

# Hundreds flock to FOSATU events



University.

About 300 people came to listen to workers give their views and the debate that went on after these talks was very interesting. FOSATU Worker News at some later stage hopes to carry these talks.

But the highlight of the two week Winter School programme organised by FOSATU was July 16.

More than 500 people danced, sang and shouted slogans in Wits' Great Hall in a day devoted to worker culture.

This was not a day to forget about the worker struggle. But a day when the workers carried the struggle into the area of culture.

The afternoon began with a choir of women workers from Autoplastics in Pretoria.

The women workers sang songs familiar to most FOSATU members. The audience was so eager to participate in the singing that when the choir asked for some male voices, just about the whole audience wanted to get up on the stage.

In the end, it looked like the workers in the audience became the choir as they sang and danced along with the Autoplastics' workers.

After things had settled down the Dunlop workers who had come up from

Durban to put on their play showed how they had put the play together.

This was followed by a talk by National Union of Textile Workers' organiser Bangi Solo on Marabi Dance — a book by Dikobe where he describes the experience of workers.

Brother Solo through the book showed how the 1913 Land Act forced Africans to find work in the cities.

The next act in the worker culture programme was the Junction Avenue Theatre Company who sang songs from their previous plays.

They sang both serious and funny songs which were really enjoyed by the worker audience.

But the highlight of the day was the Dunlop play where workers acted out their experiences in the factory.

The play begins with the all too familiar 25 year service award, moves on to a number of events in the past like the Cato Manor riots and in the last section deals with the struggle for the recognition of the Metal and Allied Workers Union in the factory.

Well, it appears that everybody had a good time at the Worker Culture Day so it is understandable that FOSATU will be holding a similar event next year.

So if you didn't make it this year try next year.

IT was July 16. Bus loads of people began arriving on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand.

A campus which is usually

full of students but for this day the workers of FOSATU took over.

Prior to this a number of

worker groups from the federation had given talks on topics like 'Workers and Democracy' or 'Workers and the Community' at Wits

# WORKERS ON THE MARCH



THE Pinetown group give their talk on the role of shop stewards



DANCING and singing — two of the members of the Pretoria choir.



THE much enjoyed Junction Avenue Theatre Company.



THE 'Ja Baas' supervisor — a scene from the Dunlop play.