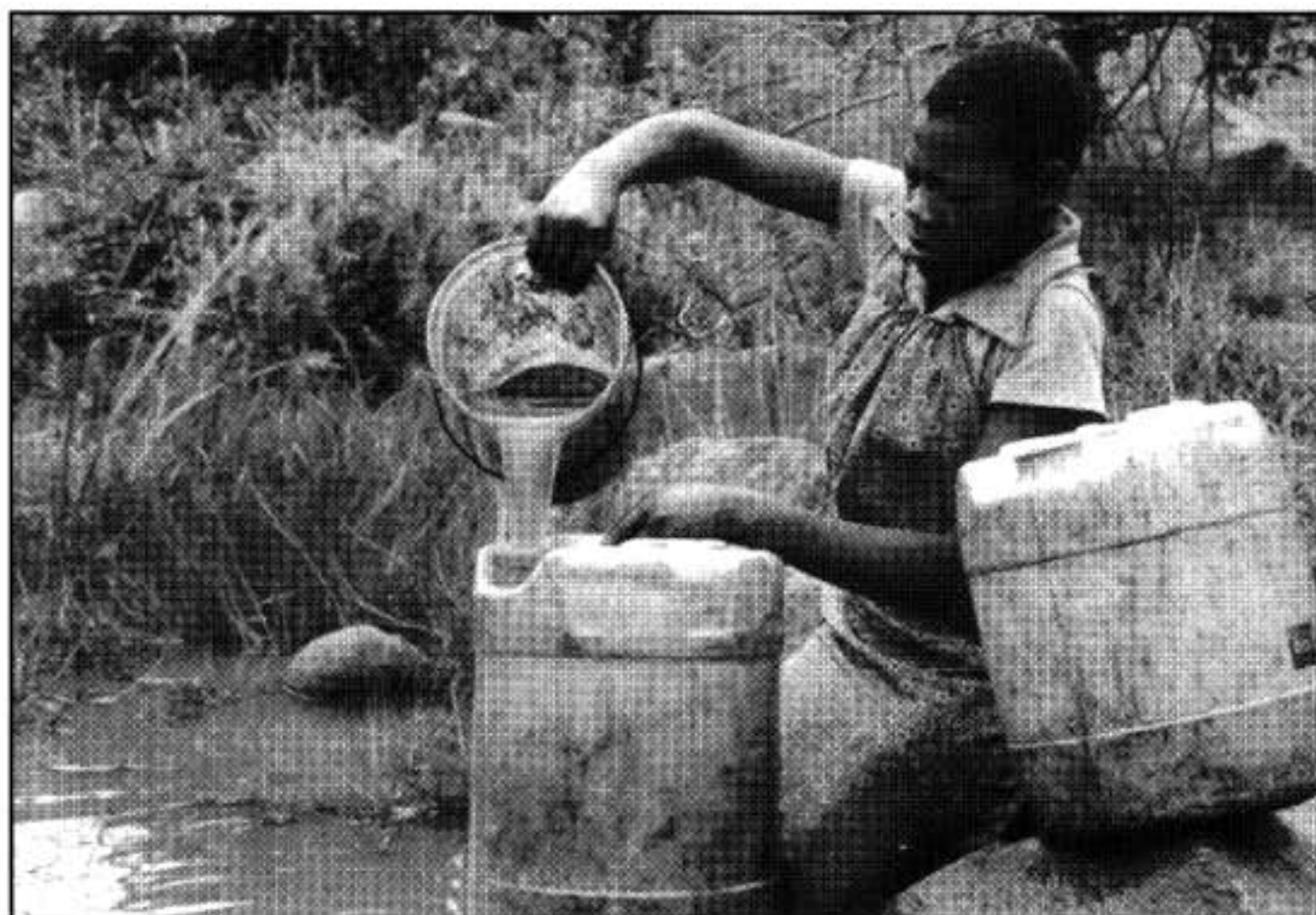


One of the most difficult problems facing KwaZulu is the supply of safe potable water to rural families.



ideas on a suitable health care strategy. The KwaZulu Government remains to play a pivotal role in any decision-making process about the restructuring of South Africa's health services.

Apart from the wasted funds as a result of the costly duplication of services - and partly as a result of it - the poor salaries paid to doctors and other health care personnel means there are not enough skilled medical staff to allow all South

African hospitals to be fully utilised.

But in Natal/KwaZulu, initiatives undertaken with the Joint Executive Authority (JEA) and its standing Committee on Health Matters have benefitted substantially from the co-ordination of services provided by the two main health authorities in the region - the Department of Health and Hospital Services of the Natal Provincial Administration (NPA) and the KwaZulu department of Health. Serious

Curbing the growing Aids menace

Deaths due to Aids will be almost one million by 1996 and 2,9 million by the year 2 000 - of which half a million could be infants.

The growing threat of a full-blown Aids epidemic could upset even the most carefully-planned of health care strategies. That is why the IFP believes the problem of Aids should be tackled head on and a strong emphasis placed on Aids-awareness campaigns.

Statistics provided by the Economic Research Unit at the University of Natal, which specifically focuses on the Natal/KwaZulu region, suggest that if the doubling time for the spread of the HIV virus is taken as nine months, the cumulative total of HIV-infected individuals within the Black population, aged between 15 and 64, will be 2,55

million by 1996 and eight million by the end of the century.

In turn, deaths due to Aids will be almost one million by 1996 and 2,9 million by the year 2 000 - of which half a million could be infants.

The most effective means of curbing the spread of this disease - for which there is still no known cure - is through education, with schools targeted as the main objective of the Aids information drive. An Aids unit must be established with sufficient manpower and resources to ensure that no individual has the excuse for professing ignorance of the causes and prevention of Aids.