Unofficial geographic evaluations of the rural vote show that the New NP's former hegemony over the vote of farmworkers is being eroded steadily

During this election campaign as in 1994 and the 1996 local government elec

capacity, there are internal party dynamics which will cost the New NP dearly

With voters having reduced the party to a political force of significance only within the Western Cape, the New NP will be hostage to the policy and strategy direction which its most powerful leader

Christian Democratic Party, United Democratic Movement, the ANC, or disillusioned abstention.

The criticism that F W de Klerk used on the 1994 election trail to dismiss Inkatha as a regional ethnic based party will now

matter less of growth than of survival

The remaining members of the coloured working class who continue to support it are by now entitled to expect more than just nebulous offers of "protection" against the ANC

al democracy and the primacy of the individual over the group, not an easy sell where people expect much of the state and are prepared to hand over considerable powers to the state to enable it to deliver

At a less cerebral level, the DP would have to be seen to get involved at community level, and by so doing to succeed where the New NP failed to outdo the years of sterling civic assistance by organisations associated with the ANC

Any party which sets its cap at winning the Western Cape will have to do more than remain at the relatively rarefied level of provincial and parliamentary politics

The ACDP appears to have found its niche in provincial and national politics and like similar groups in multi-party democracies worldwide, will be as permanent a fixture as the religious fundamentalism which it articulates.

The United Democratic Movement, in securing one seat, fell far short of the hopes of its salad days in politics, but remains on the growth path simply because of its ability to fish in ANC waters

In the Western Cape, its future performance will rely largely on the efforts of its 14 members of the National Assembly, given that a single seat in a legislature which seldom sits is unlikely to earn it much of a profile

It is this landscape, featuring scattered foes with little capacity to call vast numbers to their ranks, which should give the ANC every reason to take heart.

Demographics alone should assist the ANC, with the youth vote likely to play an even more critical role in the next election, and with the party having advance notice that more would have to be done to mobilise youth than the afterthought efforts of this election.

The ANC is not without potential liabilities as it sets out to win over that crucial remaining percentage of voters to deliver a governing majority in the first election of the next century

The way national government relates to the province in the next five years will be crucial in not alienating potential voters

Especially on fiscal issues, national government cannot afford to be seen as punishing the province for its folly in turning out in greater numbers for a divided opposition than for the ANC

BRENTON GEACH

in the mid 1990s

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Much of the story of the ANC's strong performance in the Western Cape in this election has as much to do with the prolonged death throes of the New NP as a national political force as anything else

The New NP garnered a little more than half the votes it did in 1994, and this year's results bear out that it appears to have lost out in the first vital phase of groundwork towards election victory - the registration campaign.

No excuse can be offered that for ordinary people the concept of being registered on a voters roll was new, or that the issue was complicated by the belief in some circles that well publicised Constitutional Court challenges to the barcoded ID rule would mean a more lax approach to the identification of voters

The ANC faced exactly the same difficulties as the New NP, but in the end its grass



Happiness for Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool and Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel in an upbeat mood at the ANC's offices in Athlone

roots mobilisation was more effective

Unofficial geographic evaluations of the rural vote show that the New NP's former hegemony over the vote of farmworkers is being eroded steadily

During this election campaign, as in 1994 and the 1995 local government elections, the ANC alleged that some recalcitrant farmers refused to allow canvassing of their workers by the ANC

Systematic moves by the Government and electoral authorities to address this issue before next year's municipal elections and the national and provincial elections, which can be expected between 2002 and 2004, should eliminate this handicap for the ANC

Beyond these factors of organisation and capacity, there are internal party dynamics which will cost the New NP dearly

With voters having reduced the party to a political force of significance only within the Western Cape, the New NP will be hostage to the policy and strategy direction which its most powerful leaders in this province take

Even its national leader, Marthinus van Schalkwyk, owes his passage to the National Assembly to being No 1 on the Western Cape provincial-to-national candidates list

The fate of the New NP is inextricably tied up with the politics of coloured nationalism in the Western Cape, with the party owing its continued existence to Cape flats workers, and with whites having abandoned it for the Democratic Party, African

Christian Democratic Party, United Democratic Movement, the ANC, or disilluminated abstention

The criticism that F W de Klerk used on the 1994 election trail to dismiss Inkatha as a regional ethnic-based party will now boom on the party he led

It is a given that for any party to grow it must seek the demographic or ideological base offering that growth

For the New NP there is none, and it was no wonder this week that the party was sending signals with such alacrity about a "convention of the opposition", in a phrase used by its federal executive and strikingly reminiscent of DP leader Tony Leon's pre-election call for a CODESA of the opposition

But for the New NP, it could become matter less of growth than of survival

The remaining members of the coloured working class who continue to support it are by now entitled to expect more than just nebulous offers of "protection" against the ANC

They are entitled to expect delivery, and even when that happens it is doubtful whether even the New NP as a major shareholder in coalition rule, would be able to get away with sole credit for it

The inevitable implosion of the New NP leaves the way open for the DP, ACDP and UDM to attempt to fill the role as alternates to the ANC in the Western Cape

The DP has gone furthest in eroding the New NP's middle-class constituency

The alternative it has to market is liberal

0.5 seat days in post-election aftermath as the growth path simply because of its ability to fish in ANC waters

In the Western Cape, its future performance will rely largely on the efforts of its 14 members of the National Assembly given that a single seat in a legislature which seldom sits is unlikely to earn it much of a profile

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The way national government relates to the province in the next five years will be crucial in not alienating potential voters

Especially on fiscal issues, national government cannot afford to be seen as punishing the province for its folly in turning out in greater numbers for a divided opposition than for the ANC

Pointing to census based formulas for allocating national resources may not prove enough to a constituency distrustful of government

Much of the ANC's prospects will depend on whether it is able, as central government, to take credit for any crime fighting and job-creating achievements in the next five years

To do this could seal the success of a party which is already on a growth path and facing a fragmented opposition of which major sections are in decline

marks out the fringe parties as ones unlikely to show further growth

Comparing the shares of votes for the DP, Inkatha and New NP, it is clear that to the extent they offer an alternative to the government, the centre of gravity of that alternative is to the centre rather than the far left or far right or politics

The constitution allows the new Parliament to continue until 2004, and bars its dissolution unless under special circumstances before 2002

The same constitution requires the development of multi party democracy, and it is ironic that it is the duty not only of a fragmented opposition to fulfil this task but also of the majority party

House style wars ahead as 13 parties jostle for attention

GLINE SAWYER

The new Parliament which more than 16-million South Africans turned out to elect will differ markedly in style and pace from its historic predecessor

By the end of the five year mission of the first democratically elected Parliament, the seven parties which occupied its benches had become accustomed to each other's feints and thrusts

The new entrants will bring the number of parties in the new National Assembly to 13, although this number will be smaller in the National Council of Provinces, where only the leading parties from each province will be represented in their respective delegations

The main visible impact will be in the set-piece events such as minidebates during question time and in plenary sessions on legislation or snap debates on matters of urgent

national importance.

The options are for Parliament to expand speaking time in proportion to the number of new entrants, making debates at even more grueling length or to keep them at a similar length to that of 1994-1999 and reduce parties' time proportionately

While this may seem arcane, the net effect will show in how much public and media opportunity the junior parties will get to express themselves

With a wider range of opposition parties, half of which have minuscule shares of the Assembly's 400 seats, the smaller ones may be left only with the opportunity to utter a few thoughts before having to relinquish the podium

A crucial factor will be the role played by the Democratic Party as it assumes the role of official opposition. As such, it will have a significant impact on the House's agenda and in the style in which it takes on

the slightly bulkier African National Congress caucus

With the DP having built its success in part on its skills in using the Assembly as a platform, there will be strong temptation in government ranks to pare back its opportunities

Any attempt to modify the rules to do so would be met by fierce resistance by the DP, particularly because it has built its entire electoral mandate on issues like the abuse of vast power

The lone members of fringe parties such as Azapo, Amichand Rajbanshi's Mimoriya Front and Cassie Aucamp's Afrikaner Eenhedsbeweging will have their mettle tested when the predictable howls of derision erupt as they take the podium

For ANC MPs, particularly veterans of the previous Parliament, the prospect of loud sarcasm will be alluring when much-reduced foes such as the New National Party, Pan

Africanist Congress and Freedom Front, all of which have far fewer seats than before address the House

The trial for small opposition parties will be even more arduous when the daily round of committees starts

With 266 MPs, the ANC will be able to deploy strong teams in each of the multitude of committees

It will also be able to build on the work begun in the previous Parliament in strategically selecting its participants for particular debates, using criteria such as their special knowledge, skills or symbolism

The DP may have become the official opposition, but it will be fielding only 38 MPs compared to the 82 the New NP had in its days in that role

However, it is more than a numbers game

Any agreement among opposition groupings to attempt to cover each other's interests in dozens of committee meetings would require some submerging of divergent ideologies

Picture a Freedom Front MP advising the justice committee of Azapo's objections to an item of legislation

Beyond this, minority parties would have to effect a sophisticated communications network which would have to keep pace with, or even surpass, the official channels of Parliament

The advantage of such parties would be their wholly new access to taxpayer funded resources such as research, accommodation and other funding

An issue like this would have particular resonance for the United Democratic Movement, which comes to the Assembly with twice the MPs the DP had in 1994

Having struggled in the final days of the election campaign, the UDM like all other parties will now find itself a beneficiary of the Public Funding of Represented Political Parties Act, which annoyed it so much in the past

Beneath the battle for attention in the new Parliament lie a series of more profound messages about political developments in the next five years

Most obviously, the ANC has a strengthened mandate to pursue its transformation agenda, a fact of which MPs on the government benches will remind their opposition colleagues frequently

Further, the number of special interest and fringe parties which have entered Parliament reflect a significant fragmentation within those fringes, having taken away votes from parties with similar identities which were already there

This, taken with the overall reduced number of opposition seats,

NNP-ACDP-DP deal looks sealed in Western Cape

Linda Ensor (263)

CAPE TOWN — A coalition government in the Western Cape between the New National Party (NNP), the Democratic Party (DP) and the African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) appears certain after the African National Congress (ANC) rejected the coalition's renewed offer of one cabinet seat yesterday.

The next stage in the coalition's negotiations would be to determine the allocation of cabinet seats between the three parties, sources said. An offer to the ANC was a condition laid down by the ACDP. **BD 9/6/99**

The coalition partners, at a meeting with an ANC delegation including Justice Minister Dullah Omar, provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool and provincial secretary Mcebisi Skwatsha, reiterated the offer — which the ANC had already rejected as "deeply insulting" — of the safety and security portfolio, the position of deputy speaker and the chairmanship of the public accounts committee. After the meeting, premier Gerald Morkel sent a letter to Rasool, again repeating the offer.

While both sides said the door was open for further talks, Omar and Rasool said the chances of the coalition budging from its position of marginalising the ANC appeared slim. "We leave with the sense that we were presented with a fait accompli as it seemed that they already had their coalition sown up," Rasool said after the meeting with the coalition partners — premier Gerald Morkel, DP provincial leader Hennie Bester and ACDP leader Michael Louis.

Morkel said the coalition, which represented 53% of the electorate compared with the ANC's 42%, had the right to form the majority in the provincial government. The ANC delegation appealed to the coalition partners to discuss the principle of creating an inclusive, fully representative government which created unity across the traditional racial divides of the province.

The ANC also highlighted the dangers of excluding the black majority, 60% of the rural community and 35%-40% of the urban coloured communities represented by it. The party was asked by the coalition partners whether it wanted more cabinet seats, but it was adamant that it would not start horse trading over posts until agreement had been reached on the broad principles of a new government.

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NNP, DP WANT LION'S SHARE

ANC rejects 'token' offer

CT 9/6/99

(263)

THE DP AND NNP want most of the cabinet positions in a Western Cape coalition government, despite the fact that neither gained more seats than the ANC. **KARIN SCHIMKE** and **ANDRE KOOPMAN** report

ATTEMPTS by the New National Party and the Democratic Party to dominate a new government in the Western Cape have threatened to kill multi-party talks before they began.

The African National Congress refused to accept an "insulting" offer of one cabinet post and the posts of deputy speaker and chairperson of the public accounts committee, but has not rejected the talks out of hand.

Although none of the parties would speak openly about the nature of the horse-trading that is going on behind closed doors, sources close to several parties confirmed that the race for cabinet posts is currently skewed heavily in favour of the DP and NNP.

The ANC won 18 seats in the provincial legislature, while the NNP won 17, the DP five and the African Christian Democratic Party and United Democratic Movement one each.

Unconfirmed reports had it that by Monday night — before the ANC had been included in talks — the NNP wanted the post of premier plus six cabinet positions and the ACDP one cabinet position and the ACDP one.

However, at the ACDP's insistence, the ANC was approached to hold a meeting with the other parties yesterday. The ANC delegation consisted of provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool, national justice minister Dullah Omar and ANC provincial exco member Mcebisi Skwarcha.

Gerald Morkel represented the NNP along with his deputy Peter Marais, DP provincial leader Henrie Bestier brought tough-talking Helen Zille, and the ACDP's Michael Louis had Kent Durr as his back-up.



COALITION IMPASSE: ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool, Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel of the NNP and the DP's provincial leader, Henrie Bestier, attempt to break the impasse yesterday about the future coalition government in the Western Cape.

The ANC left the meeting less than an hour after it began. Rasool said afterwards that the other parties' offer had not changed since Monday and that it amounted to "insulting tokenism". He added that it was clear the ANC had been brought in "merely as an afterthought".

His delegation had asked the other parties to consider what would be in the best interests of all the people of the province. However, this did not mean that the ANC had withdrawn from the talks, Rasool added. He did not rule out the possibility of a media-for being brought in to facilitate com-

munication between the parties.

Rasool said "Our next move is to manage some of the bewilderment that is turning into outrage among our supporters." He continued "We are not into the language of mass action, but there is a sense of betrayal and we will have to inform our constituents of what is going on. Speaking to them has a calming effect."

After the ANC left, the other three parties remained in Morkel's office for several more hours. Late last night, Rasool received a letter from Morkel but it could not be confirmed whether the letter contained a further offer.

The ACDP's Louis said after the meeting that there was a willingness among the DP, NNP and his own party to work together, subject to the finalisation of various conditions for a multi-party government and subject to the ANC's response. He said the ANC is expected to make the next move after considering the offer on the table.

Louis added that the ACDP's insistence on including the ANC was "a step in the right direction".

A draft proposal on how a multi-party government would function was taken home last night by each of the

party leaders, except Rasool.

Rasool said he sensed that the ANC is going to be "forced into the role of opposition". He regarded the offer of one cabinet position as a "fig leaf" intended to protect the ACDP and to give the impression that it and the coalition partners are reaching out to the ANC. "It is the impression of the ANC that when we entered the meeting, the NNP, DP and ACDP presented us with a fait accompli. It seemed they already had their coalition sewn up," Rasool said.

More meetings are scheduled to take place today.

Cape parties wrap up coalition agreement

(269)

Cosatu says it will ask business to put pressure on government

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The troika of coalition parties in the Western Cape have finalised a deal on a multiparty government, refusing to bow to Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) threats of mass action

The African National Congress (ANC) has been given until 12am today to accept one cabinet post, the deputy speaker's position and the chairmanship of the public accounts committee, an offer it has repeatedly rejected as "deeply insulting"

Democratic Party (DP) provincial leader Hennie Bester said it would not be possible to offer the ANC more seats as a partner in the multiparty government as this would counter the DP's mandate from the electorate to limit the concentration of ANC power

Endorsement by the party structures of the DP and the African Christian Democratic Party is considered a formality. The DP federal council and the New National Party had given the deal the go-ahead, Western Cape premier Gerald Morkel said yesterday

He said the decision was final and the three parties would not be open to persuasion

Morkel would remain premier,

but the allocation of seats and the MECs selected to fill them would be announced within a few days

The agreement stated that the provincial government would be "open, transparent, responsive and accessible" to all the people of the Western Cape and would be governed in terms of the mandate of the three parties which would have the right to publicly disagree and rally against decisions taken by the executive

The agreement committed the government to social upliftment, fighting crime and job-creation and to setting "measurable goals for the delivery of social benefits, particularly to the poorest of the poor, and to those disadvantaged or disadvantaged by poverty, inferior education, inadequate shelter and poor health"

"The government will within 100 days of the first session of the provincial parliament set specific goals to provide these services to all within the constraints of available financial resources

"Specific goals will be established for each service delivery department under the control of the province and performance audits will be undertaken on a regular basis" Representatives of the parties committed themselves to efficiency,

zero tolerance of corruption and the achievement of small government by means of devolution, privatisation or outsourcing services where possible, as well as a co-operative relationship with central government

Morkel stressed that the multiparty government represented the will of the majority of voters in the province — with or without the participation of the ANC

"The real test for democracy in SA is whether the ANC and its allies will accept an outcome that puts them in opposition rather than in government," he said

Health MEC Peter Marais criticised the ANC's negotiating tactics saying it had ruined its chances by threatening mass action. He conceded though that things "could have been better"

Meanwhile, Cosatu's Western Cape regional executive was to approach business associations today to discuss bringing joint pressure on the coalition. It would then decide on the nature of the action and would work in conjunction with other organs of society. This could take the form of strikes though Cosatu was concerned not to disrupt the economy

A plan of action would be formulated by Friday morning

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10/16/99

ANC rejects token share in coalition (263)

CLIVE SAWYER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ARG 10/6/99

More politics page 2

Western Cape African National Congress leader Ebrahim Rasool sent Premier Gerald Morkel a letter today rejecting the small share of coalition government offered to it by the New National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party.

But the ANC is reliably understood to still be open to initiatives which would enable the formation of an inclusive provincial government

Efforts by Western Cape business leaders to pave the way for an all-party government are continuing. At the same time, an ANC task team has been set up to chart the party's options as it prepares to become the official opposition in the legislature

The Group of Three non-ANC parties announced last night that they had agreed to form a multi-party government and gave the ANC until noon today to take up their offer of a small share in the executive and elected legislature posts

The three-party deal is to be ratified by leadership structures of those parties

But soon after last night's news conference it was clear the ANC and its allies would reject the offer, raising the prospect

of major protests in the week new provincial and national governments are inaugurated and opening the way for a significant test of the 1996 constitution.

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said the parties' joint offer failed to recognise the ANC's victory and was a recipe for instability in the province. He said the three-party coalition had been worked out before the election and the partners' sole miscalculation had been to underestimate how well the ANC would do.

With some days to go before the first meeting of the newly-elected legislature next Tuesday, Mr Rasool said the ANC was ready to go into opposition. However, the ANC and its allies are hoping that pressure from a wide range of business, labour, civic and religious leaders will prompt the coalition towards "sanity and maturity".

Mr Rasool said the ANC had not demanded the dominant share of the provincial cabinet

The Congress of SA Trade Unions said any coalition which excluded the ANC would be met with mass action. "We won't

To page 7

ANC 'no' to offer by coalition (263)

From page 1

allow a situation where attempts are being made to exclude the ANC," Cosatu provincial secretary Tony Ehrenreich said

Reacting to Mr Rasool's comments, Western Cape DP leader Hennie Bester questioned his statement that he had been willing to play a non-dominant role in a coalition government

ARG 10/6/99
"He insisted that the ANC should have the dominant role, when in fact they won only 42% of the votes compared to the 58% of the opposition parties

"We nevertheless trust that the ANC will be a loyal opposition, and that their Cosatu partners will not undermine the commitment which all South Africa's voters showed to democracy and due process during the election"

New NP leader Gerald Morkel, who the three parties have agreed to support as Premier candidate, said the new government had vowed that within 100 days of the first sitting of the legislature it would set specific goals of service delivery

The coalition government would draw up measurable goals benefiting "particularly the poorest of the poor and those disadvantaged by poverty, inferior education, inadequate education and poor health"

The new coalition was committed to greater community involvement and improved communication between the provincial government and people at all levels

Michael Louis, leader of the provincial ACDP, its sole representative in the legislature and guaranteed a cabinet post, said it was misinterpretation that his party had insisted it would participate in a coalition only if it included the ANC

Questioned about the non-ANC parties forming a government with the ANC, Mr Bester said that South Africa had a democracy based on proportional representation which was open to the formation of a coalition

Mr Morkel said Mr Rasool's party had had the opportunity to try to negotiate a governing majority but had failed

DP MPL Helen Zille noted there had been no controversy or claims of any community being "left out" when in 1994 the ANC had come to power in the Northern Cape with a slim majority lent it by the help of the DP "Democracy is not tested when the ANC wins an election

"It is tested when the ANC loses and whether it accepts the result," she said

Coalition could make

W Cape 'unstable'

CT 10/6/99

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

(763)

THE provincial coalition government formed last night between the three parties with the least votes in the Western Cape is likely to be fragile, and the consequence of its formation could be an unstable province

This emerged during a talk held at the Idasa offices last night, at which ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool said his party would now have to consider what form of opposition it would have to take towards the NNP, DP and ACDP coalition government

Richard Calland of Idasa pointed out that the Constitution was silent on the procedures to follow when building a coalition government at provincial level, and said that there was no precedent for doing so in South Africa's short democratic history

However, in other countries where coalitions had been formed that did not have the support of the majority of voters, the coalitions produced social and political instability

Such coalition governments quite often dissolved soon after forming. This could, in some instances, lead to another election, he said

Research done by Sean Jacobs of Idasa showed that the three largest parties in the Western Cape —

the ANC, the NNP and the DP together received more than 92% of the vote. Each of them represented a sizeable, distinct and identifiable constituency, so excluding any of them from a provincial coalition government would effectively deny representation to that constituency

Referring to the ANC's short meeting with the other three parties on Tuesday, Rasool said last night that the ANC had not addressed the issue of premiership, nor had it asked for any dominant role in any possible inclusive government. It had merely raised the question of the kind of principles that should guide coalition formation in the province

Before that meeting, however, Rasool had tried six times since last Thursday, when the first results started showing an ANC lead in the province — to get hold of NNP provincial leader Gerald Morkel. None of his phone messages were answered, Rasool said.

He said that although the other parties were forming their coalition as soon as possible in an attempt to foreclose the discussion, the ANC was loathe to allow that

"But if the matter is closed, the ANC is realistic enough to know what role it will have to take on. And if the ANC has to go into opposition mode, we will now have to decide what form it will take"

Corruption spectre stalks Abe Williams

New probe gets under way

AKL 10/6/99

(9/6/99)

(Signature)

MICHAEL MORRIS
Special Writer

Further investigations have been launched by the Office for Serious Economic Offences (Oseo) into the finances of the West Coast Development Fund, once controlled by New National Party politician Abe Williams.

Mr Williams, who was health and welfare minister during the NP's participation in the government of national unity, returns to the next parliament for the New NP.

The new investigations follow a meeting with Mr Williams more than a month ago at which he was given an opportunity to "put his side of the story".

Tommy Prins, of Oseo's Cape Town office, said "There are a couple of outstanding things to follow up, which emerged from our discussion with Mr Williams and others."

A report would be prepared once these secondary inquiries had been dealt with.

The protracted and complex probe, involving masses of bank documents, was launched in 1996 and focused on the "flow of funds" in the West Coast Development Fund controlled by Mr Williams.

Mr Williams, who has always insisted he is innocent, resigned as a minister in the Government of National Unity after Oseo raided his Pretoria and Cape Town homes.

The probe stemmed from - though is not linked to - another Oseo investigation into the controversial multi-million rand pension payout contract awarded to a company, Nisec, which was later found to be incapable of matching the tender conditions.

This investigation is also virtually complete - the only outstanding element is an auditor's report - and could lead to corruption charges against officials in the Western Cape provincial administration.

The Nisec probe unearthed docu-

mentation which prompted the investigation into Mr Williams.

Among the ramifications of the Oseo investigation is Mr Williams's decision to sue African National Congress Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool, who claimed that Mr Williams had been "declared a serious economic offender".

Mr Rasool was the provincial health and welfare MEC who signed the R250-million five-year Nisec tender in 1994 - on the advice of senior officials - but then led the charge to have it investigated and annulled when the company's inability to meet its obligations became apparent.

Nisec, which employed various former Cape Provincial

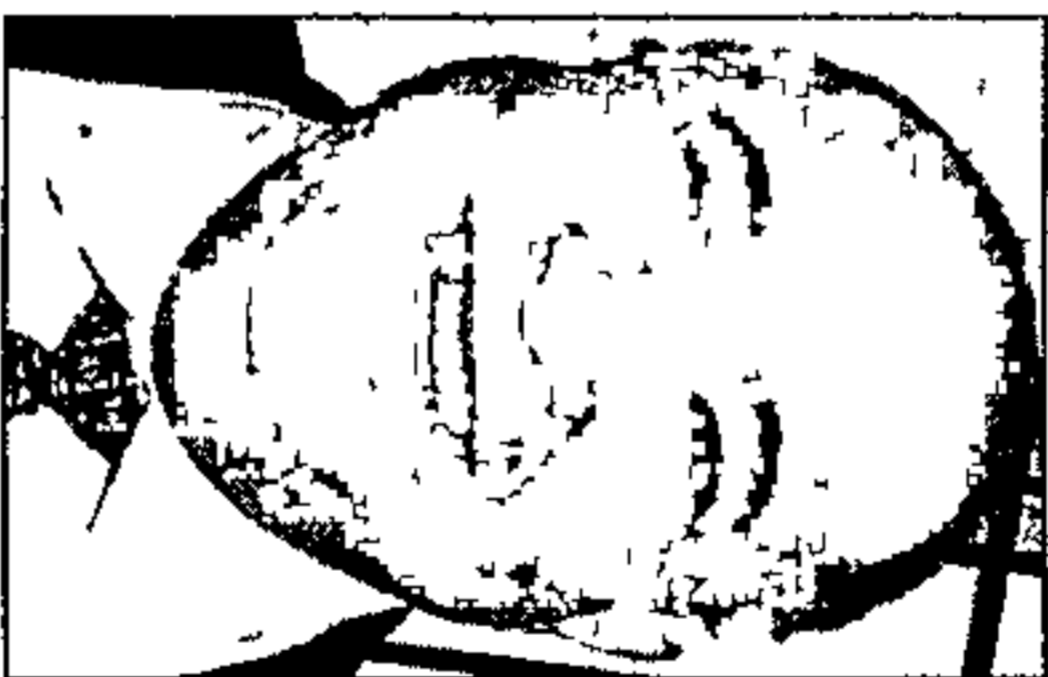
Administration officials, was found in the Cape High Court to have willfully misled the province by not disclosing that its computer software and other technology could not do the job it had been paid for. The company's application to annul the cancellation of the contract was dismissed in 1997.

Problems with the pension payout system were initially highlighted in 1995 by Democratic Party provincial leader Henne Bester.

ANC MP Noel Williams said yesterday. "The Atlantis community wrote to the National Director of Public Prosecutions, Bulelani Ngcuka, before the election, requesting clarity on whether Abe Williams was going to be charged or not. Mr Williams is number 10 on the New NP list and now stands to take up a seat in the National Assembly."

"In the interest of transparency and good governance, we believe that clarity should be provided before the inauguration of new members of parliament.

"The people of the Western Cape, and in particular the people of Atlantis, have a right to know whether Mr Williams is going to be criminally charged for corruption."



Comeback? Abe Williams

NNP-led Western Cape coalition snubbed

(267) CT 10/16/99

ANC
16/99

ANDRÉ KOOPMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE NNP, DP and ACDP will form the government in the Western Cape. This is likely to exclude the ANC since it has rejected an offer of one cabinet post as insulting.

NNP leader Gerald Morkel — who would remain as premier — flanked by Hennie Bester of the DP and Michael Louis of the ACDP, announced last night that the three

minority parties had decided to form a multi-party government (MPG) in the Western Cape, following failed attempts to bring the ANC into an "agreement that was acceptable to all parties".

Morkel said the three parties would share the 12 provincial cabinet seats but that the offer to the ANC — Safety and Security MEC, deputy speaker of the provincial legislature and the chair of the public accounts committee — would remain open

until noon today.

Analysts have predicted that such a minority government would be unstable and lead to social tensions, since the majority party, which largely represents the poor and African communities, would be seen to be excluded from government.

Meanwhile, the Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) announced at a press briefing minutes before that mass action including strikes would definitely be on the cards to force the

three parties to their "senses".

Cosatu regional secretary Tony Ehrenreich said minority parties could not govern without the ANC which achieved the majority vote — 18 seats of 42 — and represented the "marginalised".

The nature and timing of the mass action would be determined after discussions with business organisations also concerned about the exclusion of the ANC, as well as religious and other organisations later this week

The ANC provincial executive committee is scheduled to meet today.

Morkel said the "real test for democracy in South Africa is whether the ANC and its allies will accept an outcome that puts them in opposition, rather than in government".

The MPG partners would disclose neither the cabinet-sharing arrangement, nor the names of MECs. Bester said that an announcement would be made after the ANC had replied to the offer. Morkel did say a set of govern-

ing principles and a "log-jam breaking mechanism" had been agreed upon.

ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool has said that the offer of one seat to the party that attained majority seats was a "fig-leaf" designed to give the appearance of inclusive government. He could not be reached for comment last night.

In response, Morkel said last night the offer was an "opening gambit".

□ Turn to Page 3

ANC offered 'fig leaf'

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□ From Page 1

but that Rasool had said the ANC would not accept two or three seats but wanted the "bulk of it" according to the proportion of seats won.

Asked about the perception in African townships that blacks were once again being excluded from government, Morkel said that there should be a move away from race-based politics. Bester commented that by the same token, whites could say that president-designate Thabo Mbeki and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi could be seen as governing to the exclusion of whites.

Bester said that the province would not be governed exclusively by the MPG but that it would rule in co-operation with national government which received a mandate from black people.

For democracy to flourish, there

should be "alternative centres" of power, he added.

Peter Marais, who has had an on-again, off-again relationship with the ANC and who favoured a coalition with that party, said "The ANC must learn that political power is not distributed as charity in a democracy, only acquired at the polls or in hard deals".

Morkel said the MPG would set itself "measurable goals for the delivery of social benefits, particularly to the poorest of the poor and to those disadvantaged or dispossessed by poverty, inferior education, inadequate shelter and poor health".

The government would within 100 days of the first session of the provincial legislature, "set specific goals to provide these services to all within the constraints of available financial resources".

Coalition fever strikes

MAY you live in interesting times, says the famous Chinese proverb. And some provinces in South Africa clearly experience more interesting times than others.

With the election scarcely a thing of the past, the country is now firmly in the grip of coalition fever as parties frantically scurry from meeting to meeting in attempts to form governments, and outbid each other in two of the nine provinces.

But why do we need coalitions when one party is clearly ahead of the others in both provinces, and can such governments work in the South African context?

In our electoral system of proportional representation, a government can only be formed where a party or a coalition of parties manages to get more than 50 percent of the seats in a Legislature – an aspect that may come in for review in the years to come.

A party would have to secure at least 41 of the seats in an 80 member legislature in order to form a government. In such a scenario, even if all the other parties in the legislature concerned were to combine, they would only be able to muster 39 seats – not enough to form a government.

Where the gap between the party with the most votes and its closest rival is relatively large – say 41 percent of the seats to 10 percent of the seats – matters can be fairly straightforward.

The major party will then be able to pick and choose who its coalition partners should be. It might well go for its closest rival, or choose several of the smaller parties whose policies it feels it can live with.

But where there are two parties fighting for dominance with more or less the same levels of support, then matters become more interesting or complicated, depending on whether you are a political analyst or a politician.

Such is the case in KwaZulu-Natal and Western Cape. In Western Cape the African National Congress has 18 and the New National Party (NNP) 17 of the 42 seats – at least 22 seats are needed for a government to be formed.

In KwaZulu-Natal the ANC has 32 and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) 34 of the 80 seats – at least 41 seats are needed to form a government.

Whichever party in these two provinces manages to secure more than 50 percent of the votes through a coalition with other parties will clearly be able to form a government.

Contrary to claims that democratic convention dictates that the party with the most votes should form the ruling coalition in such a scenario, it is the party that is able to secure the most seats – and therefore the cooperation and confidence of the other parties – that will rule. But matters are never that simple.

The ANC has won a majority in Western Cape but opposition parties together have more seats, write

Shaun Mackay and Chris Landberg

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(263)

A lot of horse trading lies ahead in both provinces. In KwaZulu-Natal the matter does not appear to be as vexed as it is in Western Cape. The two leading contenders, IFP and ANC, have already been cooperating in a government of national unity in Parliament and it should not be too difficult to extend this same relationship to the provincial level.

One positive spin-off of such a coalition will be more stability in a province that has seen much violence in the recent past.

In Western Cape we are likely to witness a lot of in-fighting, name-calling and balance-of-power manoeuvring for the foreseeable future. In that province matters are complicated by the fact that the NNP is desperately fighting for survival, it is trying to hang on to power, having lost much support throughout the country.

It seems to have come to the conclusion that its future lies not in collaboration with the dominant ANC, but with the minority parties.

It is convinced that it won't do badly in this regard as it looks to be the senior partner – despite having fewer seats than the ANC – in the coalition that is beginning to gel.

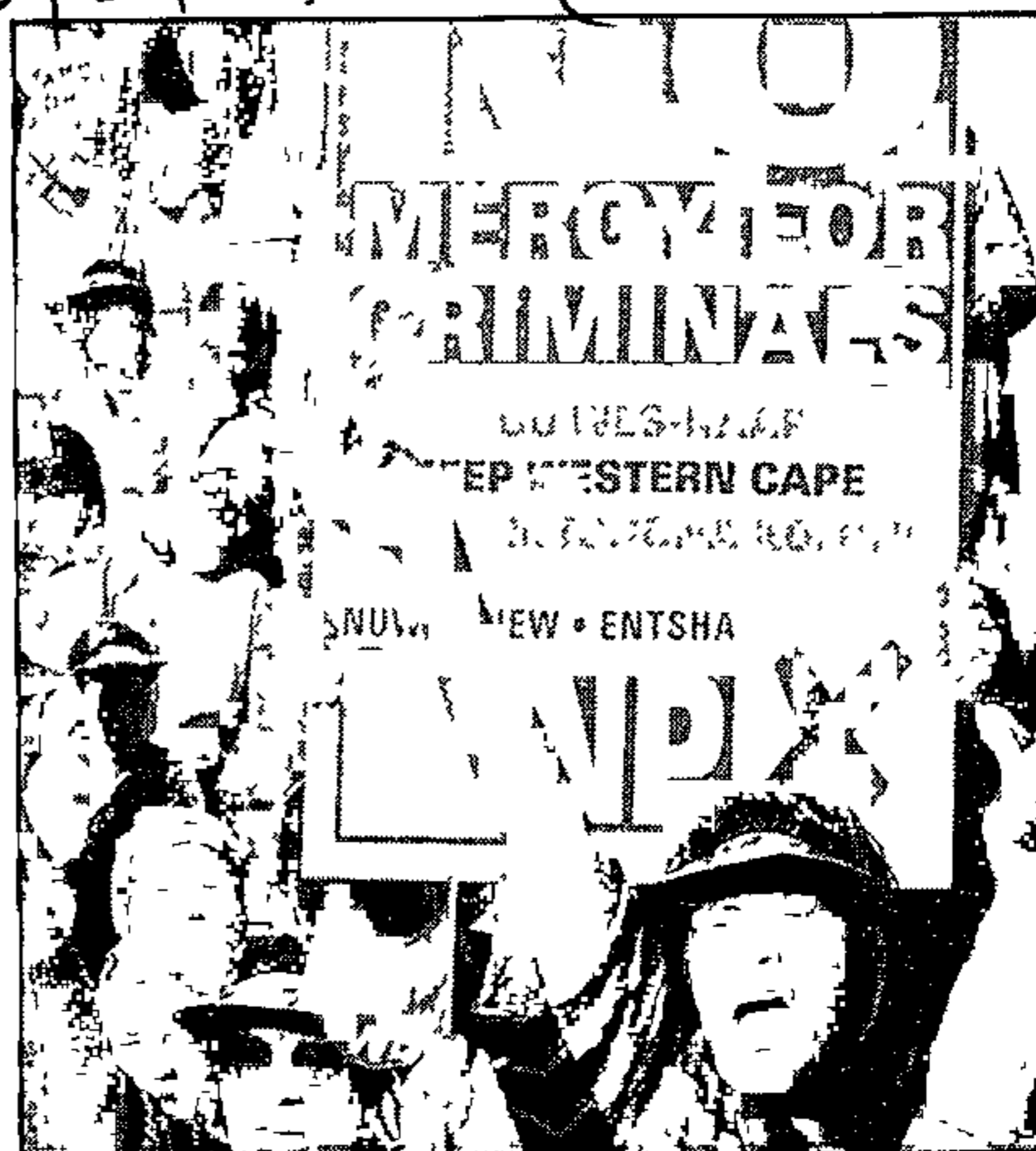
And if the rules of the democratic game are adhered to, the parties must accept that no party can force another to go into a coalition with it – the process must be voluntary or the coalition is not likely to be stable or lasting.

But can a coalition which excludes the ANC work in the province?

Already the Congress of South African Trade Unions has threatened rolling mass action if the party is not included and this holds consequences for the stability of the province and of the coalition government.

Such mass action will severely constrain the ability of the government to deliver and this will inevitably impact on the ability of the coalition to govern and threaten its stability.

But even if the ANC were to go into such a coalition, there is likely to be immense



New National Party supporters cheer their leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk at an election rally in Cape Town on May 24.

PIC REUTERS

competition between it and the NNP to be the dominant partner, the DP would be seen by the ANC to be playing the role of spoiler as it is likely to gang up with the ailing NNP either way the coalition will be a very uneasy and fractious one.

Coalition governments can work and can be good for governance if there is good cooperation between the partners.

They can mean that moderate policies emerge from a government that take into account the needs of all people rather than that of one constituency because of the process of bargaining that is characteristic of a coalition government.

But where there are too many partners with too many contradictory demands, this can inject more uncertainty and instability into the coalition and slow down governance.

Whatever the outcome of the coalition negotiations, Western Cape politics in particular, and South African politics in general, are not likely to be dull in the future.

(The authors are policy analysts at the Centre for Policy Studies.)

MEDIATION OFFER REJECTED

Coalition rift deepens

CT 11/6/99 (263)

THE COALITION set to govern the Western Cape last night rejected Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane's offer to mediate in the dispute between it and the ANC, which wants a greater say in the provincial government. **ANDRÉ KOOPMAN** and **CHRIS BATEMAN** report.

PREMIER Gerald Morkel of the New National Party, Hennie Bester of the Democratic Party and Michael Louis of the African Christian Democratic Party have rejected an African National Congress request that coalition talks start afresh — but they said they are prepared to discuss a "meaningful role" for the ANC in the provincial government

The ANC obtained 18 seats, the NNP 17, the DP five and the ACDP and United Democratic Movement one each

Meanwhile, several high-profile business leaders, who do not want to be named, are involved in trying to break the impasse between the two groups. Ahe Gierdien, the head of Business Cape, confirmed this yesterday at a media briefing held after a meeting between Cosatu and several business organisations. He refused to divulge details

Another group of business people, the Pro-Democracy Alliance, is to hold a rally and protest march in the city today. The group is expected to hand a letter to Morkel registering "profound concern at the decision to form a political troika that is specifically intended to exclude the ANC from its rightful place in government"

To exclude the party with the most votes in the Western Cape would lead to a "resurgence of racial polarisation,

ostensibly condemned by all parties but covertly encouraged by the manner in which the NNP and DP chose to address the electorate", the group said in a statement

The influential Western Cape Provincial Council of Churches has called a "leaders' meeting" this morning to examine the political impasse and to discuss ways of resolving possible tensions which may arise

Archbishop Ndungane, who is visiting Germany, said yesterday he is deeply concerned that developments "could jeopardise the culture of tolerance that is needed in order to have effective governance in our province"

"Therefore I am offering to assist in the efforts under way to resolve the impasse that has emerged" He offered to fly back to South Africa within 24 hours

Morkel, on behalf of the NNP, DP and ACDP, thanked the archbishop for his concern but said "communication between us and the ANC is proceeding and we do not think you have to inconvenience yourself to return"

In a letter to Morkel yesterday, ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool formally rejected the troika's offer of one seat in the cabinet. In an appeal to Morkel, Rasool said now is the time for parties to do "what is right" in the interests of the electorate. "Gerald, it is not too late," he wrote. "This is not the time for dogmatic behaviour. The electorate is bigger than us or our parties. Let us do what is right"

Rasool reminded Morkel that the ANC and NNP share the coloured community constituency which stands "in deep need of upliftment from poverty"

"The ANC represents, with you, the rural masses, and the ANC represents the African communities. This tells us that it is our historic mission to liberate these communities and unite them so that our people can have a place in the sun," Rasool said

An exclusive NNP coalition with the DP, Rasool continued, will place the poor in "a relationship of compromise to the need to protect white privilege. The coalition needs to be inclusive so that the needs of all communities need to be held in balance, and none is deemed dispensable."

Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry head Denis Skeate expressed concern over the exclusion of the ANC from the provincial government. He said the Western Cape legislature should be "inclusive, stable and democratic".

"Our concern is Cosatu talking about rolling mass action. While it's their democratic right, it affects our business — of course we're not happy. If 42% of the people don't get represented in cabinet how do you translate that back to the people without creating havoc?"

Cosatu provincial secretary Tony Ehrenreich said the troika is aimed at retaining white privilege at the expense of the poor. Cosatu is being forced to engage in mass action, he added

Health MEC Peter Marais of the NNP yesterday described the coalition as being 18 months old. "It won

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Troika leaves ANC in the cold

□ From Page 1

awards, gave us a 4% growth rate — 3% above the national average — and an 80% matric pass rate," he said

He was referring to the wrangle under former premier Hennis Kriel after the provincial constitution was ratified 18 months ago, enabling him to expand his cabinet to 13

The ANC — then holding four cabinet posts — rejected a reshuffle which offered them two posts and Kriel brought in the DP and ACDP, effectively manoeuvring the ANC out of a government of provincial unity into the opposition benches. Marais urged Rasool to take the Safety and Security cabinet position being offered, saying it would result in better policing through an ANC provincial and national part-

nership on crime

"The ANC mustn't resort to Cosatu and big business as brokers. This is realpolitik, a power play. They (the ANC) are not politically mature and always return to protest politics," he said

Marais added that the ANC is now seen to be "the Korbroke in the negotiations"

He said it was ironic that the ANC had vetoed an NNP bid to have a full multi-party government clause included in the provincial constitution and was now "paying the price".

"You can't get power through charity. The ANC hasn't learnt the fine art of dealing — it's used to total power, calling the shots," said Marais. He added that the coalition is "not about excluding blacks but about shared policies"

CT 11/6/99

Row over

city feast

for MPs

Nat boycott threat

APG 11/6/99

(267)

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

New National Party councillors are threatening to boycott a banquet being given by Cape Town mayor Nomaindia Mfeketo to welcome new MPs to the city, because of the cost to ratepayers.

New NP councillors walked out of an executive committee meeting in the civic centre where the budget for Monday night's banquet was discussed behind closed doors. The Democratic Party has also objected to the costs, but has not taken a position on a boycott.

The banquet is part of the council's campaign to keep Parliament in Cape Town and will follow the swearing-in of new MPs in the House of Assembly on Monday.

The row comes amid controversy over the R47-million to be spent on the inauguration of Thabo Mbeki as president in Pretoria next Wednesday.

French champagne and South African wines will be served at an ethnic buffet for the inauguration.

The Government says R10-million of this money will come from private sponsors.

In Cape Town, the city council says the initial budgeted cost of the mayoral banquet, R560 000, has been trimmed to R390 000, with the council paying out between R30 000 to R50 000 and the rest coming from the private sector. About 1 200 guests have been invited.

Last year, Pretoria's mayor hosted a party at the opening of Parliament in Cape

The big feed starts here, page 2

Town to woo support for Parliament to move to Pretoria

At this week's executive committee meeting, New NP councillors, headed by Yusuf Waggie, argued that R81 000 was sufficient as the council's contribution to the function and that this amount had been approved in an earlier meeting.

The New NP said taxpayers' money should not be squandered.

African National Congress councillors, headed by exco chairman Saleem Mowzer, proposed an amendment asking that R126 000 should be approved for the function.

After the walkout by the New NP councillors, ANC councillors were forced to stick to the budget of R81 000 because they needed a two-thirds majority to approve the increase to R126 000.

Council spokeswoman Leonora de Souza said the council would actually spend between R30 000 and R50 000.

The rest of the money, she said, would come from Shell SA and other sponsors who had "bought" tables.

Cape Metropolitan Council executive committee chairman Pierre Uys said the City of Cape Town had written asking for financial help earlier this week. The metro council is headed by the New NP.

Mr Uys said the metro council had replied with a request for more details. There has been no response to this request so far.

Business lobbies for ANC

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — Captains of industry in the Western Cape are to meet the three parties of the planned Western Cape coalition government this morning to persuade them of the need to include the African National Congress (ANC)

They believe this is vital for political stability and the viability of the provincial government

The meeting comes as pressure mounts from all sides — the church, trade unions and the public — for premier Gerald Morkel, Democratic Party provincial leader Henne Bester and African Christian Democratic Party provincial leader Michael Louis to abandon their plans to go it alone

The industry captains are under-

Pressure mounts on Western Cape coalition partners not to go it alone

(263) PD 11/6/99

stood to include Searde! chairman Aaron Searl, Sanlam chairman Marinus Daling, BOE chairman Bill McAdam, Pepkor chairman Christo Wiese, Cape Union Mart chairman Phillip Krawitz, Cape Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Dennis Skeate and chamber past-president Ali Gerdien

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool is also expected to attend

The decision to call for the meeting followed talks between Business Cape, an association of the SA Chamber of Business, the black business groupings Nafcoc and Fabcos, the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut and the Congress of SA

Trade Unions (Cosatu) to discuss ways to persuade the coalition

Business is anxious to prevent disruption to the economy. Cosatu is planning a mass demonstration on Monday outside Parliament which convenes next week to swear in new members and elect the president

Anglican archbishop Njonginkulu Ndungane sent an urgent message from Germany with an offer to return home early to mediate between the parties. "I am deeply concerned that the developments could jeopardise the culture of tolerance that is needed in order to have effective governance in our

province" Morkel refused the offer, saying communication with the ANC was "proceeding"

The ANC yesterday rejected the offer of one cabinet post (safety and security) and two minor positions in the legislature, saying it was not prepared to enter into horse trading over posts

Emphasising that it was not too late, Rasool appealed in a letter to Morkel for negotiations to begin again on how to constitute a government which will best represent the diversity in the province and will not exclude the poorer sector of the community

Rasool said it was the view of the

ANC and many in the religious, business and academic fields that "the insistence on forming an anti-ANC coalition is a grave error"

He said the coalition had to be inclusive to meet the needs of the whole community and to ensure that no one was "deemed dispensable"

Morkel rejected the possibility of starting the talks afresh, but said the three parties were prepared to discuss a meaningful role for the ANC and would consider a counter offer to that of one cabinet seat

Meanwhile, confidential talks on the formation of a coalition government began yesterday in KwaZulu-Natal, with both the ANC and the Inkatha Freedom Party refusing to divulge details relating to the negotiations

WESTERN CAPE

UNTANGLING AN ELECTORAL CONUNDRUM

It's not too late to give the ANC its due

(269)

fm 11/6/99

Nothing underscored the Western Cape's rigid ethnic hierarchy more than the result that gave the province to the ANC with 42% of the vote — but immediately triggered coalition talks to secure continued NNP rule. Not that the NNP, with 17 seats to the ANC's 18, is monolithic. While its leader, Gerald Morkel, favours an alliance with the five-seat DP and the ACDP (one seat), more independent-minded legislators like Peter Marais are prepared to do business with the ANC.

The provincial legislature has 42 seats, 22 are required to elect the premier. Apart from the major players, the UDM (one seat) may also be drawn into coalition.

On Monday the federal congress of the NNP met in Stellenbosch to look for a way ahead. Since the DP had obdurately sworn it would never enter into coalition with the ANC, its provincial leader, Hennie Bester, was known to favour the Morkel option — in essence locking out the ANC from a deserved portion of regional power.

The parties' dilemma was crisply put by editor Ryland Fisher in Monday's *Cape Times*: "We can no longer afford to make

African people uncomfortable in the Western Cape. We cannot pretend that this province still has coloured labour preferences and laws that discriminate against Africans. This is their home and we have to make them feel at home."

Feeling the chill of exclusion, the ANC's Ebrahim Rasool spoke of a "betrayal" of the mandate conferred on his party by the black townships. He warned of possible mass action, which would involve Cosatu, if the ANC was forced into opposition.

In 1994, the NNP won 53,3% of the province's votes. A unity government prevailed until last January, when some devious manipulation of the new provincial constitution by former premier Hennis Kriel saw the ANC excluded from cabinet and the formation of a pact between the NNP and the DP. Rasool resented this.

Many saw the exclusion as a ganging-up of whites and coloureds against Africans. A popular view in local talkshows and letters to the editor is that coloureds "belong" in the Cape and that Africans — pushed by the impoverishment of the Transkei and Ciskei — are interlopers.



The Western Cape legislature has 42 seats. A minimum of 22 seats (51%) is required to elect a premier, or pass legislation.

The NNP collapse was primarily the consequence of complacency — the belief that the coloured vote would stay within the fold. However, weak leaders have tarnished the Nats' prospects, perhaps irretrievably. In addition, the departure of F W de Klerk in September 1997 deprived the NNP of a figure who had proven popular on the Cape Flats in 1994.

A spreading unease over the NNP's capabilities saw a substantial drop in coloured support in this month's election. In 1994, the party drew about 1,1m votes — a figure that fell to 600 000 this time. Since the coloured people are in the provincial majority — 58,4% as against 23,6% white and 17,1% African — an initial analysis of the figures suggests that Rasool managed to crack the NNP's hold on this community, though apathy played a part.

Thus Morkel's assumption that he could count on "his" people was shattered.

From a rational perspective, this is a good thing. The Western Cape has for too

long been perceived as an insular bastion of white and coloured privilege, well represented by the conservative and entrenched NNP. This myth can now be seen for what it is, and the appropriate recognition should be a reannation of the principle of provincial governance by non-exclusive partnership. The leading party in any such formation should be the ANC, which has support in all communities.

A DP-NNP alliance would abrogate the promise of such a grand coalition. It would deepen social tensions and still leave the NNP with the problem of how to govern the Western Cape for the benefit of all.

That is why national NNP boss Marthinus van Schalkwyk and the DP's Tony Leon need to re-examine their anti-ANC positions. Both need to ensure that provincial decisions are not taken that could prove damaging not only to their parties, but to the economic health of the province. As a tough-minded politician, Leon surely has the prerogative of changing his mind, particularly if to do so is in the national interest. Given his evident success in leading the DP out of the morass of failure, he can afford to be magnanimous — his party can only grow through increased black support.

If he allows Bester and Morkel to team up, it would be an action — or inaction — that compromises the DP's claims to represent the liberal tradition in SA. As for Van Schalkwyk, he has matured during the campaign. Certainly the NNP should form part of any ruling coalition in the Western Cape — but not at the expense of the party that many see as having actually won the race.

Peter Wilhelm

Multiparty deal on the cards

ART 12/6/99 (263)

**JERMAINE CRAIG AND
ESTELLE RANDALL**

The Western Cape is on the brink of a new multiparty government that will include the African National Congress following talks between all the parties last night

The coalition of the New National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party met the ANC and United Democratic Movement to discuss how to establish a representative government

ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool, Justice Minister Dullah Omar, provincial DP leader Henne Bester, provincial ACDP

leader Michael Louis and the UDM's Malizole Diko were among those who attended the talks, which started at 6pm and ended at about 10pm last night

An upbeat Gerald Morkel said he was positive that a multiparty deal would be struck under which all the major parties in the province would be represented in the government

He said the talks would continue today "We would not be continuing these talks if we did not believe that progress was being made," he said

He said the meeting was "constructive"

"(Although) we have not yet reached finality, we put certain positions on the table and by tomorrow,

if the ANC can get back to us, we can have another meeting"

Mr Rasool said the principles of the negotiations had to be ironed out before cabinet positions could be finalised

Sources said the talks took place in a jovial and friendly atmosphere

Earlier Mr Morkel said the NNP-DP-ACDP coalition's initial offer of one provincial cabinet post to the ANC was negotiable

Informed sources said last night that the NNP was likely to want five cabinet posts and would be prepared to offer three out of a total of 10 cabinet voting seats to the ANC

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P. T. O.

Coalition calls for 'principle of inclusivity' at national level

From page 1

The remaining two seats, as well as two non-voting seats, would be split between the DP and ACDP

Final election results for the Western Cape entitle the ANC to 18 seats in the 42-seat provincial legislature, the NNP to 17, the DP to five and the ACDP and UDM to one each

A range of commentators in the province, including business, trade unions and church leaders, called this week for the coalition to reconsider its offer to the ANC of one seat, arguing that excluding the ANC or reducing its role would mean ignoring the African and coloured rural vote

The coalition said earlier yesterday it would continue talks with ANC provincial leaders to find ways that were "mutually acceptable" to include the ANC in a multiparty government

The coalition added that it noted that the growing demands for "inclusive government" from various sectors applied only to the Western Cape, where the ANC had been unable to secure a majority on its own or to negotiate a coalition government in which it played a domi-



TOUGH TALKS. Justice minister Dullah Omar, left, Mcebese Skwotsho, the ANC regional secretary, and Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool arrive at a city hotel for another round of talks with the NNP, DP and ACDP coalition

nant role

"If the principle of inclusivity applies in the Western Cape, it is appropriate that it must apply elsewhere in the country," they said.

"For the sake of consistency and

constitutionality, we trust that the lobby calling for 'inclusive government' in the Western Cape will now support demands for a similar principle to apply in all other provinces and at national level"

Picture: ROY WIGLEY

(263)

ARG 12/6/99

The DP's Mr Bester quipped it would be a good idea if the DP's national leader Tony Leon was appointed justice minister, given the state of South Africa's criminal justice system

ANC national spokesperson Thabo Masebe dismissed the calls from the Western Cape coalition

Mr Masebe said "If opposition parties want to go ahead and form an anti-ANC government in the Western Cape, that's fine. But they must not complicate things by trying to link the problem of the Western Cape to the rest of the country"

"That would disregard what the people have said and would be tampering with the mandate given to the ANC to govern the country"

Mr Masebe noted that the Constitution was clear about how a government had to be formed. At a national level, Parliament elected the president, who had the power to appoint members of the Cabinet

At a provincial level, the Constitution gave the provincial legislature the power to elect the premier and the premier the power to appoint members of the provincial cabinet

"The problem in the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal is that

there is no party in a position to appoint the premier without the support of other parties"

In KwaZulu Natal, the Inkatha Freedom Party and the ANC are still negotiating the details of a coalition government

Mr Masebe said "All that the ANC has been saying, regarding the Western Cape, is that the NNP should have considered that the ANC is the biggest party in the province

"There's nothing that can be done to stop the NNP from ignoring this. But if they really wanted the ANC to participate in the provincial government, they would have offered the ANC something that was commensurate with what the party achieved in the election"

He said "The ANC's National Working Committee has said its provincial leadership should meet with the NNP to explore a coalition government

"But, after talks, it emerges that this is not possible, we should not create a crisis"

"The ANC will continue to participate in government in the province, even if it has to do so as the opposition"

ACDP ditches West Cape coalition

BY ZOLILE NGAYI and SAPA

THE AFRICAN Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) has pulled out of the Western Cape opposition coalition

ACDP leader Kenneth Meshoe yesterday announced his party would stand back from its partnership with the Democratic Party (DP) and New National Party (NNP) while the two parties negotiated with the African National Congress (ANC)

The decision is in line with an earlier ACDP statement that it would not participate in a coalition without consensus being reached

The ACDP's move, and a decision by the United Democratic Movement, with one seat, to stay out of government, means that without agreement being reached by the major parties, the legislature is "hung"

Meanwhile Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane, again offered to help broker a deal between the parties negotiating a coalition government for the Western Cape. Meetings between the NNP, DP and

ANC in the province are continuing this weekend to discuss conditions under which the ANC could possibly be brought into the provincial government

The withdrawal of the ACDP would mean that if the three parties did not find common ground, the NNP and DP would be short of the seat needed for a speaker in the legislature

New National Party leader Martinus van Schalkwyk has suggested the ANC be given three seats on the provincial executive amidst suggestions from the opposition parties that similar deals be made in the national cabinet and other provinces such as the Northern Cape where the NNP is out in the cold

ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool has rejected linking agreement in the province with developments elsewhere in the country

Sources who attended an inconclusive meeting on Friday night said the ANC insisted that the principle of inclusivity, with the majority party being given the major role in forming

a coalition, be discussed before they would engage in horse-trading about positions

Briefing the media at Cape Town international airport after returning early from an overseas visit, Ndungane said he wanted an acceptable solution for the province. He said the ACDP and ANC were open to his playing a mediatory role despite the rejection by regional premier and NNP leader Gerald Morkel who said Ndungane should not inconvenience himself

Although the ANC formally rejected the offer of one seat in the Western Cape legislature last Thursday, pressure on the coalition to change its composition is mounting ahead of the legislature's sitting on Tuesday

While rejecting the offer, ANC Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool, in a letter to NNP provincial leader Morkel, urged that it was time the parties did "what is right" for the sake of the electorate.

By this weekend several prominent Western Cape organisations

had added their voice to protests against the exclusion of the ANC

Business leaders and church groups decided to lobby the coalition government to reconsider its decision to exclude the ANC

The Congress of SA Trade Unions, which represents much of the working-class electorate that voted for both the ANC and NNP, announced on Thursday that it would embark on tomorrow on "rolling mass action" if the troika went ahead and formed a government without the ANC

A group calling itself the Pro-Democracy Alliance, which includes a range of organisations and business leaders, protested about the exclusion of the ANC in a petition addressed to Morkel on Friday

"The exclusion of the ANC will lead to the resurgence of racial polarisation, ostensibly condemned by all parties but covertly encouraged by the manner in which the NNP and the DP chose to address the electorate," said the alliance.

Party grapples with exclusion from Western Cape coalition

CP 13/6/99 (263)

CP 13/6/99 (263)

DAYS before the Western Cape swears in its new premier, the largest party in the province is trying to make sure it is not left out in the cold.

The formation of an opposition coalition which together commands the majority of seats and so can exclude the largest single party - in this case the ANC - from government is both legal and democratic.

However, depending on dynamics, such a move might not be wise.

Last week's election saw the ANC win 18 seats as opposed to 17 won by the NNP in the party's former stronghold. With neither party gaining a clear majority, the path to power lay in coalitions. Unlike KwaZulu-Natal, where the two largest parties, the ANC and IFP, turned to each other to forge a partnership, the NNP in the Western Cape turned to the Democratic Party, which has five seats and the African Christian Democratic Party, which has one seat.

The UDM too has a seat in the legislature but has so far kept out of horse-trading as it wants to establish its identity as an opposition party.

ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool wanted the lion's share of positions in the new government because the ANC is the largest party.

While politicians in the Western Cape's four major political parties are exchanging proposals and counter proposals for coalition, one single truism has emerged: the NNP, the DP and the ACDP are within their democratic right to exclude the ANC, the Western Cape's majority party without a governing majority, from the provincial government. But are they doing the smart thing?

Chiara Carter and Zolile Ngoyi examine the political dynamics in the Cape of Storms

ment and Morkel's rejection of mediation, matters are not yet cut and dried.

The ANC has indicated that it will not rigidly stick to a demand to be the major power in regional government in line with its relative advantage as the largest single party. The coalition partners have uttered vagaries about wanting the ANC to play a "meaningful role".

Two outside pressures might exert influence on events: labour and business.

Cosatu has threatened rolling mass action if the ANC is excluded. The threat, if it materialises, is more in the order of nuisance value than potential paralysis. Unions are not particularly strong in the Western Cape and are unlikely to

be able to sustain such a campaign. However, politicians and business alike do not want loss of productivity, chaos in schools and streets and the resultant image of instability.

Business - an important constituency for the DP and NNP - said while it could not dictate to politicians, it favoured inclusive government that was in step with national government.

Here lies the nub of the issue in the region while the formation of a coalition which excludes the ANC from government is democratic, it might not be in the interests of the province as a whole.

Proportional representation inherently tends towards smaller parties wielding disproportionate power and the formation of coalitions.

If the three-party coalition goes ahead and forms the government, the somewhat ludicrous position will arise of the ACDP's sole representative in the legislature being an MEC, and at least four of the five DP MPs becoming MECs while the ANC sits in opposition.

Whatever platitudes Rasool might utter about being above "horse trading" of positions, bluntly put, the ANC was outmanoeuvred - a point made by Marais who said the ANC needed to learn that power was not simply given away and that deals required hard bargaining.

The Western Cape, like the rest of South Africa, has a young democracy. It faces crucial issues such as housing, service delivery and effective crime-fighting, and moreover is battling to overcome a legacy of racial division. In such a scenario, the consequences of parties perceived to represent minority interests, shutting out the majority, cannot be a step forward.

DP leader Henne Beester appealed for politicians to move away from "racial labelling" but he was less than honest when he said it was not true that significant constituencies were being excluded if the ANC remained in the cold.

The ANC won the votes of some 90 percent of African voters, 60 percent of rural coloureds and 40 percent of urban coloureds as well as about 10 percent of whites.

While the ANC is in a weak bargaining position and understandably needs its alliance partners' muscle, resorting to making the province ungovernable is no way to win.

Rasool distinguously said there would be no need to agitate for instability in the province because the coalition would automatically arouse anger.

Rasool hit out at the DP, accusing it of making the region a "bastion of opposition to national government".

Being out of step with the national government is an important consideration.

Politicians, including Beester himself, privately concede that a regional government at loggerheads with national rule is not always the best route.

For example, the previous Safety and Security MEC, Mark Wray, was so determined to pick fights with national cabinet ministers, that too often little was achieved for the Western Cape and even his own colleagues went to great lengths to keep him out of important discussions.

Common sense says that it might suit certain narrow party interests and individual politicians' ambitions to keep the ANC in the role of opposition but this is unlikely to best serve the region and its people.

At the same time the ANC knows it cannot dominate the regional government and should the coalition partners offer the ANC more than token insults and a provincial government of national unity indeed be formed, the ANC will have to watch its back while sharpening its capacity for cutting deals.

Mandela to the rescue

President drops everything in bid to avert chaos in Western Cape

RANJINI MUNUSAMY, HENRY LUDSKI
AND JANET HEARD

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela cut short a visit to KwaZulu-Natal and jetted into Cape Town yesterday afternoon to lead an 11th-hour effort to rescue coalition talks in the Western Cape and avert "rolling mass action" set to begin tomorrow.

Mandela's move came as the National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party coalition that was planning to run the province fell apart with the ACDP withdrawing last night. The NP and DP still have enough MPs to form a government between them, but their majority has been trimmed to a slim two seats in the 42-seat legislature.

The ANC meanwhile walked out of talks aimed at including it in the government by giving it three provincial Cabinet posts.

The provincial government has to be formed by Tuesday when provincial MPs will be sworn in and will have to elect a premier.

Mandela is expected to convene fresh talks between all the province's parties after Justice Minister Dullah Omar and religious leaders urged him to intervene to prevent the conflict from escalating to confrontation on Cape Town's streets.

If Mandela's bid to forge a fresh pact fails, the Western Cape could experience mass action on a scale last seen in the dying days of apartheid, with Cosatu vowing to take to the streets to back up the ANC.

Ebrahim Rasool, the ANC Western Cape leader, said yesterday the ANC would "not be held hostage to the unstated ambitions and aspirations" of the NP-led coalition. The ANC was offered three Cabinet seats in the Western Cape, but before this could even be discussed the talks bogged down over the question of an inclusive government.

National Party leader Gerald Morkel said last night that he was still open to talks with the ANC. "I spoke to Rasool earlier today and I am waiting for another call. The lines are open 24 hours a day," he said.

DP negotiator Helen Zille said the provincial ACDP had capitulated to pressure from the ANC.

Cosatu's mass-action threat prompted senior Cape businessmen — including BoE chairman Bill McAdam, Pepkor chairman Christo Wiese and Cape Town Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Dennis Skeate — to urge the parties to break the deadlock in the interests of the regional economy. But their intervention failed after the ANC rejected the compromise deal.

Presidential spokesman Parks Mankahlana said religious leaders mediating in the Western Cape talks had yesterday asked Mandela to intervene. Omar, a member of the ANC's Western Cape negotiating team, confirmed he would be meeting Mandela on his arrival in Cape Town.

Meanwhile, in KwaZulu-Natal, the ANC and Inkatha have agreed on a 50-50 split in the provincial Cabinet, but are yet to agree on who will be premier of the province.

By Friday afternoon no discussions had been held on whether the ANC's S'bu Ndebele or IFP national chairman Lionel Mtshali would be premier. It was decided that as the premiership issue was the most contentious, it would be discussed only once agreement had been reached on the allocation of Cabinet posts.

The ANC is said to be negotiating for the premiership issue to be put to the vote by secret ballot in the legislature. The IFP wants the parties to settle on a single candidate before they get to Parliament.

Mtshali's future remains doubtful after he received an instruction from Mangosuthu Buthelezi not to participate in the talks. Instead, IFP national spokesman Musa Zondi led his party's delegation.

Mandela, on his last official appointment as head of state, said he had gone to Nongoma four days before stepping down as President to say goodbye and pay his respects to King Goodwill Zwelithini.

More than 1,000 VIP guests attended an elaborate reception at the Dlamahlahla Palace in Mandela's honour.

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ANC pullout settles W Cape government

New NP, DP coalition to be sworn in tomorrow

ARG 14/6/99

(263)

CLIVE SAWYER AND TYRONE SEALE

The African National Congress's decision to go into opposition in the Western Cape has made little difference to the coalition's preparations for tomorrow's swearing-in of the provincial legislature.

Today, just before the ANC's provincial working committee announced its decision, New National Party leader Marthinus van Schalkwyk said his party's working coalition with the Democratic Party made it possible for the two partners to plan tomorrow's inauguration regardless of the ANC

He said the ANC had been made a firm and fair offer of three seats in the provincial cabinet and the coalition partners would not go back on their word

"This invitation is not linked to inclusivity in other provinces or at other levels of government. We strongly hope the ANC will, for its own sake and the sake of the province, accept the invitation."

Earlier, DP national leader Tony Leon said the New NP-DP offer was genuine, even though the DP had been offered no seats by the ANC in provincial legislatures elsewhere or in Parliament

The decision by the ANC provincial working committee, although officially still leaving the door open for an eve-of-inauguration resolution of the ANC's impasse with the New NP and DP, is believed to be based on frustration at the conduct of their New NP-DP negotiations partners

While the New NP and DP have rejected the ANC's allegation that talks are deadlocked and await the ANC's response to their offer, the provincial working committee decision means that a New NP-DP government will be sworn in tomorrow, with the ANC, African Christian Democratic Party and United Democratic Movement on opposition benches

Ebrahim Rasool, leader of the opposition in the provincial legislature, will head an 18-member caucus

against the 22 seats mustered by the New NP-DP coalition

The coalition government will be forced to fight on several fronts

Ranged against it will be the ANC and its allies, which will be mobilised against the coalition which has a vote share more than 8% greater than the ANC's

Its other critics in the legislature will be the UDM and the ACDP, which withdrew from the multiparty government, apparently under pressure from the ANC

With a day to go before the newly-elected legislature meets for the first time, the New NP-DP partnership and the ANC could not even agree on whether there was a deadlock

The ANC emerged from Friday's talks to declare a deadlock, in spite of the others believing the way could be open for further progress

The official New NP-DP line today was that they awaited a reply from the ANC to their offer of three cabinet seats which would make the provincial government more inclusive

No mediation for stalled coalition

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

TENSION is mounting in the Western Cape as the three parties involved in the stand-off about a multi-party government await each other's next move

By late last night, it seemed the issue was still far from resolved, though the parties hope — but do not absolutely need — a resolution by tomorrow morning, when the provincial legislature will sit for the first time to choose a premier

The NNP and the DP said that despite ANC statements at the weekend to the effect that talks had deadlocked, this is not the case and they are awaiting a response from the ANC to their offer of three cabinet positions

The ANC's provincial deputy secretary, Marius Fransman, last night said the ANC was never

offered the three positions. He said they could not react to offers made through the media

Despite the obvious stalemate, parties involved denied that a mediator is needed to resolve the most important post-election issue yet. Both NNP leader Gerald Morkel and DP leader Hennie Bester met Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane yesterday, at Ndungane's request Ndungane is prepared to act as mediator. Morkel and Bester both said their separate meetings had been amicable, friendly and relaxed and both were able to make their views understood

Morkel told the *Cape Times* last night "The archbishop assured me that he was only speaking to me in his pastoral role and

because of his concern for the people of the province. He agreed that we have to find a way to educate people about democracy and he understands that our decisions so far have been democratic." Morkel said he was waiting for ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool to come back to him

"The ball is in his court now, but we can't leave it (the final decision) until later than tomorrow evening. We can't tolerate these delaying tactics any longer."

He said perhaps the ANC itself was divided about which route to take. Reports that President Nelson Mandela had cut short a trip to KwaZulu-Natal to come the Western Cape's rescue could not be confirmed yesterday. Mandela was not at a meeting of the ANC's

provincial working committee yesterday, nor did he meet the leaders of the other parties. Fransman said the ANC is still hoping to "move away from the inclusivity precondition", referring to the NNP and DP's request that if racial inclusivity is the desired route in the Western Cape, it would also have to be exercised in other provinces

Fransman said the ANC wants to see the multi-party government, as it stands now, disbanded and for talks to start from a neutral position

Meanwhile, the ACDP, which was an initial tentative partner in the coalition, withdrew from the process this weekend. Provincial ACDP chairperson Kevin Southgate said last night that his party was happy to have been able to bring the parties together to talk. Now the ACDP will "wait and see what happens"

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The ball is in Rasool's court now

ANC gives no ground as Morkel elected premier

Angry protesters try to storm provincial buildings as New Nat-DP coalition moves into power



Civil gesture. ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool, left, shakes the hand of re-elected Western Cape premier Gerald Morkel of the New National Party today

CLIVE SAWYER AND SWA

The African National Congress gave no ground today in the face of inevitable defeat as it put up its own candidates against majority coalition nominees for the premiership and the post of speaker of the Western Cape Legislature.

Gerald Morkel was re-elected premier and Willem Doman returned to office as speaker.

Both were nominated by the New National Party with the backing of the Democratic Party.

About 2 000 angry demonstrators tried to storm the entrance to the provincial legislature after Mr Morkel was elected premier.

Police with riot shields and ANC marshals managed to hold them back.

The crowd, which had earlier numbered little over 300, swelled rapidly shortly after noon, and included members of Cosatu, the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union and the South African Democratic Teachers Union.

Six police riot control vehicles were in the immediate vicinity.

The swearing-in ceremony was punctuated by bars across the floor between the two groups of rival parties, the New NP-DP and ANC.

After Mr Morkel was nominated by party colleague Peter Marais, seconded by DP leader Henne Bester, the ANC's Lynne Brown and Tasneem Essop put forward Ebrahim Rasool to be premier. This forced a secret ballot of all 42 MPs voting in alphabetical order.

Moments after the completion of the time-consuming process, the ballot was overturned after Ms Brown protested to Judge President Edwin Kruger that technically the ballot was not secret.

Judge Kruger, who was presiding over proceedings as specified in the constitution, said the objections appeared strong enough to justify the ordering of a further round of voting. A second ballot produced a 23-18 result in favour of Mr Morkel with one spoilt vote.

With the New NP and DP commanding 22 votes, the results meant that either the African Christian Democratic Party or the United Democratic Movement voted with the coalition or spoilt their ballots.

In the election for the post of speaker the New NP-DP-nominated Mr Doman who was opposed by Ms Brown.

This prompted a further secret ballot, which was expected to produce a result similar to that of the premier's election.

In a speech prepared for delivery on his election, Mr Morkel told MPs "whether we are in opposition or in power, we remain the legislative arm of government of this province."

"We may not always agree on how we should go about it, but government we must and govern we shall."

Mr Morkel said that the Western Cape government would set itself measurable goals for the delivery of social benefits, particularly to the poorest of the poor and to those disadvantaged by inferior education, inadequate housing and poor health care.

"I want to repeat our commitment, within a 100 days of the first session of the provincial parliament to set specific goals to provide services to all within our financial constraints."

Mr Morkel pledged his administration would work with President-elect Thabo Mbeki's government in a constructive manner.

At a news conference yesterday Mr Rasool accused the coalition government of being "anti-ANC" and "unholy."

Mr Rasool predicted it would turn the Western Cape into an "outpost of racial polarisation and segregation while the rest of the country moves forward."

ANC rejects Western Cape offer of three seats ^(2/3)

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The African National Congress (ANC) has rejected the offer of three Western Cape cabinet seats made by the New National Party (NNP) and Democratic Party (DP) coalition, but both sides say the door is still open to further talks

The ANC, now the official opposition in the Cape, will participate in a mass demonstration of the Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) at the provincial legislature today to protest against its exclusion from the government. About 2 000 people are expected to attend.

Members of the provincial legisla-

ture will be sworn in and Gerald Morkel will be re-elected as premier. However, Morkel said he would delay announcing his cabinet until Friday to give talks with the ANC a chance.

Provincial ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool said further talks were only possible on the basis of agreed-upon principles of the multiparty government. Until this was sorted out, there could be no haggling over seats. It would serve the ANC no purpose to accept three cabinet seats but be prevented from delivering because of the government's lack of commitment to transformation.

The "unholy alliance" formed to oppose the ANC would also have to dis-

band so each party had equal status.

He was concerned about a provincial government designed to oppose national government, maintain minority privileges and prevent transformation.

In reply, DP provincial leader Hennie Bester accused the ANC of breaking off "good faith" negotiations when it became clear it could not wrest control of the province. The ANC's principles for governance were much the same as those of the DP and NNP, he said.

Business Cape could not reach consensus on Cosatu's protest so Cosatu members will have to negotiate with their employers over the time taken by members for the demonstration.

MD 15/6/99

ANC opposition in Western Cape

30 15/6/99 (263)

THE African National Congress in Western Cape has opted for an opposition role in the provincial legislature, provincial leader Mr Ebrahim Rasool announced yesterday

Addressing a media conference at the provincial legislature in Cape Town, he described the coalition between the New National Party and Democratic Party – which is set to form the provincial government today – as an “unholy” alliance

Rasool said he had only formally received the NNP-DP alliance’s offer of three seats in the 12-member provincial cabinet yesterday afternoon, on his way to Parliament to witness ANC leader Mr Thabo Mbeki’s election as South Africa’s new President

However, the ANC would have rejected the offer in any case

As the party which had obtained the most votes in Western Cape, it had needed to assess whether it should cross the “thin line” between the “humility” with which it had acted throughout the coalition negotiations and the “humiliation” which the alliance’s offer amounted to

Despite the fact that South Africa was five years into its new democracy, “the Western Cape remains a bastion of racial polarisation and segregation”, Rasool said

Talks between the ANC and the “so-called coalition” had been scuttled by the NNP and DP’s “intransigence and their insistence on national inclusivity”

“As an opposition party acting within the framework of the Constitution, the ANC will wage a relentless battle for the achievement of a Western Cape which sees itself as

part of South Africa, a Western Cape which participates in nation-building and transformation,” he said

Asked about the planned mass action by the Congress of SA Trade Unions today to protest against the ANC’s exclusion, Rasool said South Africa’s Constitution allowed for people to express their views

The NNP and DP, who between them have 22 of the 42 seats in the provincial legislature, are set to elect the premier and the speaker when the body convenes this morning. These are likely to remain NNP. Western Cape leader Mr Gerald Morkel and NNP member Mr Willem Doman respectively

The ANC has 18 MPLs and the African Christian Democratic Party and United Democratic Movement one each – *Sapa*

Mayor welcomes MPs to city with litany of woes

ET 15/6/99 (263)

KARIN SCHIMKE

THE possibility of Cape Town losing Parliament to Pretoria came sharply into focus last night when the city's first citizen, mayor Nomandla Mfeketo, welcomed parliamentarians with a litany of the Western Cape's most embarrassing characteristics.

Addressing president-elect Thabo Mbeki, members of Parliament and other guests, including foreign media, Mfeketo said the Western Cape is known for its low level of tolerance. She also mentioned the gang violence, drive-by shootings, the killing of children and the abuse of women.

"I know I might have spoiled your appetite," Mfeketo told the audience, "but these things need to be said."

Much of her speech appeared to be aimed at recent developments within the provincial government whereby the New National Party and the Democratic Party have formed a coalition.

This has left the ANC — which obtained the most votes in the province — to take up an opposition role.

"Our attitude has long been one of, 'as long as it's not in my backyard it's not my problem.' Many of our decisions have been racially based and this has cost



CRITICAL: Cape Town mayor Nomandla Mfeketo

us dearly."

Mfeketo said that, in spite of all this, she wanted to assure her guests "this homeland is also slowly moving towards South Africa".

She told the *Cape Times* afterwards that she had merely wanted to tell the truth. "I also wanted to remind MPs not to forget about us — not to think about us as a homeland because of our problems but to help us."

Mbeki, who had a severe bout of flu, did not make a speech and left soon after Mfeketo's address.

15/6/99

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Masses to protest as coalition sets up house

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE ANC — citing an absence of “principles of government” and its “humiliating” treatment by the NNP/DP alliance during negotiations — last night rejected an offer of three seats in the Western Cape executive and chose to continue as the opposition in the province

Just hours earlier, Cosatu regional secretary Tony Ehrenreich announced that “thousands” would march in protest to the legislature in Wale Street today

The South African Democratic Union of Teachers called on its members to strike unless premier-

elect Gerald Morkel “came to his senses” It is expected hundreds of teachers will join the lunch-time march from the Grand Parade

Ehrenreich said Cosatu reserved the right to define “rolling mass action” once the march was over

Business Cape, umbrella of major local business organisations, expressed alarm at the threat of rolling mass action Its president, Denis Skeate, said the principle of “no work, no pay” would apply and that members reserved the right to take disciplinary action

Morkel said he would name his executive in his opening speech in the legislature on Friday

This morning brings the elections of the premier, speaker and deputy speaker and the swearing-in of legislators — which will end as the protest reaches its height

Rasool said yesterday the ANC’s point of departure was “whether a diverse group can agree on a minimum set of principles for government — without (which) the allocation of posts becomes futile”

As the majority party in Western Cape, the ANC had not been properly consulted Instead, negotiations had centred around the ANC and an “unholy alliance”

“They sacrificed the broader interests of Western Cape people

on the altar of maintaining minority privileges,” Rasool said

Morkel said the NNP/DP coalition had been forged only when the ANC “couldn’t put one together” “If they’re so serious about serving the people, then why not accept three posts?” he said

He and DP provincial leader Hennie Bester urged the ANC to be a “loyal opposition” Bester claimed an unambiguous offer of three posts had been made to the ANC on Friday

“Starting off (its) term in opposition by taking to the streets is not the way in which racial harmony and stability will be fostered ”

City protests against coalition

PRISCILLA SINGH

THOUSANDS of ANC protesters from various organisations gathered outside the Western Cape legislature building in Wale Street at midday yesterday to show their "disgust" at Gerald Morkel being re-elected as Premier

At first there was a small gathering of people waving flags and chanting struggle anthems, then the numbers swelled into the thousands as ANC supporters from Cosatu, Sadtu, Cosas and the SACP began arriving

Slogans such as "One Rasool, One Premier" and "Morkel, your two-year guarantee is over" were heard several blocks away

Belinda Landiwe of Gugulethu said she came to the protest to show the NNP that "we had won the province" and he (Morkel) had no right to be in power

Her colleague in turn shouted "Morkel, he can *sup* the Cape in shape"

The protest threatened to turn violent at one stage when protesters tried to storm the entrance of the legislature building, but continued peacefully after calls for calm and discipline from ANC leaders belting out orders from a makeshift stage on a truck.

A barrier of ANC marshals was then positioned between the crowd and police to prevent further altercations

The vibe, however was generally upbeat and when Brenda Fassie's hit *Vulindlela* was played, the crowd broke into the gyrating and foot-stomping seen only last week when it emerged that the ANC

took the majority votes in the province

Provincial DP leader Hennie Bester briefly stuck his head out of the top floor of the legislature but withdrew before the crowd could spot him

Several terrified business people decided to close shop during the protest for fear of being stormed by the crowd

People perched on the roofs of parked police casspirs and climbed up the traffic lights to get a bird's eye view of the rest of the crowd and Ebrahim Rasool

After he arrived, there was a minute's silence for three-year-old Chantine Veldsman, who was brutally gunned down at the weekend in the violence-torn Cape Flats

One of the few white supporters in the crowd, Paul Martin of Rondebosch, said he felt very strongly that the mandate was given to the ANC to govern in the Western Cape "The time for NNP and DP racists has gone and they must take a backseat and let the ANC, which is committed to transformation, rule in the province," he said

Meanwhile, Morkel last night sent a stiff letter to Rasool, saying that the planned peaceful rally yesterday resulted in "unacceptable damage to property"

"This is totally unacceptable and unfair that the taxpayer is expected to pay for these damages. The unruly behaviour does not bode well for future planned mass action by your alliance (Cosatu)," Morkel told Rasool, adding that the repair bill will be sent to Rasool's office "to be forwarded to your coalition partner"

(263) ET 16/6/99



BACK ON THE BLOCK: Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel and the Speaker of the provincial legislature, Willem Doman, offer each other congratulations after being re-elected yesterday

PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR

Re-election of Morkel Prompts ANC walk-out

CHRIS BATEMAN

A CONCILIATORY Gerald Morkel of the NNP was yesterday re-elected as premier of the Western Cape after the ANC walked out of his inauguration and joined thousands of singing protesters outside the provincial legislature in Wale Street.

Willem Doman of the NNP was re-elected as Speaker. The ANC proposed provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool and Lynnette Brown for premier and speaker, losing the voting count 23 to 18 and 23 to 17 respectively.

It emerged later that the DP and ACDP had voted with the NNP for Morkel while the UDM's sole representative, Archie Lewis, had spoilt both his ballots and that the ACDP's Michael Louis had spoilt his ballot for speaker.

Lewis explained to reporters afterwards that because the UDM's election campaign had avoided any talk of coalitions, he was unable to bring himself to vote for any of the candidates. "Also, we were not briefed beforehand on who would stand," he added.

The Judge President of the Western Cape, Justice Edwin King, swore Morkel in after ordering a vote recount when Brown objected to the ballot papers being numbered and legislators being called up alphabetically. King agreed that, although returning officers were sworn to secrecy, this could compromise the secrecy of the ballot.

Western Cape legislature secretary Piet Pretorius explained later that the ANC had correctly picked up a procedural flaw. As soon as the ballot counts were over and

Morkel and Doman had delivered their acceptance speeches, Doman adjourned the house for the inauguration, prompting the ANC walk-out. All other parties remained behind.

Morkel said in his speech that democracy and constitutional principles had "triumphed" and promised to set specific targets for the provision of services for each department within 100 days of the first legislative session.

He continued "We are finished with apartheid and race-oriented politics" — which elicited a sharp interjection of "Oh, really!" from the ANC's Tasneem Essop — and promised to work "in a constructive manner" with the national ANC government.

The deputy speaker will be elected during the first legislative session.

Asked if he would make a "royal appearance on the balcony" for the protesting citizenry below, Morkel replied "They've got my address — they can send their faxes."

The protest outside was not without irony and Morkel's coalition did supply "power to the people." Electrical power points for Cosatu's public address system snaked from within the well-guarded legislature building and delighted protesters who rode atop a slow-moving Casspir in Burg Street, proclaiming "Dis onse, die" (This is ours).

The province will now wait to see what comes of Cosatu threats of "mass action" and vows by the Congress of South African Students to "flame the city" of Cape Town. The protests centre on the exclusion of the ANC, which received the most votes in the Western Cape.

WESTERN CAPE POLITICS

BRINKSMANSHIP BUT NO DEAL

ANC rejects revised offer (263)

The parties contesting leadership and power in the Western Cape had until Tuesday morning (June 15) to decide, in essence, whether the ANC (with 18 seats) would go into opposition or accept the three provincial cabinet positions on offer from the DP-NNP coalition. That was when the term of the old legislature ended.

Late on Monday, the ANC's provincial leader, Ebrahim Rasool, accompanied by Justice Minister Dullah Omar, spurned the offer of three seats in the cabinet and promised to fight from the opposition benches. Rasool was firm that the offer, in fact, had never been formally made. He clearly blamed the DP-NNP coalition for scuttling exploratory talks on co-operation, and said he would be in support of mass action to begin the next day with a

Cosatu march in the city. The teachers' union, SADTU, would be there too.

Between them, the DP (five seats) and NNP (17) had just enough votes to elect the NNP's Gerald Morkel as the provincial premier, even though they had lost the support of the one-seat ACDP in the week after the election, while the UDM remained in the background, with its one seat.

It was widely felt that the ACDP had been pressured by the ANC to bow out.

In normal political situations, coalitions, whereby minority parties outvote larger ones, do not stir the kind of controversy that erupted over the Western Cape result. The threats of rolling mass action, strikes, and even of making the province ungovernable, led the DP to accuse the ANC of bullying tactics, of attempting to use blackmail to achieve what it had been unable to do at the ballot box.

Even Anglican Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane offered "mediation", quite as if the future of the entire country rested on the ANC not getting its way in the Cape. Cartoonists lampooned the province as an undemocratic remnant of the past.

There were 10 cabinet seats at stake. The NNP was insisting on no fewer than

five, and the initial, scarcely conciliatory offer of one ministry to the ANC — the poisoned chalice of Safety & Security, at that — was instantly spurned.

But whether or not Rasool believes the revised offer was equally derisory — he insists that principles of governance need to be agreed on before seats can be allocated — it was relayed directly from DP national leader Tony Leon, despite the fact that it would slash the DP's representation in the Western Cape cabinet.

As Leon put it at the weekend: "The ANC does not have an automatic right to be included in government in the Western Cape. They did not win the majority of votes and if they were indeed the majority party, then they would be able to proceed with the formation of an ANC government."

(However) the DP believes that any offer made to the ANC has to be meaningful and therefore it was perfectly acceptable to increase the number of seats offered from one to three.

But that was "the bottom line and if the ANC is not prepared to accept the last offer of three seats, then it should get ready to be the loyal opposition party." The ANC will take a version of that route.

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The offer of three ministries was in reality a generous one — though for much of the week Rasool had been suggesting that the provincial ANC should by rights be forming the regional government, despite achieving a plurality of only 42%.

On Monday, the formal ANC statement of its position was blunt: "The objection is to the process itself and the danger of a provincial government designed specifically to oppose national government. The coalition is based upon a determination to maintain minority privileges and to prevent transformation. This puts the Western Cape on the road to instability, confrontation and racial polarisation."

President Thabo Mbeki, according to Omar, had been informed of the situation but would not intervene, despite his concern. Various Cape business figures share that concern. They made attempts to persuade the DP-NNP coalition of the need for inclusivity — though Morkel rebuffed this by stating that, if so, the principle should apply nationally.

For business, for the Cape ANC to be talking of mass action at this stage in SA's affairs is an unpalatable prospect.

Peter Wilhelm

Teacher tightrope for Morkel team

Tension over Zille's education post

AR 18/6/99 (263)

The Western Cape cabinet announced today includes eight New National Party and four Democratic Party members, with the appointment of Helen Zille as education minister certain to cause tension between the government and the SA Democratic Teachers' Union.

Today the union said it would "have to work with Ms Zille in the interests of education"

Earlier, Sadtu vowed to mobilise its several thousand members for mass action should Ms Zille be appointed, with bad blood between the two dating back to the Grove Primary court case in which the school defended its right to appoint teachers in spite of Government policy on redeployments

Ms Zille was a prominent protagonist of the school's cause

But today provincial Sadtu secretary Don Pasquallie said "We hope that the policies she puts in place are in the interests of everyone, but especially the still-disadvantaged"

He said the union's provincial executive committee would meet this weekend to formulate a response to Ms Zille's invitation to a "working relationship" with the union

Although she was elected to the legislature on the DP list, Ms Zille has been appointed as an "outside expert" in terms of the provincial constitution, meaning she will give up her seat as an MPL but be entitled to take part in the proceedings of the legislature

Premier Gerald Morkel has done the same with Leon Markovitz, MEC for finance, development planning and gam-

Cecil
SAWYER

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT



bling, who was elected on the New NP list

This means Ms Zille and Mr Markovitz will be cabinet ministers entitled to participate in the legislature but without a vote

The vacancies created by their seats will be taken by a DP member and a New NP member

Mr Morkel has given New NP colleague Peter Marais, until now minister of health and welfare, the post of social services with additional responsibility for a new "directorate of poverty eradication"

Responsibility for this directorate will be shared with Freda Adams, who stays on as minister in the Premier's office, also responsible for gender equality, youth, the disabled, and transformation throughout the provincial administration

Cecil Herandiën stays on as housing minister, and Mark Wiley remains community safety MEC, with the sport and recreation portfolios added to his duties

Piet Meyer keeps the transport portfolio to which public works is to be added

The new portfolios given to Mr Markovitz and Mr Meyer were previously held by Michael Louis of the African Christian Democratic Party, which withdrew from a coalition plan with the New NP and DP

Pierre Uys, former head of the Cape Metropolitan Council's executive committee,

becomes provincial minister of local government, a post last held full time by Nat- turned-ANC member Patrick McKenzie

Former Western Cape agricultural union head Gerrit van Rensburg becomes minister of agriculture in the place of Lampie Fick

DP leader Hennie Bester becomes minister of economic affairs, tourism and asset management, the third part of this portfolio being inherited from Mr Louis. His party colleague, Glen Adams, becomes minister of environmental and cultural affairs

Nic Koornhof, who was provincial minister of education before defecting from the New NP to the DP, becomes minister of health, taking over part of Mr Marais's previous portfolio

The DP has nominated Alan Winde to fill the vacancy created by Ms Zille's resignation as an MPL

Delegates to the National Council of Provinces are to include the DP's Antoinette Versfeld, formerly of the New NP, and the New NP's Neels Ackermann

Mr Morkel said he had offered the chairmanship of the education standing committee to Archie Lewis of the United Democratic Movement, a former Sadtu leader

Mr Morkel said he had also tried to reach African National Congress provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool to offer the ANC the post of head of the provincial public accounts committee. This watchdog post is traditionally held by the main opposition party. Most likely candidate, should the offer be accepted, would be the ANC's Tasneem Essop

Horse trading bungled from the very first move

For a lesson on how not to conduct a process of political dealmaking, we need to look no further than the failed talks in the Western Cape, writes Cape editor Alan Fine

ALL the lessons in political negotiating and horse trading — which South Africans learned so painstakingly in the first half of the 1990s — flew out of the window of the provincial government building in Wake Street, Cape Town, over the past two-and-a-half weeks.

Not a single participant can claim to have made sensible, rational decisions throughout the failed talks aimed at creating some form of co-operative governance between the major parties in the province.

Though the New National Party, Democratic Party and African National Congress may each put it differently, no one seems to disagree with the basic premise.

The sociopolitical situation in the province demands a government of provincial unity, at least for now. The basic fact is that the Western Cape's African population, comprising 21% of the total, is generally more segregated from the social and economic mainstream than anywhere else in the country and probably more than 95% of them voted ANC.

Provincial DP leader Hennie Bester long ago agreed with the idea of an NNP/DP/ANC coalition in the event of a hung legislature ("Parties face dilemma in Western Cape" — Business Day, August 20 1998).

It is true that DP leader Tony Leon said repeatedly during the election campaign that, in provinces where the ANC could be held below 50%, the DP would seek out coalitions with opposition parties. The (not illegitimate) purpose was to ensure the existence of centres of power, out of ANC control. For this reason the traditional DP supporters, who are surprised and upset at the outcome in the Western Cape, should probably not be

Nonetheless, just a few weeks before the election, Bester reaffirmed to Business Day his initial view, with the proviso that any arrangement should not give the ANC a veto of provincial government decisions. This approach would be in line with both DP goals.

Why then, failing an 11th hour surprise this morning, did it not work out that way? The answer lies in the clumsy, deceitful and/or otherwise inept way in which each group has behaved.

Let us trace the course of events.

It began, sensibly enough, in the latter days of the election campaign and immediately thereafter. The ANC, which eventually won plurality of 42% of the vote, sought an alliance with the DP (12%). But because that would have made the DP a junior partner and contradicted the "centres of power" promise, it was dead in the water.

An initial get-together of the NNP (38,4%) and DP had more potential, and so it transpired. The two apparently had every intention of offering the ANC a junior partnership, for all the right reasons. However, they also brought in the 2,8% African Christian Democratic Party, to seek a larger and more secure anti-ANC grouping. The idea was also to be more inclusive (the more generous interpretation), or to bring in a couple of token black African faces (the more cynical view).

The first official move of this new alliance was also its biggest tactical blunder — which seriously damaged the prospects for an inclusive coalition. It offered the ANC a derisory single MEC post — the constitutionally powerless safety and security portfolio.

Understandably, the ANC took it as a gross insult. A source in the NNP/DP/ACDP talks says the one-seat offer was at the in-



African National Congress Western Cape leader Ebrahim Rasool and New National Party counterpart Gerald Morkel neither has emerged with much credit from their talks on a coalition government for the province

(263) 90 18/6/99
sistence of the ACDP. There were those, such as the NNP's Peter Marais, who strenuously opposed this destructive approach. So, apparently, did national NNP leader Martinus van Schalkwyk. He, though, was in a weak position, having led his party into the wilderness everywhere except in the Western Cape.

The hardline Gerald Morkel view (some believe it was formulated by provincial director-general Niel Barnard) prevailed.

It is now unofficially acknowledged by some in the DP and NNP that the one-seat offer was a mistake. It is not altogether clear, however, why it was felt necessary to humiliate the marginal ACDP on this score. However, they did, and — with the aid of the ANC's own unconsidered response — plunged the negotiations into a damaging phase of posturing.

The response bore little relation to the sophisticated, calculated ANC negotiating tradition witnessed at the World Trade Centre during the new SA's formative years. The first knee jerk was the threat of mass action by ally Cosatu. That threat completely undercut the efforts of the more "enlightened" Marais group in the NNP, because the others obviously took offence at now having to negotiate with this gun to their heads.

The ANC also sent Trevor Manuel off to mobilise the local business community, and other party leaders dealt with the religious and other interests groups in the province.

It was not so much the mobilising that was problematic, but the high-profile way it was done. Business leaders, who might have been able to do an effective mediating job quietly and behind the scenes, were made to look like ANC emissaries.

The individual most humiliated by the ANC was the well-meaning Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane. He had been approached by the ANC to offer his services as an honest broker, and cut short an overseas holiday to this end. Despite his offer initially being politely rebuffed by the NNP and DP, perhaps naively, he returned home.

In the meantime, the ANC had been pro-

moting him as a mediator — trying to win the moral high ground. It was the ANC that published his offer to mediate. But no honest broker can do that job if he is presented as the agent of one of the contending parties.

The ANC committed a host of other tactical errors. On being subsequently offered by the DP and NNP a more considered three MEC posts — this might have been negotiable up to a very reasonable four — provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool refused to discuss it, saying instead that he wanted to "go back to first principles".

Those "principles" included such matters as a demand for proportional representation in the 12-member cabinet (which would have meant, say, a 5-5-2 division between the ANC, NNP and DP) plus an ANC premiership as the largest party.

The tactical error in this is that there is no principle involved. This is politics, and it was a matter of horse trading based on the relative strength of the parties. Also, during negotiations on a provincial constitution two years ago, the ANC rejected a DP proposal for proportional representation in cabinet.

Its "principles" changed only after it failed to win a hoped-for provincial majority in the election.

With the NNP and DP comprising a 51% coalition, the ANC's bargaining power now was based on no more than the fact that an inclusive government offers greater stability and nation-building potential.

Instead, by making an artificial principle of it, the ANC positively invited the NNP and DP to say "OK, if this is your principle, let us also enforce it in KwaZulu-Natal and the national government."

Which is what they did — causing the negotiations to collapse finally. Which means that the province's racial divisions will be exacerbated, and Cosatu will no doubt have some fun on the streets.

The only positive feature is that — aside from the province's peculiar social dynamics — it does no harm for the almost all-powerful ANC to play the traditional opposition role.

Cosas vows to 'make a mess' in Cape Town

THE Congress of South African Students (Cosas) reaffirmed its commitment yesterday to making the Western Cape "ungovernable" if the African National Congress is not given control of the province

Cosas provincial deputy chairman Mr. Mailibongwe Lwana told Sapa from ANC offices in Athlone that they were holding meetings yesterday and today with students to discuss the coalition impasse

Asked if "burning" of the city of Cape Town would form part of "ungovernability", Lwana replied "We will make a mess," but declined to elaborate

The meetings would enable students to air their views about the formation of provincial coalition government, Lwana said

"After these two gatherings Western Cape students will be in a position to come up with the way forward," Lwana said

Students would embark on rolling mass action until Premier Gerald Morkel was forced to leave office, he said

He said students knew who they elected to become provincial premier and it was Ebrahim Rasool. The ANC announced on Monday that it would be an opposition party to the New National Party and Democratic Party coalition provincial government - Sapa

Rasool slams anti-African coalition as

New cabinet is 'short-sighted'

APR 19/6/99 (A13)

TYRONE SEALE

Fbrahim Rasool, the Western Cape leader of the African National Congress, says the absence of Africans from the provincial coalition cabinet amounts to the deliberate marginalisation of the community in the province.

"The Western Cape cabinet stands discredited in the eyes of the majority," Mr Rasool said yesterday after Premier Gerda Morkel named his new team.

- The New National Party-Democratic Party cabinet comprises
- Gerda Morkel, premier
- Peter Marais, social services and poverty, and Leader of the House
- Hennie Bester (DP) business promotion, tourism and property management
- Ceol Hendrien, housing
- Piet Meyer, transport
- Nic Koornhof (DP) health
- Mark Wiljer, community safety, sport and recreation



OUTSIDER the DP's Helen Zille

- Leon Markovitz, finance, gaming and development planning
- Freda Adams, minister in the Office of the Premier, responsible for youth, gender, disabled people and transformation.

- Gerrit van Rensburg, agriculture
- Helen Zille (DP) education
- Pierre Uys, local government
- Glen Adams (DP) environmental and cultural affairs

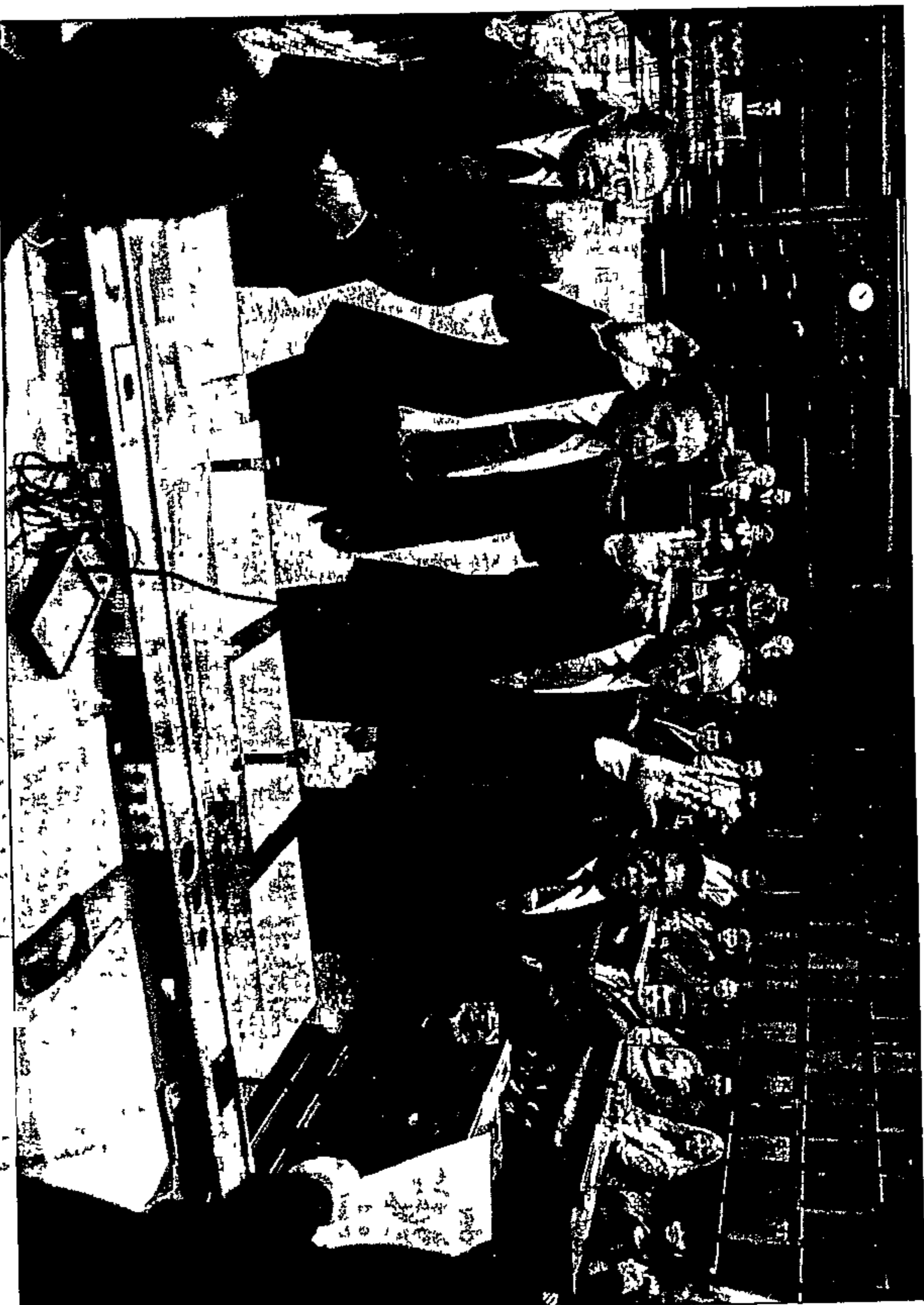
Mr Rasool said the NNP and the DP had not even made use of a provision in the provincial constitution to bring in an African person from outside the parties.

"Instead they gave the DP an extra seat in the legislature by asking Helen Zille to resign and appointing her from outside.

"This amounts to the deliberate marginalisation of African people from the Western Cape government."

He said it was "bizarre" that more than half of NNP members of the provincial legislature and 80% of DP MPLs were now in cabinet, "when these parties received 38% and 11% of the votes respectively".

"Today will be remembered as an attempt by those who have always stood for the interests of the haves to gang up against those who represent the most vulnerable and poor of our



UNDER OATH MPLs Piet Meyer, Cecil Hendrien, Hennie Bester and Peter Marais swear allegiance

province

"This short-sighted, essentially selfish path the NNP and DP have chosen is a dangerous one

"It has already deepened racial polarisation. It will add to instability and impact negatively on service delivery to the poor

"The DP complains about a bloated national cabinet. Yet they allow a situation where almost one-third of

the legislature are in the cabinet. This makes a mockery of the DP's call for lean government," Mr Rasool said.

Now that the ANC had been denied a role in provincial government, it would work tirelessly to speed up change and deliver on its pledges from the opposition benches

"This includes the right to protest

as enshrined in the Constitution and within the laws and regulations of our country

"In addition to our pledges to the Western Cape we have developed detailed policy in all areas of governance.

"Our 18 MPLs will be assigned specific tasks and constituencies. We have started the work as Phabo Mbeli has requested."

Mr Rasool continued, "Nothing will convince the world that this government appointed today is anything else than one committed to preserving minority interests

"This cabinet represents the past. It does not inspire hope and confidence

"Let us, as part of the ANC, give hope and confidence to our people by working with them to speed up change in the Western Cape"

Picture ROY WIGLEY

STUDENT DISRUPTIONS PLANNED

ANC 'no' to mass action

CT 21/6/99

(267)

THE ANC has distanced itself from threats by Cosas to cause disruptions in Cape Town this week. Meanwhile, the new Mbeki cabinet is set to get down to work today.

ERIC NTABAZALILA and **ROBERT BRAND** report.

THE Western Cape ANC has distanced itself from planned disruptions by the Congress of South African Students (Cosas) in Cape Town this week and has expressed its concern over statements made by the organisation.

After last week's protest outside the provincial legislature, Cosas threatened to cause "major disruptions" in the city. Cosas spokesperson Mailibongwe Lwana said students would embark on "rolling mass action" until Premier Gerald Morkel was forced to leave office.

Asked if talk of "burning" Cape Town would involve "ungovernability", Lwana replied "We will make a mess," declining to elaborate further.

Western Cape ANC leader Ebrahim Rasool said the ANC is to arrange a meeting with Cosas officials to discuss the situation. "We are deeply disturbed by certain statements from the Cosas provincial leadership. These do not enjoy the support of the ANC in the Western Cape. But it is not enough to condemn statements. We have a duty to engage with the students about their frustrations and develop a way forward," he said.

ANC official Cameron Dugmore said the ANC Youth League will hold a march at lunchtime today to protest against the failure of the Western Cape government



DISTURBED: Ebrahim Rasool is concerned over Cosas' threats

to establish a youth commission. He said members will also protest against the "racist" coalition of the DP and NNP.

With tensions still running high over the coalition, Rasool is expected to deliver a hard-hitting keynote address in the Western Cape Legislature this afternoon.

Rasool and his colleagues will use the next two days to comment on the formation "of what many regard as an immoral coalition". He will use his speech to reply to Morkel's speech and outline the ANC's strategy as the opposition.

"Morkel's speech clearly revealed his deep insecurities. It was petty, vindictive and tried to hide his obvious embarrassment at a cabinet which is dominated by

whites and does not include a single African person," Rasool said.

Other ANC MPLs who will participate in the debate will be Patrick McKenzie, Leonard Ramatlakane, Tasneem Essop, Cameron Dugmore and Yousuf Gabru.

Meanwhile, with his inauguration and the appointment of the cabinet behind him, President Thabo Mbeki is set to get down to work this week, beginning with a two-day *lekgotla* (meeting) to plot the government's strategies for the next five years. Mbeki is expected to reveal details when he addresses the opening of Parliament today.

The *lekgotla*, due to begin later today in Gauteng, will be attended by all 27 cabinet ministers, Deputy President Jacob Zuma and Mbeki. The emphasis will be on devising strategies to speed up service delivery and transformation, Mbeki's spokesperson Ronnie Mamoepa said yesterday.

However, the talks are set to begin under a cloud following a disagreement between Mbeki and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi over reports that Buthelezi had been offered the deputy presidency but turned it down.

Buthelezi told a KwaZulu-Natal newspaper he had rejected the offer of the post because he did not want his appointment to be linked to negotiations for a coalition government in KwaZulu-Natal.

However, Mbeki referred to these reports as "rumours" and said questions about their origin should be addressed to Buthelezi. Buthelezi said later he was "deeply distressed" by Mbeki's response.

We won't 'burn the city' — Cosas

ET 22/6/99

(263) ~~36~~

THE Congress of South African Students (Cosas) yesterday pledged not to carry out its threat to "burn" Cape Town, and said it would not "destroy other people's properties" in its rolling mass action campaign to force Western Cape Premier Gerald Morkel from office.

The *Cape Times* yesterday reported that ANC provincial chairperson Ebrahim Rasool had distanced his organisation from Cosas' threats to disrupt the city this week.

"We are deeply disturbed by certain statements from the Cosas

provincial leadership. These do not enjoy the support of the ANC in the Western Cape. But it is not enough to condemn statements. We have a duty to engage with the students about their frustrations and develop a way forward," he said.

Rasool said the ANC would arrange a meeting with the student organisation to discuss the situation. However, Cosas Western Cape spokesperson Mailibongwe Lwana said yesterday afternoon that the student organisation was unaware of the planned meeting with the ANC,

and said they had "only read about it in the newspapers".

"There is no official correspondence (yet) between the ANC and ourselves in this regard."

However, Lwana said Cosas would not "burn the city" as reported last week.

"There is something we are going to do (but) we won't destroy other people's properties," he said.

The rolling mass action would start soon, after the Cosas provincial executive had met.

Speaking in the provincial leg-

islature yesterday afternoon, social services and poverty alleviation MEC Peter Marais slammed Cosas for making the threats.

South Africa's masses had become creatures of impulse instead of reason, Marais said.

This was borne out by the high levels of crime and political intolerance, he said.

Meanwhile, 15 ANC Youth League members picketed the entrance to the legislature building in the city yesterday, demanding the formation of a provincial youth commission. — Staff Writer, Sapa

NATIONAL

Rasool calls for speedy change

Political parties say job creation and poverty alleviation are the Western Cape's biggest challenges



CAPE TOWN — Unprecedented action is needed in the Western Cape over the next five years to bring about transformation and to bridge the gulf between the extreme poverty and opulence that divides the province, says African National Congress (ANC) provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool.

Speaking yesterday during a debate on premier Gerald Morkel's opening address in the provincial legislature, Rasool said the Western Cape had to confront the past and recognise that the racial gulf in the province was wider than anywhere else in SA.

Referring to the fight against crime and terrorism in the province, Rasool said a significant shift of resources to African National Congress leader in the Western Cape, Ebrahim Rasool, says it is time for the province to confront the past.

the Cape Flats — where they were most needed — was essential.

The provision of housing should be speeded up. Other areas in need of urgent attention were job creation, abolishing inequality in education, and environmental protection measures.

Social Services and Poverty Alleviation MEC Peter Marais criticised threats by ANC-aligned organisations to disrupt the Western Cape.

Marais said it was the ANC's fault that there were no Africans in the provincial cabinet because the party had refused to accept the three posts it was offered.

Referring to job creation in the region, Marais mooted the possibility of a

memorandum of co-operation between farmers and farmworkers in this sector. He said a bill of rights was necessary to protect workers from racist and exploitative farmers.

The rapid rate of mechanisation and its effect on farm workers, jobs should also be addressed, Marais said.

Hennie Bestler, the Business Promotion, Tourism and Asset Management MEC, said the province's multiparty government was a logical outcome to the election result.

The provincial government was committed to the alleviation of poverty, and viewed job creation as the surest way to achieve this aim.

Meanwhile, 15 ANC Youth League

members picketed the entrance of the Western Cape legislature demanding the formation of a provincial youth commission.

Wewe Simelela, the league's provincial chairman, said the New National Party (NNP)-ruled province had failed to form a youth commission in the past five years. Simelela said this had "led to the disenfranchisement of the youth."

Simelela said the setting up of provincial youth commissions was intended, by the national government, to empower young people.

He said yesterday's protest was also a call to both the NNP and the Democratic Party to disband the provincial coalition government. — Sapa

BD 24/6/99

Cosas plans week-long protest in Western Cape

(263)
Caroline Christerson

THE Congress of SA Students (Cosas) plans to hold a "provincial week of action" to protest against the coalition government of the New National Party (NNP) and Democratic Party (DP) in the Western Cape.

The week will include pickets, boycotts, stay-aways and strikes.

Cosas president Lebo-gang Maile denied reports that Cosas planned to burn Cape Town and said he had set up an internal inquiry into the possibility that some of the organisation's leaders in the Western Cape could be responsible for the reports.

He emphasised that although the African National Congress (ANC) disagreed with the organisation's plan to "make the Western Cape ungovernable through legal means", Cosas's desire for ANC rule in the Western Cape remained.

When asked how Cosas felt the coalition would affect education, he said that the ANC had a clear programme for educational reform, but the NNP and DP did not.

Maile said the 42% of provincial voters who voted for the ANC would suffer because of the ANC's exclusion from the coalition.

He dismissed last year's 79,2% matric pass rate in the province as an insufficient indicator of the success of the NNP's educational reform.

Cosas will announce the date of the week of action after a meeting of its national executive council next week. It will meet other organisations to try to enlist their support.

Cosas threaten to strike over DP, NNP coalition

THE Congress of South African Students threatened yesterday to embark on provincial mass action over the Democratic Party and the New National Party coalition government in the Western Cape

Speaking at a media briefing in Johannesburg, Cosas president Lebogang Maile said mass action activities would include picketing, boycotts, stay-aways and strikes until Gerald Morkel and his "clique" came to their senses

"We maintain our anti-NNP and DP coalition government position. We further remain adamant that as long as the coalition government exists, we will continue to mobilise the masses to fight the coalition government," he said

The week of action would be announced after the body's national executive committee meeting to be held from June 28 to 30. Maile said that after announcing the dates, Cosas would meet with different organisations, particularly those sympa-

thetic to their cause

Maile said he was confident that most of their people would respond positively to the mass action call because if they succeeded in their efforts to reclaim the Western Cape from the NNP, they would, like other South Africans, enjoy the fruits of the freedom they fought for for decades

He said Cosas took a decision to start mass action in order that their future was not spoilt by

sinister forces who were only interested in protecting the rights of minorities

"We are the future and we want to determine our destiny. Under the leadership of the Nats we won't be given a chance to determine our destiny and contribute to the current transformation process," said Maile

He said Cosas distanced itself from a statement that they were going to burn the city of Cape Town - *Sapa*

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Cape Town chairman commits to unicity

Xolani Xundu

KENT Morkel, the Cape Town metropolitan council's new executive committee chairman, is determined to have a smooth transition towards the unicity structure.

Morkel said yesterday that the elections in the transition towards the centralisation of power would have to be trouble free.

He dismissed reports that the council was against the unicity because it is taking the Provincial and Local Government Department to court to challenge the Municipal Structures Act.

"It is the format of the unicity that we are arguing about," Morkel said. "We want to determine the extent to which the Constitution protects municipalities."

"We are afraid of interference in Section 106 of the Constitution that give powers to municipalities. We

feel that (the Municipal Structures Act) is taking away the autonomy of local government."

Morkel also said he intended to continue managing the council the way his predecessor, Pierre Uys, had done. It would be a challenge to keep the council the best managed in the country, he said.

At the moment the council has a reserve surplus and Morkel intends to keep it that way.

Goals

Core to his success will be building a relationship with big business. A forum, which will allow the two to meet, is being set up.

"The goal is to sustain the economic growth and to further develop the small, medium and macro enterprises because it is then that we can have a strong and sustainable economy," Morkel says.

"We are also looking at establishing empowerment companies — not black empowerment — that will reflect the composition of the province, cut across political spectrum and religious barriers."

He says he wants empowerment groups that will deliver.

The first phase of his plans are already in place, kicking off with the upgrading of Athlone Stadium.

About R69m is being spent to turn it the venue into a world-class soccer stadium.

"We feel that this will give a solid boost to our bid to host the 2006 Soccer World Cup," says Morkel. "The tournament will in turn be a huge boost to our regional economy in terms of tourism."

He says the construction of a R140m convention centre is also under way as Cape Town feels that it is losing out to Durban in attracting major gatherings.

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BD 25/6/99

DEVELOPER SPEAKS FROM GREECE

Business dealings with ex-premier explained

ET 29/6/99

(292)

AFTER THE RELEASE of a report from the Oseo which says there is no evidence of irregular payments to ex-premier Hennis Kriel relating to the awarding of a casino licence, property developer Ian Hirschson explains his business dealings with Kriel. **ROGER FRIEDMAN** reports.

WHILE investigators from the Office for Serious Economic Offences found prior business dealings between Kriel, Hirschson and Johannesburg property developer Martin Janit "suspicious" — and some of their explanations "unsatisfactory" — they could find no evidence of payments to Kriel in respect of the sale of the Goodwood Showgrounds to a casino company.

Hirschson, Janit and city attorney Raymond Mallach split the R20 million "vendors" commission after securing an option on the Goodwood Showgrounds site and then brokering the deal with the company.

According to Oseo "H Investments No 55 was a shelf company acquired by the vendors (Janit, Hirschson and Mallach) to secure an option to acquire the Goodwood Showgrounds for a future casino development from the Western Province Agricultural Society. H Investments was subsequently purchased by Kersaf Investments, which thereby indirectly acquired the option to purchase the Goodwood Showgrounds. The ownership of H Investments was subsequently transferred from Kersaf to Sun International (SA) and the name of H Investments was changed in April 1997 to SunWest."

Janit has since died, Kriel has stepped down as premier, SunWest has been chosen as the "preferred" bidder for the Cape Metropole licence, and

Oseo has just completed an 11-month investigation into allegations that Kriel was paid R1m to use his influence to ensure that Sunwest obtained the sought-after casino licence.

The investigation was initiated after Oseo received affidavits alleging that Kriel was involved in a corrupt deal with two friends — Janit and Hirschson — to "deliver them" the operator's licence.

Oseo did not only investigate the origin and destination of the R20m commission, but also delved into previous business associations of the central role-players. It was found that Kriel had on occasion loaned money to Janit, invested in one of Janit's property developments, been paid consultancy fees by Hirschson, and that Hirschson was a trustee of "various trusts" established by Kriel.

But Oseo found that, although a comprehensive forensic accounting review was done in respect of the R20m paid to the vendors, no substantial amounts, as was claimed, could be traced to Kriel's accounts.

Speaking from Greece yesterday, Hirschson said Kriel had been unaware of his and Janit's negotiations over the Goodwood Showgrounds property "until we had it in the bag".

Said Hirschson: "I started the negotiations, then Janit heard what was happening and approached me about it. We subsequently joined forces. Kriel did not know about

our negotiations.

Oseo investigators found that Kriel had in the past been paid a monthly consultancy retainer by Hirschson, and that in 1991 Hirschson contributed R40 000 toward the buying of a flat for Kriel in the city.

Hirschson responded yesterday that presenting these findings without providing any context served to distort the real issues.

He said that Kriel was paid a retainer by his property company, Equikor — among other property companies — from 1985 to 1989. He was then a NP MP for Parow.

"In 1989 he became minister of provincial affairs. He immediately resigned from us. There was a rule that members of the cabinet could not engage in private business activities."

Hirschson said the flat in Mouille Point was sold to Kriel by a firm called Unidev, which had shares in Equikor.

As a new minister, Kriel had been given a government car. "He came to me and said he did not need his private car any more, and did I want to buy it. I bought it and I still have the car. I paid him R40 000 for the car (a Nissan Skyline) and what he did with the money is his business."

"Unidev sold him the flat, not Equikor or me," Hirschson said.

Oseo found "Both Kriel and Hirschson suggested that the sale of a car by Kriel to Hirschson could have been the underlying reason for the above mentioned payment of R40 000 by Hirschson in respect of the flat. No documentary evidence to substantiate this suggestion was obtained. Although the explanations advanced were unsatisfactory, further investigation proved to be fruitless."

Cape Muslims heed the call to the polls

Marianne Merten

Large numbers of the Western Cape's Muslim 150,000-strong population went to the polling booths across the province despite earlier calls on them not to vote. Those who cast their votes were unanimous — it was a Qur'anic duty to vote.

Two weeks ago, the Islamic Unity Convention (IUC) called on Muslims not to vote in protest against, as IUC head Achmat Cassiem put it, the

legalisation of abortion, the abolition of the death penalty and the introduction of legal gambling.

In the wake of this call, Islamic scholars like Fared Esack, the imam of the Claremont Mosque, Rashied Omar, the Muslim Youth Movement and its leader, Skeikh Naqem Jeeiah, and the African National Congress premier candidate, Ebrahim Rasool, joined forces to persuade Muslim voters in the Cape otherwise.

On voting day an Athlone businessman, who wanted to remain

M+G 4-10/6/99

anonymous, said the address during the midday prayers last Friday at 100 of the Cape's 125 mosques was a success in setting out the issues.

Yet around the corner from Gatesville mosque, where the lecture was disrupted, graffiti is a reminder of the controversy "Obey Allah, not ANC," it says in black paint on a white wall.

A steady flow of voters went through the polling booths at Rylands High School in the predominantly Muslim suburb of Athlone

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on the Cape Flats. It was there that Minister of Justice Dullah Omar and his family cast their votes. It was a quick in and out for most.

A few streets away at Alexander Sunton High School — identified as a possible security risk — voting proceeded without a hitch after an earlier security alert. Police on guard duty spotted a suspicious car driving up and down outside and alerted the presiding officer. From then on, voters had to queue inside the school as a safety precaution.

Sumaya Osman also insisted on her right to make her choice on the ballot paper. "We are voting so we can get something better out of life."

From Athlone to Grassy Park and Mitchells Plain across the Peninsula, Muslims joined the queues at various voting stations in their kaffiyahs and Islamic garb. Said Shamieela "I'm voting for a better life."

Her husband Mogamad added "As a Muslim you should vote. It was just a handful of Muslims who were opposed."

Sumaya Osman also insisted on her right to make her choice on the ballot paper. "We are voting so we can get something better out of life."

One Muslim voter at the Catholic church voting station in Manenberg on the Cape Flats simply responded that everyone has the right to vote. "That's between him and God."

Storms in the Cape of Coalition

Marianne Merten
and Howard Barrell

When the new Western Cape provincial legislature rises on Tuesday, little will have changed, despite the African National Congress having won the biggest share of votes in the election.

This week the ANC refused an offer of one seat in the 12 seat provincial cabinet. Opposition parties who have agreed on a coalition to govern in the province — the New National Party, Democratic Party and African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) — had offered the ANC the provincial safety and security portfolio.

ANC provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool conveyed his party's response in a letter to NNP leader Gerald Morkel on Thursday. "Gerald, it is not too late. This is not the time for dogmatic behaviour. The election is bigger than us or our parties."

Morkel will remain premier — a post that was never negotiable, according to those close to the coalition talks.

A senior NNP official said the DP would get education and economic affairs portfolios. He doubted the DP would get health, another key 'delivery' portfolio, as this was occupied by NNP politician Peter Marais.

The DP's provincial leader, Hennie Bester, already holds a key economic portfolio.

The NNP official expects the DP to get one additional portfolio — possibly housing in place of the incumbent, the NNP's Cecil Herandien — making for a total of four. The ACDP would get one minor portfolio and the NNP would get the balance of seven out of 12, giving it a majority in the Western Cape cabinet.

On Wednesday afternoon legal representatives of the three parties sweated it out over the exact wording of a governance agreement and a mechanism to break any potential logjams.

Talks between the three minority political



Outmanoeuvred: Leader of the Western Cape ANC Ebrahim Rasool

parties based on a pre-election agreement started after it became clear the ANC would take the Western Cape last Thursday.

This was despite an outcry from the ANC and its alliance partners that such a coalition was a slap in the face for African voters, those who switched allegiance in traditional coloured NNP strongholds and a large proportion of white voters, who supported the ANC.

On Monday evening a telephonic offer was

made to Rasool while he was in Pretoria to inform ANC national leaders of the province's quandary.

Morkel told Rasool, with an apparent "take-it-or-leave-it" attitude, the ANC would get the safety and security portfolio, the position of deputy speaker and the chair of the public accounts committee.

The ANC was given until Thursday noon to reply to the coalition's offer. But it had already rejected it on Monday as "deeply insulting" and as a complete lack of respect for the Western Cape's black voters.

The ANC's national leadership described the offer as "an indecent proposal".

Hopes that NNP number two Pieter Marais might persuade his party to go into a coalition with the ANC came to nothing as he was effectively sidelined in the discussions. Once the multi-party government was announced, he lashed out against the ANC, saying it had been unable to broker its own power base.

A senior DP official said that, at one stage during the talks, provision was made to give the ANC three cabinet posts. However, this would have been a bargaining tool should the ANC indicate acceptance of the unilateral offer of one post.

It has become clear the ANC, despite its victory at the hustings, was effectively outmanoeuvred by minority parties. Rasool called for a meeting on Tuesday afternoon with Morkel, Bester and Louw to try persuade them to restart negotiations.

At 3pm on Tuesday the men dressed in native suits met. The fact that Rasool arrived with Minister of Justice Dullah Omar led to haggling over the number of representatives. It was only resolved when the coalition partners also appointed a second person for each side.

The meeting lasted less than an hour and never broke through the resolve of the NNP, the DP and the ACDP to form the new provincial government.

The ANC's argument that there should be inclusive rule was dismissed. Although the meeting was officially described as "cordial", insiders say tensions bubbled under the strained civility.

Yet Omar remained sanguine. "The Western Cape needs a broad-based government, representative of all the people. That is what the results of the elections called for."

He added the ANC was not in the game of grabbing posts. Faced with the established multi-party government, Omar said: "It's a coalition against transformation. It is a negative coalition. It will expose itself as such as time goes on."

The ANC's joy at winning the province last week evaporated quickly once news travelled like wildfire the coalition was a done deal by late Wednesday. Words used to describe ANC officials' emotions were "anger", "depression", "disbelief" and a variety of four-letter words.

The new government's stated wish that the ANC would prove itself "a loyal opposition" was scoffed at.

Although the coalition partners have consistently argued they are constitutionally correct in combining their political clout — according to Bester more than 50% of voters did not want an ANC government — observers say the agreement does not bode well for the province.

The coalition partners may well be correct in the letter of the law, but their actions have disregarded the social and economic factors in a province where votes were broadly cast according to race.

Don't fight blacks, PAGE 22

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Mixed reaction to demarcation

Xolani Xundu

THE municipal demarcation board's preliminary report on central points for metropolitan and district councils has been well received in some quarters while opposition parties viewed it as not good for local governance.

The board on Wednesday identified Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban as the three main areas that should be declared metropolitan areas.

Also in contention are Pretoria, the East Rand and Kempton Park, described by the report as probables; Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage, described as possibilities, and Vereeniging, Bloemfontein, East London, Maritzburg and Richard's Bay, described as aspirants.

New National Party spokesman Juh Killian said yesterday the report was based on centralising local government

"We do not believe in the centralisation of government, but support mechanisms to cross-subsidise some areas. We believe in co-ordination at a metro level, not for it to be given decision making powers," she said. "Centralisation of power is not good."

Killian said the report seemed to be taking the country towards fewer local councils, saying this would be a "sad" step for people at local level.

Echoing the sentiments, Democratic Party (DP) spokesman James Selfe said the concept of unities was not in the best interest of voters.

Selfe said certain recommendations flowed from the Municipal Structures Act which the party opposed, while others were based on flawed research.

"Some of the population figures are drawn from Census '96. There seems to be consensus that Census '96 was not

an accurate reflection of the population. Conclusions drawn on population may actually be incorrect," said Selfe.

"The party believed there ought to be two metros in Cape Town instead of one, as the board had suggested in some areas of Gauteng."

Diki Molo, East London transitional local council's executive committee chairman said "If they have excluded Mdantsane, which became part of East London administrative area in 1997, they have excluded a major part of the population." The council would make further submissions backing their case to be a metro.

Western Cape MEC for local government Pierre Uys said the report contained "major" technical errors.

"We will point them out to the board and respond to the report in the context of a policy document," said Uys.

Tygerberg arrears soar to R110-m

Rates set to rise 9,5% ■ Refuse and sewage charges go up 12,5% today

NORMAN JOSEPH
METRO REPORTER

Arrears owed by residents to the City of Tygerberg has increased from about R90-million a year ago to more than R110-million by the end of May.

The arrears are made up of outstanding rent and municipal fees due the Tygerberg municipality.

At the council's special budget meeting yesterday, it was announced property owners in the City of Tygerberg face rates increases of 9,5%.

Refuse and sewage disposal charges rise by 12,5% from today, and a further 2,5% increase can be expected on January 1 next year.

Water tariffs will go up, but increases will depend on individual consumption levels.

There will be no increases in electricity tariffs. An increase on January 1 next year will depend on

the Eskom tariff increase for bulk purchases that will be determined by the company later this year.

It took City of Tygerberg councillors four hours to approve a capital budget of R316-million for the 1999/2000 financial year.

Councillors also approved an operating budget of R1,1-billion compared with last year's R1,08-billion.

The council announced it had set aside R1-million for a publicity campaign and a credit control policy to compel residents to pay municipal accounts regularly.

Details of these ventures would be discussed and decided upon at a planned "bosberaad" to be held at Club Mykonos, Langebaan, from Monday to Thursday.

Finance committee chairman Gerald Smith of the New National Party said "We want to reduce the arrears on the books within six months."

New NP councillor John Mar-

shall, executive committee deputy chairman, said a credit policy would consist of special measures to get people to pay.

"People must take note that if they don't pay, the council's ability to perform and provide services, will be affected."

African National Congress councillor and executive committee chairman Michael Naicker,

said "To ensure that billed income does not remain fictitious income, it is necessary that council's debtors' book be converted into cash in the bank, however difficult that may appear to be."

"This means that we will have to renew our efforts, in the spirit of Masakhane, to effectively communicate our credit control policy to communities and to make sure that we get everybody to pay."

According to the council, the capital budget reflects an even distribution of capital expenditure across the City of Tygerberg area.

The budget was compiled on an "income-driven" rather than an "expenditure-driven" basis.

This meant that the council only budgeted for expenditure to the level allowed by existing sources of revenue. This approach ensured that the council did not make unreasonable demands on its ratepayers and consumers.

Yesterday's budget meeting, held in the Goodwood Civic Centre, was marred by several adjournments to allow ANC and New NP councillors to hold separate and lengthy caucus meetings to determine who should present the budget speech.

The ANC is the majority party in the council, with 37 seats. The New NP has 32, the Democratic Party two and the African Christian Democratic Party one.

The ANC wanted its senior councillor, Michael Naicker, who is the executive committee chairman, to present the speech instead of

finance committee chairman Gerald Smith of the New NP.

Finance committee chairmen usually present budget speeches.

A crisis committee of ANC and New NP councillors, held a lengthy meeting behind closed doors in a last-ditch attempt to reach consensus about who should make the presentation.

After the committee meeting, mayor Lukas Olivier ruled that Mr Naicker should present the budget speech.

But the full council meeting had barely begun when the two parties began to argue over which budget presentation should be distributed among councillors and officials, that of Mr Smith's, or a revised copy of Mr Naicker's.

Some visitors in the public gallery complained that the lengthy meeting, interrupted by adjournments, was costing the ratepayers' money while the politicians were trying to score political points.

Ratepayers are reclaiming the streets of their city

(#24) (262) eT 6/7/99



The people least likely to complain that Cape Town is becoming a dirty, unruly and unsafe place are the people most likely to be mucking in and getting their hands dirty trying to save the city from the ravages of urbanisation
KARIN SCHIMKE reports on Cape Town's quiet revolution

A QUIET revolution to take back the streets of the city of Cape Town is underway and it is being driven less by the council than by residents, workers and especially property owners prepared to take on responsibility for cleanliness, safety, landscaping and marketing of the city themselves

Although some of the processes have been underway for more than a year, a key legal framework came to life in April, giving impetus to a citizens' revival of the city

By-laws for the establishment of City Improvement Districts (CIDs) were promulgated two months ago, allowing property owners to establish Section 21 companies for certain areas of the city. These companies are to be funded through extra levies paid by property owners

The work carried out in individual CIDs will be determined by the directors of each CID in a business plan the City of Cape Town must approve

This in turn means that each CID will determine how much extra property owners will have to pay to be able to fund the work that needs doing

In other words, a CID that decides it needs only the services of an extra full-time street cleaner, will collect less money than a CID that decides it wants the services of several cleaners, several rent-a-cops and also wants to plant trees and upgrade street furniture

A holistic approach to making cities pleasant to live and work in

This method of city upgrading has been used in so-called first and third world countries around the world and has resulted, for instance, in the radical improvement of Times Square in New York from a drug-dealer hangout to one of the most sought-after business and residential areas in that city

So far, the East City precinct, bordered by Darling, Plein, Canterbury and Roeland streets, is closest to becoming a formal CID and Mike Vietri — one of the initiators of that CID — hopes the area will have its security and cleansing forces in place by the end of the year

"We're probably going to be running our CID on a budget of about R110 000 a month. The council will collect the money along with its rates and taxes and the money will be paid to us by cheque," he said

The East City precinct has recently been given a blast of confidence by the opening of the new East City Cafe, an upmarket restaurant and bar venue

The initiative for the cafe came from Cleon Romano, a Cape Town designer who is often called "brave" and "visionary" for his investments in areas perceived to be downtrodden

His investment in the Obs Cafe in Lower Main Road, Observatory, the Long Street Cafe and Bardelli's in Kloof Street have uplifted and stimulated economic growth in those nodes

Romano said "We have far too many armchair critics in Cape Town and South Africans have a history of negative self-perception. We have to find our own solutions and there are lots of people out there quietly getting on with things without announcing big plans or having big launches

"Nothing sorts itself out. People sort things out. The problem is that too many property owners have an 'I'm alright, Jack' attitude when it's all about community co-operation"

Asked about the cost of extra levies, Romano said "If people want to just think rands and cents — and city upliftment is so much more than that — then I'll answer them in rands and cents

"If you think short-term profit, you're being foolish. When an area gets downgraded, property devalues and no business person wants that. A little bit extra each month will save a lot in the end"

New York, at its worst point, had a totally bankrupt council, a situation Cape Town does not face

However, says Ashley Lillie, chairperson of the CID Association, council priorities change and social needs are now far more important than they were in the past

"Even if we see a 20% increase in our rates and taxes, we're unlikely to see a 20% increase in our daily cleansing and maintenance services. The council has to worry about housing and other things"

In terms of the by-laws, the council does not forfeit its responsibilities for running the city. Just like each CID may sign a contract with a public relations or a cleansing company, it will also have a contract of "minimum council services" in which the city pledges to continue providing an agreed-upon level of services, says Lillie.

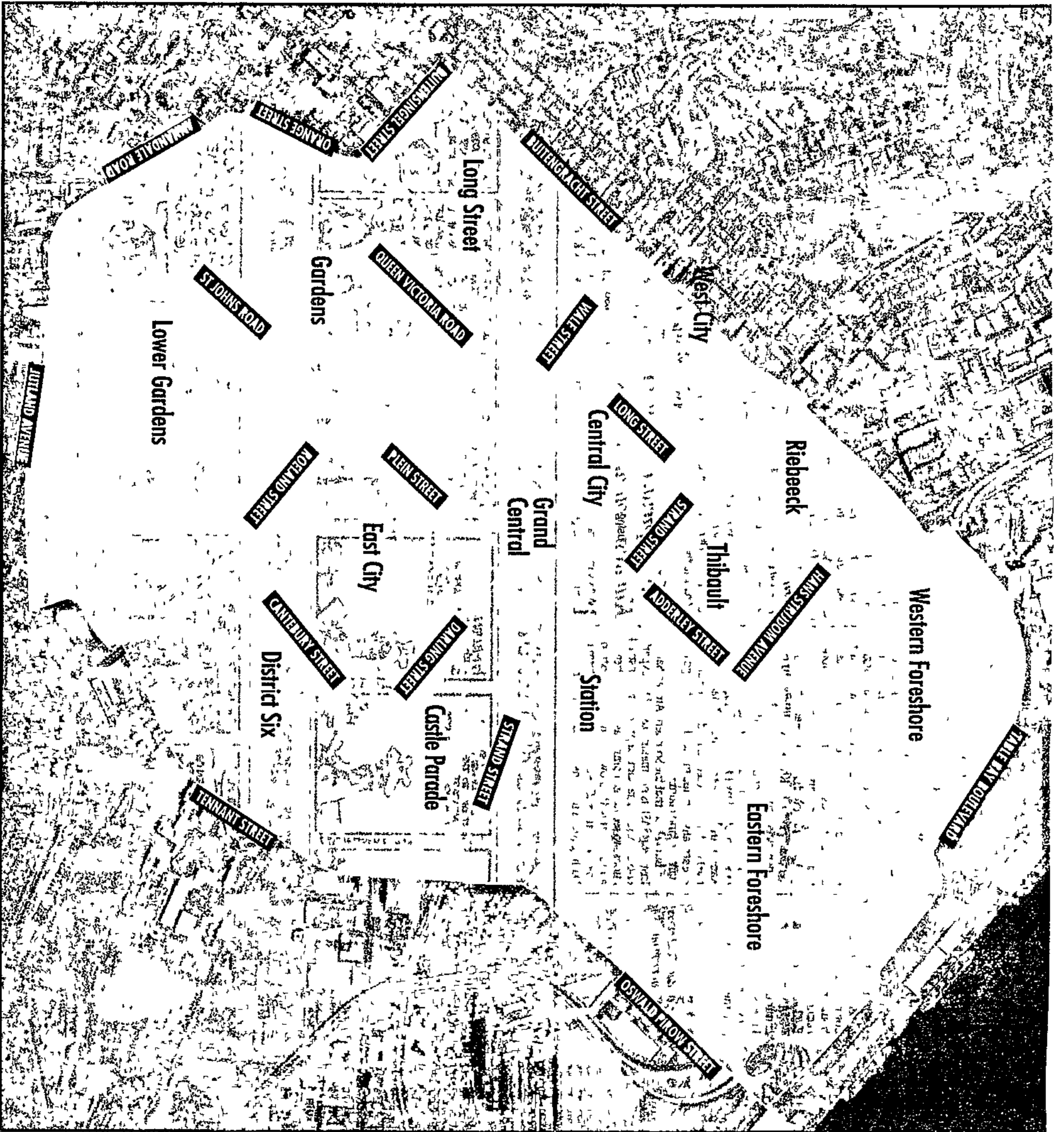
Part of the CID concept involves the marketing of certain city areas, like the antique precinct around Church Street or the second hand bookstore strip of Long Street. It also means greening of the city, and upgrading of street furniture.

Lillie adds "CIDs are an holistic approach to making cities pleasant. They're not just about fighting crime and grime."

"What's really exciting about Cape Town is that people want to do something wonderful for the city before real rot sets in, like it did in Johannesburg."

HOW TO START A CID

No CID in the world has been started without the enthusiasm and drive of an individual or a group of individuals who want to see their part of town looking spruce and safe. Each one of the proposed CIDs in Cape Town is being driven by dedicated, tenacious people who don't get paid for their efforts. Once these people have done the leg work, received the support of 51% of property owners in their area and come up with some starting ideas, they can launch an application with the City of Cape Town. The application specifies the proposed precinct (in number and in rateable value), attaches a three-year business plan, the additional top-up services to be provided and the anticipated costs. The applicants then have to advertise their intentions and hold a public meeting to inform interested and affected parties of their plans. If the CID is approved by the council, all the businesses in the proposed CID have to pay the extra levy. For more information on how to begin a CID in any area of within the City of Cape Town, the CID Association can be contacted on 424 9591.



BLOCKS OF IMPROVEMENT City Improvement Districts are small pockets of the city run by an association of property owners in the area. If someone decides to start a CID, they can define their own geographic area of responsibility. This is a rough map of the way Cape Town's CIDs are developing, but none of these boundaries are cast in stone until the first CID is approved.

Improving the city is a 'partnership deal'

KARIN SCHIMKE

PROPERTY owners, residents and workers in the centre of Cape Town are quietly getting on with improving the city environment to make it a safer, cleaner and prettier place to live and work in and they have now been given the legislative power to pursue their dreams of a better city

The City of Cape Town, responding speedily to demands by property owners to organise services supplementing those already offered by the council, designed by-laws promulgated in April this year which allow for the

establishment of City Improvement Districts (CIDs)

A CID is a defined geographic area in which property owners form an association — usually in the form of a non-profit or section 21 company — to enable them to supplement council services

They are not intended to replace the local authority, but provide an opportunity for property owners to decide on how they would like to enhance their specific physical and social environment

City manager Andrew Boraine said yesterday "The by-laws were designed to improve the quality of

doing business, retaining business and encouraging new investment. It's a partnership deal in which we, the council, sign contracts to deliver a certain level of service and property owners help enhance the city"

He said the CID legislation could not have happened without the initiative and enthusiasm of private business, "especially the likes of Business Against Crime and the South African Property Owners' Association, who were real pioneers"

Boraine said he was confident that CIDs were the road to a brighter future for the city

"We didn't suck the concept out of our thumbs. Many cities with the same problems have done this and it has worked all over the world," said Boraine

So far, at least six inner-city areas have started developing business plans and doing the groundwork to establish CIDs

The east city precinct is closest to completion. Residents and property owners in Long Street last night held an informal meeting to discuss the possibility of establishing a CID for Upper Long Street and the surrounding areas

● See Page 11

Union threatens action over lack of consultation on 'improvement districts'

NORMAN JOSEPH
MEMO REPORTER

The South African Municipal Worker's Union is threatening to take the City of Cape Town to arbitration for introducing by-laws which gave rise to the formation of City Improvement Districts (CIDs)

In a strongly worded statement, Samwu criticised the city council, which designed by-laws several months ago. The by-laws were promulgated in the Government Gazette in April.

A CID is a defined geographic area in which property owners create an association, usually in the form of a non-profit or Section 21 company, to enable them to supplement council services.

It is not intended to replace the local authority, but to provide an opportunity for property owners to decide how they would like to promote their area.

Samwu is opposing the new by-laws and the formation of CIDs. It said yesterday that it was shocked that rich communities could form Section 21 companies to upgrade their communities "even further".

Samwu said, "This is nothing but apartheid by another name." Council spokeswoman Leonora de Souza-Zalwa said it was unfortunate that Samwu had misunderstood the purpose of the legislation.

"CIDs are aimed at business areas and not residential areas. CIDs can be formed in any central business district throughout the City of Cape Town area," she said.

"We do not expect poor communities to form CIDs. It is our responsibility as a public authority to provide services in poor areas."

Property owners, residents and workers in Cape Town are involved in the formation of CIDs, which are aimed at making the city a safer and cleaner place to live and work in.

The by-laws were designed to improve the quality of doing business, retaining business and encouraging new investment.

It is a partnership deal in which the council signs contracts to deliver a certain level of service and property owners help enhance the city.

Samwu claimed city manager Andrew Boraine had said CIDs had improved the lives of communities all over the world.

But Samwu said it was "absurd" to think that poor residents in township areas would be able to form companies to "supplement" their own non-existent council services.

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ARL 7/7/99

Fuss over new city by-laws

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

CT 7/7/99
(263)
A BID to upgrade Cape Town's business districts, by allowing property owners to supplement services provided by the municipality, has been slammed as "apartheid by another name"

The South African Municipal Workers' Union has resolved to oppose the implementation of by-laws that allow property owners to form City Improvement Districts (CIDs), as reported in yesterday's *Cape Times*

The by-laws, which were promulgated in April, allow property owners to form non-profit companies to supplement municipal services in whatever way they deem necessary and in consultation with the city council

This could include extra street cleaning, extra security, better street furniture and greening of the city

Municipal officials said the by-laws are not intended to release the council

from its social contract to provide services to all communities, but are aimed at making the city's business districts friendlier to people who visit them, or live and work in them

In a press statement, the union said yesterday. "It is patently absurd to think that desperately poor residents in township areas would be able to form the same companies to supplement their own non-existent council services. Does this mean that township areas will stay at the same degraded level as they are today?"

City of Cape Town spokesperson Leonora da Sousa said union officials had clearly misunderstood the city council's intentions

"The by-laws are aimed at business areas, not residential areas. We are not expecting any residents, especially those in poorer areas, to top up monies for services

"The servicing of residential areas is the duty of the City of Cape Town as a

public authority and all our policies are geared to redistributing resources towards disadvantaged areas

"It is precisely the establishment of these CIDs in the city's business districts that will allow us to continue doing this," Da Sousa said

The union said initiatives such as CIDs had been tried before and had failed in the city

However, while legislation enabling the establishment of improvement districts has become quite common in cities around the world, the concept has never been tried in Cape Town

The only other South African city which has tried improvement districts is Johannesburg, where the concept has been working successfully for about a year

Da Sousa said CIDs are not related in any way to the concept of privatising council services

"There is absolutely no talk of privatising anything," she said

Zille thumbs-up over move to cram her style

Province plans to save millions by moving departments to smaller, cheaper premises

Ms Zille is not the only MEC in the Western Cape cabinet now facing an office move.

Ozzie Gibson, spokesman for Henrrie Bester MEC for Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Tourism, said local government wanted to slash office rentals and several departments planned to move to smaller offices.

Mr Gibson said rentals for education transport social services and the department of planning, local affairs and housing would drop by

nearly half, from R2,9 million to R1,6 million a month.

The savings will go back into Mr Bester's pot, but a substantial amount will go towards buying land on which to build new schools.

The department of education, which is presently accommodated in the 22 storey Project House on the Forshore, will move to the New Grand Central (the old Post Office) building next April.

This will cut the education department's rent by R500 000 a

month - a saving of R6 million a year. Ms Zille, whose office occupies half the top floor of Project House, said her requirements were modest - a desk, filing cabinet and a place to have a meeting.

From her office a door leads to a boardroom housing a large conference table that seats 20 comfortably.

Two people reaching across the table cannot touch hands.

There is also a reception area, and an office for the minister's private secretary.

The office complex was substantially refurbished by a predecessor, Martha Dickens.

Ms Zille said the education department would move from Project House to bring the department closer to public transport, for the sake of the many parents and teachers who visit the building and to save money.

The lease ends in June next year. The building is owned by Gensec - Sanlam's property management company - who would not divulge

how much rent they were charging a month.

The Post Office and Stocks and Stocks, who jointly own Grand Central, have set aside R30 million to upgrade the building.

Part of the upgrade includes creating a secure floor in which to house the annual matric papers. A separate lift and entrance will form part of the renovations.

In total four provincial departments will move offices, including a part of the department of economic

affairs, agriculture and tourism.

The transport branch will move from the Alfred Street Complex to Dorj Street where the entire department of economic affairs will be located from January 1 next year.

Social Services will also move from Miheli and Nerina Houses to the Union House in July next year.

"This will finish the rationalisation process of consolidating all offices in and around the provincial government building in, Wales Street," Mr Gibson said.

(163) NR4 9/17/99



New laws ensure 'improved districts' in Cape Town

BD 4/4/99 (263)

Xolani Xundu

THE Cape Town city council has promulgated legislation that will establish "city improved districts", says the city's director of economic development, Rod Young.

The districts would be managed by different organisations representing property owners in areas such as the Cape Town city centre, Claremont, Observatory and Sea Point. There was also a possibility that such districts would be established in the Athlone and Mitchell's Plain central business districts.

Young said the districts would be concerned with issues such as cleansing, security, promotion and the marketing of the areas.

"This is a private sector innovation because (the private sector is) concerned about crime, dirty streets, declining standards and we are just facilitating that initiative."

Young said New York had about 40 of these districts to market and promote the city.

A district had already started in Cape Town, but "a couple of things went wrong" regarding legislation. "We are busy with procedure and are producing guidelines so that some of these districts do not make the same mistakes."

Young said this would not affect the council's delivery of services, nor would it affect jobs. In fact, more jobs would be created.

The SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) had "not really (been) consulted" about the initiative as it did not affect the union.

"If we were transferring responsibilities we would have consulted them. This will have no impact on them and the council. For example, security has nothing to do with Samwu and the council. It is a provincial function," Young said.

Property owners in the affected areas would pay for these additional services as a top-up to rates.

The concept would not be transferred to residential areas. "It won't become the norm." This made business sense from the city's point of view, as property owners would pay more to enhance services in business districts and the entire city's rate payers would not be burdened in the process.

Samwu said earlier that it would oppose any bylaws aimed at establishing these districts and that it was shocked to learn that rich communities, which could afford extra rates, were planning to form nonprofit section 21 companies.

The union had a policy that services should be provided through a system of block tariffs funded by cross-subsidisation.

Samwu Cape Town chairman Andre Adams said the union was sceptical about the intentions of those establishing the districts.

"The implications are obvious. Those who can afford them will receive better services and those who can't afford them will suffer. The onus is on the council to provide equal services for all," he said.

The proposed districts would hamper mechanisms to address past imbalances in terms of service

delivery. "The rich will not be prepared to pay any more to the city coffers for cross-subsidisation."

Told that Young had said these districts would not be established in residential areas, Adams said "We are not aware of that. Any community that can afford to do so can establish these section 21 companies."

Samwu did not believe that service delivery should be addressed in such a "piecemeal way" since there was a need for a holistic approach.

"At the moment we are at loggerheads with the council on how to deliver services holistically. They are promoting privatisation and do not want to bind themselves to the record of understanding signed by the SA Local Government Association and the Congress of SA Trade Union last year," Adams said.

The record of understanding included consultation between the union and municipalities on how to restructure administration, effectively using available resources and the delivery functions of local authorities.

Johannesburg had about four of these districts and apparently Samwu never opposed their establishment.

Adams said he was unable to comment on this particular issue.

The union's general secretary, Roger Ronnie, referred all queries regarding the districts to Adams and the union's spokesman, Anna Weekes, as they were the people dealing directly with them. Weekes could not be reached for comment.

Municipal bosses living in fear as jobless dump garbage at homes

JOYFUL MLAMLI MANELI
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

(263)

ARL 19/7/99

Guguletu residents who have been demanding jobs as refuse collectors are now targeting the homes of municipal employers in their messy fight for work.

Some City of Cape Town employees living in Guguletu, said they were living in fear after angry residents dumped garbage at the homes of several council officials

Last week residents also burnt tyres and waste outside the Guguletu municipal offices in support of their demands to be employed as waste collectors

Councillor Toni Gocina said residents raided his house and dumped garbage there last week.

The municipality's Ikapa Parks branch regional manager, Temba Daweti, said angry residents dumped garbage at his home and

threatened to burn down his house

Mr Daweti's wife, Nonkosi, and their children were alone at home when a mob arrived.

"When I got home there was garbage strewn all over my yard. Fortunately the council got a private company to clean up the mess," Mr Daweti said, adding that he was targeted because he had ignored residents' calls to resign

"I'm not prepared to lose my job because some people say I must not deliver services to the community"

Mr Daweti said he had laid criminal charges against the people who had dumped the garbage

He warned that he and his colleagues would stop working if the council did not take action.

Mr Daweti said 10 people claiming to be residents' leaders denied having sanctioned the protest against him, and claimed some of his staff were behind the dumping

Guguletu Unemployed Residents' Union spokesman Fezile Bhuqwana said they had met city manager Andrew Boraine on Friday and were still negotiating

Mr Bhuqwana said the residents were not prepared to abandon the action until their demands for jobs had been met

Council spokeswoman Leonora de Souza-Zilwa urged residents to cooperate with the council to resolve the impasse, and said "We need a stable community in order to implement social programmes. People must help us to help themselves"

She said the municipality was required by law to render services to the community. The council was very concerned about the plight of the unemployed, but could not make promises to people that could not be met

She denied that there were hundreds of municipal vacancies

Deadlock broken as Tygerberg agrees to pay city R35m

MOTSHIDISI MOKWENA

IN an attempt to resolve a 2 1/2-year deadlock between the City of Cape Town and the Tygerberg Municipality, Tygerberg has agreed to pay the Cape Town about R35 million in water supply arrears.

Tygerberg was billed R70m by Cape Town for water supplied to Khayelitsha since July 1997.

Mike Marsden, executive director municipal services for the City of Cape Town, said Tygerberg had not paid Cape Town Municipality since the connections were made.

He said the supply connection was not designed to be permanent, as the pipes that feed into Khayelitsha were not designed for bulk supply.

Marsden said Tygerberg acknowledged that the supply was a short-term solution and had agreed to commission



BREAKTHROUGH: Cape Town Municipality's Mike Marsden and Phillip van Ryneveld at yesterday's meeting

PICTURE: DENZIL MAREGELE

(263)

an investigation aimed at optimising efficiency of the existing reticulation.

Had the matter not been resolved, the City of Cape Town

would have gone to court.

Tygerberg's view was that the supply connection off Spine Road and Swartklip Road in Mitchells Plain into Khayelitsha should be

reclassified as bulk supply and that Cape Town's tariff should be based on the Cape Metropolitan Council's bulk supply tariff.

After a constructive meeting yesterday the long-standing dispute was resolved by delegations from both the City of Cape Town and Tygerberg Municipality, and a strategy was adopted to resolve the matter in a sustainable manner that will ensure a long-term solution in accordance with the Water Services Act.

It was also envisaged that this would be at a minimal cost to the public.

The agreement stated that the City of Tygerberg would settle the bulk water component of the bill — about R35m — immediately.

The parties also agreed to seek a mediator to decide on a mutually acceptable balance of the billed amount and other outstanding issues that the two municipalities

were still not agreeing upon.

Chief executive officer of the City of Tygerberg, Dave Wilken, confirmed that the meeting was meant to resolve the two-year impasse.

However, Wilken said that Tygerberg was going to make its own calculations of the full consumption cost owing to Cape Town for the water supply because it believed it was much lower than the R70m claimed.

He said that if Tygerberg paid Cape Town Municipality a bulk and not a domestic tariff, rate payers would have to pay more than they are paying now.

He said that Tygerberg would install its own pipe lines rather than pay Cape Town a domestic tariff.

Both parties said they were pleased with the meeting and hoped the matter would be resolved soon.

21/7/99

Non-stop one-stop works out

66/17/99-22-23-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00

(267)

Barry Streek

The essence of the new R3,3-million Unobuntu (humanity) multi purpose centre in Zwelethemba, Worcester, is underlined by the fact that the first sod was turned by the African National Congress leader in the Western Cape, Ebrahim Rasool, then MEC for health and social services, and it was opened last year by outspoken New National Party figure, Pieter Marais, then also MEC for health and social services

And, today, the project is being driven by the Western Cape's department of social services, whose MEC is now the prominent Democratic Party figure, Nick Koornhof, and by the Worcester town council, which is controlled by the ANC.

"We are trying to use the centre to bring people together, such as in the arts and culture forum, across race and culture," says Claude



Community development Worcester's multi-purpose centre includes a gym and an auditorium PHOTOGRAPH RODGER BOSCH

Schroeder, the department's social development officer for the Overberg and Boland

Unobuntu, the first of eight pilot one-stop centres in the Western Cape, is controlled by a project management committee consisting of representatives of the community. The department has an observer on the committee, as does the Worcester town council

It now houses five NGOs — the Institute for the Blind, the Institute for the Deaf, the Child Family Welfare Society, the Zwelethemba Peacemakers Association, which conducts projects as conflict resolution among the youth, and Zwelethemba Cultural Tours

The department has offices in the building, which are visited by social welfare and social development officers and where pensions are paid out and satellite programmes are run. The municipality has offices in the building where rents, rates and electricity accounts can be paid.

These facilities, and the fully equipped gym,

came after a needs assessment by the community. There was no gym in the Worcester townships before. Boxing tournaments, which are popular locally, are now held regularly in the centre. It also has a 150-seat auditorium and breakaway rooms, which are regularly used by social action, welfare, church and sports groups.

Apart from the needs assessment, the community also had to decide where the centre had to be located. It was eventually decided that Zwelethemba, which has very few coloured residents, was the product of poverty in the Worcester area and it should be located there.

The gym is a hit. Individuals pay R35 a month to use the facilities, including the fully equipped changeroom facilities, while members of a club pay R25 a month.

Schroeder says Worcester has had a Health and Racquet Club for the past two years, "but this is much more affordable." Now, the

well-established Perseverance Rugby Club, "from the so-called coloured area", uses the gym regularly.

The area in front of the building is used as an amphitheatre by the arts and culture forum for plays and other creative projects. The centre is launching three projects, one of these is using a R50 000 grant from the department of social services to train Zwelethemba women in business skills so that they combine their individual projects into profit making ventures.

A workshop that includes all government departments operating in the Worcester region is being organised to promote interdepartmental co-operation. This is being co-ordinated by the Government Communication and Information Service.

Finally, the building has a room labelled "computer room", but it has no computers. The management committee has approached foreign embassies and funders to provide computers because it believes information technology skills and computer training are essential for job seekers, particularly from poorer areas.

Schroeder says, "There have been no break-ins since the project started. This shows the sense of community ownership. No one takes a chance — which is quite something for the Western Cape!"

He adds, "We must make sure the building does not become a white elephant. It must be a beehive of activity."

The local council has supported the project from the start. The council has a developmental vision to ensure delivery.

Says Schroeder, "It has improved local delivery — and it has led to an increase in the payment of charges and rates."

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IKHWEZI PROJECT

together with the
Department of Education
Eastern Cape

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

TRAINING SERVICE PROVIDERS

An invitation is hereby extended to interested Training Service Providers to develop material and conduct training to SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES in order to improve the quality of primary education.

This will take place in 60 schools in four districts of the North Eastern Cape Region (Bizana, Mt Ayliff, Flagstaff and Lusikisiki). This includes involving parents and school communities in school management and development through training of SGB members.

A document providing basic information with a proforma application form will be available on request. Please call Mvelo Diko, Project Co-ordinator on 039 - 727 1748/1755.

The closing date for the submissions is 12 00 on Wednesday 4th August 1999.



COEGA DZ AND PORT NEW REGIONAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE PREQUALIFICATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS

The Coega Implementing Authority, in association with the Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Despatch Transitional Local Councils and with the Western District Council, requires to develop a new regional 'H + H' Hazardous Waste Site. The feasibility study, public participation process, environmental impact assessment, rezoning and all other actions necessary to achieve permitting of a site by the Department of Water Affairs & Forestry will be part of the scope of work. Experienced firms or groupings of specialists with a proven track record in the assessment and permitting of regional hazardous waste sites are invited to prequalify. To enquire about the prequalification document, please telephone (041) 585-5435.

The Coega Project supports and promotes employment equity

BOUNDARIES TO BE DEFINED

Cape Town set to be node of new unicity

CT 5/8/99 (263)

IDENTIFYING THE nodal points of planned unicity is the first step towards creating the new cities by combining several municipalities. Metro Writer **BUNTY WEST** reports.

TOMORROW, Provincial and Local Government Minister Sydney Mufamadi will announce the nodal points for South Africa's six megacities or unicitys, and local officials are confident that Cape Town will be selected in the Western Cape

The naming of the nodal points is the first step in the statutory process for the establishment of a unicity or Category A municipality (metropolitan area)

This will be followed, in October, by the naming of the outer

limits of the unicity, and only then will communities know if they are part of the metropolitan area

According to council sources, it is by no means certain that residents of Atlantis, Stellenbosch and Helderberg will be part of the new unicity

With municipal elections only 15 months away, it is important that the extent of the boundaries is known, because it will leave only 12 months to set up a voters roll and get the new administra-

tion in place. But city manager Andrew Boraine believes the boundary question is irrelevant, as most people are only concerned with service delivery and the need for existing services to be maintained.

Boraine said the advantages of being a unicity outweighed the disadvantages but he admitted there could be problems, especially concerning efficiency and a lack of accountability by a large council

"These problems can be offset if we look at incentive-driven packages to maintain efficiency and full-time councillors with staff at local offices to provide real help at a local level. We have already looked at other models overseas," Boraine said

He referred to the Toronto model, which is similar in many respects to Cape Town, where six local municipalities and a metro council merged to form one large megacity council

"Toronto set up community councils which are effectively planning tribunals, making decisions on local matters that affect the residents. Ward councillors sit on the community councils and help with the decision making," Boraine said

Ideally, Boraine would like to see a new council with just 120 members, but he says this would be something for the politicians to decide



CONFIDENT: City manager Andrew Boraine believes the advantages of unicitys outweigh the disadvantages

FILE PICTURE

IT'S MOTHER MEGACITY

Mufamadi confirms single municipality will control Peninsula

(267) ARG 6/8/99

SPECIAL REPORT
ADRIAN HADLAND AND CAROL CAMPBELL

Cape Town is to be a "megacity" with a single local authority overseeing the municipal affairs of all its 3 million inhabitants.

This is revealed today by Provincial and Local Government Minister Sydney Mufamadi.

Johannesburg, the East Rand, Durban and Pretoria have also been classified as megacities or "unicities" and they too will have to put all their municipal authorities under one umbrella.

In Cape Town, the "nodal point" or centre of the new megacity has been identified as the corner of Darling and Parade streets - the site of the City Hall - and the new local authority's offices are likely to be as close to that point as possible.

The minister's long-awaited announcement in Pretoria today means the six local authorities of Cape Town, Blaauwberg, Helderberg, South Peninsula, Tygerberg, Oostenberg and the umbrella body of the Cape Metropolitan Council all have to be united and run with a single staff.

New outer boundaries and internal ward boundaries will have to be drawn, a task the municipal demarcation board will begin immediately. There should be clarity on the city's outer limits within three months.

Come what may, the revamp of the big city governments has to be finished before the local government elections which, according to the constitution, must take place by January 2001.

Although heated debate continues over the megacity plan, Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine said he was confident the move would help transform Cape Town into a modern, efficient, competitive and far more equitable place to live and work.

Five years ago, when a two-tier local government system was established in Cape Town, the most important objective was to deracialise the old apartheid structures and bring the city together, Mr Boraine said.

Now the creation of a megacity would have a number of important possibilities.

These would include the creation of public owned utility companies to run the city's water, waste and electricity services and the refocusing of the municipal "core business" on to health, development, service delivery and improving performance.

Turning Cape Town into a megacity would also help deracialise the Peninsula, improve the city's competitiveness both nationally and internationally and prevent the decay of the CBD, he said.

"It is these issues that (today's) announcement is really about. It starts the debate on them. It's about modernisation and transformation."

Mr Mufamadi said the declaration of metropolitan areas was regarded as a "significant event" in the transformation of local government.

The new council will be allowed a maximum of 270 councillors, half of whom will be ward councillors.

Mr Boraine said he hoped the new city

To page 2



Questions and answers: Pierre Uys

Court fight over Peninsula unicity

(263) ARG 6/8/99
Council would be run by far fewer councillors. Johannesburg had already indicated it would have only 120, although they would be full-time.

"This system is far better for the people of the city and it can save an enormous amount of money and prevent wasteful duplication," Mr Boraine said.

At the moment, for example, there were seven tourist authorities in "greater" Cape Town.

"The brand name we are selling is Cape Town and the symbol is the mountain. We can't try to compete with each other - we have to work as one," Mr Boraine said.

The new city also means there will be a single rates base - a good thing for people living in the older parts of the city where rates are traditionally higher. "It could well be that rates go down for some people."

The combined budget of the six municipal structures and Cape Metropolitan Council (CMC) is R7 billion - money which the unicity will now have at its disposal.

"There can be a far more cohesive approach to issues of housing and health," Mr Boraine said.

The KwaZulu Natal provincial government, controlled by the Inkatha Freedom Party, and the Western Cape government coalition have launched High Court bids to overturn the decision.

The cases are scheduled to be heard later this month but it seems likely the matter will be forwarded to the Constitutional Court for a final decision.

New chief executive of the CMC Kent Morkel argued the new system would push local government out of reach of ordinary people.

"We were really getting somewhere with the six authorities in Cape Town, and it seems such a shame that the whole system has to be turned upside down again simply to have a unicity."

Mr Morkel favoured a system which allowed "substructures", because it was more accessible and user-friendly. He envisaged a "lean and mean" top management with many local government functions contracted out.

'I don't like the megacity but we'll make it work'

Minister Uys puts on a brave face ahead of High Court challenge - but warns of a burgeoning bureaucracy

(a.b.f) ARG 6/8/99

Western Cape's local government minister Pierre Uys has been fighting against Cape Town becoming a "megacity" for almost three years.
But despite this opposition - which is based mainly on the cost and possible weakening of ties with communities that he says will result from megacity status - Mr Uys has put a brave face on today's

inevitable announcement.
"I want to send out a positive message," he told the Cape Argus this week. "My hope is that we will make a success of whatever is put on the table by being positive and proactive."
There is a glimmer of hope for the New National Party provincial cabinet minister and former chairman of the Cape Metropolitan Council, the High Court challenges to the megacities proposal, launched by both KwaZulu Natal and the Western

Cape, are due to be heard later this month.
It is likely the matter will be forwarded to the Constitutional Court for a final decision but Mr Uys is not presuming the court will rule in his favour. "We don't want to sit back and not be ready," he said.
The criteria for national government to declare a megacity - population density and number of people, level of goods and services and number of economic nodal points - were such that Cape Town, Durban and

Johannesburg were never going to escape the reclassification. At a push, Mr Uys concedes there could be some benefits to the megacity idea, particularly in the planning area as well as in the imminent and massive overhaul of the Cape's rates system.
But he sees more problems than advantages a bigger bureaucracy, less efficiency, more cost, a government further than ever from the people and the financial impact of the second major restructuring of local government in less than five years.

He has already scheduled meetings with Cape Town's local authorities to urge them to freeze posts and make no new appointments. This, he argues, will make the pain of restructuring that much easier to bear in the months ahead.
Even while planning for the introduction of the megacity has begun in earnest, a number of other weighty tasks are crying out for attention. Local government elections are likely in November next year. Still smarting from the impact of the

bar-coded identity document fracas before the general elections in June, Mr Uys is wary of the logistical and motivational requirements looming ahead of yet another poll.
Intensive sessions are planned with the Independent Electoral Commission to avoid any repeats of the problems experienced earlier this year. In addition to this, a whole raft of legislation aimed at local government is currently being finalised at a national level, including bills on the topics of municipal systems and

property rates valuation.
Each will require significant efforts to absorb and implement.
The huge task of re-valuing many properties in the metropolitan area is to start this year. Already R86-million has been budgeted over two years by the Cape Metropolitan Council and municipal local councils for what will be a major operation demanding considerable sensitivity.
"We could have a problem if we don't handle the situation properly," Mr Uys said.



City's future is now in private hands

Council and business join up to run CBD

MURRAY WILLIAMS AND CAROL CAMPBELL
STAFF REPORTERS

A long-awaited partnership between city authorities and business leaders is to be unveiled this week putting day-to-day management of Cape Town's city centre in the hands of a private company.

It is hoped the new arrangement will mean cleaner streets and less crime

It is not a new concept. Rosebank in Gauteng has led the way, showing how co-operation between all stakeholders can revitalise an area.

Those involved in the Cape Town initiative are the City of Cape Town, Business Against Crime, the Chamber of Commerce, Cape Town Heritage Trust, Cape Town Tourism, the Cape Metropolitan Council and other business leaders.

Their concern has been that if neglected, Cape Town's city centre could become like Johannesburg's with a mass exodus of business from the city to safer, cleaner suburbs

The new chief executive officer of this inner-city partnership – the man or woman who will have to sell Cape Town to the world – will be named on Wednesday

ARLT 16/8/99
Cape Town city manager Andrew Boraine said the council could not overcome the threats of urban blight and decentralisation on its own

"Together with the Cape Town Partnership, we are developing comprehensive and sustainable solutions to specific problems, such as law enforcement, cleansing and parking"

Mr Boraine vehemently denied the city council was abandoning the central business district or decreasing service levels by transferring responsibilities to the private sector

"The Johannesburg CBD was destroyed first by mindless, unchecked decentralisation, and then by poor urban management and a slow response to crime and grime," he said

The council was committed to preventing the same from happening to Cape Town, but there had to be a commitment from property developers and business to improving the condition of the inner city and to halting the "decentralisation" trend

Wendy Hartshorne, co-ordinator of the Western Cape council of the SA Property Owners' Association, said parking, safety and cleanliness had to be tackled urgently if owners were to protect their investments

(263)
The goal of the new company will be to turn Cape Town into a clean, safe centre full of foreign tourists using their pounds and dollars and marks to buy local goods

Companies in town will be asked to pay a "top-up" levy to improve municipal services – an amount which will be negotiated with them in coming months

Part of the action plan of the new company, which has already begun, is to divide the city into "City Improvement Districts", each with its own management team. This team will be responsible for keeping its district clean, attractive and safe for all inhabitants and users

Cape Town Tourism manager Sheryl Ozinsky said the potential of the new partnership was "huge".

"It enables the citizens of Cape Town, ratepayers and business leaders, who work and live in the city, to take responsibility together with local government for Cape Town to become a world-class destination"

The city is likely to be divided into 14 precincts – Western Foreshore, Eastern Foreshore, Riebeeck, Thibalt, Station, East City, West City, Central City, Grand Central, Castle Parade, Long Street, Gardens, Lower Gardens, and District Six

Legal action threat to council's pact on insurance fraud

JEREMY LAWRENCE
STAFF REPORTER

An out-of-court settlement between the Cape Town City Council and a municipal trade union that allegedly stole R4-million from a group life insurance scheme has come back to haunt the council.

The council and the Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (Imatu) agreed in February this year that

the union would pay back R500 000, and that the council would write off R3.5-million. The R500 000 was to be paid to the council in two payments, the last of which was to be made by April this year.

But now union members who lost money are threatening legal action. They are objecting in principle to the council not prosecuting in principle to the council allegedly guilty of fraud.

The money was reported missing when the all white Cape Town municipal

union known as the South African Association of Municipal Employees (SAAME) ran the insurance scheme.

SAAME later disbanded and was replaced by the all race Imatu. Between 1987 and 1993, SAAME represented more than 4 000 members at its Cape Town branch. The group life insurance scheme was arranged by the union in 1987.

SAAME arranged for members to pay 56c for every R1 000 insured to an insurance broker each month.

But in 1993 an emerging union, the Professional Staff Association (PSA), testified in an industrial court hearing that SAAME had been paying the insurance broker only 48c a month for every R1 000 insured. The difference, believed to total about R4-million, was allegedly kept by the SAAME leaders.

The council lodged a civil claim against the union to reclaim the money in February, 1995, and later reached the settlement with Imatu. (163)

Two former executive members claimed that SAAME officials skimmed millions off the insurance scheme because of gross mismanagement of the union's coffers, and high living by some executive members.

Former SAAME members say they are still waiting for the council to send them details of the settlement so they can claim their money. They have also accused council officials of negotiating the settlement without a mandate.

ARC 13/8/99

Conflict over Cango Caves trip

MELANIE GOSLING
ENVIRONMENT WRITER

OUTSHOORN town council sent eight people on a R296 000 overseas trip last month to "evaluate" three international cave experts who might help save the deteriorating Cango Caves — yet only one person was a scientist.

The three-week trip to France, Italy and Australia has been criticised as a junket, but the town's mayor, Roland Faro, who went on the trip, has defended it.

"This council believes it is essential that something be done to save the Cango Caves from deterioration. Therefore, we had to become involved," he said.

The delegation has recommended that a feasibility study be done on blasting a second entrance into the caves — a move which was criticised when it was suggested by a controversial University of Free State study two years ago.

Faro said the trip had been funded by money made from the caves, which are owned by the state. "The money was used to pay for the delegates only."

Others in the delegation were caves manager Hein Gertsner, Johann Looock, a geologist and member of the Caves Scientific Advisory Committee, Mike Schultz, former town clerk and a member of the advisory committee, Schalk Opperman, town engineer, Sipho Kroma, chairperson of council's executive committee, Titus McKenna, of the Oudtshoorn tourism committee, and Jan Smit, town clerk.

Gertsner said "About 250 000 people visit the caves every year. They exhale carbon dioxide and they're sweaty. We're looking at punching an entrance about 700m into the caves, bring the visitors in there and out the old entrance, thereby halving the time they're in the cave."

The carbon dioxide mixes with the water vapour in the caves and forms an

acid which attacks the limestone formations. People's body heat raises the temperature of the caves, which affects the formations, many of which have become a dull brown instead of shining like icicles.

Stephen Craven, South Africa's representative at the International Speleological Union and a member of the Cango Caves Advisory Committee, said the R296 000 spent on the trip could have paid for an expert to come and inspect the caves and make recommendations.

He believes blasting a second entrance would be disastrous.

"The biggest problem with the Cango Caves is that it is run by councillors who, like politicians, have no long-term plans. There needs to be a change in the management structure, so that Cape Nature Conservation or SA National Parks — who are free from day-to-day political interference and who can take a long-term view — can control the caves," he said.

ET 19/8/99

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ST (CM) 20/18/99

Megacity legislation faces court challenge

JANET HEARD

(263)

THE Western Cape government will issue a last-ditch challenge to the megacity legislation in the Constitutional Court this week.

Although transitional arrangements for the formation of a megacity are already well under way, the provincial govern-

ment will argue that aspects of the national legislation — the Municipal Structures Act — are unconstitutional.

If the court rules in the province's favour, legislators will have to go back to the drawing board.

Argument will be led that the Act has eroded the province's freedom of choice and given the national minister (of local government, Sydney Mufamadi) too

much authority," said advocate Dirk Brand of the government's legal team.

The KwaZulu-Natal government will also challenge the legislation before the Constitutional Court this week.

Western Cape ANC provincial members this week failed in their bid to call for a snap debate on the implications of the court action. It criticised the challenge, saying it could delay

next year's local elections.

"On the one hand, there are moves to prepare for the unity, then on the other hand they are challenging it," said ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore.

Earlier this year, the Cape Metropolitan Council challenged the legislation in the High Court. Judgment has not yet been handed down. The Constitutional Court will sit on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Politicians air grievances over allowances

KARIN SCHIMKE
POLITICAL WRITER

MEMBERS of the Western Cape provincial legislature (MPLs) yesterday aired their grievances about what they perceived to be a worse financial deal than their counterparts in other legislatures get.

In a meeting of the legislature's rules committee, political parties used examples to demonstrate that their requests for consideration for larger constituency and telephone allowances were not unreasonable.

Western Cape members get

R3 500 a month for constituency work, R3 000 of which comes from treasury and R500 of which is gleaned from savings made by the legislature. By contrast, members of the national parliament and the Gauteng legislature are given R4 500 a month and members of the KwaZulu-Natal legislature are given R6 000 a month for constituency work, MPLs told the committee.

Western Cape MPLs get R250 a month towards telephone use and committee chairpersons get R350. This contrasted starkly with Mpumalanga MPLs who are given

R2 500 a month for a telephone allowance. This amount included a cellphone and a cellphone contract, the committee was told.

Pieter Pretorius, secretary of the legislature, said he would look into the matter.

Meanwhile, the strength of the alliance between the New National Party and the Democratic Party in the Western Cape legislature became clear yesterday when the composition of standing committees was finalised.

The alliance holds the majority in all the committees — which is where legislation is processed —

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committee, chaired by the Speaker Willem Doman of the NNP, sat to discuss housekeeping issues, including allowances, parking, offices and committee composition.

The committee also decided to reactivate the legislature's aesthetic committee, which will be tasked with finding suitable art to display in the legislature. The committee is to be made up of Doman, Deputy Speaker Lynne Brown and one member from each of the five parties.

The legislature will be sitting from 6 to 17 September

and the NNP holds chairmanship of six of the committees.

The DP and United Democratic Movement did not get any chairperson positions, while the African Christian Democratic Party's Michael Louis will chair the economic development committee and the ANC's Tasneem Essop will chair the public accounts committee. Essop chaired the previous public accounts committee and Louis was a member of Gerald Morkel's multi-party cabinet before the June elections.

Legislature work kicked off in earnest yesterday when the rules

Bo-Kaap name change rejected

ART 23/1/99 (263)

TREVOR OOSTERWYK
STAFF REPORTER

Bo-Kaap residents have succeeded in preventing an attempt to rename the area the Malay Quarter.

At a meeting last night, African National Congress provincial leader Ebrahim Rasool met the two groups involved in the bitter fight over the renaming of the area tomorrow on Heritage Day.

At the forefront of the campaign to have the name changed is Tasneem

Kalam, spokeswoman for the Forum for Malay Culture in South Africa.

She said the aim was to preserve and promote Malay culture and create a living monument for the pioneers of Islam in South Africa, who had come from Malaysia.

Some Bo-Kaap residents rejected the move because it reminded them of the apartheid days. They had not been consulted and not all those living in the Bo-Kaap were of Malaysian origin.

The Bo-Kaap, as a residential area, took shape from the 1780s when plots

were handed out. From 1800 onwards, the first mosques and Muslim schools were established. During the 1840s the Muslim character of Bo-Kaap became entrenched.

At last night's meeting it was decided to celebrate the Malay heritage in Cape Town and in this way honour the Malay ancestors. It was agreed not to go ahead with the renaming of the area.

A function, which will be attended by visitors from Malaysia, will be held in the area tomorrow with Mr Rasool as one of the guests.

DP SIDELINED

ANC, NNP in megacity deal

CT 15/10/99

(263)

THE ANC AND NNP have reached an agreement over a commission to establish the Cape Town megacity, that effectively sidelines the DP. **JUDITH SOAL** reports.

THE provincial government is to announce the formation of a Unicity Commission to oversee the merging of Cape Town's seven councils into a single municipality today — the same day that the Constitutional Court is expected to rule on the province's challenge of the unicity concept

Local Government MEC Pierre Uys said negotiations on the structure and functioning of the commission had continued for several weeks. It was agreed that the 11-person group would comprise five ANC members, five NNP members and one DP member

When making decisions, the commission would "strive for" 100% agreement, but a decision could be passed by consensus among 75% of its members, he said. This means the NNP and DP are unable to form an alliance to exclude the ANC, as they have done in the provincial legislature. It also means the DP's contribution is largely irrelevant, as no decision can be made without the support of both major parties.

The commission will make recommendations on all aspects of local government under the new mega-municipality, including its name, how services from six local councils and one metropolitan



'WORK TO BE DONE': Local Government MEC Pierre Uys



'BEST THING FOR PROVINCE': Exco head Saleem Mowzer

council will be integrated, what to do about conflicting by-laws, and the accommodation of council workers into a single workforce

"There is a lot of work to be done," said Uys, the former chairperson of the NNP-led Cape Metropolitan Council. "It is essential the commission begins as soon as possible so that we will be ready for local government elections in November next year."

The agreement on the Metropolitan Commission will be taken to the seven councils next week for ratification

The NNP and DP have been outspoken critics of the megacity concept, resulting in the Constitutional Court challenge. Uys said he did not see a conflict between the province's court bid and the agreement over the Unicity Commission. "At least we will have judgment today so there will be clarity," he said. "I wasn't part of the decision to challenge the law but I believe it was necessary. My aim is to make

this metropolitan area succeed"

The ANC's Saleem Mowzer, chairperson of the city council exco, said he was confident the court would uphold the Municipal Structures Act that supports the formation of unities in Johannesburg, the East Rand, Pretoria, Durban and Cape Town

Mowzer and Uys haven't always agreed on these matters, but yesterday they were talking the same talk of the importance of "facilitating the process" and "smoothing the transition." They didn't agree on the name of the commission — Uys called it the Metropolitan Commission while Mowzer insists the documents refer to a Unicity Commission — but they agreed that it was the best thing for the province

The DP said the agreement was a "compromise"

"We've said we won't negotiate through the press but obviously we would have wanted more seats," said DP councillor Ian Nielson

MUFAMADI HAS UNTIL MARCH

Megacity plans halted but act stays intact

ET 18/10/99

JOHANNESBURG: The court decision that the megacity plans are unconstitutional 'did not fundamentally alter' the Municipal Structures Act. **PRINCE HAMNCA** reports.

(263)

he said

PROVINCIAL and Local Government Minister Sydney Mufamadi's controversial decision to declare greater Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban megacities was unconstitutional and invalid, the Constitutional Court ruled on Friday.

The landmark judgment also found Mufamadi's decision to declare the East Rand and Pretoria megacities to be invalid.

The Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provincial governments had challenged the dilution of provincial powers and the constitutionality of the Municipal Structures Act.

The act, which was passed last year, makes provision for a thorough revamp of local government, including the creation of megacity councils.

The court ruled that the act in itself was not unconstitutional, but that sections of it were inconsistent with chapter 7 of the Constitution, which divides powers and functions relating to the structure and control of local government, between different organs of state.

Mufamadi will need to effect

necessary amendments to correct the act.

The time-frames of the demarcation board are now likely to be affected, and the final decision on metropolitan boundaries could be delayed.

The deadline for the demarcation process is March 2000.

The Constitutional Development Department's deputy director-general Crispian Olver said the court's decision did not fundamentally alter the act.

He said the decision was not likely to affect the local government elections.

"It just shifts the decision from the minister to the board. It's now a technical decision to declare metropolitan areas," he said.

He said the framework, structure and policy of the act had not been fundamentally altered.

Demarcation Board chairperson Michael Sutcliffe said the board's work would not be affected.

"In respect of determining district council boundaries and the boundaries of local municipalities and district management areas is unaffected by the court's ruling,"

Sutcliffe said he believed the most significant aspect of the court's ruling was its pronouncement on the constitutionality of the major parts of the act.

"Changes required to the act are quite minor and therefore are unlikely to have any effect on the date for establishing democratic government in South Africa," he added.

Olver said Mufamadi would bring the act before Parliament for urgent amendment.

He said the amendments to the act were expected to be finalised by the end of the month.

The court ruled that the application of the criteria for megacities formed part of the functions of boundary determination which, through the Constitution, was vested in the Demarcation Board.

The act must be amended to vest the authority to declare metropolitan areas with the board.

Local government researcher John Seiler said the judgment limited the powers of the minister — but he felt the ruling was not likely to affect local government transformation.

"We hope the board will promptly declare the new metropolitan areas. This is a major victory for the board, because of its independence," he said.

ET 19/10/99

Govt urged to tackle job inequities

ANU MANCHIKANTI

(176)

(263)

THE internal affirmative action policy of the Western Cape provincial government has not been effective yet, according to a study released by the Gender Advocacy Programme (Gap) last week

Gap has found that senior management positions are filled predominantly by white males

Its survey has also found that 35% of the staff members are women and that women hold 14% of senior management positions and 24% of middle management positions

Three out of five women in managerial positions are white

One in two African women is employed at the lowest levels, but there are no white men or women in jobs at these levels

In the provincial legislature, women hold 27% of the seats. Half of these women are white

"A challenge facing the Western Cape legislature and the provincial administration is to redress these imbalances," Gap's acting director, Shanaaz Mathews, said in a statement

Gap recommended that the provincial administration "fast-track its implementation of employment equity to reflect the gender and race demographics of the Western Cape"

Forum says no to a unicity

IN A 39-page submission to the Demarcation Board the Pro-Helderberg Forum (PHF) has rejected a Cape Town unicity in favour of linkage with the Winelands District Council (WDC)

The PHF is made up of the NNP, DP, Freedom Front, African Christian Democratic Party, the Afrikaanse Sakekamer, Chamber of Commerce, Gordon's Bay Business Association, Helderberg Residents' Ratepayers Association and the Strand Ratepayers Association.

In the submission the Afrikaanse Sakekamer chairperson Janne Moolman said Helderberg should remain an independent local authority which would cooperate with its neighbours on common issues

"Serious consideration and factual investigations should be made regarding the cost of unicity failure. We must manage and minimise the risks to attract offshore investors," he said

Because of the Helderberg's rural character, where there are large tracts of developed farm and wine land, surrounding urban areas, the PHF believes that it should not be interfered with as one shouldn't "change a winning formula that is producing results"

The reports claims that there is no justification for the board's statement that "finalisation of the boundary issue will provide area-wide stability, which will increase investor confidence" The PHF contends it is more likely investors will lose confidence with bigger "government-by-remote-control" bureaucracies — Staff Reporter

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'Mr Cape Town' aims at world class

Big clean-up of 'crime and grime' in inner city promised as new age dawns

(263) A&G 25/11/99

TRUVE LIND
Political Reporter

In the first year of the new millennium, Cape Town will begin savouring the delights of a world status that such cities as London, Milan and New York already enjoy, vows the man head-hunted to revitalise the inner city.

South Africa's former consul general to Hong Kong, Michael Farr, is now dubbed Mr Cape Town 2000 by a new city venture.

"Globalisation does not mean competition between nations, it is competition between cities.

"The common character between the world's top cities that are competing for business is that they are desirable to live in.

"Cape Town must be on that list of fashionable places to hold international events, the place to find attractive investment," said Mr Farr, in his new capacity of chief executive officer of the Cape Town Partnership.

The partnership is a non profit company run by a 12 member board of property owners, local government representatives, tourism promoters,

crime prevention experts and environmental bodies.

The aim is for all sectors of the inner city to plough their efforts into securing a reputation for Cape Town as a safe and secure commercial, retail and entertainment destination.

After three weeks in the job, Mr Farr has started tackling the city's biggest problems, crime and grime. He and his board have divided the city council area into 13 city improvement districts.

In a scheme loosely based on inner city successes like the New York initiative, property owners within each improvement district have started asking the City of Cape Town for a minimum service guarantee.

The improvement district would then decide on the level of self funded additional or "top-up" services needed to make the area more attractive and free it of crime and litter.

"The Thibault Square improvement district is one that operating without the necessary by-law. By this time next year all improvement districts will be functioning efficiently. There will be a significant reduction in crime and grime," promised Mr Farr.



Millennium man: Michael Farr, the man who will lead the city of Cape Town into the next century

Megacity team's R18m budget slated

MUNICIPAL REPORTER

And profits from ratepayers and the Democratic Party, a team of 11 city councillors to negotiate and oversee Cape Town's transition to a megacity will be named today.

Western Cape Minister of Local Government Pierre Dreyer will also appoint an "apolitical" mediator.

Ratepayers claim the R18-million budgeted for the committee on a 12-month lifespan is "not fit for a council that cannot provide ratepayers with the most basic services in some areas."

Another contentious cost is the R37 000 a month for the committee's new office space in the city. Council member Ian McNeilson, who will represent the DE on the committee, has already left for office space and have it located in any of the local councils.

New National Party commissioner David Erling dismissed the criticism. "Considering what the commission has to do, the budget caters for the bare necessities."