

SERVICES SECTOR ^{Telecommunication} - ~~GENERAL~~
LABOUR

1987

FEB - ~~DEC~~ DECEMBER

the Defence Force, was, however, convened by the appropriate military authority. The Board found that the members acted in good faith for the purposes of or in connection with the prevention or suppression of terrorism in an operational area.

(2) (a) Yes, in respect of the only deceased, Mr Frans Mapota

(b) No, because it was privileged

(3) Yes

(4) No (a) and (b) Because the provisions of Section 103 *ter* (2) of the Defence Act, 1957, are applicable in this case

(5) No The members will not be tried

(6) (a) According to medical opinion, a massive subdural hematoma

(b) Replying to this question will defeat the action already taken by the State President, the Cabinet for the territory of South West Africa and myself in terms of Section 103 *ter* of the Defence Act 1957.

Howard
Regional Services Councils

110 Dr W J SNYMAN asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning +

Whether the demarcation of the areas of Regional Services Councils has been completed, if not when is it expected that (a) the demarcation will be completed and (b) all regional services councils will be in operation?

THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(a) The demarcation of the following regions has already been finalised and published in the various Official Gazettes

— Pretoria/Brits/Bronkhorstspuit region,

— Central Witwatersrand region,

— East Rand region,

— West Rand region,

— Bloemfontein/Botshabelo region,

— Port Elizabeth/Uitenhage region,

— Walvis Bay region,

— Cape Town/Paarl/Stellenbosch region

These regional services councils will be in operation with effect from 1 July 1987

(b) For various other regional services councils substantial progress has been made to take the prescribed steps for the demarcation of regions. Decisions on dates for the establishment of such regional services councils have not yet been taken

Electrified fence

115 Mr B B GOODALL asked the Minister of Defence

Whether with reference to his reply to Question No 14 on 11 March 1986, any persons have died as a result of contact with the electrified fence on the northern border of the Republic since 2 October 1985, if so, (a) how many, (b) on what dates, (c) what was the nationality of the persons killed and (d) what were the circumstances surrounding each death?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE

Yes

(a) One

(b) 16 July 1986

(c) Mozambican

(d) The person apparently wanted to cross the barrier from North to South

THURSDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 1987

(b) (i) 53, and
(ii) 39, as at 4 February 1987

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Technicians/postmen

4 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many employees in his Department resigned in 1986 and (b) how many such employees were (i) technicians and (ii) postmen?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) 4 609, and

(b) (i) 268, and

(ii) 233

Flats/housing units

5 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) flats and (ii) housing units were owned by his Department, and (b) how many such (i) flats and (ii) housing units had been allocated to non-White employees, as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) (i) 1 132,

(ii) 1 766, and

(b) (i) 53, and
(ii) 39, as at 4 February 1987

Note The anomaly in (a) (i) and (b) (ii) above when compared with the figures furnished on 27 February 1986 in reply to question No 251 is due to a number of housing units having been sold to staff in the meantime

Telephone electricians

6 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) Coloured, (ii) Asian, (iii) White and (iv) Black learner telephone electricians completed their training in 1986 and (b) how many electricians in each race group are employed by his Department at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) (i) 209

(ii) 112,

(iii) 1 755,

(iv) 141, and

(b) (i) 1 016,

(ii) 609,

(iii) 8 657, and

(iv) 759

Note The figures under (b) reflect the position on 31 December 1986 and include all electrician grades except learners

Applications for telephones

7 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

How many applications for telephones were outstanding in (a) each departmental region, (b) Johannesburg, (c) Cape Town, (d) Durban, (e) Port Elizabeth, (f) East London, (g) Pretoria and (h) Soweto as at 31 December 1986

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) Western Cape	11 560,
Eastern Cape	13 067,
Northern Transvaal	41 318,
Witwatersrand (including Soweto)	24 099,
South-Eastern Transvaal	35 059,
Orange Free State	9 872,
Northern Cape	1 455,
Natal	32 508,
(b) Witwatersrand, excluding Soweto and the East Rand (separate statistics for Johannesburg are not available)	7 853,
(c) Cape Town (Peninsula)	10 822
(d) Durban	16 547,
(e) Port Elizabeth	7 893,
(f) East London	1 649,
(g) Pretoria	14 603
(h) Soweto	16 246

9 Mr A B WIDDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

(1) How many (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Asian and (d) Black postmen were employed by the Post Office in the latest specified year for which figures are available,

(2) whether the salary programme has yet reached the stage where the rate of pay is the same for postmen of all population groups, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that parity will be reached, if so, what are the respective rates?

HOA

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) (a) 2 135,
(b) 1 160,
(c) 439, and
(d) 1 636

as at 31 December 1986,

(2) Yes, as far as White, Coloured and Asian postmen are concerned. The narrowing of the wage gap takes place according to a programme which is reviewed from time to time with due regard to the availability of funds and usually coincides with general salary increases. The most recent such increase took place on 1 April 1986 and the wage gap between Blacks and the other three population groups was further narrowed at that time. The applicable salary scales are now as follows:

Whites, Coloureds and Asians (Witwatersrand, Pretoria and Durban) R6 180 x 450 - 7 080 x 600 - 10 680

Whites, Coloureds and Asians (All other centres) R5 280 x 450 - 7 080 x 600 - 10 680

Blacks (all centres), R4 380 x 450 - 7 080 x 600 - 9 480

At this point in time it is, unfortunately, not possible to indicate when full parity in respect of Blacks will be reached

Public/private telephones

11 Mr A B WIDDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

(1) How many new (a) public and (b) private telephones were installed in

12/2/87

1986 in Langa, Guguletu, Nyanga and Khayelitsha respectively,

(2) how many (a) public and (b) private telephones were there in each of these townships as at 31 December 1986?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Lenasia	(a) 2 787	(b) 416
Soweto	11 542	960

Note The information is in respect of main services only and includes transfers. The available statistics of telephones other than main services do not distinguish between services for private and business purposes

Telephone directories

13 Mr A B WIDDMAN asked the Minister of Communications.

How many (a) telephone directories were printed in respect of each specified region of the Republic in 1986 and (b) such telephone directories had been distributed in each of these regions as at 31 December 1986?

12 Mr A B WIDDMAN asked the Minister of Communications.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Vaal Triangle	108 060	(a)	105 999	(b)	1986-02-14
Port Elizabeth and surrounding area	153 254		153 201		1986-02-24
East London and Eastern Cape country	125 559		122 554		1986-03-17
West Rand.	651 986		580 818		1986-06-17
Cape Peninsula.					
White Pages	544 696		486 703		1986-06-09
Yellow Pages	341 560		332 176		1986-06-09
Johannesburg	888 493		806 384		1986-08-19
White Pages	280 378		227 342		1986-08-19
Yellow Pages	149 748		126 766		1986-08-25
Boland and West Coast	62 105		53 121		1986-09-08
Southern Cape					

HOA

Handwritten: Howard

	(a)	(b)	Date on which distribution commenced
Karoo and Namaqualand	29 253	27 572	1986-09-29
East Rand	597 900	543 742	1986-10-21
Durban and surrounding area			
White Pages	417 589	315 089	1986-11-10
Yellow Pages	232 924	207 424	1986-11-10
Northern Cape	82 899	72 464	1986-11-10
Orange Free State	195 672	139 417	1986-12-08
Pretoria			
White Pages	380 769	256 794	1986-12-10
Yellow Pages	130 043	86 457	1986-12-10
Natal South Coast	40 586	Nil	1987-01-15
Natal North Coast	66 401	Nil	1987-01-15
Northern Transvaal	95 739	Nil	1987-01-16
Eastern and South-Eastern Transvaal	141 879	Nil	1987-01-16
Western Transvaal	113 409	Nil	1987-01-16
Johannesburg and Witwatersrand			
Business and Industrial Yellow Pages	50 450	Nil	1987-01-16
Telephone Directory	150 137	Nil	1987-01-26
Pietermaritzburg and Natal Interior			

Note In those instances where "Nil" appears in column (b) the directories were printed during December 1986 and could not be distributed during 1986. For the sake of completeness the actual dates on which the distribution of the various directories commenced have also been furnished

Handwritten: Howard
News reports

12/2/87

Handwritten: [Signature]
agency, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant particulars?

19 Mr P G SOAL asked the Deputy Minister of Information

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION

(1) (a) What total number of news reports had been submitted to the Bureau for Information by newspapers for approval for publication since the introduction of the state of emergency on 12 June 1986, and (b) how many such news reports had been approved by the Bureau for publication, as at the latest specified date for which information is available.

(2) whether he will furnish the (a) name of and (b) position held by the person authorized to approve press reports for publication in terms of the regulations governing the state of emer-

(1) (a) It is not the task of the Bureau for Information to approve or disapprove news reports

(b) Falls away

(2) (a) and (b) Falls away

Booklet "Let's Build and Work in Peace"

20 Mr P G SOAL asked the Deputy Minister of Information

(1) Whether the Bureau for Information was responsible for the compilation

and distribution of a booklet entitled "Let's Build and Work in Peace" which was published in June 1986, if not, who is responsible for this booklet, if so, (a) how many pages does the booklet comprise, (b) by whom was it printed, (c) how many (i) English and (ii) Afrikaans copies of the booklet were produced, (d) to whom were copies of the booklet sent, (e) why was the booklet produced and (f) what was the total cost of producing and distributing the booklet,

the State President's speech of 12 June 1986

(f) R22 099 35

(2) No The publication was printed in terms of State Tender Board exemption extended to Government Printer (SDK 77)

Publications

(2) whether tenders were invited for the printing of this booklet, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) by what means was the call for tenders publicized, (c) how many tenders were received, (d) from whom were they received, (e) what was the amount of each tender of (f) who was the successful tenderer?

(1) (a) What total number of publications were produced by the Bureau for Information in 1986, (b) what was the title of each publication, (c) what was the total cost of producing these publications and (d) who printed each of these publications,

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION

(2) whether the printing contract was put out to tender in respect of each of these publications, if not, why not, if so, (a) what companies submitted tenders in respect of each publication and (b) what was the amount of each tender?

(1) Yes

(a) 19 pages

(b) Perskor

(a) (i) 30 00

(ii) 15 000

(d) The booklet was distributed in South Africa to persons on the Bureau's mailing lists. It was also distributed overseas by the Department of Foreign Affairs. On request copies of the booklet was also mailed to other members of the public

(e) The booklet was produced to inform the public of important policy statements contained in

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION

(1) Total number of ad hoc publications (regular publications excluded) published in 1986 12

(b) Titles of publications
1 Partners in Terror (English Only)

2 Let's build and work in peace
3 SA Realities and reform
4 Let's build a new SA
5 A new beginning
6 Talking with the ANC (English Only)
7 SA Profile (English Only)

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?
 The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND WORKS

- (1) No not to my knowledge
- (2) Falls away
- (3) Falls away

THURSDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 1987

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Apprentices

3 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Asian, (iii) Coloured and (iv) Black apprentices were indentured to his Department and (b) in which trades were they indentured as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) (1) 61, and (ii), (iii) and (iv) none, and

(b) motor mechanic (24), diesel mechanic (7), carpenter (15), painter/decorator (5), plumber (5), welder (4), and electrician (1), as at 31 January 1987

Employees

10 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications

HOA

How many (a) Whites, (b) Blacks, (c) Coloureds and (d) Indians employed by the Post Office are (i) permanent, (ii) temporary, (iii) casual and (iv) regular employees?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
(a)	48 692	3 996	1 651	
(b)	5 271	227	26 513	
(c)	3 702	49	7 371	
(d)	1 984	14	161	

Notes

- (1) The above-mentioned figures reflect the position as at 31 December 1986
- (2) The figures under (ii) represent persons employed in a temporary capacity against posts on the fixed establishment and include part-time employees so employed
- (3) Separate figures for casual and regular employees are unfortunately not available. The regular employees included in the figure under (iii) and (iv) consist of unskilled and semi-skilled persons taken into employment against specific posts or employment quotas

Citizenship

108 Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Home Affairs

(1) What was the total number of White South African citizens resident in the Republic as at 31 December 1986,

(2) (a) how many White persons resident in the Republic as at that date had not taken out South African citizenship and (b) (i) what were their countries of origin and (ii) how many of them came from each such country?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(1) 4 460 972

Handwritten signature and date 19/2/87

(2) (a) 415 052

(b)	(i)	(ii)
Zimbabwe		39 211
Other in Africa		18 040
German Federal Republic		24 054
Greece		7 517
Italy		12 403
The Netherlands		16 913
Portugal		40 967
United Kingdom		111 249
Other in Europe		124 027
United States of America		4 886
Other in the Americas		3 758
Australia		4 134
Other in Oceania		1 503
Asia		5 638
Stateless and Unknown		752

Estimates based on 1985 population census information. Only countries from which more than 3 000 persons originate are shown separately.

Passports

142 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 572 on 20 March 1986, his Department know keeps statistics on applications for passports and renewal of passports on the basis of population groups, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many such applications were received from (i) Coloureds, (ii) Indians, (iii) Blacks and (iv) Whites in 1986 and (b) how many of these applications in each category were refused in that year?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

No, because of the magnitude of the task. A total of 173 793 applications for passports and the renewal thereof were received during 1986

(a) Falls away,

(b) Coloureds 5
 Indians 25
 Blacks 96
 Whites 32

Handwritten signature and date 19/2/87

Reclassifications

143 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs

(a) What total number of persons in each category applied to be reclassified from one race group to another in 1986 and (b) how many of these applications were unsuccessful in each case?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

	(a)	(b)
White to Cape Coloured	9	1
Cape Coloured to White	506	192
White to Malay	2	—
Malay to White	14	5
Indian to White	9	5
Chinese to White	7	—
Grigqua to White	1	—
Cape Coloured to Black	40	5
Black to Cape Coloured	666	279
Cape Coloured to Indian	87	6
Indian to Cape Coloured	65	2
Cape Coloured to Malay	26	1
Malay to Cape Coloured	21	—
Malay to Indian	50	7
Indian to Malay	61	8
Cape Coloured to Grigqua	4	—
Grigqua to Cape Coloured	4	2
Grigqua to Black	2	—
Black to Grigqua	18	2
Cape Coloured to Chinese	12	2
Black to Indian	10	1
Black to Malay	2	—
Black to Other Asian	5	4
Other Coloured to Indian	2	—
Other Coloured to Black	1	—
	1 624	522

Emigrants/immigrants

193 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs

How many (a) doctors, (b) dentists, (c) lawyers, (d) architects, (e) social workers, (f) quantity surveyors, (g) scientists and (h) other specified professionally qualified persons (i) emigrated from and (ii) immigrated to South Africa in 1986?

Handwritten signature and date 19/2/87



By SELLO RABOTHATA

ABOUT 4 000 postal workers have gone on strike at Post Offices in Soweto in protest against the Regional Director's "arrogant attitude" towards workers and their representatives, the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association said yesterday.

Potwa said the strikes started last Thursday after their efforts to discuss their grievances with the regional director proved fruitless.

They claim that he always walks out of their meetings and is never available to give them a hearing.

The regional director, a Mr Olmesdahl, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Potwa said post office workers always have to deal with apartheid structures and are discriminated against.

Among their grievances is that their white, coloured and Indian colleagues are treated with preference and Africans neglected and abused.

The young white workers have also been accused of sending black old men, old enough to be their grandfathers, on personal errands like buying cigarettes for them.

Postal workers strike

Petty

A Potwa spokesman said there has been a build-up to our grievances because of the paternalistic attitude of the whites at the post office.

The spokesman said last month black workers were assaulted by their white colleagues after a braai held at the Randburg engineering yard.

They have never negotiated with us in good faith. Workers are dismissed for petty issues like using a whites-only door.

He said workers are also transferred to remote areas and they had to leave their families behind because housing is not provided for them at those areas.

They stay in single sex hostels, while whites are provided with all necessities that go along with such transfers.

Black workers have to use open trucks when going to work while the other nationalities are given combis and travel in comfort.

PMG promise on salaries

BLOEMFONTEIN — The Postmaster General, William Ridgard, said last night the Post Office was geared to implement, without delay, the decision on salary increases as soon as it was taken

Opening the Congress of the Postal and Telegraph Association of SA here, Ridgard pointed out that the State President recently referred to the justified representations for salary relief in the public sector and undertook to implement these as soon as possible

Salary improvements

He said salaries constituted only 59% of the Post Office's budget for staff-related costs

The remaining 41% included R213m for pension contributions by the department, R46m for contributions to

the medical funds, R80m for service bonuses and R73m for housing subsidies

Staff expenses constituted about 42% of total operating expenditure, Ridgard said

Fine balance

He said the government did not want to create a situation of no, or even too little, salary improvements as the upswing in the economy largely depended on the impetus of greater consumer spending

It would be easy to create the necessary demand through salary improvements in the public sector. There was, however, a fine balance between growth in demand owing to higher income, and fuelling inflation, he added Sapa

CAPETOWN TIMES 1/4/87

PO sympathy stoppage

JOHANNESBURG. At least 4 000 postal workers stopped work in Soweto and Johannesburg yesterday in solidarity with the 26-day-old railway workers' strike on the Witwatersrand.

A spokesman for the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association said 6 500 workers had downed tools with the railwaymen because "they are getting the same attitude from SATS as we are facing in the post office".

Between 13 000 and 18 000 railway workers have been on strike across the Witwatersrand for 26 days

A Post Office spokesman said 4 000 workers were on strike and management was negotiating with their union "to see if complaints can be addressed in a meaningful way"

He said the grievances differed from one workplace to another and it was difficult to "find the substance of the complaints".

However, he had heard that strikers

were complaining of discrimination between African and other employees. Some of the workers have been on strike since last Thursday

Meanwhile, both the SATS and the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwu) hoped to meet today to resolve the three-week-old stoppage

Union spokesman Mr Mike Roussos said the union was hoping to meet management today and was telexing the Minister of Transport, Mr Eli Louw. He said the contents of the telex would be disclosed later.

SATS PRO Mr Jannie van Zyl said: "We don't like the deadlock situation we have at the moment"

But a SATS spokesman said yesterday afternoon that they would not be meeting the Sarhwu and reiterated their standpoint of not recognizing that union.

Talks today would be with "elected grade stewards at City Deep", a SATS statement said — Sapa

Posts strike hits Soweto

Bus Day 8/4/87 268

ALAN FINE

AT LEAST five of Soweto's eight post offices were closed yesterday, and several other engineering yards were affected by a strike by members of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa).

Potwa president Vusi Khumalo said the strike, which began at Power Park, Orlando, on Thursday now involved 6 000 members.

It was triggered by grievances over the absence of staff transport facilities for blacks, two "unfair" dismissals, the transfer of shop stewards to other areas — seen as union-bashing — and a ban on wearing Potwa T-shirts to work.

Khumalo said solidarity strikes had erupted at all Soweto post offices and the Bitcon, Randburg, Crown Mines, Rosebank, Newlands, Bryanston, Richmond and Meredale engineering yards.

A Post Office spokesman said 1 000 Soweto workers were involved.

See comment Page 8

MAJOR REF JOIN POOR STRIKE

South Africa
26/11/87
268

By MOJALEFFE MOSEKI

And SATS to hold talks today

THE strike by post office workers yesterday spread from Soweto to Johannesburg and Randburg, bringing the number believed to be out to 6 000.

The strike that started in Soweto on Thursday spread to Marshalltown post office and the engineering yards of the post office at Bitcon in Village Mann, Crown Mines, Meredale, Rosebank, Newlands and Randburg. Officials of the Post Office Telecommunications Workers Association

(Potwa) estimated that 2 000 workers joined yesterday.

Four thousand workers at post offices in Soweto and Lenasia went on strike on Thursday, claiming there was discrimination against Africans in the department.

They also said that the authorities did not want to negotiate with their union on their grievances.

A spokesman for the post office, Mr Ben Roodman, yesterday estimated the number of people on strike at 1 000.

There is a possibility that the regional director will meet officials of

To Page 5

PO strike spreads

stewards met last night to discuss the strike. Meanwhile, the South African Transport Services management is to meet the City Deep Workers Committee at City Deep today.

A SATS spokesman, Mr Jannie van Zyl, said "We will not be talking to Sarhwa as some people think but to workers' representatives at City Deep," he stressed.

The South African Railways and Harbours Workers Union (Sarhwa) officials were yesterday in meetings with shop stewards preparing a revised demand to shorten the strike by between 13 000 and 16 000 railway workers.

But an issue that could dominate the talks is the annual bonus which SATS management has decided will not be paid to the striking workers.

152
268

(268) (11) 00 8/4/87
4 000 stage postal strike

JOHANNESBURG — At least 4 000 Post Office employees stopped work this week in Soweto and Johannesburg to express solidarity with the 26-day-old railway workers' strike on the Witwatersrand

A spokesman for the

Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association said 6 500 workers were out on strike and the union's shop stewards council was to meet last night to formulate a set of demands to put to management — Sapa

Vagrants and pupils keep Sats going

262
28/4/81

By DEBBIE BOOYSEN
ABOUT 850 Transvaal schoolchildren — and 15 vagrants — are keeping South African Transport Services airport and station operations in Johannesburg running as 13 000 Sats employees continue their four-week-old strike.

The Sats public relations officer in Johannesburg, Mr Jannie van Zyl, said today the emergency workforce was being used to perform unskilled labour and did not include any blacks because of the risk of intimidation.

He said Sats had recruited 15 vagrants from the Joubert Park area to help with unskilled labour such as cleaning and sweeping coaches.

"For their work they are paid and given a meal," Mr Van Zyl said.

"They're very eager to work and simply cannot believe that people are risking losing their jobs by striking with unemployment as it is."

About 600 of the hourly paid temporary workers were employed at the station, cleaning coaches, offices, carrying parcels and doing messengers' work.

At Jan Smuts Airport all national and international flights and cargo operations were monitored hourly and were being kept on schedule with the help of 250 students and Std 9 and 10 pupils eager to make some extra pocket-money.

"We actually had such a huge response that we could not take them all on at once," Mr Van Zyl said.

The media relations officer for South African Airways in Johannesburg, Mr Francois Louw, said permanent staff at Jan Smuts Airport were working overtime.

"Flights may take off a few minutes late, but even 20 minutes can be made up in flight time and arrivals are all on schedule," Mr Louw said.

The strike, now in its 26th day, is confined to the Johannesburg Vereeniging area.

● Sats management, who are still refusing to meet the South African Railway Workers Union, was due to meet worker representatives at City Deep today.

Strike in Soweto Workers' Solidarity

JOHANNESBURG — The postal workers strike, which started last week in Soweto in sympathy with the SATS strike, spread today, affecting more than 6 000 workers, according to the union.

Thousands of Post Office and Telecommunication workers continued their strike at Soweto, Marshalltown, Rosebank, Newlands and Crown Mines in Johannesburg and Randburg, while the union reported that some workers at the main Jeppe Street Post Office in Johannesburg city centre had downed tools in solidarity with other strikers.

A spokesman for the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) said about 300 workers at the Jeppe Post Office went on strike today.

The strikers had been ordered out of the building by management and the situation was "tense". — Sapa



Talks to re-open on strike

Chanting members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), employed at various Soweto post offices, gathered at the Orlando Post Office yesterday while waiting for a management response to their grievances.

Negotiations to resolve the 27-day strike by 15 000 railway workers are expected to re-start today.

But the strike by post office employees in Soweto and parts of Johannesburg is expected to continue while preparations are made for talks between management and the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), the union said.

SATS made it clear yesterday that talks aimed at ending the rail workers' strike would not involve the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwu).

"SATS is maintaining its standpoint that it refuses to negotiate with Sarhwu, which is trying to create the impression that SATS is recognising it," said a statement.

Sarhwu has called for a ballot to test its support.

Attempts to resolve the postal strike were also continuing.

Potwa president Mr Vusi Khumalo said worker delegates who met late last night established a committee to co-ordinate the workers' grievances, which would be discussed with management later in the week.

The postal workers were protesting against alleged racial discrimination against black post office employees.

SATS 8/4/87

268

Claims differ as post strike spreads

THE strike at Post Office installations in Johannesburg spread yesterday, but there were widely divergent claims as to its size.

A Post Office spokesman said some workers at the main Jeppe Street Post office joined yesterday, taking the total on strike to about 1 090. He said the regional director Trevor Olmesdahl visited some of the affected areas. He said all eight

Alan Fine
ALAN FINE *9/11/81*

2/8 post offices in Soweto were closed, but no services outside the township had been affected.

A spokesman for the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said about 8 000 were on strike yesterday, in addition to Jeppe Street, workers

at engineering yards, telephone exchanges and post offices at Auckland Park, Yeoville, Jeppestown and Bramley had joined, he said.

He said all strikers in Soweto had converged at the Orlando Post Office to be addressed by Olmesdahl. Olmesdahl promised he would see that all grievances were resolved within two weeks and asked workers to return to work.

Strike spreads

268
Soweto
9/4/87

ANOTHER 2 000 workers — most of them from the Central Post Office in Jeppe Street, Johannesburg — yesterday joined the post office strike, bringing the total on strike to 8 000.

The strike spread to engineering, telephone exchange and maintenance sections at the Central Post Office in Jeppe Street in Johannesburg, those in Yoeville, in Newlands, in Auckland Park and at Power Park in Soweto.

In a move to halt the spread the regional director, Mr Trevor Olmesdahl, addressed groups of workers at the Orlando Post Office and others in Power Park

yesterday afternoon.

• Meanwhile, the talks to try and break the three week strike by between 13 000 and 16 000 railway workers did not take place yesterday.

The PRO of the South African Transport Services, Mr Jannie van Zyl, said the workers had sent a message saying they would not attend the talks.

Cape Times 9/4/87

268

PO workers' strike spreads

JOHANNESBURG. — More than 3 000 post office workers were on strike at 32 post offices and telecommunications centres on the Witwatersrand while talks aimed at resolving the 27-day-old railway strike failed to resume yesterday.

Post office spokesman Mr Ben Rootman said the postal strike, which began last Thursday in solidarity with the railwaymen, spread yesterday to 32 postal depots and telephone installation depots.

A spokesman for the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) maintained that up to 7 000 workers had stopped work yesterday as post offices in Jeppe, Lenasia, Florida, Bramley, Cottesloe and Bramley as well as all telephone service centres in Soweto joined the strike. The spokesman said



SATS STRIKE ... Youths, employed by SATS since the strike began 27 days ago, load cargo on to a SATS truck.

telephone exchange workers at Power Park in Soweto and Lenasia and phone installation yards in Bramley and Cottesloe had also downed tools.

Mr Rootman confirmed that Soweto was without any postal and telephone installation

services and said the Florida, Bramley and Jeppe post offices in Johannesburg were forced to rely on poste restante collection.

He said the postal workers had not yet compiled a complete set of grievances and management was waiting for

Potwa to announce a date for talks to deal with the dispute.

The union spokesman said shop stewards from the strike-hit depots were to finalize details of demands last night, in preparation for negotiations today.

Meanwhile, at least

13 000 railwaymen continued their strike at railways stations and freight depots in the Transvaal.

The SA Transport Services insists that it will deal only with worker representatives from the City Deep depot where the railway strike began.

SATS PRO Mr Jannie Van Zyl said last night that a meeting planned for midday with the "recognized representatives of strikers at City Deep" was "cancelled by the intervention of the SA Railways and Harbour Workers' Union (SARWHU)".

He said the representatives had been "intimidated" into not turning up for discussions.

□ Meanwhile 1 500 workers at Anglo American's New Denmark Colliery went on strike yesterday in protest at the detention of 75 members of the National Union of Mineworkers in Transkei.

Strike hits postal deliveries

THE spill-over effect of the black postal workers' strike was affecting deliveries at three Johannesburg post offices yesterday.

A post office spokesman said mail deliveries had been interrupted at the Florida, Bramley and Jeppe post offices. Post restante facilities were being set up at the affected post offices to enable members of the public to collect their mail.

White volunteers were assisting in sorting and deliveries at some depots. In addition, eight post offices in Soweto, along with an engineering yard, had been closed.

A Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association spokesman said management and union representatives had agreed on preconditions to talks on Wednesday to resolve the strike.

SATS to aid workers

13/5/87
268
SAR

South African Transport Services (SATS) is in the process of initiating legal action on behalf of employees allegedly assaulted for not joining the five-week-old transport strike, a spokesman said today.

The spokesman said statements by alleged assault victims, as well as pictures of injuries they suffered, had been handed over to the police. Management yesterday received reports of further assaults.

The assaults are said to have taken place at the Johannesburg offices of the South African Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwu). SATS has refused to recognise or negotiate with Sarhwu, although Sarhwu claims majority support among the strikers.

Attempts to reach Sarhwu for comment were unsuccessful this morning.

● Talks between the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) are expected to resume early this week to resolve the postal strike, which now affects mail delivery in many Johannesburg areas.

BID TO END POST OFFICE STOPPAGE

NEGOTIATIONS aimed at ending the 12-day-old post office strike in Soweto and Johannesburg will be held at an undisclosed venue on Wednesday.

The tone of the talks was set during a meeting between the shop stewards council of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) and post office officials on Friday.

The Potwa delegation presented the post office officials with a list of demands that have to be met before the Wednesday meeting. They are:

- The authorities must be serious in their efforts to end the strike and should not walk out as was the case in the past when the debate became heated.

And in a move that union members and officials greeted as encouraging, shop stewards from various post offices will sit in during the talks and raise any issue they feel is being overlooked.

The United Democratic Front has pledged its support for the striking post office workers. The UDF's acting national publicity secretary, Mr Murphy Morobe, said: "The fact that 20 000 post office and railway employees have come out on strike shows their refusal to put up with blatant racism and discrimination in the workplace."

"The Wiehahn Commission labour reforms have failed and the Government must put its house in order."

Meanwhile, talks between a 37-man delegation representing the 16 000 striking workers and officials of the South African Transport Services (SATS) collapsed for the fifth time in just four days on Friday.

The workers' delegation walked out of the meeting at City Deep when SATS officials insisted they will only talk to the seven grade stewards of the Black Trade Union (Blatu).

Post office strikes spreads

From MONO BADELA

THE one-week-old strike by post office workers this week spread from Soweto to Johannesburg and Randburg, bringing the number believed to be involved to 6 500.

The president of the Post Office and Telecommunication Workers' Association, Mr Vusi Khumalo, has warned that the industrial action might escalate into other regions if the dispute is not resolved by the end of this week.

Soweto's eight post offices has been without postal services since the dispute at Power Park Engineering Yard last Thursday over two dismissed workers.

The strike has affected Orlando, East, Dobsonville, Diepkloof, Kwa-xuma, Midway, Moroka, Chiawela and Meadowlands.

Khumalo said solidarity strikes erupted in some Johannesburg and Randburg post offices,

and the industrial action had also affected Lenasia.

Striking workers said the "arrogant attitude" of management and senior white employees was central to the strike.

They list several grievances such as the wearing of guns by white post office staffers on duty in the townships; the "union bashing" tactics of management such as transferring known active union members to remote posts, often at short notice, the banning of union T-shirts and the transferring of elderly people "regardless of their age and physical condition" to do heavy manual labour.

Post office officials were not available for comment

Handwritten scribbles and the number 268 in a circle.

manufacture of non-asbestos products.

Call Times 16/4/87 268
Postal strike deadlock

JOHANNESBURG. — Attempts to resolve the strike by 4 800 postal workers reached deadlock yesterday when the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (POTWA) refused to participate in a scheduled meeting with management till two workers allegedly arrested by the security branch were released, a spokesman for the Post Office said. He said a system of "no work no pay" would be put into effect from today. Since April 3 the strike has spread to 32 work stations.

SAPR
16/4/87

Postal strike talks fail to start

Talks aimed at ending the two-week-old strike by thousands of Reef postal workers have foundered because of the alleged detention of two union members.

Yesterday's planned negotiations between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and management of the Department of Post and Telecommunications failed to start when the union insisted that the two detained workers be released first.

And both parties immediately raised the stakes in the dispute.

- The department made it known it would stop paying striking workers with immediate effect.

- The union announced it was meeting to formally consider spreading the strike beyond the Witwatersrand area.

"Post Office management's door remains open for negotiations with Potwa, although it is unclear when such discussion will take place," a spokesman for the department said.

The outcome of the planned Potwa meeting on the issue of extending the strike nationwide had not been made public at the time of going to press.

Potwa's president, Mr Vusi Khumalo, told Sapa yesterday that they had entered talks intending to "impress upon management that it is of the utmost importance that these two members be released (from custody) If we go back to work, we intend to do so with the same number that began the strike."

Potwa claims a national membership of 15 000 and says about 8 000 workers are already out on strike in Soweto and Johannesburg, while management puts the number of strikers at 4 800.

Postal services in Soweto have come to a standstill and they have been severely hampered on the West Rand and in Johannesburg.

REPORT BACK MEETING

THE Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) will hold a report back meeting at Cosatu House in Johannesburg today.

The report back will include issues discussed at the association's central committee meeting held at the weekend.

Observers see the meeting as crucial since members of the union have been on strike over increased pay for more than two weeks.

Yesterday the union held preliminary talks with management. The outcome of the talks will also form part of the agenda today

Resolution

The Electrical Allied Workers' Trade Union has resolved to affiliate to the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu).

The resolution was taken at a two day conference held at the Alpha Centre in Broedersroom. It was the first conference held by the union after the amalgamation of the electrical

unions last year.

In a statement the union's secretary, Mr Tony Oliphant, said that despite the affiliation to Nactu they would continue to support affiliates of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu). It was still open for mergers with other electrical unions, he said.

Handwritten notes:
2/4/87
268
Nactu

I HAWKERS

PO strike talks resume today

268

~~268~~

SMR

21/4/87

by Jo-Anne Collinge

Negotiations to end the three-week-old Post Office strike, which became deadlocked last week, are due to resume today according to Mr Vusi Kumalo of the Posts and Telecommunication Workers' Association.

This was confirmed by Post Office spokesman Mr Ben Roodtman who said talks had taken place yesterday and would continue today.

Thousands of postal workers on the Reef have been striking in support of demands for better working conditions. Talks became deadlocked last week when a number of preconditions set by the union were not met.

The preconditions included a demand that two Potwa members who had been detained for alleged intimidation, be released from custody.

Mr Kumalo declined to say if the union would insist on the meeting of their demands before talks resumed today. He said he believed a suitable arrangement could be made.

MASS MEETING

A mass meeting of Potwa members will take place at Johannesburg's Cosatu House while talks get under way. Mr Kumalo said it was likely the meeting would become a routine report-back since last week's deadlock in talks appeared to have been broken.

The strike — said by the union to involve up to 8 000 workers and by management to be 4 800-strong — is now in its third week and still confined to the Witwatersrand region.

The union cites a range of racially discriminatory working practices and conditions as motives for strike action.

The effect of the strike has been to shut down all postal operations in Soweto and to stop postal services in large areas of Johannesburg and the West Rand.

Virtually all postmen, most manual sorters and a fair percentage of skilled technicians are among the strikers, according to Potwa.

NEGOTIA-
TIONS between
striking workers
and Post Office
management be-
gan yesterday
but were in dan-
ger of collapsing
today, Vusi Ku-
malo of the
Posts and Tele-
communication
Workers' Associ-
ation (Potwa) said yesterday.

Postal worker negotiations in jeopardy

5 Day
22/4/87

~~HPA~~
~~HPA~~
268

THELMA TUCH

Kumalo would not say why the talks, meant to resume today, might not continue. He said Potwa had reached an agreement with management that it would not comment on the matter until today.

The deadlock between management and the more than 4 800 striking workers was broken yesterday. A management spokesman said negotiations had begun yesterday and would continue.

"It's a slow process and a full statement will be released when negotiations are concluded," he said.

Last week, moves to resolve the strike reached a standstill when Potwa refused to meet management until two members, detained by the Security Branch for alleged intimidation, had been released.

The three-week-long strike has led to the shutdown of post offices in Soweto.

Workers are demanding better working conditions. They have a list of grievances, including discriminatory working practices. Potwa claims about 8 000 workers are on strike.

Postal workers still on strike

By Adele Baleta

SMW 23/4/87

Thousands of postal workers are still on strike and no date has been set for the resumption of talks between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and management, according to a Post Office spokesman.

He said negotiations to resolve the three-week-old strike were suspended yesterday but would continue after Potwa had held a report-back meeting.

Union leaders were unavailable for comment.

The workers went on strike on April 3 for increased pay, and in protest against the sacking of two workers and the detention of two others.

A total of 32 post offices, delivery points or

engineering facilities have been hit by the strike.

The spokesman said people who have not yet collected their pensions may do so today but he warned that as a result of the strike the venues have been changed.

Pensions paid out at Dobsonville, kwaZuma, Moroka and Chieelo will now be paid at Jabulani police station.

People who normally collect their pensions at Orlando and Diepkloof post offices must now go to the Noordgesig community hall.

Pensions paid at Meadowlands post office will be paid at Meadowlands police station and those at Midway post office will be available at Klip-town post office.

APR 24 1987
268

PO strike drags on as talks break down

JOHANNESBURG. — Thousands of postal workers are still on strike and no date has been set for the resumption of talks between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and the management, according to a Post Office spokesman.

He said negotiations to resolve the three-week-old strike were suspended yesterday but would continue after Potwa had held a report-back meeting.

Union leaders were not available for comment.

The workers went on strike on April 3 for increased pay and in protest against the sacking of two workers and the detention of two.

Thirty-two post offices, delivery points or engineering depots have been hit by the strike. — Sapa.

City Press
26/4/87

Jailing haunts postal strike talks

By STAN MHLONGO

NEGOTIATIONS to solve the month-long strike by the 8 000 Post Office Telecommunications Workers' Association and Post Office management reached a stalemate this week when one of two detained unionists was released

Potwa president Vusi Khumalo told *City Press* that this was the issue that led to the breakdown of talks with management this week

Khumalo said he did not know on what grounds the detained man was still being held

"The decision that one of the unionists should remain in jail is shrouded in mystery. We will decide on a form of action after consulting members at a meeting on Monday," said Khumalo.

The two unionists were Vusi Khumalo and Jeppe van der Merwe, who were detained a fortnight ago.

Potwa, said Khumalo, is assessing the situation following the new turn of events.

More than 32 depots are reported to be functioning normally following the strike, which Khumalo attributed to the dominant grievance of "discrimination against our members".

The demand for the release of the two Potwa members has been topping the list of demands made by the union after the strike started

The other demands are:

- That Post Office management stop being arrogant during negotiations

- A confiscated video of the strikers recorded by a news agency be returned

- The scrapping of locally legislated apartheid which denies blacks workers the right to use toilets, phones and canteens designated for whites

- That there be no police at negotiation venues between Potwa and Post Office management

- Provision of transport for blacks sent to work outside Johannesburg be on the same basis as provided for other race groups

- All workers dismissed since November - estimated to be 100 - be reinstated

- The scrapping of the quota system, where management hired on racial lines and promoted other racial groups to supervise black workers

Management recently took a hard line and insisted on a "no work, no pay" condition for the worker

Post Office workers to resume talks

By Mudini Marvha

About 4 000 members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) decided at a meeting in Soweto's Regina Mundi Catholic Church yesterday to pursue negotiations with Post Office authorities

Workers said they were prepared to return to work tomorrow if management agreed to their demands for parity in pay and working conditions

However, Potwa president Mr Vusi Kumalo warned the Post Office that if it continued with its "verkrampste and unrepentant" attitude, the situation would worsen

Potwa members have been on "a work stoppage and not a strike" since April 2

Yesterday's meeting also resolved to fight for the rights of Mr Yeni Malevu, a member sentenced to two years' imprisonment for intimidation

The union said it would instruct its lawyers to continue fighting for his release. The union would take up the issue with management to secure his salary and benefits for the duration of the prison term

"We shall want a written agreement, even if it means signing it in front of Johannesburg's chief magistrate," said Mr Kumalo

Working conditions

"Our demands should not be partially met. Your unity will ensure that our demands are met, that you have a postmaster-general from this hall," added Mr Kumalo

Vice president Mr Bob Mabaso said parity in pay and working conditions was a condition for a return to work

He said blacks paid high rent and were incurring expenses, but received low wages with which to meet food, education and transport costs

Mr Mabaso added "We demand salaries equal to those earned by other people. The Post Office has gone beyond the deadline for implementation of parity"

Several organisations sent messages of solidarity

Post Office public relations officer Mr Ben Roodman was reported as saying yesterday that Deputy Postmaster-General (personnel and services) Mr Johann de Villiers had been awaiting a call from Mr Kumalo to confirm a date and venue for continuation of the talks

"Mr de Villiers' door is open 24 hours for talks," Mr Roodman said

Hundreds of South African Transport Services strikers paid off yesterday are stunned at the meagre paypackets they received — less than R10 in many cases

As former Sats workers queued under armed guard at payout offices across the Reef, management repeated its offer to rehire strikers on the basis of their loyalty and service

Workers received letters with their pay-slips informing them they had been dismissed for striking illegally.

The letter told workers they

Strikers hit by lean paypackets

could reapply for jobs and warned them to return Sats uniforms and provident fund cards

The South African Railways and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwu) remains determined that there should be no selective re-employment

Apart from reinstatement of

all strikers, Sats workers are demanding an assurance that nobody will be victimised. They also insist that they will not return before their main grievances are addressed

● Sarhwu has released the names of six strikers killed last Wednesday in confrontations with the police. Those killed in Johannesburg were Mr Joseph Mampuru, Mr Christopher Jozana and Mr Molahlehi Mohlakametsi. Those killed in Germiston were Mr Moses Mokgopa, Mr Jeremiah Dintlwileng and Mr Zonwabe Mogubata



About 4 000 Potwa members crammed into the Regina Mundi Church yesterday and resolved to continue their work stoppage. INSERT: Potwa vice-president Mr Bob Mabaso (left) interprets for union president Mr Vusi Kumalo (right) as he addresses members. ● Pictures by Alf Kumalo

Mail backlog 'will be cleared this week'

By Dan Side

The Post Office is hoping this week to clear the last of a backlog of mail caused by the strike on the central Witwatersrand

A spokesman for the Post Office said from Pretoria today that residents in six suburbs in and around Johannesburg had received bulk deliveries of post on Friday made by temporary deliverymen

"Delays in Booyens, Brixton, Jeppestown, Kibler Park, Orange Grove and South Hills were all cleared up on Friday," said the spokesman, "and the two remaining backlogs should be cleared within the next couple of days by temporary personnel"

"Randburg is behind seven days and the delay in Florida is four days"

"We are sorry about the delays," he said, "and we would ask people, especially in central Johannesburg, not to panic and run to their post offices for their post. It will be delivered"

28/4/77
B. Daw

No end in sight to postal strike

POST OFFICE management was last night waiting to hear the outcome of a meeting of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), which has been discussing the future of a strike by about 4 800 workers.

Sapa reports that thousands of black workers, packed into Soweto's Regina Mundi church, yesterday

28
ALAN FINE

vowed to press ahead with the strike. They demanded the Post Office continue to pay the salary of a detained worker, who has been jailed for two years for intimidation.

The strike, nearly four weeks old, was precipitated by grievances over alleged racist employment practices.

Reef PO
Cape Times 28/4/87
workers

to continue
268 (1987) 139
strike

JOHANNESBURG — More than 3 000 Witwatersrand postal workers yesterday vowed to continue a nearly month-old strike.

At a report-back meeting held in the Regina Mundi Catholic Church in Soweto, Post and Telegraph Workers' Association (POTWA) president Mr Vusi Khumalo said the strike would continue till post office management agreed to their demands to increase wages.

Almost 9 000 PO workers on the Witwatersrand went on strike demanding increased wages and in sympathy with the SATS workers stoppage.

The deputy Postmaster-General (Personnel and Postal Services), Mr Johann de Villiers, emphasized that "PO management's door is open 24 hours a day for continued negotiations".

A PO spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said postal services from the Booyens, Brixton, Jeppestown, Kibler Park, Orange Grove and South Hills depots had been brought up to date.

Depots at Randburg and Florida still reported a "few days delay" in mail deliveries, he said.

— Sapa

ACG 28/4/87

Post Office workers vote to continue talks

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — About 4 000 members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) have resolved to continue negotiations with Post Office authorities to settle their dispute

Workers emphasised they were prepared to return to work tomorrow if management agreed to their demands for parity in salaries and working conditions

However, Potwa president Mr Vusi Kumalo warned the Post Office that if it continued with its "verkrampte and unrepentant" attitude, the situation would deteriorate

Potwa members have been on "a work stoppage, not a strike" since April 2

Post Office spokesman Mr Ben Roodman said yesterday the Deputy Postmaster-General (Personnel and Services), Mr Johann de Vilhars, had been awaiting a call from Mr Kumalo to confirm a date and venue for the continuation of the talks



POTWA president Mr Vusi Khumalo addressing the rally at Regina Mundi yesterday.

Potwa ready to start talking

268
Sowetan
28/4/87

THE president of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association, Mr Vusi Khumalo, yesterday said his union was ready to start negotiations aimed at ending the four-week "work stoppage" by more than 8 000 post office workers.

But Mr Khumalo warned that should the post office management approach the talks with "indifference and arrogance" this could lead to the collapse of the talks. Mr Khumalo was addressing a Potwa rally at Regina Mundi Church in Soweto, attended by about 5 000 workers.

The PRO for the post office, Mr Ben Roodman, yesterday said that the deputy postmaster-general (personnel and services), Mr Johann de Villiers, had been awaiting a call from Potwa president Mr Khumalo to confirm a date and venue for the continuation of talks.

"Mr de Villiers' door is open 24 hours for talks on ending the work stoppage,"

Mr Roodman said.

Mr Khumalo said they were "not on strike but on a work stoppage and awaiting management's response to our grievances." The Potwa executive decided that workers should not report at their usual workplaces yesterday (Monday).

The union received messages of support from the Cusa-Azactu federation and the National Education Union of South Africa (Neusa). Cosatu and the UDF have also declared support for the workers.

The issue of the worker from the Jeppe Central Post Office in Johannesburg who was sentenced to three years (one year suspended), last week in the Magistrate's Court, dominated the resolutions. Workers insisted they should not return to work before he was freed. The officials said lawyers were working on the matter.

Post Office and Potwa meet today for talks

By Adele Baleta

Talks between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and Post Office management resumed today in the Central Methodist Church, Johannesburg.

Thousands of post office workers went on strike about a month ago demanding increased wages and in protest against the dismissal of two workers and the detention of two others.

Potwa president Mr Vusi Khumalo said certain pre-conditions had been met yesterday, which meant talks that were stalled on Tuesday last week could resume.

"Management has agreed to pay one of our members, Mr Yeni Malevu's, salary while he serves a two-year jail sentence for intimidation.

"They have also undertaken to reinstate him once his term has been served," he said.

Mr Malevu was sentenced last week and the other detained worker was released and charges against him were withdrawn.

Mr Khumalo said the talks would go on until all the points on the agenda were "exhausted".

"We are relieved that for the first time a main stumbling block in the talks has been removed," he added.

Post Office officials were not available for comment at the time of going to press.

o
t
e
e
l

Potwa's strike goes on

DD
1/5/87
268

d
-
t
t
s
l

JOHANNESBURG —
The dispute between
Post Office labour and
management remains
unresolved, following
formal discussions here

o
o
o
o
o
o

A Post Office spokes-
man said some of the
points of difference be-
tween management and
the Post and Telecom-
munications Workers
Association (Potwa),
were resolved

Two issues remain un-
resolved and will be dis-
cussed at a meeting due
to be held next week
One is the dismissal of
11 employees whom the
union has asked to be
reinstated The other is
Potwa's demand that
strikers be paid in full
for the period they have
been on strike.

The spokesman said
most postal services
were being maintained
in the Johannesburg
area with the help of
temporary staff, except
in Soweto where post of-
fices have been closed
— Sapa

Cape Times 1/5/87 (265) (482) (139)
Dispute unresolved

JOHANNESBURG. — The dispute between Post Office labour and management remains unresolved, following formal discussions here this week. More than 5 000 workers, represented by the Posts and Telecommunications Association, have been on strike since April 2.

'Arrogant' Posture Has to Change

Vusi Khumalo ... the arrogant and indifferent attitude of the Post Office management must go.



By STAN MHLONGO

THE "arrogance" of the Post Office's management during talks aimed at ending the four-week-old strike has been one of the main reasons for failure to end the strike, says Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) president Vusi Khumalo.

"We are ready to oppose any move by management to adopt a no-work, no-pay, attitude for the period we

have been on strike," he says. The Post Office workers have agreed to start negotiations with management but, warned Khumalo, if management approached the talks with "indifference and arrogance", the talks could collapse. Khumalo is leader of the 8 000 Potwa workers on strike in more than 32 depots countrywide. "In 1973, when I was a part-time teacher for matriculants at Gungunyana Ju-

nior Secondary — then called Chawelo High — where I was teaching mathematics and science, the school authorities could not stomach my philosophy of improving a teacher/pupil relationships as one of the requirements in the classroom," said Khumalo. Joining the trade union movement in 1978, he noted there was no worker representative in the Post Office. "There was a notorious system called the Liaison

Committee System, whereby five employees and five members of management would form a committee to represent workers. "But what made the system laughable was that the chairman was always chosen from management, which gave management a majority of one and in the case of a vote being cast to test whether worker grievances should be investigated," said Khumalo. Today, he is a lecturer at the Post Office College in

Orphirton, Johannesburg. The Potwa leader is concerned about the position of the semi-skilled worker in the Post Office. "Workers who are illiterate and faced with the disadvantage of not being in possession of a certificate to prove they have technical skills — even after acquiring these skills after serving the Post Office for years — are under-paid and find themselves open to exploitation. "You find a person who has served the Post Office

for 10 years — which means he has acquired a skills — earning the same as a guy who was employed 10 months ago." He added "We cannot fight the evils of racism and discrimination by going cap-in-hand to the bosses and begging," he said. "Management adopts a 'baasskap' mentality. "They employ the master-servant attitude when they address us — a condi-

tion which is totally unacceptable to us," said Khumalo. He said the reason blacks had been underpaid and exploited for so long was that their employers have apparently regarded them as tardy and unable to think for themselves. "This attitude will have to change if negotiations are to bring a successful end to the strike," he said.

Postal strikers go back to work today

Post Office workers return to work today after a month-long strike, the president of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), Mr Vusi Khumalo, said.

Mr Khumalo, speaking at a rally at Soweto's Regina Mundi Cathedral on Saturday, said that it would be "back to work" today for 5 000 Witwatersrand Post Office staff after an agreement to end the strike.

More than 32 post offices in Johannesburg and Pretoria were affected by the strike.

Mr Khumalo said Potwa intended to enter into talks with the Department of Post and Telecommunications on official recognition for the union.

A Post Office spokesman said that should Potwa "come with a request to be recognised as a union the Post Office would look into the matter".

One of the issues around which the strike revolved was the question of payment for Mr Yeni Malevu, who was released on bail on Thursday pending his appeal against a two-year jail sentence for intimidation.

Mr Khumalo said: "Management have agreed to pay his salary (while in jail should the appeal fail) and have undertaken to reinstate him once his term has been served."

Workers' demands for increased wages were not resolved. Mr Khumalo said that during the strike Potwa had convinced management to pay striking workers at normal pay points after an initial instruction that they had to collect their pay from Orlando police station.

Post Office management said it was now clear that it was "wise to recognise Potwa as a fully fledged staff association, to identify leaders and to enter into negotiations".

Postal strikers due back at work today

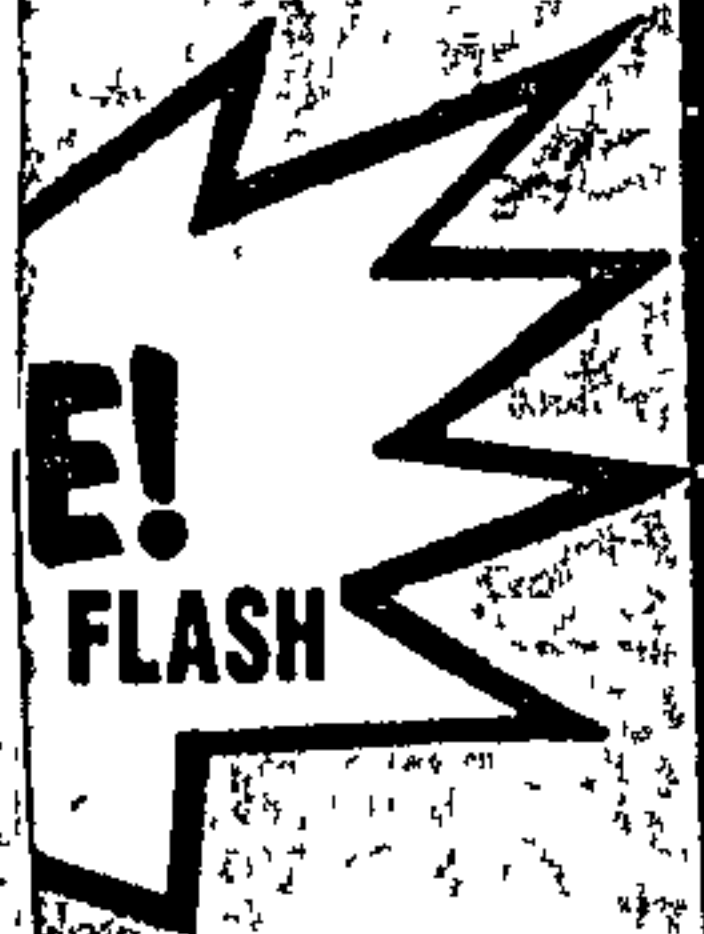
b/Dam 4/5/87
Business Day Reporter

THE month-long strike by about 4 800 postal workers on the Witwatersrand has ended, the Post Office and the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said in a joint statement released at the weekend

Details of the negotiated settlement would be released today, a Post Office spokesman said yesterday.

The statement said all grievances had been solved successfully to Potwa's satisfaction.

The workers went on strike on April 2 to demand higher wages, protest at the detention of two colleagues and express sympathy with the Sats dispute. Post Office workers are expected to return to work today, and it is hoped that disrupted services will be back to normal soon.



at the house committee

Post Office strike ends

CNA Times 4/5/87 Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The month-long strike by about 4 800 postal workers on the Witwatersrand has ended, the Post Office and the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said in a joint statement released at the weekend.

Details of the negotiated settlement would be released today, a Post Office spokesman said yesterday.

The Post Office said that after negotiations it had been agreed to end the strike. The statement said all grievances had been resolved to Potwa's satisfaction.

This was confirmed by Mr Vusi Khumalo, the Potwa president, last night.

The workers went on strike on April 2 to demand higher wages, protest at the detention of two colleagues and express sympathy with the SATS workers' dispute.

Post Office workers are expected to return to work today, and it is hoped that disrupted services will be back to normal soon.

A total of 32 post offices, delivery points and engineering facilities were hit by the strike.

BACK TO WORK

258

POSTAL services on the Reef slowly returned to normal yesterday after a four-week strike by more than 5 000 black workers was resolved.

anxious residents in Soweto, where services grounded to a halt, were referred to the main Johannesburg Post Office to collect their mail when they went to the eight post offices in the township yesterday

They were told that their mail was being kept in the city because it could not be transported to Soweto in the last four weeks

Hundreds of people flocked to the Johannesburg Post Office to collect their overdue mail from as early as 8 30am

A post office spokesman said some employees would be transferred from certain depots to Soweto to help with the accumulated workload.

He said the situation was not critical and hoped services would soon return to normal. The spokesman declined to give details of

Queues again at post offices

the agreement between post office management and the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) after negotiations were held to resolve the dispute

He said the agreement between management and Potwa was confidential and that they had already issued a joint statement on the talks

Strike

However, the president of Potwa, Mr Vusi Khumalo, said management had agreed to reinstate 14 workers who were dismissed during the strike

Mr Khumalo said management agreed to pay workers their salaries

up to April 20. They will also be compensated for the last 10 days of the month and surrender 10 days of their annual leave

All employees will be allowed to use canteens formerly reserved for whites only

"Management will also provide staff buses for workers staying far away from their workplaces and circulars asking white employees to change attitudes towards black co-workers will be issued

"Management has undertaken to hold courses on human relations for its employees," Mr Khumalo said. Potwa member, Yami



SCORES of people went to post offices early yesterday when postal services returned to normal on the Reef after a four-week strike.

Pic MOFFAT ZUNGU

Malevu, who was jailed for two years by a Johannesburg magistrate two weeks ago, was released on R1 500 bail pending leave to appeal against sentence

Mr Khumalo said Malevu, convicted of intimidation during the strike, would receive his

full salary and management has agreed to re-employ him if he wished to return to work

He said Malevu will have his job back if he were to serve his sentence in full. He stays at the Nancefield hostel in Soweto

Mr Khumalo said about the talks with the authorities "Management is keeping to the timetable agreed upon although negotiations were at first marred by difficulties. We hope such cordial relations will continue between Potwa and the authorities."

POST OFFICE management yesterday re-employed 13 workers dismissed during the past six months after an agreement reached at the weekend with the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa).

PO meets 21 ^{5/87} ^{3/Day} ²⁶⁸ ^{10/10} grievances

Potwa president Vusi Khumalo said an agreement to end the month-long strike was reached after management was willing to meet about 21 worker grievances

Khumalo said management agreed to re-employ the 13 dismissed workers while it reviewed the circumstances surrounding their dismissal. Should they find the workers were unfairly dismissed, they would be reinstated from the time of their dismissal.

He said another worker re-employed yesterday, Zakes Nthembu, had been dismissed three years ago

Other conditions agreed on by management included

To provide a post office bus to transport those workers at Power Park and Lenasia to areas where public transport was accessible,

To pay workers for the first 20 days of the strike. The remaining 10 days would be regarded as leave,

THELMA TUCH

To open canteen facilities at all post offices to all races Khumalo said in certain areas blacks were barred from the canteens,

To allow access to telephones under urgent circumstances

A Post Office spokesman said yesterday management had agreed to look into the dismissal of 11 workers, but he would not say whether workers had been re-employed

He would not comment on the conditions of the agreement because management had agreed with Potwa not to release details of their negotiations

The spokesman said the eight post offices closed in Soweto during the strike re-opened yesterday To cope with the backlog, staff from Marshalltown and Jeppe Street post offices had been temporarily transferred to the Soweto post offices.

Most of strikers return to work

5/5/87
268 DD
JOHANNESBURG —

Most of the 5 000 striking postal workers returned to work yesterday after a settlement was reached this weekend between the Post and Telecommunications Worker's Association and the Post Office, a Post Office spokesman said yesterday afternoon.

"We expect the rest will go back to work as well," he said. The settlement was reached late on Saturday.

"All eight post offices in Soweto are back in operation. Black counter staff from Jeppe and Marshalltown post offices will help with the backlog at the Soweto post offices," he said.

The rest of the 32 Witwatersrand post offices affected by the strike were back to normal last week, he said.

The workers went on strike one month ago demanding increased wages, payment to a worker jailed for intimidation and in solidarity with striking South African Transport Services workers.

The Potwa president, Mr Vusi Khumalo said at a meeting on Saturday the Post Office agreed to pay the jailed man, Y. Malevu's salary as well as reinstatement after serving his two-year-sentence should an appeal against his sentence fail.

The wage issue was not resolved —Sapa

Divergent outcomes of public service strikes

From ALAN FINE

JOHANNESBURG. — The two public service strikes — at SATS and the Post Office — both of unprecedented size and duration, have had widely divergent outcomes.

The SA Railways and Harbours Workers' Union (Sarhwu) spent six weeks pleading for an opportunity to negotiate on a minor disciplinary case.

Management refused all along the line to deal with anyone other than the unrepresentative in-house union.

And now 11 people are dead and 16 000 dismissed — although some have since been re-employed.

The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), on the other hand, spent much of the month-long strike

6/5/87

268

refusing to accept the pleadings of Post Office management to come to the negotiating table. Instead, it set a number of difficult preconditions, including the release of two detained members.

Unlike the SATS strike, there were no management demands that workers return to work before the possibility of negotiations could even be considered.

And Potwa has now, reportedly, achieved an astonishingly favourable settlement. Unions dealing with private sector companies would not even dream of winning some aspects of it.

For example, one worker dismissed three years ago is to be reinstated. Another, who received a two-year sentence for intimidat-

ion during the strike — he is now out on bail pending an appeal, will receive full pay for his time in prison, if any, and has been guaranteed his job back thereafter if he wants it.

Another breathtaking aspect of the settlement is that the strikers are to be paid for two-thirds of the period spent on strike.

One can only muse over the reasons for this astonishing turn of events, and ask why.

The most obvious answer would appear to be that while Sarhwu is an uncomfortably militant "outsider" and affiliate of Cosatu, Potwa operates in terms of the structures laid down by Post Office management.

It is even possible that Potwa members were beneficiaries of a government desire, in the light of the SATS strike, to show that it

pays to use the internal dispute-resolving structures.

But there is further irony even in this. There is no doubt that the postal strike has politicized Potwa, which was previously a little-noticed organization dismissed as toothless and management-controlled.

The rhetoric at its mass meetings during the strike was as militant as at Sarhwu's. And most importantly, it developed close links with Cosatu, having regular meetings at Cosatu House.

Sarhwu will take a long time to recover from the SATS strike. But Potwa can expect to gain stature from its efforts, and the Post Office could well end up with the same kind of black unionism that SATS has gone to such lengths to destroy.

NEWS FOCUS

IT ALL seems quite ironic. Two public service strikes — at Sats and the Post Office — both of unprecedented size and duration. But two widely divergent outcomes

To add to the irony, the SA Railways and Harbours Workers' Union (Sarhwu) spent six weeks pleading for an opportunity to negotiate on a minor disciplinary case

Management refused all along the line to deal with anyone other than the unrepresentative in-house union. And now 11 people are dead and 16 000 dismissed — although some have since been re-employed

The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), on the other hand, spent much of the month-long strike refusing to accept the pleadings of Post Office management to come to the negotiating table

Instead, it set a number of difficult preconditions, including the release of two detained members

Unlike the Sats strike, there were no management demands that workers return to work before the possibility of negotiations could even be con-

The puzzling tale of two strikes . . .

ALAN FINE

And Potwa has now, reportedly, achieved an astonishingly favourable settlement. Unions dealing with private sector companies would not even dream of winning some aspects of it

For example, one worker dismissed three years ago is to be reinstated

Another, who received a two-year sentence for intimidation during the strike — he is now out on bail pending an appeal — will receive full pay for his time in prison, if any, and has been guaranteed his job back thereafter if

he wants it

Another breathtaking aspect of the settlement is that the strikers are to be paid for two-thirds of the period spent on strike

One can only muse over the reasons for this astonishing turn of events, and ask why

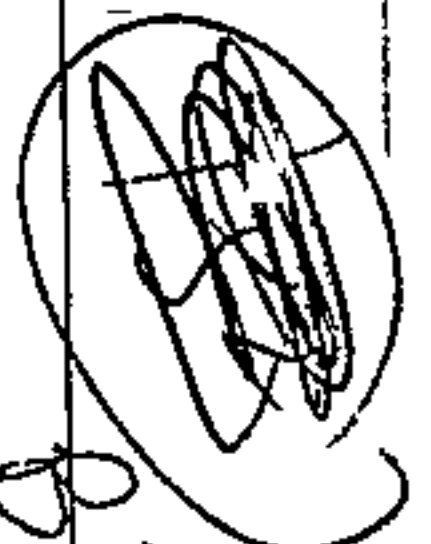
The most obvious answer would appear to be that, while Sarhwu is an uncomfortably militant "outsider" and affiliate of Cosatu, Potwa operates in terms of the structures laid down by Post Office management

It is even possible that Potwa members were beneficiaries of a government desire, in the light of the Sats strike, to show that it pays to use the internal dispute-resolving structures

But there is further irony even in this. There is no doubt that the postal strike has politicised Potwa, which was previously a little-noticed organisation dismissed as toothless and management-controlled

The rhetoric at its mass-meetings during the strike was as militant as at Sarhwu's. And, most importantly, it developed close links with Cosatu, having regular meetings at Cosatu House

Sarhwu will take a long time to recover from the Sats strike. But Potwa can expect to gain stature from its efforts, and the Post Office could well end up with the same kind of black unionism that Sats has gone to such lengths to destroy



BDDay 6/5/87



268

POSTAL STRIKE

Truce mailed

The month-long Post Office strike, which affected more than 32 post offices on the Witwatersrand and Pretoria, ended on Monday as 5 000 strikers returned to work

Unlike the Sats dispute, it seems to have culminated in a "truce," resulting from cool heads on both sides — the employers and employees belonging to the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa)

Management did not stick rigidly to the no work, no pay rule in coming to a settlement, a position presumably eased by the fact that Potwa was not seeking recognition as a union

Although the strike was initially reported to be in sympathy with the striking Sats workers, it later seemed to be dominated by shop-floor issues which lacked focus

Potwa president Vusi Khumalo says the strike was initiated to ensure internal transport for employees at the Power Park depot. But broader, political demands such as "parity in pay and working conditions" and the "dismantling of apartheid" later emerged. As the strike progressed, however, specific, shop-floor issues came to the fore

A joint statement by the Post Office and Potwa says "all grievances have been successfully solved to the satisfaction of Potwa." The Post Office hopes disrupted services will be back to normal soon. Management, however, declined to elaborate on the outcome of

FINANCIAL MAIL MAY 8 1987

negotiations, saying there was a "truce" between the two parties which it would not break

According to Khumalo, however

- Management has agreed to pay a worker who was imprisoned for two years his full salary for that period,
- Transport has been arranged for the workers at Power Park,
- 11 workers who were dismissed will be re-employed while their cases are being investigated,
- All strikers will be paid their full salaries from April 1 to April 20. The remaining days of April will be subtracted from the workers' leave, and
- The problem of "local apartheid" was solved by addressing several practical problems such as access to canteen facilities and telephones for all workers

Perhaps the real significance of the strike is that it occurred in an essential service (where strikes are prohibited by law), and has brought Potwa a step closer to being acknowledged as a trade union, rather than an in-house staff association. Although Khumalo admits this to be a "thorny" obstacle, he says "unjust rules must be challenged and tested"

Potwa will meet in October to discuss its affiliation and registration as a trade union. The question then, as in the Sats strike, will turn on whether it will be recognised as such by the Post Office

PUBLIC sector recognition of black trade union bargains long rights could be a step nearer following this week's peaceful settlement of the month-old Post Office strike, say unionists.

It took two major strikes — one peaking in bloody confrontation and the other settled secretly in closed door talks — to point the way ahead

Stage set for 'talks' on black unions

By DAVID JACKSON

The stages now set — tentatively — for talks about And union sources are hopeful the new attitudes will be the first step in a rocky road to win public sector workers the right to join unions of their own choice across the board

Some 5000 Post Office workers returned to work this week after a strike which affected more than 32 post offices in Johannesburg and Pretoria

Workers' Association — has secured a deal for its members which has catapulted it from a relatively obscure union, working within Post Office management structures, into a movement with genuine credibility among black unionists

Workers' Association — has secured a deal for its members which has catapulted it from a relatively obscure union, working within Post Office management structures, into a movement with genuine credibility among black unionists

Workers' Association — has secured a deal for its members which has catapulted it from a relatively obscure union, working within Post Office management structures, into a movement with genuine credibility among black unionists

Grievances

Potwa's president, Mr. Vusi Khumalo, said the organisation now intended entering into talks on official recognition for the union

The Grievances which sparked the postal strike had a familiar ring

Postal workers complained of "arrogant attitudes" among white superiors, the wearing of guns by townships (they saw this as provocative), poor transport facilities for workers returning home, "union bashing" at times and peripheral irritants, such as an alleged ban on the wearing of union T-shirts

The postal workers also demanded the release of two workers allegedly detained by security police

Significant

Said one labour expert: "Some sort of arena needs to be set up involving recognition of the unions, certain minimum rights and obligations, and all the other things that people have complained about and which were put on the table for discussion"

As the editor of the SA Labour Bulletin, Mr. John Lewis, observed: "There has been quite a significant change in attitudes in terms of management's immediate response, even if they don't seem any more happy about recognising unions which are independent and based outside the service"

"In the case of Sats, the basic issues were the very nature of Sats as a sort of protective white employment agency and the dismantling of that"

As for the Post Office, dealing between postal executives and black trade union barons in smoke-filled chambers may be light years away

Disclosures

Reacting to disclosures attributed to Potwa's Mr. Khumalo about the agreement reached to end the strike, a Post Office management spokesman said "There have been several misrepresentations of facts and even ludicrous claims for which Potwa will, in the end, have to answer for to its members"

"The Post Office and Potwa agreed not to disclose particulars of the agreement reached and the Post Office intends honouring this undertaking, despite the fact that Mr. Khumalo seemingly chose not to do so"

"No organisation can function without proper discipline Any inference that the Post Office intends departing from its disciplinary policy would be incorrect"

Meanwhile, peace having been restored, black postal workers are back on their street rounds and at their sorting desks

ECONOMY

Control boards guzzle R274-million in a year

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's controversial, but still thriving, agricultural control boards swallowed R274-million of the country's wealth in the 1985/86 financial year — R71-million of it in administration costs.

Excessive though that figure might seem, it is overshadowed by the losses incurred by South African Transport Services, which lost R891-million during the year on its mainline and suburban routes.

The figures, given by Ministers in Parliament and listed in the Transvaal Chamber of Industries' bulletin, paint a chilling picture of taxpayers' money being used in unproductive ways.

The most expensive of the control boards were the Maize Board, which cost R64-million, and the Meat Board, which cost R59-million. Other big spenders were the Wool Board (R29-million), the Tobacco Board (R25-million), the Deciduous Fruit Board (R23-million) and the Wheat Board (R21-million).

The smallest spenders were the Karakul Board (R46 000) and the Lucerne Board (R162 000).

Others such as the Mohair Board, the Rooibos

Tea Control Board, the Dry Beans Board and the Chicory Board swallowed millions of rands each.

The figures do not include the Grain Sorghum Board, which was set up on January 1, 1986.

While the boards themselves claim they perform a vital function without which there would be marketing chaos, their opponents say they distort free-market forces and in the final analysis are paid for by consumers.

There's no argument about who pays when SATS loses money — it's the taxpayer.

SUBURBAN SERVICES

Losses in the 1985/86 financial year amounted to R660-million on mainline services (R35-million for first-class services, R110-million for second-class services, R161-million for third-class services and R39-million for catering services).

The balance of the R891-million loss came from suburban services — R246-million for first-class services and R300-million for third-class services.

Other chilling figures in the TCI bulletin show 58 119 vehicles valued at R872-million were reported stolen between January 1 and December 31 1986 — 36 percent up on the previous year's total.

CAM - Times 26/5/77 (2)

Camdebo closes account (26/5/77)

PORT ELIZABETH. — The Divisional Council of Camdebo has announced it will withdraw its account from First National Bank. Last month, the Cradock Town Council decided to withdraw its account from First National (formerly Barclays) as a result of managing director Mr Chris Ball's involvement in the funding of a newspaper advertisement calling for the unbanning of the ANC. Camdebo council chairman Mr A J Oelofse said the move was in protest against the "bank becoming involved in politics". The account would now be transferred to Volkskas, he said.

More postal rises still on cards Minister

'Reform' bill to repeal 12 acts

By CHRIS CAIRCROSS
Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — A warning that further postal tariff increases are in store was given in Parliament yesterday by Mr Stoffel Botha, Minister of Communications.

Tabling the Post Office budget in the House of Assembly, Mr Botha said it had become essential that the tariffs of various services should be adjusted to relate them more closely to the costs of providing them.

This decision follows an investigation into the Post Office's financial structures by Mr Wim de Villiers, a previous chairman of Gencor.

Mr Botha said this investigation had, predictably, shown that a considerable amount of cross-subsidization has been taking place, which now needed to be remedied.

In addition it had been found that internal subsidization is also taking place between sub-divisions of the same service.

The most important of these is the subsidization of telephone rental by telephone call charges,



Mr Stoffel Botha

which is expected to amount to more than R500m in 1987/8.

Mr Botha said the losses to be suffered on the unprofitable services in 1987/8 will probably amount to about R200m.

Of these losses R147m will be incurred on the postal service, R13m on telex, and R28m on the telegram service.

Tariffs will be adjusted gradually to bring them in line with costs.

Mr Botha announced that it has

been decided to increase Post Office revenue by 8,8%, from the R3,8bn raised in 1986/7.

This will yield additional revenue of R345m, reducing the loan requirement for 1987/8 to about R888m, and leaving a small operating surplus of about R38m.

Apart from the financing of loan repayments amounting to R305m, total expenditure for 1987/8 is expected to be R5,8bn, an increase of 9,9% on the R5,3bn spent last year.

Operating expenditure for the year is estimated at R3,89bn, 15,3% or R517m higher than last year.

Mr Botha said this increase will stem mainly from higher than expected spending on salaries, on international commitments as a result of the expected growth in international traffic, on financing costs of new loans, on exchange rate adjustments and on general cost and price increases.

In view of the need to limit expenditure as much as possible, capital expenditure for the year has been restricted to R1,62bn — R57m less than in 1986/7.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES — A bill which repeals 12 acts and deals explicitly with the government's reform process, was introduced in the House yesterday by the Deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Piet Badenhorst.

He said the Constitutional Laws Amendment Bill contained a number of important provisions and dealt with government at local and regional level. Most of the changes affected the black communities.

Some provisions are:

□ Black women will in future be able to own property.

□ Home-ownership is promoted by giving the responsibility of issuing certificates with regard to identifying plots to private surveyors.

□ Provision for the appointment of commissioners-general in self-governing territories.

□ Provision for the appointment of deputy ministers by the chief minister of a self-governing territory.

□ Definitions and terminology for black local authorities are brought in line with other local authorities.

The bill was read a second time with the support of all parties.

— Sapa

Telephone, letter charges soar

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — Tariff increases announced by the Minister of Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, yesterday were:

□ Local and trunk and international calls from 12c per unit to 13,5c.

□ Payphones from 10c per unit to 20c for local calls and from 10c to between 15c and 16c for long-distance calls.

□ Automatic exchange connection rental from R11 to R15.

□ Installation charges from R90 to R125 (charge for social pensioners remains unchanged).

□ Telex from 12c to 13,5c per unit.

□ Handling charges per telegram from R1,30 to R2,50.

□ Rate for first 10 words rises from 80c to R1,20 and thereafter for each additional word from 8c to 12c.

□ Non-standardized letters up by between three cents and 9c depending on mass.

□ Parcels up by between five cents and 80c depending on mass.

□ Registration of a letter or parcel from 65c to 75c.

□ Express delivery from R1,80 to R2,25.

□ Commission on postal orders up by between one cent and 25c.

Vandal-proof public phones: Production to be stepped up

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — The new theft- and vandal-proof prepayment public telephones have been such a success that the Post Office has decided to increase production to 600 units a month, the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication, Mr Stoffel Botha, announced in his Post Office Part Appropriation budget speech yesterday.

At the same time he was criticized by opposition spokesmen for the 100 percent increase in the cost of local calls on public pay telephones.

'Fully justified'

A local call on a public telephone will cost 20c a unit after July 1, while long-distance calls will increase to between 15c and 16c a unit.

"Although the increase may appear to be drastic," the minister said, it was "fully justified" to apply a higher tariff to public phones than normal rented phones since there was no rental charge and since the cost of handling a payphone call was at present more than 20c.

He said there had been no increase in public telephone tariffs



for more than five years and at the current tariff, there would be a R44-million loss on public telephones in the 1987-88 financial year.

The new raised tariff would bring this loss down to R13 million.

Mr Botha also announced that field trials of pre-paid card-operated public telephones would start in the next few months.

He said the popularity of card-operated public telephones was rapidly increasing in many countries.

This was not only because they were very convenient to use, but also because they limited vandalism and were very reliable — thus requiring very low maintenance.

New pilot service

The minister said that telephone services in South Africa had increased by over 178 000 in the past financial year — bringing the number of telephones to around 4,2 million at the end of March this year. The waiting list then was at 167 000.

The minister also announced a new pilot service, Bureaufax, which provides a facility for customers to hand in a document at a post office for transmission — a service that can also transmit graphics.

The pilot scheme has been introduced between Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban and, if the demand justifies it, will gradually be expanded during the new financial year.

DP is Official Opposition

Political Staff

THE Democratic Party has been recognized as the Official Opposition in the 85-seat House of Representatives by the Speaker of Parliament, Mr Louis le Grange.

Mr Charles Redcliffe, MP for Schauderville, is the new leader of the opposition, succeeding Mr Denis de la Cruz of the Democratic Workers Party.

In a letter to Mr Redcliffe yesterday, the Speaker states that he is now satisfied that the Democratic Party meets with the requirements of a political party.

The DP came into existence when six members of the Labour Party broke away last month. Initially they sat as independents and later, along with Mr Trevor George (Independent Bosmont), they opted to form a political party to become the Official Opposition.

CAPE TIMES 26/5/87

Post office profit praised

268
Staff Reporter

THE post office was to be congratulated on turning a budgeted loss into an operating surplus, H-A D Murray, chairman of the National Consultative Committee on post office affairs, said yesterday.

The AHI, Assocom, FCI, Seifsa and TCI, representative said, reacting to yesterday's budget, that it was commendable that the post office was keeping abreast of technological developments.

"The committee agreed with the general policies being followed by the post office but warns that it will be difficult — if not impossible — to achieve zero cross-subsidization without serious damage to certain businesses which rely heavily on the postal services.

"Tariff increases have been contained but the overall 12,5% increase in local telephone tariffs must be seen in the context of the 14,2% increase in standard postal tariffs announced in

April this year added to the significant tariff increases in non-standard mail and parcels announced yesterday.

"It is noted that the staff establishment has increased by 1,7% contrary to the reduction achieved by other parastatals and private sector organizations.

"In the light of the 12,5% salary increases it is to be hoped that there will be increases in productivity or further tariff increases with their inflationary effects will be inevitable."

Nic Henwood, general secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) said many Cosatu members lived in the townships where payphone facilities were inadequate.

"To raise the cost of a telephone call will increase the burden on people. Wage increases are being rapidly undermined by price increases which will have a ripple effect on the cost-of-living," he said.

Minister showed 'lack of courage'

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

OPPOSITION parties reacted with shock and condemnation to the series of massive increases post office services, telephone rentals, installation fees and unit costs unveiled by the government yesterday.

In announcing the sweeping increases in his R5 845-million Post Office budget, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha, served notice that more "tariff adjustments" could be expected.

Responding to the tariff increases, which take effect on July 1, the Conservative Party spokesman on communications, Mr J H van der Merwe, said he was shocked and he condemned the minister for his "lack of courage" in failing to announce them before the May 6 election.

"The increases reflect the callous attitude by the government towards the consumer and will increase inflation at a time when the country can least afford it," Mr Van der Merwe said.

More reports — Pages 4 and 5

Labour Party spokesman Mr Chris Wyngaard described the increases as "exorbitant" and said new subscribers "now have to face installation charges and tariffs which have the effect of putting these facilities permanently out of their reach".

PEP spokesman Mr Pierre Cronje said that given the recent "quantum leap" in technology and expected increased demand over the next decade, "current subscribers are not getting the benefit and are indeed paying in advance for future subscribers".

The major increases announced yesterday were:

- Pay-phone units up by from 10 to between 15 and 20 cents (an increase of between 50 and 100%).
- Basic telephone rentals up from R11 to R15 (36,4%).
- Telephone installations up from R90 to R125 (38,9%).
- Telephone and telex unit charges up from 12 to 13,5 cents (12,5%).
- Telegram handling costs up from R1,30 to R2,50 (92%) and per word tariff from 8c to 12c (50%).

Mr Botha said that even with these "moderate tariff increases" the losses that would be suffered by the unprofitable services in 1987/88 would still amount to almost R200 million.

Of these losses R147 million would be incurred by the postal service, R13 million on the telex and R28 million on telegraph services.

Although the telephone services were budgeted to make R640-million profit, Mr Botha justified the increases in telephone services by saying the adjustment was necessary to make the non-profitable section — installation and rental — pay for itself.

Mr Botha said the budget was aimed at eliminating as far as possible the cross-subsidization of post office services.

He said the only equitable solution to the problem of escalating costs was to plan for the future in such a way that ultimately the person making use of one service would pay for it without being subsidized by the users of other post office services.

PO increases slammed

CME News 26/5-87

CAP- Traps 27/5/87 (268) 268

Rising costs may cut her family link

By RENEE MOODIE

MRS Florence Bailie of Wynberg is 83 years old and can no longer read or write because of failing eyesight.

To her, the telephone is an essential means of communication with her children and grandchildren, who are spread as far afield as Johannesburg and Namaqualand — but she is afraid that rising costs may eventually take this precious link from her.

It was announced in Parliament this week that telephone rentals were to increase from R11 to R15 a month and telephone unit charges from 12c to 13,5 cents.

“When I turned 80 I got an extra R10 a month, but that doesn't go far and everything just keeps going up.

“I am lucky, my children are very good to me but there are many el-



PHONE LINK. . . Mrs Florence Bailie at the telephone which is her only link with her family.

Picture: RICHARD BELL

derly people who do not have even that privilege,” she said.

Mrs Bailie is not the only pensioner to be angered by the latest postal and telephone tariff increases.

She said yesterday several people living in her pensioners' complex had also complained

about the increases.

“One lady even said she would have to give up her phone,” she said.

She said that the residents of the complex also relied on their telephones for safety and security.

Mrs Bailie worked in a variety of government jobs before her retirement at the age of 60. “I also worked during the war. Come to think of it, I've done a good bit for my country, and I paid taxes all those years,” she said.

Controlled rise in Transport Budget

Tariffs up,

but there's

some relief

Cape Times 27/5/87 268

TRANSPORT tariff increases averaging about 10% according to the Minister of Transport Services, Mr. Eli Louw, have been widely condemned as inflationary and a blow to South Africa's economy.

Mr Louw's transport budget came under heavy fire from opposition spokesmen because of across the board tariff increases now, and further hikes in October.

Among the tariff hikes announced by Mr Louw and effective from July 1 were:

- A rise in commuter fares of 10%, with another increase in October.
- Inter-city train fares up by an average of 15%.
- An average increase in rail goods tariffs of 11,9%, and
- Tariffs for petrol and diesel conveyed by rail increased by 8,1% and 13,4% respectively which is likely to lead to a petrol price increase on the Reef
- Domestic air fares are unchanged

SA Foreign Trade Organization (Safto) Chief Executive Mr Wim Holtes maintained the increases had come at an "unfortunate" time for the country's export trade, and warned that combined with a stronger rand the increases could directly affect the competitiveness of South African products abroad.

'Hikes will hurt exports'

The Transport Consultative Committee, representing 19 major employee bodies including Assocom, the FCI and the AHI, warned of a ripple effect and a negative influence on the economy, while the CP and PFP both described the increases as shocking and inflationary.

Mr Holtes said he acknowledged that SATS "needs to run a tight ship", but warned that the increases would have a direct effect on the competitiveness of SA products abroad.

The SA Consumer Council said that although the average increase could be considered to be relatively mild, every single rise was inflationary, and promoted impoverishment of consumers and the degeneration of SA's already unstable economy.

The council called on the trade and industrial sectors to react responsibly to the increases and to exercise restraint when considering putting their own prices up.

The PFP's Mr John Malcomess said he wished to congratulate SATS on achieving a profit in 1986/7, but described the increases as "shocking".

He could not understand when looking at the detailed increases how SATS could claim there was only a 10% increase.

"I would guess that increases affecting railways would be more of the order of 15%," he said.

Mr Malcomess said he forecast that the 1987/8 budget would once again be easily improved on and that the tariff increases would once again prove to have been excessive.

"They are deplorable and the man in the street will suffer and the inflationary effect will be felt throughout the whole country."

The CP's Mr Tom Langley said the budget was not only inflationary but disturbing. The "shocking" tariff hikes could only be inflationary in the extreme and would affect all consumers adversely.

More reports on page 12

Some of these increases, such as those for diesel and petrol, would come in just before the planting season and would therefore again have a detrimental effect on the production costs on the following season's harvests.

The white Federation of Trade Unions of the SA Transport Services expressed its "utter disappointment and unhappiness" at the 12,5% pay increases in the budget, while its black counterpart Blatu welcomed salary increases for black labourers and the announcement of parity with whites in benefits.

Introducing his budget, Mr Louw said revised estimates of revenue for the 1986/7 financial year showed a budgeted R98m loss had been turned into a surplus of R139m.

He said shrinking demand of South Africa's raw materials overseas would cause a decline in the export market to which many of SATS' activities were closely linked and which would affect its financial performance accordingly.

In spite of the measures taken, a deficit of R570m would have been recorded without tariff hikes.

Mr Louw said every effort had been made to cut passenger transport costs but the loss on passenger

To page 2

S suburbs fares rocket

Staff Reporter

THE latest rail tariff increases to come into effect on July 1 will raise commuter fares by an average of 10%.

On average the monthly tickets will, on July 1, have jumped by about 170% since October 1981.

On the southern suburbs line, the cost of a single ticket from Cape Town to Muizenberg will have climbed from 80c in October 1981 to R1,98 on July 1 this year — an increase of 147,5% — with another increase coming in October.

Over the same period, a single fare from Cape Town to Mitchells Plain has climbed from R1 to R2,42, an increase of 142%.

And on the northern areas line, a single fare from Cape Town to Bellville has climbed from 65c in October 1981 to R1,54 on July 1 this year, an increase of 137%.

It's the same — rail or plane

Staff Reporter

A FIRST CLASS return train fare to Johannesburg now costs the same as an economy class return flight, to the same destination.

Increases, announced in yesterday's transport budget mean that the first class single train fare from Cape Town to Johannesburg increased by R33, from R197 to R230 (or R460 return), an SATS spokesman said.

A call to South African Airways established that the return economy class air fare to Johannesburg is also R460, while the "midnight flight" fare stands at R230 return.

The SATS spokesman said the average 15% increase in main line fares followed a decrease of 32% in the use of these trains over the last year.

"We attribute that decrease mainly to cheaper, alternative forms of transport — the midnight flight and the new 'intercity' buses run both by private companies and SATS," he said.

He added that the increase was necessary because only 30% of the cost of running main line trains was recovered by passenger fees.

The new single train fares from Cape Town to Johannesburg are as follows (old fares are in brackets) First Class — R230, Second Class — R163 (R139) and Third Class — R82 (R70).

From page 1

services remained "unacceptably high" and increases were necessary.

Smaller increases twice a year would be more acceptable than one relatively big increase and consequently a second increase would be announced in October.

Further increases are also possible in October for goods tariffs when structural changes were made.

□ The Transport Consultative Committee said it accepted the inevitability of the tariff increases.

"The committee questions the need to increase pipeline tariffs as this will inevitably lead to an increase in fuel prices."

□ The white Federation of Trade Unions of the SA Transport Services said the minister did not adhere to his earlier indication that a salary increase of 15% was fair.

"We also remember the undertaking given by the State President to a delegation of the federation when transport employees' service bonus was arbitrarily reduced by 33% that he would stand by the federation should they stand by him."

"This has clearly not materialized."

□ Bantu general secretary Mr S M Matloha said the union had "great pleasure" in announcing that it had "successfully" negotiated the 12,5% salary increase, increases of 22,76% to 15,13% for black labourers as well as parity with whites.

□ Labour Party spokesman on transport affairs Mr Chris Wyngaard said the budget held little joy for the majority of the population, namely the poorer classes, who used the services on a large scale. He said the increases were too high.

□ There were mixed reactions from members of the House of Delegates to the tariff increases.

□ The Automobile Association expressed grave concern at the increases in the pipeline and rail tariffs of petrol and diesel.

AA spokesman Mr Robin Scholtz said the reason given for the increases were "structural changes", but if this was the case, the pipeline tariffs should have been reduced to more accurately reflect actual operation and administration costs.

Mr Scholtz said the pipeline and rail tariff increases meant that the inland motorist continued to be penalized and had to cross-subsidize uneconomic services — Political Staff, Own Correspondent, Staff Reporter and Sapa.

cooler over
ern region
will occur

YESTER

Barometer
Humidity
Temperature
max
(At D F Ma
Hours of sun
Wind (D F M
TIDES (T)
High 025
Low 090
Sun sets 174

te

TV schedules

6.00- 8.00

3.27: Proj

3.30: Kw

3.50: Har

4.00: Pull

4.10: Pum

Pum

4.30: Han

4.35: Sant

fam

5.00: The

part

unch

5.30: He-N

And

Duke

mus

men

6.00: New

6.15: No J

7.05: Wha

Mar

7.30: Toge

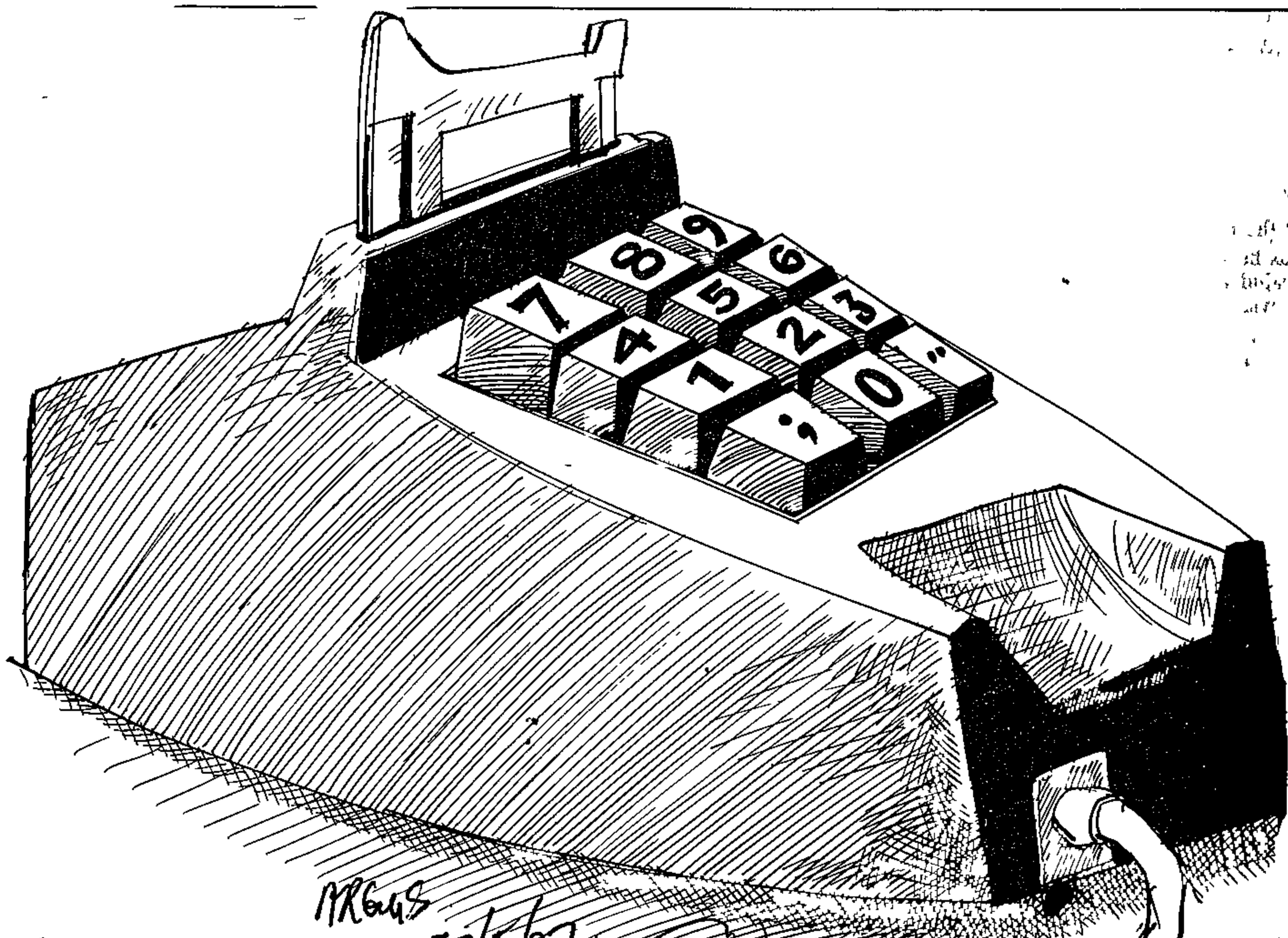
Sam

new

of th

to ho

ment



Perseus 26 947

NR64S
27/5/87 (268)

TELEPHONE and postal tariffs in South Africa have increased by up to 150 per cent in the last three years.

A comparison between the fees in 1984 and those to be introduced on July 1 reveals, too, that local postage is one of the few items in the Post Office budget that has not increased by more than 50 percent since 1984.

Contrasting with the shock with which the latest rise in tariffs was greeted, was the favourable reaction to Post Office budgets in the 1970s.

Tariffs more than double in the last three years

By
JEREMY DOWSON
Staff Reporter

Angry protests from opposition

Ten years ago, when the then Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Senator J P van der Spuy, announced no increases, there were enthusiastic responses from opposition parties.

The same thing happened in 1974 and 1976. A report at the time read: "Opposition parties welcome the P O Budget".

But times have changed and, in spite of increasingly angry protests from the opposition, tariffs have risen steadily throughout the 1980s.

In 1984 telephone calls and telexes cost 8c a unit. In 1985 the fee rose by 25 percent to 10c. In 1986 it went up to 12c, an increase of 20 percent. And from July 1 this year, South Africans will be paying 13,5c — an extra 12,5 percent.

Announcing the latest "moderate" increases, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha, gave notice that more "tariff adjustments" could be in the pipeline.

That two increases in a

single year can be contemplated is in sharp contrast to the mid-70s, when the Posts and Telecommunications Department managed to get from 1973 to 1978 with only one "tariff adjustment", which occurred in 1975.

Not only is the frequency of tariff hikes increasing — in some cases the jumps are getting bigger.

Telephone rentals up by R4 to R15

For instance, in 1985 telephone rentals went up by R2. This year the increase will be R4 — from R11 to R15.

Some examples of how much tariffs have gone up in recent years are:

- In 1984 it cost 45c to register a postal item. In 1985 the tariff went up to 55c, in 1986 to 65c, and this year to 75c. This means there has been an increase of more than 66 percent in the cost of registered post in the past three years.

- In 1984 the surcharge for express delivery was R1,10. In 1985 it went up to R1,50, in 1986 to R1,80, and this year to R2,25. This means the cost of express post has more than doubled in the past three years.

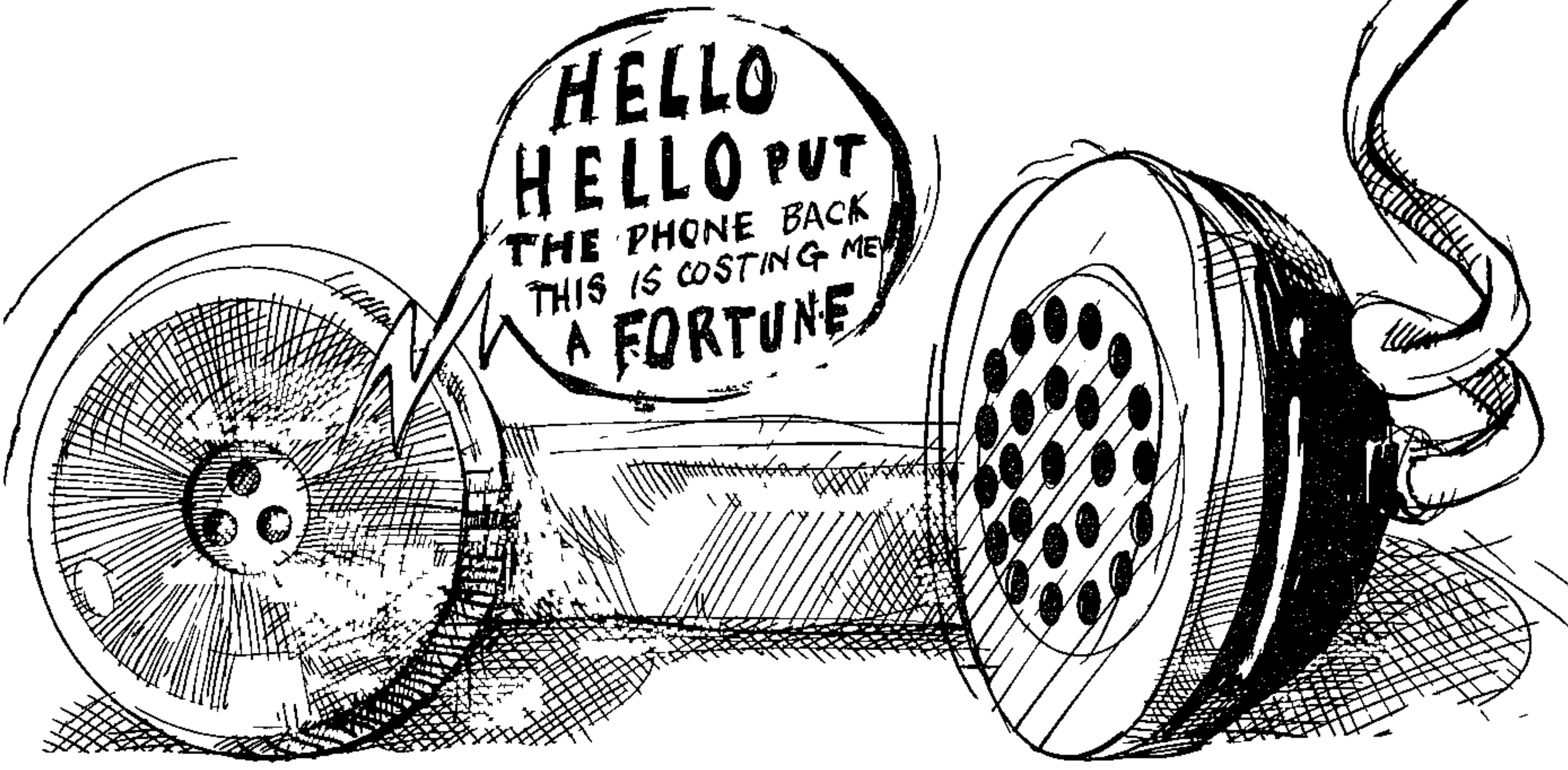
Telegram charges up by 140 percent

- In 1984 the telegram handling fee was R1. In 1985 it went up to R1,15, in 1986 to R1,30, and this year it will leap up to R2,50. This means that in the past three years the cost has gone up by 150 percent — and has almost doubled in a single year.

- In 1984 the cost of an inland telegram word was 5c. In 1985 it went up to 6c, in 1986 to 8c, and this year to 12c — an increase of 140 percent in the past three years.

Fortunately the increases in the cost of mailing a standardised letter to an inland destination have been kept relatively low.

The local stamp is about the only item which has not gone up by more than 50 percent in the past three years. In 1984 a local stamp was 11c compared with today's 16c.



50c a minute

year were coincidental

196 us 3/6/87
Postal workers 'will seek umbrella body'

Parliamentary Staff

POST OFFICE workers will probably follow the trend in which trade unions and staff associations affiliate to trade union federations, according to the Progressive Federal Party spokesman for posts and telecommunications, Mr Pierre Cronje.

Mr Cronje challenged Mr Stoffel Botha, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, to disclose his attitude to the possibility of postal workers affiliating to a body like the Congress of South African Trade Unions

The challenge came during the second reading debate in the House of Assembly yesterday on the Post Office budget. Mr Botha is due to reply later this week.

Mr Cronje said an association of black postal workers had been formed only 18 months ago and it would "not be excluded from the tendency among trade unions and staff associations to affiliate to an umbrella organisation".

He added "I want to hear the Minister's view on his intentions when, and not if, the staff association seeks affiliation with, for example, Cosatu".

CAPE TIMES 10/6/87 (20)

Post association out to help pensioners

JOHANNESBURG. — The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association has taken up the plight of black pensioners who have to wait in long queues during wintry weather to get their pension payouts from council offices in the townships.

Potwa's president, Mr Vusi Khumalo, told Sapa the union was concerned that black pensioners suffered hardship, waiting in queues for payouts while other race groups could get paid out at their nearest post office.

The union had been approached by welfare organizations who shared this concern and had decided to put pressure on Post Office authorities to handle black pension payouts.

"We would love to see the Post Office opening its doors to all population groups in the country. If they can extend the facility to other racial groups, then they should open their doors to the rest of the community," said Mr Khumalo.

The issue had been one of the grievances raised in the recent strike at the Post Office, he said. As part of the settlement of the dispute, management had agreed to set up a joint committee to look into the feasibility of handling black pensions.

"So far we have not been approached by management regarding the committee. It looks like now that the heat is off they are no longer interested in pursuing it," he said. — Sapa

person whose nomination was supported by the Commission for Administration if not, why not if so (a) what post levels in what departments were affected and (b) when were the decisions in this regard made,

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE MINISTER IN THE STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ENTRUSTED WITH ADMINISTRATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES

(1) Yes

(a) Senior Management posts

(b) Director-General, Superintendent-General, Chief Executive Director, Deputy Director-General Executive Director

(2) As in (1) above

(3) Yes

(a) None

(b) Not applicable

(4) Not applicable

Group Areas Act

*37 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) Whether representatives of his Department in Natal have considered any applications for permits granting exemption from the application of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, in respect of persons wishing to reside in group areas proclaimed for another race group, if so, how many such applications were received during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available,

(2) whether any of these applications were refused, if so, (a) how many and (b) for what reasons in each case,

(3) whether, amongst the applications that were refused, there were applications which had received the support of the local authority and local member of Parliament, if so, (a) in respect of which group areas were these

applications submitted and (b) for what reasons were they refused in each case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

(1) Yes, 42 applications were received during the period 1 May 1986 to 30 April 1987

(2) Yes

(a) 14

(b) The applications were refused by reason of the provisions of section 21 (2) (a) of the Group Areas Act

(3) Yes

(a) (i) White group areas

(ii) Coloured group areas

(b) The reason for the refusals was the same as in 2 (b) above

Technicians trained

*38 Mr J M BEYERS asked the Minister of Communications

(1) Whether technicians in his Department are trained on a multiracial basis, if so (a) why (b) as from what date and (c) where,

(2) whether any exceptions are made in this regard, if so, (a) what exceptions and (b) at which training centres,

(3) whether his Department has investigated the possible consequences of such training in respect of racial friction and the withdrawal of White technicians, if not, why not if so, what were the findings of such investigation,

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
[Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House]

(1) to (4) The Department's main training centres is situated at Olifantsfontein near Pretoria where mainly post-qualification training and training in advanced technical

ogy takes place. In addition departmental regional training centres exist in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, or in the vicinity of those cities, where the ordinary training of pupil technicians and trainee telecom electricians is undertaken. At the centres where persons from more than one population group are trained, there are depending on circumstances either separate training centres for the relative groups or one training centre with separate classes for the relative groups. The most important training centres for Coloureds is at Belhar in the Cape Peninsula and for Blacks at Soshanguve near Pretoria and for Black, Coloureds and Indians combined at Ophirton on the Witwatersrand.

Combined training involving White students takes place in certain specific circumstances at all the aforementioned centres with the exception of those at Belhar, Soshanguve and Ophirton. The circumstances to which I refer are the following

(i) Whether there is no justification to place sufficient lecturers qualified in all the specialised work classifications and subjects, of which there are a large variety at a particular centre

(ii) Where for economic reasons it is not justified to have a number of highly qualified lecturers lecturing to only a few students

(iii) Where for reasons of economy it is sometimes not justified to send students over long distances from one region to another for training

(iv) Where students have to receive training on expensive sophisticated equipment which is only available at certain training centres

The Department has not had any experience of friction or the withdrawal of technicians as a result of the existing training arrangements

Johannesburg Stock Exchange

*39 Mr J M BEYERS asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology

(1) Whether his Department has investigated alleged monopolistic concentrations of power on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, if not why not if so, (a) when (b) what were the findings of the investigation and (c) what action has been or is to be taken as a result of the findings,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY
(Mr G S Bartlett)

(1) No. The Johannesburg Stock Exchange as such cannot be looked upon as a monopolistic situation. However, the Competition Board is currently undertaking an investigation in terms of the provisions of the Maintenance and Promotion of Competition Act 1979 (Act 96 of 1979) into concentration in the financial sector and the practical and policy implications thereof

(a) (b) and (c) Fall away

(2) No

Israeli weapons to Iran

*40 Mr J M BEYERS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs

(1) Whether his Department has (a) taken cognisance of and/or (b) investigated recent allegations in the American press on South African involvement in the transport by air of Israeli weapons to Iran, if not, why not, if so, what action has been taken by his Department in this regard,

(2) whether he or members of his Department have made a Press statement on these allegations, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) where and (c) what was the purport thereof,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
(1) (a) and (b) There were no American press reports concerning alleged South

MONDAY, 22 JUNE 1987

the latest specified date for which information is available,

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Vacant posts

121 Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many posts on the establishment of his Department were vacant as at 31 December 1986 and (b) what are the designations of these posts?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) 1 804—which figure represents the difference between the total authorised establishment and the number of persons who occupy posts on the fixed establishment, and

(b) Typist, Assistant Legal Adviser, Language Officer, Industrial Social Worker, Assistant Cost Investigation Officer, Design Artist, Press Liaison Officer, Senior Journalist, Internal Auditor, Financing Officer, Reprographic Manager, Chief Training Officer, Lecturer, Technician, Draughtsman, Inspector of Works, Inspector of Uniformed Staff, Exchange Superintendent, Instructor, Telecom Electrician-Mechanic, Telecom Assistant, Postman, Telephonist, Security Officer, Indoor Assistant, Senior Housekeeper, Driver, Caretaker, Foreman, Cook, Handyman, Cleaner, Lift Attendant, Female Assistant, Cloakroom Attendant, Waiter, Postal Aid, Messenger, Stores Aid and Counter Aid

Full-time employees

173 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs

(1) What was the total number of persons employed in a full-time capacity in the South African Transport Services as at

HoA

Handwritten signature and date 22/6/87

(2) (a) how many such persons were employed in each of the eight most senior post levels in the Transport Services, (b) how many of these persons were (i) male and (ii) female and (c) to which population group did each of these persons belong,

(3) (a) what will be the applicable salaries and/or salary scales of each of the eight most senior post levels in the Transport Services with effect from 1 July 1987 and (b) what financial and other specified benefits will be applicable to each of these post levels as at 1 July 1987?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS

(1) 202 259, 15 April 1987

(2) (a) Group 1

1	3
2	3
3	10
4	5
5	38
6	121
7	3
8	1

(b) (i) 181

(ii) 1

(c) White

(3) (a) and (b) It is not the policy of Transport Services to divulge information of this nature as it is regarded as a domestic matter

Bureau for Information

177 Mr P G SOAL asked the Deputy Minister of Information

Whether the Bureau for Information has at any time provided any (a) financial and/or (b) other assistance to the publishers of a certain publication, particulars of which has been furnished to the Bureau for the purpose of the Deputy Minister's reply. If so, (i) what specified assistance, (ii) (aa) when, (bb) why and (cc) on whose instructions was this assistance provided and (iii)

Handwritten signature and date 22/6/87

268 DD 29/6/89

E Cape post office workers down tools

JOHANNESBURG — More than a 1 000 post office workers have downed their tools in the Eastern Cape over the dismissal of three workers in East London, the president of the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association (Potwa), Mr Vusi Khumalo, said yesterday.

Mr Khumalo said that the work stoppage began on Wednesday, in East London, where 400 workers downed tools over the dismissal of three co-workers in January.

Mr Khumalo said the stoppage spread to Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Kirkwood and now involved "well over" a 1 000 workers.

He said workers had other grievances, including petty apartheid.

"Petty apartheid must be abolished in the post office. We want an end to naked racism," Mr Khumalo said.

Potwa is recognised by the post office, but strike action is illegal as the postal service is considered essential. — Sapa

Ramsay and Dr James Tembeu of the SA Institute for Medical Research

CAPC Temp 29/68 *(268)*
PO workers down tools

JOHANNESBURG. — More than 1 000 Post Office workers have downed tools in the Eastern Cape over the dismissal of three workers in East London, the president of the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association, Mr Vusi Khumalo, said yesterday. He said workers had other grievances, including petty apartheid.

Post Office workers down tools at three city yards

29/6/83



BLACK Post Office workers downed tools at three engineering yards in Port Elizabeth today

An initial claim by a spokesman for the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Union (Potwa) that 4 000 workers had staged a "peaceful" sit-in strike was dismissed by a Post Office official as an "overestimation".

The public relations of-

ficer for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in the Eastern Cape, Mr Renier Strydom, said black labourers at three unnamed yards had reported for duty but refused to work

Senior officials were negotiating with representatives of Potwa

He did not have details

It is understood that a number of workers downed tools in protest

against the alleged unfair dismissal of two employees in East London last week and would return to work only once their colleagues were reinstated

Mr Strydom denied any knowledge of claims that black Post Office workers suffered discrimination and maladministration of their affairs

The strike had not disrupted the activities of city post offices, said Mr Strydom. He could not comment on the situation in the townships

A Potwa spokesman declined to discuss the workers' demands until management indicated they were prepared to address them

Mr Strydom said he could not say whether any action had been taken, or whether the workers were occupying the yards

859 East Cape PO workers on strike

Post-Reporter

268

ABOUT 859 posts and telecommunications staff in the Eastern Cape had stopped work, Mr Remer Strydom, regional public relations officer for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, said today.

In Port Elizabeth, 652 workers had downed tools in protest at the alleged unfair dismissal of two colleagues in East London, he said.

The Eastern Cape chairman of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), Mr Albert Petse, said workers were demanding the reinstatement of the two East London workers.

Other demands concerned alleged discrimination against black staff and a call for parity in salary and service conditions.

The closure of the New Brighton post office since yesterday morning had halted postal services to black townships, Mr Strydom said.

Postal services to the rest of the city had not

26167

been affected. Those on strike at the engineering yards were mainly construction workers and everyday telecommunication services were not affected.

Mr Petse said demands were being discussed between Potwa representatives and managers of the individual work stations, but negotiations between the association's executive and the regional director of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr H P Kruger, were likely to take place this week.

Postal strike talks go on

DD
2/7/87

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Talks to end an eight-day Post Office strike continued here yesterday. A post office spokesman in Port Elizabeth, Mr R Strydom, said negotiations between senior post office officials and representatives of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) continued yesterday and could carry on today.

Almost 100 more East London workers had joined the strike yesterday, Mr Strydom said.

A total of 989 workers, comprising construction labourers, engineering workers and postmen, are now on strike in Port Elizabeth, Kirkwood and East London.

Mr Strydom, who refused to comment on the reason for the stayaway, said the New Brighton post office, near Port Elizabeth, had been closed, and there were no postal deliveries in the township following 33 postmen joining the strike.

In East London 282 construction labourers were on strike, Mr Strydom said.

The president of Potwa, Mr Vusi Khumalo, could not be contacted yesterday.

At the weekend he said the workers had gone on strike in sympathy with three people dismissed in January.

Cape Times (268)
3/7/87 (182) (189)

PO strikers threaten to make it national

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — The strike by post office construction employees in the Eastern Cape could spread to the rest of the country next week.

The national president of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), Mr V A Khumalo, said yesterday that if the 11-day strike was not resolved this weekend he would launch a national strike.

The strike began over what Potwa described as an unfair dismissal of about 50 employees in the region and the refusal of management in some areas to recognize the association.

The association is protesting about the dismissals saying it should have been approached first.

Other demands include removal of apartheid structures within post office buildings and change in the "racialistic attitude" of some white superiors, as well as salary parity.

~~100A~~
268

Talks ~~to~~ to end strike

CP Correspondent

NEGOTIATIONS between senior Post Office officials and members of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association to end a week-long strike of Post Office workers in East London began this week.

The president of Potwa, Vusi Khumalo, said more than 1 000 workers had gone on strike in sympathy with three workers dismissed from the Post Office in January.

He said about 400 workers had gone on strike last Wednesday, which spread from East London to Port Elizabeth.

However, the Post Office public relations officer in Port Elizabeth, R Strydom, said he did not think the figure was as high as a 1 000 and that the strike was largely among technical labourers or construction workers. — Elnelys.

5/7/87 9/1/88

3 strikes over: PO staff still out

Post Reporter

THE national work stoppage by thousands of workers at Cadbury's ended today as Mercedes-Benz workers in East London resumed production at the end of a week-long strike.

But the regional work stoppage by about 1140 telecommunications workers entered its ninth day today as negotiations with senior Post Office officials continued over demands for parity in pay and service conditions.

The Cadbury's strike, called by the Food and Allied Workers' Union, began last week when depot workers protested against the transfer of distribution staff to an outside company.

The strike called by the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Union has crippled five work stations in Port Elizabeth and two in East London, according to a spokesman for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications.

The closure of the New

Brighton post office had halted delivery of mail to the city's black areas since Tuesday, he said, adding that all other mail services and essential telecommunications work were unaffected.

Negotiations between union representatives and senior postal officials are continuing.

Meanwhile, work resumed at Volkswagen in Uitenhage today after production was curtailed last week due to a strike by about 40 paintshop workers.



292

6/7/87
29/87

SA police also said the Vu- death," the report said. -
kuzenzela School, also in Sapa.

Strike drags on

THE two-week-old strike by Post Office workers in the Eastern Cape is still on.

More workers have joined the strike, bringing the number of strikers to about 2 000, the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association said.

The Eastern Cape regional executive of Potwa said in a statement it had a meeting scheduled with the Postmaster-General today and hoped to resolve the situation. - Sapa.

VCP/MS
12/17/87
~~12/17/87~~
268

DD 14/7/87 (268)
Potwa strike spreads

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The two-week-old post office strike has spread to a number of towns in the Eastern Cape

A post office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said the strike by some 1 300 workers had spread to sections of King William's Town, Stutterheim, Queens-town, Humansdorp and Plettenberg Bay

East London and Port Elizabeth were also affected.

Mr Rootman said the only postal services affected by the stayaway were in New Brighton, near Port Elizabeth, where the post office was still closed.

Telecommunications were not affected

The majority of striking workers were construction employees

Negotiations with the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) were continuing, Mr Rootman said

~~2681~~ 2681 00 15/7/87.

More PO workers join strike

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — A further 281 workers joined the three-week-old post office strike in the Eastern Cape yesterday.

A post office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said the strike had spread to Somerset East and Grahamstown. A total of 1 581 workers — the total Eastern Cape workforce is 2 200 —

were now on strike.

Other affected towns are East London, Port Elizabeth, Queenstown, King William's Town, Stutterheim, Humansdorp and Plettenberg Bay.

Mr Rootman said the only postal services that had been disrupted were in New Brighton, near Port Elizabeth. Telecommunications were not affected.

Mr Rootman said the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), which represented the employees, demanded that 60 workers dismissed from the post office during the past three-four years be re-employed.

They had also demanded that the striking workers receive full pay.

5/28

Give Post
16 000

PO workers are now on strike

Post Reporter

THE number of Post Office workers on strike nationwide now stood at 16 000, a spokesman for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications said from Pretoria today

The tally of workers on strike in the Eastern Cape, including East London, remained at 1 700. He said the strike was affecting 30 work centres in PE, including the Main Post Office. Other areas affected were Grahamstown, Humansdorp and Kirkwood.

Employees at a PE motor component factory, Welfit Oddy, returned to work yesterday afternoon after reaching agreement with management over a wage dispute.

Management agreed to pay an across-the-board increase of 60c an hour — 40c more than the original offer — backdated to July 5. In addition, management agreed to pay striking workers for two of the four days they were on strike.

In Johannesburg, a top official of the National Union of Mineworkers last night warned that a national strike by 200 000 workers on the country's gold and coal mines was imminent.

Labour conflict has also erupted on three copper mines in SWA/Namibia and threatens to spread throughout the ferro-alloys sector of South Africa's metal industry.

Talks in Johannesburg between the metal workers and management failed to end the week-old wage strike by about 7 000 workers at the Iscor steelworks in Vanderbijlpark.

In Cape Town the work-to-rule or go-slow by most of Cape Town municipality's cleansing and electrical workers appeared set to continue at least till Friday.

More join E Cape Post Office strike

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — The Post Office strike in the Eastern Cape has entered its fourth week with more workers deciding to down tools

About 100 employees yesterday decided to support their striking African colleagues. There are now 1 700 of the African workforce of 2 200 on strike.

Yesterday 50 technical workers from Uitenhage joined the strikers with groups from other centres already out.

A meeting between officials of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association and management has been arranged for tomorrow.

Mr V. Kumalo, president of the union, said it was possible the situation could be resolved and management was prepared to negotiate

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association meets post office management today in an attempt to end a four-week strike by 2100 workers in the Eastern Cape.

Potwa president Mr Vusi Khumalo said yesterday that these would be preliminary talks and that the strike was continuing at the nine Eastern Cape towns

He said workers rejected a condition set by management that they return to work before negotiations could begin and demanded the reinstatement of 134 workers dismissed between January and July.

Workers' demands include wage increases and improved working conditions.

• The Food and Beverage Workers' Union (FBWU) has postponed its national congress scheduled for this weekend to September.

The union's general secretary Mr Leonard "Skakes" Sikhakhane, said the congress which was to be held at a Johannesburg hotel, would be held from September 25 to 27

Bid to end Cape PO dispute

28/8
23/7/82
23/7/82

He also appealed to all regions to submit their resolutions in time for



FRANK MEINTJIES

the congress.

The union will also hold its national council sitting at Lekton House, Johannesburg, on August 1. The FBWU is affiliated to the National Council of Trade Unions

• The Congress of South African Trade Unions has denied that it rejected an application for affiliation of the National Union of Railway Workers (NURW).

Information officer Mr Frank Meintjies, said a report which appeared in a Johannesburg newspaper yesterday was untrue

He said the union had applied to Cosatu for permission to attend its second national congress held in Johannesburg last weekend.

"Only the federation's central executive committee can decide whether to reject an application for affiliation or not and so far the NURW had not submitted any," Mr Meintjies said.

He said the union could not attend the congress last week only because it approached Cosatu at the last minute

brief detention of the two.

doctors to help trace her husband.

'You don't work, no pay'

CP Correspondent

A MEETING between Post Office officials and representatives of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association has failed for the second time this week to find a solution to end a three-week-old Post Office strike in the Eastern Cape.

At a meeting in Pretoria, Potwa insisted that workers in the Eastern Cape would only return to work

when 60 workers, who were dismissed during the past three to four weeks, were re-instated and that workers be paid their full salaries for the duration of the strike.

A Post Office spokesman in Pretoria said Post Office management could not meet these demands.

"Our door is still open to discuss any reasonable requests," said the spokesman.

Vusi Khumalo, president of Potwa, said Post Office management has

claimed that workers were unaware of the fact that they would not receive their wages and that Potwa need to set the record straight.

"Our workers are fully aware of this as they were issued with the ultimatum of 'no work, no pay'," said Khumalo.

Khumalo added that management has decided to review all unfair dismissals from 1985 to the present and would put all valid cases on a waiting list. — Elnews.

Political comment and newsbills by P Qoboza; headlines and subediting by Jon Swift, all of 204 Eloff Street Ext, Johannesburg.

1834

28/8/87 *CP Pres* *26/7/87* ~~*[scribble]*~~

DRIVING SCHOOL
ADIRA BOX 3

away by police, who had pig

Congress.

SUITS NOW

1987

268 10
27/7/87

THE FACTS ABOUT THE STRIKE OF POST OFFICE WORKERS IN THE EASTERN CAPE

Isolated groups of Black Post Office workers in the Eastern Cape went on strike on 23 June 1987. The number has now reached approximately 1 700.

Despite continued negotiations with the Black staff association, POTWA, the Post Office finds itself in a deadlock situation with the workers because it is unable to meet the following demands:

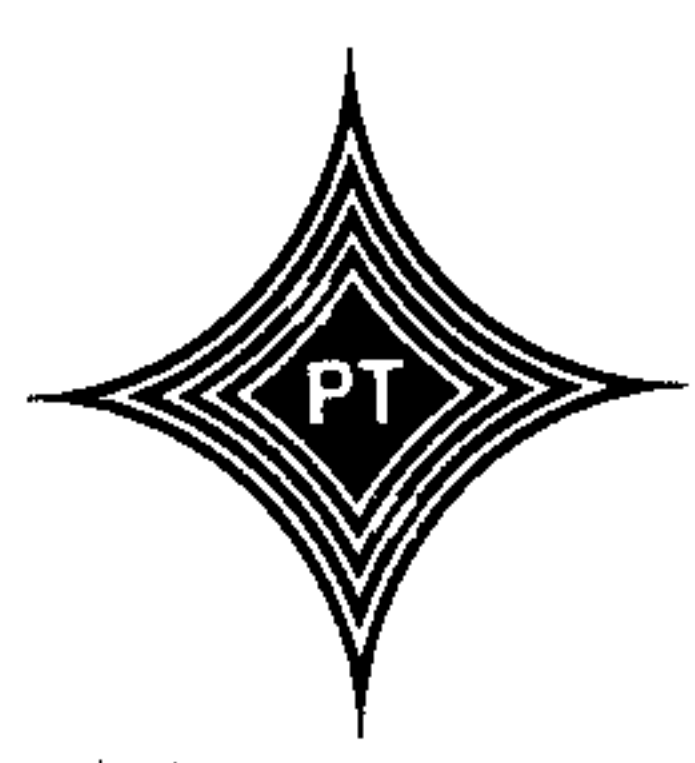
- (a) Payment of salaries for the full period of the strike
- (b) Re-employment of some 60 workers discharged since January 1985

Workers on strike have been led to believe that they will receive their normal salaries at the end of the month.

The fact is that they will NOT be paid for the period they have been on strike.

The Post Office is appealing to the strikers to commence work and enter into negotiations with the Department with a view to resolving grievances in an orderly manner and without their families having to suffer any further.

The Post Office regrets that its clients have to be inconvenienced but gives the assurance that it is making every endeavour to render services of the highest possible standard under the present circumstances.



2-day PO stoppage on cards

28/11/87
DURBAN — About 16,000 Post Office workers are planning a countrywide two-day work stoppage, starting today, in support of demands for parity in pay for unskilled workers, as well as to show solidarity with striking PO workers in the eastern Cape.

C E Holmes, regional director of Post and Telecommunications in Durban, said yesterday he had no comment "at this stage".

Themba Majozi, chairman of the Natal branch of the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Union (Potwa) said the 12.5% pay hike that came into effect on July 1 made very little difference in

Own Correspondent

the pay packets of unskilled workers. "In spite of a promise that there will be parity for the unskilled workers, there is still a big disparity. It seems there is parity in the ranks only but not in the pay packets, where it counts most." 268

"The decision to stop work was taken after a day-long meeting of Post Office workers in Durban on Sunday."

Potwa's other branches decided on the strike action several weeks ago, but were holding on pending the decision of the Natal region at the weekend.

to teacher training, the present position in regard to teacher training in the Natal Education Department, the financial implications of undertaking teacher training on behalf of another department as well as the Ministers' Council decision in regard to the disposal of redundant facilities were discussed

Further discussions have subsequently been requested by Dr Dhlomo

Oudtshoorn bursaries

*6 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture †

Whether any increase for bursary holders at the education college at Oudtshoorn has been announced this year, if not, why not, if so, (a) what does the increase amount to per year and (b) for which academic years does it apply?

†THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Yes,

- (a) R400,
(b) the 1987 academic year and the relevant subsequent years of study

Agricultural extension officers

Mr D G H NOLTE asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply †

(a) How many agricultural extension officers were employed by his Department as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) (i) for what average period do such officers remain in the employ of his Department and (ii) what are the main reasons for their leaving the service?

†THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY

- (a) 149 on 31 May 1987.
(i) 25,7 years in senior cadre
11 years in junior cadre
(ii) Better salaries and fringe benefits

For written reply

General Affairs

Full-time employees

168 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Communications

(1) What was the total number of persons employed in a full-time capacity in his Department as at the latest specified date for which information is available,

(2) (a) how many such persons were employed in each of the eight most senior post levels in his Department, (b) how many of these persons were (i) male and (ii) female and (c) to which population group did each of these persons belong,

(3) (a) what will be the applicable salaries and/or salary scales of each of the eight most senior post levels in his Department with effect from 1 July 1987 and (b) what financial and other specified benefits will be applicable to each of these post levels as at 1 July 1987?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) 96 941, as at 30 April 1987,

(2) (a)

Post level	Number of persons employed
1	1
2	4
3	16
4	48
5	1
6	76
7	224
8	1

(b) (i) and (ii) with the exception of one female on post level 7 all the persons referred to are male,

(c) to the White population group,

(3) (a)

Post level	Salary (fixed)
1	R131 031
2	R 75 990

3	R 63 990
4	R 57 600
5	R 56 010
6	R 50 490
7	R 45 030
8	R 40 710, and

(b) (i) an annual service bonus amounting to 93% of one month's salary,

(ii) a housing subsidy on interest and capital redemption up to a maximum of a housing loan of R50 000, subject to the compliance with certain conditions,

(iii) varying telephone rental and call concessions, and

(iv) a car financing scheme for officers occupying posts on the first six post levels. The size of the loans granted varies depending on an officer's grading

Aids

186 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

(1) Whether the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (Aids) is a notifiable disease, if not, why not, if so, how many cases have been recorded in South Africa as at the latest specified date for which information is available;

(2) whether he has received any representations regarding this disease, if so, (a) when, (b) from whom and (c) what was (i) the reason for these representations and (ii) his response thereto in each case,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT.

- (1) No
1 1 Aids can also be transmitted by

healthy carriers of the disease (with positive blood tests) However, all these persons are not necessarily contagious and not every carrier will get the disease. Blood tests are also not 100% reliable

1 2 The Stigma and implications of wrongly being labelled as a potential Aids patient are far reaching

1 3 Compulsory notification, with the stigma implied, might drive the disease underground. This will have a contra productive effect on the control of the problem. Compulsory notification is not general policy in Western countries

1 4 An anonymous confidential register of Aids cases is kept at the SAIMR, Johannesburg, under the supervision of experts who ensure that all diagnoses are confirmed and verified. This protects people who suffer or may be suspected to suffer from Aids from unnecessary and unwarranted victimisation and harassment

1 5 The Minister of National Health and Population Development has the power to take action should it be deemed necessary. The Advisory Group on Aids monitors the situation and advises regularly on suggested management

By 25 June 1987 a total of 75 cases were diagnosed of which 55 were South Africans

(2) Yes.
(a) 25 April 1987

(b) Medical Association of South Africa

(c) (i) A decision by the Executive Committee

(ii) Discussions took place between officials of the Department and the Associa-

PO strike spreads to city's townships

Labour Reporter

SOME Peninsula postal workers today started a two-day stoppage in support of demands for pay parity for unskilled workers and in solidarity with strikers in the Eastern Cape.

Post offices in Langa, Guguletu and Khayelitsha, staffed by black workers, were closed today as they joined the action called by the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa).

Although employees were present at the offices, the doors were closed. A notice at Khayelitsha said the post office would be closed the next two days.

DELIVERIES

Workers said there would be no home deliveries for two days. Post offices in areas such as Athlone were working normally.

A Post Office spokesman said it was only offices in black areas that were affected.

"There are no black workers at any of the other post offices in the region," he said.

DISMISSALS

About 4 000 employees in East London have been on strike for four weeks over a series of grievances and demands for the reinstatement of dismissed colleagues.

A national stoppage has been on the cards for several weeks but was delayed pending a decision by the Natal region to join in. This was taken at a meeting in Durban.

A Potwa spokesman in Johannesburg said their information was that the stoppage was complete and more than 16 000 workers were involved.

PO strike spreads to city's townships

ARK 45
28/7/87

268

Labour Report

SOME Peninsula postal workers today started a two-day stoppage in support of demands for pay parity for unskilled workers and in solidarity with strikers in the Eastern Cape

Post offices in Langa, Guguletu and Khayelitsha, staffed by black workers were closed today as they joined the action called by the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa).

Although employees were present at the offices, the doors were closed. A notice at Khayelitsha said the post office would be closed for the next two days.

DELIVERIES

Workers said there would be no home deliveries for two days. Post offices in areas such as Athlone were working normally.

A Post Office spokesman said it was only offices in black areas that were affected.

"There are no black workers at any of the other post offices in the region," he said.

DISMISSALS

About 4 000 employees in East London have been on strike for four weeks over a series of grievances and demands for the reinstatement of dismissed colleagues.

A national stoppage has been on the cards for several weeks but was delayed pending a decision by the Natal region to join in. This was taken at a meeting in Durban.

A Potwa spokesman in Johannesburg said their information was that the stoppage was complete and more than 16 000 workers were involved.

268 28/7/87

Empty pockets for PO strikers

Dispatch Correspondent PORT ELIZABETH — The strike by Post Office workers in the Eastern Cape takes on critical proportions this week as about 1700 employees face the end of month with no prospect of pay.

As the strike goes into its fifth week, Post Office management are sticking to their "no work, no pay" policy.

However, the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) does not have the funds to substitute salaries.

In advertisements published in daily newspapers yesterday and today, Post Office management told strikers they

would definitely not be paid on Friday for the period they had not worked.

Management also called on strikers to return to work and resume talks "in order to resolve grievances in an orderly manner, so that their families need not suffer any further".

The strike, which started on June 23, involved only a small number of workers on payday last month.

However, the number has grown and the majority of the black workforce is now involved.

"The union can no longer guarantee that

the strike will be confined to the Eastern Cape," a Potwa spokesman, Mr Vusi Kumalo, said yesterday.

"It is likely that the stoppage will take on national proportions."

He said legal advice was being sought on implementing some form of arbitration after the collapse of negotiations last week.

As a representative for employees of a parastatal institution, Potwa is not allowed basic trade union rights. It is effectively a "staff association" and does not fall within the ambit of the Labour Relations

Act.

Negotiations broke down again on Wednesday last week when the Post Office would not give in to worker demands to pay salaries for the duration of the strike and reinstate some 60 workers dismissed since January 1985.

No date has been set for further talks.

In the advertisement, Post Office management expressed its apologies for any inconvenience caused to its users, adding that it would do all it could under the circumstances to keep the standard of service as high as possible.

Trial told of masked men

Ndondo
Mr Ntloko said he saw five masked men in the advancing group but

POI
Tw
Del
for
fel
cei
ph
7
an
ph
the
by
gu
El
at
gi
Id
fo
th
M
C

Cape Times 29/7/67
Postal workers stop work

By CLARE HARPER
Labour Reporter

POST OFFICES in Guguletu, Khayelitsha, Langa and the Boland townships of Mbekweni and Zwelethemba are expected to close today — for the second day — as post office workers stop work in solidarity with strikers in the Eastern Cape.

A spokesman for the Post Office said yesterday that about 13 000 employees, working in areas as diverse as deliveries and telecommunications, held a countrywide work stoppage yesterday, and were expected to do so again today.

The Post Office and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) called for the action following a breakdown in talks last Wednesday.

Potwa is asking that Eastern Cape workers, who have been on strike since June 23, be paid for the time they were on strike, and that some 60 dismissed workers be reinstated.

About 4 000 employees are involved in the strike in East London.

A Potwa spokesman said that some 20 000 members were participating in the two-day stoppage.

road

Postal services come to a standstill

20000 STOPPAGE

26
L. M. M. M.
29/7/82

BY THEMBA MOLEFE

POSTAL services in many parts of the country came to a standstill yesterday as about 20 000 workers began a two-day strike in solidarity with their eastern Cape colleagues who downed tools five weeks ago.

This is the second biggest action by members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) this year

MR VUSI KHUMALO,
president of Potwa.

The first ended in May after 10 000 workers downed tools for three weeks over pay and working conditions. The strike by 1 700 eastern Cape workers in nine towns began on June 22 after wage talks between Potwa and post office authorities deadlocked. Management has confirmed the solidarity strike and said talks were at foot.

Largest

According to Sapa, the regional director of Post and Telecommunications, Mr C E Holmes, said that only 320 out of 5 900 black workers in Natal stopped work yesterday. Mr Holmes said the action was not a strike but a work stoppage with the largest being in Durban, Maritzburg and Empanangeni. Mathata Tsedu reports that postal workers in Chuenesport in the northern Transvaal had stopped work last Thurs-

● To Page 2

P.T.O.

Postal workers strike nationwide

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — A nationwide work stoppage by postal workers has begun in solidarity with workers in the Eastern Cape, who have been on strike for the past four weeks

Although a national stoppage has been threatened for several weeks, the decision was delayed pending a decision by the Natal region, which has since been taken at a meeting in Durban

Some 1700 members

of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) went on strike four weeks ago, demanding the reinstatement of 60 workers, dismissed over the past three years

The escalated strike action now includes 13 000 workers of a national black workforce of 30 000

A spokesman for the Postal Services in Pretoria said that there had been no contact with Potwa since negotia-

tions broke down

"The workers' representatives demanded that all 60 dismissed workers be re-employed, and that all striking workers receive full pay for the duration of the strike. This we were not prepared to do," he said

A stayaway occurred in the north eastern Free State and the gold fields, where 649 of 677 workers did not turn up for work yesterday

A two-day work stoppage by postal workers started yesterday in the Cape Peninsula in support of demands for pay parity for unskilled workers

Post offices in Langa, Guguletu and Khayelitsha, staffed by black workers, were closed as workers joined the action, although they were present at the offices. A notice at Khayelitsha said the post office would be closed for the next two days

A Potwa spokesman in Johannesburg said that the stoppage was complete and that more than 16 000 workers were involved

16 000 PO workers in stayaway

GRETA STEYN

MORE black Post Office workers stayed away yesterday on the second day of a countrywide strike that caused scores of post offices to close and continued to disrupt mail deliveries.

A PO spokesman said the number of workers on strike rose to about 16 000 yesterday from just over 13 000 on Tuesday. The PO's black workforce numbers 30 000. Most workers are expected to be back at work today.

The PO "had coped with the situation in white areas" and deliveries had continued, he said.

Worst hit areas were the Witwatersrand, where 85% of workers were on strike, northern Free State (96%) and the eastern Cape (77%).

BlDey
30/7/87
268

11645 30/7/87

Post Office workers end two-day strike

The Argus Correspondent

268 152

JOHANNESBURG — Thousands of postal workers returned to work today after a two-day national strike

The strike by between 16 000 and 20 000 members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) was called in support of Eastern Cape colleagues, on strike since June 22.

And in an apparent bid to prevent future industrial action, the Department of

Posts and Telecommunications has made an urgent Supreme Court application restraining Potwa from "further influencing workers to strike"

● Negotiations aimed at ending the 10-day wage strike by about 7 000 National Union of Metalworkers members at Iscor's Vanderbijlpark plant failed again

● About 1 300 National Union of Mineworkers members are on strike at the Impala Platinum Refinery.

Potwa plans to report back on govt strike action

GRETA STEYN

POTWA, the black post office workers' union, had planned nationwide rallies for this weekend to report back on government action on this week's strike, a union spokesman said yesterday.

He said a number of the union's members had been detained at Denilton, east of Pretoria, and that workers' homes had been raided on Wednesday night.

The police have been asked for confirmation of the detentions.

The spokesman said about 80% of post office workers had returned to work yesterday after a two-day strike called in solidarity with 1 700 striking post office workers in the eastern Cape. A post office spokesman said most workers outside the eastern Cape had returned to work.

The Department of Post and Telecommunications has applied to the Supreme Court for an urgent interdict "to prevent Potwa from further influencing workers to strike".

The spokesman said the union would respond to the application on Monday.

268

[Handwritten scribble]

3/1/87 B Day

Strike may spread

By SANDILE MEMELA

THE five-week-old strike by more than 1 700 postal workers in the Eastern Cape is likely to trigger off the second biggest action by Post and Telecommunication workers in six months and take on national proportions.

This emerged in an interview with the national organiser of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association, Thalefang Sekano, this week.

Sekano confirmed his union received papers from the government informing Potwasa the government had applied for an urgent Supreme Court interdict to restrain the union from influencing workers to go on strike.

This action follows a solidarity strike by more than 18 000 workers who staged a work stoppage in sympathy with their Eastern Cape colleagues who had downed tools.

Sekano said union branches around the country had already decided to go back to work today but would hold meetings over the weekend to decide on future action surrounding the dispute in the Eastern Cape.

268
JPS.

→ CP Press
2/8/87

B/Day
1 000 PO
workers
on strike

268
ALAN FINE

ABOUT 1 000 Post Office (PO) workers in Johannesburg and the Vaal region had been on strike since Monday afternoon, a PO spokesman said. *B/Day*
He said the action was apparently in sympathy with eastern Cape colleagues who had been on strike for more than a month over a number of dismissals

Political comment in this issue by Ken Owen Newsbills by Michael Acott Headlines and sub-editing by Michael Allwright All of Times Media Ltd, 11 Diagonal Street, Johannesburg

Post office strikers vow to stand firm

From EAST CAPE NEWS AGENCY

PORT ELIZABETH — The strike of Post Office workers in the Eastern Cape is entering its seventh week with no end in sight.

Strikers seem determined not to return to work until their demands are met.

The ominous warning from Post Office management to workers "if you stay away you will get no pay" in pamphlets circulated recently, proved to be no idle threat on pay day last Friday.

The workers, represented by the Post Office Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), went home with empty pockets

Several workers at the Post Office's Sidwell workshop here told about the strike and their hardships

A 35-year-old clerk said he had been working at the Post Office for 13 years and had a wife and two children to support.

"My wife is annoyed with me for being on strike. She asks me every day when I am going back to work but she also says she will stay with me through these bad times"

Children

He said he could no longer afford to give his children money for food and school but was confident that Post Office workers in Johannesburg would be sending aid

A telephone repairman, 26, sole breadwinner for his mother and sister, said although things were getting harder, there was "no going back" on the strike.

"I want things to be right and I am confident that Potwa is trying to solve our problems that's why I'm willing to stick it out."

A 55-year-old woman canteen worker said "There's no more money to buy food for my three children, but I'm still strong

"Even after I have spent my last cent, I will still carry on I don't feel intimidated by all these men, I can shout at them when they are wrong and they listen to me"

Workers interviewed did not want their names to be known for fear of harassment

Meanwhile, eight Potwa members who were detained last Wednesday have appeared in the Somerset East Magistrate's Court on charges of public violence

They are James Vena, 37, James Bathembu, 31, William Matshoba, 31, Timothy Sokhala, 26, Phillip Boo, 32, Nicholas Klaas, 33, Timothy Gxabashe, 32, and Max Boo, 22

The accused are from Middelburg, Graaff-Reinet, Grahamstown, Cookhouse and Somerset East.

The hearing was postponed and they were not asked to plead

In Port Elizabeth, two post office employees, Moses Tukan and Louis Johnson, were detained last week Tuesday

The lawyer representing Potwa workers said a telex had been sent to Pretoria and their detention was confirmed by the police

The Post Office strike, which affects over 2 500 workers in the Eastern Cape, has resulted in the closure of the only remaining black post office in Port Elizabeth

Workers said the management was employing "scab labour" to keep some of the essential services in operation

"There's nobody here that is saying they've had enough We're united and we will keep going," one of the strikers said

A spokesperson for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications refused to comment on the dispute.



Potwa president Vusi Khumalo addresses delegates from the Eastern Cape at a meeting in Zwide last weekend

Labour Update

18 Potwa members held

AT least 18 Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association members, including one postmaster, were detained by police this week as the crisis within the post office deepened.

The detentions occurred at Ellisras, Dennilton and Nelspruit. At least 16 workers who had been on strike for over five days at Ellisras were arrested yesterday. The workers,

all labourers, were protesting against the dismissal of two colleagues two weeks ago. A police spokesperson at Ellisras yesterday said he could not confirm the number of people detained.

The Dennilton postmaster and Potwa shopsteward, Mr Lucas Digangane, and several Potwa members were detained on Monday, a union spokesperson said yesterday. Another

shopsteward was detained at Nelspruit.

The detentions marked a deterioration of relations between Potwa and the post office management over two long-standing strikes in the Eastern Cape and the Northern Transvaal. The 20 000-member union threatened a second national stoppage this week over the two strikes.

Potwa in court today

AN urgent application for an interim interdict to restrain the Post Office and Telecommunication Workers' Association from encouraging strikes will be heard in the Pretoria Supreme Court this morning.

Tuesday because of the tight court schedule.

Mr Johannes Hendrik de Villiers, the Postmaster General, is bringing the case on behalf of the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications against Potwa and its president, Mr V. A. Khumalo. This followed information that there was to be a strike on Monday.

Lawyers representing Potwa said the matter could not be heard on

Monday. He said he did not know about the Ellisras strike and arrests. "All I was told was that four people had been on strike but later they told me the people returned to work," he said.

Sowetan
 268
 6/8/9

STRIKES PROUDLY

BLOEMFONTEIN, the Free State capital, has been rocked by two major industrial strikes.

Allegations of racism are at the centre of the disputes.

Post Office workers and the capital went on strike on Wednesday, joining South African Breweries workers who have been on strike for the past six days because of allegations of racism at their workplace.

On the same day more than 1 000 Post Office workers also failed to report for duty at their respective service centres on the Witwatersrand and the Vaal Triangle.

The stoppage began on Tuesday when workers did not arrive at work, disrupting postal services at Sebokeng, most of the Vaal Triangle townships and at Randburg and Bryanston near Johannesburg.

It is believed that the strike is in solidarity with 1 700 Eastern Cape workers who are on strike.

By yesterday Post Office workers were reported to be still on strike.

Workers at the SAB plant in Bloemfontein went on strike last Friday and vowed not to resume duties until a "racist" white supervisor was fired.

The two strikes in Bloemfontein have resulted in a severe beer drought and disruption of mail services.

According to Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association insiders, the Bloemfontein Post Office workers are also demanding:

- A living wage
- Total abolition of racial discrimination

FREE PRESS

By LEN KALANE and DAN DILAMINI



The Post Office workers downed tools on Wednesday morning and gathered at the basement of the main Post Office building where they sang freedom songs and chanted slogans.

The Bloemfontein Post Office strike comes hardly a week after the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication sought a temporary interdict at the Supreme Court demanding

discrimination.

- Better working conditions

that Potwa be stopped from influencing more workers to go on strike.

Potwa was supposed to have filed replying affidavits on Monday.

Meanwhile, the six-week-old Post Office strike in the Eastern Cape is still continuing.

Last week 17 000 Post Office workers in the country downed tools for two days in sympathy with their Eastern Cape colleagues.

workers went back to work last Wednesday and only 1 700 Eastern Cape workers remained on strike.

The Eastern Cape workers are asking for the reinstatement of 60 workers.

Potwa is also asking that the striking workers be paid in full for the duration of the strike.

At the height of the sympathy strike last week, the government applied for an urgent Supreme Court interdict to restrain Potwa from promoting strike ac-

tion.

Judge Roux ordered Potwa and Vusi Khumalo, Potwa's national president, named in the application, to file replying affidavits.

In support of his affidavits to prohibit Potwa from interfering with the black work force of the postal services, the Minister handed in a statement by Captain GG Smit, of the security branch.

Smit said Potwa had decided at a meeting in Molekeng, Randfontein, last week Wednesday that all striking workers should return to work on July 30.

However, Smit said he had information that Potwa could start another general strike.

- Concerning the SAB dispute, public affairs manager Gary May said this week the white supervisor at the centre of the row has been suspended while management and workers were holding talks over the matter.

Food and Allied Workers' Union regional organiser Ronnie Petersen, who is handling the SAB dispute, said workers did not accept management's proposal that the matter be referred for mediation.

He said the workers had lodged a complaint about the white supervisor on June 24 and management had been "dragging its feet" in taking action.

"The workers are prepared to resume duties at anytime once management redresses the situation by dismissing the culprit with immediate effect," said

BACK!

Len Kalane



9/8/87

Clarend

28

INKES BROCK

268
 9/8/87
 Others

STATE

ate
 for
 of
 on
 of
 vice
 hot
 and

By **LEN KALANE**
 and **DAN DHLAMINI**

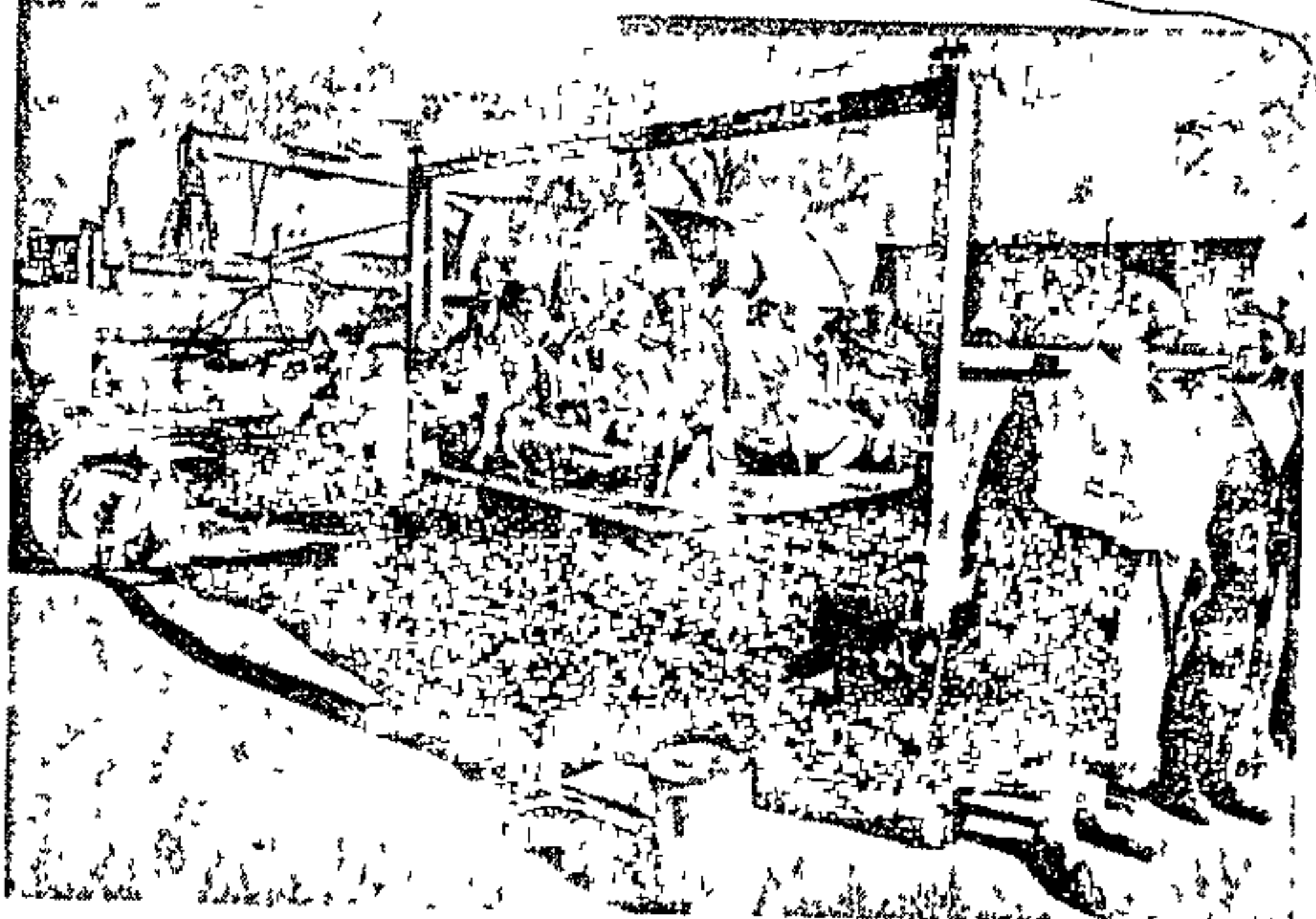


that Potwa be stopped from influencing more workers to go on strike. Potwa was supposed to have filed replying affidavits on Monday. Meanwhile, the six-week-old Post Office strike in the Eastern Cape is still continuing. Last week 17 000 Post Office workers in the country downed tools for two days in sympathy with their Eastern Cape colleagues. However, the 17 000

workers went back to work last Wednesday and only 1 700 Eastern Cape workers remained on strike. The Eastern Cape workers are asking for the reinstatement of 60 workers. Potwa is also asking that the striking workers be paid in full for the duration of the strike. At the height of the sympathy strike last week, the government applied for an urgent-Supreme Court interdict to restrain Potwa from promoting strike ac-

tion. Judge Roux ordered Potwa and Vusi Khumalo, Potwa's national president named in the application, to file replying affidavits. In support of his affidavits to prohibit Potwa from interfering with the black work force of the postal services, the Minister handed in a statement by Captain GG Smit, of the security branch. Smit said Potwa had decided at a meeting in Mokoleng, Randfontein, last week Wednesday that all striking workers should return to work on July 30. However, Smit said he had information that Potwa could start another general strike. ● Concerning the SAB dis-

pute, public affairs manager Gary May said this week the white supervisor at the centre of the row has been suspended while management and workers were holding talks over the matter. Food and Allied Workers' Union regional organiser Ronnie Petersen, who is handling the SAB dispute, said workers did not accept management's proposal that the matter be referred for mediation. He said the workers had lodged a complaint about the white supervisor on June 24 and management had been "dragging it's feet" in taking action. "The workers are prepared to resume duties at anytime once management redresses the situation by dismissing the culprit with immediate effect," said Petersen. Petersen added if the dispute was not settled quickly the strike might even spread to other provinces, particularly the Western Cape and the Transvaal. He said shopstewards in those areas have already indicated that they shared the same sentiments with workers at the Bloemfontein plant. The organisers said beer supplies in Bloemfontein were affected as there have been no deliveries since Friday. "Bottle stores and townships have been hardest hit. Hoteliers have been seen forming long queues at the brewery plant to fetch their orders. Bloemfontein's Molemela Hotel employees, who wished to remain anonymous, told *City Press* that there was no beer at the hotel over the weekend. Last month SAB workers at the Rosslyn plant - one of the largest in the country - went on strike. The strike - the most effective in brewery history - disrupted beer supplies to major Reef outlets as more and more plants joined in. The Transvaal encountered a serious beer drought as a result of the action.



Soweto council workers wait for the outcome of the talks with the mayor and their representatives.

Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

A 10-member delegation yesterday met council officials at the Jabulani Civic Centre, while thousands of workers stood around in groups at Zondi, awaiting the outcome of the talks. Other worker grievances include:
 ● Disparity of pay between black and white staff. A senior black administration clerk with at least 10 years' service earns R1 000 a month, while whites with a few months' service earned R1 917,25.
 ● Artisans and labourers

were used as drivers, but were not paid for driving council vehicles.
 ● Black workers were given a 12,5 percent increment at the beginning of July, while whites got 32,5 percent, retrospective to April.
 The effect of the strike would mean that, if there is a power failure or burst water pipes, there would be nobody to effect repairs, and very few people will be buried at the weekend because there are not enough open graves in the cemeteries.



Nelson Botile

England's
 Luxury Cigarettes

BACK IN THE

Mills
 SPECIAL

Mills Special is made from only the finest and most expensive tobaccos for your smoking enjoyment.

Also in the 20s and 30s

THE CIGARETTE FOR CONNOIS

Now manufactured in South Africa

Potwa members vow to carry on striking

CP Correspondent

THE Post Office strike in the Eastern Cape is entering its seventh week, with no end in sight, as workers seem determined not to return to work until their demands are met.

As one worker poetically put it, "We've been in a dark place for a long time. Management has tried to keep us there. Now Potwa is opening the door to let some light in, so I'm determined to keep on striking until our demands are met."

met"

City Press spoke to the strikers outside the Sidwell Post Office workshop in Port Elizabeth during their lunch break.

A 36-year-old painter, who has been employed by the post office for four years, described a day on strike.

"We arrive here at 7.45am like any normal working day and all the workers, about 60 of us, meet in the cloakrooms. Management will not allow

us into the main part of the building.

"We talk about why we can't give in and how we have come so far. We will only go back when management has agreed to reinstate retrenched workers and has agreed to wage parity.

"We encourage workers who are starting to have doubts about the strike and then we pray.

"We sing hymns, not freedom songs, just church songs," said the painter.

Potwa president Vusi Khumalo ... leads the Eastern Cape strike.

A clerk, 35, who has been working at the Post Office for 13 years and has a wife and two children to support, said his wife "gets annoyed with me being on strike. She asks me every day when am I going back to work, but she says she will stay with me through these bad times."

A Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association official, Kenneth Mkhumala, said that a request for each worker throughout the country to donate R10 had been made.

The only woman worker, 55, said "There is no more money to buy food for my three children, but I am still strong. Even when I have spent my last cent, I will still carry on. I don't feel intimidated by all these men, I can shout at them when they are wrong, and they listen to me."

None of the workers wanted their names to be

made known for fear of reprisals.

Meanwhile, eight Potwa workers who were detained last Wednesday, appeared in the Somerset East Magistrates' Court this week on charges of public violence.

They are James Vena, 37, James Bathembu, 31, William Matshoba, 31, Timothy Sonkwala, 26, Phillip Boo, 32, Nicholas Klaas, 33, Timothy Gxabashe, 32, and Max Boo, 22.

The accused come from Middleburg (Cape), Graaff-Reinet, Grahamstown, Cookhouse and Somerset East. The case was postponed to August 4 when an application for bail will be heard. The accused did not plead.

In Port Elizabeth, two Post Office employees, Moses Tukani and Louis

Johnson, were detained last Tuesday morning.

Potwa lawyer Bashir Hoosain said their detention had been confirmed by the police but they could not disclose where they are being held.

A regional executive member of Potwa, Sam Hlongwane said: "We cannot understand why the Post Office management is involving a third party while the problem is a domestic affair."

The Post Office strike, which affects over 2 500 workers in the Eastern Cape, has resulted in the closure of the only remaining black post office in Port Elizabeth.

Workers said that management was employing scab labour to keep some of the essential services in operation. —Eena



Failed to heed return to work ultimatum

MORE THAN 100 SACKED BY PO

12/8/87
Sowetan
268

From Page 1

- The 18 post office workers detained in the north and eastern Transvaal — including a postmaster — are still in jail, according to Potwa.
- Angry residents yesterday telephoned the Sowetan complaining against "rude" officials at the Johannesburg Post Office when they enquired after the delivery of post to the townships.
- A well known Soweto community leader said she was told by a "rude" official that she should tell striking workers in the townships to go back to work so that she can get her mail.
- She said the organisation she runs depended on donations and she had approached the post office with a view of collecting her mail in Johannesburg, and workers in the Vaal meet tomorrow to discuss the strike and possible action in the area.
- An urgent court application made on behalf of the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications to have Potwa restrained from taking strike action was dismissed with costs in the Pretoria Supreme Court last week.

12/8/87 Sowetan

To Page 4

He confirmed that postal services in many parts of the country have come to a halt as a result of the strike which accelerated last week.

Further incidents related to the post office strike include:

- An urgent court application made on behalf of the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications to have Potwa restrained from taking strike action was dismissed with costs in the Pretoria Supreme Court last week.

MEMBERS of Potwa yesterday pledged solidarity with their Eastern Cape colleagues at a meeting held at Khotso House, Johannesburg. The slogan, "an injury to one, is an injury to all," echoed in the hall.



MORE than 100 Eastern Cape Post Office workers have been dismissed for not heeding a return-to-work ultimatum. At the same time, a stoppage involving about 16 000 Post and Telecommunications Workers Association members continued country-wide yesterday.

A spokesman for the Department of Post and Telecommunications said the workers refused to return to work on Friday and were now considered to have terminated their services.

The workers were among the 1 700 Eastern Cape workers who began the strike on June 23 demanding the reinstatement of 60 colleagues dismissed since 1985.

The PO spokesman said a date for negotiations with Potwa has not yet been set but discussions would take place "soon".

BY THEMBA MOLEFE

Union plans to see Minister

13-19/8/87
THE Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) is planning to approach the Government to resolve the strike by about 17 000 post office workers in the Eastern Cape. SOUTH

Potwa's president, Vusi Khumalo, announced this week that the union is to approach the Minister of Post and Telecommunications, Stoffel Botha.

768
This follows the rejection of a mediator. ~~ECNA~~
Negotiations were again abandoned last Friday. Meanwhile, strikers ignored an ultimatum to return to work on Monday. So far 100 workers have been dismissed. - ECNA

Postal strike: Potwa, minister to talk

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Representatives of the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) were reported to have met the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha, yesterday in an attempt to resolve a six-week postal strike.

A Potwa spokesman said from Johannesburg yesterday that the president, Mr Vusi Khumalo, was holding talks with the minister in Cape Town.

A post office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said he understood the union had telexed Mr Botha for an interview but was unsure whether it had taken place.

Over 10 000 workers are on strike country-wide following the dismissal of 100 post office workers in the Eastern Cape on Friday. They had refused to observe a return-to-work ultimatum.

Mr Rootman said the dismissed workers were "high ranking" technical officials and clerks who "have been on strike longest".

The workers went on strike demanding that some 60 employees dismissed since 1985 be reinstated and that the striking employees receive full pay.

The strike has caused the closure of the New Brighton post office and a disruption of postal deliveries in the township.

"There are slight delays in other areas but we are carrying on," Mr Rootman said.

All Soweto depots had been closed and postal deliveries had been halted in the township because of the strike, Sapa reported yesterday.

Mr Khumalo could not be contacted last night.

Standstill of postal services threatened

SMR 13/8/87
Postal services throughout the country could be brought to a standstill unless the issue of parity in the Post Office was resolved soon, the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) claimed yesterday.

The union, representing 16 000 striking post office workers nationally, telexed the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications on Tuesday requesting an urgent meeting with him to resolve the dispute.

The Post Office spokesman said a meeting was held on Saturday and it was decided that negotiations would continue but no date had been set.

In a statement the union said the main demand of the strikers, first made on October 31 1986, is for parity. "We want equal job opportunities, equal pay and equal treatment for black workers."

The dispute could be resolved quickly if

- Management stated that it recognised that parity and an end to discrimination was a legitimate demand
- Management gave a statement of intent on when and how moves would be made to treat all workers equally
- Police and security force interference in the strike stopped

In response, a Post Office spokesman said equal salary scales were introduced on July 1 this year.

"There is also equal opportunity in the Post Office and blacks are working as technicians and postmasters. Post offices in Soweto are run entirely by blacks," he said.

He added that detentions of workers were a matter for the security police. Potwa deplored the dismissal on Friday of 100 Eastern Cape post office workers, saying it viewed it as a regrettable development that will escalate tensions.

The sacked employees were among the 1 700 Eastern workers who went on strike on June 23 demanding the reinstatement of 60 colleagues dismissed over the last two years.

(268) DO 14/8/87

TO ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE — TELEPHONE EAST LONDON 26141

Potwa mum on negotiations

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Representatives of the Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) returned last night from Cape Town after negotiations held yesterday with Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha, in an attempt to resolve the six-week long postal strike.

The president of

Potwa, Mr Vusi Khumalo, was not available for comment and a spokesman said a statement would be issued later today after delegates had studied any new proposals

A post office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said information concerning the meeting was confidential until reaction was received from Potwa, which was only

expected after the week-end

He said no other workers had been dismissed, other than the 100 dismissed in the Eastern Cape on Friday

In Soweto, where all depots have been closed and postal deliveries halted due to the strike, alternative arrangements have been made for the payment of pensions, Mr Rootman said

Schoolboy to remain paralysed?

CAPE TOWN — The St Andrew's College schoolboy who was injured in a rugby match against Queens College in Grahamstown in June, Stuart Heeger, 14, is still in hospital here and considered to be a quadriplegic

Stuart is presently in the Conradie Hospital's intensive care unit

After medical checks this week, doctors told his father, Mr John Heeger, who resides in East London, that Stuart would probably not regain the use of his limbs

He is presently on a respirator, but doctors hope that this may eventually be disconnected, should Stuart be able to breathe unassisted

Doctors, however, are unable to say when this may be

Three Queenstown-rugby players were laid up in neck braces in the Frontier Hospital at the weekend as a result of injuries sustained on rugby fields

All three were discharged on Sunday

Union signs accord with King tannery

Dispatch Reporter

KING WILLIAM'S TOWN — The South African Textile and Allied Workers' Union (Satawu) yesterday signed an agreement with the management of King Tanning here, after months of negotiations on wages and conditions of employment

In a press release, Satawu, who said the union represented about 70 per cent of the King Tanning workforce, said that both parties were committed to negotiating health and safety now that this agreement had been reached

A managing director of King Tanning, Mr Robert Newson, expressed his satisfaction with the constructive manner in which the negotiations had taken place

"We are looking forward to a long and successful relationship

with the representative union," Mr Newson said

Satawu said it was too late to do things for the workers. The workers had to involve themselves in all things affecting them in the workplace

Satawu said it had also reached an agreement and signed procedures with Eastern Province Textile management on Tuesday

The agreement had covered disciplinary, grievance, dispute, retrenchment, maternity, health and safety procedures

President

EAST LONDON — Mrs Alma Powell is the Ex-Servicewomen's League national president and Mrs Ada Gloster is the local branch chairman, not as reported yesterday

Post Office strike: Potwa talks with Minister

Post Office management and representatives of striking workers met in Cape Town yesterday to try to resolve the national strike.

A spokesman for the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said the union had a meeting with the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, but no details were available.

More than 7.000 Potwa members attended a rally in Soweto yesterday.

The strike has brought postal services to a halt in Soweto and has caused mail delivery delays of up to 48 hours in Brixton, Mayfair and some other Witwatersrand areas.

The Post Office has appealed to civil and military pensioners who normally collect their pensions at post offices in Orlando, Diepkloof, Xwa Tshiawelo, Meadowlands, Dobsonville and Moroka to collect their pensions today at the Orlando police station.

The strikers are demanding equal job opportunities, equal pay and equal treatment for black workers.

(268) 14/8/87
TO ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE — TELEPHONE EAST LONDON 26141

Potwa mum on negotiations

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Representatives of the Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) returned last night from Cape Town after negotiations held yesterday with Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha, in an attempt to resolve the six-week long postal strike.

The president of

Potwa, Mr Vusi Khumalo, was not available for comment and a spokesman said a statement would be issued later today after delegates had studied any new proposals.

A post office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said information concerning the meeting was confidential until reaction was received from Potwa, which was only

expected after the weekend.

He said no other workers had been dismissed, other than the 100 dismissed in the Eastern Cape on Friday.

In Soweto, where all depots have been closed and postal deliveries halted due to the strike, alternative arrangements have been made for the payment of pensions, Mr Rootman said.

News in Brief

CAPE TIMES 15/8/82

Postal worker rally

268 089

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) will hold a rally to discuss pay and other grievances at the Khwezi Community Centre, in NY2, Guguletu, tomorrow. Its chairman, Mr Luvuyo Soyekwa, called on all Potwa workers to attend the rally, which begins at 10am. The union is demanding a minimum wage of R600 a month and parity with white workers.

Talks to end strike

REPRESENTATIVES of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association were reported to have met the Minister of Post and Telecommunications, Stoffel Botha, yesterday in an attempt to resolve a six-week postal strike.

A Potwa spokesman said in Johannesburg that the president, Vusi Khumalo, was holding talks with the Minister in Cape Town.

A Post Office spokesman, Ben Rootman, said he understood the union had telephoned Botha for an interview but was unsure whether it had taken place.

Over 10 000 workers are on strike countrywide following the dismissal of 100 Post Office workers in the Eastern Cape last Friday.

Khumalo could not be contacted for comment.

Sapa

Dep 7MP 1/10/78

Rallies for Post Office workers

JOHANNESBURG. — The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association held nation-wide rallies at the weekend to read out proposals made by the Minister of Home Affairs and Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, to Potwa members at a meeting last week.

Mr Botha proposed that strikers should return to work and "maybe if work resumed, the government would be sympathetic to some of our grievances", Potwa's president, Mr Vusi Khumalo, said.

Resolutions were passed at the rallies saying they could not return to work till "at least the main grievance of parity is met". — Sapa

17/8/78

268

yesterday.

11/8/87
Cape post office
workers strike

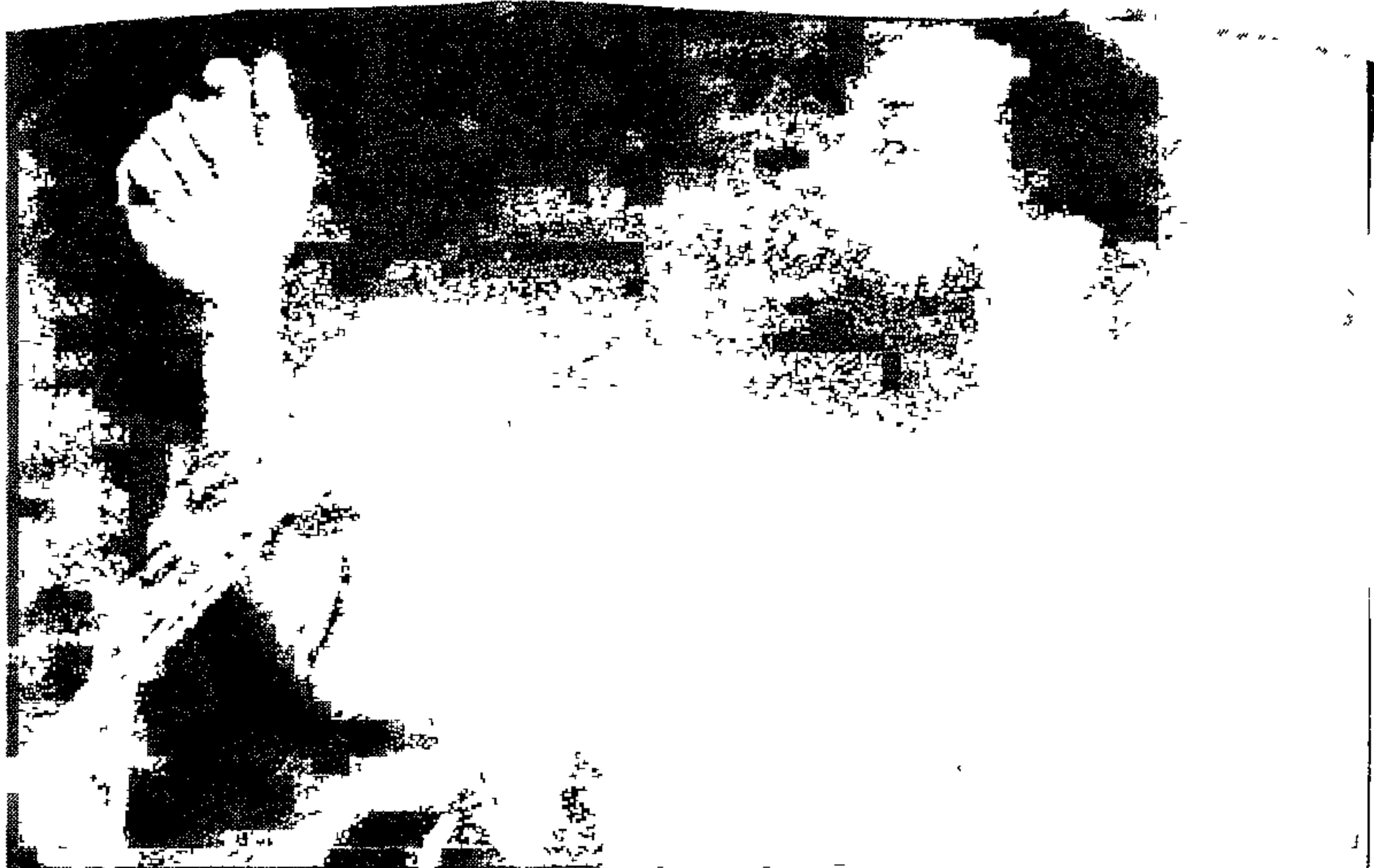
Labour Reporter

POSTAL workers in the Western Cape today joined the nation-wide strike.

The decision was taken at a Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association meeting at the weekend.

A spokesman said workers at Khayelitsha and Langa were on strike but he was not certain whether Guguletu workers had joined.

Between 10 000 and 16 000 postal workers are on strike.



VUSI Khumalo, president of Potwa, which has just rejected Government conditions on negotiations to end the strike.

Potwa rejects Govt plan

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association has rejected the Government's plan to end the two months' post office worker strike saying it did not address the dispute fully.

The Minister of Posts and Telecommunication, Mr Stoffel Botha, proposed to Potwa that workers should return to work by yesterday as one of the pre-requisites to negotiations to resolve the strike which began on

By THEMBA MOLEFE

June 23.

Mr Botha and the Potwa executive met in Cape Town on Friday as the work-stoppage by about 16 000 workers countrywide, continued

Potwa said yesterday that its members decided at the weekend that the Department of Posts and Telecommunications should negotiate salary parity immediate-

ly, reinstate the 60 Eastern Cape workers dismissed between 1985 and this year, and that of the 100 workers dismissed for not heeding a return-to-work ultimatum two weeks ago

According to Potwa, Mr Botha had said that no salaries would be paid to workers for the duration of the strike and that it should submit a written report on the

Eastern Cape grievances to the Department

The association said it would not resume work until management addressed the issues fully and without the condition that all the strikers return to work first and that mechanisms of negotiating with Potwa be first ascertained

Meanwhile, the strike has brought to a halt postal services in many parts of the country's black areas

REPRODUCED FROM THE PRESS PHOTO ARCHIVE

Sowetan

268

~~177~~

162

18/8/87



Soweto
Potwa rally ^{19/8/7}

(968) (152) (1004)
PART of the crowd which attended the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) meeting held at the Regina Mundi Church in Rockville, Soweto, this week. The dead-lock between the union and post office authorities is still continuing.

20-26/8/87
South
268
LPA

W Cape postal workers on strike

THE nationwide strike by post and telecommunication workers this week spread to the Western Cape where more than 50 workers at four post offices in African townships downed tools.

The strike is in its ninth week.

The action followed after talks to end the strike between the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) and the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, failed.

At a meeting on Sunday Potwa (Western Cape) rejected the government's proposed solutions and resolved to go on strike until their demands were met.

The workers demand: Salary parity and a minimum wage of R600 a month; promotion based on merit; an end to dis-

criminatory and racist practices; an end to victimisation and dismissals.

According to a local Potwa spokesperson, the workers at Mbekweni, in Paarl, and Zweletemba, in Worcester, have also heeded the strike call.

At Khayelitsha post office a pamphlet explaining reasons for the strike was pasted on the door. At the Langa post office the clerical workers were on duty but there were no letter deliveries in the township.

The public relations officer for the Department of Post and Telecommunications in the Western Cape refused to comment.

The department's spokesman in Pretoria, Mr Ben Roodtman, had not responded to inquiries by the time of going to press.

Potwa condemns firing of 14 000 postal workers

By Adele Baleta

The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) has condemned the systematic dismissal of 14 000 postal workers which started yesterday and has warned that postal services could come to a standstill.

The Department of Post and Telecommunications said it had started hiring staff after workers failed to return to work following negotiations with the Minister of Home Affairs and of Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, on August 12 and 13.

Talks continue today.

A union spokesman said today, "We felt we had covered enough ground for agreement during our

talks with the Minister, but he chose to subvert the talks by issuing a joint statement saying the union and the Post Office failed to agree on isolated issues."

The deputy Postmaster General, Personnel and Postal Services, Mr Johann de Villiers, said in Pretoria yesterday the post office rendered essential services and could not allow its services to deteriorate.

He said workers on strike would not be paid and would not necessarily be re-employed.

The union spokesman said the post office had only addressed the issue of starting salaries but had failed to secure parity for workers who had been employed by the department for more than 10 years.

August 20 1987

Star

Randburg disrupted by strike

By Pat Devereaux,
Star Line

Randburg residents and business people say the postal strike is disrupting their lives.

In the past week queries about the absence of mail deliveries, especially in the Randburg area, have inundated Star Line.

A shopkeeper, Mrs M Roussouw, said: "I called the Randburg Post Office to find out what was happening to my mail. To my horror, a post office worker said all mail was being returned to the sender."

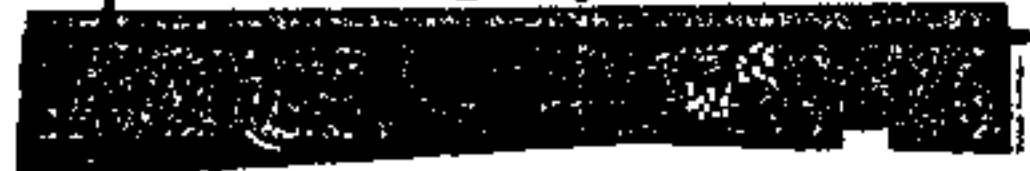
Replying to queries about postal problems, the Randburg Postmaster's Clerk, Mr C B Human, asked residents to be patient.

He denied post was being returned to sender and blamed the strike for slow deliveries.

The post office expected to catch up with the backlog by next week.

268

20/8/87



ARGUS 20/8/87 (268)

Dismissals condemned

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association has condemned the dismissal of 14 000 postal workers which started yesterday and has claimed that postal services would come to a standstill.

In a statement the Department of Post and Telecommunications said it had begun hiring new staff after workers countrywide failed to return to work following negotiations with the Minister of Home Affairs and of Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, on August 12 and 13.

However, talks between Potwa and the Post Office continue in Pretoria today.

A union spokesman said: "We felt we had covered enough ground for agreement during our talks with the minister in Cape Town, but he chose to subvert the talks by issuing a joint statement saying the union and the Post Office failed to agree on isolated issues."

The Post Office said the replacement of workers began after the union failed to respond to negotiated conditions to end the strike.

The deputy-Postmaster General (personnel and postal services), Mr Johann de Villiers, said the Post Office had no other option but to hire other workers.

Nine held in R80 000 cheque theft inquiry

AR645
20/8/87

Crime Reporter

POLICE arrested eight men in their 30s in Guguletu today in connection with the theft of Unemployment Insurance Fund cheques. A ninth man was arrested last week.

Five are Post Office employees who work in Langa and Guguletu.

The arrests followed investigations of at least 70 cases involving more than R80 000.

Police said more cases may come to light.

Fraud Branch detectives,

aided by the Murder and Robbery Squad and the Dog Squad, swooped on homes early today. They also confiscated documents.

Scores of unemployed people are alleged to have lost their benefits as a result of thefts.

A police spokesman said it seemed the thieves knew which envelopes contained cheques because they were from the Department of Manpower.

CASHED AT STORES

Cases of theft of income tax refund cheques from the Receiver of Revenue have subsequently also been reported.

They were cashed at stores by people using false identification in the form of an acknowledgement of receipt of an application for a change of address on an identification document.

It is understood the method of sending out UIF cheques has now been changed.

Police said the arrested men would appear in court on Monday.

B/Day 20/8/87

Hiring of replacement staff begins

PO dismisses 14 000 strikers nation-wide

Business Day Reporter

THE dismissal of more than 14 000 striking postal workers and recruitment of replacement staff had begun, the Posts and Telecommunications Department (P&T) said last night.

The Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) said yesterday the number of striking workers now stood at 15 000 to 20 000 as more black post office workers in the eastern Transvaal, western Cape, southern Transvaal and the Reef had joined the strike this week.

The strike began in East London on June 23 after Potwa alleged three workers had been unfairly dismissed.

Deputy Postmaster General (personnel and postal services) Johann de Villiers said yesterday the post office rendered essential services and could not allow its services to deteriorate.

He said "The department does not wish to terminate the services of its workers, but unfortunately has no other option."

De Villiers said black areas were

hardest hit by the strike. Most post offices in those areas were closed and mail delivery had come to a standstill. Installation and maintenance of telephone services were also not up to date.

In other areas the post office was making every effort to render services by working overtime and employing other workers. Mail delivery was continuing with minimum delays and telecommunication services were satisfactory.

P&T said despite negotiations last week between Home Affairs and Communications Minister Stoffel Botha, post office management and Potwa — where certain conditions were formulated to end the country-wide strike on Monday — Potwa chose not to react.

De Villiers said the department was still prepared to discuss reasonable grievances and — in cooperation with Potwa — investigate the possibility of a special negotiating mechanism to address grievances and prevent deadlocks.

Postal strike talks resume today

268
2/1/87

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Officials from the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) met with Post Office management staff in Pretoria yesterday in an attempt to resolve a two-month post office strike.

The talks started on proposals made by the Minister of Posts and Communication, Mr Stoffel Botha, at the weekend in an attempt to end the strike.

Potwa's President, Mr Vusi Khumalo, said the talks are expected to continue today.

Mr Khumalo said Potwa members had been canvassed on the minister's proposals, and the union delegation had presented their feelings to the deputy postmaster general, Mr Johan de Villiers, at a meeting yesterday afternoon.

Potwa condemned the Post Office's announcement that some 14 000 workers would be dismissed because of the strike.

In the statement the Department of Posts and Telecommunications said it had begun hiring new staff after workers had failed to return to work following negotiations with the minister, Mr Stoffel Botha, on August 12 and 13.

The Post Office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, could not say how many workers had been fired or how many had been hired to replace them.

The strike began in the Eastern Cape on June 23 in protest to the dismissal of three workers in January this year.

He said because of the "sensitive nature" of the situation with postal employees, the minister's proposals would not be divulged at present — Sapa.

PO strike: Uncertainty over more talks today

268

14645 2/1/87
PRETORIA. — Differences between Post Office management and the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) have persisted at their meetings in Pretoria.

It was not clear whether the talks would resume today.

The talks concern proposals made to Potwa by the Minister of Home Affairs and Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha.

The Post Office said Potwa persisted with its claim that workers must be paid while on strike — a claim they had been prepared to set aside during an interview with Mr Botha last week.

Another claim was that workers fired in the Eastern Cape in the past few years must be re-employed — as well as more than 1 000 workers dismissed since the strike started.

In a telex to Post Office management yesterday Potwa objected to the dismissals after last week's negotiations.

The Post Office statement said Potwa had agreed to tell the management about its decisions on the negotiations by last Sunday. It failed to do so.

Mr Botha made it clear that if workers did not return to work by August 17, the Post Office would continue to dismiss them.

Potwa condemned the systematic dismissal of 14 000 staff which started on Wednesday.

The Post Office said it had begun hiring new staff after workers failed to return to work.

The strike started in East London on June 23 after Potwa alleged that three workers had been unfairly dismissed. — Sapa.

Potwa talks ^{21/8/8 J}

A TOP level delegation of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association yesterday met Government officials in an attempt to resolve the post office strike which has led to the dismissal of about 14 000 workers countrywide.

Potwa vice-president Mr Bob Mabaso said that the delegation presented the workers' original demands which included parity in salaries, the removal of racial discrimination and the reinstatement of sacked workers in the Eastern Cape.

A spokesman for the Department of Posts and Telecommunication in Pretoria confirmed that the meeting took place and said details would be released later.

The spokesman said the department's door was always open for representatives of Potwa to negotiate a settlement.

The workers downed tools last week after demanding the reinstatement of striking Eastern Cape workers who were dismissed for having failed to heed an ultimatum to return to work.





(268)

Sweeten

Deadlock as postal ~~strike~~ strike *Stay* *21/8/87* continues. *268*

Talks held in Pretoria between the Post Office and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) and postal authorities ended in deadlock last night as the country-wide strike by at least 14 000 workers continued.

A post office spokesman said that a date for further negotiations had not been set.

In a statement postal authorities said that at the meeting Potwa demanded that workers be paid while on strike and that dismissed Eastern Cape postal workers be reinstated.

The Post Office began dismissing workers on Wednesday and is recruiting replacement staff. The Post Office said that workers on strike would not be paid and would not necessarily be reinstated.

Potwa's main demand is wage parity and equal opportunity for job advancement.

In reply to Potwa's objection about the dismissals of workers, postal authorities said that during negotiations with the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, it was made clear that should workers not heed an August 17 return-to-work ultimatum, the Post Office would begin dismissing them.

~~268~~ 268 ~~268~~

June 23/8/87

Postal talks off

NEGOTIATIONS to end the strike of at least 15 000 postal workers broke down this week, with the Post Office employing new workers in place of those dismissed.

At a meeting on Thursday between Post Office management and the Post Office Staff Association (POTWA), the union renewed its demands for strikers to be paid and asked for the re-employment of 60 workers dismissed in the Eastern Cape since January 1985.

About 1 600 strikers have been dismissed and, in a statement, the Post Office said a similar number had now been employed.

PO employs replacements for strikers

The Post Office has employed more than 1 600 workers so far to replace striking postal workers.

A Post Office Department spokesman said 900 had been employed in the Eastern Cape and the rest on the Witwatersrand.

The Post Office announced last week it would begin dismissing 15 000 striking workers after they failed to heed a return-to-work ultimatum on August 17.

A meeting between the Post Office and the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) reached deadlock last week after the department rejected Potwa's demands that workers be paid while on strike and that about 60 dismissed Eastern Cape workers be reinstated.

The main demands of the workers, who went on strike on August 3, are for wage parity and an end to alleged discriminatory practices.

Township post offices have been particularly hard hit, with many being closed.

The post office has employed temporary employees, including schoolboys, to help with the delivery backlog in white areas.

268

STAR

24/8/87

~~STAR~~

~~STAR~~

ARGUS 26/11/77 (268) (198)

15 000 Post Office workers on strike

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The Post Office has placed the number of workers on strike at 15 000, which includes the 1 900 workers who have been dismissed so far.

Among those fired were 1 400 in the Eastern Cape, 160 on the Witwatersrand, 160 in Bloemfontein and 110 in Pretoria

A Post Office spokesman

said more than 1 700 new employees had been hired, mainly in the Eastern Cape

He appealed to the public to bear in mind that delivery of COD parcels and registered items to black areas could take some time as services in most townships were still at a standstill.

In Port Elizabeth, more than 150 000 items of mail to black

areas had remained undelivered while more than 1 300 mailbags for Soweto had not been cleared

The spokesman said that at New Brighton in Port Elizabeth the Post Office had been reopened although mail had not been delivered.

In other areas of Johannesburg, delays in mail deliveries were up to two days

Geneva-based union backs postal strikers

By BARBARA HART

EAST LONDON — A Geneva-based postal union, Postal, Telegram and Telephone International (PTTI), had sent a telex to the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications in support of striking South African postal workers, a Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) spokesman said yesterday

Potwa's deputy secretary, Mr Floyd Mashéle, said the union received a copy of the telex to Mr Stoffel Botha on Monday

The PTTI had said in the telex it was "outraged" by the South African post office's refusal "to negotiate with Potwa in good faith"

Mr Mashele said the PTTI had said it was "preparing action with a view to hampering communications between South Africa and other countries".

Potwa had also received a telex of support after the PTTI's African committee meeting in Abidjan last week

Mr Mashele said the deadlock situation between the union, representing some 23 000 striking workers, and the post office was unchanged, although Potwa hoped the situation would be resolved soon

Black postal workers in Natal and KwaZulu had come out in support of the striking workers yesterday, bringing to 23 000 the total of employees on strike

Mr Mashele said Potwa met yesterday afternoon to review its position.

The outcome of the meeting was not known late yesterday afternoon

A post office spokesman, Mr Ben Rootman, said about 1 900 workers, with some 1 400 in the Eastern Cape, had been dismissed for refusing to return to work

Over 1 700 new employees had been hired

The post office intended dismissing all workers on strike, Mr Rootman said, adding that the number of striking employees totalled about 13 000

The post office wanted to resume negotiations with Potwa but this would not be possible as long as the union made "unreasonable demands"

"These include that workers on strike receive salaries, or even part of their salaries"

"Potwa also insists that so-called salary notch parity for all black workers must apply, which was not the case when salary parity was introduced for coloured, Indians and the first group of black workers"

"Potwa also still insists on the unconditional re-employment of some 60 workers dismissed in the Eastern Cape since 1985, whether there are vacant posts or not," Mr Rootman said

Workers went on strike in the Eastern Cape in June in protest to the dismissal of three employees in January this year

The strike subsequently spread countrywide

● The post office has requested organisations mailing cash on delivery parcels and registered mail items to clients in black areas to note that postal services in the areas were subject to delay and that most of the post offices in the areas were closed

project once it is completed.

Mercedes, postal strikes unresolved

Daily Dispatch
Reporter

EAST LONDON — Both the Mercedes-Benz strike and the Post Office strike remained unresolved yesterday.

The two-month strike by postal workers remained unchanged, spokesmen for both the post office and the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said yesterday.

Workers went on strike in the Eastern Cape in June to protest against the dismissal of three employees in January this year.

The strike subsequently spread country-

wide with the number of striking employees totaling about 13 000.

The three-week strike at the Mercedes-Benz of South Africa (MBSA) plant here also continued unchanged, a company spokesman, Mrs Delene MacFarlane, said from Pretoria yesterday.

Production at the plant had still not been resumed and no talks had been entered into with the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa, she said.

A union spokesman confirmed that the factory was still closed and that no talks had been held.

268

~~182~~

Sowetan 27/8/87

PO strike: Cops deliver accounts

MUNICIPAL policemen in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, delivered rent and services accounts as the strike-hit post offices remained closed yesterday.

According to Atteridgeville treasurer, Mr T L van Strijp, policemen were used for delivering the accounts to ensure that residents received them in time. This

followed the nation-wide strike by post office employees.

"To make up for the delay, we have extended working hours to enable residents to pay their

accounts in the next two Saturdays (August 29 and September 5) between 8am and 12,30pm," he said.

• **THEMBA MOLEFE** reports that lawyers representing the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association (Potwa), have sent a telex to the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication urging him to hold another meeting with the association to resolve the dispute.

The telex also asks Mr Stoffel Botha to stop the dismissals of workers who have been on strike since June 23.

Meanwhile, the post office said more than 1900 workers have been dismissed, 1400 in the Eastern Cape, more than 160 on the Witwatersrand and more than 270 in Pretoria and Bloemfontein.

The post office has also described Potwa's demands for parity and the reinstatement of 60 workers in the Eastern Cape in 1985 as "unreasonable."

Post Office, Potwa still at odds

The postal strike has entered its third month, with no sign of an early resolution to the dispute. The union claims there are 25 000 workers on strike; postal authorities say 15 000 have stopped work. The Star spoke to Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) president Mr. Vusi Khumalo and the Deputy Postmaster General, Personnel and Postal Services, Mr Johann de Villiers, about issues in dispute. Report by Mike Siluma and Adele Baleta.

ON SALARY NOTCH PARITY

The Post Office introduced standardised salary scales for all races on July 1. Previously, whites, coloureds and Indians were on the same salary scale, while blacks were on a different scale. The new standardised scale provides for several salary notches. Although blacks are now on the same scale as whites, they have been placed on lower notches and so earn less.

UNION Potwa is demanding notch parity so that a black and white worker of the same rank and with the same experience, qualifications and number of years' service, will be paid equally.

Although blacks now have scale parity, this does not mean an end to discrimination in the Post Office. Black workers with the same experience are being paid between R88 and R300 less than their white colleagues.

Although black workers will now be able to advance to the same positions held by whites, this could take up to 10 years.

MANAGEMENT: If we granted notch parity to blacks, we would be compelled to apply the same principle to Indians and coloureds. This would mean increasing salaries substantially for some people and would be in addition to the 12 percent increase granted in July. This would have to be budgeted for after considering the many implications attached to such a dispensation.

DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES AND RANK

UNION We are opposed to the attitudes of some people in authority who, because of a political background, are accustomed to issuing orders. Unfair dismissals occur and strike action follows when this authority is challenged. Blacks with the same training as whites are not given the same authority.

MANAGEMENT We have initiated supervisor courses to guide people on how to handle staff and on how to deal with dismissals. At present, white technicians supervise both black and white employees while black technicians supervise other blacks. Potwa insists that blacks must also supervise whites. The situation may change in the future but it is difficult to say when this will happen. It is a question of evolution.

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES

UNION We want the minimum wage to be pushed up from R310 to R600 for the general assistant grades. We regard this as a living wage and the demand is in line with demands by most workers throughout the country.

MANAGEMENT This is negotiable and will be looked into. The Post Office does try to pay market-related salaries and salary adjustments are considered periodically depending on the availability of funds.

PAYMENT OF SALARIES DURING THE STRIKE

MANAGEMENT We have told the union time and again that payment of salaries to striking workers is not acceptable and a non-negotiable issue. No employer in the country would pay people who are on strike.

UNION During negotiations, workers have always insisted that the Post Office is responsible for dragging out the dispute by not addressing grievances. The workers feel they are therefore entitled to payment. During negotiations, we were prepared to concede to no work no pay provided that we were given notch and rank parity and workers were reinstated. This has not happened and the strike continues.

EMPLOYMENT OF DISMISSED WORKERS

Potwa is insisting on the unconditional re-employment of about 60 workers dismissed in the Eastern Cape since 1985.

MANAGEMENT This is negotiable. We have told the union to submit cases where workers have allegedly been wrongfully dismissed so redresses can be made. Of the 15 000 workers who are on strike, about 12 000 are not skilled and can be replaced. However, we will be losing a lot of expertise and experienced staff. It will be difficult to replace skilled workers with three years' training and we won't have enough technical staff until we can train more. A total of 1 700 new unskilled workers have been hired so far.

UNION The workers feel their demand for re-employment of dismissed workers is the only way to stop the Post Office from continuing to sack employees for no apparent reason.

POSTAL SERVICES

MANAGEMENT We will not hire new workers to man postal services in the townships. Postal services in these areas will remain closed until the workers return to work.

UNION The Post Office is an essential service and should not be disrupted but as worker grievances have not been redressed we have no alternative but to continue with the strike. It has always been Potwa policy not to catch the community in the crossfire between the union and the Post Office. The community supports us as they recognise that this is a struggle for human rights and therefore affects all blacks. The Post Office service can only improve when manned by satisfied and contented workers.

Lawyer in bid to settle PO strike

HAMISH McINDOE

A RENEWED effort to settle the postal strike has been launched by the lawyer representing the 12 000 Potwa members facing dismissal

The lawyer said a telex had been sent to Home Affairs and Communications Minister Stoffel Botha calling for talks to settle the issue of parity between the wages and conditions of black and white workers.

He said: "The minister has claimed black workers were given job parity on July 1, but they don't really have this.

"Black workers were effectively

put on a scale at lower rates than their white counterparts"

The lawyer said a relatively small number of strikers had been dismissed "so the whole dispute is ripe for settlement".

The Post and Telecommunications Department has acknowledged that dismissing the strikers will be a lengthy process.

The strike began in East London on June 23 after Potwa alleged three workers had been unfairly dismissed.

Deputy Postmaster-General personnel and postal services Johann de Villiers said last night the strike of 11 978 workers countrywide was being maintained only by large-scale intimidation.

He said, "Few workers are voluntarily taking part in the strike. Reports of the intimidation of workers wishing to work are received daily."

It was a pity loyal workers would, besides losing their salaries, also forfeit service benefits such as pensions, medical aid and housing benefits

8
1991/8/10
WJW

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
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
100

The postal strike is now in its third month with no sign of a resolution. Staff Reporters MIKE SILUMA and ADELE BALETA spoke to Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) president Mr Vusi Khumalo and the deputy Postmaster General, Personnel and Postal Services, Mr Johann de Villiers Dateline: JOHANNESBURG

PO strike: No end in sight

268
argus 31/8/87

THE Post Office introduced standardised salary scales for all races on July 1.

Previously, whites, coloured and Indians were on the same salary scale, while blacks were on a different scale which effectively prevented them from filling top jobs

The new standardised scale provides for several salary notches. Although blacks are now on the same scale as whites, they have been placed on lower notches and so earn less

UNION: Potwa is demanding notch parity so that a black and white worker of the same rank and with the same experience, qualifications and number of years service, will be paid equally

Although blacks now have scale parity this does not mean an end to discrimination in the Post Office. Black workers with the same experience are being paid between R88 and R300 less than their white colleagues

Although black workers will now be able to advance to the same positions held by whites this could take up to ten years

MANAGEMENT: If we granted notch parity to blacks we would be compelled to apply the same principle to Indians and coloured

This would mean increasing salaries by a substantial amount for some people and would be in addition to the 12 percent increase granted in July

This would have to be budgeted for after considering the many implications attached to such a dispensation

Discriminatory practices and rank parity

UNION: We are opposed to the attitudes of some people in authority who because of a political background, are accustomed to issuing orders

Unfair dismissals occur and strike action follows when this authority is challenged. Blacks with the same training as whites are not given the same authority.

MANAGEMENT: We have initiated supervisor courses to guide people on how to handle staff and on how to deal with dismissals

At present white technicians supervise both black and white employees while black technicians supervise other blacks

Potwa insists that blacks must also supervise whites. The situation may change in the future but it is difficult to say when this will happen. It is a question of evolution

Minimum wage increases

UNION: We want the minimum wage to be pushed up from R310 to R600 for the general assistant grades. We regard this as a living wage and the demand is in line with demands by most workers throughout the country

MANAGEMENT: This is negotiable and will be looked

into. The Post Office does try to pay market-related salaries and salary adjustments are considered periodically depending on the availability of funds

Payment of salaries during the strike

MANAGEMENT: We have told the union time and again that payment of salaries to striking workers is not acceptable and a non-negotiable issue. No employer in the country would pay people who are on strike

UNION: During negotiations workers have always insisted that the Post Office is responsible for dragging out the dispute by not addressing grievances

The workers feel they are therefore entitled to payment

During negotiations we were prepared to concede to no work no pay provided that we were given notch and rank parity and workers were reinstated

This has not happened and the strike continues

Employment of dismissed workers

Potwa is insisting on the unconditional re-employment of about 60 workers dismissed in the Eastern Cape since 1985

MANAGEMENT: This is negotiable. We have told the union to submit cases where workers have allegedly been wrongfully dismissed so redresses can be made

Of the 15 000 workers who are on strike, about 12 000 are not skilled and can be replaced

However, we will be losing a lot of expertise and experienced staff. It will be difficult to replace skilled workers with three years training and we won't have enough technical staff until we can train more

A total of 1 700 new unskilled workers have been hired so far

UNION: The workers feel their demand for re-employment of dismissed workers is the only way to stop the Post Office from continuing to sack employees for no apparent reason

Postal services

MANAGEMENT: We will not hire new workers to man postal services in the townships. Postal services in these areas will remain closed until the workers return to work

UNION: The Post Office is an essential service and should not be disrupted but as worker grievances have not been redressed we have no alternative but to continue with the strike

It has always been Potwa policy not to catch the community in the crossfire between the union and the Post Office

The community supports us as they recognise that this is a struggle for human rights and therefore affects all blacks

The Post Office service can only improve when manned by satisfied and contented workers

Hopes rise for an end to PO strike

By MICHEL DESMIDT

WITH 4 000 striking Post Office workers facing dismissal today, Post Office management is cautiously optimistic that an end to the 10-week-old strike is in sight after talks lasting 10½ hours with union officials that ended early today.

A Post Office spokesman said agreement was reached on most points of dispute which gave rise to

the strike during yesterday's marathon talks, which began at 2pm and ended at 12 30am today

A few remaining points would be discussed at a meeting in Pretoria this afternoon and Post Office management was hopeful that an agreement would be reached

Although an agreement appeared likely at one stage during negotiations with the national executive committee of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association, yesterday, talks ended without the strike being called off, said the spokesman

The agenda for the talks was confidential, but likely points of discussion were pay during the strike and the reinstatement of 60 workers in the Eastern Cape — one of the central issues which sparked the strike on June 23

At least 4 000 striking workers have until 4pm today to return to work or face dismissal. The

original three-day ultimatum was to have expired by this morning, but with the prospects of an agreement in the air, management is understood to have extended the deadline till 4pm

Up to August 27, 3 089 workers had been dismissed countrywide, of which 1 530 were in the Eastern Cape. So far about 2 300 workers have been recruited nationally, 1 020 having been hired in the Eastern Cape

● Management of the Mercedes-Benz motor plant in East London yesterday threatened to withdraw its offer of increased wages and reduced working hours if the 2 800 black employees fail to return to work by 10am tomorrow

A spokesman for the company said every employee had been notified of the ultimatum.

Mercedes-Benz has had a loss in production of 2 735 cars and heavy vehicles in the 21 days of the strike

268
268
19/87

Very upset

WORKERS in the postal services are incidentally feeling rather upset about the termination of the miners strike.

The irony is that the postal workers are allegedly being told that if so many miners could settle their strike without getting all the demands they had asked for, then they, in the postal services, should be doing the same.

We find it extremely unfortunate for Post Office and Telegraphic Workers' Association members to be held to ransom for something that has happened in another industry. They went on strike for reasons that are different from the demands made by the Num and its members.

268
~~268~~

Smetan
2/9/87

PO hoping that strike will be broken today

268 EAST 2/9/87
Post Reporter

SIXTEEN hours of negotiations over the past two days have failed to break the 10-week-old postal strike, but Post Office management is still hopeful that agreement will be reached during today's talks in Pretoria.

The fate of 4 000 postal workers, who faced dismissal yesterday after the expiry of a three-day ultimatum to return to work, is also on the agenda for negotiations today.

A spokesman for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications said no action had been taken against the workers because yesterday's talks with the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) had been expected to yield a solution.

The spokesman said the talks had broken a lot of

ground and both parties were apparently willing to see a speedy end to the strike.

Potwa's vice-president, Mr Bob Mabaso, said it was hoped that today's talks would be conducive to a settlement.

Yesterday's inconclusive session had been spent listening and studying management's response to the association's demands regarding pay parity, police detentions, dismissals and a minimum living wage.

Mr Mabosa said Potwa had not changed its demands and today would tell whether the Post Office team was prepared to meet them.

Up to the end of August, 3 089 postal workers had been dismissed country-wide, of which 1 530 were in the Eastern Cape. They have been replaced by 2 300 new recruits.

Some agreement in PO, Potwa talks

NEGOTIATIONS between Post Office management and the executive committee of the Postal and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) aimed at resolving the strike by thousands of employees continued in Pretoria yesterday.

A spokesman for Post Office management said agreement was reached on Monday on most of the areas of dispute which resulted to the strike action.

The spokesman said a few remaining points would be discussed at a meeting yesterday and it was hoped that an agreement would be reached this week.

The workers' demands include: parity in wages, reinstatement of dismissed workers and the removal of racial discrimination in the industry.

The Post Office has reiterated that it did not

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

268

want to dismiss its workers, but wished for a speedy settlement.

The Minister of Home Affairs and of Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, has indicated that he was prepared to meet with a delegation of

29/87
Potwa this week.

A Potwa spokesman said they were prepared to meet the Minister and his entourage. The workers stood by their original demands and were not willing to go back to work until these were met by the Post Office management

Very upset

WORKERS in the postal services are incidentally feeling rather upset about the termination of the miners strike.

The irony is that the postal workers are allegedly being told that if so many miners could settle their strike without getting all the demands they had asked for, then they, in the postal services, should be doing the same.

We find it extremely unfortunate for Post Office and Telegraphic Workers' Association members to be held to ransom for something that has happened in another industry. They went on strike for reasons that are different from the demands made by the Num and its members.

268
~~268~~
Smetan
2/9/87

ns

in

is

n

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

e

s

Injured miners

Strike: no 2/9/87 Potwa, PO deal close (268)

EAST LONDON — Agreement was reached on most of the dispute points giving rise to the country-wide postal strike after union and management met for talks on Monday night, according to a statement issued by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications yesterday.

The statement said that negotiations between post office management and the executive committee of the black Post Office Staff Association (Potwa) had lasted until well after midnight on Monday.

A few remaining points were discussed at a meeting in Pretoria, yesterday afternoon but Post Office management said they were "hopeful that an agreement would be reached".

A joint statement is expected to be issued once negotiations have been finalised — DDR

seen his sister

Picture GLENN SHERRATT

appearance of 12-year-old Carla Alex-

mind is going around in circles"

CAPE TIMES 2/9/87

Postless Guguletu feels pinch

Staff Reporter

THE effects of the countrywide postal strike were felt yesterday in Guguletu where hundreds of residents besieged the township's post office demanding their correspondence

According to other sources, postal deliveries were blocked by sympathisers of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) strikers

The Guguletu postmaster, however, declined to comment

According to a Post and Telecommunication Liaison report yesterday, agreement was reached on Monday on most of the disputed points which gave rise to the countrywide strike

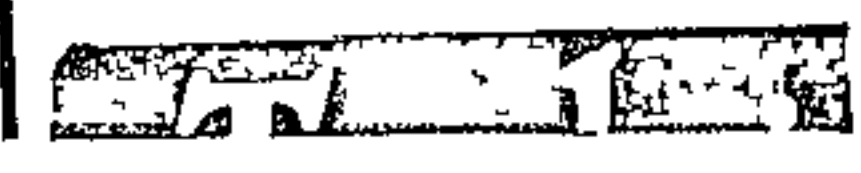


PLEASE, MR POSTMAN . . . Feeling the absence of the postal deliverymen, residents crowd outside the Guguletu post office yesterday for their correspondence Picture OBED ZILWA

of
ne
he
be
Af-
yn,
est
nd
ed
apa

CAPE TIMES 2/9/87

SACS
The attacks came as
the relaxed Kwana...



PO strike talks go on

3/20/87

ALAN FINE

268

NEGOTIATIONS between the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and senior post office officials have been adjourned until 11am today after a further five hours of talks yesterday.

The two sides are reportedly close to agreement on a solution to the strike by at least 10 000 postal workers.

CAPE TOWN 3/9/87
No decision yet on PO strike

268

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Talks between Post Office officials and union representatives were adjourned again last night — till today

Sources at the meeting said agreement was reached between the two sides and all that remained to end the strike by at least 10 000 employees was official approval by Home Affairs and Communications Minister Mr Stoffel Botha.

The draft settlement was the outcome of more than 20 hours of talks held over the past three days between the PO and the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa)

(268)

(268)

B/day 3/9/87

Settlement reached in PO strike

POST Office (PO) officials and union representatives were yesterday afternoon awaiting official approval by Home Affairs and Communications Minister Stoffel Botha of a settlement which would end the strike by at least 10 000 employees.

The settlement was the outcome of more than 20 hours of talks held over the last three days between the PO and the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa).

It is understood to include a PO com-

ALAN FINE

mitment to achieving parity in wages and working conditions over the next two to three years, and wage increases as a first step towards wage parity.

The accord is also believed to make provision for the reinstatement of most of the approximately 1 000 workers dismissed during the strike.

Union president Vusi Khumalo said earlier yesterday talks were broken off on Tuesday night when the parties

were on the brink of agreement after Potwa negotiators learnt some union members were injured in clashes with police at Khotso House, Lekton House and New Canada station, Johannesburg.

"It is high time that security forces learnt that their interference in disputes between management and workers is not conducive to peaceful industrial relations or to peace in this country," he said.

268 ~~18~~ 2/19/87

Marathon talks settle countrywide post strike

By Mike Siluma,
Labour Reporter

The strike by members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), which crippled postal services countrywide for nearly two months, has ended following a settlement today between Potwa and the Post Office management

The talks, which began at 11 am yesterday, ended at about three this morning after agreement had been reached on wages and the reinstatement of dismissed workers, according to Potwa and Post Office spokesmen

Between 11 000 and 15 000 strikers will return to work on Monday

The president of Potwa, Mr Vusi Khumalo, said the Post Office had agreed to increase the minimum wage for unskilled workers by 20 percent from October 1. This would push the starting pay to just under R400

"Management also agreed that dismissed workers could re-apply for their jobs. If already replaced, workers will be placed on a priority list for re-employment"

A Post Office spokesman said strikers would not be paid for the duration of the strike. The wage increase was "in line with declared Post Office policy for the upliftment of its unskilled work force"

The talks were suspended on Tuesday night when the union learned that about 100 members had been arrested and some seriously injured in violence after a Johannesburg memorial service for two men who were executed on Tuesday.

42 523
42-523-1000
42-523-1001
42-523-1002
42-523-1003
42-523-1004
42-523-1005
42-523-1006
42-523-1007
42-523-1008
42-523-1009
42-523-1010
42-523-1011
42-523-1012
42-523-1013
42-523-1014
42-523-1015
42-523-1016
42-523-1017
42-523-1018
42-523-1019
42-523-1020
42-523-1021
42-523-1022
42-523-1023
42-523-1024
42-523-1025
42-523-1026
42-523-1027
42-523-1028
42-523-1029
42-523-1030
42-523-1031
42-523-1032
42-523-1033
42-523-1034
42-523-1035
42-523-1036
42-523-1037
42-523-1038
42-523-1039
42-523-1040
42-523-1041
42-523-1042
42-523-1043
42-523-1044
42-523-1045
42-523-1046
42-523-1047
42-523-1048
42-523-1049
42-523-1050
42-523-1051
42-523-1052
42-523-1053
42-523-1054
42-523-1055
42-523-1056
42-523-1057
42-523-1058
42-523-1059
42-523-1060
42-523-1061
42-523-1062
42-523-1063
42-523-1064
42-523-1065
42-523-1066
42-523-1067
42-523-1068
42-523-1069
42-523-1070
42-523-1071
42-523-1072
42-523-1073
42-523-1074
42-523-1075
42-523-1076
42-523-1077
42-523-1078
42-523-1079
42-523-1080
42-523-1081
42-523-1082
42-523-1083
42-523-1084
42-523-1085
42-523-1086
42-523-1087
42-523-1088
42-523-1089
42-523-1090
42-523-1091
42-523-1092
42-523-1093
42-523-1094
42-523-1095
42-523-1096
42-523-1097
42-523-1098
42-523-1099
42-523-1100

Monday at work for returned postal strikers

THOUSANDS of post office workers are expected to return to work on Monday after agreement was reached between their union, the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and Post Office officials early yesterday morning.

But an eight-hour consultation between Department of Posts and Telecommunication negotiators and Home Affairs and Communications Minister Stoffel Botha for official approval nearly scuttled the delicately negotiated agreement to end the month-long

BY SEFAKO NYAKA

stoppage.

According to Potwa president Vusi Khumalo, the parties had reached agreement early on Wednesday evening when post office officials indicated they had to discuss the contents of the agreement with the minister.

"At about 6pm we had reached a favourable position towards a settlement, but then the negotiators on the management side said at this stage they needed ratification from the Minister.

ister.

"When it (the Minister's reply) came through at about 7pm, he had tragically altered most of the points we had earlier agreed upon and that prolonged the meeting to the early hours of this morning. We waited until about 2 o'clock this morning for the ratification."

According to Potwa, the minister wanted to alter what the union regarded as the two central issues: the agreement reached on pay and rank parity and the issue of the Eastern

Cape workers who had been on strike since April.

The department had pointed out that before parity could be implemented a budget had to be passed in parliament.

The issue was resolved when the union suggested that the labour relations expert appointed to work on grievance procedures and the disciplinary code could also work out a mechanism for implementing the

● TO PAGE 2

4-10/9/87

268

W/Maul

Back to work for post strikers

● From PAGE 1
issue of parity

At the moment white supervisors have authority over all workers of a lower rank. However black supervisors of the same rank or higher cannot exercise authority over white employees.

After protracted negotiations, the parties agreed that pay parity, introduced in commencing salaries, will be extended to other salary scales

The post office also undertook to continue "all reasonable steps to achieve parity in all its facets"

The union and management will the jointly review progress in this regard next April

It was also agreed that those cases where it is alleged Eastern Cape workers had previously been wrongfully dismissed be submitted "and where the allegations are substantiated, they will be re-employed"

Although the union had demanded a minimum wage of R600, the post office has improved the lowest wage structure from R310 per month to R375 and the highest from R375 to R450 per month for general assistants between grade 1 and 11

On Tuesday talks were broken off when the parties were on the brink of an agreement after Potwa negotiators learnt that several union members had been injured in clashes with police at Khotso House, Lekton House and the New Canada railway station outside Soweto

Other clauses in the agreement are

● Those workers who are unable to return to work by Monday will be given until September 14 to do so "provided they give a reasonable explanation for such failure"

● Those members who are in detention will be entitled to resume work upon their release, unless they are convicted of a criminal offence for which they are liable for dismissal

● Dismissed workers will be entitled to apply for re-employment. The applications will be processed within five days

● Without admitting that members had been harassed, the department gave an assurance that members who returned to work would not be harassed.

● No salary will be paid to members for the period of stoppage of work.

The Postal, Telegraph and Telephone International is believed to have played a pivotal role in the resolution of the strike.

The PTTI threatened international disruption of South Africa's communication links if a settlement was not reached

W/Maul
4-10/9/87

CAPE TIMES
4/9/87

Cal

Potwa strike solution

PRETORIA. — Post office strikers who return by Monday will not be penalized in terms of an agreement reached between the department and their employees' association yesterday.

No one will be paid for the time they were on strike.

The Department of Posts and Telecommunications said their agreement with the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) stipulated that workers return by Monday or, if able to explain, not later than Monday, September 14, to be employed on the same terms. Those who did not would be liable to dismissal.

Detained members unable to return by Monday would be entitled to resume on their release, unless convicted of a criminal offence for which they would be liable for dismissal.

Those dismissed before detention, could apply for re-employment within seven days of release.

Others dismissed could apply for re-employment.

The department said it would keep on replacements for dismissed strikers.

Allegations of wrongful dismissals in the Eastern Cape would be submitted by Potwa to the department and, where substantiated, the worker would be re-employed. — Sapa

Minister stalled Potwa

POST Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) president Vusi Khumalo said yesterday pressure was exerted on Home Affairs and Communications Minister Stoffel Botha by senior Post Office management and Potwa to approve the agreement which resolved the strike by Potwa members.

He said finalisation of the agreement was delayed from about 6pm on Wednesday to 3.30am yesterday because of Botha's reluctance to approve the deal. At one stage there were serious fears the settlement attempt would fail.

Botha could not be reached for com-

ment, but chief PO negotiator, Deputy Postmaster-General Johan de Villiers, said it was unfair of Khumalo to blame the Minister for the delay.

"The Minister was consulted from time to time, but he was only a small factor. Khumalo should rather blame me. It was a difficult meeting and there were other delays, such as Potwa arguing for an hour over a single word," he said.

Khumalo said in his opinion top PO

● To Page 2



Stoffel Botha stalled Potwa

management had accepted Potwa's position as legitimate representative of PO employees. However, Botha had placed obstacles in the way of settlement as he wished to "teach the union he was the boss".

Khumalo said he was pleased with most aspects of the agreement. "Strikes are always costly to workers, but we believe we have scored certain victories."

He said the PO had made a commitment to providing a review to Potwa by next April on progress made towards

racial equality in conditions of employment.

The agreement also provides for 20% increases for employees in the lowest three job categories, taking the minimum monthly wage to R375. This is over and above the 12% granted in July. It is believed increases will apply to about 10 000 Potwa members.

The agreement allows workers dismissed during the strike, estimated by Khumalo to be 3 000, to re-apply for employment.



● From Page 1

Postal strike over

4/9/87

268

South Africa

ABOUT 20 000 post office workers, who have been on strike for more than three months, return to work on Monday.

This follows an agreement between Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and post office management at the end of talks which lasted 50 hours.

The post office said 11 000 workers were on strike.

The Potwa delegation was led by the union's president, Mr Vusi Khumalo. The deputy postmaster-general, Mr J H de Villiers, represented

By THEMBA MOLEFE

the Minister of Home Affairs and Communication, Mr Stoffel Botha.

Potwa agreed to return to work on Monday and that workers would not be paid for the time they were on strike, according to a post office spokesman.

Dismissed

This was confirmed by Potwa's national organiser, Mr Dominique Mdluli.

The post office spokesman said the 3 000 workers, dismissed during the strike which began on June 23 could

apply for re-employment.

The post office has agreed to an increase of 20 percent in the minimum wages for unskilled workers with effect from October 1.

Mr Mdluli said management also agreed to establish mechanisms which would ensure parity and equality for all races in the post office.

Potwa will hold rallies from today to inform its members of the settlement.

Mr Mdluli said the post office agreed to re-employ the 60 Eastern Cape workers dismissed

since 1985 on condition their cases were substantiated.

Meanwhile, the post office has warned the workers that they would not be paid for the coming weekend if they did not return to work by today.

The post office has also undertaken to dismiss people it hired to do scab labour as soon as the workers returned to their posts.

Midnight terror for union man's family

Though the strike by thousands of post office workers is over, the family of one union member continues to live a nightmare.

Mr. Elias Mosunkutu was among union officials involved in negotiations with the post office management.

In all the weeks of the strike, he has not been home.

According to his nursing sister wife, Mrs N Mosunkutu, groups of men parked their vehicles outside the couple's home in Pimville, Soweto, almost every day.

She said she was "very scared" after a particular experience close to midnight on Wednesday.

"I was already in bed and the children were sleeping when a group of men jumped over a wall, surrounding our yard and knocked on the door," she said.

"I asked for their names, and one black man in a group of whites gave my husband's name. I knew he wasn't Elias, and I quickly telephoned my next door neighbour before opening the door."

JON QWELANE

The men came in and told me they were colleagues of my husband and wanted to chat with him.

"I replied that if indeed they were post office workers then they would know where he was," Mrs Mosunkutu said.

The men insisted they must satisfy themselves that her husband was not at home. They then searched every room.

"After that they produced a form and asked me questions. One question asked if anything had been taken or broken during their search.

"I answered no and they ordered me to sign an undated form," Mrs Mosunkutu said.

Mrs Mosunkutu was worried that the men — they did not identify themselves — might return "to damage my house and belongings and then produce the undated form they made me sign, in effect branding me a liar".

Mrs Mosunkutu has sought the help of lawyers with a view to applying for a Supreme Court interdict.

89/87

SM 5/9/87

Post workers' strike ends after 10 weeks

6/9/87

CP Press

CP Correspondent

THE ten week old strike by more than 11 000 black Post Office workers that has cost more than R7-million in lost salaries has ended and workers will resume their normal duties on Monday

This was announced in a joint statement by the the

Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association and Post Office management

Management said agreement had been reached on the main issues discussed and that workers would receive no salary for the time they were on strike.

Another condition of the

settlement was that the dismissed workers could apply for re-employment.

"Their applications, previous work records and availability of posts, would be considered, together with those of new applicants," Post Office management said.

Post Office management agreed to an increase in the minimum wages for unskilled workers from October 1.

"This is in line with declared Post Office policy, for the upliftment of its unskilled workforce," management added

Management expressed its "gratitude to the public for the understanding and co-operation during the strike" and said services would return to normal soon.

Potwa president, Vusi Khumalo, confirmed the workers would return to work.

He said salaries would be increased with General Assistant Grade One salaries upped by 20 percent, with effect from October 1.

Khumalo said the Department of Posts and Telecommunications had accepted that wage disparities did exist and a mechanism was being set up to achieve parity and equality. A review on progress made in this regard would be held in April next year.

He also said the department had accepted that all workers, in the Eastern Cape region dismissed prior to the work stoppage would be re-employed if their cases could be substantiated.

Khumalo said national report-back rallies were being organised for today, with a view to getting members back to work by Monday

He said Potwa's national executive committee congratulated the association's members on their "discipline, dedication and unity throughout the stoppage."

AZAZAYO 80 ETTAANED

IN LAST FRIDAY'S SOWETAN WE REPORTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS HAD GIVEN IN TO A DEMAND BY THE POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKERS' ASSOCIATION (POTWA) THAT SCAB LABOUR SHOULD BE DISMISSED.

BY SOWETAN REPORTER

IN last Friday's *Sowetan* we reported that the Department of Posts and Telecommunications had given in to a demand by the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) that scab labour should be dismissed.

A spokesman for the Post Office has pointed out this report was incorrect. The agreement between both parties, according to a telex received from the Post Office is that "the department does not

intend dismissing new workers employed as a result of the work stoppage".

This means that all people employed after the postal workers were dismissed during the strike will retain their jobs and the dismissed workers will have to reapply for their posts. We regret the inconvenience caused by our error.

Meanwhile, writes Mathata Tsedu, a

moment of silence for the late black consciousness leader, Steve Biko, was observed at a rally of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association at Seshego, near Pietersburg yesterday.

Ccawusa

The observance, by about 200 workers attending a report back meeting on the recently ended nationwide strike by Post Office workers, came at the

start of the BC Week announced by the Azanian People's Organisation earlier last week.

Less than 700 metres away a national consultative conference of Ellernes workers who are members of the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Ccawusa), resoundly rejected the recent controversial merger between the union and two other Cosatu affiliates.

The more than 1000 delegates from the Northern Transvaal, Eastern Cape, Johannesburg and Pretoria regions resolved that the merger, which has been accepted by Cosatu, was undemocratic.

EIGHT members of the Azanian Youth Organisation were detained by police on Thursday. 7/9/87.

SOWETAN Reporter

And on Friday national executive members of Azapo, Nkosi Molala (president) and George Wauchope (general secretary) were detained and later released. According to Mr Molala he was questioned on the Biko week that starts today.

Five of the Azayo members are from Mamelodi in Pretoria, while the remaining three are from Orlando West, Soweto.

Escalated

Police said the eight are not held under security legislation.

The five from Mamelodi are Mr Eric Sibya, Mr Rocky Sibanyoni, Mr Joseph Phatswane, Mr Mandla Magudulela and Mr Mandla Lekalakala.

The rest are Mr Veli Moses Liale (21), Mr Siphwe Khuno and Mr Abednigo Radebe.

A statement from Azayo said the detention

of its members since its launching has escalated.

"This is aimed at destroying the organisation for it is the only relevant youth organisation that situates black youth in a proper perspective," the statement read.

"It is also aimed at destabilising our preparations to observe the 10th anniversary of the death of our gallant comrade Steve Biko, who was killed while he was in detention in 1977."

Standing enhanced

THE leader of Unita, Dr Jonas Savimbi, and the French prime minister, Mr Jacques Chirac, have emerged as the two men whose international statures have gained most

PRACTICAL COURSES IN

PREPARATION FOR TRADE TEST

- Carpentry • Plumbing • Electrician • Motor Mechanic • Auto Electrician
- DRIVING LICENCE
- MOTOR MECHANIC
- PANELBEATING
- WELDING • BRICKLAYING
- BRICKLAYING
- PLASTERING
- CARPENTRY
- AUTO ELECTRICIAN
- PERMING
- BRAIDING
- TYPING

Sowetan
7/9/87
268

268

POTWA'S TOP BRASS MISSING

HIGH-ranking Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association leaders have gone missing as thousands of the organisation's members return to work after a 14-week strike.

The return was, however marred by accusations that management is harassing workers

Potwa said its president, Mr Vusi Khumalo, general secretary Mr Gabisi Mosunkuthu and assistant general secretary Mr Floyd Mashele, have been missing from their homes since last Thursday

The union and management reached the settlement which ended the strike that day

National organiser Mr Bob Mabaso said the men had not been seen by their families since last week

Referring to the "harassment" Mr Mabaso said at some Post Office plants only qualified workers were allowed to enter the premises while labourers were turned away yesterday

Notices

He said the workers who had received dismissal notices during the stoppage could re-apply for their jobs in terms of the agreement between Potwa and the Department of Posts and Telecommunications last Thursday

"Workers at five plants on the Reef and in the Eastern Cape were told to return later because their cases were being assessed. Only qualified staff was allowed to fill in the forms," Mr Mabaso said.

Mr Mabaso said the affected plants were Milner Park, Power Park, Bryanston, all

Harassment of workers denied

ly tried to meet the area's regional director of the post office to discuss the situation

A spokesman for the post office said about 4 000 workers returned to work yesterday and because of enormous

administrative work the situation would take a few days before being normal again

The spokesman said no worker at the plants referred to by Potwa had been refused entry

"It was a matter of

order Management wanted to first admit the workers not dismissed during the strike and then deal with those seeking to re-apply"

He said he was not aware of the disappearance of the Potwa executive members and would relay the matter to the Deputy Postmaster-General Mr J H de Villiers

By THEMBA MOLEFE

round Johannesburg, Luipaardsvlei on the West Rand and Eastern Cape

He said Potwa's Eastern Cape regional committee unsuccessful-

in
n
s
e
y
t
i
:

cap. Tavis 8/19/87
Postal workers
return to work

PRETORIA. ⁽²⁶⁸⁾ About 4 000 of the 11 000 postal workers who had been on strike, returned to work yesterday, a Post Office spokesman said.

He said it appeared that the other 7 000 would be returning this week as news that the strike had ended filtered through to rural areas.

The stoppage, which lasted nearly two months, crippled postal services countrywide, especially in the townships.

The spokesman said township post offices would be reopening soon. — Sapa

JOHANNESBURG
The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association

Do 9/9/87
Potwa to contest dismissals

(Potwa) said yesterday it planned to contest the validity of any dismissals arising from the strike by 15 000 members which was settled last Thursday

rectly follow dismissal procedures contained in the PO Services Act and regulations, and the staff code, he said

A Potwa attorney said 40 Nelspruit employees and a number of workers in other regions had been told their services were no longer required

A PO spokesman said he did not have information available on numbers of workers who had been finally dismissed. He was also unaware of the attorney's claims of "confusion" at 12 depots and post offices —DDC

The union would argue that the Post Office (PO) had failed to cor-

Detentions mark strike

PORT ELIZABETH — More than 20 post office workers have been detained in Port Elizabeth since the beginning of the strike on 23 June this year.

Last Wednesday, the East Cape Regional Committee for the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association (Potwa) were detained by the security police in an early morning crackdown.

A Port Elizabeth lawyer for Potwa, Mr Bashir Hoosain, and a Potwa spokesperson in Johannesburg confirmed the detentions which took place at 5am in Port Elizabeth's Kwamagxaki township.

Hoosain said seven post office workers were detained in PE on Wednesday including five committee members which include Potwa's East Cape region treasurer, Sam Hlongwane, a shop steward representative, Kenneth Mkumatela, vice-chairperson Mandla Nabo, regional secretary Tobile Maso and a Queenstown branch organiser, Dion Klaas.

Hoosain said that since the strike began in Port Elizabeth in sympathy with the East London post office workers, his firm had handled the detentions of more than 20 post office workers.

The Potwa spokesperson said his association would do all in its power to achieve the demands of the nine-week strike. These include that workers on strike receive salaries — or even parts of their salaries for the time they have been on strike.

Parity

They insist that the salary notch parity for all black workers must apply and demand the unconditional re-employment of some 60 workers dis-

missed in the Eastern Cape since 1985.

The spokesperson also said their members received dismissal notices.

"We regard detention and dismissal notices as a setback in resolving the crisis because it creates an unfavourable atmosphere", he said.

In a statement released last week, the Post and Telecommunications liaison division in Pretoria said the strike of more than 1 500 black post office workers country-wide was maintained by large scale intimidation. The deputy Postmaster General of personnel and postal services, Mr Johan de Vilhiers, said very few workers were taking part in the strike voluntarily.

He said workers would lose their salaries, services, benefits such as pensions, medical aid and housing benefits. Workers had already lost R7-million in salaries alone since the strike started in the Eastern Cape on June 23. — ECNA

South 10-16/9/87

218

Fairclough

employees after the strikes, if so, (a) why and (b) how many,
(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS

(1) Yes, 3 835 persons, including schools

(2) Yes

(a) In terms of the agreement reached, the employees who took part in the strike were re-employed as a result of which it became necessary to terminate the services of the White employees who were engaged on a day to day basis

(b) 3 688 persons from the beginning to the end of the strike

(3) No

†Mr J J S PRINSLOO Mr Chairman, arising out of the reply of the hon the Deputy Minister, could he please indicate how many of the persons who were initially employed on these conditions, were not scholars and how many of them were fired eventually when the striking workers returned?

—The DEPUTY MINISTER Mr Chairman, unfortunately I do not have a breakdown of figures at my disposal now, but I shall furnish the hon member with that reply

Hillbrow' exemptions from Group Areas Act

*12 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) Whether, since 1 January 1986, his Department has received any applications for exemptions from the provisions of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, in respect of residential premises in the Hillbrow constituency, if so, (a) how many such applications had been (i) granted and (ii) refused as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) what were the reasons for (i) granting and (ii) refusing each application.

[Handwritten initials]

(2) whether any action has been taken against (a) owners and (b) occupants of residential property in the Hillbrow constituency in terms of the provisions of the said Act during the above-mentioned period, if so, (i) in respect of the owners or occupants of which properties, (ii) what action was taken, (iii) who initiated the action, (iv) who decided that action should be taken, (v) why was action taken and (vi) what was the outcome of this action in each case?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Statistics regarding applications for permits in terms of the Group Areas Act, 1966, are not maintained according to parliamentary constituencies. The question, therefore, cannot be answered in its present form

Police Station commanders

*13 Mr J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Law and Order

Whether there are any White police station commanders in the South African Police Force at present who do not hold officer rank, if so, (a) how many, (b) what ranks do they hold and (c) how many of them are commanders of police stations in urban areas?

†The MINISTER OF JUSTICE (for the Minister of Law and Order)

24/9/87

[Handwritten initials]

(a) 478 station commanders

(b) 377 warrant officers
90 sergeants
11 lance-sergeants

(c) 17

Strikes: saving in salaries/wages

*14 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(1) Whether the recent strike by Post Office employees resulted in any saving in salaries and wages for his Department, if so, (a) what approximate

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

ITZVUSAWY

amount was saved in this manner and (b) on what date did the strike (i) commence and (ii) end,

(2) whether his Department employed any temporary workers to assist in doing the work of striking employees, if not, what steps were taken to maintain services while the strike was in progress, if so, (a) at what total cost and (b) what steps will be taken in respect of the temporary workers employed for this purpose,

(3) whether this strike was legal, if not, what steps will be taken against the strikers?

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) Yes,

(a) R6 million.

(b) (i) 23 June 1987 in respect of a specific construction gang near East London and gradually spread to other areas in the country, and
(ii) 7 September 1987,

(2) yes,

(a) approximately R1 million.

(b) depending on the quality of their services they are being retained in replacement of workers who have been dismissed as a result of the strike,

(3) Unlike the Labour Relations Act (Act No 28 of 1956), which is not applicable to Post Office officials, the Post Office Service Act (Act No 66 of 1974) does not make provision for either legal or illegal strikes. However, by striking the employees concerned contravened stipulations of their service contracts. Strikers were from time to time and during the course of negotiations served with suitable ultimatums and those who failed to resume duty on or before specified dates were dismissed. At the time the strike ended, approximately 4 000 workers had been dis-

missed in this way. Only 1 431 have to date been re-employed

Cordless telephones for disabled persons

*15 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Communications

(1) Whether his Department has given any consideration to allowing severely disabled persons to use cordless telephones, if so, (a) when and (b) what was the decision taken; if not,

(2) whether he will give consideration to this matter, if not, why not, if so, when,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1), (2) and (3) The use of cordless telephones has up till now not been allowed as tests carried out on various types of these instruments have shown that they have technical disadvantages which render them unacceptable for use on the telephone network. It was namely found that poor transmission performance, the occurrence of blind spots within a dwelling, noise interference and limited range restrict the use of these present generation cordless telephones, which all operate in the frequency bands below 100 megahertz. Unlike the limitations of the present models, the indications are that the models of the future, which will operate in the 900 megahertz band, will bring about a great improvement in so far as quality and work performance are concerned. These models are not yet freely available, but the Post Office is watching developments closely and if it should be found that the new generation cordless telephones meet with requirements, consideration will be given to allowing their use on the telephone network

*16 Mr J VAN ECK—Defence [Reply standing over]

[Handwritten initials]

Potwa alleges police harassment after two raids

Labour Reporter

The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) claims police have harassed the union by allegedly searching its Johannesburg offices twice in three days without any explanation being given, but police have rejected the allegation.

Potwa president Mr Vusi Khumalo said about six members of the security police raided Potwa offices on Saturday and carried out body searches.

All filing cupboards were allegedly ransacked and "insults heaped on officials".

Police, who did not have a search warrant, did not say what they were looking for, said Mr Khumalo.

The offices were again

allegedly raided on Monday by riot squad members, said Mr Khumalo.

"Potwa condemns this type of action by the police in the strongest possible terms. We view this as an act of intimidation."

"We challenge the police to raid the Postmaster-General's and the Minister's offices for they are responsible for the present crisis," he added.

A police spokesman said "As usual, the statement castigates and vilifies the police and creates the perception that the organisation is the victim of police harassment and intimidation."

"The police do not harass people or organisations. Searches or arrests are effected in terms of the law and are aimed against actions of individuals."

Post Office: mail deliveries back to normal after strike

Daily Dispatch
Reporter

EAST LONDON — The department of Post and Telecommunications announced yesterday that mail deliveries country-wide — except in certain black areas — were back to normal after the strike by 11 000 post office workers ended three weeks ago

The post office said, in a statement, that the New Brighton post office in the Eastern Cape had been open since the middle of August and that mail deliveries in the surrounding black areas should be back to normal by the end of this week

On the Witwatersrand, where a delay of 48 hours had been experienced, mail deliveries are reported to be back to normal

The statement said, however, that Soweto still had 1 400 mail bags on hand and that the post offices in this area had been closed during the strike

In Natal, branch post offices in black areas have been receiving daily mail bags from the main post office in Durban and the backlog in deliveries is being worked off

In the Free State mail deliveries are also re-

portedly back to normal

The post office spokesman said that "even Welkom where deliveries were hardest hit during the strike" was back to normal

However, problems with delays are still being experienced in the black villages of Bloemfontein as well as in Qwa-Qwa

Mail deliveries in the Western Cape are said to be back to normal

The post office has re-employed more than 1 400 workers who were dismissed during the strike, while another 3 700 dismissed workers have re-applied for jobs

The statement said that according to the settlement agreement, workers who had been dismissed could re-apply for jobs

"Their applications will be considered together with those of other applicants, taking the availability of posts into account," the statement said

"Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a priority list

"The post office is keeping to every condition of the settlement agreement and minimum wages will be adjusted on October 1. This affects the salaries of general assistants on three levels and will amount to an increase of a maximum of 20 per cent

"Some 10 000 of the post office's black workforce will benefit from this," the statement said

268

Another post office dispute looms

25/9-11/10/81
By SEFAKO NYAKA

THOUSANDS of postal and railway workers may again go out on strike unless the two parastatals stop violating the terms of the agreements that brought an end to strikes in the two sectors.

The Department of Posts and Telecommunications — which has been accused of openly flouting the agreement ending the strike on September 7 — has until today to “adhere to the agreement” or face court action according to the Post and Telecommunications Workers Union (Potwa).

The union has compiled a 14-page dossier listing a range of examples to support its accusations

● Contrary to the agreement, semi- and unskilled workers are being targeted for dismissal.

To date over 3 000 workers have been dismissed and have been refused the opportunity to apply for re-employment.

● Technicians and other skilled workers are being allowed to resume work without having to apply for re-employment

● Of the 1 500 workers who went out on strike in the Eastern Cape only 200 have been re-engaged.

● In Bryanston gates were locked when workers reported for duty. Only selected workers were allowed into the depot.

● At the Crown Mines depot in Johannesburg assembled at the gates. A

contingent of police arrived and the chairman of the workers' committee was arrested.

● Almost all shop stewards have been transferred to other depots against their will and in violation of the agreement.

According to Potwa the trend is the same in all the depots that went out on strike

When Potwa and the Post Office reached agreement ending a two-month-old strike by about 16 000 workers certain agreements were

reached between the two parties.

Post Office representative Ben Roodt this week denied his department was violating the agreement.

“We are keeping strictly to the agreement,” he said

Potwa's ultimatum comes shortly after similar accusations were leveled at the South African Transport Services by the SA Railway and Harbours Workers Union

Sarhwu claims several of its members have been transferred to other depots while thousands have been refused re-employment. Sats has denied the allegations

Edited by Themba Molefe

Potwa taking Post Office to court

A LEGAL battle is looming between the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association and Post Office management as the union this week takes the authorities to court over the re-employment of workers after a recent strike.

Potwa has accused management of failing to comply with the agreement signed on September 3 when settlement to end the three-month strike was reached

It said that at most plants throughout the country only qualified staff was being re-employed while others were locked out.

So far, eight Potwa members, including high-ranking officials, are in detention while others who are charged with intimidation are due to appear in court

Potwa has also charged that local management had pointed out Potwa members to the police as they reported for duty since September 7

At Bryanston about 40 out of 110 workers were re-employed, according to Potwa. In Bramley only nine qualified staff

out of a total 84 were told to start work immediately

Potwa president Mr Vusi Khumalo said at the weekend that the union's lawyers were preparing papers with a view to taking management to court for breaching the agreement

The agreement stated that those Potwa members engaged in the work stoppage would resume work on their previous terms and conditions of employment

Notices

Potwa members who had received dismissal notices during the strike would be entitled to apply for their jobs, the agreement said

It also said those members detained before being dismissed will be entitled to resume their duties on their release unless they were convicted of a criminal offence

Those dismissed before their detention and who were in

detention at the time of signing the agreement would be entitled to reapply for their jobs

Potwa said some workers were made to take oaths denouncing Potwa when they went to reapply for their jobs

About 1 300 out of the 20 000 workers who were out on strike have been re-employed, according to Potwa estimates

A Post Office spokesman yesterday said that the department was keeping to "every part of the agreement"

He said 1 400 people had been re-employed and more than 3 700 have reapplied

The spokesman said the Post Office had received letters accusing it of breach of agreement and that the State Attorney, who advises the department, had been forwarded with copies

He also said that the agreement stipulated that all applications would be considered and jobs be allocated on their availability

(Handwritten mark)

268

28/9/87 smetin

Jamawu signs agreement

THE United African Motor and Allied Workers Union has signed a recognition agreement with a German company employing about 30 migrant workers in South Africa.

The agreement between Jamawu and August Laeppe in Rosslyn, near Pretoria,

provides for a minimum R3,75 an hour pay and a shift allowance of 25 percent

Working hours will be 42,5 a week and all workers will receive an annual bonus (13th cheque)

The Brushes and Cleaners Workers Union has signed a new wage

agreement for its members at JCI

The more than 100 workers will earn a minimum R610 and R730 a month, according to their grades, after receiving a R100 increase

Both Jamawu and BCWU are affiliated to the National Council of Trade Unions

(Handwritten mark) smetin 28/9/87

those concerned in the case of the latter Act

These Acts also provide for exemptions from the minimum wages and other conditions of employment, in wage regulating measures, which can be granted on the merits of each case.

Abortions

537 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

(1) Whether his Department or any body or person falling under his control has received any information, complaints and/or representations in regard to abortions allegedly performed at an East Rand hospital, particulars of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, if so, what are the circumstances surrounding this matter,

(2) whether the matter has been reported to the Transvaal Director of Hospital Services or any member of his personnel, if not, why not, if so,

(3) whether any action has been taken in this regard, if so, what action, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

(1) No

(2) The Transvaal Director of Hospital Services became aware of a possible excessive number of abortions at certain of the East Rand Hospitals, during routine inspections

(3) The matter is being investigated

Members seconded to SWA

538 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) Whether any members of the South African Police Force have been seconded to the Government of South

West Africa, if so, what jurisdiction does he have over the duties of such members,

(2) whether any members so seconded are engaged in patrolling duties for any mining companies, if so what are the names of these companies?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) Yes Members of the South African Police who are seconded to the Government of South West Africa, are, for the purpose of discipline, still under the control of the commissioner of the South African Police

In respect of their duties, these members are under the command of the Commissioner of the South West African Police

(2) No

Directors-general

539 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services

(1) Whether directors-general are appointed for a fixed period, if not, (a) what are the terms and conditions of their appointment and (b) what effect does this have on their period of service, if so,

(2) whether directors-general so appointed complete their present period of service with retirement and then obtain a contract appointment, if so,

(3) whether they receive their retirement and pension prior to entering into their contract period, if not, when do they receive their retirement and pension, if so, what effect does this have on the pension they receive at the end of their contract period?

The MINISTER IN THE STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ENTRUSTED WITH ADMINISTRATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES

(1) Yes—in terms of the provisions of section 11 of the Public Service Act,

1984 (Act no 111 of 1984), as amended

(a) Falls away

(b) Falls away

(2) No—term of service can within limits be extended consecutively. Where such terms are not extended, the Director General will retire on pension. The service conditions for Directors General do not make provision for contract appointments

(3) No—Upon the expiry of their terms of service or any extension thereof

Employees: salary increases

540 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(1) Whether an agreement has been reached between the Post Office and a certain union, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, to grant a salary increase to employees who recently participated in illegal strikes, if so, (a) what is the percentage of this increase, (b) why was it granted and (c) what is the name of the union concerned,

(2) whether he intends increasing tariffs in order to finance this increase, if not, how does he intend financing the increase, if so, (a) which tariffs will be increased, (b) (i) by how much and (ii) with effect from what date will they be increased?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) Yes, but only in respect of those semi-skilled and unskilled employees on the two bottom notches of the applicable salary scales. The same increases apply to Whites, Coloureds and Indians

(a) 15% on average

(b) Research has shown that the salaries were no longer market related and an increase was contemplated. The increase which

the Department finally undertook to implement was considered justified, and

(c) Post and Telecommunication Workers Association (POTWA)

(2) No, the expenditure will amount to approximately R5 million for the current financial year and will be financed from the expected operating surplus of the financial year

(a) and (b) (i) and (ii) Fall away

Members: Afrikaner-Broederbond

541 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Defence

(1) Whether members of the South African Defence Force are permitted to be members of any organisations the proceedings of which are secret or confidential, if so,

(2) whether a certain organisation, the name of which has been furnished to the Defence Force for the purpose of the Minister's reply, is one of the organisations which have been approved for membership, if so, (a) why and (b) what is the name of this organisation,

(3) whether any of these approved organisations call for an oath of allegiance by members to the organisation concerned and/or fellow-members of that organisation, if so, what are the implications regarding special treatment for fellow-members or conflict of interests concerning allegiance sworn to as members of the Defence Force?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(1) Yes

(2) Yes

(a) It is a non-violent cultural movement of which the aims and ideals are not in conflict with any laws of the country

(b) The Afrikaner-Broederbond

to the latest specified date for which information is available, (b) what are their names and (c) from which countries did they come,

- (2) whether these visitors were afforded the opportunity of meeting members of the official opposition in this House, if not, why not?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION

- (1) (a) The Bureau for Information handles guests of the Department of Foreign Affairs on the agency basis 183 Guests of the Department of Foreign Affairs were received between 7 May 1987 and 30 September 1987 in this way by the Bureau

- (b) It is not the policy of the Bureau to divulge the names of guests without their approval

- (c) It is not in the interest of the RSA to name individual countries

- (2) It is practice to arrange interviews with members of political parties from all three Houses of Parliament from time to time appointments cannot be arranged with members of all political parties as the representative of a specific party is not available or the itinerary of the guest does not permit it

Aircraft on charter: maintenance

548 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs.

Whether technical personnel of the South African Airways are responsible for the maintenance of Airways aircraft while they are on charter to other airlines or countries, if not, what steps are taken to ensure that such aircraft are returned in the condition in which they were when they were chartered out?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS.

The situation regarding the maintenance of leased aircraft varies from contract to contract

HOA

1308

The airline leasing the aircraft is contractually responsible for ensuring that the maintenance work is performed in terms of the airworthiness requirements of the country where the aircraft is registered

When the lease period expires the lessee of the aircraft must return the aircraft in technically the same maintenance condition as at the outset of the lease period

Gold

549 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Finance

- (1) Whether the South African Reserve Bank is responsible for the marketing of South Africa's gold, if not

- (2) whether he will furnish the names of the organisations responsible for such marketing, if not, why not if so, (a) what are their names and (b) with effect from what date has each been permitted to engage in such marketing?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

- (1) Yes

- (2) Falls away

Officials working overtime

550 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

- (1) Whether any officials of his Department are required to work overtime without being compensated for doing so, if so, (a) what are the relevant details, (b) since when has this policy been in force and (c) what acknowledgement do the officials concerned receive for working overtime on this basis,
- (2) whether this procedure has led to any savings in terms of posts, if so, what savings?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) and (2) In the event of officials being called upon to work longer than their prescribed weekly hours of attendance, e.g. during periods of staff shortages, ab-

268

1308

HOA

sences, and seasonal increases in work, they are remunerated at prescribed overtime rates. Situations arise, however, where officials perform extra duty of their own accord without expecting payment for the extra hours worked. During the debate on the Post Office budget earlier this year, I gave credit to the staff for their valuable contribution towards keeping operational expenditure as low as possible. It is impractical without an extensive and protracted investigation to determine the savings in terms of posts

Redundant naval vessels

551 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Defence

- (1) Whether any redundant naval vessels are being scrapped or about to be scrapped, if so, (a) why, (b) when and (c) how many,

- (2) whether any consideration has been given to allocating these vessels to Citizen Force naval units, if not, why not, if so,

- (3) whether the South African Defence Force have investigated the possibility of these vessels being used and maintained by Citizen Force naval units without any additional expense being incurred for the Defence Force, if not, why not, if so, what were the findings?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

- (1) Yes

- (a) As a result of limited capital and running costs, and also manpower and especially logistic support capability, the battle order of the SA Navy has been reviewed and it was decided to discontinue of redundant and obsolescent platforms

- (b) Approval in principle was given on 4 December 1985. The disposal has already commenced but the phasing out will still take a considerable time

- (c) Fourteen.

- (2) No. As a result of the age and obsolete technology of the vessels continued logistical support would have been very problematical and in conflict with the decision to dispose of the vessels
- (3) Falls away

Pharmacies/doctors: subsidization

552 Mr H J COETZEE asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

- (1) Whether the State subsidizes (a) private pharmacies and (b) doctors in private practice in respect of (i) medicines supplied and (ii) medical services rendered to pensioners, if so, up to what amount, in each case, if not, why not,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

- (1) (a) No

- (b) (i) No

- (ii) Doctors in private practice appointed as part-time District Surgeons attend *inter alia* to pensioners (all race groups) and are reimbursed for medicine supplied to above mentioned patients for *minor ailments*

The procedures followed in the 4 Provinces are basically very similar, but differ in detail only, for example

Transvaal

An amount of R4,50 for medicine is paid per consultation

Cape

An amount of R5,00 is paid for medicine per consultation

except for tyres and cost of vehicle
CI objecting

PO strikers got 15% increase

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — An average 15% salary increase had been granted to some Post Office employees who took part in recent illegal strikes, Home Affairs and Communications Minister Stoffel Botha said yesterday.

Replying to a question by Clive Derby-Lewis (CP, nominated), he said only semi-skilled and unskilled employees in the bottom two notches of the salary scales received the increase.

The employees belonged to the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association

Asked why the increase was granted and whether it would be financed by an increase in tariffs, Botha said research had shown the salaries were no longer market-related and the increase was justified — Sapa

release of 21

EXECUTIVE HIDEAWAY FOR SALE

- ★ This outstanding property is situated in the exclusive Cathkin/Champagne Castle area of the Natal Drakensberg
- ★ Unsurpassed views of nearby Berg from this + 20 hectares property with two lovely established residences and swimming pool,
- ★ Fully developed pastures and arable land all under irrigation from river frontage Stables, sheds and numerous other outbuildings,
- ★ Secluded but not isolated, being near 4 Berg resorts and only 8 km from new Drakensberg Sun Hotel Easy access on tar road from Johannesburg, Durban etc

This is a rare opportunity to acquire a prime property in the most desirable area of the Drakensberg

For further details please phone Durban (031) 231120



Turn Over

Bitter post office workers head for another strike

By SEFAKO NYAKA

HARDLY two months after the last bitter postal strike ended, a second one is threatening as postal unions accuse the department of flouting the agreements that ended the strike.

This week department officials held delicate talks with the union to try and avert the strike.

Potwa has accused the department of openly flouting the agreement that ended the two-month-long strike in September.

Members have also threatened industrial action unless the Post Office fulfills an undertaking to grant workers a 20 percent wage increase.

The undertaking formed part of September's agreement.

A month after the strike the union launched a supreme court action against the Post Office for failing to stick to the terms of the agreement.

The union claimed the Post Office was targeting semi- and skilled workers for dismissal and refusing them the opportunity to apply for re-employment.

At the time the Post Office refused to reinstate the workers and indicated that it was prepared to challenge Potwa in court.

Post Office representative Ben Roodt denied then that his department was violating the agreement.

"We are keeping strictly to the agreement," he said.

But last Friday the Post Office capitulated and reached an out of court settlement with the union over the dismissal of workers in Natal.

The department agreed to reinstate the workers and to pay the legal costs.

The settlement could have a bearing on legal actions aimed at forcing the reinstatement of dismissed workers in the Eastern Cape and the Transvaal.

Potwa said the decision to avoid court action confirmed the union's view that the dismissals were highly illegal and in direct violation of the

agreement in September.

The union has indicated that it will proceed with court action in the Eastern Cape and the Transvaal.

"It will be a lengthy process and we cannot guarantee industrial peace if the issue is not speedily resolved," Khumalo said.

Talks to avoid strike action started last Friday "but were not conclusive because management needed more information on the issues we highlighted in papers before the court", Khumalo said.

This week the union handed the Post Office officials a 14-page dossier listing a range of examples to support its accusations.

The union claims that:

- Contrary to the agreement over 2 500 semi- and skilled workers have been refused the opportunity to apply for re-employment or have been targeted for dismissal.

- Almost all shop stewards have been transferred to other depots against their will and in violation of the agreement.

- Of the 1 500 workers who went out on strike in the Eastern Cape only 200 have been re-engaged.

- At the Crown Mines depot in Johannesburg workers assembled at the gates. A contingent of police arrived and the chairman of the workers' committee was arrested.

- Technicians and other skilled workers were allowed to resume work without having to apply for re-employment.

According to the union the trend is the same in all the depots that went out on strike.

Khumalo said the present talks between the Post Office and the union were not a guarantee that workers will stay at their workplaces.

"The workers are very angry and it is difficult to predict their reaction to these issues," he said.

268
6-12 NOV '87

311 in, but 2 900 still to go, says PO union

By STAN MHLONGO

THE reinstatement of 311 Post Office workers sacked during the huge strike in September "is only a drop in the ocean - and 2 900 more workers need to be given back their jobs", said the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association this week.

Potwa president Vusi Khumalo said while the reinstatement of the 311 was a victory, "there was no reason to jump for joy as some 2 900 workers sacked by the Post Office need to be reinstated".

Khumalo added that, on September 3, when Potwa and the Post Office management sealed a deal to end one of the biggest strikes the Post Office had ever had, part of the agreement was for dismissals to be suspended.

For this reason, Potwa took the Post Office to task for dismissing two employees in Durban.

2900

[Signature]

22/11/82
C/Pnews

Time to sell the shop



It's quite easy to whip oneself into a lather of rage about the grem-lins of the Post Office (PO) — alias Posts & Telecommunica-tions — as if a new, hi-tech catchphrase can encompass this

hoary old avaricious bureaucracy, this slum-bering maternal viper. Just try phoning them to tell them your phone isn't working. Everyone has their own horror story.

All too often, they simply put down the phone. Literally, figuratively, you name it. Small wonder that people — particularly in the sensitive electronics and communications industries — have come to believe that the PO's multifarious functions, essential to business life and health, should be at the top of Pretoria's much-vaunted — but largely invisible — privatisation and deregulation programme.

The PO grasps and hoards everything it can lay its hands on — all in the name of that shallow and devious excuse, "the national interest." So we will not see the PO selling off its telecommunications network in the way Britain launched British Telecom (BT). This is real life — and South African life at that — and Deputy Postmaster General (Telecommunications) Jimmy Taylor has categorically told the *FM (Information Technology August 7)* that the PO's functions will not be privatised. The most we can hope for is some liberalisation.

But what does "the national interest" actually mean? Looking at the past year alone, it comes down to this:

- A waiting list of 161 000 for telephones,
- A fibre optic cable-laying programme which is now roughly one year behind schedule,
- No freedom of choice in terms of telephones (such as the cordless units) and other telecommunications equipment, or who installs or maintains it — only what is prescribed or approved of by the PO,
- A videotext service (Beltel) which was conceived in 1984, had a trial, was then officially launched 17 months ago but is still experiencing technical difficulties, and has to date only managed to attract 5 554 subscribers (to August),
- No alternative privately run communications networks beyond the boundaries of single premises, irrespective of whether that net-

The Post Office has grown bloated and inefficient. Although privatisation — in a country of limited skills and capital — will not be a panacea, it should be considered as a better alternative to the spreading hubris and incompetence. Already our hi-tech sector is lagging the world because of hidebound attitudes and false appeals to the "national interest."

work better suits — economically and technologically — the needs of a specific user than the PO service, and

□ Most important, as far as the future is concerned, the PO is apparently dragging its heels on the introduction of new technologies such as electronic mail which could be of tremendous benefit to South African business. The free market is not being allowed to set the pace.

Free Market Foundation administrative director Eustace Davie says the best advertisement for the privatisation of the PO's telecommunications division is the UK's BT. In fact he is probably wrong. The best advertisement is what some would describe as the dismal failure of SA's State-run telecommunications services to meet the needs and aspirations of the public. That applies to residential customers needing an improved service (or just a telephone) to major international conglomerates and financial houses demanding the most sophisticated, integrated high-speed data, facsimile and voice

communications

Nonetheless, the words of the sponsoring minister at the time of BT's listing could equally be applied to SA. It was time, he said, that telecoms shed the "web of government interference and control." BT, according to chairman Sir George Jefferson, writing in the British magazine *The Private Investor*, describes a pre-listing scenario similar to SA's, though on a far larger scale. "There was a record waiting list of a quarter of a million homes and businesses hoping for a basic telephone service. There was also little or no choice in telephones and other customer premises equipment — and in any case it almost all had to come from a monopoly supplier and network operator. Public-sector borrowing requirement considerations meant that levels of investment so crucial to sustaining and modernisation of our networks were simply not forthcoming despite our pleading."

Then Premier Margaret Thatcher instituted her own version of the "Winds of Change" through the denationalisation programme started in 1979, with the sale of British Petroleum. Prior to that, State-owned industries accounted for 10,5% of Britain's GDP and employed 1,5m people.

Further sales followed until November 1984 when 50,2% of BT was sold by the State — said to have been the world's largest-ever flotation — and more than 2m people applied for shares, a "substantial" oversubscription of the offer. The net proceeds from that offer were nearly £3,7 billion. That should be enough to make the

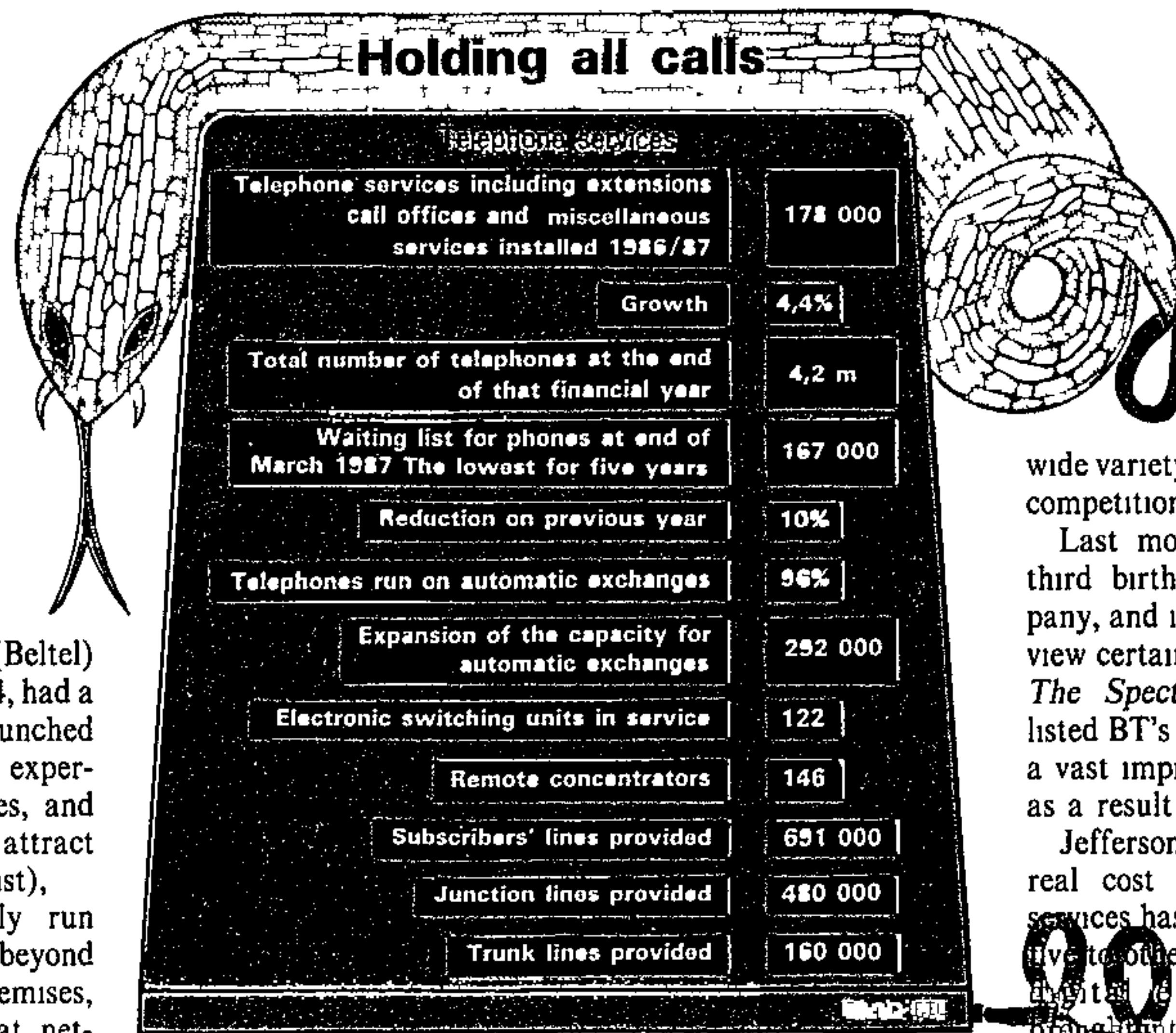
mandarins of Pretoria think, but they don't.

As a preamble to the British flotation the government progressively introduced telecommunications legislation aimed at "relaxing" the P&T monopolies and permitting a

wide variety of services to be run in competition with BT.

Last month BT celebrated its third birthday as a public company, and in Jefferson's opinion (a view certainly not shared by all — *The Spectator* has exhaustively listed BT's failings) there has been a vast improvement in the service as a result.

Jefferson's argument is that the real cost of telecommunications services has continued to fall, relative to other everyday prices. Now digital exchanges are being brought into service at a rate of one



every working day, and BT now has a higher proportion of optical fibre cable laid in its trunk routes and interchange network than any other comparable world operator

The *Financial Times* has pointed out that many critics say that the British government, in its eagerness to sell off large monopoly utilities, failed to take effective measures to curb their market dominance and subject them to competitive disciplines. It further claims that some executives concerned with efforts to decentralise and speed up decision-making have yet to gain the upper hand over civil service style bureaucracy.

Another problem exposed by the BT experience was that acceptance of shares by the public is in itself no guarantee of industrial harmony. BT, with 90% of its employees owning a stake, is far from immune to strikes.

What does this mean in the South African context? Taylor's "national interest" argument against privatisation was expanded by him as follows: "In terms of the national switching and transmission network we don't believe any form of privatisation is appropriate in SA. There is room for liberalisation in the terminals and peripheral devices market, but that is as far as I would like to go."

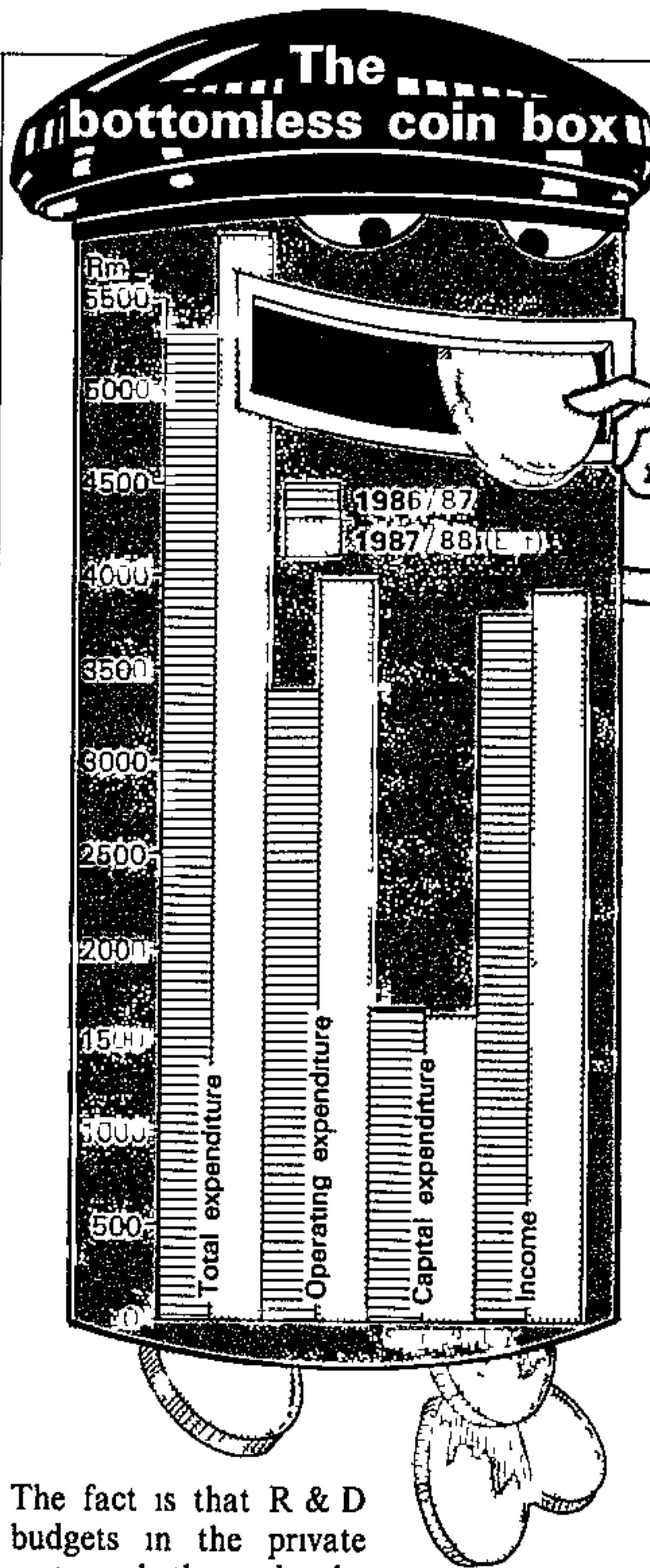
The privatisation lobby in SA is strong and at times vociferous. Manufacturers and suppliers of telecommunications equipment feel frustrated that the PO, which is also at times a competitor, is the sole arbiter of what equipment should or shouldn't be used. This is compounded by the fact that once one supplier is contracted to supply a specific item to the PO, others are completely precluded from selling competitive products until that contract expires.

Kevin Harvey, marketing manager for Grinaker Data Systems — a Siltek group company which specialises in supplying electronic communications systems — believes that if the PO privatised there would be two areas of benefit to customers.

First, he says, privatised telecommunications systems would be better able to react and respond to changing customer requirements. "At the moment (the PO) responds as one would expect a government department to react to the public. While its biggest customers are industry and commerce there is no preferential treatment — large companies with complex requirements are treated the same way as ordinary subscribers."

Secondly, he believes it is essential that the furious pace of technological development currently occurring must be fuelled by enormous injections of research and development capital. But the way the PO is currently tied to government's purse-strings (with other priorities also tugging away) makes it an extremely impractical method of obtaining development capital. The PO continues to slash its R & D budget year after year.

Harvey says "A private company would look at it as a long-term investment and decide whether the eventual term return would justify large R & D capital injections



The fact is that R & D budgets in the private sector, whether it be the partners in new TSI group, Altron, or our own Siltek group are all increasing."

Another common frustration is the feeling that the PO is dragging its heels in the introduction of new technology. In the US the use of electronic mail is widespread, and there is growing implementation in Europe — but in SA it is all only under investigation.

Harvey believes the PO tries to prolong

the use of existing technology for as long as possible to simplify the carrying of spares and reduce retraining requirements. However, in a competitive environment the PO would look for the best rather than the most expedient solution for the customer in order to maintain market share.

"I sometimes get the impression that the government is only interested in privatising the services which are a complete hash, while it hangs grimly onto those where it is only doing half a job. It won't give an inch, even when it is in the national interest. If it could have privatised apartheid, for example, I'm sure it would have done so."

267
He adds that even if the PO is never privatised, there should be an independent body to decide on what types of equipment can be used in conjunction with its services, so that customers have freedom of choice in terms of appliances, and healthy competition among suppliers is stimulated.

Davie of the Free Market Foundation cites the creation in Britain of the Office of Telecommunications to ensure that certain services written into BT's contracts are met. These services include those provided free or at a lower charge. Such a body in SA could monitor and approve equipment standards.

Davie stresses that one of the main concerns in privatising BT was that a monopoly was simply being transferred from the public to the private sector. However, "the British government has ensured that there are companies competing in every aspect of BT's business — not yet adequately. But in time the competition will increase."

Expense and population

He dismisses as irrelevant arguments that the vast expanses which have to be met with in SA to provide our relatively small population with an efficient telecommunications service are disproportionate.

In the US, he points out, private companies compete for the privilege of providing such services.

What is clear is that there may be considerable room for improvement in terms of deregulating or even privatising telecommunications services. The panacea some believe will come with a wave of the privatisation wand will be far more difficult to attain. That can be accepted — but the current stagnation simply cannot be allowed to continue. The Post Office doesn't work well, the ultimate cost to "the national interest" will be as much in technological backwardness and bureaucratic stasis as anything else. Is that really what Pretoria wants? No one else does.



PO's Taylor ... no form of privatisation appropriate

Stoffel denies PO 'discrimination'

cap Times 17/2/87 268

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

THERE is no job reservation in the Post Office and all positions in the Post Office are open to all races, the Minister of Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, said yesterday

All discrimination in the Post Office had been abolished and parity had been achieved on all levels, he said in reply to criticisms by Mr Mohanlal Bandulalla, Solidarity MP for Havereside, and Mr Jan van Gend, Grooteschoor's PFP MP

Mr Bandulalla, who was speaking in the debate on the Additional Post Office Budget, wanted to know why "non-white people" were not serving in senior positions in the Post Office

"Is job reservation still operating in the Post Office?" he asked.

Mr Bandulalla appealed to Mr Botha to ensure that the Post Office was capable of removing all race restrictions

Mr Van Gend said there was continuing discrimination in the



Mr Stoffel Botha

Post Office and he wanted to know whether Mr Botha would give directions to eliminate inequalities and unfairness as a result of lingering apartheid

While 48 741 whites were on the permanent staff of the Post Office, only 5 243 blacks, 3 767 coloured people and 2 070 Indians were on the permanent staff

However, 2 000 whites, 23 000

blacks and 8 000 coloured people were employed on a casual basis

The permanent staff not only had job security, they also qualified for housing subsidies, received medical aid and participated in pensions

"Because of the vast imbalance, the vast majority of blacks do not have the benefits of housing assistance, medical aid and pensions

"Ten out of 11 whites employed by the Post Office are in permanent positions, but only one out of six blacks employed by the Post Office are in permanent positions. Only one-sixth of the blacks enjoy these benefits"

Mr Botha said the Post Office was one of the biggest industries in South Africa but all discrimination had been removed in it

"We go out of our way to get people of all races into the Post Office and given them every possible opportunity to advance themselves. We put parity into effect long ago and people who do the same job get the same pay"

PO jobs 'inequality' probed

Parliamentary Staff 268 11645 17/2/89
The Minister of Communications, Mr. Stoffel Botha, has undertaken to "look into" discrepancies in the number of white and black employees in the Post Office.

schemes and receive medical aid benefits. To the best of my knowledge none of these benefits are available to casual employees."

He was replying to Mr. Jan van Gend (PFP Groote Schuur) who said in the debate on the Additional Post Office Appropriation Bill that the Post Office employed 11 times more blacks and four times more coloured people on a casual basis than white casual workers, while there were four times as many permanent white staff as permanent staff of all the other races put together.

He said: "I appreciate that a lot of the casual workers are semi-skilled and unskilled, but even then there must be a need for more permanent employees."

"The significance of these figures lies in the benefits received. Permanent staff do not only have job security ... they also qualify for housing subsidies, participate in pension

The imbalance meant whites were deriving more benefits than blacks. This amounted to inequality.

Mr Botha, who countered criticism from other MPs by insisting that the Post Office's recruitment and pay policy was based on merit, not race, said: "We are working towards achieving what he (Mr van Gend) has in mind. I do not reject his points. I will, with great dedication, look into the matter."

Posmed members agree to keep PO medical aid white

Pretoria Correspondent

Star 8/3/89

A majority of 57 percent of Post Office officials belonging to the whites-only medical aid scheme, Posmed, have rejected a move to include non-whites in the scheme.

A secret ballot was conducted by the Post Office among

Posmed members last month to gauge the feeling of the possible admission of non-whites to the scheme.

 (268)

The investigation was backed by senior officials of the Post Office, following questions in Parliament during the 1988 session.

Some air fares to rise by up to 28 pc

Staff Reporter

Some overseas air fares will rise by as much as 28 percent when overseas tariffs increase next month, SAA confirmed today.

A spokesman said that pending approval by foreign governments, an across-the-board increase of five percent on overseas flights would come into effect on April 1, but a large portion of the rise would be the result of March and April being declared high season months.

The number of high season months would thus be increased from six to eight.

Under the new charges a London return flight, which this month costs R2 626, would increase to R2 757, with five percent added across-the-board resulting in a price tag of R3 129 after adjustment for the new high season rates, said a travel agent.

The SAA spokesman said that although the rises had been approved by IATA members, the announcement would not be made until next month.

She said passengers had the opportunity to pay for special tickets at the old price.

268

Council to negotiate Post Office salaries

Labour Reporter *AK645 11/4/89*

LEGISLATION for a unique collective bargaining mechanism for the Department of Posts and Telecommunications should be accepted this year, says the Postmaster-General, Mr Johan de Villiers

He was opening the congress of the Postal and Telegraph Association of South Africa in Kimberley last night.

He said the idea was to defer salary and other service conditions to a bargaining forum, to be known as the Negotiating Council

The council would have the authority to negotiate salaries and service conditions and to take binding decisions

But in the case of general salary adjustments the Minister would have the authority to refer matters back to the negotiating council should he disagree with its decisions

The council would meet under the chairmanship of a neutral labour expert

Recognised staff associations and the department would be represented on an equal basis

PSA welcomes salary council

PRETORIA — The Public Servants' Association (PSA) has welcomed the new salary negotiating machinery to be set up by government, but some senior state workers have reservations

Administration and Privatisation Minister Dawie de Villiers this week introduced a Bill in the House of Assembly providing for a public service Central Bargaining Council (CBC)

What is troubling some state workers is that the Cabinet can, in the last resort, nullify a recommendation of agreement reached by the CBC, which consists of equal numbers of staff and employers

However, PSA MD Hans Olver said the

new system was a great advance on the previous arrangement where the PSA was just that — an adviser to the Commission for Administration

"Now the issue of salaries and service conditions can be negotiated on a new plain with a more effective input by staff associations"

The deal is similar to that handed to Sats workers, in which the labour council, consisting of equal numbers of union and management representatives, negotiates on salaries and service conditions. Here, too, the Transport Minister has a veto

GERALD REILLY

• Potwa members freed

THREE members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association walked out of the Pietersburg Regional Court on Friday as free men after charges of sabotage were withdrawn against them.

So welan 15/5/84 (268)
Mr Peter Mokoena, Mr Zet Maphanga and Mr Frank Phalane were arrested in 1987 during the nationwide strike by post office workers. They had pleaded not guilty to the charge of economic sabotage.

Wage gaps between whites and blacks seem to be widening

By Michael Chester

New evidence of the huge size of the pay gap between white and black workers has been provided in a review of trends inside a number of key business sectors that between them share a labour force of more than five million employees

The review, compiled by Central Statistical Services, traces the changes in the pattern of overall recruitment and salaries and wages from 1987 to the end of last year

Socio-political reformers will be heartened by news that in all sectors — with the exception of the construction industry — it was the pay packet of the black worker that grew fastest, at least in percentage terms, if not in actual rands and terms

However, the review also unearths evidence of major differences in the pace of moves to close the wage gap from sector to sector

For example, the average pay packets of the 175 000 black workers in the sector covering transport and communications barely stayed ahead of inflation, with increases of 15,1 percent over the 12 months

This is the sector that embraces all road and rail services, the Post Office and the SABC

One consolation was that at least the increase seemed far better than the 6,6 percent average raises awarded their 150 000 white workmates

Even that fragment of comfort was overwhelmed, however, when the average wages of black workers, now at R761 a month, had to stand comparison with an average R2 227 paid to white colleagues

Still, the R761 looked an improvement on the R610 a month average still being earned by 215 000 black workers in the construction industry — even after they had received a 17,1 percent

pay hike

And here the pay gap was even wider, with white workers enjoying a 22,3 percent jump in pay to R3 166 a month

In the manufacturing industry, it was the 716 000-strong black labour force which enjoyed the 22 percent scale of increases in average pay — pushing it up to R914 a month

Here, the 295 000 whites on the payroll received increases of a more modest 15,8 percent.

But they were enough to push their average wages to R3 141 — more than three times higher

More doubts about the reliability of percentages in tracking what is happening to the pay gap emerge when one examines trends inside the wholesale/retail trades

The increases in the average pay of the 360 000 black workers employed here last year were among the best of all, racing ahead no less than 37,6 percent, while 266 000 white workers had to settle for raises of less than 19 percent

In the end, however, the new black average of R644 still looked a long way off the R2 144 white average

Not only that, the pay gap of R1 335 a month at the end of 1987 has now swollen to R1 500

The quirks of statistics can also be put to the test with a closer look at pay patterns at Eskom

Here, black employees received average increases of almost 27 percent, lifting pay to R1 377 a month, while white raises seemed to trail behind at 11,5 percent, setting pay at R3 666

What happened to the pay gap in actual rands?

In 1987 it was R2 202. Now it has crept up to R2 289

It all somehow seems to sum up the perils of statistics.

Postal (168) 15-2/6/89.
pow-wow

THE Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) is to call a meeting with community organisations in Johannesburg to discuss Post Office services in Soweto, privatisation and problems with obtaining pensions for black pensioners

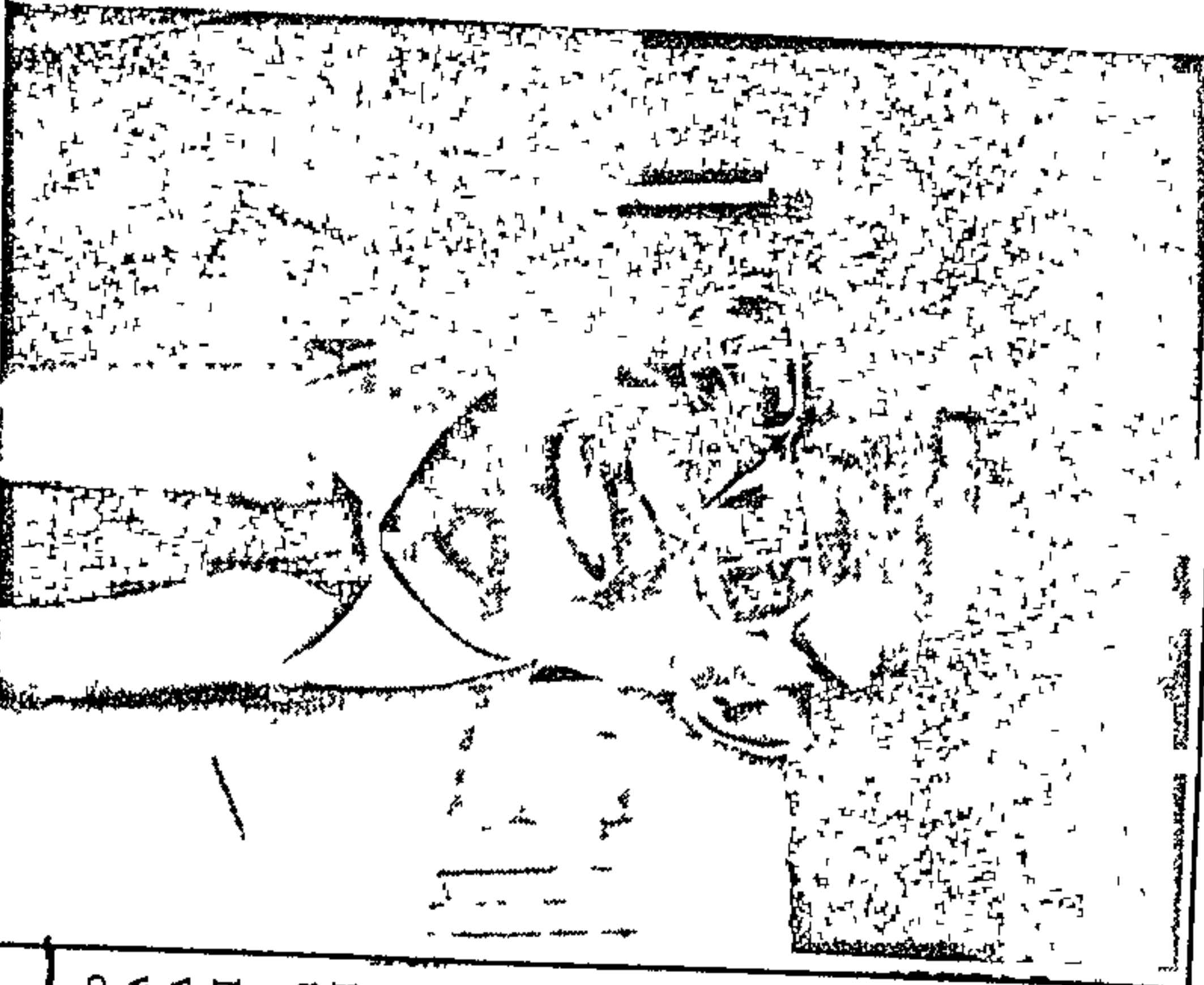
Potwa president EK Mosunkutu this week sharply criticised the Post Office for evicting a former employee Peter Mgidi for not keeping up with his bond repayments

Mosunkutu said Mgidi was one of the workers dismissed after the 1987 strike by Potwa members. Another 54 workers face eviction

Mosunkutu expressed "grave concern" at the recruitment process used by the Post Office, which he claimed favoured white workers

268

FIRING WOULD BRING END TO LOSERS THEIR HOMES



THE Post Office has withdrawn home subsidies of about 60 of its former employees and evicted some of them and their families from their Soweto homes.

The action against the workers, all members of Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa), follows the 1987 strike which was marked by mass demonstrations.

About 2800 of the 20 000 employees who took part in the industrial action were fired

Potwa president Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu said the Post Office was evicting former employees whose homes were either financed or subsidised by it

BY LEN MASEKO

Two Potwa members had already had their homes sold by the Post Office, according to the union

The Potwa official said 60 more union members faced eviction from their homes now that they were no longer Post Office employees.

He said one worker, Mr Peter Mgidi, was kicked out from his

home after the Post Office obtained a court order against him. This action was taken against him despite that Potwa had made representations to management to halt the eviction.

A Post Office spokesman said the evictions were being carried out against these workers because they were no longer employed by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications. He added union officials and management were still discussing the matter.

~~268~~ 268 South
22-28/6/89.

Post office strike

By CHIARA CARTER

WORKERS at 10 post offices in the Transkei this week downed tools against what they called "victimisation" by the Transkei government.

And in Pretoria about 100 workers at the city's central post office were locked out after they stopped work on Tuesday.

The stoppage was to protest the transfer to Mamelodi of Mr Johannes Marishane, the local chairperson of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), said a spokesperson for Potwa.

The Transkei strike is over the transfer of several workers from Transkei to Butterworth, 160 kilometres away, a Transkei Post Office Workers' Association (Trapowa) spokesperson said.

Those transferred were all key members of Trapowa, he said.

The Transkei Minister of Post and Telecommunication, Mr CGK Notts, confirmed that "a substantial number" of workers were on strike.

"We are asking the public not to be alarmed. The situation is under control," he said.

Notts said the association had not been harassed by the authorities and that the transfers were part of a process of decentralisation of the post office.

w/e Arka's 1/7/89

Clothing prices rise shocker

By TOM HOOD
Business Editor

CLOTHING price rises of 25 percent by early next year are forecast — double the increases of the past few years.

"Don't blame the retailers, the clothing factories or the textile industry," says Mr. Simon Jocum, chairman of the Cape Clothing Manufacturers Association.

"When consumers react with outrage next year, they must know where the blame lies and

should march on Pretoria

"It lies squarely on the authorities who are misjudging the fall in the economy and are short-sighted in imposing heavier import duties on fabrics we import.

"In the past clothing increases have always been well below the consumer price index inflation. They are now out of our hands and beyond our control."

Prices could go even higher if new wage negotiations result

in significantly higher labour costs

A deputation from the National Clothing Federation saw deputy minister Dr Theo Alant at the Board of Trade and Industries this week to seek relief from the industry's critical situation

"We were well received and given a considered hearing. We are awaiting the outcome," said Mr Jocum, who added that details of the meeting were confidential.

Reviewing business conditions in the Cape clothing industry, he said employment had risen to 56 700 from 54 800 a year ago as factories worked at full steam to get this summer's merchandise out to retailers as quickly as possible.

However, employment could start falling again in the next few months as sales started to tail off.

"A lot depends on how hard the industry is hit by the 10 percent import surcharge on textiles and 15 percent import surcharge on capital equipment but we believe a 25 percent increase in clothing prices is on the cards for early 1990, bringing a subsequent drop in unit sales for the industry," said Mr Jocum.

"By erroneously increasing import duties, the authorities are accelerating the downturn. If unit sales drop by 5 or 10 percent, the employment figure would fall in line."

Annual wage negotiations were due to start soon and Mr Jocum hoped the unions would see the writing on the wall — that higher costs could affect future employment.

"Over last year we had a 45 percent depreciation of the

FIVE GET JOBS BACK

268

THE post office has, during discussions with the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association, undertaken to re-employ five dismissed workers.

The senior general manager, personnel management of the Post Office, Mr Pieter

Senekal, said in a statement the Post Office management had talks with Potwa on the re-employment of five post office workers — who were dismissed during the strike of 1987 — on Monday. These five workers, had departmental housing loans.

Senekal said the talks took place in a positive

atmosphere. The post office has undertaken to consider the re-employment of, among others, workers with other housing loans, who were dismissed during the strike of 1987.

The applications will be considered, taking into account the availability of vacancies. — Sapa.

6/7/89

New car benefit for PO workers

Own Correspondent (268)

DURBAN — A fillip worth R34 million has been given to Post Office workers in the form of a motor vehicle allowance that will entitle some employees to buy cars worth as much as R40 000

The scheme, affecting 840 people, came into effect this month. Employees earning R4 000 a month could benefit by a further R1 000

PO spokesman Mr Pieter Senekal said the move was necessary to attract and keep qualified personnel. The scheme applies to what Mr Senekal describes as "pressure groups" — specialists whose qualifications make them attractive to outside businesses

Categories include data personnel, auditors, researchers, psychologists and engineers

The allowance will be determined by the vehicle's value. Mr Senekal said lease costs of the vehicle could be submitted by the employee, who would be reimbursed. A free choice was given in selecting the vehicle.

"The allowance will apply only to the initial cost of the vehicle and not to running costs," he said. Vehicles will be registered in the employee's name and allowances will be taxable.

Union and steel giant deadlocked over wage increases

By Mike Siluma,
Labour Reporter

Wage negotiations between the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa and the management of Highveld Steel have broken down, raising the possibility of industrial action affecting 3 000 of the steel-making giant's labour force.

A Numsa spokesman said a meeting with management had "failed to make any progress" on wage increases for 1989.

Numsa had demanded an hourly individual increase of R1 or a 25 percent raise, whichever was the greater.

OFFER TURNED DOWN

It rejected a management offer of increases ranging from 56c/hour at the bottom rate to R1,48 at the top. This would set the new hourly minima at R3,60 and R8,97 respectively.

Other demands related to housing benefits, time off for shop stewards, technical training, paid holidays and improvements to service allowances.

The Numsa spokesman severely criticised management for unilaterally granting bonuses to workers while negotiations were still in progress.

"The company said this was paid out because of excellent profits made, yet the company has refused to improve its wage offer. Numsa views this action as extreme-bad-faith bargaining and an attempt to undermine the union," the spokesman said.

A Highveld Steel spokesman confirmed the dispute but could not comment further at the time of going to press.

● About 1 000 Numsa members yesterday continued a wage strike which began at Metal Box's Vanderbijlpark operations on Thursday last week, a worker spokesman said. Now that agreement had been reached on the actual increase, the dispute now centred on the implementation date, the spokesman said.

Company comment was not available.

● Numsa will respond tomorrow to a management wage offer affecting thousands of motor industry workers employed by six car manufacturers, a union spokesman said.

The spokesman declined to discuss details of the management offer. Companies taking part in the talks are Toyota, BMW, Nissan, Mercedes-Benz, Samcor and Volkswagen.

Top men for P & T posts

SEVERAL new senior appointments in the Department of Posts and Telecommunications took effect yesterday as part of a major restructuring programme prior to privatisation.

Postmaster-General Johan de Villiers announced in Pretoria the appointment of regional managers for postal and telecommunications services in the department's eight operating units.

He said these appointments ensured the completion of 95% of the restructuring process in the department, with head office restructuring due to be completed by April 1.

Legislation to separate the department into two companies, telecommunications and postal services, had been drafted and was expected to go before Parliament next year.

De Villiers said privatisation could only take place after the formation of two separate companies. Even after that, it would take some time to prepare them for privatisation.

"Until then (privatisation) the state will be the sole shareholder in the two companies," said De Villiers.

□ The new regional managers are: on the Witwatersrand, Danie du Toit (Telcoms) and Peet Noleth (Postal Services), in the Northern Transvaal, Maree Reyneke (Telcoms) and Janne Venter (Postal Services), in South Eastern Transvaal, Du Toit Smith (Telcoms) and Willie Visser (Postal Services); in the Western Cape, George Bothma (Telcoms) and Chris Opperman (Postal Services), in the Eastern Cape, Tubby Waldron (Telcoms) and Toy Kruger (Postal Services); in the Northern Cape, Chris Harmse (Telcoms) and Corrie Fourie (Postal Services); in Natal, Pine Pienaar (Telcoms) and Martin Clark (Postal Services), and in the OFS, Danie Jacobs (Telcoms) and Joe de Jager (Postal Services). — Sapa.

D
U
V
I
L
L
I
E
R
S
C
H
O
S
V
O
L
L
E
T
C
N
P
R
O
T
E
N
C
E
L
S
S

New PO managers named

Several new senior appointments in the Department of Posts and Telecommunications took effect from yesterday as part of the department's restructuring programme, Postmaster-General Mr Johan de Villiers said in a statement issued in Pretoria.

He announced the appointment of regional managers for postal and telecommunications services in the department's eight operating units effective from October 1 this year.

These appointments ensure the completion of 95 percent of the restructuring process in the department.

The new regional managers are

● Witwatersrand: Mr Danie du Toit (telcoms) and Mr Peet No-

leth (postal services)

● Northern Transvaal: Mr Maree Reyneke (telcoms) and Mr Jannie Venter (postal services)

● South-eastern Transvaal: Dr du Toit-Smith (telcoms) and Mr Willie Visser (postal services)

● Western Cape: Mr George Bothma (telcoms) and Mr Chris Opperman (postal services)

● Eastern Cape: Mr Tubby Waldron (telcoms) and Mr Toy Kruger (postal services)

● Northern Cape: Mr Chris Harmse (telcoms) and Mr Corrie Fourie (postal services)

● Natal: Mr Pine Pienaar (telcoms) and Mr Martin Clark (postal services)

● Free State: Mr Danie Jacobs (telcoms) and Mr Joe de Jager (postal services). — Sapa

268

Step 2/10/88

2/10/88

Demand for Alex council to step down

By Thabo Leshilo

Alexandra residents have called on the local town council to resign because it had failed to provide proper and adequate services, the Alexandra Action Committee announced yesterday.

AAC chairman Mr Moses Mayekiso said residents regarded the councillors as powerless and their institution as "toothless".

He was speaking at a press conference called to report on a meeting his committee held with the town council earlier in the day.

Other reasons for the call to resign were

- The council had no money of its own, but depended on loans. This had led to expensive houses and services.
- Councillors did not consult residents or ask for mandates before acting.

According to Mr Mayekiso, grievances would, after the councillors' resignation, be directed to the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Alexandra Town Council was not available for comment.

260

Star

19/10/88

Post office document shows race bars stand

89
89

By EDDIE KOCH

A CONFIDENTIAL memorandum, leaked by sources in the Post Office, reveals that racial discrimination remains a cornerstone of employment practices in the Department of Post and Telecommunications

The document, handed to *Weekly Mail* by the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), indicates that hundreds of skilled positions in the department's engineering section are reserved for whites only.

It contradicts claims by the department that it has non-racial labour policies. The issue is set to become a major source of conflict during negotiations that are due to take place between Potwa and the Post Office later in the year.

The memorandum, entitled "Approved quotas for recruiting personnel in the Witwatersrand region for the 1989/90 year", stipulates that 845 out of a total of 991 jobs for trainees in the section should be held for whites

Of the remaining 146 posts, 39 (just 3,94 percent of the total) should be reserved for Blacks, 70 for "coloureds" and 37 for Indians

A number of skilled jobs — including those described in the document as "banking and machines", "air conditioning installations" and "mechanical aids" — are reserved exclusively for whites

"Potwa has asserted that these discriminatory practices in the Post Office will always be a bone of contention between workers and management," said union president EK Mosunkutu.

"We believe that this intensified racial recruitment is directed at co-opting white workers once more onto the side of the state particularly be-

cause of the growing resistance they are facing over plans to privatise the postal services."

Mosunkutu told the *Weekly Mail* that the document had been presented to Potwa by sources inside the Post Office. He said the union would raise the issue with management during talks set down for later in the year

The union also planned to mobilise support from community-based organisations because of the serious implications that the discriminatory practices had for unemployment levels in the townships.

"The figures shown in the document will not sit well with our people, particularly the young. That they have been denied the opportunity of proper education is bad enough. That they still face massive discrimination in the way they are recruited is totally unacceptable," said Mosunkutu.

A representative for the Department of Post and Telecommunications said "It is the declared policy of the department that no work sphere should be reserved for a specific population group. This in effect means that the principle of the best man for the job should apply

"The so-called quota system merely represents a projection of the department's manpower requirements for one or more ensuing years and in which staff turnover, expected growth and other relevant considerations, such as the available supply of suitable candidates with the necessary scholastic qualifications, are taken into account with a view to setting recruitment targets. The quota system is not applied as a mechanism to limit employment of the different population groups"

Wmaal

4-10/8/89

CVT
7/11/87
9/11/87
268
~~268~~
~~268~~

GPO workers to hold Salt River rally

POST OFFICE workers, who are poised to form a national non-racial trade union for all postal workers, are going to hold a "unity rally" at the Salt River municipal hall on Sunday.

The formation of a single worker-controlled union, privatisation of the department of post and telecommunications and postal workers' wages will be discussed at the 2pm gathering.

Unity talks will involve the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association, the Post Office Employees' Association of SA and the SA Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association.

Plan to merge PO workers' unions

Staff Reporter *Af64 9/11/87 (265)* Communications Employees Association (Saptea)

A RALLY to promote a merger between three unions in the post office will take place this weekend

Mr Buddy Bakardien, a spokesman for the merger committee, said the merger was scheduled for late January 1990 between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), the Postal Employees Association of South Africa (Peasa) and the South African Post and Telecom-

The three represented about 24 000 Post Office employees out of a potential 42 000 membership

Immediate goals of the union would be to bring Post Office workers within the ambit of the Labour Relations Act and fight privatisation

The rally will be held at the Salt River Hall in Voortrekker Road

The rail strike spreads into the postal sector

5182 22/1/89 By Drew Forrest

The rail strike spilled over into the postal sector yesterday when about 600 North Rand telecommunications workers downed tools in a related dispute.

A post office spokesman said services were unaffected. Talks with the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) were under way.

The reason for the strike appears to be workers' fears of violence on trains and demands that PO management provide alternative transport to work.

The union's general secretary, Mr Vusi Khumalo, said the post office agreed to transport workers on Tuesday this week, but then withdrew the facility. "Workers are furious. They say they still face violence on the trains and outside the stations."

Mr Khumalo said workers who gathered at Milner Park in Johannesburg before being conveyed to work stations throughout the North Rand refused to work this morning.

DISMISSALS

The post office said it had provided transport to and from Soweto on Tuesday and Wednesday. This was an interim measure, and Sats had since said intimidation was not a major problem on the route.

● Another 523 rail strikers were dismissed yesterday — mainly in the Cape — bringing to 21 438 the dismissals so far.

Sats's Mr Ian Bleasdale said job applications by fired strikers in Natal still stood at less than 20, although many workers had phoned to say they wanted to return to work.

SA Railway and Harbour Workers Union leaders met yesterday to hammer out a mandate for further talks with Sats. The outcome was not known at the time of writing.

Post Office agrees to give workers transport

2188 By Joe Openshaw

The Post Office yesterday agreed to transport workers — who fear harassment on trains due to the Sats strike — to and from their homes in Randfontein, Soweto, Evaton and Kagiso.

Agreement was reached at a meeting yesterday between the senior regional manager of the Post Office in Johannesburg, Mr Trevor Olsmdahl, and the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa)

On Tuesday and Thursday last week 4 000 postal workers downed tools and demanded that the Post Office arrange transport for them because they feared harassment on trains from "vigilantes" — non-striking members of the South African Railways and Harbours Workers' Union (Sarhu) — who intimidate strikers and postal workers on trains.

"The vigilantes assault striking Sats workers and others indiscriminately Potwa members who work on the North Rand and have to come in by train refuse to travel by rail to work," said Mr Siswe Matshiki, media representative of Potwa.

NEGOTIATIONS

The post offices affected when the postal workers downed tools during negotiations on Tuesday and Thursday last week stretched from Yeoville to Lanseria and included Sandown, Bryanston, Fourways and Halfway House.

The Post Office management also agreed yesterday to pay overtime wages to drivers of the buses transporting postal workers to their homes, and to report back to Potwa by January 3 on long-term arrangements to provide transport for workers

Potwa wants management to agree to transport workers to and from their homes for the duration of the Sats strike.

Postal strike: First a carrot, then a thwack

By JOHN PERLMAN

THE Post Office arranged further negotiations with the union representing 14 000 striking workers — only six hours before announcing strikers would be fired, the Postal and Telecommunications Workers' Association said yesterday.

Potwa general secretary Kgahisi Mosunkutu said the union had contacted management on Wednesday mudday to arrange a meeting, and had received word of the intended dismissals that evening.

Mosunkutu said Potwa, which claims 17 000 paid-up members, had called the meeting after talks last week broke down when the union said it could not accept management's return-to-work conditions without consulting the workers. Following rallies held over the weekend, the un-

ion was ready to put across the workers' response, Mosunkutu said.

He said Power Park in Soweto, "the most militant depot", had been occupied by police yesterday. Management had read out orders that workers should return to work or be ejected.

Last week about 400 striking workers in Pietermaritzburg were surrounded by police with dogs and removed. Eighty have since been charged, under a municipal by-law with obstructing the pavement.

Potwa's dispute with the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, which recognised the union just over a year ago, began on June 23 in East London over the dismissal

of three workers there. It spread to Port Elizabeth soon afterwards and escalated to its present scale, with a two-day national solidarity strike at the end of July. The scope of strikers' demands has extended to include reinstatement of 60 workers dismissed in the Eastern Cape since January 1985, full pay party for black workers and a "living wage".

Mosunkutu said management had agreed to take back the three workers, but agreement could not be reached on the other 60. He said parity and wages had become the main issues in the strike.

Johann de Villiers, the deputy postmaster general, Personnel and Postal Services, said systematic dismissal of striking workers had started and other workers were being employed.

De Villiers said Potwa's demand that workers on strike be paid full salary could not be met, but full parity in respect of commencing salaries had been introduced at the beginning of July. He said the post office was prepared to establish, in cooperation with the union, negotiating mechanism for dealing with grievances.

Mosunkutu said workers were calling for full salary party because the adjustment to commencing salaries would not benefit "the worker who has been there for 10 or 20 years".

He said workers found the proposal for a negotiating mechanism to discuss party "too vague".

As regards the need for a "living wage", Mosunkutu said some black workers were earning R310 a month, and as little as R260 after deductions.

W/Perlman 21-27/8/87



268

Public Sector

TELECOMMUNICATION - LABOUR

1988

7 Potwa men still detained

By THEMBA MOLEFE

SEVEN members of the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association are still being detained in terms of the state of emergency regulations — four months after the massive post office strike ended — the union said yesterday.

Many others are still facing charges relating to last July - September's strike.

Potwa general secretary Mr Kgabis Mosunkutu said only 300 of the 3 000 members dismissed in last year's strike had been reinstated following negotiations with the Department of Posts and Telecommunication.

The seven still in detention are Mr Peter Sogololo, who has completed 119 days; Mr Lefty Monyokolo, 119 days; Mr Simon Moagi and Mr William

Mhlanga, 72 days, Mr Msindisi Mchunu and Mr Lucas Shangase, 44 days each, and recently detained Mr Vuyisile Bless who has completed nine days under the state of emergency regulations.

Mr Mosunkutu said Potwa had spent R24 500 to secure bail for 32 members who were charged with offences ranging from murder to intimidation allegedly committed during the strike. The cases are still pending.

"The most significant of the cases are those of Mr Tshepo Rabotapi, Mr Kenneth Ngwayi, Mr Albert Kubayi and Mr Peter Mothipi, who have since been acquitted of sabotage after eight appearances.

"There are three workers who are presently facing sabotage charges in the northern Transvaal. They are Mr Peter Mokoena, Mr Zett Maphanga and Mr Frank Phalane, all Potwa officials, Mr Mosunkutu said.

A STRIKE over a "continued dismissal syndrome" at OK Bazaars stores is looming as workers began voting in a ballot yesterday, the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union has said.

Ccawusa spokesman Mr Vivi Masina said the action was provoked by the dismissal of several workers in Nelspruit, Klerksdorp, Johannesburg and Germiston over various allegations.

He said management alleged workers either unlawfully appropriated property following unsubstantiated statements from customers, or after being accused of theft, again on customers' information.

He said the dismissals were unfair and that no proper procedures were followed.

Mr Masina said the company had repeatedly refused to go for arbitration, and that unlike with other companies, no conciliation boards were appointed to adjudicate in the matters.

Applications for telephone services outstanding

134 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Communications

- (1) How many applications for telephone services were outstanding in respect of (a) the exchanges of (i) Bryanston, (ii) Randburg, (iii) Benmore Gardens, (iv) Sandown, (v) Kelvin, (vi) Bramley, (vii) Rosebank and (viii) Sunninghill Park, and (b) any other exchanges servicing the Sandton constituency, as at the latest specified date for which figures are available,
- (2) when is it anticipated that the backlog in respect of each exchange will be eliminated,
- (3) what steps are being taken to satisfy the demand for telephones in respect of each such exchange?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) (a) (i) 71,
- (ii) 175
- (iii) 118,
- (iv) this exchange is no longer in existence and all telephone connections that were previously connected thereto have been cut-over to the Benmore Gardens exchange.
- (v) 63,
- (vi) 154
- (vii) 192,
- (viii) 124, and
- (b) Farmall 13
Fourways 169,
Olivedale 61,
Diepsloot 1,
Bromhof 99,
Crowthorne 46

Bromhof, Benmore Gardens and Kelvin

It is expected that a 1 048 line extension of the Bryanston exchange will be taken into service early during the second half of this year (initially anticipated during the first half of this year)

Farmall

Restrictions on the provision of telephone services are at present in force owing to a shortage of telephone numbers in the exchange and in some cases cable leads. It is expected that the applications on hand will be met within the next three months as minor cable works are completed and by making use of numbers that become available as a result of the discontinuance of existing services. The existing exchange will be replaced by an electronic unit during the first half of 1990 which will result in this exchange being extended by 891 lines

Crowthorne and Fourways

Owing to a shortage of telephone numbers in these exchanges, services can at present only be provided when telephone numbers become available as a result of the discontinuance of existing services. It is expected that a 910 line extension of the Fourways exchange will be taken into service during the second half of this year and a 884 line extension of the Crowthorne exchange towards the end of this year. All outstanding applications will be met after completion of these extensions

Telephone directories printed/distributed

312 Mr J B de R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

How many (a) telephone directories were printed in each specified region of the Republic

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
in 1987 and (b) such telephone directories had been distributed in each of these regions by 31 December 1987?

	(a)	(b)	Date on which distribution commenced
Vaal Triangle	116 343	112 265	1987-02-25
Port Elizabeth and surrounding area	156 349	155 726	1987-02-23
East London and Eastern Cape country	128 022	125 303	1987-03-23
West Rand	680 192	577 813	1987-06-23
Cape Peninsula	550 247	493 007	1987-06-08
White Pages	353 347	332 582	1987-06-08
Yellow Pages	930 361	823 635	1987-08-11
Johannesburg	282 419	227 458	1987-08-11
White Pages	153 331	122 663	1987-08-24
Yellow Pages	68 595	54 062	1987-09-07
Boland and West Coast	34 090	27 791	1987-09-28
Southern Cape	659 791	560 323	1987-10-13
Karoo and Namaqualand			
East Rand			
Durban and surrounding area			
White Pages	424 064	291 504	1987-11-02
Yellow Pages	238 407	181 313	1987-11-02
Northern Cape	86 604	64 700	1987-11-02
Orange Free State	208 777	137 587	1987-12-03
Pretoria			
White Pages	394 729	241 235	1987-12-14
Yellow Pages	130 241	45 829	1987-12-14
Natal South Coast	46 022	Nil	1988-01-18
Natal North Coast	69 808	Nil	1988-01-18
Northern Transvaal	95 824	Nil	1988-01-15
Eastern and South-Eastern Transvaal	156 381	Nil	1988-01-15
Western Transvaal	121 989	Nil	1988-01-15
Johannesburg and Witwatersrand			
Business and Industrial			
Yellow Page Telephone Directory	40 320	Nil	1988-01-02
Pietermaritzburg and Natal Interior	158 854	Nil	1988-01-27

Note In those instances where "Nil" appears in column (b) the directories were printed during December 1987 and could not be distributed during 1987. For the sake of completeness the actual dates on which the distribution of the various directories commenced have also been furnished

Technicians/postmen, resignations
316 Mr J B de R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

- (a) How many employees in his Department resigned in 1987 and (b) how many such employees were (i) technicians and (ii) postmen?

268

Handwritten signature

(a) What was the approximate area of land in the Republic infested by *nasella trichotoma* at the end of 1987 and (b) (i) what amount was spent by his Department in 1987 in combating the spread of this weed and (ii) how many hectares were cleared in that year?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (a) 87 368 hectares
- (b) (i) R266 000

(ii) During the period 1 April 1986 until 31 March 1987, severe infestations on 1 064 hectares were brought under control. Infested areas can never be cleared totally from *nasella trichotoma*.

Persons occupying premises in contravention of Group Areas Act: alternative steps

308 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Justice.

With reference to his reply to Question No 221 on 11 August 1987, (a) what alternative steps are taken against persons occupying premises in contravention of the provisions of the Group Areas Act and (b) how many occupants had such alternative steps taken against them during the latest specified period for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

- (a) As indicated in my reply to Written Question No 221 on 11 August 1987 the alternative steps comprise of negotiations and the issuing of summonses and written notices to unlawful occupants to vacate. The nature of these steps are self-explanatory. Should such occupants as a result thereof vacate the premises concerned, the need to prosecute falls away.
- (b) The information is not readily available in the Department.

311 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

How many telephones were installed in the (a) (i) Witwatersrand, (ii) Durban, (iii) Cape Town, (iv) Port Elizabeth and (v) Bloemfontein areas and (b) Republic in 1987?

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

- (a) (i) 69 490,
- (ii) 19 801,
- (iii) 28 586,
- (iv) 3 541,
- (v) 4 007; and
- (b) 209 209

Note: The figures furnished represent the net additions to the telephone system and include extensions and miscellaneous services

Post Office: permanent/temporary/casual and regular employees

314 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications.

How many (a) Whites, (b) Blacks, (c) Coloureds and (d) Indians employed by the Post Office are (i) permanent, (ii) temporary and (iii) casual and regular employees?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
(a)	48 742	3 224	2 082
(b)	5 243	212	23 452
(c)	3 767	51	8 221
(d)	2 070	17	1 79

Notes:

- (1) The above-mentioned figures reflect the position as at 31 December 1987
- (2) The figures under (ii) represent persons employed in a temporary capacity against posts on the fixed establishment and include part-time employees so employed
- (3) The regular employees included in the figure under (iii) consist of unskilled and semi-skilled persons taken into employment against specific posts

315. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Asian, (iii) Coloured and (iv) Black apprentices were indentured to his Department, and (b) in which trades were they indentured, as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

268

Apprentices indentured

Handwritten signature

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) (i) 67, and
- (ii), (iii) and (iv) none, and

- (b) motor mechanic (12),
- diesel mechanic (7),
- painter/decorator (14),
- carpenter (22),
- welder (7),
- plumber (4), and
- panelbeater (1),

Learner telephone electricians: training completed as at 17 February 1988

318 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) Coloured, (ii) Asian, (iii) White and (iv) Black learner telephone electricians completed their training in 1987 and (b) how many electricians in each race group are employed by his Department at present?

268

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) (i) 60
- (ii) 54
- (iii) 823
- (iv) 108, and
- (b) (i) 1 055
- (ii) 667
- (iii) 8 962, and
- (iv) 772

Note: The figures under (b) reflect the position on 31 December 1987 and include all electrician grades except learners

Telephones: applications outstanding

319. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

How many applications for telephones were outstanding in (a) each departmental region, (b) Johannesburg, (c) Cape Town, (d) Durban, (e) Port Elizabeth, (f) East London, (g) Pretoria and (h) Soweto as at 31 December 1987?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

	11 634	8 007	35 257	16 037
(a) Western Cape				
Eastern Cape				
Northern Transvaal				
Witwatersrand (including Soweto)				

	34 103	10 401	1 266	32 465
South Eastern Transvaal				
Orange Free State				
Northern Cape				
Natal				

(b) Witwatersrand, excluding Soweto and the East Rand (separate statistics for Johannesburg are not available)

- (c) Cape Town (Peninsula) 10 760
- (d) Durban 16 522
- (e) Port Elizabeth 5 531
- (f) East London 979
- (g) Pretoria 7 211 and
- (h) Soweto 6 408

Post Office: postmen employed

320 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

(1) How many (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Asian and (d) Black postmen were employed by the Post Office in the latest specified year for which figures are available,

(2) whether the salary programme has yet reached the stage where the rate of pay is the same for postmen of all population groups, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that parity will be reached, if so, what are the respective rates?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) (a) 2 236,
 - (b) 1 169,
 - (c) 491, and
 - (d) 1 689,
- as at 31 December 1987;
- (2) yes,
 - Senior Postman R9 990 x 690 — 12 750
 - Postman R6 990 x 510 — 8 010 x 660 — 9 990 x 690 — 12 060

Lenasia/Soweto: telephones installed for private/business purposes

322 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

How many telephones were installed in 1987 in Lenasia and Soweto, respectively, for (a) private and (b) business purposes?

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) (b)
Lenasia 1 854 589
Soweto 18 669 1 413

Note The information is in respect of main services only and includes transfers. The available statistics of telephones other than main services do not distinguish between services for private and business purposes

Military disability pensions: persons in receipt/amount paid out

365 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

(a) How many persons are in receipt of military disability pensions and (b) what amount was paid out in such pensions in respect of the year ended 31 March 1987?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT.

(a) 11 878

(b) R36 717 135

Commission of Inquiry into Health Matters: total amount spent

386 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

(a) What total amount had been spent on the Commission of Inquiry into Health Matters as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) on what specified items was this money spent?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

(a) R507 431 as at 31/3/1987

(b) The funds were utilized as follows

Salaries	R265 812
Administration	R68 455
Members' Allowances	R144 734
Publications	R27 747
Technical Services	R683
	<u>R507 431</u>

University of Natal: new teaching hospital for medical school

388 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FOREIGN PATIENTS TREATED IN SOUTH AFRICAN PROVINCIAL HOSPITALS - PERIOD 1986-09-01 TO 1987-08-31

Country/City of origin	Province concerned	No of patients	Hospital fees		
			Collectable R c	Collected R c	Written off R c
Argentina	OFS	1	50,00	50,00	
Australia	Cape	3	201,00	40,00	
	OFS	1	40,00	40,00	
Austria	Cape	1	622,00		
Belgium	Cape	2	502,00	0,00	
	OFS	1	40,00	40,00	
Bophuthatswana	Transvaal	1	1 040,00	1 040,00	
	Transvaal	1	26,00	26,00	
Botswana	Cape	30	37 310,00	9,00	
	Natal	2	360,00	310,00	
	OFS	5	1 165,00	1 145,00	
Bulgaria	Transvaal	309	381 439,36	214 554,20	60,00
	Cape	1	1 494,00		
Canada	Cape	4	859,50		
Channel Islands	Natal	1	200,00		
China	OFS	41	2 682,00	2 462,00	40,00
Cyprus	OFS	3	170,00	130,00	
Denmark	Cape	1	137,00	137,00	
Egypt	Cape	1	530,00		
	OFS	1	50,00	50,00	
France	Cape	1	117,00	117,00	
	OFS	4	1 020,00	1 020,00	
Greece	Cape	3	879,00	829,00	
	Natal	1	100,00		
	OFS	3	850,00	850,00	
Ireland	Cape	2	204,00		
India	Cape	1	376,00		
	OFS	4	230,00		
Israel	Cape	8	7 485,00	180,00	
	OFS	1	10,00	10,00	
Italy	Cape	2	1 595,00	1 595,00	
	OFS	2	50,00	50,00	
Japan	Cape	15	12 076,00	1 313,00	
Kenya	Cape	3	132,25	132,25	
Korea	Cape	6	7 225,00	6 399,00	
Lesotho	Natal	4	596,00	292,00	
	OFS	4	662 786,00	467 038,00	1 260,00
	Transvaal	6	6 273,90	6 105,90	
Libanon	Transvaal	6	38,00	38,00	
Madagascar	OFS	1	1 296,00		
Malawi	Cape	4	9 932,00	4 859,00	
	Cape	12	400,00	50,00	
	Natal	3	270,00	270,00	
	OFS	2	27,114,41	14 058,51	
Mauritius	Transvaal	27	166 806,00	18 293,92	
	Cape	80	10 807,00	10 807,00	
	Natal	6	1 020,00		
	OFS	2			

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(a) What was the approximate area of land in the Republic infested by *nasella trichotoma* at the end of 1987 and (b) (i) what amount was spent by his Department in 1987 in combating the spread of this weed and (ii) how many hectares were cleared in that year?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (a) 87 368 hectares
(b) (i) R266 000

(ii) During the period 1 April 1986 until 31 March 1987, severe infestations on 1 064 hectares were brought under control. Infested areas can never be cleared totally from *nasella trichotoma*.

Persons occupying premises in contravention of Group Areas Act: alternative steps

308 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Justice.

With reference to his reply to Question No 221 on 11 August 1987, (a) what alternative steps are taken against persons occupying premises in contravention of the provisions of the Group Areas Act and (b) how many occupants had such alternative steps taken against them during the latest specified period for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

- (a) As indicated in my reply to Written Question No 221 on 11 August 1987 the alternative steps comprise of negotiations and the issuing of summonses and written notices to unlawful occupants to vacate. The nature of these steps are self-explanatory. Should such occupants as a result thereof vacate the premises concerned, the need to prosecute falls away.
- (b) The information is not readily available in the Department.

Telephones installed

311 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

How many telephones were installed in the (a) (i) Witwatersrand, (ii) Durban, (iii) Cape Town, (iv) Port Elizabeth and (v) Bloemfontein areas and (b) Republic in 1987?

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) (i) 69 490,
(ii) 19 801,
(iii) 28 586,
(iv) 3 541,
(v) 4 007, and
(b) 209 209

Note The figures furnished represent the net additions to the telephone system and include extensions and miscellaneous services

Post Office: permanent/temporary/casual and regular employees

314 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

How many (a) Whites, (b) Blacks, (c) Coloureds and (d) Indians employed by the Post Office are (i) permanent, (ii) temporary and (iii) casual and regular employees?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)
(a)	48 742	3 224	2 082
(b)	5 243	212	23 452
(c)	3 767	51	8 221
(d)	2 070	17	179

Notes

- (1) The above-mentioned figures reflect the position as at 31 December 1987
- (2) The figures under (ii) represent persons employed in a temporary capacity against posts on the fixed establishment and include part-time employees so employed
- (3) The regular employees included in the figure under (iii) consist of unskilled and semi-skilled persons taken into employment against specific posts

Apprentices indentured

315 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Asian, (iii) Coloured and (iv) Black apprentices were indentured to his Department, and (b) in which trades were they indentured, as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) (i) 67, and
(ii), (iii) and (iv) none, and

- (b) motor mechanic (12),
diesel mechanic (7),
painter/decorator (14),
carpenter (22),
welder (7),
plumber (4), and
panelbeater (1),
as at 17 February 1988

Learner telephone electricians: training completed

318 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

- (a) How many (i) Coloured, (ii) Asian, (iii) White and (iv) Black learner telephone electricians completed their training in 1987 and (b) how many electricians in each race group are employed by his Department at present?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) (i) 60
(ii) 54
(iii) 823
(iv) 108, and
(b) (i) 1 055
(ii) 667
(iii) 8 962, and
(iv) 772

Note. The figures under (b) reflect the position on 31 December 1987 and include all electrician grades except learners.

Telephones: applications outstanding

319. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

How many applications for telephones were outstanding in (a) each departmental region, (b) Johannesburg, (c) Cape Town, (d) Durban, (e) Port Elizabeth, (f) East London, (g) Pretoria and (h) Soweto as at 31 December 1987?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) Western Cape 11 634
Eastern Cape 8 007
Northern Transvaal 35 257
Witwatersrand (including Soweto) 16 037

South Eastern Transvaal 34 103
Orange Free State 10 401
Northern Cape 1 266
Natal 32 465

- (b) Witwatersrand, excluding Soweto and the East Rand (separate statistics for Johannesburg are not available) 9 629
(c) Cape Town (Peninsula) 10 760
(d) Durban 16 522
(e) Port Elizabeth 5 531
(f) East London 970
(g) Pretoria 7 211 and
(h) Soweto 6 408

Post Office: postmen employed

320 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

- (1) How many (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Asian and (d) Black postmen were employed by the Post Office in the latest specified year for which figures are available;
- (2) whether the salary programme has yet reached the stage where the rate of pay is the same for postmen of all population groups, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that parity will be reached; if so, what are the respective rates?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) (a) 2 236,
(b) 1 169,
(c) 491, and
(d) 1 689,
as at 31 December 1987,
- (2) yes,
Senior Postman R9 990 × 690 — 12 750
Postman R6 990 × 510 — 8 010 × 660 —
9 990 × 690 — 12 060

Lenasia/Soweto: telephones installed for private/business purposes

322 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

How many telephones were installed in 1987 in Lenasia and Soweto, respectively, for (a) private and (b) business purposes?

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

General increase in tariffs for Post Office is unlikely

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — No general increase in tariffs is expected in the Post Office budget which is to be tabled in Parliament today.

Details of privatisation of Post Office services are expected to be announced by the Minister of Communications Mr Stoffel Botha.

The Cabinet has decided that all administered prices and public sector salaries are to be frozen this year as far as possible, according to Government sources.

President Botha has told public servants they would not be getting a general increase in wages and salaries.

Since then, Transport Minister Mr Eli Louw announced there would be no general salary increase for Sats staff and no increase in tariffs and fares this year.

Mr Stoffel Botha is similarly expected to announce no general salary increase for Post Office workers and no tariff increases this year.

The Post Office made a R470 million profit in the 1986/87 year.

Postal union disappointed at government wage freeze

11/10/10

DURBAN—The multi-racial South African Posts and Telecommunications Employees' Association has expressed disappointment with the government's wage freeze for civil servants

But the association would "toe the line" and not press for wage increases "because we want to play our part in helping to uplift the country's economy", said the president of the association, Mr Rabi Gobind, yesterday

He was commenting on the post office budget announced this week by the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr Stoffel Botha. No announcement of wage increases for Post

Office workers was made in the budget.

Mr Gobind said "Although we are unhappy and extremely disappointed about the freeze in salaries we plan to play a positive role to help in the upliftment of the economy

"But we will be watching the public sector with eagle eyes. If they are granted increases which in effect will help increase inflation then we'll go back to our minister and make our salary demands

"We should not be the sacrificial lamb," he said

"Regarding the terms of the post office budget we feel its is a positive

one and we support top management in its plans. We are awaiting details on privatisation before we can comment more fully on that

"We are confident that the new organisational structure to be implemented by the post office will help in accelerating the removal of the last few discriminatory practices in the post office"

The general secretary of the Postal and Telegraph Association of South Africa, Mr Frank Gerber, said that the salary issue would be discussed by the association at its five-day congress in Port Elizabeth, starting on April 11 — DDC

268

March 15 1988

268 B/day 15/3/88

Most blacks are temporary

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — More than 80% of black workers and 67% of coloured workers employed by the Post Office are not in permanent positions.

Communications Minister Stoffel Botha said yesterday 5 243 of the 28 907 black workers were permanent employees

The Post Office employed 212 blacks as temporary employees and 23 452 blacks as casual and regular employees.

In reply to a question by Jan van Gend (PFP, Groote Schuur), Botha said 3 767 of the 12 309 coloured employees were in permanent positions

The Post Office employed 51 coloureds in temporary positions and 8 221 coloureds as casual and

Political Staff

regular employees

This meant 81,9% of blacks and 67,2% of coloured employees were not in permanent positions in the Post Office

However, only 9,8% of white and 9,5% of Indian employees were not in permanent positions.

Botha said 48 472 whites were in permanent positions, 3 224 in temporary positions and 2 082 were temporary and regular employees, while 2 070 Indians were in permanent positions, 17 in temporary positions and 179 were casual and regular employees

He explained that regular employees consisted of "unskilled and semi-skilled persons taken into employment against specific posts".



Parliament '88

Minister defends PO racial imbalance

268
17/2/88

The ratio of white permanent staff in the Post Office was alarmingly disproportionate, Mr Jan van Gend, Progressive Party MP for Groot-Schuur said yesterday.

Speaking in the House of Assembly during the Post Office budget debate, Mr van Gend said there were 48 742 permanent white workers in the Post Office and 2 000 whites on a casual or non-permanent basis.

The statistics for blacks showed that nearly five times as many blacks were employed as casual labourers as were permanently employed, the figure for 5 243 permanent staff being 23 452 black casual employees.

FIGURES UP

In reply, Home Affairs Minister Mr Stoffel Botha said that since 1970 whites employed by the Post Office had increased by 40 percent compared to an increase of 213 percent for Indians and 117 percent for blacks. The figures reflected permanent and casual labour.

He pointed out that casual labour employed by the Post Office was mostly unskilled labour and that the figures for van Gend quoted had nothing to do with race but with the skill required for the work.

Mr Botha said none of the coloured or Indians had taken part in the strike last year.

The Post Office Appropriation Bill was read a third time without objection.

LEFT: Tunnel vision . . . a motorist's view of the brilliantly lit tunnel.

Wage freeze a 'diversionary tactic'

Labour Reporter

The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), reacting to Wednesday's budget announcement, said postal workers would continue to reject the Government's plans to freeze wages for public sector employees.

In a statement yesterday Potwa general secretary Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu said the wage freeze was a "diversionary tactic" to cover up the "real" causes of inflation.

These were "apartheid and the bantustans, which are riddled with corruption and are maintained through a ruthless policy of repression and minority domination".

"The maintainance of the undemocratic institutions such as the tricameral Parliament and the plethora of Ministers and deputy Ministers is a shining example of the vast wealth and resources of the country going down the drain in the name of apartheid.

"As workers in the post office we say that we reject totally the wage freeze strategy of the Government. The attempts to persuade big business into supporting its wage freeze must be rejected."

"Workers will continue to demand the banning of useless, wasteful, undemocratic structures," said Mr Mosunkutu.

Worker action likely over 1960 shootings

Black workers are expected to take action on Monday, the 28th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings, in protest against capital punishment and the recent imposition of restrictions.

A group calling itself the "Let the UDF Speak Committee" has distributed pamphlets in a number of black townships. There have also been calls by anti-apartheid groups for a "national day of protest".

"The racists" have falsely claimed to have crushed our resistance. But three states of emergency, thousands of de-

ceptions, SADF/SAP terror methods and apartheid vigilantes have not been able to break the spirit of our people."

At least 17 organisations affiliated to the United Democratic Front (UDF) this week called for special church services on Monday to pray for the "downfall of the Botha Government, the tricameral system and Bantustan puppets".

This report has been amended and parts have been omitted to comply with the emergency regulations.

X Report Restricted

Journalists'

Potwa challenges terror claims

By STAN MHLONGO (268)

THE Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association this week challenged the police to bring their detained secretary Kgabisi Mosunkutu before a court of law to face charges of conspiring with the ANC to train insurgents. The challenge was made by Potwa general secretary Floyd Mashele "to either charge or release Mosunkutu".

He said Potwa was stunned by the telex from the SAP's Maj van der Westhuizen accusing Mosunkutu of subversive activities

218/158
In the telex Van der Westhuizen claimed that Mosunkutu had been detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. He was detained on July 4.

The telex from Van der Westhuizen to Mosunkutu's lawyers said police investigations revealed that the accused had conspired with a trained terrorist of the banned ANC to organise military training for recruits.

Van der Westhuizen declined to comment on the matter, but Mosunkutu's lawyer, David Dyson, confirmed that he had received a telex from the police concerning Mosunkutu's detention.

CP/MS

Telephone section - technical assistants/technicians employed

489 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) technical assistants and (ii) technicians were employed in the telephone section of his Department in each

	(a) (i)	(a) (ii)	(b) (i)
1983	5 270	5 079	1983
1984	5 347	5 192	1984
1985	5 306	5 452	1985
1986	5 238	6 151	1986
1987	5 232	6 871	1987

of the latest specified five financial years for which information is available and (b) how many of these (i) technical assistants and (ii) technicians were (aa) White, (bb) Coloured, (cc) Indian and (dd) Black?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

	(aa)	(bb)	(cc)	(dd)	(ii)
3 852	3 852	3 87	210	821	4 863
3 885	3 885	397	177	847	4 941
3 885	3 885	384	178	824	5 099
3 852	3 852	384	178	824	5 551
3 822	3 822	381	178	851	6 138
304	304	189	224	205	80
99	99	189	224	205	107
37	37	160	205		42

Notes (1) The above-mentioned figures reflect the position as at 31 March each year (2) As the rank "technical assistant" is not used in the Post Office, the figures reflected against items (a)(i) and (b)(i) are in respect of officials occupying the rank of "telcom assistant". The figures do not include "telcom electricians" and "telcom mechanics"

Eastern Cape: applications to purchase houses

553 Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(a) How many persons in each specified Black township in the Eastern Cape lodged applications to purchase houses in 1987, (b) how many of these applications had been granted as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (c) (i) what total number of houses had been purchased in each of these townships and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

	(a)	(b)	(c)
East London	39	39	39
Port Elizabeth	1 942	1 942	1 942
Queenstown	76	76	76

Alexandra Township: applications for 99-year leases

581 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(a) How many persons in Alexandra Township applied in each year for 99-year leases from the inception of the leasehold scheme to 31 December 1987 and (b) how many of these applications had been granted as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

	(a)	(b)
1982—9	1982—9	1982—9
1983—19	1983—19	1983—19
1984—57	1984—57	1984—57
1985—47	1985—47	1985—47
1986—21	1986—21	1986—21
1987—66	1987—66	1987—66

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(b) 1982—9

1983—19	1983—19
1984—57	1984—57
1985—47	1985—47
1986—21	1986—21
1987—63	1987—63

Alexandra Township: rental payments in arrears

582 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) Whether any families living in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg, are in arrears with rental payments, if so, (a) how many families are (i) in arrears and (ii) up to date with their rental payments and (b) what is the extent of the arrears in rental payments in this township,

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(1) Yes

(a) (i) 15 000	(a) (i) 15 000
(ii) 250	(ii) 250
(b) R2 734 099	(b) R2 734 099

(2) 31 December 1987

Sandton: applications by non-Whites to occupy own residential property

583 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) How many applications were received during the period 1 June 1987 to the latest specified date for which information is available, from (a) Coloured, (b) Indian and (c) Black persons to (i) occupy and (ii) own residential property in areas proclaimed for occupation by White persons in Sandton,

(2) how many such applications (a) had been (i) granted and (ii) refused and (b) were pending as at the above date?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING.

Period 1 June 1987 to 31 December 1987

(1) (a) Coloured	(1) (a) Coloured
(b) Indians	(b) Indians

(c) Blacks

(i) None	(i) None
(ii) Acquisition coloureds	(ii) Acquisition coloureds
Indians	Indians
Blacks	Blacks

(2) (a) (i) None

(ii) Refused coloureds	(ii) Refused coloureds
Indians	Indians
Blacks	Blacks

(b) None

Christmas cards sent out

598 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Communications

(1) Whether (a) he and/or (b) his Department sent out Christmas cards in 1987, if so, (i) what total number of cards was printed, (ii) to whom were they sent, (iii) what was the total cost of producing and distributing these cards, and (iv) who was responsible for printing them, in each case,

(2) whether postage stamps were used to send out these Christmas cards, if not, how were they distributed?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) (a) and (b) Yes,

(i) 44 940

(ii) The large majority to selected investors in the Post Office Savings Bank as part of our endeavours to promote the corporate image of the Department and the rest as a reciprocal gesture mainly to politicians, senior officials of the Post Office and other Government Departments, editors of newspapers, banks, large users of the Post Office, suppliers of telecommunication equipment, private consultants and prominent persons in the private sector,

(iii) R6 734,88 (cost of printing and envelopes)

(iv) Departmental printing works

(2) No, they were distributed as official mail

Sar-travel: scheduled coach tours for tourists
660 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Transport Affairs

- (1) Whether Sar-travel operates any scheduled coach tours for tourists, if so,
- (2) whether the financial results of this division are assessed separately from those of other divisions of South African Transport Services, if not, how are they assessed, if so, what (a) was the (i) profit or (ii) loss of this division in the 1987/88 financial year and (b) is the projected (i) profit or (ii) loss for the 1988/89 financial year?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS

- (1) Yes
- (2) The Honourable Member's attention is directed to the documents which were tabled during the introduction of the South African Transport Services Appropriation Bill, 1988. Particulars of these services' financial results are contained therein

Botshabelo, hospitals

673 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid

Whether there are any hospitals in Botshabelo, if not, (a) why not and (b) where is the nearest hospital, if so, (i) how many of each specified kind of hospital, (ii) how many (aa) beds, (bb) doctors and (cc) nurses are there in respect of each of these hospitals and (iii) who is responsible for paramedical services in this area?

- (a) (1) *R4 500 X 450 — 5 400 X 480 — 5 800/-
6 360 X 480 — 7 800
- (2) R6 150 X 510 — 8 190 X 660 — 8 850
- (3) *R4 950 X 450 — 5 400 X 480 — 7 800/-
8 460 X 660 — 9 120
- (4) R5 550 X 480 — 6 030 X 510 — 8 070 X 660 — 9 390
- (5) R5 400 X 480 — 7 800 X 660 — 9 120 X 690 — 11 880 (Telcom Assistant)

*Officials must meet certain service and merit requirements to progress beyond the barrier (//-) on the appropriate salary scale

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID

- (i) One General Hospital
- (ii) (aa) 61
- (bb) 5 full-time and 7 part-time
- (cc) 107
- (iii) The hospital itself

Mooihooi: automating of telephone service

680 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Communications †

Whether his Department intends automating the telephone service at Mooihooi, if not, why not, if so, when?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Yes, but owing to financial and other restraints, it was unfortunately not possible to include the Mooihooi exchange in an automation programme stretching up to and including the 1989/90 financial year. At this stage it is also not possible to indicate when this exchange will be accorded its turn

Five most junior posts: salary scales

708 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(a) What are the salary scales attached to each of the five most junior posts in his Department, (b) how many of these posts are filled by Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, respectively, and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (General Assistant 1)
- (Catering Assistant 1)
- (Security Assistant 1)
- (Senior Housekeeper)
- (General Assistant 2)
- (Catering Assistant 2)
- (Security Assistant 2)
- (Water/Waitress)

The following wage incentive schemes have been introduced on a trial basis

	Whites	Coloureds	Indians	Blacks
(b)	780	6 375	113	19 379
	72	81	—	232
	6	68	—	246
	235	995	41	1 832
	1	1	—	2
	25	17	—	28
	—	2	—	34
	—	—	—	4
	1 713	227	110	545
	2 832	7 766	264	22 302
(c) 31 December 1987.				(Total)

Employees of SATS: financial incentive/bonus systems

742 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs

Whether there are any financial incentive or bonus systems for employees in the South African Transport Services, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many and (b) what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS

- (a) 13
- (b) SCHEME
- Bonuswork Agreement Number One
- Bonuswork Agreement Number Two
- Bonuswork Agreement Number Three
- Productivity Incentive Scheme Airways Department
- Wage Incentive Scheme Diesel and Steam Locomotive Sheds
- Incentive Scheme Cargo Handling in Harbours
- Incentive Scheme Harbour Container Terminals
- Incentive Scheme Dredgers
- Carriage Bonuswork System
- Incentive Scheme Data Capturing Machines
- Wage Incentive Scheme Artisans on coach work in electric running sheds

The following wage incentive schemes have been introduced on a trial basis

- Mechanical Maintenance Personnel
- Wage Incentive Scheme for Earthmoving gangs
- Artisans and related grades employed on maintenance of mechanical plant and apparatus
- Personnel employed on earthmoving work

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID

Self-governing territory/Statutory bodies*	Commerce, Industries and Services	Small Industries	Mining	Agriculture	Transport	Other housing
Gazankulu	(a)(i) 227 (a)(ii)(aa) 227 (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	—	—	120	—	140
KaNgwane	(a)(i) 395 (a)(ii)(aa) 395 (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	—	—	478	—	—
KwaNdebele	(a)(i) 2 750 (a)(ii)(aa) 2 750 (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	1 900 1 200 700 —	200 200 — —	500 500 — —	— — — —	135 135 — —
KwaZulu	(a)(i) 298 (a)(ii)(aa) 298 (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	4 519 1 — —	275 275 — —	3 131 3 131 — —	70 70 — —	— — — —
Lebowa	(a)(i) — (a)(ii)(aa) — (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	R21 769 R6 393 R4 981 —	128 128 42 —	42 175 — —	— — — —	— — — —
Qwaqwa	(a)(i) 210 (a)(ii)(aa) 210 (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	9 180 9 180 — —	320 320 — —	620 620 — —	— — — —	— — — —
S T K	(a)(i) 50 (a)(ii)(aa) 50 (a)(ii)(bb) — (b) —	5 942 3 962 1 980 —	20 20 — —	1 300 1 300 — —	— — — —	— — — —

1 Not available as yet

2 Only average figures are available.

3 Include investments in preparation of the settlement of commercial farmers as well as in long-term crops that will only after a few years create permanent job opportunities
Information with regard to border areas are not included

Tear-gas used against detainees

198 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Law and Order

Whether tear-gas was used against detainees in

any police cells in 1987, if so, (a) at what police cells, (b) on what dates, (c) why, (d) what were the circumstances surrounding each of these incidents, (e) how many detainees were in-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

volved in each case and (f) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

Nyanga 22 1 049,
Khayelisha 14 72

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

Yes

(a) At two police stations in the Republic

(b) 1 March and 13 November 1987

(c) to (e) In both instances, teargas aerosol cans were used to restrain awaiting trial prisoners, who fought among themselves, with minimum force. In doing so serious injuries were prevented

(f) 1 January until 31 December 1987

Black persons: applications for pensions granted

220 Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(a) How many applications for pensions for Black persons were granted by the Cape Provincial Administration in December 1987 and January 1988, respectively, (b) when was each of the applications received initially and (c) on what dates were they granted, in each case?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(a) December 890
January 2 104

(b) and (c) Not available

New public/private telephones installed

321 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

(1) How many new (a) public and (b) private telephones were installed in 1987 in Langa, Guguletu, Nyanga and Khayelisha, respectively,

(2) how many (a) public and (b) private telephones were there in each of these townships as at 31 December 1987?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1)	(a)	(b)
Langa	1	231,
Guguletu	nil	210,
Nyanga	nil	167,
Khayelisha	4	22, and
(2)	(a)	(b)
Langa	19	1 413,
Guguletu	41	2 913,

Note In those cases where the number of telephone services on 31 December 1987 is lower than those for 31 December 1986 furnished in reply to Question No 11 by Mr A B Widman on 13 February 1987, the decrease is ascribed to dismantlements. As far as Guguletu is concerned, it is also the case that 10 call offices in the industrial area were not included in the figure for 31 December 1986 furnished in the reply to the aforementioned question

Vacant posts

357 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many posts on the establishment of his Department were vacant as at 31 December 1987 and (b) what are the designations of these posts?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) 4 630 — which figure represents the difference between the total authorized establishment and the number of persons who occupy posts on the fixed establishment, and

(b) Data Officer, Typist, Senior Architect, Assistant Architect, Assistant Legal Adviser, Language Officer, Dealer, Statistician, Human Resources Officer, Assistant Human Resources Officer, Industrial Social Worker, Psychometrist, Psychologist, Assistant Marketing Manager, Marketing Officer, Design Artist, Senior Industrial Journalist, Internal Auditor, Assistant Quantity Surveyor, Cost Investigation Officer, Chief Photographer, Photographer, Lecturer, Assistant Director Technical, Technician, Draughtsman, Works Inspector, Inspector of Uniformed Staff, Exchange Superintendent, Instructor, Telecom Electrician/mechanic, Telecom Assistant, Postman, Telephonist, Assistant Printer, Driver, Senior Housekeeper, Caretaker, Foreman, Cook, Security Officer, Waiter, General Assistant, Security Assistant and Catering Assistant

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Telephone section: technical assistants/technicians employed

489 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) technical assistants and (ii) technicians were employed in the telephone section of his Department in each

228

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
(a) (i)	5 270	5 347	5 306	5 238	5 232
(a) (ii)	5 079	5 192	5 452	6 151	6 871
(b) (i)					
(aa)	3 852	3 868	3 885	3 852	3 822
(bb)	387	402	397	384	381
(cc)	210	228	177	178	178
(dd)	821	849	847	824	851
(ii)					
(aa)	4 863	4 941	5 099	5 551	6 138
(bb)	80	102	139	251	304
(cc)	99	107	128	189	224
(dd)	37	42	86	160	205

Notes (1) The above-mentioned figures reflect the position as at 31 March each year (2) As the rank "technical assistant" is not used in the Post Office, the figures reflected against items (a)(i) and (b)(i) are in respect of officials occupying the rank of "telcom assistant". The figures do not include "telcom electricians" and "telcom mechanics"

Eastern Cape: applications to purchase houses

553 Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(a) How many persons in each specified Black township in the Eastern Cape lodged applications to purchase houses in 1987, (b) how many of these applications had been granted as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (c) (i) what total number of houses had been purchased in each of these townships and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

MM

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

	(a)	(b)	Date	(i)	(ii)
Alwal North	62	62	12/87	62	12/87
Cathcart	13	13	"	13	"
Port Beaufort	20	20	"	20	"
King Wil-	10	10	"	10	"
liam's Town	10	10	"	10	"
Komga	10	10	"	10	"

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(b) 1982—9
1983—19
1984—57
1985—47
1986—21
1987—63

Alexandra Township: rental payments in arrears

582 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) Whether any families living in Alexandra Township, Johannesburg, are in arrears with rental payments; if so, (a) how many families are (i) in arrears and (ii) up to date with their rental payments and (b) what is the extent of the arrears in rental payments in this township, (2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(1) Yes
(a) (i) 15 000
(ii) 250
(b) R2 734 099

(2) 31 December 1987

Sandton: applications by non-Whites to occupy own residential property

583 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) How many applications were received during the period 1 June 1987 to the latest specified date for which information is available, from (a) Coloured, (b) Indian and (c) Black persons to (i) occupy and (ii) own residential property in areas proclaimed for occupation by White persons in Sandton, (2) how many such applications (a) had been (i) granted and (ii) refused and (b) were pending as at the above date?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Period 1 June 1987 to 31 December 1987
(1) (a) Coloured
(b) Indians

(c) Blacks
(i) None
(ii) Acquisition coloureds
Indians
Blacks

(2) (a) (i) None
(ii) Refused coloureds
Indians
Blacks
(b) None

598 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Communications
(1) Whether (a) he and/or (b) his Department sent out Christmas cards in 1987, if so, (i) what total number of cards was printed, (ii) to whom were they sent, (iii) what was the total cost of producing and distributing these cards, and (iv) who was responsible for printing them, in each case, (2) whether postage stamps were used to send out these Christmas cards, if not, how were they distributed?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(1) (a) and (b) Yes:
(i) 44 940
(ii) The large majority to selected investors in the Post Office Savings Bank as part of our endeavours to promote the corporate image of the Department and the rest as a reciprocal gesture mainly to politicians, senior officials of the Post Office and other Government Departments, editors of newspapers, banks, large users of the Post Office, suppliers of telecommunication equipment, private consultants and prominent persons in the private sector,
(iii) R6 734,88 (cost of printing and envelopes)
(iv) Departmental printing works
(2) No, they were distributed as official mail

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Official inflation rate

799 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Finance

What was the official inflation rate for each year from 1977 up to and including 1987?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

	%
1977	11,0
1978	11,0
1979	13,2
1980	13,8
1981	15,2
1982	14,7
1983	12,4
1984	11,5
1985	16,3
1986	18,6
1987	16,2

Salaries no longer market-related

801 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

Whether the research which showed that the salaries of certain employees of his Department were no longer market-related, as referred to in his reply to Question No 540 on 7 October 1987, was carried out prior to the granting of salary increases to employees who had participated in illegal strikes shortly before, if so, (a) on what date (i) did the results of this research become available to his Department and (ii) were the salary increases in question granted and (b) why had these increases not been granted earlier?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Yes,

- (a) (i) at the beginning of August 1987, and
(ii) 1 October 1987, and

(b) because it is not always possible in the system of job differentiation where evaluations are made periodically, to ensure that salaries continually remain market-related

Printing contracts awarded to two companies

841 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice

- (1) Whether the Prisons Service awarded any printing contracts in 1987 to two companies,

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

1983/84	R23 448 165
1986/87	R27 070 088
(b) 1980/81	R 3 030 063
1983/84	R 5 527 259
1986/87	R 6 844 243

Own Affairs

Printing contracts awarded to two companies

90 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works

- (1) Whether his Department awarded any

printing contracts in 1987 to two companies, the names of which have been furnished to the Commission for Administration for the purpose of the Minister's reply, or their associated companies and printing operations, if so, (a) in respect of what publications or printed matter, (b) how many copies of each publication or item were ordered from each company and (c) what are the names of the companies concerned,

- (2) whether these contracts were put out to tender, if not, (a) why not and (b) what was the total amount paid by his Department in respect of each of these contracts, if so, what was the (i) tender price originally accepted, and (ii) total amount paid out, in respect of each contract,
- (3) whether his Department subsidizes any publications published by the above companies, if so, (a) which publications and (b) (i) why, and (ii) what is the amount of the subsidy, in each case,

- (4) what total amount was spent by his Department in 1987 on printing and publishing involving (a) the above companies and (b) any other specified companies?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING

- (1) No
(a), (b) and (c) Fall away

- (2) Falls away

- (3) No
(a), (b) (i) and (ii) Fall away

- (4) Falls away

Extension officers

114 Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply

- (1) How many posts for extension officers are there in his Department,

- (2) whether all of these posts have been filled, if not, (a) why not and (b) how many such posts were vacant as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY.

- (1) 177

- (2) No

- (a) Training requirements and associated high demands put to the departmental extension service

- (b) 52 on 1987-12-31

Jewellery: *ad valorem* duties

896 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Finance

What were the amounts collected in respect of *ad valorem* duties on (a) locally manufactured and (b) imported jewellery in the 1980/81, 1983/84 and 1986/87 financial years, respectively?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

- (a) 1980/81 — R17 214 812

- (ii) line faults,
(iii) automatic and manual exchange equipment, and
- (iv) faults reported but no faults found during the testing of lines, subscribers or exchange equipment; and

(b) Number of complaints per 1 000 telephones per month

	1983/84	1984/85	1985/86	1986/87	1987/88*
Subscriber's equipment faults	23 26 34	24 28 38	25 27 35	24 26 37	22 26 35
Line faults	19 12 54	19 13 61	17 13 60	19 13 59	16 12 50
Faults in automatic or manual exchange equipment	4 6 2	3 7 2	3 8 3	3 8 3	2 6 3
Faults reported but no faults found during testing	20 9 17	19 10 20	18 10 20	18 9 20	16 10 20
Total	66 53 107	65 58 121	63 58 118	64 56 119	56 54 108
Percentage reported faults repaired within 24 hours	87	78	73	77	76
Percentage reported faults repaired within 48 hours	99	93	89	93	93

*Information available for six months only

(i) and (ii) fall away

Employees: financial incentive/bonus systems
741 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

Whether there are any financial incentive or bonus systems for employees in his Department, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many and (b) what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Yes,

(a) 7, and

(b) Achievement awards

A system of progression according to achievement is in force whereby salary

Cash awards (Learner Grades)

Pupil technicians, learner architectural draughtsmen, telcom trainees, learner printers, apprentices and learner inspectors of works who apply themselves diligently to and excel in their studies/training qualify annually for consideration for cash awards of between R50 and R100. This system also serves to promote competition between trainees thus improving the general standard of training.

Cash awards (Engineering students)

Cash awards to a maximum amount of R750 calculated according to a fixed formula are made annually to engineering students who, in addition to having passed a specific year of study, achieved distinction in one or more subjects.

Incentive bonus (Data typists)

A group bonus system is in force in accordance with which data typists are compensated monthly by means of a special bonus for production output which exceeds standard norms. The bonus amount is calculated as a percentage (between 1% and 40%) of an official's relative salary notch.

Coding allowance (Letter sorting)

Payable monthly to operators of automatic mail sorting machines to compensate them for the demanding and monotonous nature of their duties but also as an incentive to promote higher productivity. The allowance is based on the individual's

coding rate and varies between 40 cents and R1,15 per hour

Suggestion scheme

The purpose of the suggestion scheme is to encourage officials to continually submit suggestions to promote economy, to render the mail and telecommunication services more efficient by the introduction of mechanical aids and to improve and/or simplify forms, apparatus or existing systems. The amount awarded depends on the advantages the suggestion holds. Grants of as much as R100 have already been made.

Bonus awards

Bonus awards are aimed at stimulating initiative and encouraging sacrifice in the interest of the Post Office, in recognition of which a cash amount may be paid to an official. Awards are considered on an annual basis. Awards of up to R1 000 have already been made.

Employees: salaries earned applicable to lowest two notches

798 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(a) How many (i) semi-skilled and (ii) unskilled employees of each specified population group are earning salaries applicable to each of the two lowest notches of the salary scales in his Department and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

	(a) (i)	(ii)			
Whites	48	443	29	875	
Coloureds	9	209	6	295	
Indians	57	652	35	1 170	
Blacks	322	5 261	91	12 453	
Total	30	301	5	1 349	
	352	5 562	96	13 802	

(b) 1 March 1988

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Recruitment of personnel: amount spent
356 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications.

What amount was spent in the 1986/87 financial year on (a) advertising and (b) publicity for the recruitment of personnel for the Post Office?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) R28 889, and
(b) R26 164

Prison sentences: persons under 18 years

466 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Justice

(a) How many persons under the age of 18 years were serving prison sentences on (i) 30 June 1987 and (ii) 1 January 1988 and (b) in which prisons were these persons serving sentences?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

	(a) (i) and (ii)	
	30 June 1987	— 814
	31 December 1987	— 623
(b) 30 June 1987		
Allandale		
Klein Drakenstein		
Malmesbury		
Paarl		
Riebeeck West		
Staat van Paardeberg		
Voorberg		
Barberton Male		
Lydenburg		
Baviaanspoort Maximum		
Baviaanspoort Medium		
Louis Trichardt Male		
Louis Trichardt Female		
Pietersburg Male		
Tzaneen		
Bethal Male		

Standerton Medium B	
Volkstrust	
Bloemfontein Male	
Grootvlei Maximum	
Wepener	
Brandvlei Medium	
Caledon	
Helderstroom Maximum	
Helderstroom Medium	
Durban Female	
Durban Medium C	
Durban Medium B	
Durban Medium A	
Verulam	
Beaufort West	
George Male	
Oudtshoorn	
Unondale	
Victoria West	
Burgersdorp	
Dordrecht	
Goedemoed Medium A	
Middelburg (Cape) Male	
Middelburg (Cape) Female	
Groenpunt Maximum	
Groenpunt Medium	
Sasolburg	
Vereringing Male	
Johannesburg Medium B	
Johannesburg Medium C	
Johannesburg Female	
Krugerdsdorp Male	
Hopetown	
Upington Male	
De Aar	
Richmond (Cape)	
Porchebstroom	
Rysmerbult	
Bethlehem	
Kroonstad Female	
Harrismuth	
Ventersburg	
Leeuwkop Maximum	
Leeuwkop Medium B	
Modderbee	
Heidelberg Female	
Fort Beaufort	
King William's Town	
East London Medium A	
East London Female	
Queenstown	
Matatiele	
New Hanover	

Strike looms

South 21-27/4/88 268

POSTMEN who disrupted post and telecommunication services when they downed tools for six weeks last year are geared for another confrontation with their bosses this year.

This time the bones of contention are the government's plan to privatise the public sector, the decision to freeze wage and salary increases in the public sector, and the Post Office Amendment Bill now before parliament.

Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) president Vusi Khumalo spoke to SOUTH about the looming industrial action.

"We are mortally opposed to privatisation of the public sector for a number of reasons. Firstly, we believe that the results of such a move would mean the majority of our members are going to lose their jobs."

The government might use the private sector to eliminate apartheid so as not to be seen doing it themselves



Vusi Khumalo

The postal side of the post office has so far been subsidised by the engineering section and privatising the postal section meant that whoever took over had to run it on a profitable basis, Khumalo said

Private business would

reduce the number of workers and increase tariffs astronomically to ensure a profit

Potwa not only feared that many of their members might lose their jobs but that white management would be retained, thereby preserving discriminatory practices.

Khumalo said privatisation meant the black community would be hardest hit

Post Office workers last year won their battle against the government's Post and Telecommunication Department.

For nearly six weeks the 20 000-strong Potwa struck in support of equal pay for equal work, equal promotional opportunities, and an end to unfair dismissals and the racist attitudes of the management

They are expecting an increase at the end of this month but blacks were still not allowed to supervise whites irrespective of

qualifications.

"Blacks are still being transported in open trucks like animals whereas buses are provided for white workers," Khumalo said

Promotional opportunities were still fraught with apartheid and discrimination

The government was pushing a Bill through parliament which would make striking illegal for Post Office workers

"We regard the amendment to the Post Office Services Act equivalent to the new Labour Relations Bill. It means if we go on strike the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications is empowered to sue Potwa and its leadership for any loss they may suffer. However, we are determined to resist this Bill," Khumalo said

By freezing wage and salary increases the government was denying workers in the public sector their legitimate right to earn a minimum living wage. The entire public sector fought for better wages and better working conditions last year

The Government was either deaf to the demands of the workers or did not recognise their legitimate right to a living wage, Khumalo said

Management agreed during settlement talks to pay labourers R380 a month subject to review. The minimum demanded by workers is R450

Potwa, established in October 1986, has 22 000 paid-up members.

"Our target for the end of 1988 is double this figure. To reach it we have to organise unorganised areas. We feel every postman should be a unionist"

Post of private secretary: restrictions in regard to period of service

779 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

Whether the appointment of persons to the post of private secretary in his Department is subject to any restrictions in regard to period of service, if so, what are the relevant details, if not, (a) what procedure is followed in (i) assessing such officials for promotion purposes and (ii) granting them promotion and (b) what are their prospects for promotion?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

No,

(a) (i) they are subjected to merit assessment in the manner prescribed for officers of similar rank in the Department,

(ii) they are considered for promotion to higher posts which become vacant and to which they aspire in competition with the other officers referred to, due regard being had to their comparative ability, in instances where their claims to promotion are equal in respect of their ability, their comparative seniority is taken into account, and

(b) the same as officers of similar rank in the Department

Employees, pension/housing/unemployment benefits

943 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications

Whether (a) Whites, (b) Blacks, (c) Coloureds and (d) Indians employed by the Post Office as (i) permanent, (ii) temporary and (iii) casual and regular employees receive any (aa) pension, (bb) housing and (cc) unemployment benefits, if so, what is the scale of contributions made by the Post Office in each case?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

	(aa) ¹	(bb) ²	(cc) ³
(a) (i)	Yes	Yes	No
(ii)	Yes	Yes	Yes
(iii)	No	No	Yes
(b) (i)	Yes	Yes	No
(ii)	Yes	Yes	Yes
(iii)	No	No	Yes
(c) (i)	Yes	Yes	No
(ii)	Yes	Yes	Yes
(iii)	No	No	Yes
(d) (i)	Yes	Yes	No
(ii)	Yes	Yes	Yes
(iii)	No	No	Yes

Contributions

¹ R2,74834 for each Rand a permanent official contributes to the Government Service Pension Fund and R2,00 for each Rand a temporary official contributes to the Temporary Employees Pension Fund

² Both permanent and temporary officials complying with certain requirements are subsidized on housing loans up to R50 000. The maximum subsidy payable on a compulsory monthly instalment is R391,50

³ 0,9% of the contributor's income

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Question standing over from Thursday 21 April 1988

Springfield/Transvaal Colleges of Education councils/senates established

*1 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 43 on 4 August 1987, councils and/or senates have been established at the (a) Springfield and (b) Transvaal College of Education, if not, why not, if so, (i) when, (ii) what are the (aa) names and (bb) qualifications of the persons appointed to each such council and/or senate and (iii) what procedure was followed in appointing these persons,

(2) whether the Teachers' Association of South Africa was consulted in regard to the appointment of persons to these councils and/or senates, if not, why not, if so with what result?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(a) Council, yes, Senate, no

(b) Council, yes, Senate, no

The Senates of the respective colleges will be established after nominations are received from the Councils in terms of the provisions of the relevant regulations. The inaugural meetings of the Councils are to be held on 9 May 1988 for Springfield College and 11 May 1988 for Transvaal College

(i) Councils — 15 April 1988

(ii) (aa) COUNCIL OF THE SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Chairman Prof J M Niven
(Emeritus Professor of Education of Natal University),
Vice-Chairman Prof L E

Peters (Rector of Springfield College of Education),

Prof T H Bennett (Vice Rector Academic — University of Durban-Westville),

Prof M Moodley (Dean of the Faculty of Education — University of Durban-Westville),

Mr E Osman (Chief Education Specialist — Department of Education and Culture),

Mr M Pillay (Chief Superintendent of Education — Department of Education and Culture),

Mr L T Peter (Deputy Director Education Administration — Department of Education and Culture),

Mr J A Louw (Deputy Director Personnel Management — Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services),

Prof R. Soni (Rector — M L Sultan Technikon),

Prof D Bughwan (Retired Professor — University of Durban-Westville),

Mr M M Moodley (Vice Rector of Springfield College of Education),

Dr B T Naidoo (Medical Practitioner),

Mr T Singh (Retired School Principal),

Mr S Khan (Retired School Principal),

Mr P C Samuels (Principal Glenridge Primary School),

Mr S Sewdarsen (Principal Isipingo Secondary School)

COUNCIL OF THE TRANSVAAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Chairman Prof P Joshi (Professor of Medicine — MEDUNSA)

Vice-Chairman Mr H du B Kemp (Acting Rector — Transvaal College of Education),

'Cheeky man sacked'

A POST Office employee, who tried to return to his job after a strike last year, was told to go away because he was "cheeky", a Rand Supreme Court judge heard yesterday. (2/6/8)

This was evidence in the case of 112 Posts and Telecommunication employees who have brought an application for an order to declare their dismissal wrongful and unlawful.

The application is also for an order to direct the two respondents, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, and the Postmaster - General, including "relevant" officials of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, to permit the dismissed workers to apply for their jobs and that such applications should be considered.

The application now in its second week before Mr Justice Melamet, follows the dismissal of workers after a three-month strike that ended in August last year. More than 4000 workers were involved, and 2800 are still unemployed.

(Proceeding)

Postal workers apply for reinstatement

By Adele Baleta

In what could be a test case affecting up to 3 000 colleagues, 112 workers fired during last year's postal strike yesterday applied in the Rand Supreme Court for reinstatement.

The 112 are former postal employees at the Crown Mines depot in Johannesburg. They are asking the court to declare their dismissal unlawful.

Alternatively, they are asking that the dismissal of workers, such as technicians and telecommunication assistants, be nullified and that the Department of Post and Telecommunications allow the applicants to re-apply for their posts.

Plea for jobs ^{Sowetan} 10/5/88

THE case in which 112 members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association have made an application to have their jobs back after being dismissed during a strike last year entered its second week in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

The workers, who were among 4000 post

office employees dismissed after the three-month strike ended in August, 1987, have made an application for an order to declare their dismissals wrongful and unlawful. About 2800 workers are still unemployed.

The respondents are the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications and the Postmaster-General.

268 Strike

One of the 112, Mr Samuel Lepota (26), told the presiding judge, Mr Justice Melamet yesterday that he had not been employed since his dismissal on September 7.

He said he was locked out at the Crown Mines depot where he worked after he and a colleague were questioned by a post office official about their reasons for going on strike.

Mr Lepota said he was married and a father of one child. He was a member of Potwa

(Proceeding)

Potwa case

Southern 16/5/88 (268)

By MANDLA NDLAZI

THE Rand Supreme Court application by 112 Post Office employees seeking to return to their jobs after they had been dismissed following a three-month strike that ended in August last year, enters its third week today.

The application, before Mr Justice Melamet, is for an order to declare their dismissal in September last year wrongful and unlawful.

The application is also for an order to direct the two respondents, the Minister of Home Affairs and Telecommunications and the Postmaster-General, including "relevant" officials of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, to allow the dismissed workers to apply for their jobs and that such applications be considered.

Packed to capacity

More than 4 000 workers were involved in the strike and about 2 800 are still unemployed. The court's public gallery has been packed to capacity by the workers themselves since the case started.

The applicants are represented by advocate Mr D A Kuny (SC) and Mr P Pauw and the respondents by advocates R D Levine (SC) and Mr D Fine.

Mr Peter Maringa told the court on Friday that when he attempted to return to work on several occasions, he found the gates of his workplace in Crown Mines locked. He said he did not make any attempts to notify the officials that he was not on the list of the dismissed workers and wished to return. They were out of reach, he said.

Mr Maringa said this when cross-examined by Mr Levine. He said his name was not on the list of the sacked workers. He said the names of the dismissed workers was made known on September 7.

43-year-old row with official is recalled

By Adele Baleta

An argument with a pass book official, 43 years ago was relived in the Rand Supreme Court on Tuesday during a hearing in which 112 former postal workers are seeking reinstatement

RECORDS

Mr Thomas Ngobeni, one of the workers fired during last year's postal strike, was recalled to the witness stand when counsel for the State queried his age

Mr D M Fine asked Mr Ngobeni to explain why Post Office records show he was born in 1930, while he claims he was born on May 26 1925.

Mr Fine said Mr Ngobeni's date of birth would affect his pension, which was calculated at about R14 500

Mr Ngobeni said that when he applied for a pass book in 1945 a clerk disputed his date of birth because he "looked younger than his years".

An argument ensued with the clerk but the year of his birth was stamped as 1930, Mr Ngobeni said

"When I applied for work at the Post Office I explained that I was born in 1925 but they also did not believe me. They were not there when I was born," he said

Stev 19/5/84

268

'PO did not keep strike agreement'

By Adele Baleta

268

A worker fired during last year's postal strike told the Rand Supreme Court yesterday that he had been denied the opportunity to re-apply for his job despite an agreement between the Post Office and the Post and Telecommunications Workers Union (Potwa).

Mr T M Mampa was one of 112 former employees of the Crown Mines depot who have applied for reinstatement. *Star 19/5/88*

The applicants are asking the court to declare the dismissals unlawful.

Alternatively, they are asking that the dismissal of workers, such as technicians and telecommunication assistants, be nullified and that the Department of Posts and Telecommunications allow the applicants to re-apply for their posts.

Mr Mampa said he had been informed by Potwa officials at a rally that all workers dismissed during the strike should re-apply for their jobs on September 7. Those who had not been dismissed should return to work on that day. But when workers arrived at the depot, the gates were locked.

Mr Mampa said he returned to work on September 11, 14 and 16, according to the agreement between the union and postal management, but never had the opportunity to re-apply for his position.

The hearing continues.

Many at PO

ABOUT 70 percent of the post office's black workforce throughout the country turned up for work yesterday, SABC Radio News reports. (268)

In Natal, there was no fixed pattern in worker movements yesterday morning and a survey by the Durban Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce showed that workers were still arriving for work by late morning. *Sowetan 7/6/88*

In the Western Cape, stayaway action in many industrial sectors was limited and in Cape Town, the city council described the situation as virtually normal.

1984— 103
1985— 96
1986— 102
1987— 143

(ii) 1983— 16
1984— 20
1985— 12
1986— 12
1987— 1

(iii) 1983— 3
1984— 6
1985— 7
1986— 8
1987— 2

(iv) 1983— 30
1984— 26
1985— 28
1986— 20
1987— 11

(v) 1983— 132
1984— 115
1985— 129
1986— 138
1987— 79

(vi) The information is not readily available in the Department. To obtain the information, all the court records concerned will have to be examined, which is not economically feasible.

(2) No

(3) In terms of the present *pro Deo* system, everyone who is accused of a capital crime, is entitled to *pro Deo* defence. During the pre-trial procedures, it however happens that the accused indicates that he prefers to appoint his own legal representative. Should the accused in fact require *pro Deo* defence, the Bar Council concerned is requested to appoint a *pro Deo* Counsel for the accused. The decision as to which advocate is to be appointed, therefore rests with the Bar Council concerned.

Ekangala: size and population

1066 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid

(1) (a) What is the size in hectares of Ekangala, (b) what is the (i) *de facto* and (ii) *de jure* population of this area and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) (a) (i) how many housing units have been built in Ekangala to date and (ii) how many persons are still waiting for houses and (b) how many tents are currently being used to shelter those persons still waiting for houses;

(3) (a) how many houses are provided with (i) electricity, (ii) a water-borne sewerage system, (iii) running water and (iv) facilities for telephones and (b) what provision has been made to provide those persons currently living in tents with (i) toilets, (ii) water and (iii) fuel.

(4) (a) what (i) sport and (ii) recreational facilities are available in Ekangala at present and (b) how many (i) shops and (ii) (aa) occupied and (bb) unoccupied industrial sites are there in this area,

(5) (a) (i) what public transport services are currently available to persons living in Ekangala and (ii) to what percentage does the State subsidize each of these services and (b) (i) how many kilometres of road are there in this area and (ii) how many of these are tarred?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID

(1) (a) 543,1521 hectares

(b) (i) and (ii) 9 028

(c) 30th April 1988

(2) (a) (i) 2 447

(ii) 4 000

(b) None

(3) (a) (i) 1 709

(ii) 1 709

(iii) 2 447

(iv) None

(b) No persons are living in tents

(i) to (iii) Fall away

(4) (a) (i) Soccer field with athletic track

Hall with amenities for volleyball, karate, table tennis and body building
1 Practice soccer field

(ii) Hall available for concerts, functions, receptions, etc

(b) (i) 20

(ii) (aa) 173

(bb) 128

(5) (a) (i) Puto bus service and private taxis

(ii) 75% in respect of bus service

(b) (i) 78,4 km

(ii) 48 km

The amounts given under (4) (b) (ii) (aa) and (bb) are in regard to Ekangala, adjacent to Ekangala. All the information were supplied by the Kwanabele Government Service who now has the powers

Non-White children. adoption by Whites
1120 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Justice

(1) Whether his Department received any applications from White married couples to adopt non-White children during the latest specified five-year period for which information is available, if so, (a) how many such applications were (i) granted and (ii) refused and (b) in terms of what statutory provisions were they (i) granted and (ii) refused,

(2) whether his Department keeps statistics of prosecutions instituted against White married couples for contravening the relevant statutory provisions in this regard, if not, why not, if so, how many such prosecutions were instituted during the above period?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) The information is not readily available. To obtain it, all applications for adoptions country-wide over many years will have to be scrutinised. However, the Honourable Member's attention is drawn to the provisions of Chapter 4 of the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act 74 of 1983) which regulates the

adoption of children. The provisions of sections 18(3) and 18(4) of the Act are of particular interest.

(2) It is not clear what offences the hon member has in mind.

Bedford: magistrates

1177 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Justice

Whether he will furnish particulars of the persons who served as magistrates in Bedford in the Cape Province during the latter half of 1987, if not, why not, if so, (a) what are the names of these magistrates, (b) for what period did each serve as magistrate in Bedford and (c) what (i) was their length of service as magistrates, and (ii) were their qualifications, in each case?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(a) to (c)

Only one person has served as magistrate in Bedford during the latter half of 1987. He is Mr F N Vorster who has served there since 1 October 1985. He has held the post of magistrate since 1 August 1983 and has a Diploma in Law.

Staff housing subsidies

1240 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Communications

What total amount was allocated by his Department for the (a) 1986-87, (b) 1987-88 and (c) 1988-89 financial years for the payment of staff housing subsidies on a (i) compulsory and (ii) voluntary basis?

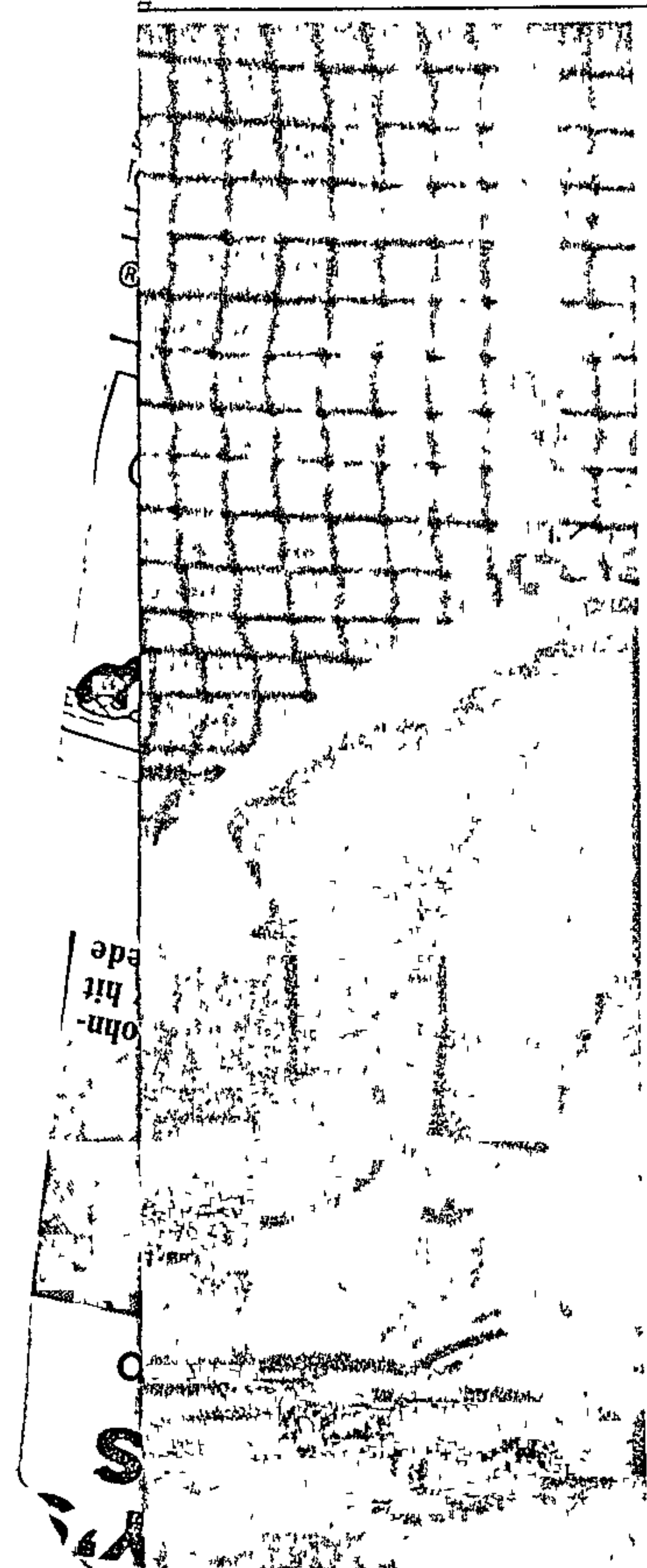
The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(a) (i) and (ii) R79 378 850,12,
(b) (i) and (ii) R84 319 829,38 and
(c) (i) and (ii) R84 106 030,00

A global amount is budgeted for in respect of housing subsidies and funds are not allocated separately for or record kept of subsidies on compulsory and voluntary additional payments.

Abortions authorities granted

1245 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development



ohn-
hit
ede

... and his hair.
...-old believes that, like Sam-
... strength from his flowing locks.
...nette Olsen revealed last night
... decided not to have his hair
... e championships.
Pages 13, 19 and 20.

Union man *Star 5/7/88* allegedly *(2/28)* arrested *(2/28)*

A meeting between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and Post Office officials was abandoned yesterday when police allegedly arrested the union's general secretary, Mr Kgabiso Mosunkutu, a Potwa spokesman said

Mr Mosunkutu was leading a team of Potwa officials which was discussing a negotiating structure with Post Office officials when he was taken away, the union said.

The alleged arrest came at a time when the union was locked in separate negotiations with the Post Office regarding the three-day strike at the Milner Park depot in Johannesburg, involving between 490 and 600 workers

A Post Office spokesman denied Mr Mosunkutu had been arrested during a meeting between Post Office officials and the union. He said Mr Mosunkutu had been "taken away for questioning by the security police"

Two injured in unrest

Star 5/7/88
A man was stabbed and wounded in Mpumalanga township, near Hammarsdale in Natal, said police in the latest unrest report *(2/28)*

In the same township, another man was slightly injured and a house was damaged in a petrol-bomb attack

60

Union claims leader detained during talks

POST and Telecommunications Workers Union (Potwa) general secretary Elias Mosunkutu was detained during wage talks with Post Office management yesterday afternoon, the union alleged

A Potwa spokesman said wage negotiations came to a standstill when police interrupted the meeting and detained Mosunkutu at the union's offices in Darragh House in Wanderers Street at 1 30pm, Sapa reported.

Mosunkutu was conducting wage negotiations with management after 600 workers from the Post Office's Milner Park engineering yard went on strike on Sunday over the dismissal of eight workers at the end of June, the spokesman said

BRONWYN ADAMS reports that Postmaster-General Johan de Villiers said he had no knowledge of any detentions and therefore could not comment.

De Villiers said final warnings were issued yesterday to 490 workers on strike at Milner Park to return to work within the next few days or face dismissal

DIANNA GAMES reports a police spokesman said the emergency regulations precluded police comment if the man was detained in terms of the regulations. If he was detained in terms of security legislation, police would only respond to a written query.

~~SECRET~~ B/doy (268) 5/7/88.

Not 268 Blday
Wednesday, July 6, 1988

S 3

Top Potwa official held during talks

ALAN FINE

A POST Office spokesman yesterday confirmed that police arrested the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) general secretary during a negotiating session at Potwa's Johannesburg offices on Monday.

He said Elias Mosunkutu had been asked to accompany police while involved in talks with PO management on a national negotiating structure. The spokesman said the matter was now out of the PO's hands.

Potwa vice-president Bob Mabaso said two other union leaders — assistant general secretary Floyd Mashela and committee member Mlungisi Hlongwane — had been arrested at their homes on Monday.

An SAP spokesman said a reply to a Business Day request for confirmation of the alleged arrests would be supplied today.

A Potwa legal adviser said he had received confirmation from police at John Vorster Square that Mosunkutu was being held there.

Meanwhile, Mabaso and the PO spokesman said talks on the strike by several hundred workers at the Milner Park engineering yard were expected to continue soon. The PO spokesman said Monday's talks had been held in a "positive" spirit. The strike is over the dismissal of eight workers.

Union official

arrested at talks

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG. — A spokesman for the Post Office yesterday confirmed that police arrested the general secretary of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) in the middle of a negotiating session at Potwa's offices here on Monday.

He said Mr Elias Mosunkutu had been arrested while involved in talks with top Post Office management.

A Potwa legal adviser said he had received confirmation from police that Mr Mosunkutu was being held.

268
139

FOUR officials of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association have been detained, a spokesman for the union said yesterday. (2/6/8)

Mr Bob Mabaso, Potwa's vice-president, said those detained were the union's general secretary, Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu, Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane, Mr Floyd Masele and Mr Mandla Mahlangu.

He said Mr Mosunkutu was detained during negotiations between union officials and Post Office management on Monday this week. The two parties were involved in talks on a negotiating structure.

Potwa has blamed Post Office management for Mr Mosunkutu's arrest, saying they (management) should "pressurise for his release because they initiated the meeting".

A spokesman for the Post Office said Mr Mosunkutu had been asked to accompany police for questioning. "We cannot comment any further because the matter is out of our hands," he said.

4 Potwa officials detained says Mabaso

A Potwa legal adviser said yesterday that he had not as yet established under what security legislation the four were detained. The three other Potwa officials were detained at their homes on Tuesday, according to the union.

Response

The Police Directorate in Pretoria had not yet responded to the *Sowetan's* inquiry about the incident, at the time of going to press.

The detentions coincided with a work stoppage by more than 500 Potwa members at the Post Office's Milner Park depot. These workers demand reinstatement of their 16 colleagues dismissed for an undisclosed reason.

Four postal unionists in detention

By MZIMKULU MALUNGA

FOUR Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association officials — including its general secretary, Kgabiso Mosunkutu — are in detention

(Handwritten scribble)

The other three are the assistant general secretary, Floyd Mashele, an education officer, Mlungisi Hlongwane; and a shop steward, Mandla Mahlangu

(Handwritten scribble)

The police directorate in Pretoria has confirmed that Mahlangu and Hlongwane are being held in terms of the Internal Security Act.

The statement added that "according to our present records, Floyd Mashele and Kgabiso Mosunkutu are not being held under security legislation"

(Handwritten scribble)

Mosunkutu was detained on Monday during negotiations with Post Office officials regarding a strike at the Milner Park depot.

The strike, which started on Friday last week and involved 490 workers, was sparked off by the dismissal of eight colleagues.

B-14/78 4/1 mail

Meanwhile negotiations between the union and the Post Office officials are continuing. Workers have decided to return to work while the talks are in progress, the Potwa representative said.

A statement issued by Potwa said the union "deplores the continuous and systematic harassment of our officials who have been raided at their homes. We call on the police either to charge them or release them so that they can continue with their union activities"

The Post Office was not available for comment at the time of going to press.

●A rally will be held on Saturday the Methodist Youth Centre in Central Western Jabavu, Soweto, to discuss the detention of Potwa leaders.

268
~~1~~
~~2~~

CA 11/16. 8/7/88

Postal union men detained

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Police yesterday confirmed the detention in terms of the Internal Security Act of three leaders of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), but said a fourth person named by the union was not being held under security legislation

Those whose detentions were confirmed are Potwa general secretary Mr Elias Mosunkutu (who was arrested in the midst of a negotiating session with top PO management), Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane and Mr Mändla Mahlangu.

Banda was key witness to case

Soweto 17/88

268

• From Page 1

photograph that he was dead.

"She was then told to inform us that we should report at the police the following day, before going to the mortuary," he said

He said the family, accompanied by police, identified the body on Tuesday. "We requested his clothing but we were told this was not possible as his attire was torn into pieces," the family said

The family said while signing forms at the mortuary, they discov-

ered that the corpse was brought to the place on July 1 — three days after they were notified about their son's death

According to the family, Patrick was preparing to move into his newly-built house in Protea North where the blast apparently took place. The house was deserted yesterday with a shattered window-pane and a ripped window bar the only testimony to the explosion

A Potwa spokesman said Mr Banda was a key witness in the case

in which about 2800 Post Office workers were seeking their reinstatement. The Supreme Court case is scheduled to resume on July 18.

Police yesterday confirmed the detention of two Potwa officials, Mr Mandla Mahlangu and Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane, but said they had no record of two other union executive members being held under security legislation

The two are Mr Kgabiso Mosunkutu, a Potwa general secretary, and assistant general secretary, Mr Floyd Mashele.

A union spokesman said Mr Mosunkutu was detained during negotiations between Potwa and Post Office management on Monday this week. He said Mr Mashele was detained at his Soweto home the following day

268

CAK 7/15 9/7/87

ID on limpet blast victim

JOHANNESBURG. — Police have identified a man who allegedly blew himself up in a limpet mine blast in Protea North, Soweto, last Friday as Michael Patrick Banda, a Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) member.

The Sowetan reported yesterday the 31-year-old Mr Banda, of Naledi, died after an explosive device alleged to have been in his possession exploded outside a house in Soweto. A handgrenade was also found near his body, police said.

Mr Banda, a shop steward dismissed along with about 2 000 other workers during the August 1987 Post Office strike, was found by his family in the government mortuary on Tuesday some three days after police allegedly called at his home searching for him, the Sowetan said.

Mr Banda's family said they were baffled by the circumstances leading to his death. — Sapa

POTWA CASE

RESUMES TODAY

Sowetan 18/7/88

268

By MANDLA
NDLAZI

THE case in which 112 post office workers have applied for reinstatement will resume in the Rand Supreme Court today.

The workers, all members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa), were dismissed following a three-month strike that ended in August last year.

Their application, before Mr Justice Melamet, is for an order to declare their dismissal on September last year wrongful and unlawful.

The application is also for an order to direct the two respondents, the Minister of Home Affairs and Telecommunications and the Postmaster-General, including "relevant" officials of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, to permit the dismissed workers to apply for their jobs and that such applications should be considered.

Workers

An estimated 4000 workers were involved in the strike and about 2800 are still unemployed. The workers are represented by advocates Mr D A Kuy, SC, and Mr P Pauw and the respondents by advocates Mr R D Levine, SC, and Mr D Pine.

The case started in May and several witnesses have told the court that they were locked outside the gates of their work place in Crown Mines, when they attempted to return to their jobs after the strike had ended.

Potwa man freed ⁽²⁶⁸⁾

THE assistant general secretary of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association, Mr Floyd Mashele, was released from detention on Friday, he told Sapa yesterday.

He was detained under emergency regulations on July 4, with three others, who are still detained, he said.

Official confirmation of the detention under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act of the three other Potwa members, Mr Elias Mosunkutu, Mr Mandla Mahlangu, and Mr Jonathan Hlongwane

was received by Potwa's lawyers on Friday.

Mr Mashele said the Potwa offices at Wanderers Street, Johannesburg, had been broken into over the weekend.

He said it was not yet clear if anything was missing, but furniture had been shifted around, the light fittings had been tampered with, and the door had been damaged.

Previously, the office had been broken into and typewriters, fax and telex machines had been stolen.— Sapa.

Cops hand out burial permits

POST and Telecommunication Workers' Union (Potwa) shop steward, Mr Patrick Banda, was buried yesterday amid a strong police presence in Industria, Johannesburg.

Mr Banda died a week ago after allegedly blowing himself up, but this is disputed by his family

Thousands of mourners gathered at the dead man's house in Naledi to attend the funeral service. There was a heavy police presence at the house and thousands

were restricted from following the funeral procession to the Croesus Cemetery

People already seated in four buses were told to get off by the police.

The police issued 200 mourners with stamped South African Police permits.

Buses were seen going to the graveyard with three passengers in it, some carrying only one

Police prevented the Press from entering the graveyard, but police vehicles and a video crew were allowed in

A police spokesman said yesterday that the funeral went off "without incident"

According to Potwa members, Mr Banda was to be a witness in a trial expected to start at the Rand Supreme Court today

The restriction on the funeral was gazetted on Friday in terms of the emergency regulations.

Sowetan 18/7/84

268

268
229
269

CAM Times 18/7/88
**Detained Potwa
official released**

JOHANNESBURG — The assistant general secretary of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), Mr Floyd Mashele, was released from detention on Friday.

He was detained under emergency regulations on July 4, with three others, who are still in detention.

Official confirmation of the detentions under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act of the three other Potwa members, Mr Elias Mosunkutu, Mr Mandla Mahlangu and Mr Jonathon Hlongwane, was received by Potwa's lawyers on Friday — Sapa

Watch on funeral of shop steward

By Ayesha Ismail

A shop steward of the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa), Mr Patrick Banda, was buried yesterday amid a strong police presence in Industria, Johannesburg

Mr Banda died a week ago after allegedly blowing himself up, but this is disputed by his family

Thousands of mourners gathered at his house in Naledi to attend the funeral service. The police prevented many people from following the funeral procession to the Croesus cemetery

People already seated

Stev 18(7)88
in four buses were told to get off

The police issued 200 mourners with stamped SAP permits. They prevented the press from entering the graveyard

A police spokesman said yesterday that the funeral went off "without incident"

According to Potwa members, Mr Banda was to be a witness in a trial expected to start the Rand Supreme Court today

The restriction on the funeral was gazetted on Friday in terms of the emergency regulations

The restrictions included a ban on more than

200 people, unordained speakers and the displaying of banners and placards. A specific route to the graveyard was set and police and army vehicles, escorted the mourners

Back in Naledi, police gave the mourners 15 minutes to disperse

● Sapa reports that Potwa's assistant general secretary, Mr Floyd Mashele, informed them that he back at home on Friday.

He was detained under emergency regulations on July 4 with three others

Official confirmation of the detentions under

section 29 of the Internal Security Act of the three other Potwa members, Mr Elias Mosunkutu, Mr Mandla Mahlangu and Mr Jonathon Hlongwane, was received by Potwa's lawyers on Friday.

Mr Mashele said the Potwa offices at Wanderers Street, Johannesburg, had been broken into over the weekend for a second time

He said it was not yet clear if anything was missing, but furniture had been shifted around, the light fittings had been tampered with, and the door had been damaged

Potwa case resumes

Business Day Reporter

AN application by 112 members of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) to have their dismissal from the Crown Mines depot last year declared unlawful resumed in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday

As an alternative, they have asked the court to nullify the dismissal of categories of workers such as technicians and telecommunication assistants and direct the Department of Posts and telecommunications to allow them to re-apply for their posts.

The Department of Posts and Telecommunications, opposing the application, called its first witness yesterday. Mr Justice Melamet is hearing the application

268

15

19/7/88

Inquest finds PO worker to blame for man's death

By Gien Elsas,
West Rand Bureau

268

A 27-year-old Krugersdorp man has been found criminally liable for the death of a Bekkersdal man during a roadside argument

At an inquest in Randfontein yesterday, Mr Gerhardus Jacobus Blignaut, a Post Office worker from Burgershoop, was held responsible for the death of Mr Ephraim Ditse (31) after Mr Ditse was shot in the chest on August 23 1986.

The inquest magistrate, Mr Hannes Folscher, said the testimony of the whole Blignaut family was confusing and contradictory

They alleged the vehicle driven by Mr Ditse turned out of a side street on to the main Westonaria-Randfontein road without stopping, and they were forced off the road when they wanted to speak to the driver

This testimony was, however, confusing as each family member had given a different version of the events

Star 21/7/88
leading up to the fatal fight

Evidence from one of the witnesses, Mr William George Jonker, a lawyer, was accepted as "clear and concise"

Mr Jonker said he had stopped on the other side of the road when he saw two white men and two or three black men involved in a scuffle

He had heard two shots being fired and saw one of the men fall down

Mr Jonker testified that the two white men then ran to their car and raced from the scene

When he went to report the incident at the police station, Mr Jonker said he saw the white men involved in the shooting had also stopped to report the incident

Mr Folscher said if Mr Blignaut had not stopped, Mr Ditse would have still been alive today He ruled that Mr Blignaut could be held responsible for Mr Ditse's death

The Attorney-General will decide whether to lay charges.

Soweto
Potwa
2117158
worker

burnt *(2/68)*

A POST Office worker yesterday described how a white colleague allegedly grabbed him by the scruff of his neck, doused him with petrol before setting him alight.

Mr Jack Ngobeni (59), of Soweto, said the incident occurred on July 5, at a Johannesburg depot of the Post Office where he was employed as a security guard-cum-petrol-attendant.

Mr Ngobeni, a member of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), is recovering at Lesedi Clinic in Soweto after sustaining serious burns during the incident.

Speaking from the clinic, the Potwa member said "I had just filled a car when a white colleague grabbed a half-filled petrol can and splashed the liquid on my legs. When he took out a box of matches, I ran for my dear life but he caught up with me."

'Officials sabotaged meeting'

POST office officials "sabotaged" a meeting that was set to resolve the issue of employees who had attempted to return to work after their strike had ended, Mr D Kuny, SC, told a Rand Supreme Court judge yesterday

This was one of the submissions Mr Kuny made when he argued the case of 112 former employees of the Post Office who applied for an order to declare their dismissal in September last year, wrongful and unlawful

Mr Kuny based his argument on evidence before court that three members of the negotiating team from the workers' committee were told they had been fired and could therefore no longer represent workers

This resulted in a breakdown of talks between the officials and the workers' committee, said Mr Kuny

He said the three men were apparently given no notice or reasons for being sacked and this caused a breakdown in attempts that were made by both parties to resolve the plight of the workers

Mr Kuny said another factor that caused confusion was that workers were locked outside the gates of the Crown Mines depot when they attempted to return to their jobs

There was further confusion, he said, on the list of workers who were fired and those who were

to reapply for their jobs

He said a Mr Muller did not unlock the gates for those who were not dismissed to start work or explained to those dismissed that they should go home but reapply for their jobs

The case is before Mr Justice Melamet and the court's public gallery was again packed to capacity

The application is also for an order to direct the two respondents, the Minister of Home Affairs and Telecommunications and the Postmaster General and other "relevant" officials of the

Department of Post and Telecommunications to permit the dismissed workers to reapply for their jobs and that such applications should be considered.

(Proceeding)

'Union men misled fired PO workers'

268
2011/5

By Dawn Barkhuizen

Postal employees dismissed during the national strike last year were "pawns in the hands of union leaders who misled them and did not have the courage to tell them that some would not be allowed to return to work"

This was stated in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday by Mr R D Levin SC, for the Minister of Home Affairs and the Postmaster-General, in argument against an urgent application by 111 former workers from the Post Office's Crown Mines depot to have their dismissals declared unlawful

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

He submitted that the position of those dismissed was fixed in terms of the agreement on the national strike signed by the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) and Post Office management on September 3

By motivating that their dismissal was unlawful, they were attempting to "go behind the agreement and deal with things that the agreement was trying to finalise"

Arguing the case for the applicants, Mr Denis Kuy SC argued that the strike by Post Office employees had been a "heaven-sent" opportunity for management to effect dismissals at a time when rationalisation was already under way

Mr Justice D A Melamet was on the Bench
The hearing continues

11/11/11
11/11/11
11/11/11
11/11/11

ARGUMENT ON COSTS

COUNSEL for the Minister of Home Affairs and the Postmaster General applied for the legal costs of former post office employees who failed in their application for reinstatement to be borne by the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa)

In argument before Mr Justice D A Melamet in a packed courtroom in the Rand Supreme Court, Mr R Levine, SC, said the legal costs of 111 former employees from the Crown Mines depot who were dismissed for striking last year would be considerable

And it would be unfair to expect them — many of whom were out of work — to finance court proceedings

"It appears the true litigant is Potwa," he said, "because Potwa entered into the agreement which gave rise to these proceedings"

Mr Justice Melamet, however, said it was unfair to make this appeal at this stage

Section 271 7188
"If notice had been given earlier on, the attitude of Potwa could have been very different and influenced the outcome of this case," he said

Counsel for the respondents had initially asked that the applications be dismissed with costs

Mr Denis Kuny, SC, appearing for the 111, said there was no basis for Potwa being held responsible for costs as it was not party to the proceedings

Applications

"The applications were from individuals," he said

He submitted that the question of costs be dealt with after judgment

Arguing that the dismissal of the 111 had been unlawful, Mr Kuny submitted that the bulk of dismissals had not been properly dealt with and workers had not been given a chance to challenge these

He said the agreement between Potwa and post

office management signed on September 3 was a settlement relating to a strike situation and not a dispute relating to dismissal.

"It should not constitute a new regime wiping

out the past and regulating the future to become the sole source of right for the post office and its workers"

Judgment was reserved to an unspecified date.

TCP spel common throat inf

TCP is the effective oral antiseptic mouth and throat, helping to keep the harmful bacteria.

So for sore mouths and bad breath treatment by using TCP as a mouthwash. And for sore throats, gargling with TCP

Guard against this winter's common infections with the proven oral antiseptic

800 bodies for gravediggers

Judgment reserved ⁽²⁶⁸⁾ in reinstatement case

By Dawn Barkhuizen

Argument in an urgent application for reinstatement by 111 Post Office employees, dismissed from the Crown Mines depot following a national strike last year, closed yesterday with judgment reserved to an unspecified date

In his closing argument, Mr Denis Kuy, SC, contended that workers participating in a national strike had been dismissed unlawfully and had not been given the opportunity of a fair hearing

The agreement — signed by PO management and officials from the Post and Telecommu-

nications Workers Association on September 3 — whereby they were dismissed amounted to a “new regime which wiped out the past and regulated the future to become the sole source of rights for the Post Office and its workers”.

Mr R D Levin, SC, for the Minister of Home Affairs and the Postmaster-General, said the issue hinged on whether workers had gone to work on September 7 — the cut-off date for a return to work agreed on by management and union officials. If they had failed to report for work, why had they not given valid reasons for not doing so?

268 Director

Potwa congress on

HUNDREDS of members of the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association are expected to converge on Warmbaths on Sunday for the union's Northern Transvaal regional congress

A union spokesperson confirmed that affiliation into either the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) or the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu), would be discussed Other issues will include

elections of the regional executive and the preparations for the national congress

The Northern Transvaal region covers Pretoria, Eastern Transvaal, Western Transvaal and Far Northern Transvaal

The union has been independent since its formation several years ago and sources within said the issue of affiliation has introduced tensions in the union.

16/9/88

Potwa members lose application

27/9/88 By Cathy Stagg

Most of the members of the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) who went to the Rand Supreme Court to have their dismissals declared unlawful, lost their applications yesterday.

There were 112 involved in the urgent application against the Minister of Home Affairs and Communications and the Postmaster-General.

Nine of them did not continue

with the application. Four were found to be entitled to reinstatement (three were reinstated during the proceedings) and the rest had their applications refused with costs.

The applicants and others took part in a strike on August 4 1987 because of employment conditions. On September 3 Potwa and the department concluded an agreement of settlement and a return to work.

In a judgment yesterday, Mr

Justice D A Melamet said "Potwa was authorised by its members to enter into the agreement, and are bound by its terms."

On September 7 the applicants arrived at work but did not enter the gates to resume duty nor apply for re-employment.

Management's version was that they were. The judge found that the gates were closed, but were opened from time to time.

(268) B/day

Advisory council should be replaced — report

PO task group calls for bargaining body

Potwa pans PO plan to privatise

ALAN FINE

A POST Office "task group" has recommended the establishment of a collective bargaining structure to replace the advisory Staff Relations Council on matters of salaries and employment conditions.

Copies of the report of the task group — appointed by the Postmaster-General in June and comprising two senior management members and a lawyer — were circulated to the 320 delegates at the weekend congress of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa)

In its response, to be forwarded to PO management, Potwa supported the principle of establishing a negotiating forum, but raised objections to various specific proposals

ALAN FINE

The report proposed the PO be separated from the civil service for the purposes of salaries and service conditions, and a "negotiation council" be instituted where management and recognised staff associations could bargain collectively on an equal footing.

The council would initially comprise seven employee representatives — one member of each recognised staff association — and an equal number of management representatives, plus a non-voting, neutral chairman appointed by the Postmaster-General on the recommendation of the council

Potwa has objected to the formula for employee representation, saying that with about 17 000 members it is entitled to greater

representation than smaller associations

A further controversial area is the recommendation that the prohibition on strikes and lock-outs remain — and compulsory arbitration be enforced — and a simplified procedure for mass dismissals be established

Potwa said it was prepared to undertake to embark on strike action only as a last resort. But it felt PO services were not a "holy cow" entitled to blanket protection from strike action

The union also bitterly attacked racial discrimination in service conditions and PO management's failure to object to the detentions of Potwa leaders

The report acknowledged racial disparities in promotion, supervision and merit lists

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) was "mortally" opposed to privatisation of the PO and planned a far-reaching campaign against government moves in this direction, a Potwa congress which ended yesterday decided

Newly elected general secretary Vusi Khumalo, the former president, said his organisation believed privatisation would threaten members' job security

He said it would also lead to tariff increases which would put basic communications methods out of the financial reach of many people

Khumalo said the 17 000-member Potwa would join other public sector unions — including those organising at Sats, Eskom and the health services — in a campaign against privatisation.

He said the action would extend overseas too, as Potwa believed the extensive involvement of multi-national companies in the telecommunications sector made those companies likely buyers of shares in a privatised PO

□ A conference decision to affiliate to Cosatu has been put on ice after a protest walkout by Natal delegates over the issue.

Missing mail: 18 held in Umtata

Staff Reporter

EIGHTEEN Transkeian post office officials have been arrested in Umtata after an investigation into the disappearance of registered mail

The Transkeian Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, Mr G S K Nota, said the arrests were part of a "heavy clampdown" following complaints about missing mail, including money sent by Khayelitsha residents to their families.

Several Khayelitsha residents said money they had sent by registered mail from Cape Town to their families in the homelands, particularly Transkei, had not been received.

Mr Nota said 18 post office staff had been arrested in Umtata. There had been arrests in other centres too, but he did not have details

He appealed to people who had problems with mail deliveries to contact his office in Umtata so they could be investigated

"We are determined to stamp out

ARGUS 12/10/88



this corruption once and for all," said Mr Nota.

Among the Khayelitsha residents who complained to The Argus about missing mail was Mr Mokete Shai, 24, of U Section, Site B.

He said R60 he sent by registered post to Herschel in May did not reach its destination

"I was shocked when I got an angry letter from my mother asking about the money I had heard of people losing through the post, so I made inquiries at the Khayelitsha post office," he said.

"Last month I got a letter asking me to call at the post office I was told some members of the postal staff at Herschel had been arrested in connection with the disappearance of my

money and money belonging to other people. When I asked when I would be compensated I was told 'investigations are continuing'"

Mr C D Patterson, public relations officer for the post office in the Western Cape, confirmed there had been complaints about registered postal articles and telegraphic money orders bound for "the homelands"

Compensation was paid for all registered articles containing cash or items of monetary value lost in the post. A maximum of R50 was paid for a missing registered postal article. The "lapse of time before compensation is paid depends on the duration of the investigation".

● A report in The Argus on residents' complaints about the postal service in Khayelitsha prompted the post office to launch a campaign urging residents to use private boxes.

Mr Patterson said "The use of a private box ensures the correct and prompt delivery of mail matter"

Union: We'll fight PO privatisation

By Mike Siluma, Staff
Labour Reporter 2/10/88

The Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa), electing a security detainee as president, resolved this week to campaign against privatisation of the Post Office

These were among decisions taken at the union's second annual congress in Johannesburg, attended by about 320 delegates from around the country

Potwa's newly elected secretary general and former president Mr Vusi Khumalo said yesterday that Potwa rejected privatisation because it would jeopardise members' jobs

"Our experience is that whenever sections of the economy are privatised, workers lose their jobs. This has also been the case throughout the Western world.

"Potwa will fight the selling of the people's assets to the pri-

vate sector. We are going to join hands with those unions which are affected by privatisation, such as those in the railways, hospital services, the municipal services and Eskom," Mr Khumalo said

The weekend congress also decided to campaign for all workers' freedom of association and right to strike, and to work for the establishment of a federation of public-sector workers

The union's outgoing secretary general, Mr Kgabiso Mosenkutu, in detention since July, was elected president. Other national executive committee members are Mr Bob Mabaso (first vice-president), Mr Floyd Mashele (second vice-president), Mr Tlhalefang Sekano (assistant secretary) and Mr Diintweng Seate (treasurer). They will be joined on the executive committee by the chairmen of Potwa's eight regions.

Potwa's big NO

JOHANNESBURG — More than 68 000 workers in Post and Telecommunications and in South African Transport and Services will soon campaign intensively, nationally and internationally, to fight privatisation of public sectors.

Two unions, the 23 000-strong Postal and

Telecommunication Workers Association (Potwa) and the 45 000-strong South African Railways and Harbours Workers Union of South Africa, held successful national congresses here at the weekend and have decided to oppose any attempt to privatise the Post Office and railways.

In a statement after a three-day congress, Potwa general-secretary Vusi Khumalo told a press conference: "We are opposed to the Post Office selling assets that belong to the people to the private sector."

Khumalo said Potwa believed the takeover of the Post Office by monopoly companies would threaten jobs and produce tariff increases which would put communications out of the financial reach of many people.

Unbanned

"Tariffs will shoot up and ordinary people will not be able to use basic communication like writing letters," said Khumalo, who was recently unbanned.

Potwa would join other public sector unions — including organisations at Sats, Escom and the health services — in a campaign against privatisation.

"We are going to embark upon campaigns nationally and internationally to fight the Post Office against privatisation of postal and telecommunication services. We believe the Post Office belongs to the working class."

Khumalo, until the weekend the association's president, said the campaign should produce fruits especially "when we have a joint campaign with our international allies."

Some 460 000 postal and telecommunication workers in West Germany were facing the same problem.

Both Potwa and Sarhu would be joining forces in fighting "this monster called privatisation."

Early this year the government announced that



Vusi Khumalo

the Post Office would soon be a private company and that it was to be divided into three divisions: postal, technical and telebank divisions.

The transition period would be over three years and each sector would have its own management.

In a reply to a department task group report on negotiating mechanisms which the congress ratified, Potwa stressed that it was "totally wrong that this national asset should be sold off to private financial interests in order to pay debts which the government has incurred through incompetence."

In a report circulated to

the 320 delegates, a Post Office "task group" has recommended the establishment of a collective bargaining structure to replace the advisory Staff Relations Council on salaries and employment.

Potwa supported the principle of establishing a negotiating forum but raised objections to various specific proposals. It objected to the formula of employee representation saying that with 23 000 members it was entitled to a much greater representation than smaller associations.

The union in its report strongly criticised racial discrimination in service conditions and Post Office

management's failure to object to the detentions of Potwa officials.

In August last year Potwa was engaged in a fierce national strike over the dismantling of disparity and inequality in the Post Office.

Meanwhile, world labour federations representing more than 50 million members pledged their solidarity with Potwa and demanded the immediate release of its three officials now in detention for more than three months.

The call was made during the Potwa congress. Among those who called for the release of Kgabisi Mosunkutu, Jonathan Hlongwane and Mandla Mahlangu were representatives from the 38 million-strong Trade Union International of Public Employees, Postal Telegraph and Telephone International (PTTI), Post and Telecommunications Trade Union of West Germany, the nine-million strong Trade Union Council of Great Britain and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu).

Solidarity

Mr Frank Bovin, of the Trade Union International of Public Employees, told more than 300 delegates that "in your struggle for your liberties, equality, better living wages and better working conditions and rights, you can always count on our strong support and solidarity."

Cosatu president Elijah Barayi said worker struggles in the public sector were an indictment against the Nationalist government's "misrule and economic mismanagement."

Khumalo and vice-president Bob Mabaso declined to say whether the congress subsequently adopted a resolution on affiliation to Cosatu.

The congress unanimously elected the detained Kgabisi Mosunkutu, a senior electrician at the Post Office telephone division, as its new president.

28/10/98
13-19/10/98



South LABOUR

268
16/10/88

Postal workers stage walkout

CP Correspondent

AMID insults and abuse, a delegation of postal workers in Umtata walked out of a meeting to discuss the formation of a public service association.

In a statement to City Press, the workers said they walked out because they found membership of an association where employers were represented unacceptable. They said their employers could not represent their interests.

"It is in our interest as post office workers to have a structure that will guarantee full representation of its members, a structure that will allow members to participate fully in the running and decision-making of the association," the statement said.

The workers said because of working conditions at the post office, they could not align themselves with an association that excluded labourers from membership.

"They are also human. They toil heavily towards the attainment of the highest possible productivity for the country and they, therefore, have unquestionable rights to protection," the statement read.

The interim chairman of the proposed association, Gilbert Sineke, confirmed that the post office delegation walked out.

He said he believed that there have been a communication breakdown between the postal workers and the interim committee.

On the question of labourers, he said they were employed in terms of the public services commission regulations and that when the association was formed their position would be placed under the spotlight.

PUBLIC SECTOR - TELECOM. - LABOUR

1988 - 1989

English (Language)
Junior English Second Language
Oxford English Course (Language)
English for You and Me (Language)
English Through Activity (Language)
Plain Sailing (Language)
Happy Family Series (Reader)
English Readers for South Africa

Dallas
Redgrave
G A. Wright
N C. Minchin & T J Horn
L M Arnold & A E Varty
J A Schoeman
S A Schuss & N Taylor
A S V Barnes

6 A book of English
Let's Use English (Heinemann)
Advance with English
English for the Sec School (New Syllabus)
New Horizons
Successful English Book One

Scheffer
Mbela, Y, Elias, R
Tregidgo
Fletcher
Dawson, P
Howe, D H

7 A Book of English
Let's use English (Heinemann)
Advance with English
New Horizons
Successful English Book Two

Scheffer
Mbela, Y, Elias, R
Tregidgo
Dawson, P
Howe, D H

8 A Book of English
Let's use English (Heinemann)
Advance with English
New Horizons
Successful English Book Three

Scheffer
Mbela, Y, Elias, R
Tregidgo
Dawson, P
Howe, D H

9 English the Active Way
Advance with English
Senior Secondary School English
New English the Easy Way
Plain Sailing

Hopwood & Standers
Tregidgo
Fletcher & Scheilles
Terblanche, J D V,
Wratten, N E, & Nel, O P J
J A Schoeman

10 English the Active Way
Advance with English
New English the Easy Way
Senior Secondary School English
Plain Sailing

Hopwood & Standers
Tregidgo
Fletcher & Swanepoel
Terblanche, J D V,
Wratten, N E, & Nel, O P J
J A Schoeman

PRESCRIBED BOOKS

6 Novel Akpan and the Smugglers
Poetry African Sky Blue

R Uwensedimo
B Buys & R Gillilan

7 Novel A Bushveld Story
Drama Five plays for pleasure

I Holland
J Schoeman, B Scheffer,
M van Schalkwyk

8 Prose Face to Face
Poetry Modern Poetry for Sec Schools

G Edward
D Dawson

9 Novel Animal Farm
Poetry The Oak and the Peach
Short Stories Shades of Fear

G Orwell
F M M Olyer
G E de Villiers

10 Poetry The Wind at Dawn An Anthology of Poems
Drama Shakespeare Macbeth
Novel Silas Marner
Genre Romanica Book of English Short Stories

S Smyth & V Swacina
Shakespeare
George Eliot
K Vice

Post Office staff: cuts

667. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Communications

Whether there are to be any cuts in Post Office staff in 1988, if so, (a) what percentage of the staff complement is it intended will (i) be retrenched and/or (ii) have their posts frozen and (b) how are these cuts to be effected?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

Staff provision in the Post Office is directly related to the demand for the various services it renders and although a decrease of 1,8% is anticipated in the number of personnel at the end of the financial year which ended on 31 March 1988 as compared to that at the end of the previous financial year, there is no indication at this stage that there will be a drastic decrease in the number of staff members for the 1988/89 financial year. In line with standing practice, the Department will, however, continue to —

(a) abolish posts that may become redundant, and

(b) hold the filling of vacancies that occur in abeyance if necessary, without detrimentally affecting the rendering of service

It is not the intention to retrench personnel with a view to effecting reductions. Everything possible is being done to place persons who become redundant at a specific office or section, elsewhere where there is a need for their services

Telephone accounts in arrears

753 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications

(1) How many telephone subscribers residing in the Black residential areas of South Africa were in arrears with their telephone accounts (a) as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) as at the same date in the previous year.

(2) whether such subscribers are allowed a period of grace prior to their telephone services being discontinued, if so, (a) what is this period and (b) what charges are levied for reconnecting such services?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(1) (a) and (b) Since the large majority of the approximately 1 600 exchanges in the country serve both Black and White clients and as these groups are not reflected separately in our records, the compilation of the required information will be a task of considerable magnitude which cannot be justified;

(2) yes,

(a) and (b) from the time of the rendering of an account, from 45 to 51 days are allowed before a service is suspended due to non-payment. Should payment be effected after suspension, the service is restored and a reconnection fee of R30,00 levied. If payment is, however, not effected within a reasonable period after suspension, the client is informed in writing that steps are being taken to discontinue the service. Should the service thus be discontinued and the client requires restoration the request is treated as a new application and the full installation charge of R125,00 is payable in addition to any outstanding amounts in respect of his previous service. Depending on circum-

stances, an advance payment may also be collected to protect the Department's income

Printing contracts awarded to two companies
831 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Communications

- (1) Whether his Department awarded any printing contracts in 1987 to two companies, the names of which have been furnished to the Commission for Administration for the purpose of the Minister's reply, or to their associated companies and printing operations, if so, (a) in respect of what publications or printed matter, (b) how many copies of each publication or item were ordered from each company and (c) what are the names of the companies concerned,
- (2) whether these contracts were put out to tender, if not, (a) why not and (b) what was the total amount paid by his Department in respect of each of these contracts, if so, what was the (i) tender price originally accepted, and (ii) total amount paid out, in respect of each contract,
- (3) whether his Department subsidizes any publications published by the above companies, if so, (a) which publications and (b)(i) why, and (ii) what is the amount of the subsidy, in each case,
- (4) what total amount was spent by his Department in 1987 on printing and publishing involving (a) the above companies and (b) any other specified companies?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Yes,
 - (a) Telex directory for the RSA 55 100
 - (b) Telephone directories — Pretoria White Pages 394 729
 - (c) Pretoria Yellow Pages 130 241
 - Johannesburg White Pages 930 361
 - Johannesburg Yellow Pages 282 419
 - West Rand 670 192
 - East Rand 659 791

Company	Amount spent
	R
Reliance Printing Works	718 000
Tvl Envelopes	1 102 000
Computer & Prestige Colour Printers	2 648 000
Bros Printing	235 000
Lexlines	1 371 000
Silveray	597 000
Merpak	711 000
Masterform	320 000
Albion Press	586 000
JB Printing	374 000
Barlan Forms	224 000
Tradeforms	201 000
Moore Paragon	1 294 000
Knox Printing	136 000
System Forms	290 000
Telkor	102 000
Varprint Business Forms	162 000

Value of imports from/exports to Turkey
868 Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Finance

With reference to the reply of the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology to Question No 222 on 8 March 1988, what was the value of South Africa's (a) imports from and (b) exports to Turkey in each of the latest specified three years for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

It is the government's policy not to make figures of the Republic's trade with individual countries available
However, should the honourable member so

desire the figures will be made available to him on a confidential basis.

Employees: extra employment/own businesses
915 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Communications:

- (1) Whether employees in his Department are permitted to (a) take on extra employment and (b) participate in any type of business of their own; if so,
- (2) whether this permission is granted subject to any conditions, if so, what conditions?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) (a) and (b) Yes, subject to prior permission being obtained in terms of Section 38(1)(b) of the Post Office Service Act, 1974,
- (2) yes, on condition that —
 - (a) the performance of extra work or participation in a business undertaken in no way hampers the official in the performance of his/her official duties,
 - (b) the work/activity is performed/exercised entirely outside the prescribed hours of attendance. Provided that if the activity is of an educational nature and in the interest of the Department a maximum of 10 hours per week may be spent thereon during official hours,
 - (c) the work is not of such a nature that the Department or the Government may be embarrassed in any way; and
 - (d) the permission may be rescinded at any time



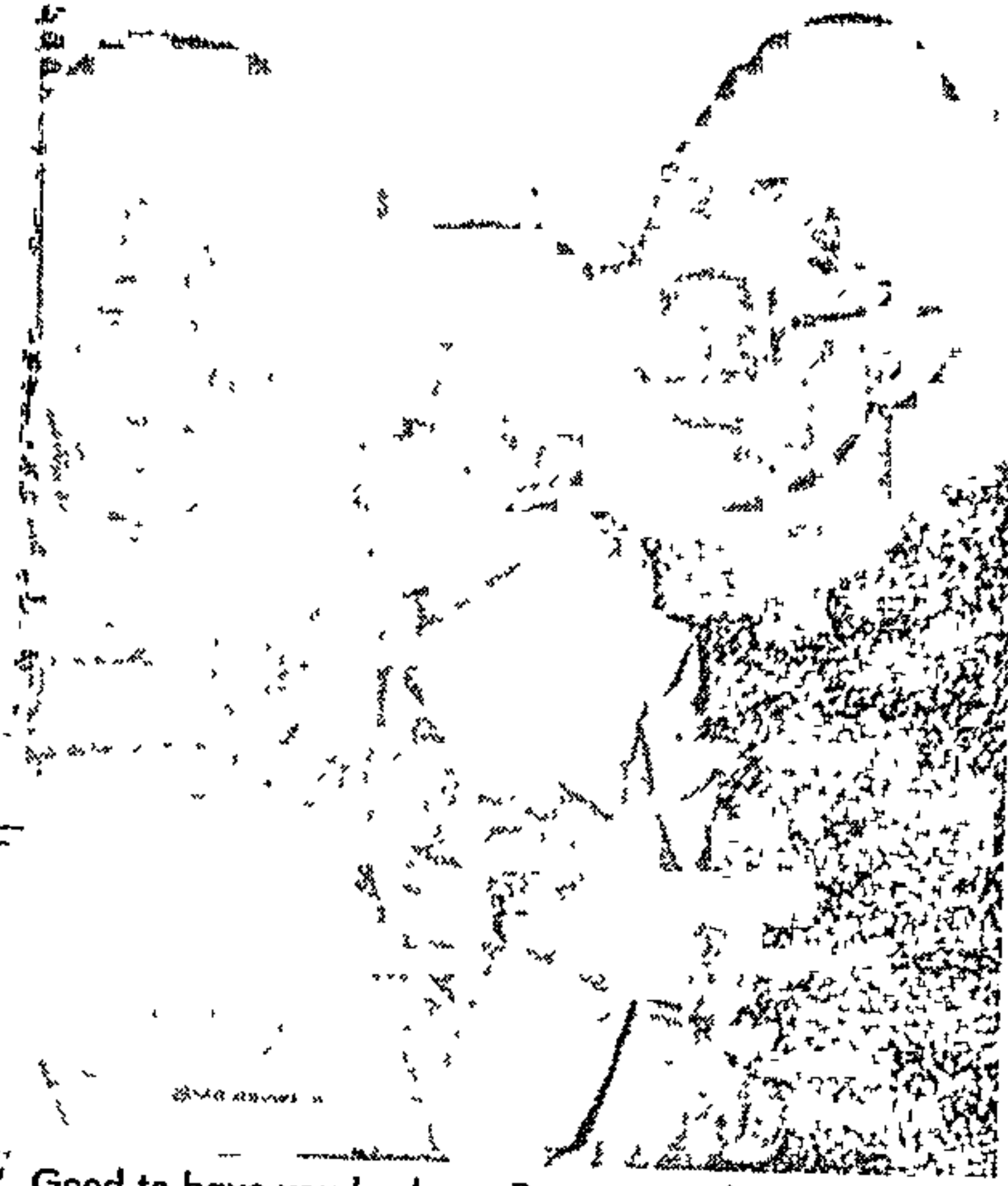
268

'Police refused wife hospital visit'

Freed Potwa president treated for depression

Star 9/11/88

By Lloyd Coutts 268



Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) president Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu was released from detention yesterday and is being treated for depression at the Johannesburg Hospital after a 10-day hunger strike in prison

Mr Mosunkutu, who expects to return to his Pimville, Soweto, home today has been in detention since July and was being held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act

There were emotional scenes at the psychiatric ward of the hospital last night when the unionist was reunited with his nursing sister wife Nonqaba and their four children

Mrs Mosunkutu told The Star police had refused her permission to visit her husband at the hospital when she applied to them last week

She had been told anonymously that her husband was admitted last Tuesday

She went to John Vorster Square where a security branch officer told her a visit to her husband was not possible

In a telexed reply to an inquiry from The Star the SAP public relations division said "We confirm that Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu was treated for depression at a hospital in Johannesburg His wife could not be reached but his family were informed of his hospitalisation"

Good to have you back . Potwa president Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu reunited with his wife, Nonqaba, and one of their children, Itumeleng (3), at the Johannesburg Hospital last night Picture by Etienne Rothbart.

Potwa ^{Sowetan}
25/11/88
action ⁽²⁶⁸⁾
dismissed

THE application by the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association against judgment which upheld the dismissal of the union's 111 members, has been dismissed with costs, a Post Office spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman said judgment was passed in the Rand Supreme Court on Wednesday. The union was appealing against a Supreme Court judgment, passed on September 26, which upheld the sacking of these Potwa members.

The Potwa members were dismissed by Post Office management after participating in an industrial action in August and September last year.

Members of Potwa (268) refused leave to appeal

24/11/88 By Cathy Stagg

Members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) were yesterday refused leave to appeal against a previous judgment which ruled they had been fairly dismissed.

Mr Justice Melamet heard argument in the Rand Supreme Court on Tuesday and reserved judgment.

After re-reading his previous judgment, bearing in mind the argument, he ruled that there was no reasonable prospect of a court of appeal coming to a different conclusion on the factual findings.

He said the explanations the 111 Potwa members gave for not going back to work after a strike had been settled were not reasonable. He ordered them to pay the costs.

The strike, on August 4 last year, was over working conditions and in sympathy with dismissed workers in the Eastern Province.

Previously, on May 1, Potwa and the Department of Telecommunications had entered into an agreement which said when a Potwa member was to be dismissed a Potwa representative must be present at the hearing or interview.

During the strike, the Department sent notices to the strikers.

On August 24 last year, the Department dismissed some temporary workers and those under special contract and, on September 3, the permanent employees.

On September 3, Potwa and the Department signed a settlement agreement after intense negotiations.

Mr Justice Melamet said the agreement made it clear that those who had not been fired had to be back at work before September 7 and those who did not do so, but could give a reasonable explanation, had until September 14. The temporary workers had until September 10 to apply for re-employment, but had not done so, he said.

PUBLIC SECTOR

TELECOMMUNICATION - LABOUR

1990

CAPE TIMES 4/11/1990

Postal workers to start talks with management

THE Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and the Department of Posts and Telecommunications are due to start national negotiations tomorrow. The talks will focus on wages and the re-employment of workers dismissed during the 1987 postal strike.

● Strikes over annual bonuses and a promised pay structure which began in Maputo last Friday have spread to Mozambique's strategic southern railway linking the capital to South Africa and Swaziland

Disputes began last week over companies' failure to pay year-end bonuses. — Labour Reporter and Sapa

Post office pay talks back on line

By Drew Forrest

Vital pay talks covering thousands of post office workers resume today against the background of burgeoning black worker militancy

In demands first tabled in October, the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) has called for a doubling of the basic minimum wage to R1 100 a month, and a R400 across-the-board increase

Potwa vice-president Mr Floyd Mashele said that as middle management won a sizeable increase in mid-1989, the union wanted the award backdated to July for lower-paid workers

RACIAL PARITY

The post office employs about 96 000 people, of whom some 30 000 are black

Potwa is also demanding

- Racial parity in pay
- Scrapping of plans for post office privatisation, which the union fears will cause job losses
- Scrapping of "apartheid practices" in the postal sector
- Permanent status for about 4 000 temporary employees

Warning that the talks were likely to be tough, Mr Mashele said black workers "were in militant mood" and had staged wildcat strikes recently

He said Potwa leaders would plan a campaign of action at a meeting on January 14 if the talks failed to make progress

News in Brief

Wage talks fail *CALL TOP 6/1/80*
(268)

PRETORIA — A meeting between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Union (Potwu) and the Post and Telecommunications department failed yesterday to find agreement on wage increases

Hefty increase of R1,3bn in govt's pay package

PRETORIA — Pay in all segments of the country's vast public sector escalated sharply last year, according to Central Statistical Service figures

In the quarter to end-September, the total payout soared by R1,338bn to R8,035bn compared with the same period in 1988

This was 20% more than the 1 683 876 workers — a slight decrease — earned in July-September 1988

In central government (general affairs), the workforce increased by 10 141 to 337 550, while the quarterly payout soared by R359,997m to R1,690bn

In own affairs departments, the workforce also increased, by 1 876 to 185 349. Their combined pay in the three months increased by

GERALD REILLY

R217,797m to R1,058bn compared with July-September 1988

Combined, the central government and provincial administrations employed 751 757 people — an increase of 12 548. Their pay escalated by a huge R781,794m to R3,649bn

Unlikely

Over the same period, the large and growing bureaucracy in the six self-governing states increased by 11 136 to 197 664 people. Here the payout rose R186,200m to a total of R620,059m compared with the third quarter in 1988

The Public Servants Association is pressing government for a 20% pay hike from April 1. If government agrees — an extremely unlikely

move — the quarterly pay for central government and provincial workers will have to be increased by R730m a quarter based on the latest figures and provided the number of workers stays the same

The public sector includes Sats, the Post Office, universities and technikons, control boards and parastatal organisations

The statistics show the continued shrinking of Sats staff, which started about four years ago. In the year to end-September 1989, the number of Sats workers decreased by 4 402 to 177 026

But their pay shot up by R182,051m to a quarterly total of R941,737m.

The Post Office workforce increased by 100 to 95 483 and the pay bill by R60,400m to R437,410m for the July-September period

268

Alpaw
17/11/90

POTWA TO GET AN ANSWER BY MARCH — PO

ALAN FINE (268)

POST Office (PO) management yesterday told Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) representatives that Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers would respond to Potwa's wage demands by early March.

A Department of Posts and Telecommunications statement said senior GM Pieter Senekal had told Potwa the Minister "had sympathy with a deserving case".

Potwa has demanded a R1 100 monthly minimum wage and an across-the-board increase of R400. The present minimum is R522,50.

Senekal told Potwa at yesterday's meeting that De Villiers had requested that discussions with the other six staff associations also be held, and this was being done.

Potwa general secretary Vusi Khumalo confirmed the PO version of the meeting, but said Potwa was concerned that the other staff associations were to be consulted.

"This means our negotiations depend on the other organisations, which may have no demands at all," he said.

Potwa also wondered whether it was not more appropriate to negotiate with the minister directly.

Potswa warned not to strike

8/10am
30/1/90
GERALD REILLY (268)

PRETORIA — The Post Office Staff Association has launched wage discussions with the PO's 97 000 workers. And Potswa — the only black PO union — has been warned not to resort to strike action in support of its demand for a minimum wage of R1 100 a month and an across the board increase of R400 a month.

In talks yesterday, Posts and Telecommunications associations' senior GM (personnel) Pieter Senekal said should there be a general wage increase not all workers would get the same percentage adjustment.

Workers in the lower income groups would probably get bigger pay hikes. Earnings of higher category workers were already getting close to market related wages, Senekal said.

In Cape Town last week, postmaster general Johan de Villiers told the Post Office Employers Association pay adjustments were "were justified".

The PO expects Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers to make an announcement on pay increases in March.

THE Post Office management and Post and Telecommunication Workers Association have resumed annual wage negotiations with the union demanding a minimum pay of R1 100 for its members

But the talks are likely to stall after management accused Potwa of planning a strike ahead of a deadlock between the two parties

The union has refuted this claim, saying it was not aware of any strike action being planned by its members.

The union's demands include an across-the-board increase of R400 a month and improved working conditions. If granted, the increases will become effective from April 1

Post Office general manager, Mr Pieter

Potwa starts wage talks

By LEN MASEKO

Senekal yesterday warned the union that management would take tough action against Potwa members if they went on strike.

“During a strike both the department and those on strike will suffer. It is thus to the advantage of both parties to rather discuss matters and see to what extent management can assist in meeting salary demands,” he said

268
31/1/90

Potwa members to march in protest

180 CHARLENE SMITH 268

MORE than 5 000 Post Office workers will march through central Johannesburg today in protest against their wages and working conditions, according to their union. (24)

A Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) spokesman said negotiations with the Post Office, which had been taking place since October, had broken down yesterday after six hours. 10/2/90

He said the union had not sought permission for the march.

The spur to the present dispute appears to be a notification to North Rand workers that the Post Office would no longer offer them transport to and from work. The Potwa spokesman said this could cost workers up to R100 a month in transport bills.

Workers are also demanding a R1 100 living wage — the present minimum wage is R500 — plus a R400 across-the-board increase.

In addition, they have called for an end to racism in the Post Office.

No comment could be obtained from the Post Office last night.

SA unions to march

JOHANNESBURG. — Anti-privatisation marches by unions attached to the public sector will take place in most of the country's major centres tomorrow.

Mr Floyd Mashele, president of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), said in an interview yesterday that applications had been made since the beginning of the week to local authorities in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth and Durban for the rallies.

The marches will take place under the banners of Potwa, the SA Railway and Harbours Workers' Union, the SA Municipalities Workers' Union and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union.

In the interview, Mr Mashele said he believed privatisation of public sectors would involve the loss of jobs, increased tariffs and the deterioration of services. — Sapa

Traffic stops in its tracks at protest

By SAMKELO KUMALO

TRAFFIC came to a standstill in Johannesburg yesterday as members of the Private Sector Association took to the streets marching against privatisation of State industries.

The association consists of members of post office, railway and harbours, health and municipal workers' unions. They attended the rally showing ANC and SACP flags

A petition against the privatisation of the Post Office was handed to Witwatersrand Labour Relations Officer Henne van Heerden at the Jeppe Post Office

Potwa president Kgabisi Mosunkutu said his organisation was against the government's decision to privatise the Post Office as privatisation would hit the poor the hardest. The privatisation of the Post Office, transport and health would mean that people would have to dig deeper into their pockets for those services.

The ownership and control of these services should rest in the hands of the State. Further, the State didn't have the right to sell the nation's industries to greedy capitalists without consulting the workers and the masses who owned these industries through the government

Mosunkutu demanded a living wage and the changing of the the Labour Relations Act

Potwa president Kgabisi Mosunkutu

WORKER

268
18/1/90

Postal ²⁶⁸ Sout 113-713/90 progress

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) is making significant inroads in organising "coloured" post office workers in the Western Cape

Potwa organiser, Mr Baderon Bakardien, said Potwa had signed up a large number of workers who had belonged to the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association (Saptea) in the past month

CAPE TIMES 3/3/80 268

PO 'paying below breadline wages'

PARLIAMENT — The Post Office was paying temporary employees — most of whom were not white and some of whom had been "temporary" for 15 or 20 years — wages below the breadline, Mr A E Reeves (LP Klipspruit West) said yesterday.

Speaking in the First Reading debate on the Post Office Budget, he said the National Party had used the Department of Posts and Telecommunications to upgrade its own people — the whites.

There was inequality in the Post Office and no one could deny it. Eighty percent of the Department's temporary workers were people of colour, and the majority of those were matriculants.

"And a white with Standard Six or Eight is 'baas' over him. They have been working as temporaries for 15 or 20 years. In the private sector there is legislation that a person cannot be temporary for more than three months. This is not equal opportunity."

Mr C L de Jager (NP Walvis Bay) said he would make representations to the delimitation commission so that Mr Reeves would in future be known as the Honourable Member for Lawaakamp. He said the LP should stop crying about apartheid and pull themselves up by their own shoelaces — Sapa.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WRITE TO: The Editor, The Argus,
PO Box 54 CAPE TOWN 8000

268

ARCUS
5/3/90

What about those who sweat and ache?

I AM a General Service Assistant in the employ of the Post Office. In our line of work we are ironically referred to as general assistants to the telephone electrician, but in reality we are common labourers.

Many statements were released by various professional people concerning the 10 percent increase of salaries for government employees, but the "whys" and "howcomes" of the exclusion of postal labourers from this general increase was left untouched.

Not that the 10 percent would have been of considerable help, but it could have helped us in our fight to survive.

The questions now arises. Is this the price we have to pay for not being professional people — for not having a good education and impressive curriculum vitae? How do we go about it in order to

be counted as part and parcel of our country's productive society? What is to become of us in a State where stagnant wages of labourers are justified by "adverse economic conditions"? Will our children also be labourers because we can't afford to keep them at school?

It is obvious that the Minister of Finance knows nothing of the plight of those who sweat and ache.

I now ask him — when your hurt economy has been healed, who is going to tend to our wounds sustained during your economy's healing process?

Thus, it is quite clear that we, the postal labourers, have once again been judged by our covers, black from tar-stained poles and dirty from digging holes!

N I BOWERS
Mitchell's Plain

Prisons Service: staff shortages

163 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice

Whether the Prisons Service is experiencing staff shortages, if so, what (a) is the extent of the shortages and (b) is being done to remedy the situation?

Hansard 19/3/90

B382E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(a) and (b) Yes Personnel shortages are experienced in the following vocational groups

- Disciplinary Personnel
- Work Study Officials
- Computerised Information System Personnel
- Agricultural Technicians
- Artisans
- Financial Personnel (Accounts Clerks)
- Logistics Personnel (Maternal Support Clerks)
- Musicians
- Nurses
- Social Workers
- Psychologists
- Typists

Due to the general under-supply in the labour market, some of these vacancies simply cannot be filled

The existing fixed establishment as on 1 February 1990, does however not reflect the shortage of 5 716 posts which in consideration of financial realities are attended to on a planned and continuous basis, by the provision of funds on the South African Prisons Service budget

Robben Island: prisoners

164 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice

Hansard 19/3/90

How many prisoners were being held at the (a) maximum security and (b) medium security prison on Robben Island as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

B383E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

On 2 March 1990, the figures were as follows—

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(a) 344

(b) 303

Department of Posts and Telecommunications: staff housing subsidies

167 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises

Hansard 19/3/90

What total amount was allocated by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in respect of the 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 financial years, respectively, for the payment of staff housing subsidies on a (a) compulsory and (b) voluntary basis?

268

B386E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

(a) and (b)

1986/87 R 79 378 850,12,
1987/88 R 84 319 829,38,
1988/89 R101 805 544,09, and
1989/90 an estimated R142 000 000 The financial figures will only become available after the closing of the financial year on 31 March 1990

Notes

(i) Separate figures in respect of compulsory and voluntary additional payments are not readily available as the Department's computerized system does not, unfortunately, distinguish between the two amounts. The time and cost involved in consulting every housing subsidy file, of which there are ± 26 700, to obtain the required information cannot be justified

(ii) The higher than normal increase in subsidies in the 1989/90 financial year can be attributed to the additional subsidy payable in respect of loans of R50 000 and higher for the period June 1989 to March 1990 as well as the fact that building society interest rates were adjusted upwards twice during the relevant financial year

Self-governing territories: size

172 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Development Aid

Hansard 19/3/90

What was the size in hectares of each of the self-governing territories as at 31 December 1989?

Hansard 19/3/90

B391E

The MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AID

KwaNdebele	224 632 hectares
Gazankulu	774 793 hectares
Owaqwa	105 133 hectares
KaNgwane	438 221 hectares
Lebowa	2 244 078 hectares
KwaZulu	3 243 703 hectares

Self-governing territories/independent Black states consolidation cost

173 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Development Aid

What was the cost of purchasing land for the purpose of consolidation in respect of each (a) self-governing territory and (b) independent Black state as at 31 December 1989?

B392E

The MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AID

Separate statistics are not available. The total accumulative cost, however, amounted to R1 321 555 549 on 31/12/1989

Mr Nelson Mandela: cost of imprisonment at Victor Verster

176 Mr A P OOSTHUIZEN asked the Minister of Justice

Hansard 19/3/90

(1) (a) For how long was Mr Nelson Mandela detained in a house at the Victor Verster Prison and (b) (i) what facilities were at his disposal during this period and (ii) what (aa) was the daily cost involved in these facilities and (bb) is the daily cost in respect of an ordinary prisoner;

(2) whether Mr Mandela (a) received and (b) entertained any guests during this period, if so, what was the cost involved, in each case,

(3) whether (a) Mrs Winnie Mandela and (b) any other persons visited Mr Mandela at public expense during this period, if so, (i) which other persons and (ii) what was the cost to the State in each specified case?

Hansard 19/3/90

B412E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) (a) From 7 December 1988 until 11 February 1990

(b) (i) In a comfortably equipped and properly secured home on the Victor Verster Prison grounds. The furniture and other equipment of the house are still being applied and utilised efficiently at other points for departmental purposes

(ii) (aa) and (bb) Not readily available. The per capita cost per prisoner per day differs from institution to institution due to a variety of variables per place.

(2) (a) and (b)

Mr Mandela received visits continuously during this period. The cost relating to the entertainment of these visitors were borne by Mr Mandela himself. Unfortunately no specific amount can be given as this matter is of a personal nature

(3) (a) and (b) (i) and (ii) Mrs Winnie Mandela and other private visitors visited Mr Mandela at own expense

Big bills ahead ^{FIM} 23/3/90

Big business will face some hefty increases in its data communication bill when the Post Office's new tariffs come into effect April 1

The impact of the hikes will differ between customers because the charges for using the Post Office's data communication networks depend on the mix of services used. However, Alan Knott-Craig, director of telematic services at the Post Office, estimates that users of the Saponet network will have to pay an average of 13%-15% more for the service, while the cost of the Dignet point-to-point service will rise by about 15%.

Frans Oeschger, of the Witwatersrand Datacommunications Liaison Committee, says the Post Office's estimates of the effects of the new tariffs are conservative. He says some large users of data communication services will have to pay 25%-30% more. "The users are not very happy at all."

Oeschger, the Allied group's networks manager, says that while the cost of sending data on Dignet over long distances will rise by 18%, the cost of this service to transmit data over short distances will increase by 40%. He adds that the effect of the new Saponet tariffs are difficult to judge but some costs have risen by as much as 75%.

Peter Davies, chairman of the Computer Society's data communication special interest group, says companies that have many regional offices are likely to pay about 15% more for data communication services. If a company has a lot of short-haul data communication traffic, the increase will be closer to 40%, he adds.

Etienne Theart, chairman of the National Datacommunications Consultative Committee, believes that the increases are in line with what was expected by most users. However, he points out that cross-subsidies between data communication services have distorted prices.

As these are gradually removed, Theart says, the tariffs for some services have jumped unexpectedly high. He says his committee has asked the Post Office for its timetable on phasing out these cross-subsidies so that its members can plan.

The Post Office's revenues from data communication reached R190m last year. Demand for these services is growing rapidly as

FIM 23/3/90 (268)
companies increasingly rely on computer-driven networks to transmit information. Capital expenditure on the Post Office's data communication network grew by 10% last year to reach R112m.

Knott-Craig estimates that traffic on the Saponet network will increase 20%-25% in the next year, with the use of the Dignet service climbing by 40%. Traffic on the Post Office's still loss-making Beltel videotex service is likely to grow by 40%-50%, he says.

Beltel charges will rise by 15%, though for most users this will be offset by the elimination of charges for the telephone calls used to gain access to the service. The charges for the Post Office's declining telex and teletex services, which lost R57,5m last year, have remained static. ■

Four unions to stage protests nationwide

268 ADELE BALETA

THOUSANDS of public sector employees from four trade unions will stage nationwide protests against privatisation tomorrow and on Thursday.

Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) vice-president and a national co-ordinator of the protest action Floyd Mashele said anti-privatisation rallies would be held tomorrow in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Pretoria, Bloemfontein and Kimberley.

He said workers were prepared to fight to the "bitter end" to prevent privatisation and he warned shareholders "they would not be reimbursed once nationalisation takes place".

Members of Cosatu affiliates Potwa, the SA Railways and Harbours Workers Union (Sarhwu), the National Education Health and Allied Workers Union and the SA Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) would take part in the action.

Sarhwu launched a three-day anti-privatisation campaign at the Kaserne railways depot in Johannesburg yesterday.

A depot spokesman said 500 workers held a peaceful demonstration on the premises for about an hour. Workers did not meet management.

Mashele said public sector employees countrywide would march on employer bodies starting at 10am tomorrow. Memorandums calling for a halt to privatisation would be handed in and a picket would be staged for the rest of the day.

Johannesburg public sector workers, however, would march on the JSE, where a memorandum would be handed in, followed by a picket.

The action was part of a public-sector worker campaign to protest against privatisation, de-regulation and government's 10% pay rise for workers.

Action would include work stoppages, overtime bans and, as a last resort, strikes, Mashele said.

~~1984~~ ~~270~~
~~270~~ ~~272~~ 268

Privatisation fears allayed

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Public sector staff associations have been given "cast iron" assurances that no workers will be adversely affected by privatisation.

Spokesmen were reacting to the planned protests this week by black public sector unions against the 'threat' of privatisation.

They are the Post and Telecommunications Workers Union, the SA Railways and Harbours Workers Unions, National Education Health and Allied Workers Union, and the SA Municipal Workers Union. 8:10am 28/3/90

Federation of Sats Trade Unions general secretary Abe Koekemoer said after a thorough investigation the federation accepted privatisation in principle.

"Against a background of what we consider watertight guarantees, we cannot understand the fuss being made," he said.

Public Servants Association GM Hans Oliver said the PSA had accepted privatisation provided no worker was prejudiced.

"Government has also undertaken to consult, and if necessary negotiate with, the PSA" on privatisation, Oliver said.

Post Office staff associations have also been told they need not fear privatisation.

R

South 29/3-4/4/90

268 357 1204
232 1204

Rallies against privatisation

By CHIARA CARTER

UNIONS will step up their anti-privatisation campaign this week. The action may lead to protests involving thousands of public sector workers.

The vice-president of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), Mr Floyd Mashele, said more than 150 000 workers were expected to take part in marches and rallies in major centres throughout the country on Thursday.

The centres include Pretoria, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, East London, Durban and Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

Mashele said the marchers would

include members of the unions which belong to the public sector forum — the South African Municipal Workers' Union, Potwa, the South African Railway and Harbour Workers' Union and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union.

Independent unions and staff associations such as the Health Workers' Union and the Public Servants' League might also join the marches.

In Johannesburg, workers will march to the Stock Exchange to demonstrate against the sale of post office shares on the exchange.

"The government has repeatedly ignored our representations. Now we are taking serious action," Mashele said.

"We are prepared to negotiate peacefully. If the state presses ahead with privatisation, however, we are prepared to take whatever action is necessary."

Sources within the public sector forum say the unions have not ruled out "more sustained strike action".

The anti-privatisation drive comes amid unprecedented militancy in the public sector.

There was a bitter marathon strike involving up to 40 000 Sarhwi members throughout the country last year.

A strike involving about 5 000 workers at Cape Provincial hospitals ended last week in what Health Workers' Union general secretary, Mr Hassan Mahomed, called a "major victory" for the public sector.

In terms of the agreement, the hospital authorities agreed to meet with the union, give workers permanent status, improve maternity leave benefits and reduce working hours significantly.

Wage increases for both Sats and CPA hospital workers are to be announced next month.

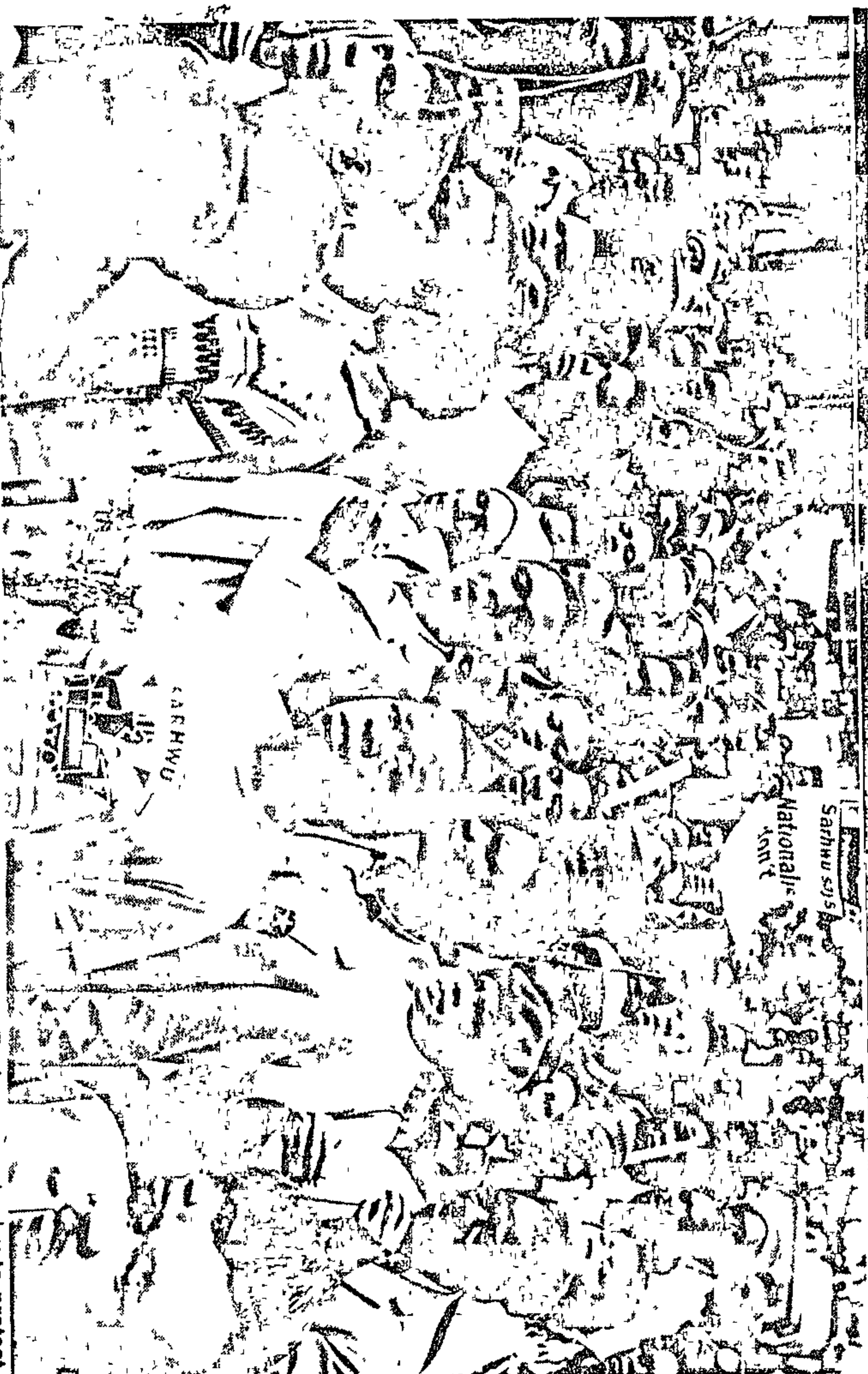
This month, workers also downed tools at Ibhayi Town Council, in the prison services and police force and at DET schools in Soweto.

Potwa, the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association (Saptea) and the Postal Employers' Association of South

Africa this week issued a joint statement, warning that their members might take action in support of wage demands.

The statement said the present minimum wage of R624 was "unacceptable" and that workers demanded a minimum wage of R1 100 and a R400 across-the-board increase.

The statement compared this to cabinet minister's salaries of R15 084 and the salaries of MPs, who earn almost R8 000 a month



Potlwa and Sarhwu union workers marching through the city to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange yesterday to protest against privatisation.
Pic MBUZENI ZULU

It's theft from the masses, says Mkwazi

PRIVATISATION was a form of theft aimed at undermining the economic power of a future African National Congress government, ANC stalwart Mr Wilton Mkwazi said yesterday.

Addressing public sector workers before yesterday's anti-privatisation march to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, Mkwazi also warned that a future government would re-nationalise state concerns sold to private interests.

He said privatisation would further concentrate economic power in the hands of a small group of private corporations, and would generate revenue for the state over which people had no control.

"The robber is steal-

ing our wealth," he said. The mass of South Africans would receive "a small piece of pie" after foreign creditors, the state bureaucracy and business had been paid off.

The alternative was to find "new and creative forms of co-operative control". One example was a proposed electricity co-operative in Soweto, owned by consumers and run on a non-profit basis.

Also at the rally was a Diepkloof Prison staffer and member of the prison union Popeni, who said black prison employees had decided to "return to the people".

"We were responsible for killing your children and detaining you," said Mr Gregory Mohlathe. "Now we'd rather remove night-soil."



Thousands of protesting workers march down Pritchard Street towards the JSE yesterday.

Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

Unions mobilise protests against govt privatisation

THOUSANDS of public sector workers from four Cosatu-affiliated trade unions marched with banners through SA cities yesterday to register opposition to government privatisation plans

Members of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association, National Education Health and Allied Workers Union, SA Railways and Harbours Workers Union and the SA Municipal Workers Union were taking part in a national campaign against privatisation and the 10% public sector pay rise

In Pretoria police confirmed 39 workers were arrested after an illegal march by about 2 000 people. The workers were later released and warned to appear in court

A police spokesman could not verify union claims that 40 marchers were injured when police used tear-gas. Several marchers were allegedly bitten by police dogs.

Potwa vice-president Floyd Mashele said a Cosatu delegation delivered a memorandum addressed to Privatisation Minister Dawie de Vil-

ADELE BALETA

lers at the Union Buildings urging him to stop the privatisation process and expressing fears of job losses

In Johannesburg 10 000 public sector workers under four union banners marched to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange where Mashele and ANC leader Wilton Mkwayi handed a memorandum to JSE executive president Tony Norton

The memorandum protested against the sale of state industries and encouraged investors not to buy shares in the public sector

It said employees believed the sectors were part of the national wealth created "out of the exploitation of our labour" and "we believe the government has no right to auction this wealth without our consent".

Mashele said workers were prepared to "fight to the bitter end to prevent the move".

About 200 suspended warders from Johannesburg Prison — Police and Prison Civil Rights Union members — joined the march.

Earlier Mkwayi told a packed Central Methodist Church the working class rejected privatisation because it would increase the minority's economic power; generate funds for the State which workers would not control; turn workers' houses into a source of profit and force employees into squatter camps; and leave a future ANC government with few economic resources

Sapa reports that in Port Elizabeth thousands of workers presented demands to employer bodies. These included abolition of privatisation; recognition of workers' unions by the public sector; and salary parity regardless of colour.

Other national demands were that health services accessible to the poor be developed and that workers get the right to withdraw their membership from management-established councils and staff associations.

Permission for a march in Bloemfontein was refused but Mashele said alternatives were being discussed. In the Western Cape public sector employees embarked on a two-day stayaway on Wednesday.

la
m
be
th
co
th
cu
bu
R
R
R
R
R
R
R

New phone services 'will not save jobs'



GERALD REILLY

268

PRETORIA — Unemployment in the telecommunications equipment industry will continue to grow in spite of the R1,5bn to be spent by the Post Office on 217 000 new telephone services this financial year, it is believed. *B/Dm 12/4/90*

Business and Marketing Intelligence (BMI) director Alan Paul said the industry laid off 1 600 workers last year and it was projected another 400 would follow this year.

He said the major reason was most of the Post Office's infrastructural development was complete.

RSA, crime tendencies are continuously monitored. I wish to assure the honourable member that everything possible is being done to prevent crime. When it is apparent that there is an increase in crime active steps are taken to counteract this tendency.

Hansford 18/4/90

Own Affairs:

Riverlea: housing projects

1 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing *Hansford 18/4/90*

- (1) Whether the South Western Management Committee has applied to his Department for funds to develop housing projects in certain areas of Riverlea in 1990, if so, (a) what (i) amounts and (ii) areas of Riverlea are involved and (b) for what projects in each area are these amounts intended,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING.

(1) Yes

(a) (i) R2 000 000,00

(ii) Riverlea Extension 1

(b) Housing for the aged consisting of 17 double and 50 single units

(2) No

South Western Management Committee: Riverlea Extension

2 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing *Hansford 18/4/90*

- (1) Whether the South Western Management Committee has made any recommendations to his Department in connection with approximately 21 houses envisaged for Riverlea Extension 1, if so, what recommendations;

- (2) whether his Department has taken a decision on these recommendations, if not, why not, if so, (a) what decision and (b) what were the reasons for this decision?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

CS8E

- (1) Yes. The Johannesburg City Council submitted recommendations to the Housing Board for the financing of 21 assisted housing units

(2) Yes

- (a) The Housing Board recommended that an assisted selfhelp project be considered for the project be considered for privatisation,

- (b) the estimated building costs for the erection of the dwellings by conventional building methods would be above the limit determined to be affordable by the lower income group

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

*Precedence given to interpellations on general affairs on this day pursuant to the resolution adopted by the House on Tuesday, 27 March 1990.

INTERPELLATION

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language

General Affairs

Persons of colour: employment

268

Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises

- (1) What is the policy of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in regard to the employment of persons of colour in the Republic in general and its Durban regional office known as Commercial City in particular.
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

D105E INT

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES Mr Chairman, the policy of the department regarding the employment of persons of colour was dealt with during the various discussions of the Post Office Budget. At this stage I have nothing to add to the statement on the matter that I made at the time. For the benefit of hon members I shall briefly repeat the essence of what I said

I acknowledged during that debate that regardless of meaningful progress in respect of the employment of persons of colour in the department, undisputed disparities still existed. I also accepted the fact that the quota system applicable to the employment of technicians, telecom electricians and technical assistants restricted the employment of persons of colour. I furthermore said that I was aware that the resistance to change among White personnel had retarded the efforts of the department to employ more persons of colour.

Against this background I announced a new policy approach based on the principle of the best man for the job. The announcement contained the following statements

The department now fully applies the principle of equality in the field of employment and all measures that might still have had a discriminatory connotation have been eliminated.

Post Office personnel of all population groups will in future participate in the establishment and maintenance of adequate postal and telecommunications facilities and the provision of effective services to all communities.

Educational qualifications, the results of aptitude tests, experience, age, language proficiency and personal qualities will henceforth be the only criteria for the employment of people. The principle of the best person for the post without considering the population group to which a candidate belongs, has therefore been fully accepted and will be implemented.

Concerning promotions, joint merit lists will be drawn up with the result that candidates of all population groups will compete on an equal footing for promotion. When effecting promotions, local circumstances, such as cultural and language considerations, will be considered in particular cases to ensure that decisions are taken in the best interest of clients, the officer and the community in question. As far as supervision is concerned, all restrictions have been eliminated and the policy of the best person for the post is also being applied.

Mr K CHETTY Mr Chairman, I fully agree with the hon the Minister when he talks about merit and criteria. We believe that the policy of the best man for the job is the best policy.

I have been furnished with statistics by the Ministry of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises. From these statistics it is obvious that the policy of discrimination has been followed and people of colour have been disadvantaged deliberately.

Of the 679 people employed in the various posts at Commercial City, 592 are White. How does the hon the Minister account for that? Only 11 Blacks and 76 Indians are employed. Moreover, all senior positions are held by Whites. Are our people so underqualified that they cannot hold any of these positions? I think this is certainly not the case. A survey among our graduates will indicate that more than enough of our people are qualified, but they are not given the opportunity to fill these posts because of their colour. This is gross discrimination and if the Government's policy of reform is to have any meaning, the Department of Posts and Telecommunications

Hans Sarel

must put into practice what the Government is preaching

268

The position with regard to clerical posts at Commercial City is worse. The number of Whites employed in those posts is 503 and the number of Indians is only three. This is a clear indication of discrimination. What does the fact that there are only three Indians employed in those positions compared to 503 Whites prove? The hon the Minister must take serious note of this and bring about positive changes in the situation. The employment of 500 more Whites than people of other race groups, is an indication that these clerical positions have deliberately been reserved for Whites. The hon the Minister must now open up these avenues for people of colour.

There is so much talk about positive change in this country. This is all well and good, but talk is cheap and it is money that buys the bacon. To have money there has to be jobs. In this country there are jobs, but the only problem is that jobs are either restricted to pals or to a certain class or colour of people. These positions must be opened now. When we talk in terms of a new constitution for this country, we must at the same time say that everything has to change. It all has to go along with it—there is no point in preaching about changes every day and reading so much about it in the Press when nothing is happening in the departments. [Interjections.] It has to start at grass-roots level and that is important. [Time expired.]

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, in the House of Parliament we have a lot of rhetoric and policy statements made by hon Ministers. However, as I asked previously, what does this really mean in practical terms, on the ground where it matters the most? These excellent soliloquies of hon Ministers are followed by somnolence.

The startling figures given to this House by the hon member for Chatsworth Central clearly indicate that even from the time this country established the tricameral Parliament there has been hardly any movement away from discrimination.

I just want to look at the hon the Minister's utterances that in local situations local circumstances will be taken into consideration. Durban—not only the metropolitan area of Durban,

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

but the entire area within the Durban municipal boundaries—has an Indian population which is 250% more than the White population. How can one then justify the hon the Minister's rhetoric that in certain local situations local circumstances will be taken into consideration?

The creation of an apartheid-free South Africa must not be left for the post-apartheid period. It must be created now. It must not be created by statements at high level, but must be translated into real, practical terms at grass-roots level.

I want the hon the Minister to know that it was very difficult for us to get the first technician of colour into his department. In spite of the fact that they took us in grudgingly and the fact that there was discrimination in salaries we advised our youths with the necessary qualifications to get a foot in the door and that we would handle the question of discrimination in salaries at a later stage. There is a difference between discrimination and differentiation. [Time expired.]

Mr SPACHAI Mr Chairman, I want to say that the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, as it was known before, did in fact pioneer employment opportunities for Indian youths. There is no gainsaying that. However, while they have pioneered employment opportunities for our youth, the question is what the practical end result of this pioneering action was. The lower grades of employment were reserved for our youth. How many of our youths are in supervisory capacities? This remains the crux of our complaint.

Furthermore, how many Black people serve at the counters in the rural areas? This is where discrimination comes in as well. In the previous debate in this House I expressed very strongly our disappointment at what was happening with regard to the employment of people serving at the counters. Not a single Black female is employed by the Post Office. When Dr L A P A Munnik was the Minister I mentioned this fact. He assured me that he would see to it that Black females—not only Coloureds and Indians, but Blacks—would be employed. Not a single Black person is employed to serve at the counters in the rural areas. If one looks at Estcourt, Ladysmith and Newcastle one finds that they are conspicuous by their absence. Why are only White females employed to serve at the counters? Are our people not capable?

Hans Sarel

When we consider reform—I agree with previous speakers—there must be less talk now and more action.

268

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Your party leader is guilty too!

Mr SPACHAI Whoever is guilty, whether it be party leaders, post offices, Iscor, banks or building societies, discrimination in all facets of life must go out of the window now. We must see to it that there are employment opportunities for our people who have been disadvantaged in the past. [Time expired.]

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, I must say that the figures quoted by the hon member for Chatsworth Central are certainly startling. This does show that we do still have discrimination in our Public Service. I am aware that the hon the Minister, who has been very honest with us this afternoon, is in the forefront of creating this new South Africa that has been talked about so much. I appreciate the new policy approach of that hon Minister. However, it does appear to me that the articulation of the policy is one thing and that the application of the policy is another.

I would like to plead with the hon the Minister that he should try and ensure that the employment pattern in his department represents the entire mosaic of the South African population. It should not just represent Indian, White or Coloured people, but the entire mosaic of the South African population. The employment patterns must not only not be discriminatory, but I believe that everything in that department should smack of total and equal opportunity for all.

When I look at some of the figures that have been quoted in Hansard, I would like to ask the hon the Minister why there appears to be discrimination in the employment patterns relating to indentured apprentices in his department. For example, in 1987 67 people—Whites only—were employed as indentured apprentices in his department. In 1988 that figure had dropped to 57. No people of colour and certainly no Blacks were employed in that particular category. Only Whites were employed in that category. There is a similar situation with regard to the question of staff. According to my information . . . [Time expired.]

Mr K CHETTY Mr Chairman, as stated earlier, the Post Office also boasts of being an equal opportunity employer. There is also talk of privatisation, but the matter of privatisation is not currently under discussion. However, such a programme might serve more beneficially if the present policy with regard to employment could be revised, so that the spirit of reform could be meaningfully realised.

The hon the Minister must indicate in a clear manner what his intended action is going to be, and if the situation at Commercial City is going to be improved. The historical imbalances have to be addressed now whilst the negotiating processes for a new constitution are under way. Let the hon the Minister not fail in his duty to respect the wishes of the disadvantaged.

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES Mr Chairman, I have two minutes. The numbers quoted by the hon member for Chatsworth Central are correct, but only relate to Commercial City and therefore give a slightly distorted picture of the Post Office as an employer of people from all population groups.

Quite frankly, I have already indicated that undisputed disparities still exist and that the new policy that I announced approximately six weeks ago is directed towards the elimination of such disparities. In all fairness, the application of the new policy over the past six weeks could hardly have changed the situation much. However, I briefly want to refer to the numbers quoted by the hon member.

These numbers should not be seen out of context. The telecom regional organisation in Natal certainly does not only comprise the staff of Commercial City. In the interests of an efficient service, sections of the organisations are located over the whole of Natal and also at strategic points in the greater Durban area itself. In the case of the Durban area, subscriber service centres and other service points exist at, for example, Greyville, Mobem, Overport, Phoenix, Pine-town, Rosburgh, Umbilo, Umhlanga Rocks, Amanzimtoti, Beach Exchange and Centurx.

The ratio between Whites and the other population groups in respect of the staff employed at these centres, is as follows: 1 458 Whites, 725

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Indians, 167 Coloureds and 2 107 Blacks In the words of the hon member for Springfield, this certainly represents a mosaic of the South African situation—not sufficiently, I accept that. However, regardless of the problems to which I have referred, there is proof of meaningful progress. Given time, I am sure we will be able to show further progress.

Debate concluded

268

For written reply

General Affairs

Development and Services Board: subsidy payments

3 Mr N SINGH asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs House 18/4/90

- (1) Whether the Natal Provincial Administration made certain subsidy payments to the Development and Services Board in respect of the 1988-89 financial year, if not, why not, if so, (a) what total amount was involved and (b) (i) what amount was apportioned by the said Board to each of the areas under its control and (ii) on what basis was it so apportioned.
- (2) (a) on what basis did the Board apportion funds to depressed areas in the above financial years, (b) why was this basis used and (c) what amount was paid over to each of the areas under its control?

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS House 18/4/90 D32E

- (1) (a) Grants amounting to R11 650 000 were paid by the Natal Provincial Administration during 1988/89 to the Development and Services Board in respect of the following:
- Basic grant to enable the Board's Head Office and four Regional Offices to provide the services required in the areas approved by the Board.
- Special grant for purposes of the Board's

R9 950 000

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Special Fund	Revolving
300 000	
Special grant for the purpose of upgrading designated depressed areas	
	1 400 000
	<u>R11 650 000</u>

An additional grant of R427 000 was also paid by the Natal Provincial Administration to the Board to meet its increased expenditure due to salary adjustments

- (b) A total amount of R1 015 830 was apportioned by the Board from the basic and additional grants to areas under its control — R588 830 to 12 areas to meet deficits on their Revenue Accounts and certain capital expenditure and the full R427 000 in respect of salary adjustments to all areas proportionate to salaries paid by each area House 18/4/90
- (2) The Special Grant of R1 400 000 received for the purposes of upgrading designated depressed areas was apportioned according to the requirements of providing basic services such as Water Supply, Roads, etc, in those areas. The 1988/89 grant was apportioned as follows:

Blackburn Water Supply	95 000
Etete Water Supply	525 270
Trust Feed Water Supply and Clinic	41 850
Welbedagt Water Supply and Roads	737 880
	<u>R1 400 000</u>

Phoenix/Verulam/Tonga/Stanger: offences

- 4 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Law and Order House 18/4/90
- How many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (d) common assault, (e) rape, (f) burglary, (g) robbery, (h) theft of vehicles, (i) damage to property, (j) housebreaking and (k) possession of drugs were reported and investigated at each specified police station serving the Indian areas of Phoenix, Verulam, Tongaat and Stanger, respectively, during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?

D46E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)
Phoenix	25	59	417	1418	82	616	469	364	1267	-	11
Verulam	164	25	225	460	54	490	241	113	285	-	3
Tonga	46	45	215	436	44	463	215	117	232	-	2
Stanger	71	60	242	153	76	824	231	81	205	-	4

Note

House 18/4/90

- (1) Burglary and housebreaking constitutes the same crime, no statistics are therefore furnished with regard to paragraph (j)
- (2) Because the South African Police is not satisfied with the crime situation in the RSA, crime tendencies are continuously monitored. I wish to assure the honourable member that everything possible is being done to prevent crime. When it is apparent that there is an increase in crime, active steps are taken to counteract this tendency.

Reservoir Hills/Newlands/Asherville/Overport/Sydenham: offences

- 5 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Law and Order House 18/4/90
- How many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (d) common assault, (e) rape, (f) burglary, (g) robbery, (h) theft of vehicles, (i) damage to property, (j) housebreaking and (k) possession of drugs were reported and investigated at each specified police station serving the Indian areas of Reservoir Hills, Newlands, Asherville, Overport and Sydenham, respectively, during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?

D47E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)
Greenwood	31	74	114	536	43	823	220	325	642	-	5
Park	12	14	18	174	14	511	58	190	97	-	0
Mayville	32	22	207	352	40	438	79	176	260	-	1

Note

- (1) Reservoir Hills and Asherville form part of the Sydenham police area, Newlands area and Overport forms part of the Mayville police area.
- (2) Burglary and housebreaking constitute the same crime, no statistics are therefore furnished with regard to paragraph (j)

Chatsworth/Merebank/Isipingo: offences

- 13 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Law and Order House 18/4/90
- How many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (d) common assault, (e) rape, (f) burglary and housebreaking, (g) robbery, (h) theft of vehicles, (i) damage to property and (j) possession of drugs were reported and investigated at each specified police station serving the Indian areas of Chatsworth, Merebank and Isipingo, respectively, during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?

House 18/4/90

D83E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Wentworth	11	6	188	468	31	192	67	98	322	18
Isipingo	91	28	240	312	35	334	207	207	256	0
Chatsworth	41	28	386	662	57	526	149	334	931	37

Note.

- (1) Merebank forms part of the Wentworth police area
- (2) Because the South African Police is not satisfied with the crime situation in the RSA, crime tendencies are continuously monitored. I wish to assure the honourable member that everything possible is being done to prevent crime. When it is apparent that there is an increase in crime, active steps are taken to counteract this tendency.

Police colleges: training capacity

15. Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Law and Order. House 18/4/90
- (a) What is the total capacity for the training of policemen in each of the police colleges under the control of the South African Police, (b) how many persons are being trained in each of these colleges and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

D99E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

	(a)	(b)
Pretoria	2114	1927
Hammankraal	1260	1116
Bishop Lavis	404	154
Wentworth	126	111

- (c) 31 March 1990

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Postal workers mobilise

A MASS rally for post office workers is scheduled to take place in the Municipal Hall in Salt River at 1pm on Saturday.

A spokesperson for the technical branch of the Post Office Employees' Association of South Africa (Peasa) said the meeting was being called to discuss wages, privatisation and unity between the different unions which organise at the post office.

South 1914-251490
268

damages assistant general secretary and the regional secretary of the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu) in connection

Sactwu further R1 200 and costs. The Port Elizabeth magistrate's court found the pamphlet defamed the two Sactwu officials, Mr John Copelyn and Mr Jabu

ANC at May Day rally

A MASSIVE ANC May Day rally is being planned to take place in Cape Town on May 1.

The rally will precede talks between the government and a top ANC team, scheduled to begin the following day.

It will combine a traditional May Day programme with input from

the ANC. Events scheduled to take place include marches from different areas, cultural events and a briefing from the ANC.

A May Day picnic is being organised by the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu) at Zeekovlei on the following Saturday, May 5.

South 1914-251490

Postmen suspend work stoppages

By LEN MASEKO

POST Office employees have suspended sit-in strikes at major centres in the Transvaal pending further meetings between management and the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association, a Potwa spokesman said yesterday.

The workers embarked on brief work stoppages this week in support of their wage demands which include a R1 000-a-month minimum wage and a R400 across-the-board increase.

The strikes coincided with talks between Potwa and Post Office management on Monday.

Post Office public relations officer, Mr J Roodman, was not avail-

able for comment yesterday.

A Potwa spokesman said the two parties had not yet reached agreement but management had promised to inform the Minister of Telecommunications about the workers' demands.

The two parties will resume the next round of wage talks on May 21.

* A row has broken out between a West Rand company and Food Beverage Workers Union over the company's decision to lock out employees who rejected its wage offer.

The FBWU has con-

demned Advance Seed's action, saying the lock-out was "unprocedural and unlawful".

FBWU official Mr Goba Ndlovu said the union had applied to the Industrial Court to declare the lock-out, instituted against 40 FBWU members on Monday, illegal.

Mr B Lever, a manager of the company, yesterday confirmed the dispute between the two parties.

* The National Union of Public Service Workers and the Kagiso Town Council yesterday resumed talks to resolve the wage strike by about 600 employees of the council.

2/5/10
10/5/10
10/5/10

268

CMA-71445 (268)

10/5/90

(12)

(13)

C

Postal strikers end sit-in

PRETORIA — Post office workers in the Pretoria and Witwatersrand regions yesterday ended a two-day sit-in strike, but the action in support of wage demands was continuing at a Chloorkop engineering yard.

Sixty-nine workers at Chloorkop in the southeastern Transvaal had opted to continue the protest.

Workers, all members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association, had staged the sit-in strike in support of their demand for a R1100 monthly "living wage" and a R400 across-the-board increase.

Continued

28/5/70
Talks on civil service unions

A COSATU delegation will see two cabinet ministers today to discuss the role of trade unions in the public service.

The Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises, Dr Dawie de Villiers, confirmed yesterday that he and Dr Wim de Villiers, Minister of Administration and Privatisation, are due to meet the Cosatu delegation this afternoon.

Dr Dawie de Villiers said the discussions would concern the recognition of Post Office trade unions. A spokesman for Dr Wim de Villiers said talks would range far wider than privatisation — Sapa

~~268~~
~~268~~
268

PO
Sowet 29/5/90
**workers
down
tools** 268

POSTS and Telecommunications workers at two Germiston engineering yards have downed tools and their union has warned the department of continued worker action.

The workers downed tools shortly before they were due to begin work yesterday, a statement by the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association said.

"We wish to warn the PT management that their refusal to include PT workers under the cover of a fair Labour Relations Act is a recipe for continued workers' action on the ground," the statement said.

"We shall call on all workers in and outside the PT to take solidarity action with our embattled colleagues."

Potwa said Cosatu was presently engaged in a "struggle" for a fair Labour Relations Act and would not allow Potwa's members to "engage in this battle alone".

Strike

Before yesterday's strike action, workers had gathered to discuss their grievances.

"The most important issue in the workers' demands is that the PT bosses should stop harassing Potwa members and their shop-stewards," the statement said.

Potwa claims that instead of the bosses listening to workers' demands, police were called in and ordered the workers to disperse within 20 minutes.

The workers had dispersed to the Cosatu regional office in Germiston.

"The PT bosses are not interested in moving in step with their Government's announcement of reforms and better conditions for workers," Potwa claimed.

Comment from the department was not available yesterday. - Sapa

Potwa workers down tools over alleged harassment

B1 Day 29/5/90 (268)

DANIEL FELDMAN

ABOUT 70 Posts and Telecommunications workers "downed tools" yesterday at two engineering yards in Germiston, a Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) spokesman said.

Potwa president Kgabiso Mosunkutu said the workers demanded that Post Office bosses "stop harrassing Potwa members and their shop stewards".

Mosunkutu said workers were also protesting against the recent transfer by the Post Office of Potwa regional education committee vice-chairman Abraham Mathebula and Potwa shop steward Reuben Shange, and were calling for the removal of a Posts and Teelecommunications manager

A Potwa spokesman said police were called in and they instructed workers to disperse, rather than allowing them to

speak with bosses. Workers then went to the Cosatu offices in Germiston.

A Posts and Telecommunications spokesman said Mathebula and Shange "were placed at other sections for manpower utilisation reasons within the last week". He also said there were unconfirmed reports that most of the workers would return to work tomorrow.

A Potwa statement warned bosses of "continued worker action in and outside the P & T".

"It should be remembered that Cosatu is currently engaged in a struggle for a fair Labour Relations Act, and we believe that Cosatu will not allow our membership to engage in this battle alone," the statement said.

Postal strike looms over Pretoria

PRETORIA could face a Post Office strike today, Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) vice-chairman Floyd Mashele said yesterday.

"We can't say for sure if there will be a strike, it's up to the regional committees to decide what sort of industrial action they want to take," he said.

"It could be that just some of the Pretoria regions decide to strike, but at this stage it's difficult to say," he said.

A joint delegation from Potwa and the SA Postal and Telecommunication Employees Association (Saptea) will meet Department of Posts and Telecommunications officials in Pretoria today to seek clarity on salaries.

Calculations

Although a media liaison officer said the talks were not negotiations but "a report-back to the delegation after discussions with management", Mashele said the union "wished to negotiate a living wage".

Potwa has demanded a monthly minimum wage of R1100 as well as an across-the-board increase of R400 a month.

In response, Post Office personnel management senior GM Pieter Senekal said at a meeting with Potwa and Saptea on May 7 that its minimum wage of R627,50 a month was higher than that of

DANIEL FELDMAN
and LINDEN BIRNS

most other major employers, and that Potwa's demands for a minimum wage of R1 100 were based on calculations for a family of six members "and could not be accepted on a general basis."

"The Post Office is committed to, within its financial ability, paying its staff a livable wage," Senekal said.

Rumours of an upcoming national postal strike abounded earlier this week. One direct mail company even sent out notices to its clients warning of a full work stoppage, while some individuals were notified by postal workers that there would be a one-day strike of black postal employees on either June 4 or June 6.

"We've heard the rumours, but we don't know what's going to happen. We're taking the issue day by day," said a postal operations spokesman.

But Potwa spokesman Sizwe Matshikiza said. "We wish to assure the public that Potwa is not co-ordinating a country-wide strike action for the month of June," adding the rumours could be an attempt to "destabilise or cause chaos for the union."

"However, Posts and Telecommunications workers, depending on the situations they face at factory floor, may embark on any action they deem fit in an attempt to have whatever demand they put forward, addressed," he said.

No hike for PO workers.

PRETORIA — Postal workers will not get a further wage increase this financial year, the Department of Post and Telecommunications said yesterday.

The decision follows wage talks here yesterday between the department and the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Union, a Cosatu affiliate.

In Johannesburg, meanwhile, at least two women were injured when police baton-charged about 80 striking workers at the Mariston Hotel.

Police held off between 80 and 100 members of the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union who downed tools just before noon to back demands which include a minimum wage of R650 a month — up from the current minimum of R380 — Sapa

268

National postal strike may be in the offing Potwa

268

DANIEL FELDMAN

POSTAL workers could begin a national work stoppage within the next two weeks to back demands for higher wages, according to senior Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) officials.

The strike would involve Potwa members including postal sorters, packers, cleaners and labourers.

The action was proposed after SA Posts and Telecommunications personnel management senior GM Pieter Senekal announced at the weekend that postal workers could not be granted a further wage increase this financial year, as only central government could grant the raise.

Potwa president Kgabiso Mosunkutu said Potwa regional representatives would report back to their constituents this week to "receive fresh mandates" and gauge regional support for a national stayaway.

He said go-slows were initiated more than two weeks ago to back demands for wage increases, and he felt the go-slows and sit-ins would escalate into fullscale strikes if workers' demands were not met.

Reporting back to representatives from Potwa and the SA Postal Telecommunications Employees Union (Saptea) after a meeting earlier last week with Public Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers, Senekal said finan-

cial constraints confounded staff association demands that the non-pensionable allowance granted on April 1 be made into a pensionable allowance.

Potwa had sought a general wage increase of R400 a month across the board, as well as a minimum wage of R1 100 a month.

The minimum wage is R627,50 a month after increases ranging from 9% to 20% earlier in the year.

Investigating

Potwa media liaison officer Sizwe Matshikiza said there was "certainly the possibility of sustained, nationally organised industrial action".

Senekal said Posts and Telecommunications was investigating the possibility of extending promotional opportunities on certain "lower levels", as well as the possibility of "increasing these occupational groups' annual salary notches".

He also said it would consider the salary issue again in the next financial year "should government grant further salary adjustments".

A postal operations spokesman said judgment on the situation would be made on a day-to-day basis.

01/7/90
13/12/90

B Day 5/6/90
**Postal workers
debate joint action**

DANIEL FELDMAN (268)

THREE postal employee associations are attempting to co-ordinate their efforts nationally to put more pressure on Posts and Telecommunications for wage increases.

The SA Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association (Saptea), and the Post Office Employees' Association of SA (Peasa) are considering solidarity action with the Posts and Telecommunications Association of SA (Potwa), they said yesterday.

Saptea president Rabi Gobind said his association had decided at the weekend to conduct industrial action ballots during the next two weeks. Options would include not working overtime, go-slows, sit-ins and strikes.

Potwa would know by late next week if their members advocated strike action, said Potwa president Kgabisi Mosenkutu. Peasa will meet soon to investigate action options.

Gobind said the three had a combined potential of almost 45 000 members, out of about 95 000 postal employees.

Representatives of the three met Postmaster General Johan de Villiers yesterday to raise concerns about the 1990 Post Office Amendment Bill.

CP/ 7/6/70 *(268)*
Postal stike over race

JOHANNESBURG. — Postal workers on the East Rand have downed tools to protest against alleged racist practices in the department, the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association said yesterday

Graded levels for telematic services 'a priority'

GRADED service levels for certain telematic services are a main SA Posts and Telecommunications priority for 1990 and 1991, a move which is welcomed by large service users

At the Fourth National Telematics Conference in Durban recently, Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers said those who wanted a 24-hour maintenance service would be able to subscribe to such a level of service, provided they payed for it and SAPT

could provide the service in the area it was required

"Where customers require their circuits to be restored within a specified period of time, they can subscribe to such a service at the prevailing tariff

"The details of these service levels are currently being negotiated between the Post Office and the National Telematic User Group (NTUG)," he said

But the severe shortage of skilled technical staff in the Witwatersrand area had to be dealt with and

extensive management systems for telematic services put in first

By early 1991, a remote management system for 75% of all point-to-point circuits in SA will be installed. And a major project to provide operations personnel in the regions with fast response realtime management systems is under way

SAPT's senior director of networks and telematics, R Harker, told the conference that users today would not tolerate long outage times

on their circuits

He said SAPT would offer three grades of service — standard, special, and premium.

Users would pay a fixed monthly fee or retainer for a particular service level and a higher tariff to cover the cost for SAPT staff to travel users' premises to localise or fix faults. A penalty would apply if SAPT staff were called out for faults on users' equipment

1990/91/92

268

Friday June 8 1990

PO men on strike at seven depots

Senekal 8/6/90
1/32
2.68

By MONK NKOMO and LEN MASEKO

DOZENS of Post Office workers have gone on strike at seven depots on the East Rand and Pretoria.

A go-slow strike by Post Office workers in Atteridgeville and Mamelodi has led to a delay of mail deliveries in the past six weeks.

On the East Rand, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Union have downed tools in protest against the alleged assault of a colleague by a white worker.

Mr Pieter Senekal, senior general manager of South African Posts and Telecommunications, yesterday accused Potwa of threatening it with strikes while negotiations were still continuing.

Negotiations between the two parties were due to resume next Monday.

He confirmed that labour-related problems had been causing delays in the delivery of mail in Mamelodi and Atteridgeville.

"SAPT has brought in extra people to help and the position should be back to normal by next week," Senekal said.

Potwa demands - among other things - an across-the-board increase of R400 a month and R1 100 minimum pay.

Affected depots on the East Rand are two in Boksburg and three in Alberton.

Unions reject salary hike

SA Posts and Telecommunications this week offered to increase annual salary notches of lower paid workers but three unions rejected the offer, saying they would continue to demand a minimum monthly wage of R1 100.

SAPT also offered to create more advancement opportunities for lower paid employees, a statement said.

About 31 000 staff members would benefit from the offer, applicable from August 1, according to Postmaster General Mr Johan de Vilhiers

He held discussions with the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association, Post Office Employees Association and SA Posts and Telecommunications Employees Association on Monday

He said SAPT had understanding for staff members in lower paid groups and Monday's wage offer was aimed at improving their living conditions

The fact SAPT's salary account already added up to 46 percent of its budget indicated the needs of staff members were taken to heart. - Sapa.

268

268

Potwa sticks to its guns over wage hike

268

THE postal union, Potwa, yesterday insisted it would stick by its demand that its members be granted a minimum monthly wage of R1 100 and an across-the-board increase of R400

Potwa's stance was made known after a deadlock was reached in wage negotiations with the department of Post and Telecommunications earlier.

"Our union rejects

out of hand the department's position, that the workers' demands are beyond their budget allowance," said a statement issued by the union.

It also rejected the department's offer of upgrading the lowest salary notch from R627 per month to R789

"We also wish to state our opposition to the P and T's approach that it will only increase the salary notches of the

lowest grades and create more promotion opportunities.

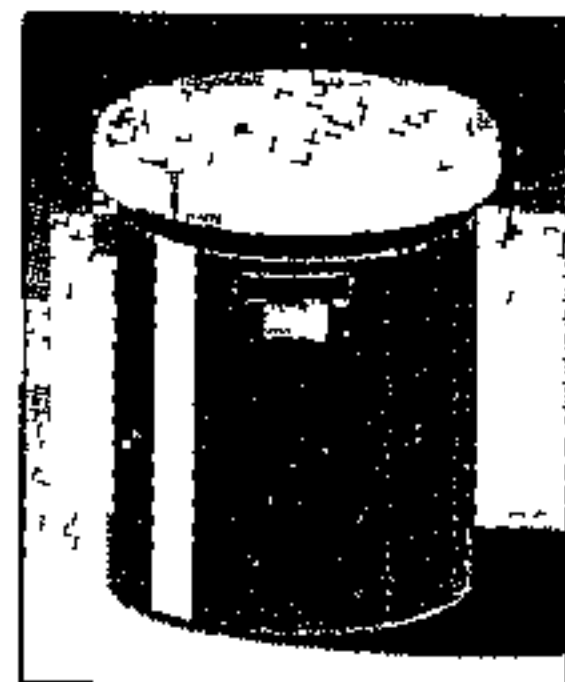
"We cannot leave the fate of our colleagues to the department's merit marking system. The department uses its own discretion and yardstick on who will be promoted and who will not," said Potwa.

Negotiations to end the impasse are continuing. - Sapa

Sowetan 14/6/90

Roll on a strike!

■ With services in decay, the Post Office needs to reform or become obsolete



Have you ever known the post to be slower? Even leaving aside the possibility of a national strike by postmen, with its run-up of botched or delayed services, the Post Office has been

making a cock-up of what it's supposed to be doing. The *FM* regularly (or, rather, irregularly) receives horror stories of things going wrong — and we know our own problems all too well.

This sorry "service" coincides with moves to "commercialise" the Post Office, by way of splitting an entity called the Department of Posts & Telecommunications into two autonomous units: SA Postal Services (which bears the typically ugly acronym Sapos) and something called Telkom (the telecommunications division).

If privatisation is to follow, Telkom would be the pretty sister in the marriage market. Legislation providing for actual autonomy of the two services has been held over until 1991 — and Sapos remains the ugly sister.

Real losses are involved. Cash flows of large bulk post users such as banks, building societies and major retail stores can be disastrously affected by delays of between a week and three weeks — or even non-delivery — of statements and accounts for payment. The sums involved are impossible to quantify but are certainly large.

Our postal services are antiquated — partly because so little is spent on them. A mere R710m went on handling 2,26bn mail items in the 1988-1989 financial year, against total Posts & Telecommunications expenditure of R6,19bn.

A spokesman for a large departmental store (who declined to be named) summed up one effect: "Most families do their monthly budgeting on receipt of statements. If these are not received on time, cheques are not posted and many accounts don't get paid till the following month. Interest charges increase and our bottom lines are affected by such delays."

Reader's Digest, one of SA's largest bulk mail users (Edgars Stores leads the stakes), has no qualms about being quoted, chapter

and verse, on its concern over the dismal service. MD Nic McRae says "We have conducted a series of closely monitored postal delivery tests in conjunction with about 150 postal officials nationally since January,



Van Rooyen ... blaming it on the Railways

took 10 days to arrive — one item only arrived after 25 days.

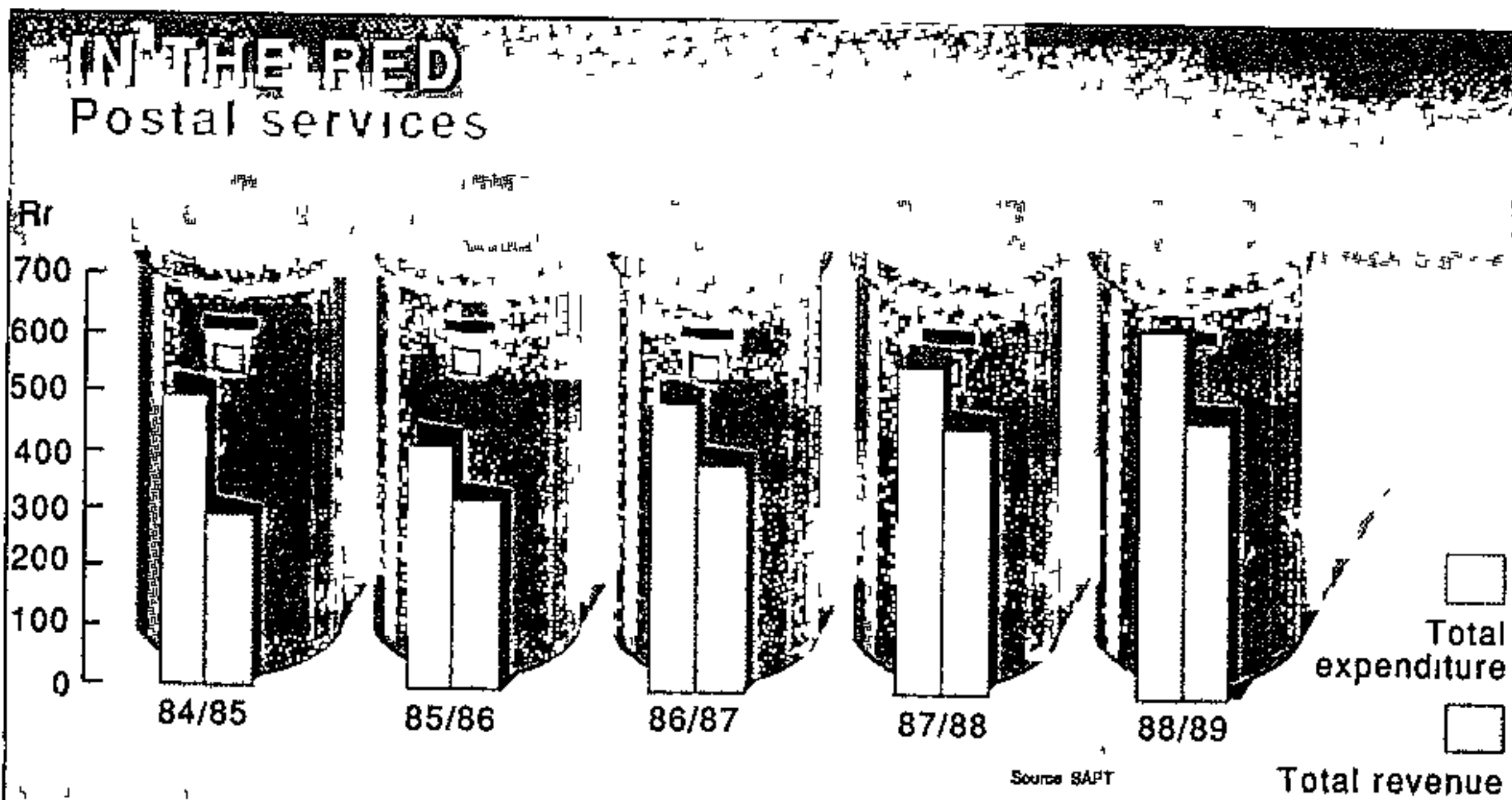
"In any modern country an eight-day delay is totally unacceptable — but our tests found that 5% of items posted experienced a 15-day delay, with another 5% taking 16 days to reach their destinations."

To be fair, McRae adds, the test period included go-slow strikes in some areas by Post & Telecommunications Workers' Association members — but even this does not explain the huge disparities in the timing of deliveries. That smacks of a system falling apart.

"A frightening thing is that postal workers use their own discretion in deciding what is priority when delays occur. The solution would be to create a distinction between first-class and other mail. People are prepared to pay extra, as long as timely delivery is guaranteed," McRae says.

The *FM* has received many complaints from subscribers about late or erratic deliveries — some within only a few km of our distribution points.

A top-level meeting between postal officials and private-sector representatives of major postal users, through the SA Direct Mail Association and National Consultative Committee on Postal Affairs (representing business bodies Sacob, the AHI and Seifsa) has been scheduled for June 14. Urgent action is necessary.



Top officials say they are aware of the problems. Postmaster-General Johan de Villiers has just instituted a weekly monitoring service to check on postal delays.

They cite the deferment of legislation to split Posts & Telecommunications and a shortage of funds to buy electronic sorting machines and pay for improved postal transport as reasons.

"We must be in a position to motivate staff to increased lev-

els of productivity, pride in their work, loyalty and singleness of purpose," De Villiers argues. "This can be achieved if we loosen the bonds of political control and meddling and are fully corporatised as an independent company which can be run on clear business principles."

De Villiers is "most disappointed" with the delay in legislation providing for an independent Sapos service. He adds that the fact

by posting items to their home addresses. In January, about 22% of the items were never delivered, followed by 22% in February, 28% in March and 26% in April. Eight-day delivery delays were experienced in 7% of cases in the first month, followed by 51% in February, 7% in March and 20% in April."

He adds that in one case some items posted from the *Digest* headquarters in Cape Town to his home address in the same city

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

FIM 15/6/90



Whither now? Or wither now?

Whatever the other lessons of the Umlazi by-election may be (see *Current Affairs*) It was undeniably an unmitigated disaster for the Democratic Party. While it's not surprising that voters rejected a party that seemed uncertain at the outset of the campaign whether it still had a policy worth propagating, this shows to what a sorry pass has a party been reduced which, before last year's general election, had hopes of regaining the status of official opposition

Suggestions from within its own ranks that the DP should stand back — in a seat where it came comfortably second last year — “to avoid splitting the pro-reform vote” were tantamount to harakiri

It's nothing new for a centrist minority party to find its sensible policies appropriated by others. It's something Britain's Liberal Party has seen happen time and again. But less than a year after the election, should the DP really give the impression of throwing in the towel because what used to be its policies have suddenly become those of the NP?

Is this why Helen Suzman fought a lone battle all those years to keep civilised values alive in the Assembly?

Of course, it suits the NP very well, in its effort to create the impression that the only players worth considering are itself and the ANC. But should Democrats be taken in so easily? Should they swallow, hook line and sinker, the view that their interests are now safe in F W de Klerk's hands?

Are the Nats the best people to argue for the continued existence of the free enterprise system in a post-apartheid SA, given their dilatory record on deregulation and — even

more — privatisation? Is their continuing obsession with group rights and foot-dragging over a Bill of (individual) Rights compatible with the DP's Western-liberal principles?

It is no criticism of De Klerk's sincerity, or denigration of the remarkable steps he has already taken, to point out that there are still huge gaps between any view of the future he has expressed and what those of us dismissed by Harry Schwarz as 18-century reactionaries would like to see. We should be so lucky as to get back to the social mobility and economic growth rates of the 18-century Industrial Revolution!

The Umlazi disaster is being used as a stick to beat Denis Worrall, who insisted that the seat be fought. We do not always agree with Worrall, but if the DP is indeed to withdraw from fighting seats in which it came second to the NP for fear of splitting the “pro-reform” vote, it's not just the DP that's in trouble — it's the whole reform cause.

We believe the DP still has an important role as a vehicle for the views of many progressives (we use the word with intent) who have no other political home. But, to fulfil this, it needs strong and committed leadership.

It may be significant that Umlazi came at the same time as the collapse of another political group that tried to function with a three-person leadership — Britain's Social Democratic Party. If any of the DP triumvirate no longer has the stomach for the fight, let him stand back for someone who can give the party strong, focused leadership. Otherwise it may indeed be a case of wither, not whither. ■

MANDELA ABROAD

FIM 15/6/90



Star-spangled banners

Nelson Mandela and his entourage must be hoping for a warmer welcome in North America than the reserve and hard-headedness they encountered in Europe. In fact — with a reported 3 000 journalists having applied for accreditation to the ANC camp — they will be hard put to make coherent statements about sanctions and the armed struggle. Those people will be over them like flies!

It will be strange for Mandela to find such gross adulation in the heartland of capitalism. His fraternal feelings must surely be reserved for Fidel Castro rather than George Bush. But that is not the only strange facet of his trip.

It is extraordinarily long — six weeks — for a major leader to be absent from his country at such a critical stage of its history. Now that his nominal foe, F W de Klerk, has again seized the high ground by lifting the State of Emergency — except in Natal — it is, clearly, in that province that

peacemaking enterprise should be applied by the Congress.

Then there is his punishing schedule, eight cities in 10 days. The impression is that this is a timetable pitched for maximum fund-raising potential, irrespective of what it might do to Mandela's health and peace of mind. And just as there is little he can get in Europe that he wants, there is little in America that he does not already have.

Finally, while the US jamboree can hardly fail as a media circus, there are some unpleasant possibilities. One is the American dimension of craziness which will make security a nightmare, another is that Mandela's steely repose might be disturbed by penetrating questions relating to ANC detainees and economic policy. And Mandela carries with him everywhere that shadow, his wife.

Back home, he has a lot to do — unless the ANC swiftly sends him off somewhere else again. ■

STOCKBROKERS' RATINGS

Bringing home the bacon

■ The leaders still innovate — and now political analysis helps their focus

Stockbrokers' analysts have a reputation for earning high salaries — but the business is highly competitive. There are dozens of analysts seeking to impress a limited number of institutional investment managers.

Only the best and most determined manage to make a real impact. And it helps to work for a firm which is conscious of the need to market the research.

That may be one way of interpreting the results of the latest *FM* survey of brokers' research. Of course, another view may be that some firms simply are not getting their money's worth. On the whole, the rankings remain dominated by familiar names. Some firms which deploy sizeable resources on research are not greatly conspicuous in the sectoral rankings.

However, it should be emphasised that institutions which participate in this survey are simply asked to name the best analysts and firms in each sector — and in many cases there are a lot of names to choose from.

For the past couple of years, before sending questionnaires out to institutions, we have asked the stockbroking firms to supply a list of their analysts and sectors covered, the resulting list with questionnaires was sent to institutions.

When the latest list was compiled in March, there were no less than 51 analysts covering industrial companies, 58 covering the mining board, 19 producing research on economic trends and 15 researching insurance, banking, and financial services.

There was some overlap, with a few researching both mining and industrial companies, for example, but each analyst would have been considered for the sectors he or she was covering.

Given those num-

bers, it is a considerable achievement to attain sufficient support to be ranked in the first four — irrespective of the actual ranking.

In gaining that support, the experienced analysts must have a considerable advantage. Usually, though certainly not without exception, it takes time to overtake those who are well established.

From the firms' standpoint, the need to replace analysts who have moved to competitors or emigrated may be a disadvantage for a while.

Notably, firms with more stable and experienced teams, particularly Martin and Ivor Jones, continue to lead the overall ranking for research while the Fergusson Bros team is closing the gap. Davis Borkum leads the

dealing ranking, as it has done since 1984, and Ivor Jones is ranked first for administration.

When asked whether the general standard of research had improved, 65% of the respondents thought it had remained the same, only 26% thought it had got better, while 8% felt there had been a deterioration.

Reasons given by those who saw an improvement included greater professionalism and accuracy, with timeous production and research supportive to portfolio management, better coverage and marketing, more attention to extraneous factors influencing market direction and sentiment; more topical work and better quality presentation with more qualitative recommendations, and more consistency, with research seen as more

to the point, accompanied by better summaries and conclusions and clearer graphics.

Those who saw no improvement cited "job hopping" and "new analysts with limited experience". One of the largest assurance companies noted "The quantum and quality of mining research appears to be disproportionately low relative to the number of analysts covering the sector".

Another commented that analysts "should give thought to specialising and avoid being mediocre generalists".

The basic approach to the survey remains the same as in previous years. Results are based entirely on the opinions of financial institutions which use stockbrokers' services. Their judgments refer to work done specifically for institutional investors, which is often quite different from the services — especially research — offered to individual clients.

Questionnaires were sent to essentially the same list of in-

FIRMS RANKED BY SECTOR

Industrials — Consumer-based

- 1 Martin
- 2 Simpson McKie
- 3 Fergusson Bros
- 4 Ed Hern

Industrials — Other

- 1 Martin
- 2 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 3 Fergusson Bros
- 4 Simpson McKie

Most Improved Industrial Research

- 1 Ed Hern
- 2 Fergusson Bros
- 3 Irish

Coal

- 1 Martin
- 2 J D Anderson
- 3 Davis Borkum
- 4 Frankel Kruger

Diamonds

- 1 Martin
- 2 Fergusson Bros
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Ivor Jones, Roy

Gold

- 1 Martin
- 2 Ed Hern
- 3 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 4 Silvis Barnard/EW Balderson

Other Mining

- 1 Martin
- 2 Fergusson Bros/J D Anderson
- 3 Ivor Jones

Mining Financials

- 1 Martin
- 2 Fergusson Bros
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Ivor Jones, Roy

Banks, Building Soc, Fin Services

- 1 Martin
- 2 Ed Hern
- 3 Fergusson Bros
- 4 Edey Rogers

Insurance

- 1 Mathison & Hollidge
- 2 Martin
- 3 Edey Rogers/Fergusson Bros

Property & Property Trusts

- 1 Max Pollak
- 2 Martin

Property & Property Trusts continued

- 3 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 4 Ed Hern

Small Companies & DCM

- 1 Frankel Kruger
- 2 Davis Borkum
- 3 Simpson McKie

Market Movements & Timing

- 1 Ivor Jones
- 2 Martin
- 3 Mathison & Hollidge
- 4 Simpson McKie

Investment Strategy

- 1 Martin
- 2 Simpson McKie
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Ivor Jones, Roy/J D Anderson

Technical Analysis

- 1 Ivor Jones
- 2 Mathison & Hollidge
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Davis Borkum

Gilts Research

- 1 Martin
- 2 Ivor Jones
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Mathison & Hollidge

Labour/Industrial Relations

- 1 Kaplan & Stewart
- 2 Mathison & Hollidge
- 3 Ed Hern

Economic Trends

- 1 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 2 Martin
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Mathison & Hollidge

Overseas Markets & Economies

- 1 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 2 Martin
- 3 Frankel Kruger
- 4 Mathison & Hollidge

Computer Service

- 1 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 2 J D Anderson
- 3 Frankel Kruger

Innovation

- 1 Ivor Jones, Roy
- 2 Fergusson Bros
- 3 Ed Hern
- 4 Frankel Kruger

POST OFFICE DISPUTE (268)

Return to sender (359) (451)

In a bid to resolve the Post Office wage dispute, SA Posts & Telecommunications offered to increase the annual salary notches of lower-paid workers and create more advancement opportunities in those categories

The offer was, however, rejected by Post & Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa), Post Office Employees' Association and the SA Posts & Telecommunications Employees' Association. This follows discussions on Monday between Postmaster-General Johan de Villiers and the three associations.

FIM 1516190
The announcement comes at a time of increased industrial action in the postal and telecommunications sector. Last week, about 265 workers at the Boksburg, Vosloorus and Alberton post offices (and the Boksburg and Alrode engineering plants) downed tools to

FIM 1516190

protest against alleged racist practices in the department

Potwa media liaison officer Sizwe Matshikiza says the associations will continue to demand a minimum R1 100 monthly wage and an across-the-board increase of R400 a month

According to Matshikiza, management's offer would increase the monthly minimum in the lowest three notches from R627,50 to R789. The associations propose that the first four salary notches of the lowest-paid groups be scrapped and the following notch (R843) be taken as a minimum wage

In addition, they are demanding a R200 across-the-board increase, which would bring the lowest monthly minimum wage up to R1 034. (268) (359) (451)

De Villiers says such an adjustment would cost the Post Office more than R300m and points out that the non-pensionable allowance, granted to staff members on April 1, cost almost R180m. However, he says, the Post Office "has understanding for its staff members in the lower-paid groups" and the wage offer is aimed at improving living conditions. The fact that the salary bill already adds up to 46% of its budget indicates that the needs of staff members are being taken into account, he argues

The proposals will now be discussed with Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers and a report-back given to the staff associations. According to Matshikiza, the associations are now awaiting an official response from management on their wage demand at another session scheduled for Friday

POST OFFICE F/M 22/6/90 ~~267~~ 268

Never on a Saturday

One would have thought that, with the deterioration in postal services (*Leaders* June 15), the Post Office would be striving to offer

F/M 22/6/90 ~~267~~ 268

a better service rather than further diminishing it.

However, answering questions in parliament last week by the DP's Roger Hulley, Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers confirmed that Saturday deliveries to homes in large centres had been suspended

Disruptive effect

The reason is that postmen seldom complete home deliveries before 4 pm on Saturdays "The department was, therefore, experiencing increasing opposition to Saturday deliveries, which was visibly starting to have a disruptive effect on the quality of mail deliveries on weekdays as well"

De Villiers reassures Post Office customers that mail addressed to private boxes is still being sorted on Saturdays and that "only mail intended for street addresses is affected The arrangement exists that all street mail to hand on a Saturday is delivered the following Monday"

The new arrangement applies to all except small centres where mail can be delivered within normal office hours on Saturdays Postmen at bigger depots will apparently still be employed until noon on Saturdays to sort mail for delivery on Mondays So much for keeping the customer satisfied. ■

SAPT offer

JOHANNESBURG

SA Posts and Telecommunications (SAPT) offered to increase the minimum wage of its employees by R108 a month to R735 during a meeting yesterday with representatives of its three staff associations.

SAPT Personnel Senior General Manager Mr Pieter Senekal said the offer would be backdated to April 1

PT workers' pay hike not accepted as yet

THREE SA Posts and Telecommunications (PT) staff associations intend taking Wednesday's PT offer of an increase in their minimum monthly wage to R735 back to the workers for a fresh mandate and say they are committed to continuing their battle for a minimum R1 100 and an across-the-board increase of R400.

In a joint statement issued yesterday by the Posts and Telecom-

munications Workers Association (Potwa), Post Office Employees Association of SA (Poeasa) and the SA Posts and Telecommunications Employees Association (Saptea), they said, however, they appreciated the "positive attitude" taken by Sapt management in the latest round of negotiations.

The announced salary increase was a culmination of serious negotiations dating back to November 1989, said the statement.

On Wednesday PT senior general manager Mr. Pieter Senekal an-

nounced the increase of R108 per month on the current R627 monthly wage, and said it would be back-dated to April 1, 1990.

The PT is also to increase the nine percent salary increase announced in April to 10 percent. This increase will be back-dated to April and will only affect those who had received the nine percent increase.

The three unions believed that management's change in attitude was "brought about largely by workers' militancy on the ground" - Sapa

Sowetan 29/6/90

268

Postal workers

poised for action

ABOUT 650 post office employees who downed tools at the Philippi yard on Monday to demand the reinstatement of a colleague are poised to take further industrial action

A spokesperson for the workers' committee at the yard said labourers and technicians took part in a five-hour stoppage on Monday to protest against the dismissal last month of a colleague, Mr Warren Davids

268

South 2816 - 47190

Rumblings from post office, council workers

Soult 12/7 - 18/7/90

AS rubbish piled up in Port Elizabeth where striking council workers defied an ultimatum to return to their jobs, municipal workers downed tools in a small Cape town, while rumblings were audible from thousands of post office workers around the country.

In Bredasdorp about 100 council workers this week downed tools to demand an increase of 40 percent on the minimum wage and an across-the-board increase of 13 percent.

Right

Most of the workers presently earn R75 a fortnight.

The workers also demanded a medical aid, pension fund and paid sick leave.

They want the right to join a trade union of their choice.

They are being supported by the Bredasdorp Peoples' Organisation.

The strikers agreed to return to work this Thursday after the council threatened to fire them.

Meanwhile, a week-long strike by about 2 500 municipal workers is continuing in Port Elizabeth in defiance of an ultimatum to return to work by the beginning of this week or face disciplinary action.

Mr PK Botha, the Port Elizabeth town clerk, confirmed that workers were still on strike.

He said workers had refused the council's 12 percent wage offer. A "firm" offer would be

made only when all workers returned to work.

About 800 Samwu members at the Bellville municipality returned to work this week after a two-day strike in support of wage demands.

Groundswell

A Samwu spokesperson said the union, which is demanding a minimum wage of R750, is negotiating with the Bellville council. She claimed the council had offered R455, but a council spokesperson said it had offered R465.

The municipal strikes are the latest in a groundswell of public sector militancy which included a landmark ten-day strike by thousands of Samwu members employed by the Cape Town City Council and the historic strike by about 4 500 members of the Health Workers' Union, which recently concluded the first-ever interim recognition agreement with the Cape Provincial Administration.

Survey

There are signs of industrial unease in the post office with rumblings of discontent about pay talks.

The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) is presently conducting a survey among its members countrywide to gauge worker feeling about the latest developments in pay talks between Potwa and the Post Office.

A Potwa spokesperson said that, at the last round of talks last month, management had

offered a minimum monthly wage of R735 — less than half of Potwa's demand for R1 500.

Management had also agreed that those workers who received nine percent instead of the 10 percent increase paid to all public servants in April would receive an extra one percent back-dated to April.

The spokesperson said if members were not happy with the offer, industrial action could be on the cards.

A further meeting between Potwa and management is scheduled to take place later this month.

Termination

A crippling week-long strike by 1 500 health workers at three Port Elizabeth hospitals ended on Monday after senior ANC and South African Congress of Trade Unions (Sactu) official Mr Thozamile Botha intervened.

The chief cause of the strike was the termination of the service of 39 staff nurses at Livingstone Hospital, the largest in the region.

Cosatu regional secretary Mr Dennis Neer said management had indicated that recognition of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) was imminent.

Meanwhile, the CPA maintains there are no empty posts at the hospitals.

Visser said workers had returned to work unconditionally. They would not be paid for the days they were on strike.

268

Gas explosion: Worker turned into human torch

NK 45 20/7/90

By SHARKEY ISAACS
and JOHAN SCHRONEN
Staff Reporters

veloped in a ball of flame. He leapt out and ran around screaming in agony.

A POST OFFICE worker was turned into a human torch when a gas cylinder exploded in a manhole in Camps Bay today, according to a resident who saw the accident.

"I rushed off to call the emergency services"

Mrs Congas said the gas cylinder apparently toppled into the manhole in Houghton Road, and exploded.

The man, whose name was given as Mr Wayne Nagel, was apparently doing welding work. He was taken to Somerset Hospital. His condition is not known.

"The fire brigade were here in five minutes. They treated the man after his burning clothes had been put out. He seemed to be severely shocked and seriously burnt when he was taken away.

"There was an enormous explosion about 9 am which rocked the whole neighbourhood.

"Another worker's lumber-jacket was also slightly burnt but he did not seem to be hurt."

LEAPING FLAMES

"Flames about two metres high leapt out of the manhole. The overalls of the man who was working inside it caught fire," said Mrs Barbara Congas of Houghton Road.

Domestic servant Magrieta Green said "I heard this bang and saw flames billow from the manhole.

"The man was instantly en-

"I saw a man stumbling out the hole as the flames were climbing higher and higher. Flames were stretching half-way across the road," she said.

Hiemstra witness: arms charges dropped

Staff Reporter

Charges relating to the illegal possession of arms and ammunition against Hannes Gouws, the man who lifted the lid on the Johannesburg City Council spy-ring, have been dropped

Mr Gouws, a former member of the city council's security department, which operated the spy network, appeared in court in Port Shepstone this month with his bodyguard, Pierre Bezuidenhout

They were charged with the illegal possession of arms after security police found a BXP sub-machine gun — a new Armscor weapon — at a home in Port Shepstone which they were leasing. Detectives also found

various pyrotechnic devices and 330 rounds of 9 mm ammunition.

Mr Gouws and Mr Bezuidenhout appeared in court and were granted R500 bail each

The case, however, was withdrawn this week by the Attorney-General of Natal

"The charges against Mr Gouws and Mr Bezuidenhout have been dropped," an SAP spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Gouws caused a stir when he claimed in testimony to the Hiemstra Commission, which probed the city council spy ring, that he had been told the name of the alleged killer of Dr David Webster, who was shot dead outside his Johannesburg home last year.

Postal strike may spread

A POSTAL strike involving about 2 000 workers in the East Rand is likely to spread elsewhere in the Transvaal.

A spokesperson for the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) in Germiston said workers on the East Rand downed tools on Wednesday to protest the dismissal of a colleague.

The spokesperson said more were poised to join the stoppage which had affected postal yards, post offices and the telecommunications exchange in the area ^{South} 9/8-15/8/90

PO workers challenge Bill

WORKERS in the Department of Posts and Telecommunications have started picketing various main post offices in the country in an effort to get the Post Office Amendment Bill scrapped.

They picketed post offices in Johannesburg and Pretoria

In the Eastern Cape workers are staging a sit-in and in Durban's West Street branch, a memor-

Sowetan 19/9/90
andum has been presented to officials.

In a statement this week, the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association said workers were suspicious of the Bill and viewed it as an attempt to introduce privatisation, disguised as restructuring and rationalisation.

Potwa has sent a memorandum to the Minister of Telecommunica-

tions, Dr Dawie de Villiers, demanding that the Bill be withdrawn.

The statement said workers objected to it because of the strong belief that the Bill would lead to loss of jobs, as they would no longer be covered by the Labour Relations Act for up to two years.

The statement added that the Bill sought to give equal representation between management on the one hand and the unions/staff associations on the other. Potwa believed this situation would reduce the workers' bargaining strength. - Sapa

Post Office workers picket in attempt to have Bill scrapped

DEPARTMENT of Posts and Telecommunications workers have started picketing outside main post offices in four regions in an attempt to get the Post Office Amendment Bill scrapped

The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association's objections include the mooted separation of P & T into two entities. This is seen as a bid to introduce privatisation "dressed in the cloak of restructuring and rationalisation" *Bipam 19/9/90*

The main Post Offices affected were Jeppe Street in Johannesburg and the main post offices in Pretoria, Durban and the Eastern Cape

A memorandum was handed to a senior P & T official at the West Street post office in Durban on Monday. Potwa officials met the Postmaster General yesterday at the Union Buildings — Sapa.

Post Office workers picket in attempt to have Bill scrapped

DEPARTMENT of Posts and Telecommunications workers have started picketing outside main post offices in four regions in an attempt to get the Post Office Amendment Bill scrapped. (268)

The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association's objections include the mooted separation of P & T into two entities. This is seen as a bid to introduce privatisation "dressed in the cloak of restructuring and rationalisation". B1 Day 19/9/90

The main Post Offices affected were Jeppe Street in Johannesburg and the main post offices in Pretoria, Durban and the Eastern Cape.

A memorandum was handed to a senior P & T official at the West Street post office in Durban on Monday.

Potwa officials met the Postmaster General yesterday at the Union Buildings. — Sapa.

Pickets the 'first salvo' in war on Post Office Bill

By DREW FORREST

COUNTRYWIDE picket protests at Post Office depots this week were the first salvo in a war against the Post Office Amendment Bill, the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association has warned. (268)

The Bill, set for enactment next year, provides for the creation of separate public companies for posts and telecommunications, Sapos and Telkom SA, to be run on private business lines. Mail 219-271990
Post office management argues that as telecommunications is capital-intensive and the postal sector labour-intensive, separate management adapted to the needs of each will lead to greater efficiency.

Describing the Bill as a prelude to privatisation, Potwa said it would drive workers, undermine cross-subsidisation of the postal section, threaten jobs and drive up postal costs. The union would fight it "to the bitter end" and use "any action" to reverse its enactment.

A key objection was that the voteless majority had no say in the Bill. Potwa met members of all three parliamentary chambers at the Union Buildings this week to discuss the issue.

Scrutiny of a document circulated to postal employees shows that some of Potwa's fears are unfounded — at least in the short term.

Postmaster-General Johann de Villiers stresses that in terms of the Bill, the state will not be able to sell shares in the planned companies.

He adds that no workers will be retrenched as a "direct" result of restructuring and that wages and conditions will not be changed without collective bargaining.

Staff benefits would be protected in the transition. The existing pension fund would be liquidated and separate funds for the companies established.

De Villiers adds that workers will have the choice of joining the companies or being seconded to them from the public service.

A key advantage of direct employment was that the companies would not be bound by public service salaries and service conditions.

The Act would also outlaw discrimination on grounds of race or sex.

De Villiers also reveals that regulations will be issued providing for separate bargaining forums for the companies — and this could be a major headache for Potwa.

The document makes it clear that unions will have equal, rather than proportional representation, on the forum. Legislation will ban strikes and lockouts, and the companies will be

exempted for at least a year from the Labour Relations Act, Wage Act and Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

In one sense, however, Potwa's hostility to "commercialisation" cuts across economic thinking within the ANC and Cosatu. This recognises that future nationalised industries must operate within budgetary constraints and seek to generate a surplus.

Postal workers in protest over high electricity bills

Soweto 3/10/90

268

ABOUT 50 placard-wielding, toy-toying and ululating members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association demonstrated outside the Johannesburg Central Post Office yesterday to protest against exorbitant electricity bills.

culated from individual meter readings.

The union was therefore demanding individual meter readings

Police maintained a visible but low profile while protestors paraded in front of the post office.

- Sapa

The protesters were all residents of Molapo Villa in Soweto, a housing complex erected by the Department of Posts and Telecommunications for Post Office workers.

The department was deducting up to R450 from residents' salaries each month for electricity, but without taking electricity meter readings, one of the demonstrators, Mr Albert Malatgi, claimed

No power

Some houses had no electricity at all while others had no meters, he said

Potwa had requested an arrangement whereby Molapo Villa residents could pay their electricity bills directly to the Soweto City Council, but this had been rejected by the department, he said

"The city council would charge us R55 a month for electricity," he added.

Another demonstrator, Mr M.S Chauka said. "I am only earning R1 000 a month, and then they still deduct R350 for electricity I cannot afford it I've got children to support"

Potwa spokesman at the protest, Mr Sizwe Matshikiza, said Molapo Villa's electricity bills were based on average consumption and not cal-

SAA resumes weekly flights to Zaire

SAA is to restore weekly flights to Lumbumbashi in Zaire, via the Zambian capital Lusaka, from next Wednesday.

The airline said the decision was taken because of market demand

SAA chief liaison officer Leon Els said the new flight meant there would be two SAA flights to Lusaka on Wednesdays. One plane would fly to Lusaka and back, while the second would carry on to Lumbumbashi. It would return to Jan Smuts Airport via Lusaka.

Onward flights from Lumbumbashi to Kinshasa were operated by Air Zaire,

LINDEN BIRNS

269 which also operated a flight to Jan Smuts.

The present twice-weekly Lusaka flights — on Wednesdays and Sundays — operated on an average load capacity of more than 90%.

An economy class return ticket to Lusaka cost R1 457 under the new price structure, said Els. He was unable to give the cost of the return flight to Zaire.

The Boeing 737, which would be used on the Lusaka-Lumbumbashi run, accommodated between 98 and 106 passengers.

SAA to increase its seat capacity to Madagascar

16/11/90 MANDY JEAN WOODS (269)

SAA is to increase the seat capacity on its once-weekly flight to the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar by 52% from December 1 because of demand, SAA spokesman Anelda Reynecke said yesterday.

Demand for flights to Madagascar, which opened to SA tourists and businessmen earlier this year following the signing of a trade agreement between the two countries, was such that all flights in November and December were almost fully booked, she said.

And the first SA tour operator to offer organised tours of the island, Action Adventure Tours, has been inundated with requests and bookings for Madagascar since it began scheduled tours there two weeks ago.

SA Foreign Trade Organisation area manager for southern Africa Martin Smith said the interest in Madagascar by businessmen had been "phenomenal".

Smith estimated more than 100 SA companies had already sent representatives to Madagascar to investigate business opportunities and at least 35 companies had established ties with Madagascar within the first 30 days of the signing of the trade agreement.

BUSINESS

Commuters lose out as fuel hike drives fares up

Soaring fuel prices have caused fare hikes on all forms of public transport. Black commuters will be hit hardest, report

MONDLI MAKHANYA and ROBERT LAING

THE fuel price hikes have hit South Africa's public transport users in the pocket, with all transport modes raising their fares — some for the second or third time this year.

Most bus companies countrywide raised their fares this week, as did Spoornet, the Southern African Black Taxi Association and the National African Transport Organisation and South African Airways. Johannesburg's bus fares will only be going up on January 1 next year.

Spoornet raised fares by nine percent this week in a move which it attributed to increased running costs as well as vandalism on trains.

SAA has already raised its fares twice this year and the latest hike will be accompanied by a 10 percent reduction in the discount rate. There will be a differential increase ranging from 9 percent on the Johannesburg-Durban route to 11 percent on the Johannesburg-Cape Town route.

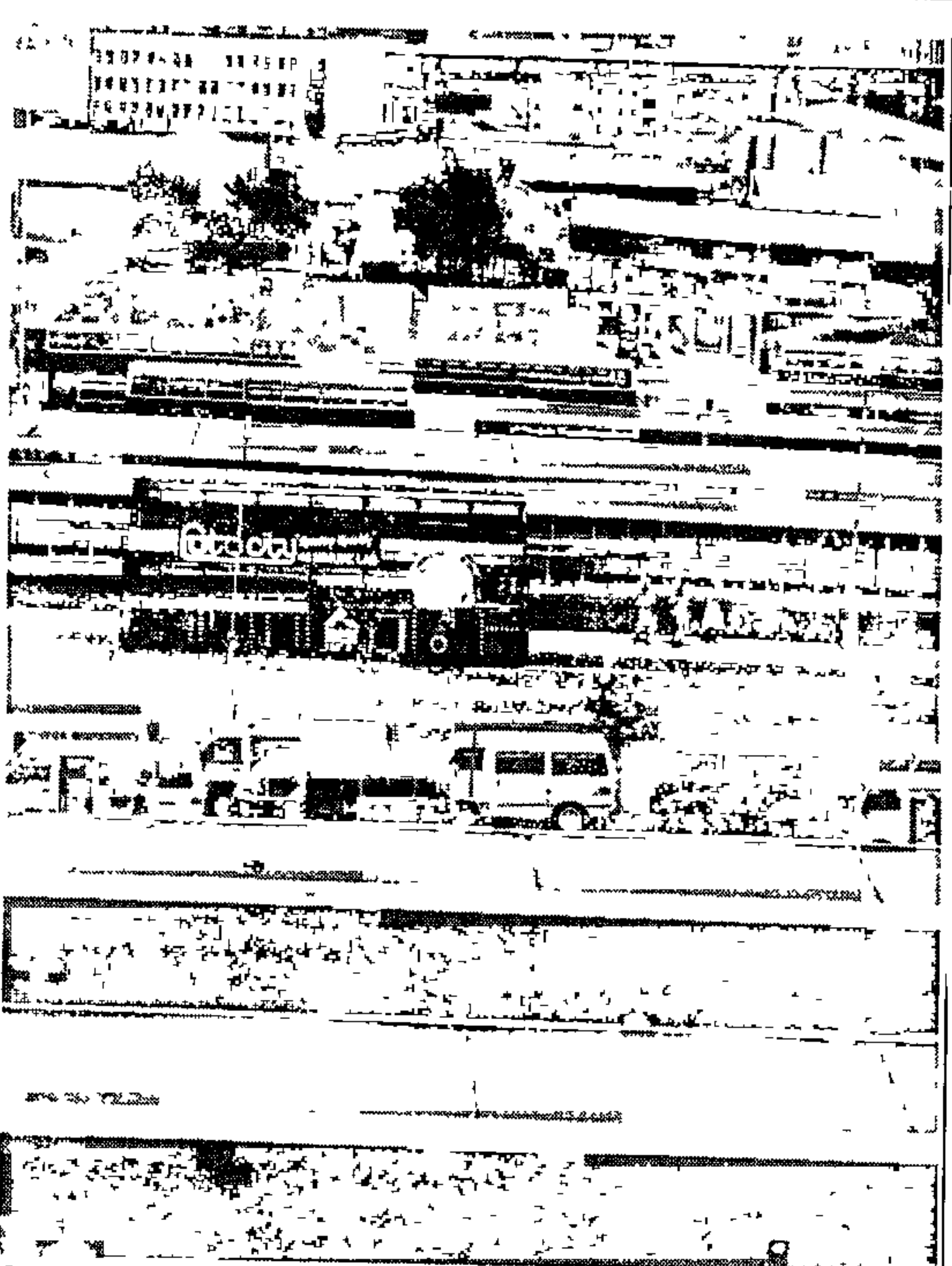
Putco's fare increase — due on Monday along with all other increases of government-subsidised bus companies — comes at a time when the corporation is engaged in talks with the Transportation Board about Putco's possible withdrawal from some routes in favour of taxis.

The deputy director of Transport System Planning at the Department of Transport, Danie Ackerman, said the increases were linked directly to the latest fuel price increase.

Fares would go up by five to 20 percent depending on the route, he said.

Putco MD Jack Visser said this was due to the government reassessing its spending, including its subsidisation policy. *W/Mail 2/11/90 - 8/11/90*

"The government has told us a number of the routes currently operated by buses, especially the short routes, can equally well be operated by taxis. They are now saying they will only subsidise the services which are absolutely essential."



Ever-increasing cost of transport ... bus and taxi passengers have to dig deeper into their pockets to get to work

Picture: AVIGAIL UZI

Another Putco representative told *The Weekly Mail*: "Government is forever threatening to cut our subsidies. We never know what to expect."

"They said they were going to cut subsidies last year. Subsidies ended up being increased from R540-million in 1989 to R626-million this year."

"We are busy negotiating with them for next year's subsidies. They are threatening to cut financial aid again. But our commuters can't afford any further increase."

Bus subsidies are one of the legacies of apartheid. Homeland commuters are forced to spend a huge slice of their income and time crossing the great divide to the cities where they work. The system is also incredibly expensive to the government.

For instance, the state subsidises each Putco passenger riding 320km every working day from kwaNdebele to Pre-

toria and back by R4 160 a year — 80 percent of the each passenger's transport costs.

Both major taxi associations have raised their fares but insisted they had absorbed a significant portion of the costs.

Sabta spokesman Fanyana Shiburi said the organisation would take into consideration the economic conditions in the different regions before implementing increases.

"We are aware that however small the increase it hits black commuters harder than it would commuters in other communities. Our increases in different regions therefore have to correspond with the economic conditions there," Shiburi said.

He said in most areas taxi fares would continue to remain below bus fares.

The National Federated Transport Organisation increases its fares by 12 percent.

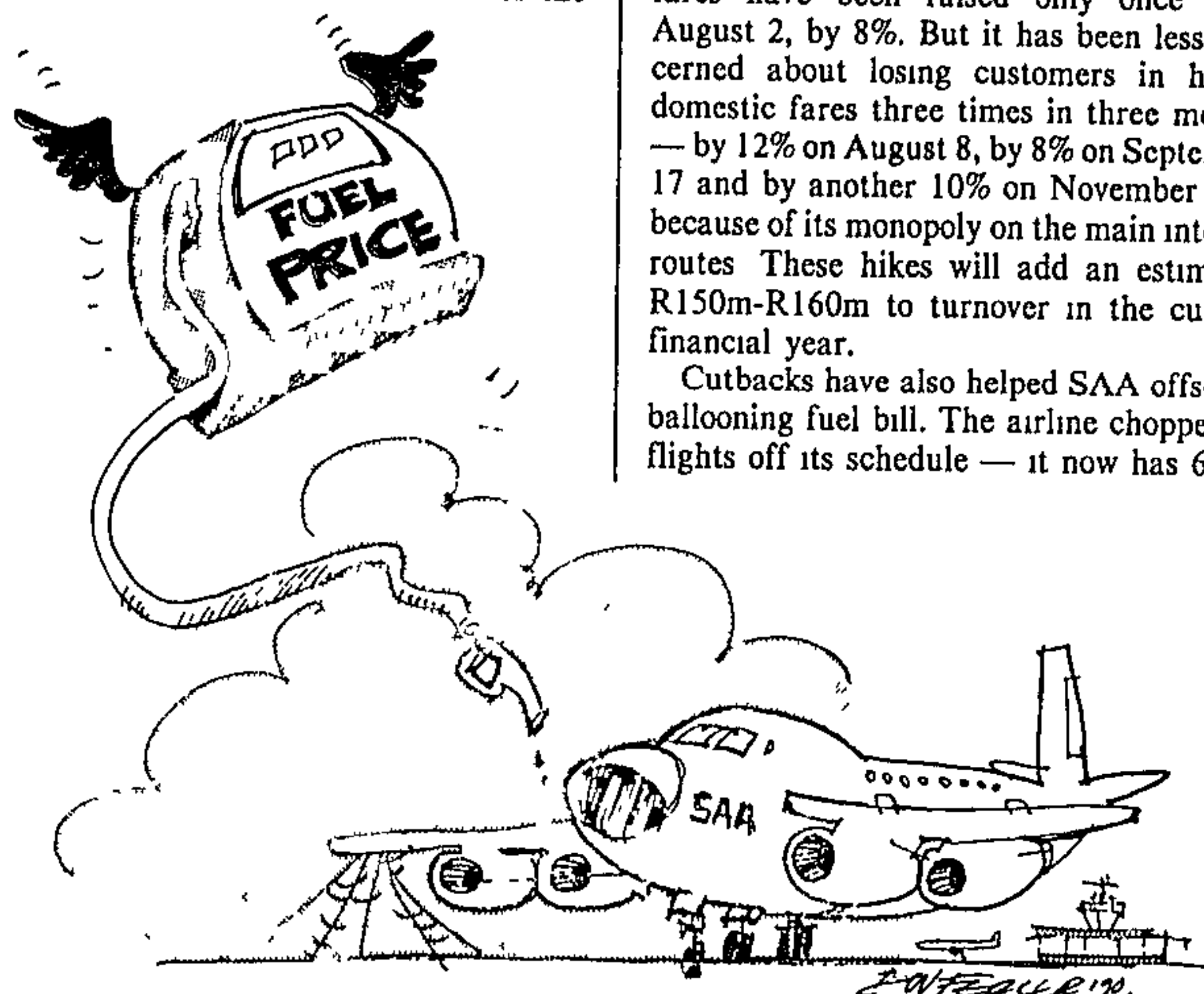
SA AIRWAYS FIM 2/11/90

269

FIGHTING TO STAY PROFITABLE

The world's airlines, hard hit by the surging price of jet fuel, are meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, this week and another round of fare hikes is certainly on the cards. But, for the most part, fares can't be raised enough to make up for the mountains of money they've already lost.

SA Airways' (SAA) story, however, is different. It continues to cope well with the oil crisis and is one of the few airlines at the International Air Transport Association congress that remains profitable. SAA expects to make between R70m and R80m for the



year ending March 31, roughly half the profit made in each of the last two years, says senior GM John Hare.

Other airlines can only wish they were talking about reduced profits instead of record losses. Most US airlines only broke even in the first three quarters of the year and overall they are likely to lose more than \$1bn this quarter, says Tim Neale, a spokesman for the Air Transport Association in Washington. Several airlines have delayed ordering new aircraft. Some once-mighty operators, such as Pan Am, that have consistently been losing money, may not survive the crunch.

"Fares have gone up 15% since August, but that isn't enough to recoup additional expenses," says Neale. "Member airlines are finding it difficult to pass on increases. The domestic market is flat and they are scared they would lose market share if they did."

In Europe, Air France — which lost \$33m in the first half of the year alone — Swiss Air and Lufthansa are having the roughest rides.

Last year, Lufthansa's profit margin was only 1% and its already high domestic fares are limiting its ability to raise ticket prices.

But British Air and KLM are likely to stay in the black. KLM's advantage is that it bought jet fuel forward during the European summer to avoid the winter shortage that often develops in Holland.

SAA, on the other hand, has been able to raise domestic fares aggressively. Because it has to stay in line with the other airlines serving its overseas routes, its international fares have been raised only once since August 2, by 8%. But it has been less concerned about losing customers in hiking domestic fares three times in three months — by 12% on August 8, by 8% on September 17 and by another 10% on November 1 — because of its monopoly on the main internal routes. These hikes will add an estimated R150m-R160m to turnover in the current financial year.

Cutbacks have also helped SAA offset its ballooning fuel bill. The airline chopped 24 flights off its schedule — it now has 638 a

week — increasing its 75% load factor by 2 or 3 percentage points.

Last month, Perishable Cargo Agents complained that the cutbacks were forcing SAA to leave cargo behind (*Business & Technology* October 12). Now Gerd von Mansberg, the company's Cape Town director, says: "Things have improved. There were a few hiccups, but there's no real problem now."

The price of jet fuel has risen by 128% since August 2, adding R240m to SAA's fuel bill this year. The airline originally budgeted only R486m for fuel. To save fuel, SAA will soon start making refuelling stops on all overseas routes, instead of flying direct. Also, SAA and other airlines have persuaded air traffic controllers to let them fly shorter routes on the longest flights, such as Johannesburg-Hong Kong. "A saving of only five minutes is significant today," Hare says.

SAA has also won permission from the SA Air Force to allow it to use Langebaan as the alternate airport for Cape Town. This allows

its planes to carry more cargo and passengers instead of the extra fuel needed to turn around if bad weather shuts down D F Malan.

"We established a fuel-saving committee, composed of technical people and representatives from our fuel department, to investigate every fuel-saving idea they, or anyone else in the airline, can think of," Hare says. "The committee even investigated using fuel with an increased specific gravity. It can be procured, but the cost of holding equipment ruins its cost effectiveness."

SAA is obviously keen to fly directly over Africa. This would save it from flying around the bulge of Africa and reduce the length of the London flight, for example, by one-and-a-half hours.

Negotiations are taking place with countries north of Kenya, particularly the Sudan, but Hare declines to discuss them. He predicts, however, that "they are all interlinked; I believe we'll get permission simultaneously from a few of them." Kenya, which agreed to re-establish air links and then changed its mind last week, is the fly in the ointment and promises to remain so for some time.

The airline has also taken several other drastic measures, such as slashing advertising. "The aggregate of small savings we can make becomes significant," Hare says. "When it was found that first-class passengers seldom ordered *foie gras*, we took it off the menu. Just not carrying it saves R250 000 a year and not printing menus for business class passengers also saves quite a sum."

Other airlines are taking similar steps. US airlines have laid off 10 000 employees since August 2 but haven't cancelled flights yet. Neale predicts they soon will — by grounding older aircraft such as Boeing 727s and Douglas DC9s that use more fuel than newer planes.

Comair MD Piet van Hoven says the fuel hike is affecting local private airlines just as badly as SAA. His airline now pays 128% more for fuel than it did before September 4. Its fuel bill will rise by an annualised R5,2m. To keep abreast, it increased its fares by 6% on September 1, another 4% on October 1, and subsequently by another 12% to counter the last fuel price increase.

David Pincus

BANKNOTE MANUFACTURE INK BLOTS

FIM 2/11/90



When the minister of finance opened a new ink factory in Germiston this week, one might have expected to see the name of one of the country's big ink companies, Coates

SAA to raise fares again next month

264 MANDY JEAN WOODS

DOMESTIC airfares had risen by almost 80% since December last year and, with the fuel crisis carrying a large portion of the blame for the increases, SAA said yesterday it was again forced to increase fares.

Domestic fares would have a fuel levy of 6% added from December 10

International fares, which had increased by about 20% since last October, would rise 8% and cargo rates would be upped by 7%.

There have been seven increases in domestic fares since December, and four increases in international fares since last November

SAA spokesman Leon Els said that between August and November this year, SAA's fuel bill had risen by 128% (or R1.5m a day) and its fuel bill as a portion of operating costs had risen from 20% before August to 41%.

The cost-cutting measures imposed last month by SAA would result in more than R70m being saved until its financial year end in March 1991, Els said.

But the continuing high price of jet fuel had forced all international airlines, including SAA, to decide this week at a meeting in Geneva to impose a further fuel levy in an effort to recover losses.

Els said the airline was adding cost-saving measures "all the time as well as looking at ways of increasing revenue."

"But we will not lower the standards or level of services on flights," he said.

SAA had already cut all advertising.

Sta. 6/11/90

'Management board to run Johannesburg buses'

269

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg City Council is considering important changes to its bus services and the establishment of a transport management board to co-ordinate a fragmented transport network.

A report will be released at the end of this month concerning proposed radical changes to bus routes, the possible extension of Johannesburg bus services into neighbouring townships, the viability of light rail, and cost-cutting measures.

Johannesburg transport chairman Paul Asherson said he believed millions of rands would be saved if the city council approved some of the recommendations.

"Johannesburg hasn't changed its bus routes for 40 years, and it appears more and more likely that to run the service effectively, to respond to

passenger demands, we will have to establish a transport management board similar to the one which operated successfully in Durban for a number of years," he said.

The board would be given a budget from the city council and would be expected to run transport in Johannesburg.

Mr Asherson said one of the problems with Johannesburg's bus service was that the passenger mix appeared to be wrong.

Both Durban and Cape Town had gone after the major market of potential users, which was those who had no alternative means of transport — the black population.

"We realise that in the new South Africa there is going to be little money to spend on grandiose highway structures. It benefits us to utilise and fine-tune our existing road network a lot better, by introducing light rail, for example," he added.

8/26/90 269

Massacre
victims
were busy
praying

By Adam Gordon

The 15 people massacred on a moving train between Jeppe and Benrose in September had been part of a church group and were kneeling down praying when they were slaughtered, a Johannesburg Regional Court heard yesterday.

Police investigating officer Detective Deon Wessels told the court how church services were held in one particular carriage on the train every day.

The Zulus had learnt that the "congregation" swore at Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the Zulu king every day, and this was apparently the immediate motive for the revenge attack.

Mr Wessels was testifying in the bail application of five men allegedly involved in two separate massacres, in which 21 people died, on September 6 and 13.

The men are Martin Ngcobu (47), Baso Nkosingondle (27), Solomon Khumalo (33), Mmen-gela Magabane (54) and Mabin-ela Majozi (23), all of the Jeppe hostel in Wolhuter Street, Johannesburg.

Impis

Only Mr Ngcobu and Mr Nkosingondle have said they are Inkatha members.

Mr Wessels said the leader of the local Inkatha branch had called a meeting at Jeppe hostel on September 13.

After this meeting, a man named Jericho Manyane had called another meeting to round up impis, who then boarded the train and attacked the church group.

Mr Manyane and two other men known only as "Stelt" and "Mataks" were still being sought by the police, Mr Wessels said.

It was believed they were hiding somewhere in the mountains of KwaZulu. Five police raids had failed to net them.

Mr Wessels said this was a major reason for opposing bail. If the men in custody were given bail they could also disappear.

Mr Wessels said Mr Khumalo had acted as "a quartermaster" who had distributed guns beforehand and collected them afterwards.

State advocate David Gordon presented signed statements in which four of the men admitted participation in the massacre and said "Stelt" had forced them to take part.

SAA to raise air fares AGAIN

Mr. Tins 6/11/79

269

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Domestic airfares have risen by nearly 80% since December last year and, with the fuel crisis carrying a large portion of the blame for the increases, SAA yesterday said it was again forced to increase domestic fares.

Domestic fares are to have another fuel levy of 6% added from December 10.

International fares, which have increased by about 20% since October last year, will rise 8% and cargo rates will be upped by 7% at the same

time to counter the substantial increase in the cost of jet fuel.

There have been seven increases in domestic fares since December last year and four increases in international fares since November last year.

The sum of the increases means that South Africans will pay about R3 670 to fly to London this Christmas compared to R2 970 last Christmas.

Passengers flying from Johannesburg to Cape Town will be paying R1 088 this December

compared to R610 the same time last year.

SAA spokesman Mr. Leon Els said that between August and November this year, SAA's fuel bill had risen by 128% (or R1,5m a day) and its fuel bill as a portion of operating costs had risen from 20% before August to its present 41%.

But the continuing high price of jet fuel had forced all international airlines, including SAA, to decide this week at a meeting in Geneva to impose a further fuel levy in an effort to recover losses.

Mr. Els said the airline was adding cost-saving measures "all the time, as well as, looking at ways of increasing revenue".

SAA has already cut all advertising — including a Rim promotion of its new Boeing 747-400s the first of which will be delivered in January, cancelled 24 low-volume domestic flights, postponed the purchase of all capital items including computers and extensions to buildings and curtailed all new employment except in certain essential areas like technical staff, Mr. Els said



DP calls for probe into SAA management

THE DP yesterday called for an all-party probe into the "abysmal management" of SAA, which had increased fares seven times in the past 11 months. (269)

DP transport spokesman Robm Carlisle said yesterday extra-parliamentary groups should also be involved in the investigation into the "crisis" at SAA

Domestic airfares have risen by 45% since December last year, while international fares have increased by 24% since

TIM COHEN

November, most of which has been attributed to the fuel price increase.

Carlisle said examples of SAA management failures were: the sale of its 727s when most other airlines had simply re-engined the planes; the airline's loss of key personnel, the confrontation with pilots, and the leasing out of planes and the subse-

□ To Page 2

SAA probe

quent discovery that the airline could not meet its commitments

He said SAA might argue that these were all accidents of fate, but added: "A lifetime in management has taught me that when your managers get accident prone, it's time to get new managers."

SAA might say it was running at a profit, but well-run businesses did not increase their prices so often, he said

Carlisle said that because, for all practical purposes, the carrier had a monopoly, and because there were so few options to flying by air, its pricing formula was al-

most totally elastic.

SAA spokesman Leon Els said yesterday that as Carlisle had already referred the matter to the Minister concerned, the airline had no further comment to make.

Els said the administration fee for amending the booking of discounted fares had increased from 15% to 25%. SAA was also charging an administration fee of R40, instead of R10, when refunding tickets.

Government sources said yesterday that Mineral, Energy and Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Viliers would refute Carlisle's allegations this week.

□ From Page 1

COMPANIES

Slide in RIH performance no great news for Barlows

BRENT MELVILLE

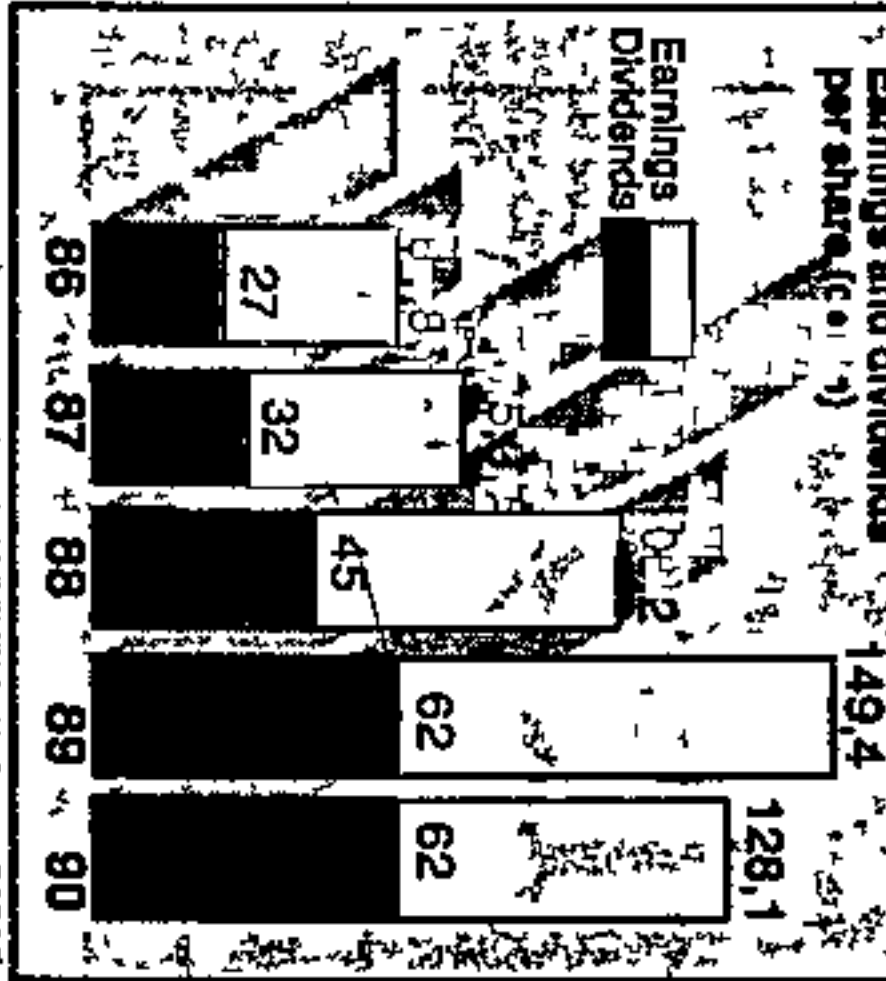
STEEL merchandiser Robor Industrial Holdings (RIH) has become the seventh of 10 listed Barlow Rand subsidiaries to report a decline in earnings for the year to September.

The results, in a year characterised by crumbling domestic steel demand, come after five years of outstanding growth for the subsidiary.

Owned 85% by Barlows, it is involved in the manufacture, distribution and export of a wide range of steel products, including steel tubes and pipes, stainless steel, and aluminium. For the past five years ended 1989, RIH has shown a 38% compound annual growth in earnings.

During the course of the year, the group sold its Isando steel processing and steel merchandising operations, incurring an extraordinary loss which slashed R12.2m from attributable profits of R53.7m — leaving bottom line profits down 13.9% at R41.5m and earnings 14.3% off at 128.1c a share.

Robor Industrial Holdings



GRAPH: LEE BERTHOZ Source: Robor

Dividends were left at 62c a share, dropping cover from 2.4 times to 2.1 times. The performance puts RIH on a current share price of 50c.

The share, regarded by several analysts as one of the soundest second-line stocks on the engineering board, is on a price to equity ratio of 3.9 times and a dividend yield of 12.4%. Sector averages are at 5.5 times and 7.0% respectively.

MD Mike Galagan attributed the results to a sharper than expected deterioration in domestic demand in the second half of the year, although this was offset by good export performance, accounting for about one-third of total turnover of R768.9m (R763.6m).

On the domestic side, he said the current recession had affected group margins in the last four months, particularly through curtailment of mine capex, and RIH was suffering severely as a result.

He said the fact that Iscor had changed its basis for price increases, from twice to once annually, would probably create more hiccups in earnings. He added that Iscor's production problems had apparently ceased.

Galagan said he felt the year's performance had been good in view of the results of comparable companies.

While foregoing any specific forecasts, he said the group would continue in the same vein on the strength of continuing operations as well as an expected increase in export orders.

Bus industry in 'grave difficulties'

MARCIA KLEIN

PUTCO shareholders have been cautioned about future financial results if unsettled conditions prevail after the group reported an operating loss of R8.5m for the year to end-June.

Chairman Albino Carleo said in the annual report that the group posted a 5.8% increase in turnover to R358.8m (previously R339.1m), but operating costs of R373.3m resulted in an operating loss of R14.5m (a loss of R861 000).

However, R15.3m in interest received turned earnings around to a five times increase in earnings to 18.1c (3.5c) a share.

MD Jack Visser said yesterday the earnings a share, as well as a four times increase in attributable earnings to R3.9m (917 000), were directly attributable to the interest item.

Interest was paid out to shareholders in the form of a special dividend of 310c which was declared in May, as Putco's scale of operations had been "drastically and permanently reduced", and cash set aside for the replacement of buses was considered to be distributable, according to the annual report.

A final dividend of 6c was declared at year-end. *31/11/90*

Carleo said that in 10 years the commuter bus industry had been transformed from a thriving industry to one in "grave difficulties".

Fares were "at best a sensitive issue", and in an industry where the rate of inflation was running at 20% to 25% a year, bus operators were losing more than R65m a year, he said.

Putco had withdrawn its services from the Wynberg, Alberton and Springs divisions due to "labour unrest, illegal strikes and declining commuter support".

The Mamelodi and Edenvale divisions — with 180 buses — would also be closed. This involved a reduction of about 531 employees. The group was also considering joining the Dobsonville and Soweto divisions in an attempt to "improve the viability of the greater Soweto area".

Carleo said it was impossible for management to plan effectively or for directors to invest with confidence due to continuing uncertainty over the long-term viability of the bus industry.

JCCI head

RAM RAND
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Figures take a dive at Boltons, subsidiaries

B/Day 1/11/90

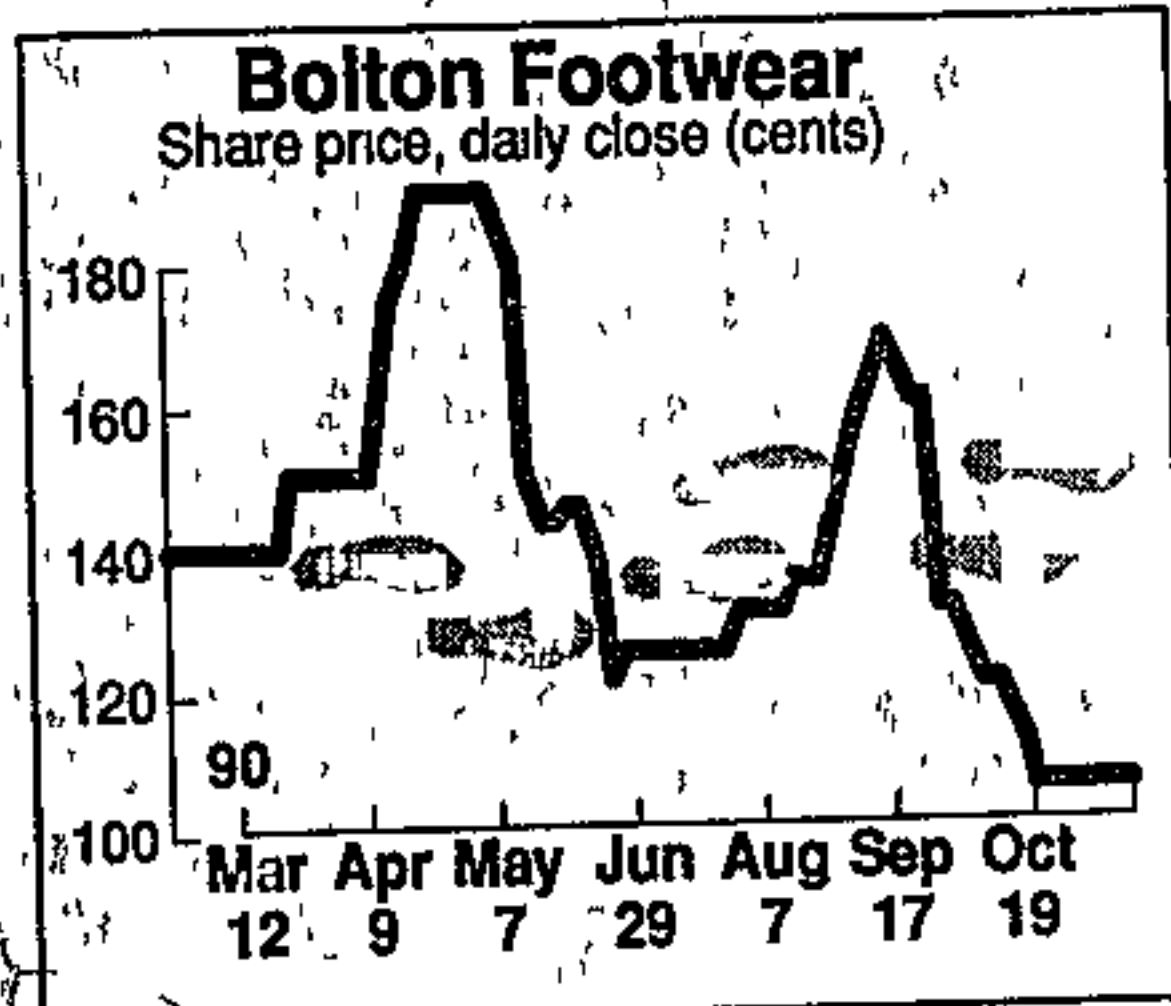
269

MARCIA KLEIN

BOLTON Industrial Holdings (Boltons) and its subsidiary companies have reported sharp decreases in earnings for the six months to August, with subsidiaries being affected by the economic climate and labour unrest.

Boltons derives its income mainly from its 34,6% interest in bulk road transport company Cargo Carriers (Cargo) and 74,1% interest in footwear manufacturer Bolton Footwear (Bolwear)

Holding company Boltons posted a substantial decrease in earnings to 47,1c (78,7c) a share for the period, and although



Graphic LEE EMERTON Source JSE

turnover remained virtually unchanged at R183,2m, pre-tax profit was down by R5,5m to R10,3m. Attributable profit decreased to R2,4m (R4,1m) and a dividend of 12c (18c) was declared.

Boltons' footwear subsidiary Bolwear posted earnings of 10,5c a share, down substantially from 18,2c a share for the same period last year.

Attributable profit was down from R3,65m to R2,1m, and an interim dividend of 3c (4c) was declared.

Directors say while earnings for the full financial year will be lower than last year, Bolwear has budgeted for an increase in earnings over the second half providing economic conditions do not worsen.

Cargo — Boltons' road transport company — reported a drop in earnings from 20,2c to 13,6c a share on a slender 3% increase in turnover to R91,6m (R88,9m).

Directors say the deterioration in the economic climate affected the volume of goods moved by road.

Cargo declared an interim dividend of 3,5c (6c) a share.

Bolton Properties — held by Cargo — reported a marginal increase in attributable income to R499 000 (R492 000), but earnings a share before extraordinary items were down from 7,8c a share to 6,7c a share.

However, the company reported a hefty increase in the interim dividend to 9c (4c) a share. The decrease in income was due to the sale of the major portion of the group's pine plantations and 230c a share paid to shareholders.

A number of fixed assets and their rights were sold for R1,2m resulting in a capital profit of about R84 000.

Boltons' share — which rose above 800c twice this year — closed yesterday at 450c, maintaining its lowest price this year.

Bolwear, Cargo and Bolpro closed at 120c, 190c and 155c respectively.

Lyntex reaches third phase

BIDAM 2/11/90 ACHMED KARIEM (269)

LYNTEX Transport has achieved the third phase of its operation — the extension into a transport fleet — says chairman Eugene Marais in the annual review.

He says the first phase involved transport broking while the second phase was the American system whereby group-owned trailers were hauled by independent hauliers. Although the cost of funding has gone up sharply, the net income before tax justifies the cost of funding.

In the year to end-June the company attained an income before tax and extraordinary items of R1,90m, an increase of 38,6% on the previous year.

The economic slowdown, fuel and licence increases have affected the group. No dividend has been declared.

Danger pay demanded

Cart T44 Staff Reporter 8/11/90 (26) 269 (200)

HAIRDRESSERS want danger pay for travelling home by train after working late

The secretary of the Cape Western branch of the Hairdressers' Union, Ms Veronica Orme, said many union members often worked overtime and travelled home late, especially now that advantage was being taken of the deregulation of working hours

"I don't know of any muggings of our

workers, but we have seen reports of such attacks in the papers," she said

"One of my colleagues takes a taxi nowadays instead of a train because she believes trains are dangerous. Others have said they don't want to come to our annual general meeting in the evening for the same reason."

Ms Evette Olwage, a public relations officer for Spoornet, said it was not only on trains that one was in danger of being mugged

DP call for

SAA inquiry

Sowden 8/11/70

MINISTER of Transport
Mr George Bartlett has
been urged to establish
an all-party committee of
inquiry into the "abysmal
management" of SAA.

Democratic Party
transport spokesman
Robin Carlisle, made the
call after the latest of
seven fare increases in 11
months

"The announced in-
crease in the international
and domestic fares by
SAA, taken together with
increases over the last 12
months, indicates a crisis
in the management of the
airline.

"The record of SAA's
management is one of
continuing disaster. Some
years ago they scrapped
Boeing 727s and
splurged on new equip-
ment, but elsewhere in the
world these aircraft were
re-engined and continue
to operate

"In the recent past,
management's disastrous
confrontation with airline
pilots led to the loss of
many key personnel "

Cost of subway system 'too high' for Jo'burg

ACHMED KARIEM

JOHANNESBURG residents would have to get used to using public transport to get to work, Masstran Consortium director Bob Stanway said yesterday. (269)

Masstran is undertaking a feasibility study into a mass transit system for greater Johannesburg

Stanway said the cost of financing an extensive underground or light rail system would be prohibitive

"With pressing housing, education and health needs to be addressed, there's not going to be much money for grand schemes," he said.

The corridor linking Soweto to the CBD was the most important in terms of numbers of people on private and public transport

About 215 500 people entered the CBD from the southwest in the morning peak period (5 30am to 8 30am) compared with the 30 500 who commuted from the northwest (which included Randburg and Sandton).

He said legislation within each local authority restricted the efficient operation of bus services

Stanway said current thinking suggested a metropolitan transport authority could be created to act as a coordinating body

It would not, however, have the power to interfere in independent operators' affairs

Airline fuel talks may bring good news

SAA's R5m daily fuel bill could be reduced when international airline representatives meet in Geneva on Thursday to negotiate with suppliers for a new jet fuel price in December

SAA chief spokesman Leon Els said yesterday if there was a "dramatic decrease" the airline would evaluate the impact of the new fuel costs on its operating budget, and whether any decrease could be passed on to passengers

An increase would not necessarily be passed on to passengers, he added

Thursday's routine monthly meeting of the International Air Transport Association (Iata) will negotiate an international jet fuel price with suppliers for the forthcoming month.

Els said SAA had increased fares by only 10% and not 20%, which would have been in line with increased operating costs

13/11/90
LINDEN BIRNS

when fuel prices rocketed at the time of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait

Els said the Gulf crisis had boosted SAA's fuel bill to R5m a day, although independent calculations showed the figure to be much higher

Another SAA spokesman, Mike Pfeiffer, said that in August it cost SAA R33 000 an hour to keep a Boeing 747 flying. The cost was now R75 240, a 128% increase.

An average SAA flight to Europe takes between 12 and 16 hours, depending on the destination. On an average 14-hour flight SAA is paying just over R2,1m for a round trip

Els yesterday said Business Day's estimates "sounded familiar" but he could not confirm them

He said SAA flew 22 overseas return flights, 21

regional return flights and 620 domestic flights a week

Calculations show that on international flights alone SAA's fuel bill comes to R46,332m a week or R6 618 857 a day

With inflation and the Gulf crisis, fuel's share of SAA's operating costs had increased from 20% to 41%, Els said

"Other factors are that SAA does not receive a cent from the government's equalisation fund. Also, 65% of our jet fuel is purchased overseas and paid for in dollars," he said.

Els said the airline was hoping to make savings of up to R70m by the end of the current financial year as a result of several cost-cutting measures including the cancellation of a major advertising campaign to promote SAA's two new Boeing 747-400's which will be delivered in 1991.

Another moneysaver is the re-routing via Lisbon of all SAA's European flights, except all-but-one to London (269)

Landing en route to take on 20 tonnes of fuel needed to reach the final destination meant SAA earned money on the 20 tonnes more cargo it was able to carry to that point, he said

"The only inconvenience to the passengers is that the plane has to make an extra landing and has to leave earlier from Jan Smuts," Pfeiffer said

CAR TINT 13/11/90

SAA fares to dip with fuel?

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — SAA's R5 million daily fuel bill could be reduced — and fares subsequently lowered — when international airline representatives meet in Geneva on Thursday to negotiate with suppliers for a new jet fuel price in December.

SAA chief spokesman Mr Leon Els said yesterday if there was a "dramatic decrease" the airline would evaluate the impact of the new fuel costs on its operating budget and whether any decrease could be passed on to passengers.

But an increase would not necessarily be passed on to passengers, he added.

Thursday's routine monthly meeting of the International Air Transport Association (Iata) will

negotiate an international jet fuel price with suppliers for the forthcoming month.

Mr Els said SAA had increased fares by only 10% and not 20%, which would have been in line with increased operating costs when fuel prices rocketed at the time of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

He said the Gulf crisis had boosted SAA's fuel bill to R5m a day, although independent calculations showed the figure to be much higher.

Another SAA spokesman, Mr Mike Pfeiffer, said that in August it cost SAA R33 000 an hour to keep a Boeing 747 flying. The cost was now R75 240, a 128% increase.

An average SAA flight to Europe takes between 12 and 16 hours, depending on the destina-

tion. On an average 14-hour flight SAA is paying just over R2,1m for a round trip.

Mr Els yesterday said he could not confirm these estimates.

He said SAA flew 22 overseas return flights, 21 regional return flights and 620 domestic flights a week.

Calculations show that on international flights alone SAA's fuel bill comes to R46,332m a week or R6,6m a day.

Mr Els said the airline was hoping to make savings of up to R70m by the end of the current financial year as a result of several cost-cutting measures — including the cancellation of a major advertising campaign to promote SAA's two new Boeing 747-400s which will be delivered in 1991.

Durban to get new transport system

WILSON ZWANE

A MAJOR new study to prepare a strategic transport development plan for the Greater Durban Area was announced yesterday by Transport and Public Works and Land Affairs Minister George Bartlett.

An adequate transportation system, which integrated all modes of transport, was essential for the economic and physical development of the region and could create a positive climate for defusing the "volatile unrest, crime and political situation", he said.

He said the area's growing population (projected at 5-million by 2000) and resulting travel demands were straining the capacity of existing transport facilities and raised questions for land use and transport planners alike.

He had directed the Transport Department to undertake a comprehensive study

to prepare a strategic transport development plan for the area.

The preparation and implementation of such a plan would be co-ordinated with various central government initiatives.

Bartlett said the study would be directed by a management committee under his chairmanship. The committee would consist of representatives from the Planning and Provincial Affairs Ministry, House of Delegates, House of Representatives, KwaZulu Government Service, Natal Provincial Administration and the Durban City Council.

A steering committee of all "relevant regional and metropolitan authorities concerned" would guide the study.

● See Page 2

269
14/11/90

Bus nationalisation 'has support'

6/10/90 14/11/90
THE Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) yesterday claimed support among employers for its calls for the nationalisation of the bus transport industry.

Union information officer Kally Forrest said the TGWU believed that although the SA Bus Operators' Association (Sabo) had given no formal indication of support for nationalisation, some members felt it was the only way to revive the "crisis-stricken" industry.

The TGWU will launch its nationalisation campaign in December.

Last month Sabo, the TGWU and Nactu's Transport and Allied Workers' Union (Tawu) agreed to make joint representations to the Transport Department for improved subsidies.

MATTHEW CURTIN

Putco MD Jack Visser would not comment on the merits of nationalisation or privatisation of the industry.

Transport Department spokesman Don Boyd said yesterday government's goal was to minimise its interference in the transport sector and to eventually eliminate subsidies.

MANDY JEAN WOODS reports that Putco's passenger levels have dropped by 56% in the past five years. To counter this, the company had begun cutting out its short-distance routes and extending its long-haul routes, Visser said yesterday.

The company was introducing long-haul services wherever new settlements were being established.

'Cancelled flight' levy is now R40

Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — Air travellers who cancel domestic flight tickets with SA Airways are now being penalised R40. Half of the fee will go to the travel agents if the ticket was booked through them.

It replaces the former R10 charge for cancellations.

The SAA says the "administration" fee will apply to every ticket in block bookings and to senior

citizens, sportsmen and national servicemen.

Special tickets issued to SAA staff at 10% of normal fares will also be levied, but if the fare is less than R40 it will be split between the travel agent and SAA.

Exemptions from the administration fee include medical cases accompanied by a medical certificate; passengers who are refused the reissue of tickets while in

transit and have to buy new ones; those subject to a cancellation fee already (domestic Apex, late-night flights and family fares) and several other unusual circumstances.

A travel agent said he hoped the move would encourage people to plan their travel more carefully and thereby reduce paperwork through requests for cancellation refunds.

CAP. T. 15/11/70

269

SA's roads 'going fast downhill'

By DANIEL SIMON

SOUTH AFRICA'S economy could be seriously affected in the near future if the government does not provide "billions of rands" in finance to catch up with the backlog in maintaining the country's road network — which is fast approaching a state of disrepair.

This was disclosed yesterday during a meeting of the Southern Africa Road Federation (Sarf), which had as its guest of honour the director-general of the International Road Federation, Mr Mauritz Westerhuis.

Sarf committee member and consulting civil engineer Mr Michael Judd said South Africa's roads were fast approaching the critical stage of "packing up"

Only R500m

"The government has been under-spending on the maintenance of our road network for the past 10 years"

He said it was estimated that just to keep track with road repairs for 1990 alone R1,2 billion would be needed. The government, however, had provided only R500 million. "Our national road network is going downhill, but the state of provincial and secondary roads are going downhill faster. Many roads are fast approaching the critical stage of just packing up"

Mr Westerhuis said that any government which refuses to spend money on maintaining its road network is committing "a criminal act"

Historic step for crisis-hit bus industry

By ROBERT LAING

THE state's threat to cut subsidies to the beleaguered bus trade may have produced a first in South Africa — the industry's two unions and its employer's association have agreed to join forces.

The Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU), the Transport and Allied Workers' Union (Tawu) and the Southern African Bus Operators Association (Sabo) met last month to discuss the crisis facing the bus industry.

In a joint statement they said a working group comprising all three parties has been established. It will make representations to government and consult with community-based and extra-parliamentary organisations.

The employers want more state money. So do the unions, but they also want the bus industry managed by the state. TGWU's Kally Forrest says:

"The only major disagreement between the unions and the employers is that the unions want the bus industry nationalised. It is an essential public service that has to be subsidised. It would be more efficient to have the government running it directly, instead of giving money to private companies who don't necessarily spend it on their passengers."

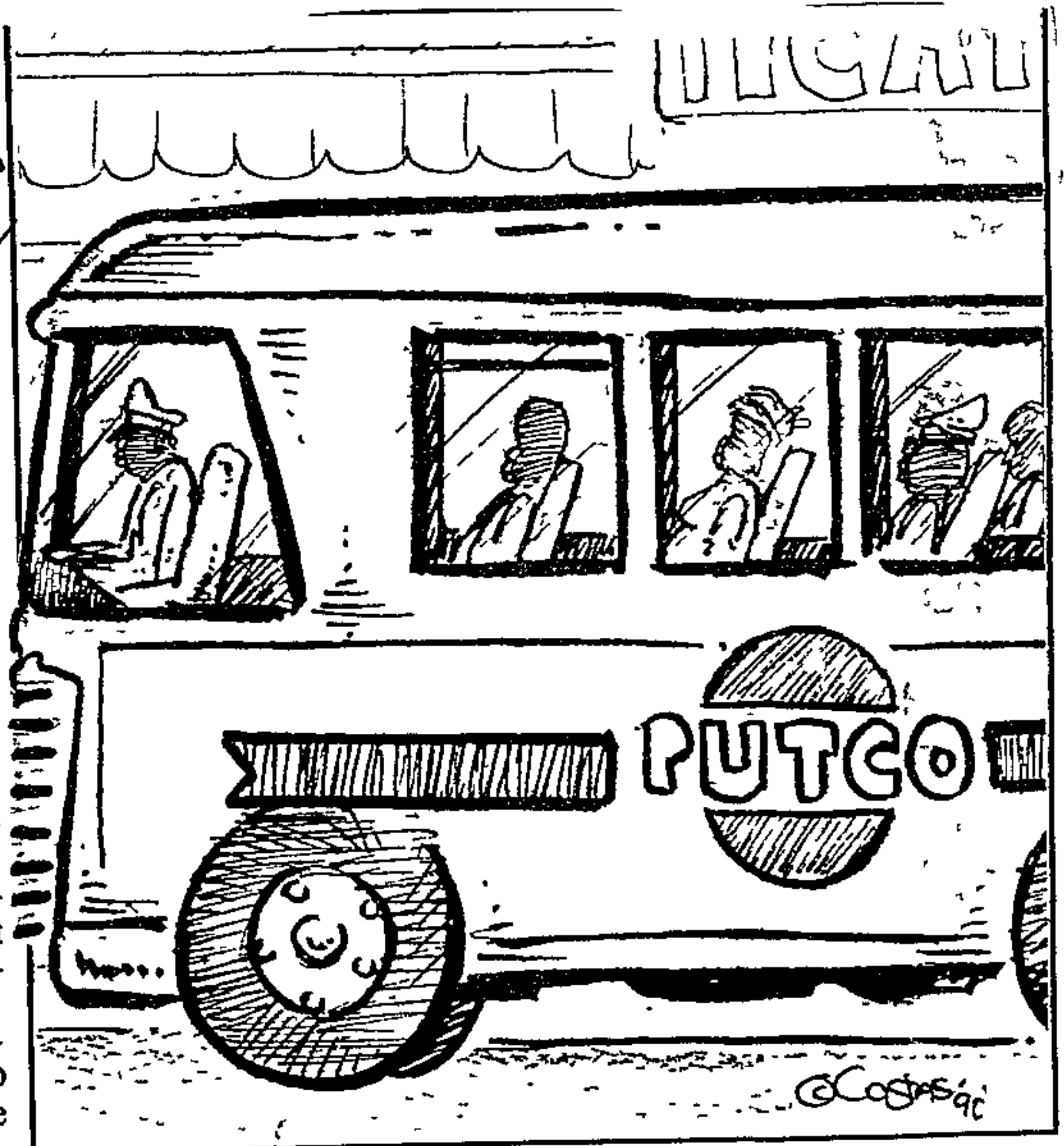
Saboa executive director Professor Jackie Walters said in a report to government. "The state expects the bus industry to foot an ever-increasing social cost burden by keeping increases in subsidies well below the industry inflation rate."

"Due to these circumstances and the unrestricted growth of the taxi industry the deterioration of the bus industry has accelerated to such an extent its very existence and future position in mass transport is at stake."

Putco chairman Albino Carleo said in the annual report released this week that bus operators were losing more than R65-million a year. Putco has withdrawn its services from Wynberg, Alberton and Springs. Its 180-bus Mamelodi and Edenvale divisions will also be closing and 531 employees will be retrenched. Carleo said Putco is considering joining its Dobsonville and Soweto divisions.

Saboa's report listed 16 other services run by various operators that may be closed soon.

"Where services are withdrawn, experience has shown that taxi operators exploit the situation. In many cases operators ensure that no additional taxis



enter the specific area, resulting in radical fare increases, waiting times are prolonged. When employees become unreliable in respect of time-keeping and attendance, they are dismissed," Saboa said.

Government subsidies are designed to subsidise the passenger and not the operators. This means no subsidy is paid if workers are not transported because of boycotts or stayaways.

Operators feel this is unfair considering bus boycotts are often caused by fare increases, which the state imposes. The authorities control both the economic fare and the portion paid by passengers.

"The recent involvement of the regional service councils (RSCs) in the payment of subsidies is extremely confusing to the industry as there are no clear guidelines as to which level of government will be responsible for which portion of the subsidy amount," Saboa said.

The subsidy system is incredibly complicated, with bus operators having to deal with the countless bureaucracies of the Department of Transport; homeland governments, the Department of Education and Culture, the Department of Education and Training, RSCs, and local authorities.

"This has the effect that management spends more and more of its time motivating applications for subsidies to the different authorities instead of managing companies."

Saboa claims the various departments of education do not subsidise scholars

acceptably. Discounts for scholars cost the industry R84-million last financial year, but only R4-million of this was subsidised by the Department of Education and Training.

Saboa estimates 12 020 buses are involved in transporting black workers from mostly outlying areas to industrial centres. "Studies indicate that these commuters earn an average wage of R471 a month and spend a monthly average of R46 on bus transport. The average trip length is 27km, although many thousands of commuters travel more than 100km on a single journey to work every day. At present 2 734 routes are subsidised by the Department of Transport."

The state subsidised about 37 percent of the bus industry's R1,63-billion turnover last year.

Saboa is also concerned about the effect of VAT on the industry, which could set it back an additional R120-million a year. "This is because the industry is labour intensive (about 40 percent of its costs are for labour) and because subsidies are regarded as an input and therefore liable for VAT."

Walters argues that South Africa can't survive without buses. "Major transport problems will arise in metropolitan areas which are experiencing high growth without the commensurate increase in highway capacity or public transport services."

"Most of these people are poor and will live in informal settlements for many years to come. They will be totally dependent on affordable public transport."

SAA may reduce its fares

By ROGER MAKINGS

SAA is expected to announce a decrease in the price of domestic air fares this week

Fuel prices quoted for December have dropped markedly and the airline hopes to pass this on to consumers.

It could not however say by how much fares would decrease. *STimes 12/11/90*

Since August this year, it has hiked fares by a whopping 30 percent in a desper-

ate bid to remain viable in the face of rocketing jet fuel prices.

International fares are however unlikely to be affected.

The airline recently applied for an eight percent increase to international fares which is likely to be granted by the government.

Sources said that two different prices are quoted for domestic and international fuel and that the decrease in the latter was marginal.

SAA is 'starving'

DURBAN. Durban and Cape Town are being starved of wealthy foreign tourists because South African Airways has been blocking foreign airlines from establishing frequent direct flights to the two cities.

And because of the serious tourism decline, Durban Mayor Mr Jan Venter and Cape Town's Mayor Mr Gordon Oliver have agreed to join forces to lobby the ministers of tourism and regional

development for more direct international flights

A meeting between Mr Venter, Mr Oliver, representatives of the Durban Publicity Association and Captour took place last week and another is planned for early next year.

Mr Venter said it was assumed that SAA saw a loss in its domestic business if a foreign carrier was given rights for Cape Town and Durban.

Only Johannesburg had inter-

national-gateway status and Durban, and Cape Town were disadvantaged by fare add-ons and surcharges

"A person flying direct from Mauritius to Durban must pay the Johannesburg fare as must the person flying from London to Cape Town even though the distance is shorter in flying miles."

"SAA have never given a satisfactory explanation for this ridiculous situation."

JOHANNESBURG. — Jan Smuts Airport has been awarded the title of the "World's Most Unfriendly Airport" and its immigration and customs halls dubbed "Halls of Horror" in an article in the airline journal *Airnews*.

The airport's immigration and customs officials have been described as "tin gods" who strip travellers of their dignity.

An editorial in the November edition of *Airnews* says the revelations by the author of the article — "a seasoned foreign traveller who has requested his identity not be revealed because he fears harassment by the 'tin gods' — are nothing new"

"He is a regular visitor to the country who claims that he endeavours wherever possible to avoid Jan Smuts "like the plague" — preferring to enter South Africa either through Durban or Cape Town.

THE THIRD-DEGREE

"It is a safe bet that many of the millions of passengers who pass through this vital gateway each year will agree with his sentiments.

"South Africa has often been condemned internationally as being a 'police state' and many people who have experienced the third degree questioning by customs and immigration officials at Jan Smuts Airport can be forgiven for agreeing with this sentiment.

"Bureaucracy appears to reign supreme in the 'Halls of Horror' among egotistical customs and immigration officials who seem to have lost their sense of humanity," says the editorial.

The Argus Correspondent

Jan Smuts 'halls of horror'

CITY



NATIONAL

SAA fares expected to drop 10%

269
2/24

CME Times 21/11/90

By DANIEL SIMON

DOMESTIC air fares are expected to drop by about 10% from December 1, providing a saving of about R108 for passengers travelling between Cape Town and Johannesburg in the holiday season.

At present, passengers travelling between Cape Town and Johannesburg pay R1 088 for a return ticket. When implemented, a return flight will cost about R980.

SAA corporate affairs spokesman Mr Leon Els said the carrier was expected to announce the decrease later today.

"We have received the fuel prices

for December. The price has dropped and we are evaluating, on our operating budget, what decrease to implement," Mr Els said.

He added that SAA's first flight to Kenya in over two decades was still scheduled to depart from Jan Smuts Airport for Nairobi on December 1, despite an announcement by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi that the agreement had been scrapped.

"To date SAA has received no official statement to withdraw the service," Mr Els said.

He added that the flight was fully booked, as was a Kenya Airways flight expected to land in South Africa on December 9.

Report slams govt plan to reduce bus subsidies

MARC HASENFUSS

269

AN SA Bus Operators Association (Sabo) report has criticised government intentions to reduce bus subsidies. The report, submitted this week to the Transport Department, criticised government's ad hoc subsidy policy, saying it had failed to look at the macro issues facing SA and had decided to reduce services to commuters to keep state spending down.

"The demise of the bus industry has accelerated to such an extent that its very existence and future position in mass transport is at stake," the report said.

The state subsidy stands at R626m.

Sabo urged government to adopt an all embracing approach, applicable in a flexible way, to "functional geographic areas", each with different needs and characters. B. van 21/11/90

"The industry is ill-equipped to meet the challenges of major urbanisation and metropolitanisation likely to take place between 1990 and 2010," it said.

The report argued that demographic changes meant an extra 15-million people, mainly poor, would need transport over long distances to industrial centres by 2010.

"Reliance by commuters on reliable and affordable transport for mobility and job access will be important."

Rand Afrikaans University transport lecturer Vaughn Mostert said although emphasis was placed on the need to phase out subsidies in bus passenger transport, rail subsidies received comparatively little attention.

The wheels are about to come off this industry

269

In the past five years State subsidies for bus services have not kept up with inflation, forcing operators to close down depots and rationalise operations. More than 2,000 workers lost their jobs and commuters were faced with major problems.

A 5 percent subsidy cut on top of this would mean death to the bus industry.

The emergence of a rapidly developing and unrestricted taxi industry, which is running in competition with rather than complementing, bus operations, increases the likelihood of closures in the bus industry.

Cutting back on subsidies is seen as part of the Government's privatisation drive, by deregulating certain industries.

In order to cut spending, the Government is placing the responsibility on private enterprises to provide public services. Hence, the deregulation of the taxi industry.

But in bus and rail transport, it is impossible for private com-

panies to operate profitably without Government aid.

Rail transport of commuters is currently being subsidised by 72 percent.

This contrasts sharply with the Government's subsidy policy for the bus industry, in which mainly peak-hour commuters and only certain routes are subsidised.

In the 1989/90 financial year, the Government subsidy amounted to about R540 million, and for the current financial year it was increased to R626 million. This was a 16 percent increase in an industry in which inflation is running at 20 percent.

One of the country's biggest bus companies, Putco, said it would be forced to close if the Government did not increase its subsidy in the next financial year.

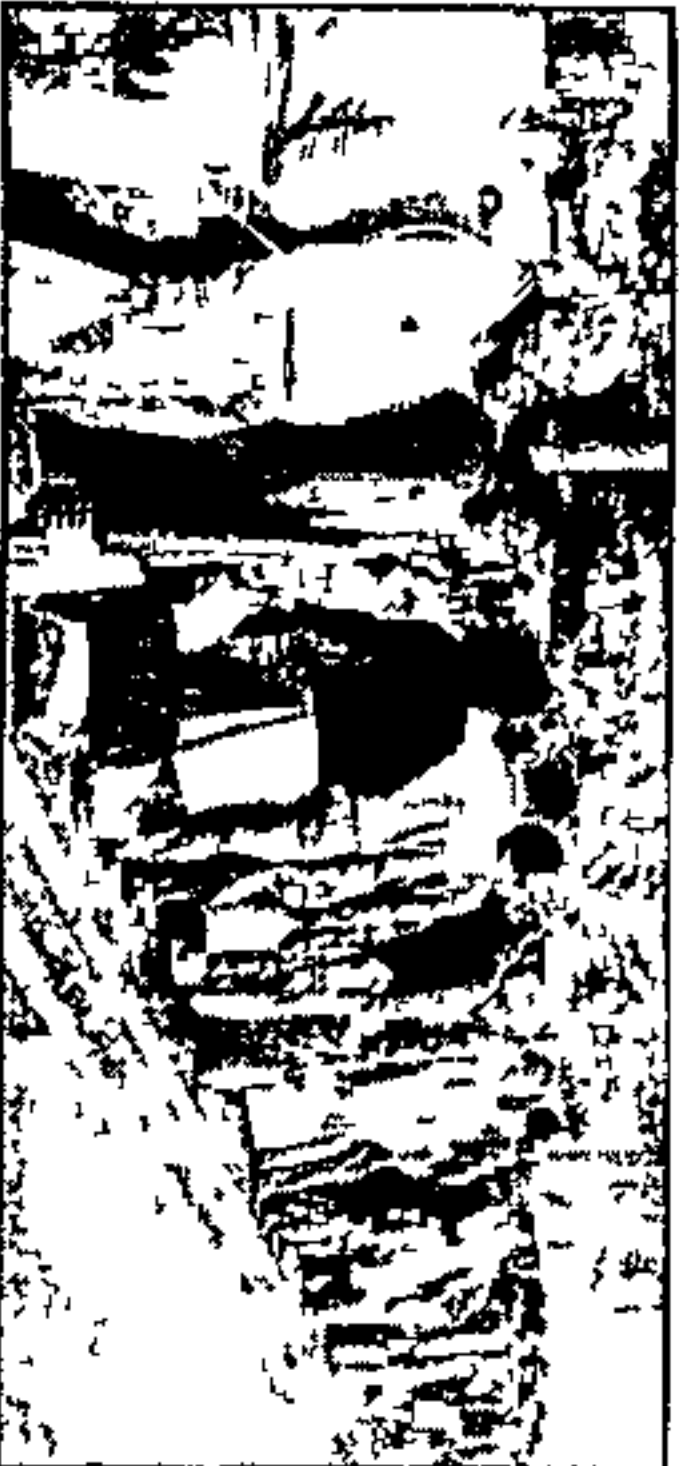
The company's executive director, Vic Coetzee, said that to survive bus companies would have to increase fares by 60 to 70 percent, which would make them ridiculously expensive.

Some areas do not have access to trains or buses and have to depend on taxis, which exploit the situation.

The Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) said that in some cases taxi operators ensured that no additional taxis entered an area, resulting in unreasonable fares and prolonged waiting.

Port Elizabeth Tramways announced in August it was closing down. Realising what his would mean to employees, a consortium of shareholders from the local community, commerce and industry opted to buy out the company.

Government threatens to cut subsidies in the bus industry, reports SHAREEN SINGH



Join the queue but a subsidy crisis threatens bus services, and taxis may not be able to fill the gap.

Managing director, said he believed this type of local option was a possible solution to transport problems, if Government subsidies were allocated at local, rather than industry level. Municipal bus operators are in the same trouble. They are not subsidised by the central

Government, but by municipal ratepayers.

With rising costs and inflation, municipalities are feeling the pinch. The Benoni and Nigel town councils have already closed their bus services and some other councils are heading in the same direction.

A spokesman for the Passenger Transport Association of South Africa, Johan Vlok, said the Government must either grant subsidies or see the bus industry collapse.

A spokesman for the TGWU, Kally Forrest, said it was clear that mass transport could not run as a profitable industry.

Privatisation and deregulation in the transport industry was not a viable solution to the country's transport needs and would cause more problems than improving the transport system, she said.

Government, but by municipal ratepayers.

With rising costs and inflation, municipalities are feeling the pinch. The Benoni and Nigel town councils have already closed their bus services and some other councils are heading in the same direction.

A spokesman for the Passenger Transport Association of South Africa, Johan Vlok, said the Government must either grant subsidies or see the bus industry collapse.

A spokesman for the TGWU, Kally Forrest, said it was clear that mass transport could not run as a profitable industry.

Privatisation and deregulation in the transport industry was not a viable solution to the country's transport needs and would cause more problems than improving the transport system, she said.

blanket privatisation is an easy way for the Government to escape its responsibility to see to the transport needs of the public.

A spokesman for the South African Black Taxi Association (Sabta), Fanyana Shubiri, said several attempts by the association to get Government subsidies had been futile.

Taxi operators were able to absorb the impact of recession more than bus companies, which were used to higher profits, he said. But, in the long run, taxis would also become dependent on Government aid.

The industry was facing other problems as a direct consequence of deregulation.

Private taxis, unroadworthy vehicles, unqualified drivers and bitter competition were leading to violent clashes.

Deregulation in the taxi industry is just not on. Mr. Sh-

burn said. There was a strong need for control of who qualified to run taxis, how they should be run, which areas and routes operators should be restricted to, and minimum conditions of operating, he said.

Bus operators believe the Government is looking at gradually replacing buses with taxis, and relying on trains and taxis to meet the public transport needs.

This raises major practical problems about road and parking space for taxis in already crowded CBD areas.

Bus operators believe effective transport depends on coordination, with train, taxi and bus services complementing each other rather than competing.

This could only be achieved if the Government restructured the industry to make it effective and ensured "a cut-throat situation is avoided", Putco said.

But first, the Government had to accept that the public transport industry could not survive without adequate subsidies. □

Unions to hold marches

269

By IKE MOTSAPI

THREE major unions will hold protest marches throughout the country next week against the Government's plan to scrap or reduce subsidies for bus operators

pledged support

Miss Kelly Forest, information officer of the Transport and General Workers Union, said in a statement yesterday her union, together with the Transport and Allied Workers Union and the South African Railways and Harbours Workers Union, would stage the marches on December 1

During the marches petitions and memorandums would be handed at offices of the Department of Manpower across the country.

"It has come to our attention that certain bus operators are suffering while others have closed shop because they are facing financial problems

"This has been caused mainly by the Government decision to phase out or cut subsidies to people involved in the bus transportation business," she said

She said civic associations and other organisations throughout the country had

23/11/70

Transnet keeps increases in transport tariffs below inflation rate

TRANSNET is raising transport tariffs for 1991 by an average of 9%

Harbour tariffs will increase by an average of 10%, rail freight by about 9%, and passenger tariffs by 10%. Crude oil and diesel tariffs will go up by 15%, but petrol tariffs will not rise

Transnet chairman Marius de Waal announced the new tariffs, effective from January 1, in Johannesburg yesterday. He cited Spoornet's spare capacity as a major factor allowing tariff increases below the inflation rate despite the recessionary economic climate

Transnet MD Anton Moolman said the hike in diesel rates was high because they were currently relatively low compared with petrol

The ending of the 8% air fuel levy from December 1 would stabilise SAA fares, as long as there was no drastic change in the Gulf situation

Transnet's operations, other than SAA, were insulated from the massive rise in fuel costs. Power for the railways was 85% derived from electricity

He said Transnet had a permanent commitment to keep tariff levels, which rose

MATTHEW CURTIN

by 10% to 12% this year, below the annual inflation rate

Spoornet's concern to remain competitive in a "fiercely competitive" market was the main motive for the low increase, Moolman said. He was confident Spoornet would regain market share from road hauliers and was optimistic it could exploit the potential of the export market

Spoornet's spare capacity enabled it to offer large tariff incentives for exporters. Discounts of 40% on a contract basis were

available for large-scale exporters

Transnet had detected that there was spare industrial capacity in the economy. If this was directed to the export market

Spoornet and Portnet would enjoy the benefits of a growth in export traffic, given southern Africa's established rail network

Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut (AHI) executive director Martin van den Berg said yesterday the increases were "as low as could have been hoped for"

The AHI was concerned a low tariff policy could damp up the transport group's costs, forcing large tariff rises in the

future, although this seemed not to be the case at the moment

SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) director-general Raymond Parsons said the tariff increases were in line with government's declared aim of keeping them below the inflation rate

The new tariffs were relatively low, given cost pressures from fuel increases

"It is encouraging Transnet sees increased productivity and better capacity use as the cornerstones supporting the lower tariff increases"

269

Transnet fares up

STC 27/10/90

Transnet tariffs would increase by an average of nine percent from January 1, Transnet chairman Dr Marius de Waal said yesterday.

The increase was lower than the rate of inflation because of the drop in the demand for transport, Dr de Waal explained.

Lower tariffs would hopefully encourage higher volumes, he said. Spoort passenger fares would go up by 10 percent. — Sapa

269

Transnet fares up

STC 27/10/90

Transnet tariffs would increase by an average of nine percent from January 1, Transnet chairman Dr Marius de Waal said yesterday.

The increase was lower than the rate of inflation because of the drop in the demand for transport, Dr de Waal explained.

Lower tariffs would hopefully encourage higher volumes, he said. Spoornet passenger fares would go up by 10 percent. — Sapa.

27/11/90

2 Cape Times, Tue

Fares to go up by 9% average —

Transnet

JOHANNESBURG —
Transnet group tariffs
will be increased by an
average of 9% from Janu-
ary 1, says Transnet
chairman Dr Marius de
Waal

Dr De Waal said here
yesterday that the in-
crease was lower than
the rate of inflation, be-
cause the state of the
economy had led to a
drop in the demand for
transport. This had
placed a damper on tar-
iff levels

He said Spoornet, in
particular, was not oper-
ating at its full capacity.
A strategy of lower tar-
iffs was being pursued to
encourage higher vol-
umes

Dr De Waal said sav-
ings capacity made it
possible to offer mean-
ingful incentives for ad-
ditional export traffic

He announced that
Spoornet passenger
fares would go up by 10%
and the transporting of
diesel and crude oil by
15%

Dr De Waal said he did
not foresee an increase
in the tariffs of South
African Airways in the
short term — Sapa

SAA dispute with staff over

By John Miller

269

More than 200 black South African Airways technical staff returned to work yesterday afternoon after resolving a dispute over a casual worker whom they demanded be reinstated.

Staff downed tools yesterday morning when the worker was refused permanent employment. He had been tested positive for dagga during a medical examination.

SAA spokesman Zelda Roux said: "It is the airline's policy to test all applicants who wish to be employed as permanent staff members."

She said the man was refused employment when dagga traces were found in his urine.

Union members returned to work after union representatives had been given reasons why he had not been employed, and why he had been subsequently dismissed, Mrs Roux said.

Safair ready to launch domestic freight service

 MANDY JEAN WOODS

269

SAFAIR, the air arm of shipping, transport and leisure conglomerate Safmarine & Rannies Holdings, was expected to begin its scheduled domestic freight service "within weeks", Safair MD Braam Loots said yesterday.

Earlier this month the airline was granted a licence to fly scheduled freight and cargo on SA's main domestic air routes in competition with SAA.

An application by Safair to change a clause in its licence to fly non-scheduled freight, cargo and passengers on international routes to allow it also to fly on routes operated solely by SAA, was postponed to February 4. This was because Trek Air had indicated it intended to apply for a similar licence, Loots said.

He said Safair planned to start its domestic freight and cargo service, which would give SAA competition for the first time, with a flight to Cape Town four times a week.

"We already have 15 tons of cargo per flight per day guaranteed," he said.

BID 29/11/90

Possibilities probed

Safair plans to fly between five and seven flights a day between Johannesburg and Cape Town, Cape Town and Durban; Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth and East London with its fleet of six Hercules aircraft.

In order to offer a faster and more efficient service, Safair was investigating the possibility of acquiring a jet freighter aircraft, he said. The airline was also looking at opening up new routes, like that from Cape Town to Durban, as well as the major SAA routes.

"Aviation has lost an unbelievable amount of freight to road and rail transport because of poor marketing of the air freight service or, in some cases, because no such service was available," Loots said.

Safair planned a major marketing and advertising campaign for early in the new year to detail the advantages of air freight.

The airline was poised to take on any challenges coming its way, he said.

New shipping service between SA, Brazil

MARIETTE DU PLESSIS

THE partial lifting of import restrictions by Brazil has opened up more export opportunities for SA companies, and Bridge Shipping has introduced a new service operating between the two countries.

Chairman Adam Kethro said last week the marked increase in the number of inquiries for this route from interested parties boosted their expansion plans.

With the recent withdrawal of the Argentinian shipping service Ciamar from this route, Bridge Shipping, whose activities include combined transport operations and shipping agencies, entered into this westbound service

Products which were being exported in-

cluded 2 000 tons per sailing of various mineral ores from SA, as well as tobacco from Malawi and Zimbabwe, while consumer-oriented products would be considered in the near future.

Bridge Shipping was also representing the Barbican Service from Brazil to SA, which dealt with imports such as footwear, clothing and electrical goods. These services provided a monthly service with chartered tonnage, to be upgraded to a fortnightly service catering for container and breakbulk options if demand existed

09/10/79
Lead 19

269

269

CONFIDENTIAL 30/11/90 269

R2 million to study city public transport

Municipal Reporter

A R2-MILLION, three-year contract was signed yesterday between Cape Town city council and a firm of consultants which will undertake a study of public transport in the city

Half of the money will come from the Department of Transport, another 30% from the Cape Provincial Administration and the remaining 20% will be shared out between 12 municipalities and the Regional Services Council

City Planner Mr Neville Riley expressed concern at the rapid growth in traffic and the sustained decline in public transport

"City planning must be based on a

realistic appraisal of how much investment can be made in new roads, particularly as it is unlikely that the majority of people living in Cape Town will ever have the exclusive use of a private car for the journey to and from work," he said

Mr Paul Mann, a partner in the consultancy firm and leader of the study team, said community participation was essential for the success of the study

Those at the signing ceremony yesterday were Mr Riley, City Engineer Mr Arthur Clayton, Dr Charles Liebenberg, chairman of the consultancy firm, and Mr Ivan Speed, the director of Metropolitan Transport Planning.

JAN SMUTS AIRPORT FIM 30(11)90

269

CHANGE, BUT NO CONSENSUS

With contractors Rapp & Maister already at work, it appears the inappropriate R69m refurbishment programme for Jan Smuts Airport is a *fait accompli*

Airlines using Jan Smuts are wary about commenting (they need to stay on good

terms with the Directorate of Civil Aviation), but the disquiet over government's rash implementation of a seven-year-old upgrading scheme is simmering just below the surface (*Business* July 27)

Critics say constructing the air corridor building and loading bridges is an expensive way of keeping passengers from crossing the service road between the terminal and the apron on foot. The multi-million rand cost of the bridges, which are on order, is not included in the R69m contract

Luxavia MD Jan Blake says the plans do not provide enough room for passengers waiting to depart. One critic says had the private sector been in charge of the operation the building of multi-storey parking garages with covered access to the terminal would have been a priority.

Rapp & Maister assistant director James McLean says the contract calls for the work to be completed in 42 months, starting from last July 13. The work will include an airside corridor building that will wrap around the terminal building, a bus terminal at the north end, loading bridges for passenger access to international flights and new escalators and lifts.

Complicating the issue is the Privatisation Unit's report on the commercialisation of SA's nine State airports. It was handed to the Ministerial Committee on Privatisation and Deregulation last week.

The report recommends that State airports should no longer be controlled by the Department of Transport and that a separate airport account should be opened with the Department of Finance by April. Airport income — including the new passenger tax — will be credited to the account, while running and capital costs will be debited.

The move towards commercialisation is welcomed by Stuart Huckwell, the director of airport systems for Civil Aviation. He says the private sector will be asked for input, beginning in January. The aim is to restructure the financial and legal systems now governing the State airport management.

"This would imply amending the Civil Aviation Act, which gives the Department of Transport control over the airports," Huckwell says. "We will ask the private sector to suggest organisational structures for the future operation of State airports."

If the airports are finally commercialised, income would be maximised in various ways, such as charging cost-related fees for apron

and landing services. Free services such as luggage handling may be phased out.

Another source says a State corporation may be formed to run the whole operation. In addition, air traffic control services may be privatised, as in Australia and New Zealand.

Critics of the Jan Smuts refurbishment say privatisation, not commercialisation, is the only option because government will not be able to afford the proposed R800m-R1bn expansion, which will involve erecting airport buildings between the existing runways, a key part of its airport master plan.

"Why spend R70m-R100m on outdated refurbishments when the private sector would be prepared to take over the profitable running of Jan Smuts?" says one critic.

"Government should offer the private sector a 50% share in the airport. All investments made by the private sector could then be used to modernise facilities, while the State would receive half the profits generated by a privately run airport."

Overseas studies show that any airport serving more than 2m passengers a year should be able to make money. Jan Smuts handles 5m a year. The question is: do State officials have the commercial savvy to provide the efficient services required by the modern flying public? ■

PUBLIC SECTOR - TELECOMM. - LABOUR .

1991

APRIL - DEC.

Post Office warned of further protests

B 10 21 2014/14
VERA VON LIERES

268

INDUSTRIAL action by postal workers countrywide was minimal yesterday, a Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) official said.

But Potwa assistant general secretary Sizwe Matshikiza said yesterday the union would intensify nationwide protest action until the Post Office met all its demands, including improved wages and an end to the commercialisation of the Post Office.

Last week the union gave government 14 days to meet its demands, or "services could be disrupted".

Post Office spokesman Amanda Singleton said yesterday about 73 workers had staged sit-ins in Pretoria, while there had been several go-slows in the rest of the country. She said the department was still awaiting a decision by the President's Council on the Post Office Amendment Bill which, if implemented, would split the Post Office into two state-owned corporations.

Meanwhile, the countrywide legal strike by about 600 Waste-Tech workers approached its fourth week yesterday with no prospect of an immediate settlement, Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) spokesman Kally Forrest said yesterday.

The company late last week withdrew interdicts served on striking workers in the Western Province and Cape Town, Forrest said.

The strike hinges on wages, with the union demanding across-the-board increases of R40 a week and a R5 a day travelling allowance. The company has offered across-the-board increases of R28 and a weekly travelling allowance of R5.

Several hundred Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) workers at Cadbury plants nationwide are on strike to back wage demands.

A union official was unable to confirm speculation yesterday that there was strong support for a consumer boycott of Cadbury's products, but said this was "likely".

The union is demanding an across-the-board increase of R1,50 on the current hourly minimum wage. The company had given the union the option of an overall across-the-board increase of 85c on the current hourly minimum, or staggered increases of 75c backdated to January, plus an additional 20c in June, the union official said.

Post Office 'prepared ^{11/6/91} for the ^{26/4/91} worst ^{2/8}

By SHARON SOROUR Labour Reporter

WITH a crippling nationwide strike by thousands of postal workers looming, the Post Office is "prepared for the worst".

A S A Post and Telecommunication (SAPT) media liaison officer said that in the event of a strike, services, especially essential services, would be maintained.

This follows an ultimatum by thousands of postal workers to the State that they will take mass action in 13 days' time if their wage demands are not met and the Post Office Amendment Bill is not scrapped.

But the SAPT spokesman said the Post Office had "a strategy to combat any disruption" and was geared to handle the threatened action.

She said "We have action plans worked out should a national strike occur and services will be maintained, especially the essential services".

"Mail deliveries to certain areas may be delayed but workers who are not on strike will stand in for strikers and do their work," she said.

SAPT was "prepared for the worst" in all aspects, not only regarding industrial action, but also other emergencies like bomb scares and attacks, she said.

Two unions — the 21 000-strong Post Office and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) and the S A Post and Telecommunication Employees' Association (Saptea) — walked out of wage negotiations this week when SAPT reduced its initial wage offer of a R927,50 minimum monthly wage by R76 to R851.

'BAD FAITH BARGAINING'

They accused SAPT of bad faith bargaining, reneging on original wage offers and making unilateral cuts to the proposed wage budget for the postal sector.

Workers are demanding a minimum monthly wage of R1 300 and an across-the-board increase of R500.

SAPT said the workers' demands could not be met as Minister of Public Enterprise and Economic Co-ordination Dr Dawie de Villiers had decided to incorporate the non-pensionable allowance that employees were being paid into their basic (pensionable) salaries from July 1.

Dr De Villiers announced that postal workers would receive pay rises varying from between 15,8 percent for the lowest paid workers to 6 percent for the highest paid workers.

● Sapa reports about 550 Transvaal workers at post offices in Pretoria West, Lyttelton, Waterkloof, Schapensrust and Brakpan stopped work yesterday.

In the Western Cape, where about 1 000 workers are involved, about 170 telecommunications workers in Pinelands, Philippi and Montagu Gardens also downed tools earlier this week.

● The Acting State President, Mr Pik Botha, has decided to refer the Post Office Amendment Bill to the President's Council for decision.

The Bill was passed by the Houses of Assembly and Delegates, but rejected by the House of Representatives.

Star 26/4/77

268

Postal workers on strike

About 550 post office workers went on strike in Pretoria and Johannesburg yesterday

The Pretoria West, Lyttelton, Waterkloof, Schapensrust and Brakpan post offices had workers on strike

The strikers, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) and the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees Association, are demanding a minimum wage of R1 300 and a R500 across-the-board increase

They also want the Government to scrap the proposed Post Office Amendment Bill, which proposes to split the two services into separate parastatal companies.

A spokesman said in Pretoria that the Post Office was geared to handle strikes and that no services had been significantly interrupted

● Potwa general secretary Mlungisi Hlongwane claimed yesterday that his Pimville home was raided by four men on Wednesday night. He described these men as policemen who allegedly told Mr Hlongwane that they were searching for weapons

During the search Mr

Hlongwane's telephone went dead, which was considered "a very sinister move", according to Potwa.

Potwa also said the home of its president, Kgabisi Mosunkutu, had been damaged by a mysterious fire earlier this week, and a few days earlier a large contingent of policemen had allegedly raided his home.

"All these concerted efforts come in the wake of increasing militant actions by the fighting members of our union Potwa wants to assure its membership that we shall not allow the forces of the past to distract us from our fight for a living wage," Potwa said

A police spokesman said no record had been found that such a police search had been conducted by any of the SAP's branches on Wednesday night.

"The information is worded in such unsympathetic language towards the police that it places a question mark over this entire incident, as this person has made similar allegations in the past which, upon checking by the SAP Directorate, were found to be unfounded," he said. — Sapa

Postal strike looms as pay talks fail

By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter and Sapa

THOUSANDS of postal workers nationwide are poised to strike after lively wage talks during which two unions walked out when management drastically reduced its original wage offer

The Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) and the SA Post and Telecommunication Employees' Association (Saptea) walked out of the talks in Pretoria yesterday

They accused SA Post and Telecommunication (Sapt) of bad faith bargaining, reneging on original wage offers and making unilateral cuts to the proposed wage budget for the postal sector

Sapt said in a statement the unions' demands could not be met because Minister of Public Enterprise and Economic Co-ordination Dr Dawie de Villiers had decided to incorporate the non-pensionable allowance employees were paid into their basic (pensionable) salaries on July 1

Dr De Villiers announced yesterday

that postal employees would be granted wage increases ranging from 15,8 percent to about six percent on July 1

Employees on the highest grades would get the smallest percentage increase.

He said remuneration of Sapt staff took place according to guidelines set by the government

Sapt's original offer of a R927,50 minimum monthly wage was rejected at earlier negotiations by the two unions and led to countrwide sit-ins and demonstrations last week

When the talks resumed yesterday, the unions expected Sapt to table increased offers but it reduced its offer to a minimum monthly wage of R851 - R76 less than its opening offer

Potwa, which represents about 21 000 workers, was demanding a minimum monthly wage of R1 300 and an increase of R500 across-the-board

Four unions - the Postal and Telegraph Association of SA, the SA Postal Association, the SA Telecommunication Association and the Society of

Post Office Engineers - indicated that they would accept the offer

But other union officials vowed yesterday to cripple the country's communications network with go-slows, pickets and countrywide sit-ins until the government met their demands

Potwa spokesman Mr Floyd Masheshe said the union suspected the lower offer was linked to parliament's rejection last week of the Post Office Amendment Bill which provided for Sapt to be divided into two state-owned companies.

The unions argued that the Bill was the first step to privatising the industry

He said. "We are planning to take strategic action to disrupt the postal network system while ensuring at the same time that no worker loses his job."

Essential services were being maintained although they had been affected in some areas

● Western Cape postal workers were set to march to parliament today to hand over a petition

PO workers start sit-in countrywide

~~3/24~~

268

~~1/24~~

SKW 23/4/91.

By Stan Hlophe and Sapa

Thousands of Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) members are to embark on a national sit-in today in a bid to pressure management into granting their demands

These include a R1 300-a-month minimum wage, a R500 across-the-board increase and the scrapping of the Post Office Amendment Bill

Potwa's campaigns co-ordinator Floyd Mashele said the sit-in started last night at at least five Post Office premises — in Diepkloof, Florida, Milner Park, Johannesburg and Pietersburg

SA Posts and Telecommunications (SAPT) is to report back to unionists on its consultation with Public Enterprise and Economic Co-operation Minister Dr Dawie de Villiers on workers' demands for a R1 300 "living wage" and R500 increase. The first round of management/employee talks were held on Monday last week

Mr Mashele last night said he would lead a march to Parliament tomorrow to present a memorandum protesting against the Post Office Amendment Bill to Dr de Villiers and the regional SAPT management

The Bill, which would split SAPT into two State-owned companies, has been suspended pending a decision by the State President after being rejected by the House of Representatives on Friday

Potwa opposes the commercialisation linked to the proposed division

Workers planned to hold marches in Johannesburg and Pretoria on Saturday to present memorandums to SAPT, Mr Mashele added

He said other demands included scrapping VAT on all telephone accounts, ending the temporary status of workers, ending the victimisation of and discrimination among workers by the SAPT, and introducing a 40-hour week, six months' maternity leave and a single medical scheme for all workers

He said the union was prepared to negotiate on these demands. However, as far as the R1 300 minimum wage, R500 across the board, and scrapping the Post Office Amendment Bill were concerned, these were non-negotiable.

He warned the SAPT to enter into genuine negotiations with the union to avoid serious disruptions of the communications network

"The workers are working under difficult conditions, and in the next few days our campaign will intensify and we will consider a national stayaway of postal workers if our demands are not met," he said

"The union is aware that the postal services is a strategic department, but this is the only avenue available to us to pressure the postal department to meet our demands.

"We have exhausted all avenues in an attempt to reach an agreement, but the State has remained intransigent"

Mr Mashele warned employers to avoid friction by not calling in the police. He said the Klerksdorp and Pretoria post offices had done this during last week's work stoppages

Postal workers embark on countrywide pay strike

By Stan Hlophe and Sapa

More than 6'000 Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) members yesterday embarked on a nationwide strike, demanding a R500 across-the-board increase and minimum salaries of R1 300

Potwa spokesman Floyd Mashele said that SA Post and Telecommunications (SAPT) management had responded to their demands by saying their budget could cater for only R318 million to be divided among the entire workforce.

Mr Mashele said the union's actions would be intensified tomorrow when the Post Office Amendment Bill is presented in Parliament

According to the SAPT, only 3 600 workers around the country stopped work yesterday, the majority on the Witwatersrand. In many cases the stoppages

had been brief, with services virtually unaffected

The SAPT confirmed that talks between itself, Potwa and the SA Posts and Telecommunications Employees Association would continue soon, after consultation with Minister of Public Enterprise Dawie de Villiers on the implementation date of salary increases and a possible increase in the R318 million available for service-benefit improvements.

Mr Mashele said the department appeared to be stalling for time until the SAPT had been divided into two companies

"The SAPT said we could then present our demands to the separate companies. Our union completely rejects the SAPT's linking of our living wage demand with the Post Office Amendment Bill and the separation of the SAPT into two companies," he said

Monday a vital date for unions

PUBLIC sector unions will be left out in the cold when the Cosatu-Saccola-Nactu accord is passed into legislation this year.

But unions in this sector are determined to have, at least, similar rights to those enjoyed by most workers, who will be covered by amendments to the Labour Relations Act.

Most important among these are grievance and disciplinary procedures, the right to strike, bargaining forums, access to members and stop-order facilities.

Arrayed against them are government departments which make it difficult to establish a relationship with the State at a national level.

Laws such as the Public Service Act and Post Office Services Act declare it illegal for state employees to strike.

Conservative staff associations which have worked within the old system of labour relations in the public sector

also frustrate union efforts.

Yet unions, including the National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) and the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) have succeeded in increasing their membership to the extent that the authorities have had to take notice.

Potwa was established in 1982 and has a membership of 22 000, while Nehawu has grown from 9 500 in 1987 to about 50 000 today.

Industrial action in the public sector reached unprecedented levels last year.

Now the Commission for Administration and the Post Office have recognised the necessity to deal with the unions.

Potwa general secretary Mlungisi Hlongwane and Nehawu national organiser Monde Mdutshwa agree that a centralised bargaining structure has to be established where general grievances af-

Public sector workers are to meet representatives of the Commission for Administration on Monday, reports BRENDAN TEMPLETON.

fecting all public sector workers can be addressed.

This would do away with the delays experienced where unions and different departments come to agreement, then have to wait for higher-up approval.

At the same time, differences in the problems facing, say, nurses and postmen, have to be addressed.

The Commission last year called on trade unions and interested parties to work out a new labour dispensation. They are to meet on Monday.

Mr Mdutshwa said the invitation caught Nehawu off-guard, but said the union was determined not to be side-

tracked by the sudden open door policy.

He believes bargaining procedures could prevent situations arising where health staff feel they have no alternative but to strike.

The associations agreed with Nehawu representatives that the Public Service Act could not remain, but disagreed that the Labour Relations Act should be extended to them.

A big stumbling block with the Commission is its definition of "public service". Mr Mdutshwa believes it is too narrow and should be broadened to include municipal, post office and railway workers.

A centralised bargaining forum on common public service matters should be established.

Mr Hlongwane agrees. Although negotiations are taking place on a national level with the post office, management's

new attitude has yet to trickle down to regional and local levels. Even agreements made at national level have to be approved higher up, creating delay and frustration.

Head-on confrontation with the Post Office will take place for at least the next six months, he says.

A massive campaign, which will include community organisations, is being planned against the proposed Post Office Amendment Bill which Potwa believes is paving the way towards privatisation.

Nehawu is planning a campaign to protect nurses, who participated in last year's strikes.

Despite an agreement after the strikes between hospital authorities and the union not to take disciplinary action, the Nursing Council says it was not party to the agreement and will go ahead with disciplinary procedures if it receives any complaints. □

110
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200

Push for assembly, Mandela tells union

CAPE TOWN 10/1/91 268
JOHANNESBURG. — ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela yesterday urged delegates at the congress of the Post Office and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) to campaign for a constituent assembly.

"It is the duty of everyone in the trade unions to make every democrat understand why we make these demands. Negotiation is a weapon which is exploring the peaceful transfer of power to the people."

Mr. Mandela called for "mass action for the transfer of power to the people", but said that the ANC was willing to compromise to realise the widest possible agreement on a future South Africa.

The keynote speaker at the congress, SA Communist Party (SACP) general secretary Mr Joe Slovo, said the ANC did not share all the objectives of the SACP, but the differences between the organisations were not "competitive". — Sapa

Potwa declares 'war'

South 17/11 - 23/1/91
 From Mono Badela
 Johannesburg (268)

STADIUM STAMPEDE:
 Bodies sprawled on the turf after a stampede that left 40 dead and more than 50 seriously injured in Orkney in the Transvaal Sports spectators in other parts of the country are now asking whether their stadiums are safe



PICS DYNAMIC IMAGES

• See page 30



POSTAL workers have declared war on the Post Office management — specially its attempts to introduce privatisation through the backdoor

Their union, the Postal and Telecommunication Workers Association (Potwa), resolved at its third annual congress held last weekend at Nasrec, outside Johannesburg, to campaign "vigorously" against all state attempts to sell off the industry

The newly-elected general secretary, Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane, a former Internal Security Act detainee said Potwa would work closely with the community to declare the postal and telecommunication industry 'a people's industry'

Workers

Hlongwane said Potwa knew the Post Office bosses had been dragging their feet in promoting the developments that have been initiated by President FW de Klerk.

"We will make sure that they move with the times and at the pace dictated by workers"

Their target is the new Post Office Amendment Bill which goes before parliament this year

According to Potwa the new bill is an attempt to introduce privatisation "through the back door"

The congress noted that the bill would adversely affect workers, communities and the country as a whole

Privatisation was being introduced when a democratic government was about to be set up. Privatised companies could be nationalised without compensation

Delegates resolved

● To rededicate themselves to the 1988 resolutions, mobilise and educate members on the anti-privatisation struggle,

● To engage in intense mass action around this campaign, and

● To mobilise the international community around the campaign

Other resolutions adopted at the congress include those dealing with a fight for a minimum living wage of R1 300 a month and a minimum of R500 across the board increase for all Post and Telecommunication workers

The union is also going to campaign for six months paid maternity leave and three months paid paternity leave

Demand

The congress warned that should management fail to meet this demand Potwa would embark on a sustained campaign aimed at forcing management's hand

The congress also noted that discrimination was rife at the Post Offices

The congress resolved to fight for the abolition of all discrimination in remuneration. It would also fight for an end to the status of 'temporal worker'

Potwa also decided to adopt the Freedom Charter as a guiding document which reflected the views and aspirations of the oppressed and exploited

Delegates to the congress elected veteran trade unionist Mark Shope who recently returned after 30 years in exile, an honorary president

Community Based

Development Programme

Administrator/Action Researcher

A vacancy has arisen in the Community Based Development Programme (CBDP) for a person to administer the programme's evaluation process

The successful applicant will be responsible for co-ordinating an Action Research process aimed at increasing CEDP's understanding of its role and effectiveness

- ▼ further developing evaluation instruments currently in place
- ▼ inputting findings via reports etc into CEDP's structures and processes
- ▼ maintaining records of participants' performance on the course
- ▼ providing administrative back-up to the process of ongoing contact with participating organisations

The right person should have an understanding of community based organisations, and experience in the following areas

- ▼ action research
- ▼ statistics
- ▼ the use of computers, including database programmes

Interested persons should submit a written application including a C V and the names of two referees to The Director, Community Based Development Programme, Box 32679 Braamfontein Closing date 31 January 1991

The CBDP, a joint venture of The University of the Witwatersrand (School of Business Administration) and Kagiso Trust, is geared to meeting the training and development needs of community based organisations involved in democratic transformation

Churches open doors to exiles

CHURCHES in the Western Cape are opening their doors in anticipation of the return of thousands of exiles to South Africa later this year South 17/11 - 23/1/91

The move comes in response to a call from the African National Congress and the National Coordinating Committee for the Repatriation of South African Exiles (NCC) for all churches to make available land and buildings for the reception of returnees

Mr Alan Barnes of the Justice and Peace Commission in Cape Town said the Roman Catholic Church had started a project to accommodate returning exiles, but many "logistical issues" had still to be ironed out.

"It's a much broader issue than making land available. The welfare of the exiles also has to be taken into account," Barnes said

Spokesperson for the Western Province Council of Churches (WPCC) Ms Buyiswa Jack said the WPCC had already found a building, St Annes in Woodstock, for the reception of the exiles

She said a fulltime person had been seconded to work on the project. Jack said a meeting about the issue had been held with church leaders but there had been no response yet.

According to Imam Hassan Solomons, Western Cape chairperson of the NCC, no special accommodation had yet been finalised for the return of the exiles but the committee was "trying its best"



Imam Hassan Solomons

New TLC Creche

Children of all ages accepted

Birth to Pre-school

Qualified teachers and

Specialised care.

Tel: 7014582 O/H 754084 A/H

Telephone 462-2012

to

advertise

in SOUTH

Stw 13/2/91

Wages too low, says PO chief

By Shareen Singh

At a meeting with postal workers' unions to discuss salary increases, Postmaster-General Johan de Villiers admitted that the minimum wage of R735 in post offices "is too low and is not a decent wage".

Mr de Villiers agreed with the joint union delegation that productivity in the department had increased and hence workers should be compensated.

He congratulated the unions for presenting "reasonable arguments and a balanced report", the union delegation said.

The Post Office was a reasonable employer and as such was concerned about its employees, Mr de Villiers said.

He told the union delegation that he had written to the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs informing him that the unions' presentation of salary increases could not be ignored.

The spirit of the meeting with Mr de Villiers and his acknowledgement that salaries were too low and productivity had increased has left the unions with high hopes that their demand for a minimum wage of R1 300 will be met.

But a press statement issued by the Department of Post and Telecommunications did not guarantee wage increases.

Aids 'will halt SA population growth by 2000'

By Julienne du Toit

Aids in South Africa will halt the population growth by the turn of the century, a leading actuary estimates.

Theo Hartwig, chief actuary at Old Mutual, was speaking yesterday at an investment conference of Johannesburg stockbrokers Frankel Kruger.

He said that in South Africa the problem of Aids was still in its infancy but rapidly gaining a foothold in the black community, especially in the Transvaal and Natal.

Mr Hartwig said the chances of completely

halting the epidemic seemed non-existent as the chances of a cure or vaccine that could be used on a mass scale seemed remote.

Samples from blood clinics and ante-natal clinics indicated about 1 percent of the black population was infected in Transvaal and Natal.

The percentage positive was doubling every nine months, he said.

However, among whites the problem appeared to be confined mainly to men with homosexual contacts.

Mr Hartwig ascribed this difference to a deeply entrenched culture of multiple sexual partners among blacks as well as a generally low level of medical care in Africa.

He said a theoretical computer-based model, which projected infection, illness and deaths due to Aids in the future, had been constructed.

In 1998 about 130 000 would die and 175 000 would "be sick".

"Thereafter the picture gets progressively more disastrous. The funnel of uncertainty also increases, so we would prefer not to quote figures beyond this."

The impact on the economy in the next five years would be small. But during the second half of the decade "the drain on resources, the lack of manpower and loss of confidence could impact seriously on the economy".

Anglo to reduce HQ staff

Staff Reporter

The effects of the downturn in the gold industry are being felt at the highest level — an unconfirmed number of employees at Anglo American head office in Johannesburg are to lose their jobs.

Anglo spokesman Conrad Sidego said cuts would mainly take the form of early retire-

ment. He would not comment on reports that 150 jobs were at stake.

The cuts follow the annual Anglo budget review which set a guideline for this year's budget at a zero increase.

"Staff forced to take early retirement don't lose anything, they retire with full benefits. That would be the fairest thing to do."

and the specific conditions pertaining to those exemptions

- (2) Yes, but not by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
 - (3) Ongoing monitoring is done in the surf zone at areas within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Cape Town by the Cape Town Medical Officer of Health and the Western Cape Regional Services Council. Pollution levels in False Bay have been, or are being monitored by a number of institutions, bodies or individuals. Results of monitoring done by the Municipality of Cape Town are published annually in its reports.
- Additional water quality testing is carried out by various research institutions in terms of research contracts for the Departments of National Health and Population Development, Water Affairs and Forestry and Environment Affairs, as well as the Municipality of Cape Town. These results are published in the scientific reports on the subjects
- (4) Yes, a variety of bodies and institutions, as well as individuals are researching, or have researched, various facets of pollution in False Bay. The results of these investigations and research are made available to the Department and applicable results are used in policy determination and evaluation.
- A research project to investigate the extent of urban storm water pollution and possible management strategies, is being done by the CSIR at the request of the Department and by consultants funded by the Water Research Commission
- (5) Yes
- The quality of the effluent from point sources, as well as the point and manner of disposal, within the False Bay catchment area and the Bay itself, are controlled
- The potential impact of the discharge on the water body, when compared with the actual quality of the water body and the contribution of diffuse sources, such as agriculture and urban development, is taken into consideration when conditions for effluent discharge are considered

date filled vacancies which occurred after the White occupants of the posts concerned had been transferred to other posts and (b) which (i) post offices and (ii) posts were affected by this.

- (2) whether it is proposed to offer a retirement package in order to encourage early retirement, if so, what are the details of this package?

B68E

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

- (1) (a) 533 up to and including 13 February 1991 and

(ii) 38 The movement of personnel resulted from promotions to higher posts and transfers at own request or with a view to rendering a better service and more effective utilization of personnel

- (b) (i) Adelaide
- Amanzimtoti
- Arcadia
- Ballengeich
- Benoni
- Bergville
- Bloemfontein
- Boksburg
- Burgerspark
- Cape Town
- Citrusdal
- Dalton
- Dundee
- Durban
- East London
- Estcourt
- Grahamstown
- Greytown
- Harding
- Hazyview
- Hillcrest
- Hornlee
- Howick
- Jacobs
- Ian Smuts Airport
- Johannesburg
- Kempton Park
- Kimberley
- King William's Town
- Ladysmith (Natal)

- Marydale
- Lamberts Bay
- Matiele
- Menlopark
- Middelburg (Cape)
- Middelburg (TVI)
- Miller
- Mitchell Street
- Mkuze
- Moon River
- Mossel Bay
- Mtubatuba
- Nelspruit
- Newcastle
- Nieu-Bethesda
- Ottery
- Parow-Valet
- Pietermaritzburg
- Pietersburg
- Pinetown
- Port Alfred
- Port Elizabeth
- Port Nolloth
- Port Shepstone
- Potchefstroom
- Presas
- Pretoria
- Queenswood
- Rosslyn
- Secunda
- Silverton
- Sir Lowry Road
- Springs
- Standerton
- Stanger
- Suilfontein
- Tzaneen
- Uitenhage
- Umkomaas
- Upington
- Valhalla
- Vallis
- Venning Park
- Vereeniging
- Westville
- White River
- Winterton

- (ii) Senior Inspector of Uniformed Staff
- Inspector of Uniformed Staff
- Administrative Officer
- Superintendent
- Postmaster, Grade 4
- Branch Postmaster

*7 Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises the following questions:

- (1) (a) (i) How many posts in the Department of Posts and Telecommunications previously occupied by Whites have been filled by non-Whites since 1 October 1989 and (ii) how many non-Whites have since that

PT: posts filled by non-Whites :

191 2191

- (208) *Hausgaard*
 11/2/11
 Counter Officer
 Mail Handling Officer
 General Clerk
 Sorter
 Typist
 Exchange Superintendent
 Telecom Assistant
 Telephonist
 Clerk
 Assistant Administrative Officer
 Security Officer
 Postman
 Part-Time Branch Postmaster
 Part-Time Sorter
 Senior Telecom Electrician
 Technician
 Telecom Officer
 Assistant Telecom Officer
 Senior Telecom Assistant
 General Assistant, 1
 General Assistant, 2
 General Assistant, 3
 Cook
 Senior Superintendent
 Telecom Electrician

(2) No No need exists in this regard as no official's services will become redundant

SAP action

*8 Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Law and Order † *Hausgaard* 19/2/91
 Whether members of the South African Police took any action against the persons who, on the day on which Mr Oliver Tambo arrived at the Jan Smuts Airport, allegedly removed the flag of the Republic and replaced it by an ANC flag, if not, why not, if so, what was the nature of the action taken?
 B71E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER
 No, not against any particular person or persons, because those concerned could not be identified in the large crowd

On 13 December 1990 at approximately 13 17, the South African Police noticed that the flag of the Republic in front of the Jan Smuts Airport Building was being replaced by an ANC flag. With the help of *inter alia*, the Dog Unit, the Police moved into the crowd of approximately 7 000 to 8 000 people and low-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ered a small ANC flag and replaced it with the flag of the Republic *Hausgaard* 19/2/91

Petrol/dieseline, amount received *Hausgaard* 19/2/91

*9 Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Finance † *Hausgaard* 19/2/91
 What total amount did the State receive from the sale of (a) petrol and (b) dieseline in the Republic during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?
 B72E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE
 In the period 1 January 1990 to 31 December 1990 a net amount of R4 389 million accrued to the State from the sale of petrol and diesel. Itemization amounts cannot be furnished as the Petroleum Products Act 1977, (Act No 120 of 1977) prohibits the disclosure of sale statistics of individual petroleum products

Paul Kruger Memorial Hospital: alterations

*10 Dr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of National Health † *Hausgaard* 19/2/91
 Whether any alterations of and/or extensions to the section for Blacks at the Paul Kruger Memorial Hospital in Rustenberg are being planned, if so, (a) what progress has been made in this regard, (b) what total amount has already been appropriated for this purpose and (c) when will these alterations and/or extensions be commenced?
 B73E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH
 Yes, planning for extensions is taking place,
 (a) the Bill of Quantities is nearly completed and the planning is therefore just short of the tender stage,
 (b) no amount has been appropriated in the current financial year for this purpose and
 (c) if funds are available, probably 1992/93

Certain person, retirement benefits *Hausgaard* 19/2/91

*11 Dr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs † *Hausgaard* 19/2/91
 (1) Whether a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, received any retirement benefits from the

State when he left the Public Service, if so, what retirement benefits, *Hausgaard*
 (2) whether these benefits were paid in terms of existing regulations, if so, in terms of what regulations, if not,
 (3) whether any special arrangements were made in respect of the payment of these benefits, if so, what are the details of these arrangements?
 B74E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 (1) No, he did not receive retirement benefits from the State, but he did receive a resignation benefit
 (2) The resignation benefits was paid in terms of Regulation 13(1) of the Government Service Pension Act, 1973 (Act 57 of 1973),
 (3) Not applicable

Pollsmoor prison purchase of land

*12 Mr J H MOMBBERG asked the Minister of Correctional Services † *Hausgaard* 19/2/91
 (1) Whether it is the intention to purchase land in Tokai with a view to expanding the Pollsmoor prison, if so,
 (2) whether this land has already been purchased, if not, why not, if so, when are the building operations expected to be commenced?
 B79E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
 There is no intention of purchasing land in Tokai. Application was made however to retain land at Westlake, which currently belongs to other State Departments, for the Department of Correctional Services should those State Departments decide to withdraw. No purchase transactions will be involved but only transfer of land

(2) No, no land was purchased in Tokai. Land was however purchased in Retreat (Steenberg) during 1970. Building works will, in all probability and if funds are made available, commence during 1991/92

Suburban trains, crime *Hausgaard*
 *13 Mr J H MOMBBERG asked the Minister of Law and Order † *Hausgaard* 19/2/91
 (1) Whether there has recently been an increasing tendency in crime on suburban trains between Simonstown and Cape Town, if so, what are the relevant details,
 (2) whether any steps are being taken to combat this crime, if so, what steps?
 B80E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER
 (1) No, during the three months from 1 November 1990 to 31/January 1991, 51 serious crimes were committed on trains between Simonstown and Cape Town, in comparison with 73 crimes during the corresponding period a year previously. This represents a decline of 69,86%
 The details are as follows

	Nov 89	Dec 89	Jan 90	Nov 90	Dec 90	Jan 91
Theft from person	1	2	3	2	—	—
Rape	5	7	7	3	5	5
Robbery	12	8	18	6	18	7
Attempted robbery	—	—	—	—	—	3
Armed robbery	1	—	—	—	1	1
Attempted murder	—	—	1	—	—	—
Sodomy	—	—	1	—	—	—
Assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm	—	—	—	—	—	—
	19	3	22	32	11	24
	—	—	—	—	—	16

(2) In addition to the deployment of mobile units of the South African Police on this, as well as other rail trajectories country-wide, the Rail Commuter Corporation, in co-operation with the South African Police, is at present safeguarding Rail Commuter Stations, which will ensure more effective access control, in order to more effectively keep criminal elements off trains

Extradition of certain persons *Hausgaard*

*14 Mr L FLUCHS asked the Minister of Justice † *Hausgaard*
 (1) Whether a request has been received from the Namibian Government for the extradition of (a) Mr Leonard Veendal and (b) Mr Darryl Stopforth, if so, with what result,
 B81E

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Posts protests

■ Thousands of Reef and Free State postal workers staged workplace protests this week in support of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association's national pay claims. (W/Mon) 15/3-21/3/91 268

This followed talks in Pretoria in which management told Potwa that based on its budget allocation, it believed the monthly minimum wage should be raised to around R830, said Potwa's Mlungisi Hlongwane. Potwa wants R1 300, and a R500 across-the-board rise. (2/3)

Potwa also rejected management pay grading proposals, which envisage formal merit meetings to decide the grading of all workers. It wants equal management and union representation at such assessments, claiming the proposals will entrench white privilege.

Potwa, which has forged a negotiating front with coloured and Indian postal unions, has demanded that white postal associations should not attend the next round of talks on March 20.

ciency on existing engagements but also to provide additional services to clients

Whether the work begins with the traditional "shoe box" or whether the practitioner is given a trial balance and prepares adjusting entries and financial statements, the proper planning of this type of engagement can significantly reduce staffing requirements and improve profitability. Preparing analytical schedules, posting the adjustments to the trial balance or the general ledger, completing the working papers and drafting and typing the finished financial statements are all speeded up considerably, yet less effort is required. In comparing the cost of performing an engagement manually rather than by computer, we have seen cost savings of up to 50%.

The computer also gives practitioners the opportunity to provide clients with more detailed and meaningful reports, and on a more frequent basis. By improving the services they already offer their clients, they pave the way to providing more of them and, thus, to improving their own fees. Since they also give their clients better information for decision making — and perhaps even offer more direct assistance in the decision-making process — they are also helping their clients achieve higher levels of profitability. Clients will certainly be willing to pay more for such improved services.

Word processing

This application has relevance for almost every CA firm, regardless of size. Important areas of benefit are:

- Financial statement preparation and typing.
- Proposal and report preparation.
- Correspondence to clients, covering letters and mass mailings.

The major cost advantage to installing word processing in a firm is the improvement in clerical efficiency. Staff will be able to process more statements and reports, and the work processed is usually of a higher quality. Word processing also makes it easier to change and amend drafts as needed, as no retyping is required.

Financial statements are no longer typed laboriously as before. Instead, the typist works with a copy of the previous year's financial statements, which are retained by the system, and inserts only the information required for the current year.

Retyping documents is never necessary. When one has been completed, the system performs certain spelling checks against its electronic "dictionary" and also verifies the additions and subtractions within the statements, prior to their submission for approval.

Word processing also provides great assistance in management consulting engagements, especially in the preparation of proposals and letters to clients. For example, the author writes or dictates the original draft, which is then typed and returned in draft form. The author makes any changes considered necessary and the report is resubmitted for final draft preparation. All the operator has to do is make the changes. The final document will then be printed in substantially less time than if it had to be retyped manually. If still more changes are desired, the process is simply repeated. It is also possible to take sections from different reports and assemble them to form a new report, without any retyping being necessary.

Correspondence to clients is handled equally effectively. When preparing a covering letter, the operator can enter the client's code number, and the

Partners will receive the information they need in the format they find most useful.

system would then insert the client's name, address and contact. The operator then selects the relevant phrases or paragraphs from a glossary, makes any changes, and asks the system to produce the finished correspondence. Again, this takes less time than manual typing. With similar techniques, personalized mass mailings to clients can also be done in no time at all. The operator types one form letter, which is stored by the system. The system will already have the names and addresses of the people it is to go to stored as well. So the operator then simply asks the system to run off a let-

ter to each person on the list, addressed individually. No more repetitive typing!

Other applications

Apart from the three areas we have discussed, some progressive firms are now looking to computerization in other areas to further increase clerical efficiency, provide new services to clients and improve the quality of existing work. Some that have particularly benefited from computerization include:

- Audit engagements
- T-1 preparation
- Financial projections and modelling.
- Insolvency practices.

Audit engagements

Clients have become increasingly concerned about their audit fees and the computerization of more planning, field and management work will enable firms to improve the efficiency and quality of their audit engagements.

For example, the computer can be used in audit steps requiring sampling of the client's records to determine sample size, select the sample needed and evaluate the sample results in terms of their significance. This work will be performed in a mere fraction of the time it would take to do it manually. Most income statement comparisons and ratio analyses can also be handled more effectively automatically. So can the effect of pricing changes, changes in purchasing power, volume variations and historical trends. The computer can also produce draft financial statements, produce adjusting entries, prepare consolidations and effectively handle eliminations.

Word processing can be used to good effect here, too. It will help produce tailored audit programs for each client, drawing from the firm's standard programs and modifying them to meet each circumstance. Subsequent updates and modifications are then easily implemented by inserting only the required changes. Word processing can also be used to develop and print many of the forms used by the audit team.

In larger engagements, the computer can quickly calculate detailed time budgets by audit area and then monitor them when they are tied into detailed work-in-process records. This will help the partners control the field work more effectively.

because the maximum number of questions has been put I put question 4

Foreign embassies: tasks of certain advocate

*4 Mr R V CARLISLE asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Whether a certain advocate, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, has carried out tasks at any foreign embassies of the South African Government, if so, (a) at which embassies, (b) when, (c) what tasks, (d) at what total cost and (e) what is this advocate's name?

†The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

(a) (b) and (c)

I could have answered the question with "no" because the person concerned did not work or carry out tasks at an embassy as such. However, I take it that Parliament and the honourable member would wish to know what happened.

The state of emergency which was applicable in South Africa inter alia during 1988 caused worldwide negative reaction. In the USA, for example, the lifting of the state of emergency was set as one of the preconditions for the lifting of sanctions. It was therefore one of the tasks of South Africa's foreign representatives to inform decision makers and key persons about the circumstances under which the state of emergency was introduced. In the case of the USA, it was especially at that time, of fundamental importance that a person or persons thoroughly acquainted with the facts and the application of law should go to the USA to explain the position to decision makers and to be available to answer critical questions thereon.

(d) Travel expenses and applicable subsistence costs in the USA.

(e) The person is Adv Louis Visser who together with others, made sacrifices to combat sanctions against South Africa.

Mr R V CARLISLE: Mr Speaker, arising from the reply of the hon the Minister, am I to understand that Adv Visser, other than his expenses, received no remuneration for these

exercises which the hon the Minister has referred to?

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: No from my Department [Interjections]

Mr R V CARLISLE: Mr Speaker, further arising from the reply, is the hon the Minister aware of whether he received remuneration or commission or payment in any form from any other Department for these matters?

The MINISTER: Most probably. [Interjections]

Mr R V CARLISLE: Mr Speaker, further arising from that, is the hon the Minister perhaps able to steer me in the direction in which I may find out who paid him and how much? [Interjections]

The MINISTER: I suggest that the hon member consults Sherlock Holmes [Interjections]

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order! No, the hon member for Wynberg has put the maximum number of questions.

Adv S C JACOBS: Mr Speaker, it is a well-known fact, of which the hon the Minister must surely be aware, that his Department also has at its disposal advocates with legal qualifications. Therefore my question is why are those advocates from the Department, who are properly trained in this task, not sent to carry out this task? Why is a private advocate used to do this?

†The MINISTER: Because Adv Louis Visser has, in his practice, gathered exceptional knowledge and expertise from court cases and from the application of the law in respect of this whole matter.

He was not sent there alone. We sent a whole team of experts, representing other disciplines as well, at a time when we wanted to prevent American legislators from accepting further sanctions against South Africa. I do not intend making excuses to the CP or the DP for efforts made by my Department to safeguard South Africa from sanctions.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, on a point of order. Do I understand correctly that you have just made a ruling that an hon member may ask only three supplementary questions?

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order! That is correct.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, is that a new ruling?

The ACTING SPEAKER: Not to my knowledge. [Interjections] Hon members may ask five questions in total.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, if that is the case, will you see the hon member for Wynberg?

The ACTING SPEAKER: The fact is that several other hon members have already indicated that they also want to put questions.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, on a point of order. You actually declined the hon member for Wynberg, indicating that he had asked sufficient questions.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order! I think the hon member can safely leave that to the discretion of the Chair. The hon member for Ermelo may continue.

Adv M J MENTZ: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I should like to know why he calls what the advocate did a sacrifice?

†The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I call it a sacrifice because it is a fact that he did not want to leave the country at that stage. I know it was a sacrifice for him because he had to cancel his personal plans, as did all the others. It was simply a statement of fact that it was a sacrifice for him and I appreciate that.

†Miss M Smuts—Finance [Question standing over]

Retirement: watches

†6 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises

- (1) Whether the Department of Posts and Telecommunications presents watches to staff members who, upon retirement, have completed 30 years of service, if so, (a) on what date was this practice introduced and (b) how many watches had been so presented as at the latest specified date for which information is available,
- (2) whether his Department will make a calculation of how many more staff members who retired after 30 or more years of

service would have qualified for these watches had this practice been introduced on a date five years earlier, if not, why not, if so, what is the relevant figure,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

- (1) Yes; these awards are, however, not coupled to retirement, but to the completion by serving officials of 30 years continuous and consistently satisfactory service;
- (a) 1 September 1989 and
- (b) 2 932 to date,
- (2) no, because the awards are only intended for officials who were still in the service on a specified date and such a calculation will serve no useful purpose. Most of the information is in any case no longer available on computer,
- (3) no

Black committees/councils: administrators

†7 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing:

- (1) (a) What total number of administrators had been appointed in Black town committees, town councils and city councils in the Cape Province as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) what were the reasons for these appointments;
- (2) (a) in how many other Black town committees, town councils and city councils in the Cape Province is the appointment of administrators being considered at present and (b) for what reasons is this step being considered?

Cops warn on Sharpeville Day intimidation

By IKE MOTSAPI

POLICE will be out in full force today to protect people wanting to go to work.

Colonel Jack de Vries, head of the liaison division of the Soweto police, last night warned that the police would ensure that law and order was maintained as thousands of people countrywide commemorated the 31st anniversary of the March 21 1960 Sharpeville shootings. *Sowetan 21/3/91*

De Vries warned that intimidation would not be tolerated.

He said: "I want to assure people who use trains to go to work not to be afraid to use them today.

"Police are going to make sure that people carrying weapons are not allowed to board trains today."

ER Post Office workers on strike

WORKERS at the Alberton Post Office have been on strike since Tuesday, demanding the removal of a senior official, whom they accuse of arrogant and racist behaviour towards black staff.

In a statement yesterday, the workers accused the Post Office management of being reluctant to take steps to redress the issue.

The workers, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association, had also called on management to scrap all alleged racist practices at the Post Office. - Sapa.

Boycott by squatters

GRAHAMSTOWN resembled a ghost town early yesterday as a three-day-old consumer boycott sparked by a squatter controversy began to make its mark. *Sowetan 21/3/91*

Most of the city's stores were deserted at the start of the day but filled up as the day progressed,

mainly with white shoppers.

However, Grahamstown Chamber of Commerce president Mr Bobby Wynne said it was still premature to gauge the success of the economic siege because "mid-month trading figures are generally low".

HUNT/ASCARIS/IBWA/CAPE/000174

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 1000 posts and telecommunication workers in the Western Cape stopped work yesterday in support of a demand for a R1 300 minimum monthly salary, a union spokesman said

According to the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and the Western Cape technical branch of the Postal Employees' Association of SA (Peasa) the salary increase was to have been implemented on April 1 and not July 1

The workers are demanding a R1 300 minimum wage with an across-the-board increase of R500

In a joint statement unionists said they were against the Department of Posts and Telecommunication's commer-

Post and telecom workers down tools

Call Times 16/4/91
268

cialising process as it was hampering worker interests.

"The department is talking of investing the money now allocated for salaries and distributing it over a nine-month period

"They do not mention the amount of money they are going to save between April and July from lower rates of overtime, bonuses, pensions, etc, paid to workers, compared to the rates if the increases were implemented in April," the

statement said.

The day-long work stoppage is part of a national stoppage

A spokesman for the postal department in Cape Town, Mr Andre Joubert, said only 50 workers at Khayelitsha, Langa, Nyanga, Guguletu, Mbekweni and Lingeletu had stopped work

A department spokesman in Pretoria said workers had downed tools for only three hours.

The postal department said 3 600 workers had downed tools countrywide.

● Sapa reported from Johannesburg yesterday that no agreement had been reached in wage negotiations between the SA Posts and Telecommunications department and trade unions in the postal sector

Post Office workers hold one-day stoppage

MORE than 3 000 Post Office workers yesterday embarked on a national one-day work stoppage to support demands for a R1 300 minimum monthly wage

The action coincided with national wage negotiations between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Union (Potwa), the SA Posts and Telecommunications Employees' Association (Saptea) and the Post Office, which started in Pretoria yesterday

P Potwa assistant general secretary Sizwe
E Matshikiza said workers were protesting
S against "foregone" expectations by the
C Post Office that the union would accept its current wage offer

He said the Post Office had, in its recent budget, set aside R318m for improving service benefits and wages, which would not meet Potwa's demand for a R1 300 minimum monthly living wage

Matshikiza said yesterday's one day

stoppage was part of a campaign for a living wage of R1 300. The union is also fighting commercialisation and privatisation of the Post Office

The Post Office said in a statement management met Potwa and Saptea representatives yesterday to discuss the distribution of the R318m

However, the parties failed to reach agreement

The statement said a further meeting would take place after consultation with Public Enterprises and Economic Co-Ordination Minister Dawie de Vilhiers

The next meeting would centre on the implementation date of wage increases and a "possible" increase in the R318m

The Post Office said services were "virtually unaffected" by the strike, which had most support in the Transvaal

VERA VON LIERES

15/4/91

KS

268

Postal workers stage sit-in to back pay claims

By SHARON SOROUR, Labour Reporter

THOUSANDS of postal workers have stopped work nationwide over wage demands as annual negotiations take place between unions and SA Post and Telecommunications (PT) management.

More than 6 000 began a sit-in work stoppage yesterday, said Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) spokesman Mr Floyd Mashele.

The workers, including about 1 000 from the Western Cape, are demanding a "living wage" of R1 300 a month and an across-the-board increase of R500, he said.

TO BE DIVIDED

Annual wage talks are being held between PT management and three unions — Potwa, the SA Post and Telecommunications Employees Association and the Post Office Employees Association of SA.

Potwa assistant general secretary Mr Sizwe Matshikiza said workers decided to stop working at the same time as wage negotiations after union officials reported back to them on the progress of the talks.

Mr Matshikiza said "Management has said there is only R318 million available for salary increases and this has to be divided among the entire workforce."

Mr Mashele said the R318 million was a budget presented by the department to parliament earlier in the year and the industrial action was set to coincide with the Post Office Amendment Bill vote in parliament this week.

Potwa rejected management's linking of wage demands with the Bill and the "restructuring and commercialisation" of the Post Office into two companies, Mr Mashele said.

PT media liaison said the parties met on Monday to discuss the distribution of the R318 million which was made available for the improvement of service benefits, but consensus was not reached.

"The next meeting will take place after consultations with Minister for Public Enterprises and Economic Co-ordination Dr Dawie de Villiers in connection with the implementation date of salary increases and a possible increase in the amount available," a spokesman said.

The department said only 3 600 workers were involved in the work stoppage, mostly on the Witwatersrand, and services were "virtually unaffected".

PO workers hold sit-ins against Bill

Star 17/4/91
268
By Paula Fray

The mass-action campaign launched by the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) began in earnest last night when workers began a sit-in at about five regional Post Office headquarters countrywide.

Potwa spokesman Floyd Mashele said five officials walked into the Johannesburg regional office in Joubert Park late yesterday afternoon to stage a sit-in until today. Workers were also engaged in sit-ins in Natal, the eastern Cape, Pretoria and on the East Rand.

The protests coincide with the tabling in Parliament of the Post Office Amendment Bill today. Mr Mashele warned that if the workers were ignored, the actions would mount.

The draft Bill provides for the splitting of the current South African Post and Telecommunications in two State-owned companies.

The union is demanding the

scrapping of the Bill and the stopping of privatisation in the industry. Once the Bill is halted, they also wish to meet the Minister to discuss the issue, Mr Mashele said.

If these demands were not met, intensified protest action could include up to 22 000 Potwa members countrywide.

"We fail to understand why there is such a rush to put through this Bill," he said.

Referring to possible use of police to evict workers embarking on the sit-in action, Mr Mashele said police involvement would only worsen the situation.

During a speech in Pretoria, the senior general manager, operations, of Postal Services, Willem van Rooyen, said the more business-oriented approach of the restructured department would contribute in making Postal Services an efficient business enterprise with a high quality of service.

SA Post and Telecommunications could not be contacted for further comment late last night.

CAF 700's
17/4/91
ZG
[Handwritten marks]

Postal workers in mass protest

JOHANNESBURG —
Countrywide mass protests by Post Office workers are to mark the tabling of the Post Office Amendment Bill in Parliament today, unionists have warned

The Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association claims the law, which aims to split the post office into two state-owned companies, is a step towards privatisation, strongly rejected by the union due to fears of job losses.

Post workers plan further protest action

VERA VON LIERES

POST Office workers will embark on nationwide protests today to coincide with the tabling of legislation to commercialise the Post Office.

Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) assistant general secretary Sizwe Matshikiza said thousands of workers would demonstrate and stage sit-ins at post-offices across SA.

A Post Office spokesman said the Bill would commercialise the Post Office by providing for the separate management of the capital intensive communication sector and the labour intensive mail services.

Potwa recently said government had no mandate to introduce the Bill, which it views as leading to privatisation.

The union's campaigns coordinator Floyd Mashele said the only way to oppose the move was through mass worker action 8:00am 17/4/91.

Several thousand workers embarked on one-day national work stoppages on Monday to coincide with wage negotiations between the Post Office, the SA Posts and Telecommunications Employees' Association and Potwa.

The parties failed to reach agreement and talks will continue.

Postal workers continue strike over wages, Bill

AR645 17/4/91 (268) 1080 (37)
By SHARON SOROUR, Labour Reporter

THOUSANDS of postal workers — demanding a “people’s post office” and protesting against the voting in parliament today of the Post Office Amendment Bill — are still on a wildcat strike.

About 6 000 workers, including 1 000 in the Western Cape, stopped work yesterday to demand a “living wage” of R1 300 a month and an across-the-board increase of R500.

Parliament is set to vote on the Bill today, which provides for the South African Posts and Telecommunications (SAPT) to be divided into two totally State-owned companies

A SAPT spokesman said the capital-intensive telecommunications sector and the labour-intensive mail services would be managed separately “on business principles for greater productivity”.

The Post and Telecommunications Workers’ Association (Potwa) has strongly rejected the Bill as a “covert step towards privatisation” which would lead to potential job losses and the inability of lower income groups to afford services

Potwa believed the Bill was untimely, and the government had no mandate to pass it, as the union believed, restructuring and privatisation would have to be discussed with “all the people of South Africa”.

“We demand a people’s post office — the continuation of the Bill is a recipe for upheavals,” the union said

Protests will go on, warn PO workers

By Shareen Singh

Countrywide protest actions by postal workers yesterday would continue indefinitely if the Post Offices Amendment Bill was passed in Parliament.

This warning was issued by the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) whose members embarked on sit-ins, go-slows and demonstrations to protest against the Bill and in support of higher wages.

The Post Office Amendment Bill, which was being debated in Parliament last night, would split the Posts and Telecommunications Department into two State-owned companies.

Potwa objected to this, saying it was the first step towards privatisation.

The union demanded that Minister of Public Enterprise Dr Dawie de Villiers halt the implementation of the Bill and consult union officials.

Regarding wage increases, the union rejected the Department of Post and Telecommunications budget of R318 million and its wage proposals which would amount to a 13 percent increase.

Union spokesman Floyd Mahsele said the budget for wages was too small considering the R695 million profit the department had made last year.

Potwa, jointly with two other unions, demanded a minimum wage of R1 300 and an across-the-board increase of R500.

Post and Telecommunications human resources general manager Peter Senekal said he had sent a revised proposal on wages to Minister de Villiers and was awaiting a response.

PO bill sparks workers' sit-ins

Cape Times Own Correspondent

268

JOHANNESBURG. — Post Office services were likely to be disrupted this week pending the passing of the Post Office Amendment Bill in Parliament, Witwatersrand Telecommunications general manager Mr Danie du Toit confirmed yesterday

He said the Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) had advised "that industrial action could not be ruled out" if the bill was passed. The bill, if implemented, will split the Post Office into two state-owned corporations

Mr Du Toit said disruptions had been minimal yesterday, with sporadic sit-ins on the East Rand

LEE

Union warns of industrial
action over Post Office Bill

B (Day 18/4/91) 268

VERA VON LIERES

POST Office services were likely to be disrupted this week pending the passing of the Post Office Amendment Bill in Parliament, Witwatersrand Telecommunications general manager Danië du Toit confirmed yesterday

He said the Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) had advised the Post Office "that industrial action could not be ruled out" if the Bill was accepted by Parliament

Du Toit said disruptions to postal and telecommunication services had been minimal yesterday, with sporadic sit-ins on the East Rand

He confirmed an overnight sit-in by five Potwa members at Johannesburg's Joubert Park Office earlier this week

A Potwa spokesman said yesterday workers around the country had embarked on sit-in actions since the beginning of the week, demanding a halt to the Bill and a R1 300 monthly minimum wage.

The Bill, if implemented, will split the Post Office into two State-owned corporations

Du Toit said the Bill would provide for separate management of the labour intensive mail services and the more "high-tech" communications services.

Potwa says the Bill represents a first step towards privatisation. It also fears job losses and unaffordability of services.

Du Toit said Public Enterprises and Economic Co-Ordination Minister Dawie de Villiers had previously assured workers that large-scale retrenchments were not on the cards. He added that he was unable to convince workers at this week's meeting that the companies could only be privatised through a further Act of Parliament

He denied that the Bill promoted privatisation. If passed through Parliament, it meant that the PO would become a corporation, he said.

In addition, every member of the department would be able to choose between joining the corporation or remaining with the Post Office which would stay a government department.

PO union workers picket to protest against new Bill

Sowetan 18/4/91

268

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers Association yesterday picketed major post offices throughout the country to protest against the introduction in Parliament of the Post Office Amendment Bill

By SELLO MOTLHABAKWE

Potwa said the Bill was aimed at splitting South African Posts and Telecommunications into two companies, with the State as sole shareholder.

A Potwa spokesman

said proposed legislation would divide the workers and weaken the union's bargaining strength.

The pickets also followed failed talks between Potwa and Post Office management over the R500! across-the-board wage increase demanded by the union.

A Post Office representative, Miss Amanda Singleton, confirmed that several work stoppages had taken place yesterday, but had not affected postal services.

She said the Post Office was geared to handle a strike or any other form of industrial action by workers and would be able to maintain mail and telephone repair services at a satisfactory level.

Labour action disrupts postal services

^{BJ Day 19/4/91}
POSTAL services countrywide were disrupted yesterday as more than 1 000 Post Office workers held sit-in demonstrations demanding higher wages and the repeal of the Post Office Amendment Bill

A Post Office spokesman said services delayed included the installation of new telephones and telephone repairs, but that the situation was "not at all serious"

The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) has

(268) (RVA)
VERA VON LIERES

threatened to step up labour action if the Bill is passed by Parliament, as is expected either today or next week

Workers, all members of Potwa, are demanding the immediate scrapping of the Bill, which will split the Post Office into two state-owned corporations

(RVA)
They have also demanded a minimum R1 300 monthly wage and a R500 across-the-board increase.

Star - 22/4/91

Controversial PO Bill rejected

By Shareen Singh

The Post Office Amendment Bill, which sparked nationwide demonstrations by postal workers, was rejected in Parliament on Friday.

The Bill, which would have split the SA Post and Telecommunications into two State-owned companies, is in suspension for a decision by the State President after being rejected by the House of Representatives but accepted by the Houses of Assembly and Delegates

Labour Party MP for Klipspruit West Anthony Reed said his party opposed the Bill because "it leaves full control of the

company in the hands of whites"

The Conservative Party opposed it on the grounds that "it would bring about duplication in certain respects"

The privatisation of profit-making entities would also lead to higher costs, Conservative Party MP for Pretoria West Joseph Chole said.

The Democratic Party said that in principle it favoured commercialisation and privatisation and thus supported the Bill.

Its MP for Constantia, Roger Hully, pointed out that Parliament was dealing with "a strange alliance between the LP, the CP and the most radical trade union, Potwa".

Hundreds of workers belonging to the Post and Telecommunication Workers Association had been involved in country-wide sit-ins and demonstrations since Monday demanding that Minister of Public Enterprises Dr Dawie de Villiers halt the implementation of the Bill and consult union officials

Potwa spokesman Floyd Mashole said the Bill was seen as a first step towards privatisation, which the union strongly opposed.

It was expected that the demonstrations which had affected services in some areas would continue until a wage settlement had been reached

268

PO workers set ⁽²⁶⁸⁾ for national sit-in

POST OFFICE workers are to stage a national sit-in today, in support of living-wage demands which will be negotiated with management in Pretoria, unionists said yesterday. *Sowetan 23/4/91*

South African Posts and Telecommunications is to report back to unionists on its consultation with Public Enterprise and Economic Co-operation Minister Dr Dawie de Villiers on workers' demands of a R1 300 living wage and R500 across-the-board increase. The first round of management/employee talks were held last Monday.

"Sleep-ins" have already started in at least five Post Office premises in the Transvaal, according to Post and Telecommunications Workers Union spokesman Mr Floyd Mashele - *Sapa*

Drop the Bill - Cosatu

COSATU has called on the Government to withdraw the Post Office Amendment Bill and grant postal workers a living wage.

The federation said it was concerned about the "about-face which the Government was making in its approach to industrial relations".

It said the Government had reneged on the Labour Minute whereby it

undertook to consult unions on all legislation affecting workers

It said it would be meeting the Minister to discuss the issue

268 Strike

Meanwhile, the strike by about 700 members of the Food Beverage Workers Union at South African Breweries' Chamdor plant entered its second week

Gowetse 23/4/91
The union is demanding a housing subsidy and an increase in delivery crew, which the company has reduced from five to four.

Union official Mr Thami Mcerwa said the FBWU intervened on Friday when management tried to hire 500 alleged Inkatha supporters as scabs.

SAB spokesman Mr Adrian Botha denied the allegation, saying the SAB was "completely apolitical"

Post Office halves its wage offer

By Shareen Singh 24/4/91

In a dramatic turnabout, SA Post and Telecommunications (SAPT) yesterday substantially reduced its original wage offer to its employees.

SAPT's original offer of increases ranging between 12,5 percent and 29,9 percent had been rejected by two unions, resulting in country-wide sit-ins.

Yesterday, SAPT lowered its offer on increases ranging from 6 to 15,8 percent.

This was rejected by a third union. The other four unions said they would accept on condition their wage proposals for workers between the lowest and highest grades were accepted.

Postal and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) spokesman Floyd Mashela said the union suspected that the lower offer was linked to Parliament's rejection last week of the Post Office Amendment Bill, which Potwa had opposed.

Potwa, which represents 20 746 black workers, argued that the Bill was the first step to privatisation.

SAPT said the unions' demands could not be met because Minister of Public Enterprises Dr Dawie de Villiers had decided to incorporate employees' non-pensionable allowances into their basic (pensionable) allowance.

Postal union
warns of chaos

CPA-
Tent
24/4/91
268

JOHANNESBURG. —
The Post and Telecom-
munication Workers
Association (Potwa), the
trade union represent-
ing 12 000 of the lowest-
paid postal workers, yes-
terday threatened to
cripple the country's
communication network
with countrywide slow-
down actions, pickets
and sit-ins — until the
government agreed to
their demands.
Potwa walked out of
yesterday's annual wage
talks in Pretoria. — Sapa

Potwa dumps wage talks

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers Association backed out of national pay talks yesterday, citing a "ridiculous" management wage offer.

Potwa would only reconsider entering negotiations once "action had been taken on the ground", Mr Thabo Mokone, the union's Witwatersrand regional chairman said.

Post and Telecommunications management had tabled a revised proposal of R851 as the minimum monthly salary when talks resumed in Pretoria yesterday, he said

This had been a retreat from the opening management offer of R927, said Mokone

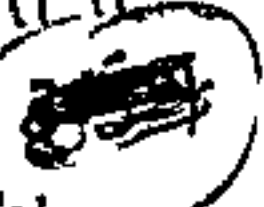
Potwa is demanding a R1 300 minimum monthly wage and R500 across-the-board increase for its estimated 21 000 members

resident FW lay.

268

Soultra

24/4/91



Potwa dumps wage talks

268
Soul
24/4/91
300

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers Association backed out of national pay talks yesterday, citing a "ridiculous" management wage offer.

Potwa would only reconsider entering negotiations once "action had been taken on the ground", Mr Thabo Mokone, the union's Witwatersrand regional chairman said.

Post and Telecommunications management had tabled a revised proposal of R851 as the minimum monthly salary when talks resumed in Pretoria yesterday, he said.

This had been a retreat from the opening management offer of R927, said Mokone.

Potwa is demanding a R1 300 minimum monthly wage and R500 across-the-board increase for its estimated 21 000 members.

Stew 25/4/9

PO given 2-week deadline to meet worker demands

Staff Reporter

Post Office officials were yesterday given 14 days to meet worker demands over wages and the scrapping of the Post Office Amendment Bill or face mass action.

The ultimatum followed the Post Office's announcement on Tuesday that it had reduced its initial wage offer of R927,50 by R76 to R851.

Sapa reports that Postal and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) national co-ordinator Floyd Mashele said at a 400-strong march in Cape Town that Post Office negotiators were "clearly out of their minds".

Privatisation

At Tuesday's talks in Pretoria, Potwa negotiators had told senior SAPT representative Piet Senekal "It has never happened in the history of negotiations anywhere that people start with a high offer, but as negotiations proceed, reduce instead of increase it".

The union is opposed to the Post Office Amendment Bill because it believes it paves the way for privatisation.

Potwa spokesman Shake Tumelo said in Johannesburg

that the union still had to formulate what action it would take, but had decided at its last national congress that mass protest would follow any refusal to scrap the Post Office Amendment Bill.

The union claims that the R318 million Post Office budget was cut without its being notified.

"We want to be part of the decision-making process. Whenever there is a budget, then we want to be part of it. So far, the Minister decides on his own."

"In view of the Post Office's rejection of our demands, we have decided to embark on mass action," he said.

The 14-day ultimatums to the Ministry of Public Enterprise and Economic Co-operation and to the Postmaster-General were handed to officials at the H F Verwoerd Building and Cape Town's central post office.

Members of the western Cape technical branch of the Postal Employees Association of South Africa joined the march.

Mr Mashele accused the Post Office of creating a situation in which a strike would be unavoidable.

Threat to disrupt post services

POSTAL workers warned yesterday that services could be disrupted extensively if government, within two weeks, did not meet demands for improved wages and an end to the commercialisation of the Post Office.

Sapa reports the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) yesterday gave government 14 days to meet its demands.

Potwa national campaigns organiser Floyd Mashele told 400 Post Office workers who took part in a Cape Town protest march there would be "clear and massive disruption of services" if government did not meet the deadline.

The ultimatums to Public Enterprise and Economic Co-operation Minister Dawie de Villiers and the Postmaster-General Johan de Vil-

lers were handed to officials after workers marched to the HF Verwoerd Building and Cape Town's central Post Office. (268)

The march came a day after Potwa negotiators pulled out of wage talks.

WILSON ZWANE reports Potwa assistant general secretary Sizwe Matshikiza said the union had decided to embark on industrial action after the Post Office this week reduced its original minimum monthly wage offer from R927 to R851.

He added workers had already started sit-ins, pickets and go-slows.

Potwa is demanding a minimum monthly wage of R1 300 and an across-the-board increase of R500.

Post Office spokesman Amanda Singleton said sit-ins had been staged.

11/11/71
6/10/71



Star 26/4/77

Postal workers on strike

About 550 post office workers went on strike in Pretoria and Johannesburg yesterday

The Pretoria West, Lyttelton, Waterkloof, Schapensrust and Brakpan post offices had workers on strike

The strikers, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) and the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees Association, are demanding a minimum wage of R1 300 and a R500 across-the-board increase

They also want the Government to scrap the proposed Post Office Amendment Bill, which proposes to split the two services into separate parastatal companies.

A spokesman said in Pretoria that the Post Office was geared to handle strikes and that no services had been significantly interrupted

● Potwa general secretary Mlungisi Hlongwane claimed yesterday that his Pimville home was raided by four men on Wednesday night. He described these men as policemen who allegedly told Mr Hlongwane that they were searching for weapons

During the search Mr

Hlongwane's telephone went dead, which was considered "a very sinister move", according to Potwa.

Potwa also said the home of its president, Kgabisi Mosunkutu, had been damaged by a mysterious fire earlier this week, and a few days earlier a large contingent of policemen had allegedly raided his home

"All these concerted efforts come in the wake of increasing militant actions by the fighting members of our union. Potwa wants to assure its membership that we shall not allow the forces of the past to distract us from our fight for a living wage," Potwa said.

A police spokesman said no record had been found that such a police search had been conducted by any of the SAP's branches on Wednesday night

"The information is worded in such unsympathetic language towards the police that it places a question mark over this entire incident, as this person has made similar allegations in the past which, upon checking by the SAP Directorate, were found to be unfounded," he said. — Sapa.

Postal workers threaten to strike

CAP-7015
26/6/91

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said yesterday that its current industrial action would end in a strike if the Post Office did not meet all its demands.

Potwa is currently engaged in sit-ins, pickets and go-slow strikes. The industrial action was sparked off by the Post Office's decision to reduce its minimum monthly offer from R927 to R851.

Potwa general-secretary Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane said the actions, "which are being taken by our members in various regions, will culminate in strike action if the Post Office does not meet our demands".

Post Office 'prepared ^{1/6/68} for the ^{26/4/91} worst ^{2/68}...

By SHARON SOROUR Labour Reporter

WITH a crippling nationwide strike by thousands of postal workers looming, the Post Office is "prepared for the worst"

A S A Post and Telecommunication (SAPT) media liaison officer said that in the event of a strike, services, especially essential services, would be maintained

This follows an ultimatum by thousands of postal workers to the State that they will take mass action in 13 days' time if their wage demands are not met and the Post Office Amendment Bill is not scrapped.

But the SAPT spokesman said the Post Office had "a strategy to combat any disruption" and was geared to handle the threatened action.

She said "We have action plans worked out should a national strike occur and services will be maintained, especially the essential services

"Mail deliveries to certain areas may be delayed but workers who are not on strike will stand in for strikers and do their work," she said

SAPT was "prepared for the worst" in all aspects, not only regarding industrial action, but also other emergencies like bomb scares and attacks, she said

Two unions — the 21 000-strong Post Office and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) and the S A Post and Telecommunication Employees' Association (Saptea) — walked out of wage negotiations this week when SAPT reduced its initial wage offer of a R927,50 minimum monthly wage by R76 to R851

'BAD FAITH BARGAINING'

They accused SAPT of bad faith bargaining, changing its original wage offers and making unilateral cuts to the proposed wage budget for the postal sector

Workers are demanding a minimum monthly wage of R1 300 and an across-the-board increase of R500

SAPT said the workers' demands could not be met as Minister of Public Enterprise and Economic Co-ordination Dr Dawie de Villiers had decided to incorporate the non-pensionable allowance that employees were being paid into their basic (pensionable) salaries from July 1

Dr De Villiers announced that postal workers would receive pay rises varying from between 15,8 percent for the lowest paid workers to 6 percent for the highest paid workers

● Sapa reports about 550 Transvaal workers at post offices in Pretoria West, Lyttleton, Waterkloof, Schapensrust and Brakpan stopped work yesterday.

In the Western Cape, where about 1 000 workers are involved, about 170 telecommunication workers in Pinelands, Philippi and Montagu Gardens also downed tools earlier this week

● The Acting State President, Mr Pik Botha, has decided to refer the Post Office Amendment Bill to the President's Council for decision

The Bill was passed by the Houses of Assembly and Delegates, but rejected by the House of Representatives

BEAUTY A
takes her b
sent her tec

Potwa threat on pay offer

268

William 26/4 - 2/5/91.
By DREW FORREST

The "non-negotiable" pay offer presented by post office management to unions this week will be met by continuing and heightened mass protest, the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association has warned.

Protest would also centre on the Post Office Amendment Bill, which has been referred to the President's Council. Potwa fears President de Klerk will use his overriding powers to force through the Bill.

This week, Minister Dawie de Villiers made a final offer of between 15,8 percent at the bottom and six percent at the top from July 1. Potwa and the Indian association, Saptea, rejected this, and were enraged that the R851 minimum fell below the R937 proposed earlier in the talks. The minister apparently said this was to bring pay rises in line with the rest of the state sector.

Post office plants were again hit by sit-ins, stoppages and protests this week. Potwa estimates 12 000 workers have taken action.

Postal dispute: Union threatens mass action

By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter and Sapa

POSTAL workers, who stopped work at several Western Cape post offices, have vowed to take mass action if the State does not meet their wage demands and scraps the Post Office Amendment Bill in 14 days.

The ultimatum was delivered to the Minister of Public Enterprise and Economic Co-ordination, Dr. Dawie de Villiers, and Postmaster-General Mr Johan de Villiers after a march to parliament yesterday.

It followed the SA Post and Telecommunications (SAPT) announcement to reduce its initial wage offer of a R927,50 minimum monthly wage by R76 to R851.

Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) national campaigns organiser Mr Floyd Mashele, who handed the memoranda to officials, warned that the Bill was "a recipe for confrontation".

According to a SAPT media liaison officer, almost all post offices in black residential areas were closed yesterday between 10am and 2pm.

In Pinelands, Philippi and Montague Gardens about 170 workers went on strike.

Mr Mashele urged officials to address the workers' demands with "sincerity and honesty, or else the communications network will be threatened".

Reducing offer

Potwa is demanding a R1 300 minimum monthly wage and a R500 across-the-board increase for its estimated 21 000 members, union spokesman Mr Domelo Madilonga told Sapa.

At wage talks on Tuesday, Potwa negotiators told senior SAPT representative Mr Piet Senekal that never in history had employers reduced the wage offer as negotiations proceeded.

"The Post Office is one that needs psychiatric treatment," Mr Mashele said.

**500 post office
workers march**

CAPE TOWN 4/5/91
(2/8)
JOHANNESBURG — A march yesterday through central Johannesburg by the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association nearly turned nasty after police threatened to use force to disperse marchers

About 500 people marched to the Joubert Park post office to hand over a memorandum. However, after the march a large group of demonstrators continued the march — Sapa

Soweto deaths total 66 as four bodies found

Staff Reporter

268

The bodies of four men were found in Soweto yesterday, bringing to at least 66 the number of people killed there since May 1.

A Soweto police spokesman said the hacked body of a man was found in Meadow-

lands Zone 4 at 11.15 am. The bodies of two men who had been hacked and burnt were found at the Nancefield Hostel at 2.20 pm, the spokesman said.

At 2 pm the stabbed body of a man was found "along the road" in Nancefield.

Police said no fighting

was reported in these areas yesterday.

Countrywide, the official death toll since May 1 stood at 102 late yesterday afternoon.

However, Sapa reports that the death toll may in fact be higher; police statistics do not take into account critically injured people who may have died in the interim.

Postal wage talks
still deadlocked

268
350
Sep 15/91
Yesterday's meeting between South African Post and Telecommunications and trade unions to break a wage deadlock failed, and workers vowed to continue action

SAPT's offer for increases ranging between 6 and 15,8 per cent remained unchanged, as was the Post Office and Telecommunications Association's demand for a minimum wage of R1 300 and an across-the-board increase of R500

A statement from SAPT said the wage offer was a final Cabinet decision — Staff Reporter

Sit-in PO workers charged

268
~~182~~

By Shareen Singh ^{Star} 24/5/91

Some 92 postal and telecommunications workers were charged in the Kempton Park Magistrate's Court yesterday for trespassing over their sleep-in at the Kempton Park post office

But the workers left the court saying it would not stop their action from continuing, said a Postal and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) spokesman

Nationwide sit-ins are planned for next week and a two-day national stayaway next month

A lengthy strike was also imminent, said Potwa

The actions were precipitated by Minister of Public Enterprise Dawie de Villiers' final decision on wages for workers

The Minister told Potwa this week that the wage offer which would raise minimum wages to R851,25 a month was final.

A spokesman for the South African Post and Telecommunications Department, (SAPT) said sleep-in demonstrations had taken place at 12 depots this week and go-slows were taking place at some depots in Natal and on the Witwatersrand

SAPT had taken a decision not to discipline any of the workers who were involved in the actions, including those charged with trespassing

White PO workers in sit-in

By Shareen Singh

Clear racial divisions emerged at the Randburg Post Office yesterday when white employees staged a sit-in strike after a white technician was seconded to another job because black workers wanted him fired

South African Post and Telecommunications (SAPT) spokesman Juliana Nel said 20 white workers from the Telcom section embarked on a sit-in because they were unhappy with the manner in which management, under pressure from black workers, dealt with the grievance

Members from the militant Postal and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) engaged in a sit-in strike on Thursday, demand-

ing the dismissal of a technician whom they accused of being racist and arrogant

Management compromised by transferring the technician to another depot, Potwa said

The white workers who were involved in the protest action were not members of any one particular union

● Potwa is planning a two-day nationwide strike by postal workers on June 12 and 13 to protest against the SAPT's 6 to 15,8 percent wage offer, which was a final Cabinet decision

Go-slows are also continuing at several depots in Natal and on the Witwatersrand

268

152

354

101

01

IPP

S Su

Eno.JI

10151A

et's h



NEWS IN BRIEF

Blom 24/5/91

Workers arrested at sit-in

AT LEAST 95 workers staging a sit-in in support of a wage increase demand were arrested for trespassing last night at two post offices at Kempton Park, near Johannesburg

(268)
A statement from the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) said the sit-in campaign was part of a nationwide industrial action to support workers' wage demands

300 postmen call off strike

A STRIKE by about 300 members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association employed at the Menlyn Yard Post Office in Pretoria ended yesterday after agreement was reached with management.

A spokesman for Potwa said workers decided to end the strike after their demand for the reinstatement of dismissed colleagues was met. The week-long strike was in support of 23 sacked colleagues.

"We made management aware of the mistake they committed in carrying out retrenchments.

"We said dismissing people for taking part in trade union activities was in violation of the working contract existing between them and management," the spokesman said. *Sowetan 25/6/91*

A Telecommunications Department spokesman refused to discuss the matter with *Sowetan*.

Salary row threatens city phone system

268
AUG 8/8/91

Staff Reporters

TECHNICIANS at the telecommunications customer services depot in District Six downed tools today and held an impromptu meeting to discuss salary restructuring which has caused widespread dissatisfaction among workers.

All week technicians have been threatening action which could severely disrupt telecommunication services.

At least two senior technicians who have been involved in staff assessments have reportedly been assaulted by disgruntled workers — one at the Pinelands telecommunications depot and another at the Clareinch customer services premises in Claremont.

Neither of these attacks could be verified.

A go-slow is reported to have begun at the Montague Gardens mechanical and transport depot and there are unconfirmed reports of plans to set in motion wide-spread strikes and further go-slows.

Department of Post and Telecommunications spokesman Mrs Amanda Singleton said about 300 workers in Philippi and Worcester held unauthorised meetings yesterday to discuss the situation but had gone back to work afterwards.

Regional representatives of the Postal Employees' Association of Southern Africa were to meet senior telecommunica-

tions management today.

She said she knew nothing of the alleged attacks, the go-slow or talk of strikes.

Mrs Singleton said the restructuring was "an occupational-specific dispensation to improve the positions of workers, particularly technical staffers" and nobody stood to lose.

"There appears to be some misunderstanding by workers about the system and this should be cleared up at the meeting," she said.

A reporter was turned away from one of the department's Cape Town premises when he made inquiries about the dissatisfaction.

The Argus has been inundated with calls from telecommunications workers, all of whom refused to identify themselves but who complained of the "unfair" re-structuring of posts.

PO bid to avert ²⁶⁸ CT 9/2/91 disruption

Staff Reporter

POST OFFICE officials and technicians met for several hours yesterday to forestall a threatened disruption of telecommunication facilities in the city.

Technician members of the Post Office Employees' Association of South Africa downed tools for several hours yesterday to discuss a new grading system.

They claim the new system will affect salaries and positions.

A spokesman for the SA Post and Telecommunications Service said last night that the new system was part of an "occupational specific dispensation" that would improve the position of technical staff.

The meeting was continuing late last night.

Strikes at ⁽²⁶⁸⁾
post offices ⁽²⁶⁸⁾
Biny 13/8/91
VERA VON LIERES

MORE than 350 workers at the Orlando East and Lenasia post offices went on strike yesterday to protest against a new employee grading system

Cosatu's Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) said it was "likely" the strike would spread nationally

Members of three postal unions have joined the dispute

Potwa assistant general secretary Sizwe Matshikiza said workers were dissatisfied with the new grading system and believed they had been unfairly demoted under the new system — effective from October 1

"Some have been demoted with the effect that their salaries have plummeted from, for example, R3 300 to R2 600"

Postal workers were also dissatisfied with the privatisation of the Post Office

A Post Office spokesman said yesterday that workers had been graded on the "Paterson" system, according to the maxim "the best person for the best job"

By yesterday afternoon, 374 workers had joined the strike, he said

Postal ⁽²⁶⁸⁾
workers ^(13/9/91)
go on strike

JOHANNESBURG. —
Thousands of post and
telecommunications
workers started
countrywide work stop-
pages yesterday to pro-
test against manage-
ment's new employee
grading system.

Mr Sizwe Matshikiza,
assistant general secre-
tary of the Post and Tele-
communications Work-
ers' Association, said the
work stoppages were oc-
casioned by the new so-
called Patterson Task
grading system for em-
ployees.

He said management's
insistence on using the
highly unpopular sys-
tem, which from October
will be used to promote
or demote workers, has
caused considerable
tension among postal
workers — Sapa

Strikers in ~~13~~ protest at ~~13~~ 268 grade system

By Shareen Singh ^{Star} 13/8/91

Black and white telecommunications employees began work stoppages yesterday in protest against management's implementation of the Paterson grading system.

According to the Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa), the strike involved thousands of workers countrywide, but the South African Posts and Telecommunications Department (SAPT) said only two plants were involved — Lenasia and Power Park near Orlando.

Potwa claimed the Paterson system, which was introduced recently, was being used to promote some workers to senior ranks and demote others.

The union said information received from its members indicated that some workers had been demoted to lower grades and their salaries had been reduced by hundreds of rands.

Management's insistence on implementing a grading system which was not negotiated with employee representatives had angered all workers, black and white, and major industrial action was being planned.

Workers from the white staff associations had voluntarily joined the Potwa strike, the union claimed.

"We want management to halt the grading system and start fair negotiations with true worker representatives," Potwa spokesman Floyd Mashele said.

A spokesman for SAPT said management had implemented the new grading system — a combination of Paterson and TASK — for technical staff in order to improve their position and create more opportunities for promotion.

There were definitely no cases of workers being demoted or taking a drop in salary, the spokesman said.

Services had not been affected by the strike and relief staff were available should the strike continue, SAPT said.

Postal ⁽²⁶⁸⁾ strike ^(15/8/91)

set to ^{star 15/8/91} intensify

By Shareen Singh

Thousands of telecommunications workers downed tools yesterday in protest at the Paterson grading system implemented by postal authorities

A spokesman for the militant Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa), Floyd Mashele, said the strike affected about 40 Witwatersrand, Cape Town and northern Transvaal depots

Some 2 000 workers held a demonstration in Pretoria yesterday and discussed ways of intensifying the action, Mr Mashele said.

Workers in other parts of the country were expected to join the strike this week, he added.

Potwa demanded that the South African Posts and Telecommunications Department (SAPT) start negotiations on a grading system suitable to employees

There was strong dissatisfaction among workers, including white workers, many of whom had joined the strike, Mr Mashele said

Workers had complained that the Paterson system was unfair as some workers had been downgraded with a substantial drop in their salaries

Furthermore, "they implemented the system unilaterally without proper negotiations with the union", he said.

SAPT could not be contacted at the time of going to press yesterday, but a statement released earlier this week ensured the public that services would not be disrupted

Some staff members had been promoted after an evaluation — there were definitely no cases of workers being demoted or taking a drop in salary, SAPT management said

The grading system was explained to the unions and they were involved from the early stages of discussions on the system, but they did not indicate they were unhappy, SAPT added

DANIE DU TOIT and WILLEM VAN ROOYEN

Delivering the goods

~~268~~ 268
FM 16/8/91

What do Post Office veterans Danie du Toit and Willem van Rooyen — who between them have spent more than 75 years in government service — know about big business?

That was the reaction from some quarters of the private sector after government picked Du Toit and Van Rooyen to lead the Post Office's telecommunication and postal operations into the world of commerce

From October 1, the two divisions, to be known as Telkom SA and SA Post Office,



Van Rooyen postal employees 'are raring to go'

will trade as autonomous companies. Though the new companies will continue to be owned by the State — early thoughts of privatisation have been abandoned by government — they will be exposed to increased competition and public scrutiny

While acknowledging that the task of transforming two sections of a government department into efficient and aggressive companies won't be easy, Du Toit and Van Rooyen are confident that they and their managements have the right stuff for the job. As chief executive officers of the new companies, reporting to separate boards of directors, the two men will be responsible for reshaping a national institution that is badly in need of an overhaul

The tasks facing them are vastly different. As head of Telkom, Du Toit will take over a technology-intensive conglomerate that will employ 68 000 people and own assets worth nearly R15bn. Last year it generated a net surplus of R861m

Du Toit will get a helping hand from Jack Clarke, the chairman of the board of Telkom. Currently chairman of ISM, Clarke was the private-sector consultant during the changeover

In contrast, the postal division has lost money for as long as most people can remember and in its last financial year reported a net loss of R168m. The organisation will provide jobs for 30 000 people and will struggle

to shake off the reputation for being bureaucratic and inefficient

New boss Van Rooyen plans to make the Post Office profitable within five years by overhauling service levels, entering new markets such as courier deliveries and awarding franchises for postal outlets. In the meantime, government will use dividends and taxes from Telkom to offset losses on the postal side

Donald Masson, CE of Tradegro, has been installed as chairman of the board of the Post Office. "I have no doubt that both men will operate as businessmen," he said in June. "Just because they have been bureaucrats for years doesn't mean they can't change their thinking"

Though Du Toit and Van Rooyen both joined the Post Office as teenagers, their careers and personalities are very different

Cape Town-born Du Toit (58), who heads Telkom, is a keen sportsman, whose energy and people skills have quickly earned him the support of most of his subordinates. His experience working at four of the Post Office's six regional offices has generated a strong belief in the importance of decentralised management and the devolution of decision-making

Colleagues point to Du Toit's decision early in his career to quit the Post Office to study mechanical engineering at the University of Cape Town — rather than change to a subject for which his employers would provide a bursary — as an example of the man's single-mindedness and occasional maverick streak. He rejoined the organisation soon after securing a BSc



Du Toit managing Telkom's R15bn in assets

Diplomacy and patience have been the main allies of Post Office chief Van Rooyen (53) in preparing his organisation to stand on its own feet. The tall, thickset Van Rooyen, a graduate of Pretoria University and Unisa, spent seven years in parliament as administrative secretary to four postmasters-general. Whereas Du Toit spends much of his leisure time on the golf course, Van Rooyen enjoys the seclusion of his garden in the Pretoria suburb of Annlin

Much of his time in the run-up to corporatisation has been spent trying to muster support for the new structure among his staff. Many Post Office employees, particularly members of the Posts & Telecommunications Workers' Association, have resisted the proposed changes. This has helped to stall the planned corporatisation by nearly two years

As part of a compromise with employee representatives, the staff have been given the option of staying with the Department of Posts & Telecommunications — and being seconded to one of the two new companies — or accepting job offers directly from Telkom or the Post Office. They have also been assured that there will be no retrenchments

Employee attitudes towards Du Toit and Van Rooyen are expected to be a strong influence on staff when they decide later this month whether to join one of the new companies. The long-service records of the two chief executive officers will go far towards reassuring most employees. But they can't expect blanket acceptance

"Du Toit is a good man, but he has been in the Post Office for a long time," says Floyd Mashele of the workers' association. "While he listens, he is still at heart a hardened bureaucrat. I don't think anything will change him or Van Rooyen. The whole hierarchy of the Post Office is still intact and doesn't allow for innovative thinking"

The question remains, however, whether management and staff at the two new companies will be of sufficient calibre to succeed in the world of business. While Du Toit and Van Rooyen are keen to bring in fresh blood, particularly in the fields of finance, law and human resources, they have considerable confidence in the ability of long-time Post Office employees

By changing the work culture through training, setting goals and measuring performance, they expect a bedrock of latent talent to surface

"Our people are raring to go," Van Rooyen says. "If we give them the chance, they'll deliver the goods"

Until government allows competition for phone and mail services, we don't have much choice but to cheer on the old team ■

LABOUR

By FERIAL HAFFAJEE

A NATIONAL strike is looming in the posts and telecommunications sector over the introduction of a new grading system

The campaign, which began on Monday, also signals imminent unity for black and white unions organising in this sector

The unions involved are the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association (Saptea), Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa), South African Telecommunications Association (Sata) and Post Office Employees' Association of South Africa (Peasa)

At a meeting in Pretoria on Wednesday, Potwa president Kgaps Mosunkutu said the unions would meet to

Strike looms at Post Office

forge a common approach to the new system

And Potwa assistant general secretary Sizwe Matshikiza warned of "fully fledged strike action that will have serious repercussions on the country's communication system".

Mass meetings will be held next Wednesday and will culminate in marches to regional offices of the Department of Post and Telecommunications

Already work stoppages have taken place in Johannesburg and the Northern Transvaal and 2 000 Potwa mem-

bers held a protest meeting in Pretoria on Wednesday.

Controversy surrounds the implementation of the new grading system. Management says it creates more opportunity for promotion while unions claim workers have been demoted and been subject to salary cuts as a result.

Unions also complain that the system has been instituted without consultation and want management to delay introduction of the new scheme pending further discussions with unions

Posts and Telecommunications representative Amanda Singleton says the new system was implemented "to improve the position of technical staff". The department did not deny that some workers had been demoted but claimed no workers had had their salaries cut.

5 000 postal workers in protest march

B/Day 22/8/91

268

52

VERA VON LIERES

MORE than 5 000 postal workers marched through Johannesburg yesterday to protest against the controversial Patterson grading system introduced recently by the Post Office, the union said yesterday

Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) campaigns co-ordinator Floyd Mashele said black and white workers marched from the Central Methodist Church in town to the Joubert Park post office to hand over a memorandum to management

He said workers were demanding that the implementation of the grading system be halted immediately and management enter into genuine negotiations with the union. Talks would be aimed at developing a grading system acceptable to all workers. He said workers were complaining that evaluations were biased and gave preference to top managers. In

addition, marking officers were not properly trained to carry out evaluations and staff were placed at lower salary levels

Police yesterday confirmed the arrest of 27 people taking part in a placard demonstration at the Bosmon Street headquarters of the Post Office in Pretoria, Sapa reported

A Potwa spokesman said the 27 union members were demonstrating against the new grading system

Mashele said Potwa was expecting Minister of Transport and Posts and Telecommunications Dr Piet Welgemoed to respond to the union's demands by today

In a separate development, strike-hit petroleum companies and the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU) will meet this week in an effort to resolve the national strike

by about 1 000 workers

A CWIU spokesman said yesterday BP (SA) would meet the union today, while Caltex Oil (SA) and Total (SA) would meet the union tomorrow. The union claimed that BP (SA) applied for Supreme Court interdicts against workers picketing depots at Langlaagte in Johannesburg, Cape Town and East London

It said about 18 strikers at the Total (SA) East London depot were arrested this week after downing tools. About 50 workers at the largest Total (SA) depot in Island View joined the strike yesterday. CWIU members started striking last week in support of increased wages, job security and centralised bargaining

The CWIU also said in a statement yesterday it planned to ballot about 4 000 of its members at Sasol for strike action after annual negotiations deadlocked on Monday

Postmen in sympathy strike

5/10am
23/8/91

VERA VON LIERES

268 43

ABOUT 35% of postmen in Pretoria took part in a stayaway yesterday in support of colleagues arrested during an "illegal meeting" earlier this week, the Post Office said.

In a statement, the Post Office said a large number of postmen returned to work yesterday morning after a stayaway on Wednesday in sympathy with Telkom colleagues protesting against the implementation of a new grading system for technical personnel of Telkom SA.

About half of Pretoria's postmen took part in a stayaway and a meeting organised on Wednesday by the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association.

Mail deliveries were disrupted, but efforts were being made to solve the problem, the Post Office said.

□ Sapa reports that an illegal strike by members of the SA Railways and Harbours Workers' Union at Transnet premises in the Northern Transvaal is to be called off, following a Pretoria Supreme Court order.

Post workers march

■ Workers employed by the Department of Posts and Telecommunication marched in Johannesburg this week against a controversial grading system. They are demanding a halt to the implementation of the system, pending negotiations. Unions allege that the new grading system was never explained to workers and that marking officers were not properly trained.

268
11/8/91
29/8/91
29/8/91

258
25/8/91

One PO one union?

By THEMBA KHUMALO

FOR the first time in the history of the post office labour scene, white, coloured and Indian employees all joined a protest to challenge management decisions

Dozens of whites were part of a march organised by the Johannesburg branch of the Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) on Wednesday to protest against the new grading system in the post office

A petition addressed to the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications was handed to the Wits regional manager at the General Post Office

The workers claim the new system was introduced at short notice and will result in corruption and racism as blacks will find themselves demoted.

Potwa legal co-ordinator Pat Nhlapho said some workers have already been demoted

The officials appointed to effect the grading were "incompetent", Nhlapho said

The memorandum said the Patterson task-grading system was not explained to workers, and those implementing the system were not trained in its use. It added the union agreements with management on the system had not been honoured

The statement accused management of deliberately avoiding taking opportunities that would guarantee fair, tension-free, and sound labour relations

Nhlapho said the combined march may yet lead to a single non-racial post office trade union

Victory for postal workers (268)

■ The lines of communications were reopened on Wednesday when Telkom announced the suspension of its new and controversial grading system. Postal workers also celebrated management's decision to sit on a commission with the three major unions in the sector to negotiate the grading system.

The commission had two days to make its recommendations to senior management. *W/Mail 30/8-5/9/91*

The agreement follows industrial action by most workers in the sector in the past month.

Reports by Weekly Mail staff

'Friend of Buthelezi

Ordered Killing

A Pietermaritzburg Special Branch policeman who told five men to kill Chief Mhlabuzima Maphumulo in February this year was known as a "great friend" of KwaZulu's Chief Mangosutho Buthelezi.

The Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court was told this on Friday by Siphon Madlala, a key witness in the inquest into Chief Maphumulo's death.

Appearing before Judge Page and two assessors, he told the court of his role in the assassination of the chief at his Havelock Road home.

Madlala said a security policeman, Warrant Officer Wolfgang Warber, who ordered the assassination because the chief was "a danger to the government", had supplied people in Imbali with firearms with which to kill "comrades". He had been doing this since 1986, Madlala said.

Warber had supplied certain leaders in the Inkatha movement with firearms.

Earlier, Madlala said Warber had instructed him and four others to kill the chief.

The hearing continues - Sapa

Teacher tells of assault

By ELIAS MALULEKE

A TEACHER at Marble Hall, in the north-eastern Transvaal, says he was brutally assaulted and tortured by two farmers and a policeman and left for dead last Wednesday.

The allegation was made by Terrence Shimaki Sethoga, 55, father of four and a teacher at Onverwacht Farm School, who says the incident happened at a farm in Roedtan, about 50 km from Marble Hall.

He named his assailants as Schalkie Pretorius, a businessman who owns a butchery and a farm known as Eland's Kurk in Roedtan; his brother, Abie Pretorius, and an unnamed policeman.

Sethoga says he was mercilessly punched and kicked, had his private parts squeezed, was dragged from behind a bakkie and had shots fired close to his head in an ordeal that lasted more than three hours.



TERRENCE SETHOGA... was left for dead.

He has laid charges with the Marble Hall police and engaged lawyers to press charges.

Eastern Transvaal police spokesman Maj W Pienaar confirmed charges were laid on August 8.

Sethoga's ordeal started when his car stalled on the Marble Hall-Roedtan road due to a snapped clutch cable.

He went to a farm for help and the farmer, Schalkie Pretorius, arrived home with his son, aged about four.

Sethoga told Pretorius he was a teacher.

The farmer "grabbed at me and said teachers were members of the ANC. He started to strangle me and said I was in AWB territory," Sethoga said.

He alleged that Pretorius then dropped him to the ground, punching and kicking him and demanding to know what Sethoga had done with his cows.

"The farmer fastened a rope around my ankles, tied the other end to the bakkie and dragged me," Sethoga said.

He lost consciousness and when he came to, Abie Pretorius was at the scene and the two again punched and kicked him.

Abie called for a knife to castrate "die kaffer" but was not given one. "He then grabbed my private parts and squeezed until I fainted."

Sethoga showed City Press the marks and scars all over his body.

He was dragged and beaten again before a uniformed policeman arrived. The policeman punched and kicked him before he was dragged around again. The policeman also fired three shots near his head and then put the barrel to his forehead.

After all this Sethoga was dumped on the road and left for dead.

Boy I mean Mr Postmaster

Special Correspondent

DEWETS DORP, a sleepy little Free State town, is all abuzz about the new postmaster - because he is black.

NM Ramatlaping takes up his new job on November 1.

And to crown it all, the postmaster's official residence is next-door to Abrie Oosthuizen, Conservative Party MP for Smithfield.

Oosthuizen has taken

up Ramatlaping's appointment with the Postmaster-General.

But Joe de Jager, a senior manager of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications in the Free State and northern Cape, has bad news for Oosthuizen. He said Ramatlaping was promoted to his new job on merit.

"We promote people according to a merit system," he said.

Ramatlaping started working for the Post Office as a clerk on May 8, 1979. He is now branch postmaster in OwaOwa.

Oosthuizen said, "It does not bother me that he will live next to me. I greet black people, but the residents of the town are upset. This is a conservative community.

"It is unfair to expect from a *platteland* community to welcome a black postmaster in their midst."

Readers Pick City Press

FOR the second year in a row, City Press has come out on top as the nation's favourite Sunday newspaper among black readers.

AMPS research for 1991 has recorded a total of 1 122 000 black readers for City Press. This is the highest black readership for any weekly newspaper in the country - with 19 000 more black readers than the *Sunday Times*.

This total is less than

the 1 160 000 readers measured in the 1990 AMPS survey, but there have been some significant changes in our readership profile.

The number of male readers has increased by 17 000 (2 percent) to 846 000, while female readership has declined to 276 000.

Changes in our readership profile, which will be of great value to advertiser.

City Press reaches 75 percent of black people with a monthly household income of more than R2 000.

It is clear that City Press remains "The People's Paper".

Nationalisation cuts both ways

Sowetan 7/11/91

49 268

I would like to highlight a few points concerning nationalisation and apartheid.

There is always a big outcry whenever Mr Nelson Mandela mentions nationalisation, especially among our white fellow countrymen

What surprises me is that the white Nationalist Government did the very same thing when it took over

The railways and post offices were put under State control to provide poor whites with employment and housing through subst-



MANDELA

dies This is still happening

I work for Telkom, where even whites who are blind and mentally retarded are employed Now that they are aware that the next government will be black they privatise these institutions

I appeal to the African National Congress to deprivatise them immediately they get into power

Concerning apartheid, I think it is only the laws that

have been abolished but apartheid is still alive and kicking, especially at Telkom

Promotion is still taboo for blacks We had thought with the dawn of the new South Africa that things would change but they have gone from bad to worse

Academic and technical qualifications no longer count but the colour of your skin, especially in the East Rand When Potwa won the fight for parity of salaries in 1987 most, if not all, whites were promoted so that they could not earn the same as blacks

A black with matric and three years technical training is on the same marking level or even lower than a white woman with Standard 8 and no technical training So, is Mr FW de Klerk a man of integrity?

**WORRIED
UMSEBENZI, East
Rand.**

PUBLIC SECTOR - TELECOMMUNICATION - LABOUR.

1992 .

Stamp of approval for Post Office changes

W. M. C. 10/11-16/11/92

268

Any further restructuring exercises

Sweeping changes have been made in the posts and telecommunications sector — and unions are planning further action to press home their demands, reports

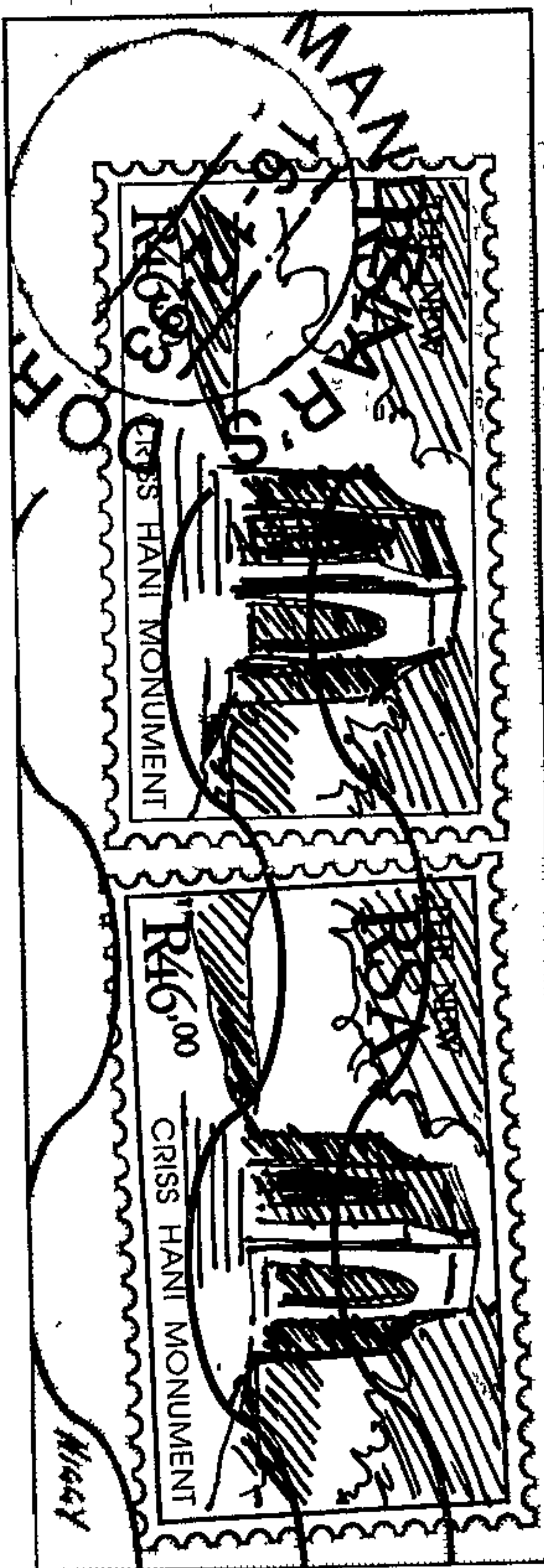
FERIAL HAFFAJEE

A FRESH breeze is set finally to blow through labour relations in the telecommunications sector — a sector long reknown for its conservative and oppressive labour policies

Last month, major staff associations and employers signed an interim recognition agreement which for the first time included this group of public sector workers under the ambit of the Labour Relations Act (LRA)

The recognition agreement grants telecommunications workers the right to strike and to collective bargaining for the first time ever. It replaces the Post Office Services Act.

It goes further than the LRA by providing a "peace clause" stipulating



Finally getting up to date ... The telecommunications sector is changing its conservative labour policies

that no action may be taken against workers on an unprocedural strike for 24 hours after strike action and for 72 hours against workers on a legal strike.

This clause also recommends that negotiations begin as soon after strike action as possible.

The new dispensation is likely to also pave the path to unity among the various staff associations in the sector.

The Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) says

that it will push for "sufficient representivity" as a prerequisite for inclusion in the bargaining unit

According to Potwa assistant general secretary Sizwe Matshekiza, each staff association in the past had a single vote in the bargaining unit, regardless of membership. This allowed smaller groups the right of veto despite minimal membership.

Already, the mainly coloured Post Office Employees' Association of

South Africa and its Indian counterpart, the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association, have approached Potwa about starting the unity process. A meeting will be held later this month.

Grappling with this new regime will be the biggest challenge for management and employees, believes Potwa general secretary Mlungisi Hlungwane.

He says that already it is proving difficult for management to come to terms with the new procedures. The union has already been forced to negotiate a moratorium on disciplinary hearings because "there are clear indications that management is failing to apply the new agreement", alleges Hlungwane

He says the union will stick by its principled stand against privatisation this year.

To this end, it will not negotiate separately with South African Posts and Telkor, the two companies created during the commercialisation of telecommunications last year.

in this sector are likely to meet union action, says Hlungwane and any action will be linked to the Congress of South African Trade Unions' demands for an economic negotiating forum.

But the major demand will be for centralised bargaining. The aim of the campaign will be to force Post Office management into joining a bargaining forum with all other public sector unions and employers.

Hlungwane also says Potwa's wage demands will exceed those of previous years and would be timed so that they are tabled before the Budget is presented to parliament.

He says that wage demands will not be tabled as across-the-board increases, but will take account of different grades.

The union is also likely to demand package medical aid, training and housing subsidies in forthcoming negotiations.

The Patterson grading system, the cause of strike action last year, has been altered to exclude the offending clauses. But, according to Hlungwane, the union will draft a clear policy for evaluation and promotion at its campaigns conference in February.

In the four years since it was established, the union has grown from strength to strength. It now has 21 000 members in South Africa and 3 500 in the homelands.

In addition, droves of white unskilled and semi-skilled workers are joining Potwa after it spearheaded action against the grading system, says Matshekiza.

Postal workers fix 'no-go' zones

SI Times 26/1/92 (268)
TELEPHONE technicians, fearing they will be attacked by gangs of youths, have declared some areas of South Africa "no-go" zones. They have refused to instal new telephones, repair existing lines or attend to service calls in the areas. Their fears were heightened this week after six Telkom

employees who had been repairing telephone lines were attacked by four robbers on the farm Rusfontein, near Heidelberg

Three Telkom technicians and a group of farmworkers were held captive in the farmhouse by the gang while the other three technicians were forced to puncture their vehicle's tyres with a pitchfork

The thieves then damaged their two-way radios, cut the telephone lines and stole overalls from two technicians.

Arrested

When the farmer Mr J van Jaarsveld and his wife arrived home they were overpowered, held at gunpoint and robbed.

The robbers fled in the remaining two Telkom vehicles

The technicians restored the telephone lines and contacted police at Grootvlei

Two of the gang were arrested driving the Telkom vehicles, a third man was wounded by police while attempting to escape and the fourth robber was arrested later in Heidelberg.

Telkom spokesman Mrs Amanda Singleton said there had been a steady increase in attacks on telephone technicians "throughout the country"

By EVELYN
HOLTZHAUSEN

in the last 10 years "The people harassing our staff are apparently unemployed youths. They assault them, rob them of their watches, spectacles, wallets and tools and threaten their lives"

She said Telkom did not force workers to enter "no-go" zones.

"We ask for volunteers and, fortunately, we have always had enough to maintain the service"

Telkom servicemen's fears were first detailed in a memorandum drawn up by the 12 800-member Post Office Employees Association last year

POEA president Gerald Bester said this week he was satisfied Telkom was attempting to protect employees from attack as best it could

Stoned

He listed some areas of Soweto, Alexandra, townships near Pietersburg, some Durban townships and the townships of Gugulethu, Khayelitsha and Langa, near Cape Town, as the most dangerous

"Telkom recently paid compensation to one technician after he was stoned and his vehicle set alight," said Mr Bester

He declined to name the employee.

5/28/97
10/3/97

Postal recognition (268)
THE SA Post Office has signed an interim agreement covering recognition of employee organisations and new grievance and disciplinary procedures

1 4/7/97

Postal unions want the same rates for both

S/Time [BUSS] 29/3/92

268

PAY talks at the Post Office have run into problems at the outset, says the largest postal trade union

The Post Office and Telecommunications Workers Union (Potwa) wants the same rates for both Telkom SA and SA Post Office (Sapos) employees

Telkom employs 68 000 workers and Sapos 22 000

Potwa general secretary Mlungisi Hlongwane says the two companies should be treated as one in negotiations, as the state is the shareholder of both

Management has not commented on the talks but the difference in profitability between the companies is believed to be the reason why it wants negotiations for both to be separate

Potwa demands a 20,3% pay increase if implementation is in July. If it is in April it wants it to be 16,2%

For the lowest-grade workers the union wants a 30,7% raise plus the rate of increase for the other employees

The minimum wage now is R850 a month

Other demands include better pension benefits, medical aid and the restructuring of the grading system

Elusive

The mainly African Potwa hoped to submit joint demands with two other unions, the (Coloured) Postal Employees Association of SA (Peasa) and the (Indian) SA Postal Telecommunications Association (Saptea)

Potwa held unity talks with the two unions last year but a merger of all three remains elusive

Peasa and Saptea demand a R400 across-the-board increase plus 16% for the low-

By ADRIAN HERSCH

est-grade workers

Separate annual negotiations between the Commission for Administration (CFA) and 11 unions — covering the broad public service — continue this month

The CFA offers a 8,54% pay increase and the employees want 15,3%

The first major private-sector wage talks begin on Thursday

Metal-industry employers and 12 trade unions in the industrial council hold talks in a tough economic climate — more than 6 000 jobs were lost in the first two months of this year

The various unions want pay rises ranging from 14,4% to 42,6%

Last year employers offered between 7% and 10,5% at the opening round. This year it is likely to be less than that.

225 postal worker 'deviants' fired in '91

By Paula Fray
Consumer Reporter

STAR
9/4/92

During the past year about 225 employees of the South African Post Office were discharged as a result of irregularities of a criminal nature, Post Office liaison officer Juliana Nel said yesterday.

Miss Nel was replying to queries from The Star following consumer complaints that mail had been tampered with.

"The Post Office is aware of the possibility of malpractices being committed by staff members and in order to combat this evil, our security and supervisory arrangements are under continuous scrutiny and are adapted if any shortcomings are found," she said.

"If it is taken into account that more than 7 million mail items are handled by the SAPO each working day (2 400 million a year), it can be understood that losses cannot be eliminated entirely," Miss Nel said.

"Of the 14,5 million parcels handled during 1990/91, only 0.04 percent did not reach their destinations," she added.

In view of the fact that there were about 30 000 Post Office workers handling 7 million mail items each day, the occurrence of mail being tampered with was more the exception than the rule.

But, "every mail item tampered with or not reaching its destination safely is one too many to the Post Office," said Miss Nel.

She noted that, Post Office employees are not always the culprits.

There has been a noticeable increase in armed robberies on Post Offices over the past year or two and the SAPO had no control over crimes such as burglaries, fires, hijackings of vehicles transporting mail and muggings on postmen and post women.

"It often happens that the senders of mail items are responsible for their mail not being delivered by, for example, giving incorrect and incomplete addresses, as well as not providing the address of the sender or poor packaging."

The SAPO also requested clients not to enclose cash but to use money or postal orders.

According to Miss Nel, the Post Office is not legally liable for the loss of ordinary postal articles (only registered or insured items), except in the cases of proven fraud on the part of an employee.

● If addressees believe their mail has been tampered with, they should immediately contact their local postmaster who will arrange for an investigation to be instituted.

Crossed lines in Post Office pay demands

By FERIA HAJFAJEE

THE lines of communications between the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association and the employers in these sectors are down it seems.

Potwa tabled initial wage demands five times in excess of Telkom and South African Post Office offers, on average

The union tabled an initial demand for a 67 percent wage increase for lower grade workers and 36,3 percent increase for qualified workers. After the first wage round with Telkom, they reduced the demand to 37 and 27 percent respectively

Telkom offered a 9,3 percent across the board increase but upped the offer to 11,6 percent after the first wage round.

In a major setback, Potwa has been forced into negotiating separately with Telkom and South African Posts. At the beginning of the year, the union vowed that it would not attend separate negotiations. This was linked to its long-standing campaign against the privatisation of telecommunications and the imminent privatisation of the postal service

Telkom and SA Posts refused to attend joint wage negotiations, citing the fact that they are now separate legal entities with different mandates and different negotiating styles

Potwa beat a tactical retreat "because we did not want to reach a deadlock at this point", says general secretary Mlungisi Hlungwane. But, he says, "there is no demarcation evident on the ground in branch executive committees, shop stewards councils



Mlungisi Hlungwane

and the rank and file membership".

Potwa had hoped that it would present joint demands with the mainly coloured Post Office Employees' Association (Peasa) with South Africa and the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees' Association (Saptea) whose membership is mainly Indian artisans.

But these associations did not respond to Potwa's invitations to discuss wage negotiations. Neither were they co-operative in the campaign around the controversial Patterson grading system.

"We will no longer compromise with them for the sake of unity which cannot be seen on the ground," says Hlungwane. But Potwa has suggested that the Congress of South African Trade Unions still invite these associations to a public sector summit to be held early in May.

He also added that many members of Peasa and Saptea were jettisoning these conservative associations for the Cosatu aligned Potwa. The entire Peasa branch in George in the eastern Cape left to join Potwa, says Hlungwane.

Telkom (268)
ARG 2/5/92
**rings up
pay rises**

Weekend Argus Reporter

TELKOM employees belonging to the SA Telkom Association are to receive a salary increase of 10 percent, according to the SA Postal Association and the Postal and Telkom Association.

A joint statement issued by the groups said an agreement was reached yesterday.

The starting notches of certain entry grades were being increased by at least 11 percent.

Unemployment Insurance Fund contributions, paid by Telkom for certain staff association members, would be continued for another year.

The salary adjustments were effective from April 1 and would be paid with May salaries.

(268) ARG 5/5/92

Doctors complain but Telkom firm

Health Reporter

TELKOM is not prepared to back down on a R250 after-hours fee for the repair of telephones, even though doctors and dentists are complaining.

Telkom spokesman Mr Fanus Bothma said medical practitioners were unhappy about the new charge, introduced in January, because previously they could have their telephones repaired free.

Telkom pointed out that until the charge was introduced only service and emergency organisations — such as hospitals, doctors, police and ambulance services — could have their telephones repaired outside office hours.

But demands for an after-hours repair service had prompted Telkom to introduce the service for everybody — but at a price.

The R250 charge was "cost-related" to pay for the salaries of the personnel required to work after hours.

Telkom said it would be unfair to charge only certain clients for the service, which was why medical practitioners were no longer exempt.

It pointed out that its repair service during office hours was still free.

● In the Western Cape, a group of 18 dentists and general practitioners put their names to an open letter objecting to the charge.

Telecommunications commission on the way

STAR 6/5/92

267

(120)

CAPE TOWN — A Bill will be presented to Parliament this session to establish an independent telecommunications commission to enable the body to start functioning as soon as possible, Minister of Home Affairs Gene Louw said yesterday

"Codesa supports the principle of an independent telecommunications commission which should regulate all forms of telecommunication including broadcasting," he said during parliamentary debate on his vote

The commission should be empowered to "license and pursue the rendering of all types of telecommunications services, subject to conditions and standards, in the interest of the public", he said

The full available electronic frequency spectrum as well as the relevant technologies should be exploited to serve the cultural, educational and recreational needs of all South Africans.

"The economic and other advantages of competition are so

important, and there are so many who are eager to enter this field, that the commission will have to consult and negotiate with interested parties before it reaches decisions. It is also envisaged that some form of parliamentary control will be necessary," he said

Speaking in the same debate, Mr Louw said the TSS (Teleschool Series) television channel would be temporarily extended to "frontline" areas at the SABC's cost

Approval

These areas included Fish Hoek, Somerset West, East London and sections of the PWV area where the service could be undertaken "reasonably quickly and at a low cost to the SABC". Immediate deployments could take place in a short time by moving existing spare transmitters to areas such as Potgietersrus, Glencoe, Klerksdorp, Kimberley and East London

Further extensions, subject to ministerial approval, could be made by installing new trans-

mitters which would take a little longer and also depend on finance. This would affect Theunissen, Welverdiend, Davel, Port Shepstone, Middelburg (Tvl), Nelspruit, Nongoma and Kroonstad

The areas where the SABC could not extend the TSS service over a short or medium term could receive these transmissions at the cost of the relevant communities in co-operation with the SABC

The extension of the TSS service is subject to the following conditions

- The period is temporary — for six months.
- No advertisements may be screened, only sponsorships may be used.
- Only educational and crime prevention programmes and surplus sport may be broadcast.

The SABC had a responsibility to see that the most important sports should be broadcast on the existing TV1 and CCV channels to as broad a public as possible and that surplus sport should be handled with caution

— Sapa

Postal talks in crisis

POSTAL wage talks were thrown into a crisis yesterday when two staff associations walked out of talks with Telkom (268)

The SA Post and Telecommunications Association and the Post Office Employees Association of SA walked out in protest against alleged bad faith by management in announcing white staffers had been granted a 10% wage hike

Both associations said they were willing to negotiate with the chairman of the board of directors and his representatives only, as they had lost confidence in management's negotiating team

6/10 am 6/5/92

R780m cable work starts

Staff Reporter

SCUBA divers will today connect a multi-million rand underwater telecommunications cable to a shore terminal at Melkbosstrand in the first stage of a project to lay a 9 000km cable to Madeira and the Canary Islands.

(267) CT 9/5/92
The new R780m SAT-2 cable network has been jointly commissioned by 14 countries to replace the existing SAT-1 cable, Telkom public relations officer Mr Fanus Bothma said yesterday

Telkom launches Eurobond issue (267)

Biday 12/5/92.
SHERIDAN CONNOLLY

STATE-controlled post and telecommunications utility Telkom yesterday launched a Eurobond issue on the European capital market

A Telkom spokesman said the DM120m bond was listed in Frankfurt in denominations of DM1 000 and DM10 000. It carried a coupon rate of 10% and was priced for launch at 99,50%. Germany's Deutsche Bank lead-managed the issue, which matured on May 29 1997, the spokesman said. Funds raised through the Eurobond issue would be used to finance Telkom's current projects.

Addressing a presentation in Frankfurt, Telkom treasury head Stoffel Erasmus said the utility planned to become an annual borrower in the European capital market. Funds raised through borrowing would go towards financing current and new projects.

He said Telkom had estimated capital expenditure for the 1992-93 fiscal year at DM2,14bn compared with DM1,88bn in the 1991-92 fiscal year. VWD reported that by lunchtime

yesterday the bonds were trading "comfortably inside full fees". At mid-session, bidding was around 98,10% and offers at 98,15% in the primary market.

The Telkom issue follows recent Eurobond issues by Eskom, the IDC and the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

The ANC has been critical of recent Eurobond issues, saying such borrowings violated sanctions and UN resolutions.

An ANC spokesman last night declined to comment.

Postal staff threaten strike

THE Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association yesterday threatened strike action in support of wage demands and improved working conditions, saying negotiations with management appeared to be reaching deadlock.

Potwa said in a statement, negotiations were likely to end in national work disruptions.

Management, Potwa said, had offered workers a 10 percent wage increase, while the association had shifted from its original wage demand of 67 percent to 30 percent for unskilled and 20 percent for skilled workers.

Potwa has accused Telkom management of negotiating in bad faith.

Workers from Potwa at the weekend and on Monday staged protest actions in major centres countrywide and presented memoranda to employers in support of wage demands and improved working conditions.

Telkom officials could not be reached for comment - Sapa

Post Office chairman warns against subsidies

PRETORIA — Granting massive Post Office discounts from a weakened financial base would mean economic suicide for the newly-commercialised company, SA Post Office chairman Donald Masson said yesterday.

Speaking at the annual general meeting of the SA Direct Marketing Association in Johannesburg, Masson stressed the user should pay for the cost of the service and said it was unfair to expect taxpayers to subsidise postal services.

"It is morally indefensible for the Post Office to expect a continued subsidy from the state when millions of people face starvation, unemployment, lack of education and hospital services."

Poor agricultural conditions caused by drought and a large enough police force were pressing needs.

Masson said the Post Office's rate adjustments lagged behind inflation at an alarming rate of 70%.

It was essential the Post Office retained and expanded its client base to ensure a viable and efficient mail service, he said.

The Post Office, he said, should operate on sound business principles. It was the aim therefore, to make it a profit-making concern within five years when state subsi-

dies would no longer be needed. It was envisaged that shareholders would get a 25% return on capital before tax.

Masson said five task groups had been appointed to investigate problem areas within the Post Office.

The groups would investigate bulk mailers, service levels, agency systems and increasing mail volumes.

Trade unions and extra-parliamentary bodies would look at permanent mail deliveries in informal settlements

Masson said although provision had been made for a R548m deficit this financial year, the Post Office had invested millions in automatic mail sorting equipment and people.

He said every possible way of increasing mail volumes had to be investigated urgently. Proposals had been made for differentiated rates for bulk mail users, an improved distribution network, the rationalisation of some services and the expansion of services.

Also being looked at was the phasing out of free street deliveries versus private post boxes and mail collection points.

15/5/92 (267)
GERALD REILLY

Metal unions declare dispute

NEGOTIATIONS in the metal industry ended in deadlock yesterday with 11 out of 12 unions declaring a dispute with Seifsa.

Seifsa responded by indicating that it would also declare a dispute soon

And the fifth negotiation meeting at the end of May — which was meant to be the final one — will now be an executive committee meeting of the Industrial Council to discuss the dispute.

Seifsa and the metal unions, with the exception of the Iron and Steel Workers' Union which did not declare a dispute, have not moved from their opening positions. Seifsa has offered a 6,4% increase and the unions, which have about 50 demands on the table, are still seeking increases of up to 42,6%.

Seifsa said if the unions did not drop some of their demands it could not continue negotiating.

The National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) urged Seifsa to start meaningful negotiations on the key issues it had raised.

Chief among these was Numsa's demand for a moratorium on retrenchments. This took up most of yesterday's negotiations.

Numsa said workers had accepted alternatives to retrenchment which meant a cut

in wages. It was unfair to expect workers to accept retrenchments as well.

Seifsa said Numsa's demand was "completely impractical" as only improved economic conditions could stop job losses. Numsa is demanding an increase of R2 an hour or 25% of actual wages.

Several hundred leaders in Numsa-organised factories picketed the negotiations in Johannesburg.

Numsa said the demonstration showed the "groundswell of feelings" among its members about the negotiations.

Employers also rejected Numsa's core demands on parental and workers' rights, but undertook to respond at the next meeting to union calls for a code of practice to end unfair discrimination.

Seifsa said that while some unions had modified their positions, others had made no concessions at all and had rejected every employer proposal for changes to the industry's agreement.

Sapa reports Seifsa executive director Brian Angus said that by declaring a dispute, employers would be able to consider lockout action if it was not resolved.

15/5/92
DIRK HARTFORD

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

SADF: number of senior officers

247 Lt-Gen R H D ROGERS asked the Minister of Defence

(1) How many (a) major-generals and (b) lieutenant-generals are there in the (i) Army, (ii) Air Force, (iii) Navy, (iv) Medical Service and (v) Chief Defence Force Staff;

(2) (a) how many Black officers are there in the South African Defence Force above the rank of major and (b) in what arms of the Service do they serve,

(3) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B580E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(1)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
(a)	10	5	2	2	12
(b)	1	1	1	1	6

(2) (a) and (b) SA Army 6
SA Air Force 1

(3) 11 May 1992

Number of outstanding telephone applications

252 Mr R R HULLLEY asked the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications

What was the total number of outstanding telephone applications in the area reserved for (a) White and (b) Black occupation in each specified major urban area of the Republic as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

B585E

The MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The position as at 31 March 1992 was as follows

Area	(a)	(b)
Cape Peninsula	1 819	2 666
Port Elizabeth	207	2 637
East London	84	81
Uitenhage/Despatch	20	125
Central Johannesburg	472	0
East Rand	4 598	9 292
North Rand	3 252	583
West Rand	725	1 466
Pretoria	3 747	3 579
Vaal Triangle	1 316	3 385
Bloemfontein	137	567
Welkom	177	1 315
Kimberley	150	326
Durban	1 364	6 497
Pietermaritzburg	18	1 590

It should be mentioned that since the scrapping of the Group Areas Act, Telkom SA does not distinguish between Black and White telephone applicants and the possibility therefore exists that the above-mentioned figures may not be a true reflection of the actual position

INTERPELLATIONS UNDER NAME OF MEMBER

Botha, Dr W J—

General Affairs

Finance, 841

Burrows, Mr R M—

Own Affairs

Education and Culture, 185, 436, 1004

Carlisle, Mr R V—

General Affairs

Public Enterprises, 917

Transport, 848

Own Affairs

Housing and Works, 619

De Beer, Dr Z J—

General Affairs

State President, 981

Ebrahim, Mrs R—

Own Affairs

Housing and Agriculture, 1021

Gerber, Mr A—

Own Affairs

Education and Culture, 291, 537

Gibson, Mr D H M—

Own Affairs

Education and Culture, 864

Haswell, Mr R F—

General Affairs

Law and Order, 272

Local Government and National Housing, 527

Hoon, Mr J H—

General Affairs

National Education, 911

Jacobs, Adv S C—

General Affairs

Home Affairs, 725

Langley, Mr T—

General Affairs

National Intelligence Service, 1

Leon, Mr A J—

General Affairs

Law and Order, 129

Transport, 732

Le Roux, Mr F J—

General Affairs

Foreign Affairs, 123

Mombert, Mr J H—

General Affairs

Mineral and Energy Affairs, 7

National Education, 611

Padiachey, Mr D K—

Own Affairs

Housing and Agriculture, 951

Paulus, Mr P J—

General Affairs

National Health, 267

87 postmen strike (268)

JOHANNESBURG — An estimated 87 Randburg postmen entered the second day of strike action yesterday over disciplinary steps taken by a local postmaster CT 20/5/92



Mr Saboo (second from right) with Unnyson Morapedi. Mr Saboo, Community Education centre, primary school and a community club, Alexandra Council and
Picture: Jacob Ryliff

Post office strike may be resumed

268

STAR 21/5/92
Staff Reporter

Postal workers at the Pinegowrie post office have threatened to resume their strike if postmaster Renier van Rensburg is not removed from his position.

The 87 workers who went on strike for two days at the Randburg, Pinegowrie and Cresta delivery depots at the beginning of the week allege that the postmaster verbally abuses them and called the police during a confrontation with them.

The Post and Telecommunication Workers Association (Potwa) has called a meeting today with Post Office officials to negotiate their grievances.

The SA Post Office said industrial action had been taken by the workers as a result of police action and not as a result of any action by the postmaster.

The police, during a routine patrol on Saturday, confronted some workers who were drinking on the premises. The workers assumed that the postmaster had called the police in, but the Post Office denied this.

H

By S

A n
toxic
two
men
and
the
yest

p
was
whic
Bry
gull
Gill

A
port
in a
and
hol
acti
whic

N
OSI
tra
for
low
the
istr
said

tha
cau
left
lish
we
del

No telephones for hospital ⁽²⁶⁸⁾

POSTAL workers at Soweto's Power Park Telecommunications Yard will no longer install or maintain telephones at Baragwanath Hospital and Soweto clinics, in support of striking health workers. *Sowetan 16/7/92*

A Post and Telecommunications Workers Association statement issued on Tuesday said the decision was taken on Monday by Power Park Potwa members - *Sapa*

PO vows to stamp out old image

ARC 18/1/92

JEAN LE MAY

Weekend Argus Reporter

YOU could have knocked me down with a 35c stamp

Telephoning the head office of S A Post Office Ltd in Pretoria for an interview with chairman Mr Donald Masson, I expected the usual run-around to which we had all become accustomed when the post office was run by the civil service

Instead, I was put straight through "You're my client," he said when I voiced my surprise. Clearly, the post office of the future will not be the same as in the bad old days

There already has been a clean sweep in the upper echelons, with former managing director Mr Willem van Rooyen, financial manager Mr Piet Jordaan,

personnel manager Mr Eddie Pretorius and operations manager Mr Bernie Bloom all having taken early retirement

"There's nothing sinister about this," said Mr Masson. "They thought to themselves that there were going to be changes in the post office and opted for early retirement."

What changes? As chairman of Trek Petroleum and chief executive officer of, successively, Kanhyrn and Tradegro, as well as president of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, Mr Masson, 60, has a reputation for not pulling punches

For instance, the post office has had an appalling Press in recent years for losing money consistently — it had a deficit of close on R500-million in 1991/1992 — and for putting up prices frequently while service remained poor

"People will have to decide whether they want efficient service or low tariffs," he said

"I'm going to turn the business around so that in a couple of years' time there will be a profit of R1,3 million instead of a subsidy of half a million from taxpayers"

The business would be kept running on money paid voluntarily by consumers, he insisted, instead of money taken without consultation from taxpayers

"If people complain they have to queue when there are unmanned counters, I'll fill the counters, but at the cost of higher tariffs. We're going to move the tax burden to the consumer"

He has strong feelings about the morality of placing too heavy a burden of taxpayers to finance over-spending. If

Government showed no morality in this regard he said soon after becoming AHI president, it could hardly expect taxpayers not to follow suit

"We've got task forces studying our priorities in three sections," he said

The first group deals with market making. Junk mail has always been a goldmine for the post office and has been thought to subsidise other mail

The second group deals with standards and services — how to create an entirely new service culture and ways of establishing franchise operations and postal agencies. And, for instance, "whether we want an expensive three-day delivery or a cheaper 10-day delivery"

The third task-force is dealing with areas where postal services are underdeveloped

Mr Donald Masson... eager to please his Post Office clients.



Sowetan 22/7/92

Strike over hostel

MORE than 1 000 Post and Telecommunication Workers Association members went on strike at North Rand branches of Telkom, according to the union.

Potwa general secretary Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane said the strike followed a recent attack outside the Meadowlands hostel on a bus ferrying Telkom workers to their places of work on the North Rand.

The striking workers were demanding that Telkom management play a role in ensuring that hostels are demolished as soon as possible. Telkom said it would issue a statement later - Sapa

Die aandag word gevestig op onderstaande vereistes van artikels 4 en 7 van die Wet

- (a) Die mate waarin 'n beswaarmakende vakvereniging verteenwoordigend is, word ingevolge artikel 4 (4), soos toegepas by artikel 7 (5), bepaal volgens die feite soos hulle bestaan het op die datum waarop die aansoek ingedien is, en wat die lidmaatskap betref, word alleen lede wat ingevolge artikel 1 (2) van die Wet op voormelde datum volwaardige lede was, in aanmerking geneem
- (b) Die prosedure voorgeskryf by artikel 4 (2) moet gevolg word in verband met 'n beswaar wat ingedien word

G. C. PAPENFUS,

Assistent-nywerheidsregistrator.
(28 Augustus 1992)

KENNISGEWING 769 VAN 1992

**DEPARTEMENT VAN MANNEKRAG
WET OP ARBEIDSVERHOUDINGE, 1956
AANSOEK OM REGISTRASIE VAN 'N
VAKVERENIGING**

Ek, Gerhardus Coenraad Papenfus, Assistentnywerheidsregistrator, maak ingevolge artikel 4 (2) van die Wet op Arbeidsverhoudinge, 1956, hierby bekend dat 'n aansoek om registrasie as vakvereniging ontvang is van die Postel-Unie van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika. Besonderhede van die aansoek word in onderstaande tabel verstrek

Enige geregistreerde vakvereniging wat teen die aansoek beswaar maak, word versoek om binne een maand na die datum van publikasie van hierdie kennisgewing sy beswaar skriftelik by my in te dien, p/a die Departement van Mannekrag, Mannekraggebou 123A, Schoemanstraat 215, Pretoria (posadres: Privaat Sak X117, Pretoria, 0001)

TABEL

Naam van vakvereniging: Postel-Unie van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

Datum waarop aansoek ingedien is: 24 Oktober 1991.

Belange en gebied ten opsigte waarvan aansoek gedoen word: Werknemers in diens in alle ondernemings, afdelings of bedrywe van die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor Beperk of Telkom SA Beperk in die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

Posadres van aplikant: Posbus 31082, Braamfontein, 2017

Kantooradres van aplikant: Mellestraat 19, Braamfontein

Die aandag word gevestig op onderstaande vereistes van artikel 4 van die Wet

- (a) Die mate waarin 'n beswaarmakende vakvereniging verteenwoordigend is, word ingevolge subartikel (4) bepaal volgens die feite soos hulle bestaan het op die datum waarop die aansoek ingedien is, en wat die lidmaatskap betref, word alleen lede wat ingevolge artikel 1 (2) van die Wet op voormelde datum volwaardige lede was, in aanmerking geneem
- (b) Die prosedure voorgeskryf by subartikel (2) moet gevolg word in verband met 'n beswaar wat ingedien word.

G. C. PAPENFUS,

Assistentnywerheidsregistrator
(28 Augustus 1992)

Attention is drawn to the following requirements of sections 4 and 7 of the Act:

- (a) The representativeness of any trade union which objects to the application shall in terms of section 4 (4) as applied by section 7 (5) be determined on the facts as they existed at the date on which the application was lodged and, as far as membership is concerned, only members who were in good standing in terms of section 1 (2) of the Act as at the aforesaid date shall be taken into consideration.
- (b) The procedure laid down in section 4 (2) must be followed in connection with any objection lodged.

G. C. PAPENFUS,

Assistant Industrial Registrar.
(28 August 1992)

NOTICE 769 OF 1992

**DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER
LABOUR RELATIONS ACT, 1956**

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A TRADE UNION

I, Gerhardus Coenraad Papenfus, Assistant Industrial Registrar, do hereby, in terms of section 4 (2) of the Labour Relations Act, 1956, give notice that an application for registration as a trade union has been received from the Postel-Unie van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika. Particulars of the application are reflected in the subjoined table

Any registered trade union which objects to the application is invited to lodge its objection in writing with me, c/o the Department of Manpower, 123A Manpower Building, 215 Schoeman Street, Pretoria (postal address: Private Bag X117, Pretoria, 0001), within one month of the date of publication of this notice.

TABLE

Name of trade union: Postel-Unie van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

Date on which application was lodged: 24 October 1991.

Interests and area in respect of which application is made: Employees engaged in all undertakings, sections or trades of the South African Post Office Limited or Telkom S A Limited, in the Republic of South Africa.

Postal address of application: P.O. Box 31082, Braamfontein, 2017

Office address of applicant: 19 Melle Street, Braamfontein

Attention is drawn to the following requirements of section 4 of the Act.

- (a) The representativeness of any trade union which objects to the application shall in terms of subsection (4) be determined on the facts as they existed at the date on which the application was lodged and, as far as membership is concerned, only members who were in good standing in terms of section 1 (2) of the Act as at the aforesaid date shall be taken into consideration
- (b) The procedure laid down in subsection (2) must be followed in connection with any objection lodged

G. C. PAPENFUS,

Assistant Industrial Registrar
(28 August 1992)

13 Telkom workers dismissed over 087 calls

By Zingisa Mkhuma
Consumer Reporter

Thirteen Telkom employees have been dismissed after being found guilty of unauthorised use of 087 lines, Telkom senior general manager Keith Prins confirmed yesterday

Mr Prins said that out of 15 employees suspected of abusing

STAL 91192
Telkom facilities to dial 087 numbers, 13 were found guilty and dismissed, one was given a final warning and another found not guilty at disciplinary hearings

(268)
Telkom was reacting to allegations that — in the words of Consumer Council complaints department head At Meyer — “a third force” pushed up sub-

scribers' bills by using private lines to phone 087 numbers

Mr Prins said Telkom was unaware of a “third force” and gave an assurance that not one of the disciplinary hearing cases involved the abuse of client's lines, nor had any client's account been affected. Only Telkom had incurred losses

But Committee of Consumer Organisations chairman Lilli-

beth Moolman said subscribers with huge bills — who did not dial 087 numbers — were unconvinced

“It could be that the ones who were caught were using Telkom's lines, but the question we must ask is Is there a possibility that they could have tapped in on private users' lines? If you had not used your line, then who did?” she said

300 march (268)

ABOUT 300 Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association members, including three German anti-apartheid movement activists, marched on Pietersburg's post office yesterday

They were demanding an end to "harassment" of post office workers, bursaries for employees' children, cars for offices controlled by blacks and an improvement of telephone services in townships and rural areas

St Times 13/9/92

Postal march (198) 0716/1992
JOHANNESBURG. — The Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association is to stage a number of marches and sit-ins to coincide with Telkom and the SA Post Office Service privatisation celebrations on October 1, the union said

Union passes up snacks

(268) CT 2/10/92

JOHANNESBURG — Some workers declined party snacks while others left work early in a show of union defiance against the first anniversary yesterday of the privatisation of post and telecommunications services.

Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) spokesman Mr Joe Molokeng said workers had also marched to the Pretoria offices of Telkom and SA Post Office Ltd to submit demands.

Potwa is one of several public-sector affiliates of the Congress

of South African Trade Unions that have resisted the privatisation of state-run services.

"Telkom management held several parties in the Johannesburg region, but workers refused to eat. Others, who took part in marches and pickets, knocked off at 1pm."

Mr Molokeng said workers also occupied Telkom's Bloemfontein exchange, workshops and depots.

Telkom could not be reached for comment, but SAPO spokesman Mr Ben Roodman confirmed

that a memorandum had been received in Pretoria. It would be handed to the management board for consideration.

Mr Molokeng said Potwa's grievances centred on "consolidation of privatisation, despite vehement union opposition".

The union's estimated 23 000 members also demanded a living wage, centralised bargaining, an end to unilateral restructuring and the conversion of pension funds into worker-controlled provident funds. — Sapa

Nedbank takes over Telkom home loans

TELKOM's employee housing scheme has been taken over by Nedbank, in a deal which is expected to expand the bank's home loan book by about 3 000 bonds worth R200m.

6/10/92
A Nedbank spokesman said the existing Telkom housing scheme had been transferred in a bid to obtain an improved bond rate for Telkom staff.

A standard rate of 18,25% applied to Telkom employees, but due to the size of the portfolio, some staff members — de-

HILARY GUSH

268

pending on their income — would enjoy a bond rate of up to 1% lower than the standard rate.

If those Telkom staff members with existing bonds chose to transfer their home loans to Nedbank, the bank's book — estimated to be worth R2,1bn — could be expected to increase by a further R400m.

A statement from Telkom is expected later this week.

Nedbank/Telkom deal

Finance Staff

(268)

(18)

Nedbank has taken over the Telkom employee housing scheme, which will add an immediate R200 million to its mortgage bond book.

Nedbank said in a statement at the weekend that the Telkom housing scheme was transferred to it in order to obtain an improved bond rate for Telkom staff.

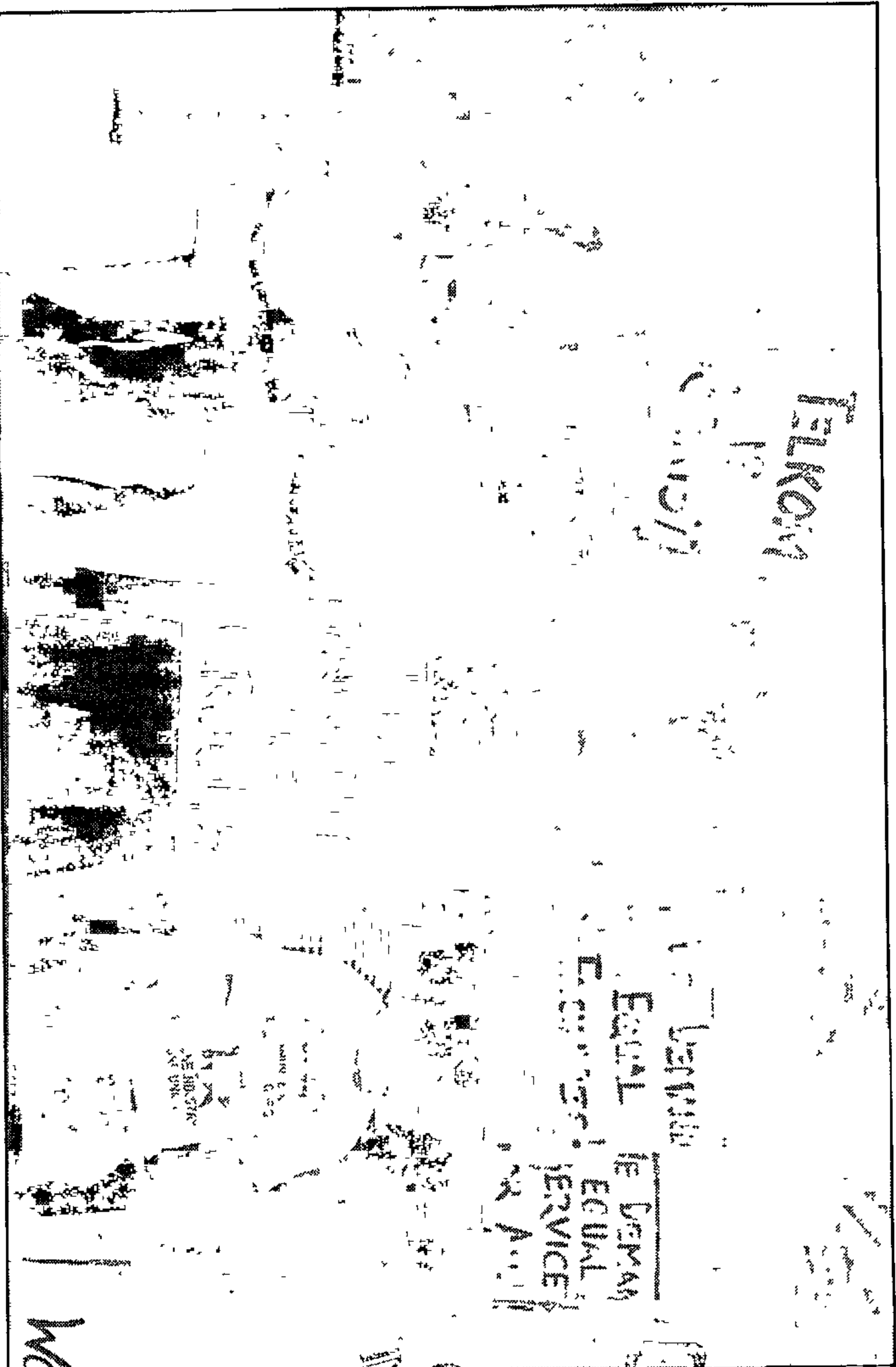
The acquisition of this

housing scheme will expand Nedbank's portfolio by some 3 000 bonds and Telkom staff will have the advantage of cheaper bond rates.

It is also expected that Telkom staff may elect to transfer existing bonds to Nedbank, thereby increasing Nedbank's portfolio by a further R400 million.

The existing bond portfolio is also expected to double over the next three years.

SMC 5/10/92



On the march . . . Soweto Telkom workers and residents protest yesterday against alleged lack of commitment to efficient service and poor working conditions. They also asked for probes to ascertain clients' needs.
Picture: Peter Mogaki

PO protesters call for return to State control

STAFF 2/10/92

By Thabo Leshilo
and Pretoria Correspondent

The first anniversary of the privatisation of post and telecommunication services in South Africa yesterday was marked by protest action as employees marched on Telkom and the South African Post Offices Services (Sapos) to demand a return to State control.

The protesters also called for pay increases and the scrapping of all 087 services.

In Pretoria, hundreds of Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) members marched on the Sapos and Telkom headquarters.

In Soweto, about 300 marchers, including members of Potwa, the SA Postal Employees' Association and the Post Office Employees' Association accused Telkom and Sapos of a lack of commitment to efficient service.

They also complained that astronomically high telephone bills fanned hatred against technical officers and postmen.

The protesters urged Telkom and Sapos jointly to conduct investigations.

Other demands were that staff be paid a "danger allow-

ance" for working in the volatile township, that more staff, especially clerks, be employed, and that Telkom workers be paid a "living wage."

In Pretoria, the marchers, who were led by Potwa president Kgabisi Mosunkutu, presented memorandums containing grievances to Telkom general manager of labour relations Dawie de Villiers and Sapos labour relations manager Henne van Staden.

The demands included

- An end to unilateral restructuring of the two companies without worker involvement
 - A demand for a living wage
 - Dismantling of all 087 services which affect the cost of telephone bills
 - Telephone and postal services should be made affordable to the whole community
 - The present pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) tax be transferred to a fund for a democratic SA
 - Present pension funds be converted to a provident fund
 - Collective bargaining units to negotiate better working conditions for Potwa members
- The association also asked the two organisations to stop providing services to the Ciskei government

268

NOTICE 991 OF 1992**DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER**

LABOUR RELATIONS ACT, 1956

268

**APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A
TRADE UNION**

I, Gerhardus Coenraad Papenfus, Assistant Industrial Registrar, do hereby, in terms of section 4 (2) of the Labour Relations Act, 1956, give notice that an application for registration as a trade union has been received from the Pos- en Telkomvereniging van Suid-Afrika. Particulars of the application are reflected in the subjoined table.

Any registered trade union which objects to the application is invited to lodge its objection in writing with me, c/o the Department of Manpower, Manpower Building, 215 Schoeman Street, Pretoria (postal address: Private Bag X117, Pretoria, 0001), within one month of the date of publication of this notice.

TABLE

Name of trade union: Pos- en Telkomvereniging van Suid-Afrika.

Date on which application was lodged: 8 October 1992.

Interest and area in respect of which application is made: Employees engaged in all undertakings, sections or trades of the South African Post Office Limited, Telkom South Africa Limited and Posmed Medical Fund in the Republic of South Africa.

For the purposes hereof—

“South African Post Office Limited” is the company which was established in terms of the Post Office Amendment Act, 1991 (Act No. 85 of 1991);

“Telkom South Africa Limited” is the company which was established in terms of the Post Office Amendment Act, 1991 (Act No. 85 of 1991); and

“Posmed Medical Fund” is a medical fund registered in terms of the Medical Schemes Act, 1967 (Act No. 72 of 1967)

Postal address of applicant: P O Box 9186, Johannesburg, 2000.

Office address of applicant: 401/405 Salstaff Building, 228 Smit Street, Wanderer's View, Johannesburg.

Attention is drawn to the following requirements of section 4 of the Act:

- (a) The representativeness of any trade union which objects to the application shall in terms of subsection (4) be determined on the facts as they existed at the date on which the application was lodged and, as far as membership is concerned, only members who were in good standing in terms of section 1 (2) of the Act as at the aforesaid date shall be taken into consideration
- (b) The procedure laid down in subsection (2) must be followed in connection with any objection lodged

G. C. PAFENFUS,

Assistant Industrial Registrar

(6 November 1992)

KENNISGEWING 991 VAN 1992**DEPARTEMENT VAN MANNEKRAG**

WET OP ARBEIDSVERHOUDINGE, 1956

**AANSOEK OM REGISTRASIE VAN 'N
VAKVERENIGING**

Ek, Gerhardus Coenraad Papenfus, Assistentnywerheidsregistrator, maak ingevolge artikel 4 (2) van die Wet op Arbeidsverhoudinge, 1956, hierby bekend dat 'n aansoek om registrasie as 'n vakvereniging ontvang is van die Pos- en Telkomvereniging van Suid-Afrika. Besonderhede van die aansoek word in onderstaande tabel verstrek

Enige geregistreerde vakvereniging wat teen die aansoek beswaar maak, word versoek om binne een maand na die datum van publikasie van hierdie kennisgewing sy beswaar skriftelik by my in te dien, p/a die Departement van Mannekrag, Mannekraggebou, Schoemanstraat 215, Pretoria (posadres: Privaat Sak X117, Pretoria, 0001).

TABEL

Naam van vakvereniging: Pos- en Telkomvereniging van Suid-Afrika

Datum waarop aansoek ingedien is: 8 Oktober 1992.

Belange en gebied ten opsigte waarvan aansoek gedoen word: Werknemers in diens in alle ondernemings, afdelings of bedrywe van die Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor Beperk, Telkom Suid-Afrika Beperk en Posmed Mediese Fonds in die Republiek van Suid-Afrika.

Vir die doeleindes hiervan is—

die “Suid-Afrikaanse Poskantoor Beperk” die maatskappy wat gestig is ingevolge die Poswysingswet, 1991 (Wet No. 85 van 1991);

“Telkom Suid-Afrika Beperk” die maatskappy wat gestig is ingevolge die Poswysingswet, 1991 (Wet No. 85 van 1991), en

“Posmed Mediese Fonds” 'n mediese fonds wat geregistreer is ingevolge die Wet op Mediese Skemas, 1967 (Wet No. 72 van 1967)

Posadres van applikant: Posbus 9186, Johannesburg, 2000

Kantooradres van applikant: Salstaffgebou 401/405, Smitstraat 228, Wanderer's View, Johannesburg

Die aandag word gevestig op onderstaande vereistes van artikel 4 van die Wet:

- (a) Die mate waarin 'n beswaarmakende vakvereniging verteenwoordigend is, word ingevolge subartikel (4) bepaal volgens die feite soos hulle bestaan het op die datum waarop die aansoek ingedien is, en wat die lidmaatskap betref, word alleen lede wat ingevolge artikel 1 (2) van die Wet op voormelde datum volwaardige lede was, in aanmerking geneem
- (b) Die prosedure voorgeskryf by subartikel (2) moet gevolg word in verband met 'n beswaar wat ingedien word

G. C. PAFENFUS,

Assistentnywerheidsregistrator

(6 November 1992)

POST OFFICE FM 13/11/92

Sorting out the staff (268)

If your postie is looking a bit dodderly under his mailbag and struggling mightily on his Post Office-issue bicycle, chances are he might opt for the mail service's early retirement programme

In an attempt to shed about 1 600 workers, the board of directors has given certain categories of Post Office staff a choice of retiring before reaching pension age but with benefits close to those they would have received had they stayed on until age 65

So far 815 employees have accepted the offer, says spokesman Ben Rootman. He adds "The programme is working well, it's a deal in which nobody is losing"

The programme is part of the Post Office's effort to cut its wage bill. Under government's commercialisation scheme, the Post Office is striving to operate like a private business — even though it is still owned by government — by cutting costs and becoming more efficient and customer-orientated. This year it expects a deficit of R548m but hopes to break even within five years.

When commercialisation started on October 1 last year, Post Office staff totalled 28 000. By the end of the year, this should be down by a few thousand due to attrition and retirements. "Right now, we don't have any recruiting programmes," says Rootman.

The early-retirement programme is not aimed at any particular divisions but at three different groups with varying benefits. Employees who are 55 or older and have more than 10 years' service will get a cash payout of a month's wages for every year of service, restricted to six months' pay. All leave and pro rata service bonuses will be paid out.

The other two groups, employees aged 55 and over with fewer than 10 years' service and staff in the Post Office savings bank head office in Bloemfontein, will also get resignation benefits including 10% of monthly pay for every year served or part thereof.

The Post Office Pension Fund is administered by Old Mutual. "The directors obviously looked at the fund and decided we could afford the scheme," Rootman says.

The programme, which ended this week, could be brought back next year if too few people retire. ■

Flats postmen on strike

EMPLOYEES at seven post offices in Cape Town's black townships have gone on strike because postmen from other areas have been appointed to deliver mail in the townships.

A spokesman for the Post and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) said a delegation from the union's Western Cape region would meet representatives of the Post Office today to discuss the issue.

About 66 workers at the Khayelit-

sha, Guguletu, Lingeletu West, Elwanabeni, Inyanga, Crossroads and Langa post offices downed tools on Wednesday.

The spokesman said "It's is not a matter of being racist. There is great unemployment in areas like Khayelitsha."

Potwa has demanded that the Post Office implement a policy of non-racial job creation and an affirmative action programme with a programme of for black employees.

Postmen call off Flats strike

27511212
THE Posts and Telecom-
munications Workers'
Association and the
South African Post
Office have reached
agreement on the ap-
pointment of black post-
men, ending a three-day
strike at seven township
post offices

Spokesmen for the
union and management
confirmed yesterday
that agreement was
reached. 268