

UDF LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN FOR.....

# 1 MILLION SIGNATURES

"I HAVE no doubt the campaign will be a success. I put my pen to this paper with pride. This is the way people will be able to show their opposition to this apartheid Government.

These were the words of Dr Allan Boesak at a press conference in Pretoria where the United Democratic Front's Million Signature Campaign was announced.

Dr Boesak was the first to sign the UDF declaration. Also among the first to sign were Presidents Oscar Mpetha and Archie Gumede, and UDF Patron Helen Joseph.

In the next few months, members of the UDF will be working hard to ensure that one million people put their signatures to the list.

By signing, our people will show rejection of the Government's new constitution and Koornhof laws, and call for a non-racial, democratic South Africa.



**Dr. Allan Boesak**

Some of the main aims of the campaign, are:

1. To make it clear to the Government and the world what South Africans feel about the situation in their country.
2. To get our own people to respond to the call of the UDF.

"It is important that the campaign is a success," said UDF publicity secretary, "Terror" Lekota.

"With it's success, our people who have no houses, no work, no food... will show their confidence in the power of the UDF to help build a free non-racial and democratic South Africa."

The campaign was officially launched on January 22 - a day after the press conference - at a mass rally in Soshanguve, Pretoria which was attended by 1 000 people.



**UDF members watch as Dr. Allan Boesak signs the declaration to mark the start of the Signature Campaign. Inserts: Helen Joseph & Oscar Mpetha - among first signatories.**

## AECI strike: 9000 workers forced to go back

A STRIKE by thousands of chemical workers ended this week. The workers, from the giant explosives company, AECI, were demanding R400 a month - R30 more than the bosses were offering them.

The strike began at the AECI factory at Modderfontein, outside Johannesburg, where 5 000 workers downed tools on January 16.

By January 20, workers at AECI factories in Somerset West, Durban and Sasolburg had joined them. A total of 9 000 workers were on strike.

Then came the bosses' ultimatum: Go back to work, or you will be fired.

Only seven days after the strike began, it was over. The workers were given no choice. AECI

would not increase their pay.

The workers are members of the South African Chemical Workers' Union (SACWU) and the South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU).

The strike shows that there is no protection for workers under the labour laws," a SACWU organizer told GRASSROOTS.

The workers do various jobs and live in the factory compounds. Most of them are men, but there are some women at the Modderfontein factory, who also supported the strike.

The workers had decided on a legal strike. Under the law, their unions had to declare a dispute with management in writing. They did, on Decem-

ber 9 last year.

Under the law, they had to wait 30 days before the strike could begin. They did.

Although the strike was legal, it made no difference, the SACWU organizer said. The bosses would not negotiate on the issue of pay.

"The workers had to go back. Most of them are migrants from the Transkei, the Ciskei and other 'homelands'.

The bosses would have fired them and they would all have been sent back there."

"Unions might not choose the legal way in future, because they might not feel it is in their favour," the organizer said.

## 2000 at Oudtshoorn meeting

MORE than 2000 residents in Oudtshoorn rejected the selling of houses at a meeting held on Monday evening, 23 January. People at the meeting also rejected the Labour Party and Management Committees.

All present at the meeting adopted the following resolution:

"We, the residents of Oudtshoorn, reject the Management Committees and the Labour Party for the role they play in enforcing Apartheid. We regard these bodies as bringing hardship and suffering to our communities."

A speaker from the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (CAHAC) explained how the new housing deal works.

"The government wants to place their responsibility of housing on to our shoulders," he said.

Another speaker from Cahac, a former resident of Oudtshoorn, said: "We have been silent long enough. The time has come for us to unite."

And everyone agreed. The hall was filled with the peoples' chants of "ons moet saamstaan, ons moet saamstaan."

Auntie Vivie from Cahac spoke about the importance of organisation. "We must be organised. We must get involved in the building up of our organisations," she said.

She said further that it was important for women to get involved in community organisations. "Women always know what is going on in the houses. We women are the back-bone of the struggle."

The people are determined to take action. At the end of the meeting 150 volunteers stepped forward to help with the housing campaign.

## Labour sells out again

THE LABOUR PARTY has sold out once again.

At their recent Congress they called on the government to hold elections for the new coloured parliament.

The Congress was held in Port Elizabeth and was widely reported by the newspapers, the radio and T.V.

The Labour Party said that they were against a referendum because they were afraid that the United Democratic Front (UDF) would intimidate the people.

The UDF says that the Labour Party is scared to test whether the people accept the government's new deal.

In a statement the UDF said:

"The Labour Party's decision comes as no surprise. It is a year since they betrayed the people at Eshowe. Even the little support they had is becoming less and less.

"They imagine that

with their decision they can bypass the will of the people, with the help of their Nationalist Party masters."

The UDF further said that the Labour Party was now using another excuse to hide behind, like so-called threats of intimidation by the UDF.

"What they call intimidation, we, and the many UDF supporters understand to be education and a strong decision against Apartheid.

The Labour Party has told the press they expect a 50 per cent poll in any election. But they said that even a 20 per cent poll would be enough indication that they could go into Parliament.

"We in the UDF are confident of the support we have. We are confident that the people's rejection of the Labour Party will be shown by the boycott of the elections."

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# "DON'T FORCE US TO BUY"

## Government steps up sale of houses campaign



The government must provide us with decent houses.

THE government will be going all-out over the next few months to force us to buy our houses. Since July last year, we have seen many attempts by them to sell the houses that we are now renting. Their big advertising campaign will soon be stepped up.

The City Council will sell 9000 houses in Mitchells Plain. The Divisional Council has decided to sell 426 houses in Grassy Park, 424 in Lotus River, 438 in Ocean View, 42 in Nooitgedacht, 2081 in Elsies River, 415 in Belhar and 652 in Atlantis.

The government is so desperate that even houses without electricity and which have outside toilets and taps will be sold.

Under the new policy, all those earning over R150 a month will be expected to buy their Council houses.

### Damp, dark houses

For those earning under R150, the government will build houses of a very poor quality. These houses will have no ceilings, no electricity, no hot water, no paint on inside walls, no floor coverings, no fencing and no washing lines.

This will mean more cold, damp and dark houses, more illnesses and more dangers from gas and paraffin.

At the moment, rent is determined on the income of the breadwinner and is not supposed to be more than 25 percent of this income, but in some areas, the rent is more than this. The government has said that people who do not buy their houses will have to pay more rent. Rents will be determined on the income of everyone in the house.

This will lead to more evictions. In 1980, the Divisional Council sent over 100993 eviction notices to 17000 tenants. If people buy their homes and cannot keep up the payments, they will not only lose the house but also the money they invested in it.

## MWASA wins wage increases

WORKERS on all South Africa's major newspapers start the new year with more money in their wage packets.

Each year workers produce more and more goods. Profits get bigger and bigger.

Between last March and September alone, the Argus Company made nearly R11 million clear profit.

So in October members of Mwasa (Media Workers Association of South Africa) started working for themselves! They started to prepare their wage demands.

Wage survey forms were filled in, to give an idea of how big an increase people needed and were prepared to accept. A wage team met management to argue the workers' case for more money.

After a number of meetings in Cape Town and Johannesburg with Argus/SAAN management, an agreement was finally reached on December 8.

The companies started paying the higher wages from January 1.

Weekly paid unskilled workers received increases of R17 a week or 12,5 percent, whichever is the greater. Semi-skilled workers are getting an extra R25 a week. For members earning R100 or more a week the increase is between 17 and 23 percent with the minimum being close to R90.

Officials of the union say that although this is a 'fair' increase wages are still not high enough.

"At R90 a week you are still earning less than R400 a month," an official pointed out. "Also we all have families to feed, whether we earn R70 or R120 a week. For this reason members felt it important that those earning less than R100 a week should get a greater percentage increase."

The new starting wage for junior reporters is R500. Senior journalists also get substantial increases.

All employees, except security staff, will work a five day, 40 hour week.

## We salute Neil Aggett



NEIL AGGETT was the Transvaal secretary of the Food and Canning Workers Union. On 27 November 1981 he was detained by the security police. At 1.30 a.m. on February 1982 he was dead.

The police say they found him hanging in his cell. The police say he took his own life.

On the day of his funeral, thousands of workers all over the country stopped work for half-an-hour to mourn his death.

Two years later we still mourn the death of our comrade Neil Aggett. He gave up everything to devote himself to the Workers' struggle. He worked hard in building the union into a true workers' organisation.

## Clothing workers on strike

# "Bosses must speak to our real union"

THIRTY-TWO members of the Clothing Workers' Union recently stopped work for about two hours when the boss sacked some workers.

They all work at the Three Spears company in Wetton. Three Spears makes rucksacks and other things for the

army.

The workers complained that they work hard for little money. They say the boss treats them like slaves.

Every time he feels like it, he sacks workers.

"Every week old workers are sacked and new ones employed," said one worker.

One day the workers decided they had had enough. Eight workers were sacked and then the boss also sacked one of the supervisors who was also a member of Clowu.

This cannot go on, the workers decided. They decided to stop work at about nine o'clock and demanded to see the boss.

He refused to see the workers. He called in people from the Canvass Union and the Clothing Industrial Council.

The workers decided to go back to work, but they were still upset.

"We will not be satisfied until our demands are met and the boss agrees to speak to our real union, Clowu," the workers said.

Clowu said the conditions at Three Spears are bad.

"This has angered the workers," Clowu said.

The struggle at Three Spears continues . . .

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# UDF CONFERENCE...UDF CONFERENCE...



Excitement - and heated discussion marked the UDF conference in Port Elizabeth last December.

## Referendum, plans for Signature Campaign

"THE people of Port Elizabeth have always resisted the Apartheid government and its laws. We are proud of this, and we are proud that the UDF National Conference is being held in our city."

WITH these words, Edgar Ngoyi welcomed delegates from seven regions to the first national UDF conference since the launching in Rocklands. The regions represented were Natal, Transvaal, OFS, Eastern Cape, Border, Northern Cape, and Western Cape.

The conference was held last month to assess UDF's work, and to plan a programme of future action. Dr Allan Boesak and 34 German organisations sent messages of support.

Popo Molefi, UDF National Secretary, spoke about the progress made by the UDF. He said the UDF is growing every day - many new organisations and regions have joined.

There are still problems that UDF must overcome. Some of these are:

- Organisations need to link their activities

more to those of the UDF.

- The UDF needs to plan action in the rural areas, and to take action against forced removals and resettlement.
- more people should be drawn in, and be active in organisations.

### Referendum

Many hours were spent discussing the referendum. The conference needed to discuss two issues:

1. Whether the UDF should call for a referendum
2. Whether the UDF should call for a vote in, or boycott a government referendum.

Some delegates wanted the UDF to call for a referendum for the Coloured and Indian community. If the government refused this call, it would show they were afraid to ask the Coloured and Indian people their opinion of the constitution.

Others felt that the UDF should call for a non-racial referendum, open to all South Africans.

Delegates also had different feelings about taking part in a referendum called by the government. Some felt that the UDF should take part, and call on the people to show their rejection of the constitution by voting NO.

Others felt that the UDF should boycott any referendum held for Coloureds and Indians only.

The delegates could not agree on this. They decided to discuss this matter again in their organisations and regions, before making a final decision.

The conference also discussed the UDF's plans for a signature campaign. In this campaign, UDF will call for South Africans to sign a declaration supporting the UDF and rejecting the Government's Constitutional proposals, and Koornhof Bills. The UDF hopes to get at least a million signatures.



## We will not fight to defend apartheid

THE new constitution will mean, among other things, that many of our youth will be called up to join the South African Defence Force. But many people are very angry about this. And they are determined that they will not go.

At the launching of the UDF, a resolution was passed declaring that the UDF would resist all efforts to force our youth into the SADF. Speaker after speaker pointed out that the SADF was defending a racist system. That the SADF was stopping the people of Namibia from building a free and democratic country.

The issue of conscription was also discussed at the UDF conference in Port Elizabeth last month. The conference decided that the UDF should plan a big campaign to fight the call up for our youth.

The campaign will:

- fight any laws which will force our youth to serve in the SADF
- call for an end to the call up for whites
- show how the SADF is defending apartheid
- support those who refuse to accept their call up to go to the army.

This campaign would make the people aware of SADF's activities, and explain why there should be an end to conscription. And it would help build and strengthen our organisations.

laws such as the Group Areas Act and the Separate Amenities Act. We must resist the forced removal of people to Khayelitsha, and the homelands. We must actively reject the new apartheid constitution.

Many Christians say that it is not enough just to speak about these things. We must take action to show our rejection of oppression and exploitation.

The SADF fights so that this oppression and exploitation may continue. The Church needs to take a stand against the SADF,

and to call for an end to conscription. The Church is already supporting those who refuse to serve in the army.

The church must be guided by truth and justice. There are many church organisations which have joined the struggle for truth and justice in our land - organisations such as Inter-church Youth, The Ecumenical Action Movement, and Students union for Christian Action.

We call on all christians to unite with others fighting oppression and injustice in South Africa.

## New Year messages



1983 saw the birth of a giant organisation, the United Democratic Front. Then the dawn of hope appeared which filled the hearts of the oppressed.

We are looking forward to 1984 as a year of hope. Let the struggle of the oppressed gain momentum.

I call upon all the oppressed to take advantage of this organisation and unite as ever before under the banner of the UDF, irrespective of colour or creed, different ideologies. I call upon all sectors to rally behind the UDF.

Let women, workers, students and churches, also cultural organisations talk of a National Convention. Forward to National Convention. Forward to a better new life.

Amandla Ngawethu

**Oscar Mpetha**

I WANT to wish all Cahac affiliates and everyone fighting for a free South Africa, a prosperous new year. I want to wish them well in the future. To grow from strength to strength and to take forward the struggle to achieve our goal for a united, undivided, democratic South Africa.

We can only achieve this by working together and speaking with one voice. Unity is strength. An injury to one is an injury to all. A united people we shall remain. Amandla.

**Mrs Benjamin**



I greet all the women and daughters of South Africa who are in our struggle.

I greet all who are in our UWO and in our UDF.

I say "Forward People, forward." This is the time of our freedom. This is the time to our new South Africa, this is the time to be free.

Let us fight for our demands. Let us resist the removal of people to Khayelitsha.

The SADF wants to use our sons. Let us fight for an end to conscription.

**Mama Zihlangu**

1983 saw the emergence of progressive organisations all over the country.

In the Western Cape the Cape Youth Congress (Cayco) brought together 38 youth movements. The youth are on the move.

But lots of work still lies ahead.

In 1984 two important challenges face us: As an affiliate of the United Democratic Front (UDF) we have to work hard in taking the UDF from strength to strength in the fight against the new constitution.

Coloured and Indian youth face conscription into the SADF. Cayco resolves to oppose conscription with everything in its power.

It is the youth who will be faced with the task of building the non-racial democratic South Africa we are all fighting for. In 1984, we will have to build our organisations to achieve these aims.

Forward to a nonracial united South Africa free from oppression and exploitation!

**Trevor Oosterwyk**

## Churches join in struggle for justice

"APARTHEID is sinful. Christians cannot support apartheid in any way" "The SADF is fighting an unjust war against the people of Namibia."

The Church has made many statements like these. Now it is time for action.

Archbishop Phillip Russel said that 1984 will be a year of social action for Christians.

Dr Allan Boesak has also said that the Church must now act upon its statement that Apartheid is a heresy.

Christians cannot obey laws based on sinful Apartheid. We must act against

# Another nail in their coffin

THE Labour Party has refused to hold a referendum to test the people's feelings about the new constitution. This comes as no surprise.

At their congress in Eshowe last year, Hendrickse and his disciples decided to "go inside" the government's new racist parliament. They made token calls for a referendum to test the will of the "coloured" people.

But the resistance of our people and the growth of organisations such as the UDF have already shown our rejection of the new constitution. So the Labour Party is afraid to hold a referendum which they know they will lose.

At their last congress, the Labour Party said they will not hold a referendum because an organisation like the UDF will "intimidate" and frighten the people.

Instead they asked the government to hold elections as soon as possible, so they could be sure of their place in the dummy parliament.

But the the UDF does not frighten the people. It is the Labour Party who is frightened. They say organisations like the UDF have no support. They are trying to close their eyes to what is happening around them.

But they know that the oppressed people will not be fooled by their words, will not follow the puppet leaders of Apartheid. Their decision to call for elections is just another nail in their coffin.

# Sign for freedom!

THE new constitution might be the death of the Labour Party and other dummy bodies such as the SAIC. But it has given birth to a strong people's movement in the UDF.

Now the UDF has launched a campaign to collect one million signatures. Signatures to show the people's support of the UDF, and our strong rejection of Botha's evil "new deal".

The collection of a million signatures will also help us organise our communities, go door-to-door and show our people how the new constitution will bring even more hardships.

It will help teach our people the need for united action against oppression and exploitation. And, it will bring more and more members into our organisations.

These are the challenges of the Signature Campaign. This campaign is a chance for us to show our commitment to a free non-racial and democratic South Africa.

We can show this by signing the UDF forms. But this is not enough. We must also show our commitment by collecting signatures wherever and whenever we can - at work, at home, in our communities, schools, colleges, sportsfields.

Let us show the world that we will never accept the apartheid government and their puppets.

# Dis 'n skande dat ons so moet lewe!

LIEWE GRASSROOTS ALMAL het die vakansie geniet, lekker ontspan, lekker geëet, maar wat van ons 'pensioners'? Oor die Nuwe Jaar het ek niks gehad nie, niks geld, niks lekkergoed nie.

Ek kry R91 elke maand. Hoe kan ek regkom? Ek betaal R12 elektrisiteit, R17 huur, R15 water en R20 vir my doodgenootskap. Wat is oor?

Krismis was daar niks in die huis nie. Ek

kon nie eens 'n overall of 'n paar slippers gekoop het nie. Dis 'n skande dat ons so moet lewe.

Kyk hoe baie kry die wit mense. En hulle het nie eens die geld nodig nie. Hulle kan hulle 'servants' met daai geld betaal.

Ek kan nie eens iets vir my kleinkinders gekoop het nie..

Dis regtig 'n skande.

Mrs Fortune (Retreat)

# Hoe kan ons bekostig om perdestalle te koop?

LIEWE GRASSROOTS

ONS het in die vissermanne cottages gebly vir 19 jare. Daardie tyd was die rent R16.00 per maand. Maar ons het nie die geld betaal nie, die Fabrik het die geld afgetrek.

Die fabriek het nooit die huise kom

regmaak of ons sien of hulle die huise kan kom regmaak nie.

Toe die council die huise gevat het, was die rent R23 per maand. Die council het net die onderse huise se rame gepaint en het net so in die middel gelos. Ons moet al die jare self die huise paint. As hulle 'n slot kom aansit, moet

ons betaal daarvoor. As hulle 'n kraan kom insit moet ons betaal daarvoor.

Ons het nog nooit onderlike toilets gehad nie want elke tweede week moet ons met stokke staan om die mis af te stoot. Oh, dis 'n disgrace. Ons voel naas ons klaar is.

Die Hout Baai Aksie

Kommittee het gevis dat die council moet vir ons water toilets kom insit.

Maar nou wil hulle probeer vir ons vang. Hulle beweeg soos slange. Hulle kom die toilets insit maar ons sien deur hulle planne. Hulle wil die huise verkoop.

Hulle het nou die dag oor die TV gesê dat hulle die sub-economic huise wil verkoop vir 9 tot 12 duisend rand. Nou, hulle het nie gepraat van ons huise nie.

Hulle sê ons se huise is economic huise. Lyk did soos economic huise? Dit lyk meer na perde stalle. Ons betaal R43,59 per maand vir rent.

Ons sukkel om die hoë rent te betaal. Hoe kan ons bekostig om die perdestalle te koop? GRASSROOTS

moet meer uitvind oor die verkoop van huise. Waar en hoeveel die pryse sal wees sodat almal kan weet. Ons voel dat as hulle die huise verkoop, moet ons besluit op die prys want ons het al klaar baie geld betaal.

Baie van ons in die cottages is pensioners en is al oud. Wat gaan hulle nou maak met ons ou mense wat hier bly.

Sal hulle ons uitsmyt of moet ons ou mense ook die hoë pryse betaal.

AUNTIE C HOUT BAAI AKSIE KOMMITTEE

Baie Dankie  
Ons kan staat maak op Grassroots. Grassroots help baie baie vir ons. Asseblief skryf in Afrikaans want ons mense soek altyd om iets te lees in Grassroots.



# "Call-up - the price we pay for a dummy vote"

DEAR GRASSROOTS

I see Rev Allan Hendrickse of the Labour Party says that he will oppose conscription until all South Africans have equal rights.

He must think that the people are very easily fooled.

We all know that the call up of "Coloured" and "Indian" young men is the price the government is demanding in exchange for this dummy vote.

That is why they have made Defence a "General Affair" - as opposed to a White, Coloured and Indian "own affair". This means that the whole question of the call up of "Coloureds" and "Indians" to fight and die on the border in defence of apartheid will be decided by Whites who are in the majority in parliament.

They are also in the majority on the President's Council where disputes will finally be settled.

By agreeing to take part in the new deal, the Labour Party are helping to make it work, helping to make the call up of "Coloured" and "Indian" young men a reality.

In future, when we see the names of "Coloured" and "Indian" casualties on the border flashed on to our TV screens, we will know who to blame.

The threat of conscription is but one of many reasons why we reject Botha's new deal.

We also reject this attempt by the Labour Party to divert the struggle from its true course: the establishment of a democratic, nonracial and united South Africa.

ROVING EYE MITCHELLS PLAIN

DEAR GRASSROOTS

THE lack of a hospital in Mitchells Plain really burns me up. Imagine the authorities creating such a huge residential area without providing for a basic necessity such as a hospital.

To make my point about the urgent need for a hospital here in Mitchells Plain, I would like to sketch an imaginary scene.

A young child is knocked down by a car. He is seriously injured. However, if he could be given emergency treatment in a hospital's casualty department within say half-an-hour of the time of the accident, his life could almost certainly be saved.

Because the nearest hospital is so far away, there is no way the child can be got to hospital in time to save his life.

Therefore, the child dies.

I would like to ask: Who then is responsible for the innocent child's murder? Yes, call it murder.

I would also like to ask: Are we the people of Mitchells Plain entirely blameless in a situation I have just described?

If we were really serious about this demand for a hospital do you think that we would still be without one?

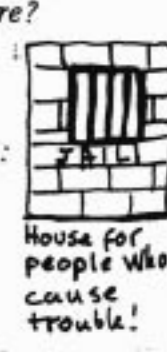
FRANTIC WESTRIDGE

# Accommodation for the nation

"Black tide swelling!" - Squatter camps demolished!  
 "Influx laws should be tightened!" - "They should be abolished"  
 "Indian areas crowded!" - "Forty men to one garage!"  
 "Blacks are living in Hillbrow!" - A constant barrage of headlines like these made our government aware of a widespread predicament  
 And at last this slow-moving institution Presented a truly worthy solution:  
 "Let's increase by a full two hundred percent The number of Houses of Parliament!  
 Let rent be free in each one of the three -  
 And with those who are willing to come here to stay We'll healthily share our power and pay.  
 We won't interfere in the tenants' affairs If they keep their noses out of our cares.  
 The formerly troublesome Leader of Labour Will be welcome as our respected neighbour Provided he keeps his own House in order (If not, he may join our Boys on the Boarder.)  
 As for squatting blacks We'll demolish their shacks We can't allow slums (Anyway, they're such bums)  
 A fourth House, you'll agree, just wouldn't do - It would only spoil the other three's view!  
 If they ask for houses, give them municipalities! Reinforce their far-flung principalities Make them part of a future confederation But avoid all political integration!"  
 (If you have the misfortune of being black Like a snail you should carry your house on your back.)  
 Prospective tenants were overawed

By this generous offer, which they called "flawed". Publicly critical, they purported to pin Far-fetched hopes on pulling down walls from within. Disbelief in this option grew after a sinister Sight-seeing tour by a Cabinet minister Of the racially mixed population of Mayfair. An on-the-spot statement implied: "How they dare? If Coloureds and Indians are drawn to our side That certainly doesn't make them Snow White! We may not be racist, but we're not colour-blind! When we offered you Houses, we had this in mind: You'll get two non-black Houses of Parliament But your status as private resident Remains non-white! - And whatever you do We'll make sure that you never confuse the two! To the whites in this area I'll only say: Let the non-whites find housing further away! Let us love our neighbours, that's only Christian and right But then please first make sure that our neighbours are white! For how can there ever be Peace, Law and Order If you folk sommer love across racial borders. The new dispensation must in no way detract From provisions of the Group Areas Act. And to those who at present defy this Law: Please go back to wherever you were before!"  
 To the womb? Or beyond? Back to District Six? To the countries of origin before the Great Mix? And will this bold step in a backward direction Affect citizens of European extraction? How will those set to occupy the new Houses Survive the suspicion this statement arouses? (Could this unneighbourly ministerial addendum For the benefit of the White referendum On behalf of Community Development Be the -end of the Labouring Rever-end?)

Richard Bertelsmann Observatory



# STUDENT CONGRESSES SPELL OUT THEIR PLANS FOR 1984



## Plans for Education Charter

"ORGANISING for People's Education". This is the theme that will hold together the programme of action of Azaso in 1984.

At Azaso's annual General Students Council (GSC), held in Pietermaritzburg in December, about 100 student leaders from all over South Africa put their heads together to plan activities for this year.

All delegates agreed that Azaso should strengthen itself and expand throughout South Africa.

This means building on the foundation that Azaso has established at the 12 universities and colleges since 1981.

### Tactics

A key to organising is correct tactics. This message came out clearly during the discussion on "Towards an Azaso approach".

A speaker said that correct tactics meant making sure that all our actions were carefully planned with a good chance of success.

Through this a mass following could be built which has trust in the leadership.

The leadership had to develop a close relationship with the mass of students. They have to make sure there is no distance between them.

The speaker went on to say that correct tactics had to be backed up by a correct and popular political programme.

For Azaso, this is the Freedom Charter which emphasises that South Africa is one nation, regardless of race or ethnicity.

The speaker said the

Freedom Charter would put an end to racism and capitalism in South Africa.

It would be the basis on which a new, united, non-racial and democratic South Africa would be built.

Drawing inspiration from this historical document is the campaign for an education charter which Azaso is conducting with Cosas.

This campaign aims to draw together all the demands of the oppressed for an education which serves the interests of the majority of people in South Africa and not just the bosses and Government. The Charter would also demand an end to Bantu and gutter education.

Azaso also resolved to intensify its involvement in the United Democratic Front (UDF).

However, it was said that Azaso should not be swallowed up by UDF activities.

It had to take up issues of importance to students so that it did not lose its identity as a student body.

### S.A.D.F.

Azaso has taken a strong stand against Botha's plan to call up our youth for army duty. In a statement the organisation said that Botha and Malan were making a big mistake if they thought students and youth would join the SADF in exchange for a so-called "vote" under the new constitution.

They are confident that black students and youth will refuse to serve in the SADF and will strongly resist the call-up.

# MEETING CHALLENGE OF THE YEAR AHEAD



THE 61st National Congress of Nusas was held at the University of Witwatersrand early in December. At the end of the six-day congress the theme "meeting the challenge of change" was adopted for 1984.

Oscar Mpetha, UDF national president, opened the congress. He said that all students must work together to bring about the change that South Africa is crying out for.

To loud applause, Mr Mpetha said that old as he was, he would like to see freedom in his lifetime. Over 200 students from the University of Cape Town, Wits, Durban, Pietermaritzburg and Rhodes attended.

The students divided up into committees to discuss political action, faculty councils, university admission policy and other issues.

The Congress felt that Nusas needed to involve many more students in organisation on the campuses in 1984.

In 1983, Nusas campaigns had mobilised many students. However, not all of these students became involved in organisation.

Thousands of students rallied behind the Nusas call to fight the

quota system which was designed to make it more difficult for black students to enrol on the Nusas campuses. But these thousands had not been drawn into day-to-day activity.

Nusas' participation in the UDF during 1983 had been very successful. However students believed it was not enough to just reject Botha's new deal. It was necessary for students to find a better system.

Students had to know what change was needed. This was one reason for the choice of the theme "students meeting the challenge of change".

Participation in UDF had given students a far better understanding of how they fitted into the national struggle. All the campuses had participated in the UDF and would continue to do so. They would be taking up the UDF's million signature campaign.

In line with Nusas' participation in the UDF and the UDF campaign against conscription, congress saw this as another campaign for the campuses this year.

Organising for people's education and fighting against conscription. These will be focuses of student organisations in 1984.

Call for more women to join



THE third National Congress of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS) took place in Durban in December. About 240 delegates representing branches in all the provinces took part.

The National Congress was opened by the President of Cosas, who then introduced the guest speaker, Mr Archie Gumede, president of the United Democratic Front (UDF). Mr Gumede stressed the great task facing youth of South Africa - the task of not only fighting for, but helping to build a new South Africa.

Some of the things discussed at the Congress were Branch reports, student-worker alliance, the Education Charter campaign, the UDF, and the participation of women.

From the branches it was clear that more and more Cosas branches were being established. But there was still the need to link up the educational problems of students to the general political problems in the country. There was also the need to build strong democratic SRC's at schools.

Student-Worker alliance was an important item of discussion. Students felt that the relationship between workers and students was more than just a relationship between Cosas and a trade union.

The best way to take forward the workers struggle was to strengthen students' organisations. Students must understand that they are not only fighting for a better education system, but for a better society for all, where workers are all-important.

Delegates at the Congress resolved to work much harder on the Education Charter campaign. Everyone should be involved, youth, community and teacher organisations. Cosas plans to hold seminars and workshops and to print pamphlets and publications to inform everyone about the campaign.

Cosas calls on students everywhere to help build the UDF. They encouraged regional participation of Cosas on the UDF. This was especially important as far as conscription was concerned.

Delegates felt an important problem in Cosas was the weak participation of women. The Congress resolved to establish womens' committees to look at the problem and to work out ways of increasing the participation of women in students' organisations.

Congress adopted resolutions of Education (especially Indian education), on militarisation and conscription, on Grenada, Namibia and Angola, on women, on the SADF involvement in black schools, on resettlement.

The new National Executive Committee was elected: President - Lulu Johnson; Vice-president - Mpho Lelegove; Secretary General - Jobu Kumalo; Publicity secretary - Lolo Mkonto; National Organiser - Kenny Fihla; Treasurer - Harold Lesoro and two full-time organisers.

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# Umsebenzi uyathetha

ABASEBENZI base Dairy adibizela kuba phila. Bathatha bezama phantsi kwendlela ezintshi, u Grassroots ubhekile nesinye wababesebenzi ak akubhekileyo.

**UMBUZO:** Sibhekile nabasebenzi abaninzi agqokekile isiviviso bezama yabo kwa Van Riebeeck nakwa Dairy Belle. Kanti nabasebenzi ezininzi ngomnyaka, upapishi embi nezinye ezininzi ezokubonisa Uva kanzani ngokusebenzela isidiro?

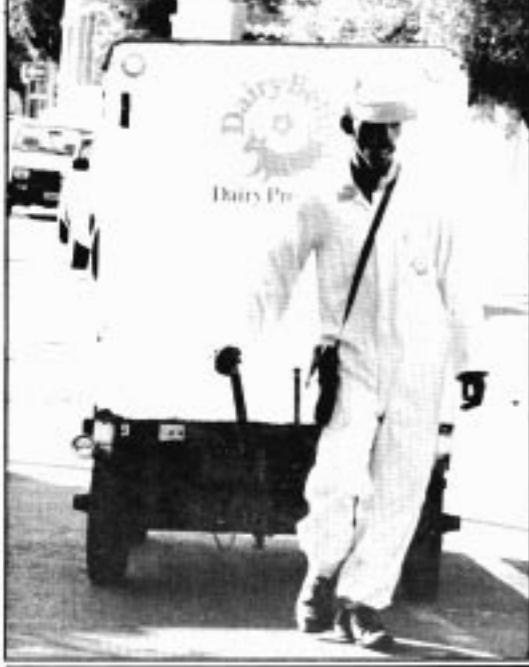
**IMPENDULO:** Ndaqiniseka ukungqongileli kwa Van Riebeeck, ndaye ndabesebenzi iminyaka ngapapishi kwentliziyo eliviviseni. Asikho sidiro esiviviseni - lo mebeleni sidiro emnyama yentliziyo yan.

Ezona nto endiyakufakayo yindlela abasebenzi nezama ezibonisa ngayo. Sibhekile okwamkhubeka okanye abaninzi.

# DAIRY WORKERS: TIME TO WORK AND SLEEP



Carrying heavy loads...putting heavy trolleys uphik...it's all part of a working day which may go on for 15 hours.



THE dairy employees are some of the most exploited workers in Cape Town. In the words of a RAWU organizer, "they are treated like slaves." The workers work for long hours for very low wages. "I start loading at 1 a.m. But I only go out to deliver at 4 a.m. So they pay I start work at 4 a.m. "You must work until your deliveries are finished. That may be 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon. You work for 14 or 15 hours, but they only pay you for 8 hours."

"We used to have a clock-in system", another worker told us. "But a worker took the boss to court, because he was not paid overtime for the hours he worked. So the boss took away the clock-in system. Now we have no proof of how long we work."

The workers are not paid overtime. "On public holidays we must work. Boxing Day, New Year Day - - - Otherwise, our money is taken away. We get no overtime pay for working on holidays." The law says that the lowest wage for a labourer employed by

the dairies is R259.00 (from January '84). But the workers struggle to survive on this. "We do not earn a living wage. How can we feed our families on this wage? And even if you have worked for a long time, you get the same as new workers."

**SICK LEAVE** Many of the dairy workers get sick. "We must load with the fridges open, and we must go out in winter, in the cold and rain. This makes us sick. But even if they are sick, the workers come

### "How can we feed our families on this wage?"

to work. Because they are afraid they will lose their pay, or even their jobs. "If you go with a doctor's certificate, the bosses say it is false. They do not accept certificates of Indian doctors. You can be fired if you ask for sick leave."

**"THE CUSTOMER IS ALWAYS RIGHT"** The bosses always blame the workers if a customer complains. "Sometimes we cannot deliver at a customer, because he has left no money or coupons. But when we get back to

the factory, the customer has phoned the boss and complained. Then we must go back, even if we get home late. "But if we knock on the customer's door, they say we wake them up. So what must we do?"

**HOSTELS** The dairy workers have to live in heavily-guarded hostels. "The hostels are terrible places," a Van Riebeeck worker told us. "These are six people living in a room about 12 by 10 feet. You

### "Your wife can stay with you for three months in the married quarters. Then you must find another place for her. But where is a place you can stay in Cape Town? That is why, most of us live away from our families. They are in the Transkei."

**"WE ARE BEING BEATEN"** "We are being beaten by the bosses," a worker said. "The manager and the supervisor carry canes. They see us as children."

**RAWU IS OUR UNION** But the workers are leaving their own strength. The strikes in 1982 showed them that they can win some of their demands if they are united.

"But we did not gain much in those strikes, because there was no action. So the bosses could break our unity." Now RAWU is organising the dairy workers.

"The union can educate us about our rights. It can keep us together and united. It can help us plan and think carefully about our actions." "It is important for all the workers to join RAWU. Because they are suffering what we are suffering. RAWU is the worker's union."

The working conditions are really bad. They treat us as prisoners. They take our blood."

**CONTRACT** The workers are very unhappy about their working conditions. Why have they not fought to end these conditions? Why have they not fought to end these contracts? One reason is the contract system. 50 per cent of the dairy workers are contract workers. They are afraid to lose their jobs, because then they would lose their contracts. If they lose their contracts, they cannot stay in Cape Town.

The workers sign a contract for one year. When the year is finished, they go back to the hostels. Then they wait for the boss to send a letter showing the contract. "You wait sometimes three, four months for that letter. If you are too sick or too old to work, or if you have caused trouble at work, that letter does not come. You wait forever, while your children starve."

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# ONLY TO WORK AND SLEEP

"I wake up very early in the morning. I am tired at night, I must rest. All I do is work and sleep. What is my life when I spend it working in a place where I feel like a slave?" - Dairy Worker

Every morning, thousands of people in Cape Town push a bottle of milk on their door step. But many people know of the hardships of the workers who bring the milk? The IOTS spoke to workers from Van Riebeeck and Dairy Belle Dairies and organised the Retail & Allied Workers Union. RAWU is organising dairy workers. Please, the workers tell their story.



RAWU inceda abasebenzi bemanyani

**RETAIL AND ALLIED WORKERS** baqale ukugqokekela ko no Dairy kumyaka o ophelileyo. Uninzi wabasebenzi kwa Van Riebeeck ngarhlayo. Kanti ban amaqapontsi wakwa RAWU uxinzeleleke abasebenzi bakanye iminyaka. "Bonke abasebenzi kweli lizwe bafunazwa ngakhi emsebenzini. Eyona ngakhi evulekile yile yoku ngafanani mali ryondle kwinyaka abasebenzi zayo. "Kungena yokuha abaqheki abahajongelanga abasebenzi banomnyaka abangqongileli. Abasebenzi banatshata nje ngo mandazi ozezozo nokuthengisa uphila. Abaqheki afuni ukwaleleke isigxina nabasebenzi, ngoku ngabasebenzi abayibenzayo kengiso. "Axa umqheki ebon'okuba ingeliso yakhe uqhutshi, uzotagqochela abasebenzi, abanye babone eziza. Abantu abaninzi bangabonakalise. "Yintoni yenza abasebenzi boyika ukokufika emsebenzini yabo. Unqopheli ngabasebenzi ezizayo uphantsi abaqheki kakubi abasebenzi, ngaba upapishi baninzi abantu abafuna umsebenzi. Axa kakubi emsebenzi onokufikala, uyagqochela. Uninzi lo no Dairy bangamanyani. Kuzimela kwabasebenzi. Amaninzi awanako utshala

# Lwela ilungelo lakho u section 10

Abasebenzi abaninzi kudala bawonisa eDairy iminyaka elishumi. Umthetho ubhi ubaba imntu ababonisa iminyaka elishumi endaweni emye utshela abasebenzi ilungelo lokuhlala apha (ndokufikela Section 10)

Kodwa abasebenzi abaninzi abanye u Section 10. Loo nto yenziwa kukuba bafanane ilizwe yonyaka emnye. Ekupheleni konyaka ngamnye baphindela emaphandleni balindele ilizwe elikaziwe. Nako ke iBab ibi hayayophala ilizwe yabo.

Kusiyaka ephelileyo u Mr Mthya wayina wethethweni iBab. Wabonisa iminyaka elishumi endaweni emye. - Ehogokuka ilizwe elikho kulebenziyaka. Inkundla ibonakala ukuba akuya emaphandleni akuphela konyaka elishumi elishumi endaweni emye. Inkundla inikele u Section 10. Ino ethuba ukuba bonke abasebenzi base Dairy mahafanane uSection 10.

Kodwa iBab ayinokudanga ezisigxina, Ngamnye yokuha ilizwe ubaba mandazi, amawaka abasebenzi ekufuneka bafanane uSection 10. Bayi babona ezikundla zi zabo ngamnye yezigxina. Ino ethuba ukuba baphumelele, abasebenzi abaninzi bafanane uSection 10. URAWU abasebenzi abasebenzi ukuba bafanane uSection 10. Banayo oMthya yengqongileli ngamanye ngabasebenzi abaninzi bafanane iminyaka. Kuba ofuni bangamnye ukuba abasebenzi kufuneka bafanane uSection 10.

Iminyaka yabasebenzi ngaphelela ukuba amaqheki makafake izicelo kwi Bab ukuba abasebenzi bafanane iminyaka. Amanqophela azakuba emsebenzini iyala. Kodwa ayinyonyama emsebenzini wemanyano yabasebenzi. Lemanyano likho ngamanye yokuha iminyaka zabantu emsebenzini yabo. Ukuba ukungqongileli kweminyaka, iyona ezinde ibizwana lokugala, ukugqochela kwabasebenzi ngaphelele kwentliziyo ezide njalo.

Le manyano ayinokuba ukuba abasebenzi bafanane iminyaka. Ino emanyano kakuba mabe emthethweni okanye iminyaka ukuba ezide iminyaka. Apha akapa xa bephelileyo yintombeni. Awanako nokapa kudala emsebenzini kweminyaka. Kufuneka bathathe lonto hayifumanayo kumqheki, okanye baphindela iMthya. Leziqukelele ifanile abaqheki, ngaba ngamnye abasebenzi bawonisa iyona ezinde kodwa iminyaka abasebenzi. Abaqheki bakwa Dairy Belle, Van Riebeeck, loice no Akhar Dairies hayayithanda leziqukele. Kungoko bewathanda amanyani. U No Dairy bakuhlalala ingathu yabo emthethweni. Kodwa banke boyika ukokufikala emsebenzini yabo. Kufuneka bafananele lo mako yabasebenzi bakwan ukufika iminyaka lwabo. (Iminyaka emininzi, bebengqongileli iminyaka yokuha ngakhi yabo. Kodwa ngoku emanyano yabasebenzi RAWU ngaphelele abasebenzi banayayina bathwe ngakhi yabo. Abasebenzi hayayithanda ukuba bangapheleli xa banyayina. Unqopheli ngamnye abasebenzi abaninzi, amasebenzi wena umkhabonisa. Kodwa xa bangqochela bonke abasebenzi, abakwazi ukubonisa emsebenzini u factory. Abakwazi ukubonisa iminyaka ngaphandle kwa basebenzi. Yintoni iminyaka emininzi kusebenzini ngamnye iminyaka yabasebenzi. Umnyaka wabasebenzi u (okokufikala nabasebenzi banayayina, bathwe iminyaka yabo.)



This man was delivering milk at 4.00a.m. He must work until he is finished which may only be at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

esayinyula ngokwethu Abogunyaziswa manyano ni eya kubapathi ecela lungu nengxaki

pendulo. Abaquzeleli kuya kuya nekomiti yethu kuba abaphathi abavumi ngomanyano lwethu. abanokucinga nabafuna noko. Uyithembile le manyano

Ewe, uRAWU usihlangani nokuba yintoni na imanenzi. Basibonise indlela kutheni iyinto ebalya. kuphela koko siceba lethu. Ilungu ngalinye zenekayo nento elindelwe nye. Asisafani nakunqala njelela.

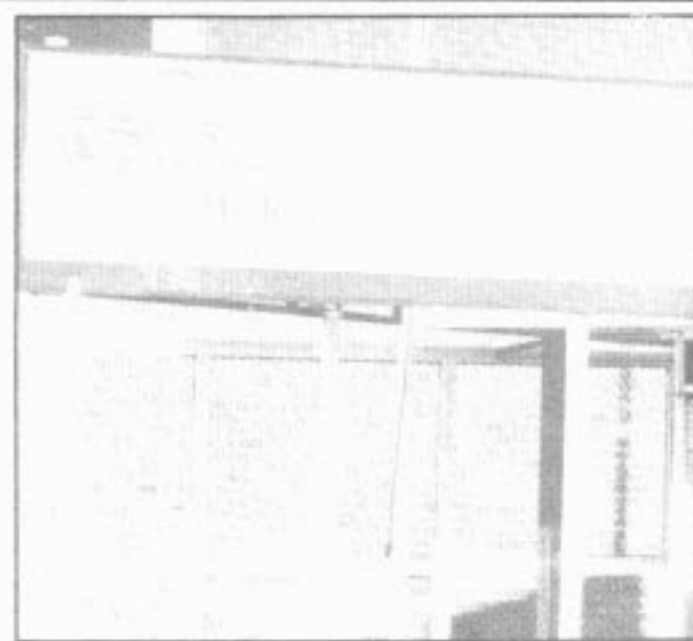
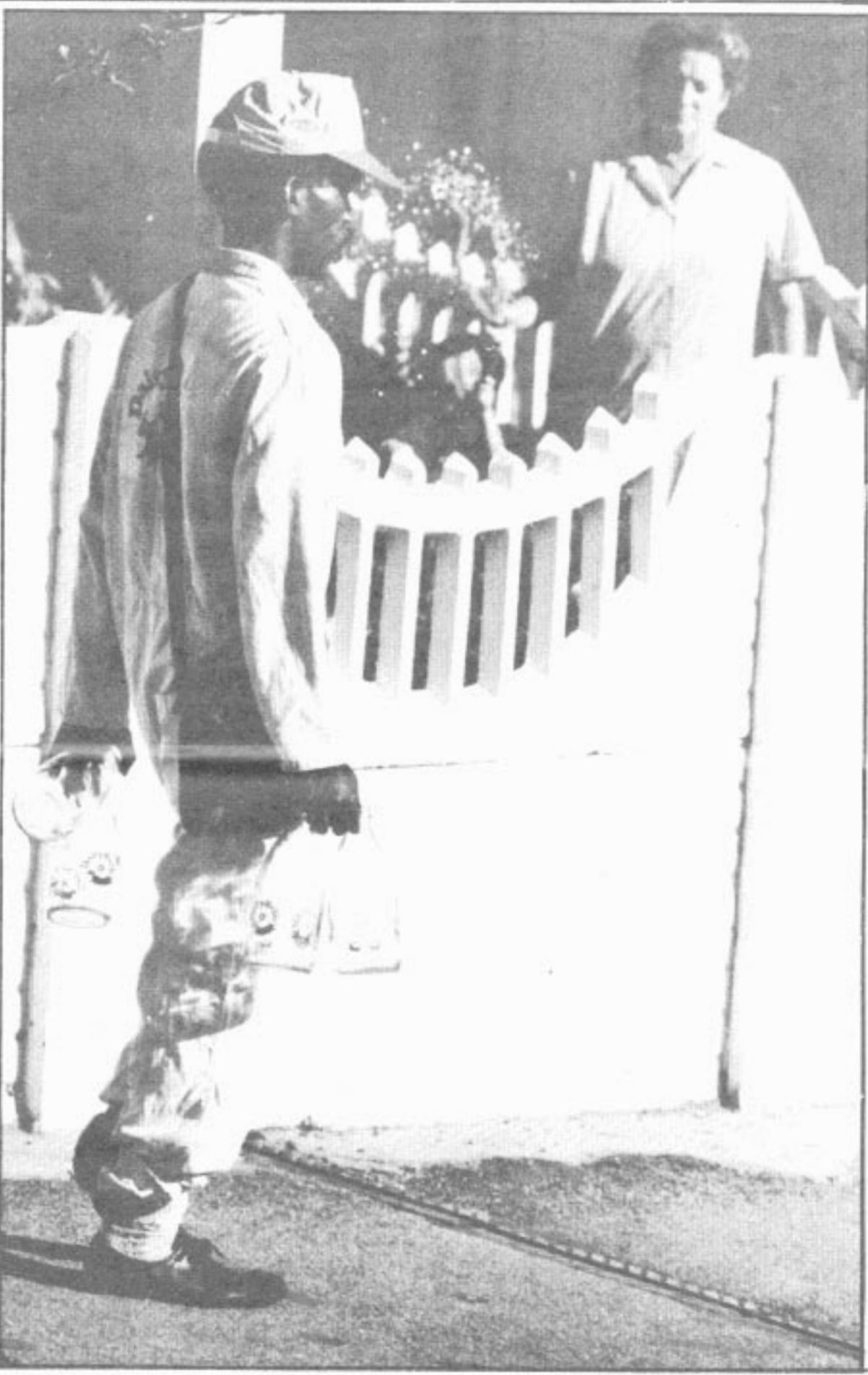
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# TIME ONLY TO WORK AND SLEEP

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Kodwa abasebenzi abaninzi abanye u Section 10. Loo nto yenziwa kukuba bafumana iJoyini yonyaka omnye. EkupheleNi konyaka ngamnye baphindela emaphandleni balindele iJoyini ihlaziye. Nqoko ke iBaab ithi bayayophula iJoyini yabo.

Kunyaka ophelileyo u Mr Mthiya wayisa emthethweni iBaab. Wasebenza iminyaka eli-Shumi endaweni enye. Ebegoduka iinyanga ezibhozo kulebeminyaka.

Inkundla ibaxelele ukuba ukuya emaphandleni ukuphela konyaka akuthethi ukuba wophula iJoyini. Inkundla imnike u Section 10. Into ethetha ukuba bonke abasebenzi base Dairy mabafumane uSection 10.

Kodwa iBaab ayisithandanga esisigqibo, Ngenya yokuba iyayazi ukuba maninzi amawaka abasebenzi ekufuneka bafumane uSection 10. Baye babhena ezinkundle ni zabo ngenxa yezigqibo.

Into ethetha ukuba bephumekele, abasebenzi abanakumfumana uSection 10.

URawu ubancedisile abasebenzi ukuba befunane uSection 10.

Banayo iOfisi yengecebiso egunyaziswe ngabasebenzi noNobhala bayo. Kule ofisi bajongana nokuba abaSebenzi kufuneka bafumane uSection 10.

Imanyano yabasebenzi iququzelela ukuba amangqwetha makafake izicelo kwi Baab ukuba abaSebenzi bafumane invume. Amangqwetha azakulisa enkundleni ityala.

Kodwa ayingoyena msebenzi wemanyano yabaSebenzi. Lemanyano ikho ngenjongo yokulwa iimfuno zabantu emiSebenzini yabo.

Ukulwa ukunyuSwa kwemivuzo, iiyure ezinde ithutyana lokugula, ukugxothwa kwabaSebenzi ngaphandle kwesizathu njalo njalo.

Le manyano ayinokulwa ukuba abaSebenzi bafumane invume. Into enokuyenza kukuba inike umtu icebiso okanye imncede ukuba enze isicelo.

**i RAWU inceda abasebenzi bemanyani**

RETAIL AND ALLIED WORKERS baqale ukuququzelela ko no Dairy kunyaka o opelileyo. Uninzi lwabasebenzi kwa Van Riebeeck ngarialungu.

Kweli bali amququzeleli wakwa RAWU usitelela imbangi abasebenzi bajoine i manyano.

"Bonke abasebenzi kweli lizwe bafumana inxaki emisebenzini. Eyona ngxaki enkulu yile yoku ngafumani mali eyonele kwiyuke abazisebenzayo.

"Kungenxa yokuba abaqeshi ababajongelanga ebasebenzi banentsapho abajongene nokuzondla. Abasebenzi babathatha nje ngo matshini owenzayo nokuthengisa impahla.

Abaqeshi afuni ukwahlula ingeniso nabasebenzi, ngoku ingabasebenzi abayiyenzayo lengeniso.

Axa umqashi ebon'ukuba ingeniso yakhe iphantsi, uzokugxotha abasebenzi, abanye basebenze nzima. Abantu abaninzi bangabinamisebenzi.

Yilento yenza abasebenzi boyike ukohtukana nemisebenzi yabo. Umqashi angabamkelisa umvuzo ophantsi abaphate kakubi abasebenzi, ngoba uyayazi baninzi abantu abafuna umsebenzi. Axa kukho umsebenzi onezikhhalazo, uyagxothwa.

Uninzi lo no Dairy bangamajoyini. Kunzimake kwabasebenzi. Amajoyini awanako ukuhlala

apha ekapa xa bephelelwe yimisebenzi. Awanako nokuya kufuna umsebenzi kwenye indawo. Kufuneka bathathe lonto bayifumanayo kumqeshi, okanye baphindele eMakhaya.

Lenkqubo ifanele abaqeshi, ngoba angenza abasebenzi basebenze iyure ezinde kodwa imivuzo ubemncinci. Abaqeshi bakwa Dairy Belle, Van Riebeeck, Joice no Akbar Dairies bayayithanda lenkqubo. Kungoko bewathanda amajoyini.

o No Dairy bakhalezela impatho yabo embi. Kodwa basuke boyike ukohtukhanya nemisebenzi yabo. Kufuneka banyamezele lo mako yasemsebenzini bakwazi ukondla intsapho lwabo.

iMinyaka emininzi, bebengenayo indlela yokuzilwa inxaki zabo. Kodwa ngoku umanyano yabasebenzi iRAWU iququzelela abasebenzi bamanyane bazilwe inxaki zabo. Abasebenzi bayayiqonda ukuba bangangoyiki xa bemanyene.

Umqashi angaxota abasebenzi abalishumi, umsebenzi wona uzokuqubeka. Kodwa xa bagxotha bonke abasebenzi, abakwazi ukusebenza umsebenzi we factory. Abakwazi ukwenza ingeniso ngaphandle kwa ba sebenzi.

Yiyolonto iyimfuneko kumsebenzi ajoyine imanyano yabasebenzi. Umanyano lwabasebenzi lu zokuncedisana nabasebenzi bamanyane, bazilwe imfuneko zabo.

worker.....health.....student.....housing.....legal.....

**ADVICE**

# ARE YOU JOB HUNTING

## How to find a job

**ASK PEOPLE:** Friends who are working, parents, acquaintances.

**NEWSPAPERS:** All the newspapers have job advertisements.

**EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES:** Make appointments with 3 or 4 employment agencies. Someone will interview you and find out what kind of work you want to do. They will put your name on their lists, and contact you if you have to go to an interview. They charge your future employer not you.

**APPROACH EMPLOYERS:** Many companies have vacancies even if they do not advertise. You can find the names of companies in the telephone book or Yellow Pages. Phone, visit or write.

**INSTITUTIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND TRADE UNIONS IN YOUR FIELD:** They are especially useful for trade and technical jobs. They can help you find someone who will start you with an apprenticeship.

**IMPORTANT:** Do not say that you want "any job". Think about what you would like to do specifically in that job. For example, clerical work, a fitter and turner, a storeman, trainee manager.

When you phone a company, ask to speak to the personnel manager. If there is a possibility of a job, follow-up the phone call with a letter of application.

If a company promises to phone you or write to you wait for a few weeks. If you haven't heard from them after this time, contact them again and ask what news they have for you.



## For further information —

*THE Careers Research and Information Centre can help you with information on work and study. They can help people decide what kind of work they would like to do, and they have a library where people can read on different jobs.*

*Their address is: 7 Roscommon Road, Claremont, 7700. It is very near the Claremont station. Their telephone number is 611058/9.*

# WHAT SUBJECTS TO TAKE AT SCHOOL

she should think about the subjects that will help her the most in the future. Such subjects as Maths, Physical Science and Biology. It would be sad if she could not do a job she wanted because she does not have one of these subjects.

Schools sometimes only have one maths or physical science class and this is for the 'bright' pupils. This is not good enough. You and other parents should go to the principal or P.T.A. to demand that other maths teachers are employed so that all the pupils have a change to choose maths.

Before making a final decision about subjects, your daughter can check with the principal, guidance teacher or a counsellor at the Careers Centre (CRIC). They will have other important information such as further education.

Yours sincerely  
**GRASSROOTS ADVICE**

Dear Grassroots,  
My daughter is starting in Std. 8 this year. She says she must make up her mind what subjects to do. Does it matter what subjects she does? Please help. Thank you.  
Mrs. Valentine.

Dears Mrs Valentine

It is important that your daughter thinks carefully about the subjects she is going to do. The subjects she chooses will affect the type of job she can do in the future.

Has your daughter thought about what kind of job she would like to do? Some jobs need certain subjects. For example, for nursing she will need to know about the human body. Therefore she will need to study biology. An electrician needs to know about electricity currents and how to do calculations, so she needs to study maths and physical science. A secretary needs to be able to type, so she must learn typing.

It is not common for a person to need for example, biblical studies or home economics to do a job. But it is becoming more and more common for a person to need maths to do a job, even though it does not seem that the person will use maths in the job. For example, hairdressers need maths at a Std. 8 level. Other important subjects are English, Afrikaans, Physical Science and Biology.

If your daughter knows what job she wants to do, she should find out what subjects will be necessary. If she does not know what to do yet,

Your name  
Your address  
(+ telephone number)  
Date

Name of Employer  
Address of employer

Dear Sir or Madam

First paragraph. State which job you are applying for. Say where you saw the job advertised, e.g. newspaper, noticeboard etc.

Second paragraph. Say why you would be suitable for this job. e.g. the subjects you have done at school will help you, previous experience, voluntary work.

Third paragraph. Ask if they can reply to your letter, and also say how you can be contacted for an interview, e.g. by phone or above address.

Yours sincerely

Sign your name.

## Writing a letter of application

Have you written any letters to apply for a job? The way you write a letter is very important. It depends on how the letter is written as to whether the personnel manager will invite you for an interview. Here is an example of a letter you can use as a guide.

## PREPARING FOR AN INTERVIEW

- PEOPLE are often nervous before a job interview. It is important to be well prepared. This way you will be more confident. You will also make a good impression. How can you prepare? Think about questions you may be asked. For instance:
- What were your favourite subjects at school? Why?
  - Do you plan to study further? How will you do this?
  - What are your hobbies and interests?
  - Have you had any work experience? (Mention holiday jobs, Saturday morning and voluntary work that you have done).
  - What have you been doing since you left school. (Even if you were unemployed, give examples of how you have used your time, e.g. learning something).
  - Why do you think you are suited for this job? (You need to know what your abilities and skills are, and not be shy to name them).
- It is very important for you to ask questions in the interview. This is some of the information you may want:
- Exactly what will your work be?
  - What kind of training will be given?
  - Will promotion be possible?
  - What are the working hours?
  - How much pay will you get?
  - What about leave?



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ADVICE

# Studying after school

**FULL TIME STUDY**  
**UNIVERSITY:** If you have not registered yet, you still may be able to, but the university will charge you a "late registration fee" of about R35.  
**TECHNIKONS AND TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGES:** These are closed for applications.  
**COMMERCIAL COLLEGES** (e.g. Secretarial): Some of them will still accept applications.  
**CRAM COLLEGES** (Where you can complete Std. 10): Will still accept applications.

**PART-TIME STUDY**  
 Courses can be done through some Universities, Technikons, Correspondence Colleges, UNISA, Technikon R.S.A., Technical Colleges, Commercial Colleges.  
 In-service training schemes are run by some companies. Ask your employer if there are any training schemes you can go on.  
 Find out about closing dates for applications now!

**SHORT FULL TIME COURSES:**  
 These are 6 week to 3 month training courses in many fields, e.g. from typing to computer programming. Some of these courses are very expensive and are not even recognized by employers.  
 Before signing on for one of these courses, phone an employment agency, or Department of Manpower to see if the course is recognised.

**ALTERNATIVE PLACES OF STUDY:**  
**S.A.C.H.E.D.**(Mowbray): Offers courses for UNISA studies, pre-university courses, and JMB matric.  
**ST. FRANCIS ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE** (Langa): Offers subjects so that you can complete a Std. 10.  
**MASIFUNDISI** (Langa): Here you can learn how to study.

**SUPPLEMENTARY STUDIES (FOR PUPILS AT SCHOOL):**  
 Institute of Race Relations runs an enrichment programme for Std. 9 and 10 pupils in the evenings and Saturday mornings at the St. Francis Adult Education Centre in Langa.  
 The CAPE HERALD runs classes in Maths, Physical Science and Biology on Saturday mornings at Savio College in Lansdowne Road.  
**MASTER MATHS** in Claremont offers audio-visual maths tutoring. Fees are about R10 an hour.

# WONDER BOX



Cooking rice in the Wonderbox!

Take 2 cups of rice and 4 cups of water, some salt. Close the lid of the pot and bring to the boil on the stove. Now place the pot in the little nest of cushion A. Cover with cushion B. Keep in the wonderbox for 1/2 hour. Your rice will be dry, done and ready to eat.

## Time saving cooking ideas

Some time ago GRASSROOTS showed you how to make a wonderbox out of cardboard and newspaper. But with rising electric and fuel costs you may want to make something more permanent - a wonderbox with washable cushions.

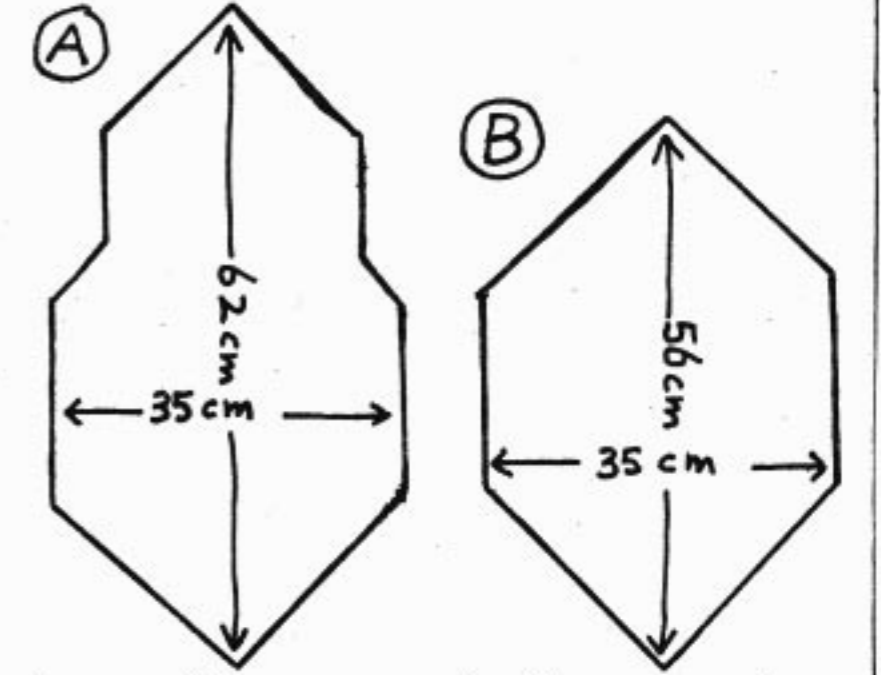
- WHY USE A WONDERBOX?**
- \* You will save on your fuel account.
  - \* You will save time. The box cooks your food while you are at work or out. The pot will not need constant checking.
  - \* The working mother can leave food in the box and children can help themselves to a warm meal.
  - \* Because it is a fireless cooker it cannot cause fires.
  - \* Tougher cuts of meat, samp and beans which need a longer cooking time can be cooked in the box.

- COOKING TIMES FOR DIFFERENT FOODS**
- \* Dried beans and peas: Soak overnight. Boil for 20 minutes and place in the box for at least 4 hours.
  - \* Lentils: Boil for 15 minutes and place in the box for at least 2 hours.
  - \* Porridge: Bring to the boil and leave it in the box overnight. The next morning it will be ready and warm.
  - \* Stewing meat. Cook for 15 - 30 minutes. Place in the box for 4 hours or more.

- PRECAUTIONS**
- \* Vegetables should not be cooked in the box for a long time as the vitamins will be lost.
  - \* Food should not be placed in the box unless it is at boiling point.
  - \* Never leave food in the box for longer than 12 hours. Once food is removed from the box it should be eaten or put away in the fridge. This is to prevent food poisoning.

## Making your own Wonderbox

**Step 1:** Make paper patterns of shape A and B.



**Step 2:** Use any washable material. Cut out four times shape A and four times shape B.

**Step 3:** Join the four pieces of A together for the bottom part with the smaller end pushed in to receive the cooking pot. Also join the four pieces of B together for the lid.

Leave one seam unstitched on each until you have filled it with stuffing.

**Step 4:** Stuff the "footballs" with polystyrene. If you cannot get this use pieces of cork, pieces of nylon stockings or off-cuts. Stuff it half full only.

**Step 5:** Find a box. Line the box with folded newspapers so that the heat cannot escape.

## Electricity booklet



Technical Assistance Project (TAP) has produced a booklet to help in the struggle for decent electricity. The booklet has five sections.  
 Section 1 deals with our reasons for wanting electricity. Section 2 tells of our fight for lights while section 3 shows who produces and controls electricity and how they decide who will get electricity.  
 Section 4 deals with the high costs we have to pay for electricity and Section 5 shows us how we can save money by using electricity carefully.  
 The booklet has many drawings and is easy to read. People who want to buy a copy can contact Grassroots at 45-3321 or come to the office on the 4th floor, Atlantic House (opposite City Hall), Corporation Street, Cape Town. It is on sale for 50c.

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A tribute to one of S.A.'s most talented saxophone players

# Kippie's music will live on



Kippie playing with Dollar Brand in the old days.

**KIPPIE MOEKETSI, who died last year, was one of South Africa's most talented saxophone players. He was known as the 'father of South African jazz'. In the mid fifties he taught and played with Dollar Brand, Hugh Masekela, Jonas Gwanga and other great jazz names. He played with famous jazz bands such as the Harlem Swingsters and the Jazz Epistles.**

Kippie Moeketsi was born in 1925 in the slums of Johannesburg, but grew up in the George Goch location. He left school after standard five and got a job sweeping the floors of a men's hostel.

Then he learnt to play the saxophone. He started a small band called the Band in Blue. They played marabi music - the music of the people. From all over the slums the people came to listen to them. It was then that Kippie's drinking problem started, a problem that never left him.

*"The two sax maniacs are sure to get the angel wings flapping."*

with them. Together they played all over the country and sold thousands of records. Their shows were always full and they made lots of money.

The group visited Cape Town as well. They looked for a piano player. They found a young man playing the piano in a bioscope. His name was Dollar Brand.

"Dollar knew nothing about music at that time," said Kippie once. "He was just a skollie. He followed me around everywhere. I taught him a lot. Now he is a big man in music."

Dollar joined Kippie and they went back to Johannesburg and played at Dorkay House. There they met other musicians. They met Hugh Masekela, Jonas Gwanga and Johnny Getz. Together they formed the Jazz Epistles.

They played together for four years. Then Kippie joined a show called King Kong. He went to London with the show.

When he came back to South Africa he found that most of his friends had left. Many great black musicians found that

they could no longer work under apartheid. Hugh Masekela and Dollar Brand were in America.

Kippie found himself alone and without work. And he could not stop drinking either. He lost his house in Soweto because he was unable to pay the rent.

### Died in poverty

The record companies had made lots of money from Kippie's music but he had nothing. He died in poverty last year. He had no money, no work, no house.

But in the music of Dollar Brand and other South African jazz musicians Kippie Moeketsi lives on.

Kippie's funeral was a celebration of his great talent. All the great South African musicians were there to pay homage.

In a tribute to the great Kippie Moeketsi Drum magazine wrote:

"What a great reunion it is going to be when Kippie joins his great buddy Mackay Davashe. The two sax maniacs are sure to get the angels wings flapping!"

## We had many problems in the mines.....

WE have had many problems in the mines in the last 15 years. But we have had experience which has taught us a lot. I would like to tell you a bit about them so that you can see which way to go.

The most important thing is organisation. If the people are organized, they respond, there is unity and everything is possible. This has been my experience.

But if the people are not organized, they cannot achieve anything. Sometimes when we want to work too quickly, things go wrong, as I will now tell you.

We had no medicine in the hospital. The Housewives Committee had sent a letter to the COMIBOL company. We gave them 48 hours to bring the medicine. If not, we would take action.

The company took no notice of us. We wasted no time and went to block the roads that lead to Siglo XX. After a week of this, our bread and meat were finished.

We had nothing. The workers complained to the company, and the boss said to them; 'And what are we supposed to do if the Housewives have blocked all the roads, the meat is rotting only a kilometre from here, in three lorries.'

Flour and sugar were also stuck in lorries; it rained and everything became one big mess.



Everything had to be thrown out.

The company paid the suppliers, but we had eaten nothing. The action we had taken, which we thought right, had worked against us. The whole thing was a disaster.

And what did the workers say? They almost beat us up for what we had done. We

had been mistaken. Now we were misunderstood by our companeros.

I went home, crying, 'I'll never get involved again, we sacrificed ourselves, making our children cry day and night, making sure nobody got in, and still the miners talk to us like that, and want to hit us.

Let them go to hell. I'm going home.' And so, very bitter, I went.

We didn't realize that the action we had taken would go against our own companeros. We wanted to do good, but we had made things worse.

So, the first thing we must do is organize ourselves. In every town people fight against the bosses, against the government. But we must look at and think what action to use.

You never know what might happen, suddenly they start harassing us a lot and then the army comes in.

This is why we must know if all the people are ready to respond, to give support. This is why organization is the most important thing.

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### Swingsters

In 1948 the Harlem Swingsters offered Kippie a job. This was a famous band which played in the Western Native Township. The great Todd Matshikiza played for them. The band toured the country.

But apartheid and its laws influenced music as well.

George Goch location and the Western Native Township were demolished. This meant that jazz concerts had to stop. Bands broke up and people were scattered. Black musicians had another problem. They could only play at black venues. The 'Group' applied to music as well.

Kippie left the Harlem Swingsters and started the Shantytown Sextet. The famous singing group, the Manhattan Brothers, sang

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# “There is something wrong with our education system”

“I BELIEVE that some of us were not successful, not because we did not study hard, but because there is something wrong with our education system. The low pass rate can make us believe that we are failures in our society. But even though I failed, I am not going to let that make me feel inferior.”

These were the words of a student who failed matric last year. But she was not the only one. In the coloured schools, 71,3 percent passed.

In the African schools only 50,4 percent passed. Do these bad results mean that our children are not studying hard enough?

Grassroots took a look at some of the problems which face Black students. In 1983 the government spent R913 on every white pupil, R253 on every coloured pupil, and a tiny R140 on every African pupil.

Facilities at school are totally inadequate..

There are no good books in the libraries, equipment is missing or broken, classrooms are too hot in summer and too cold in winter.

Many teachers in Black schools do not have proper qualifications. Our classes are also too big – in 1980 there was one teacher for every 45 African pupils, one for every 18 white pupils and one for every 25 coloured pupils.

Under such conditions it becomes very difficult for teachers to teach properly or for students to study properly.

At home students also face problems. Many students have to look after younger children and clean the house after school, and overcrowded homes mean no space to study.

Even the Department of Education and Train-

ing (for African pupils) has admitted that study facilities at students' homes are “shocking”.

Many people do not feel it is fair to judge ability by one big exam. Students become very nervous. Many have never received guidance on how to study.

They say exams only test your memory and not your ability to discuss the work.

They feel that tests and projects throughout the year would give students more chance to show what they can do.

The Cape Youth Congress (CAYCO) warned that the high failure rate will mean that thousands more will be forced to join the cheap labour market or the ranks of the unemployed.

The results are “a shame and a cause for concern and anger in our community and schools,” said the executive committee of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

COSAS has called on democratic community organisations to take action on the issue of poor education in our schools.

The West Indians are humiliated & insulted but.....

# THEY PLAY ON

THEY have come face to face with the harsh realities of apartheid. They are constantly warned and urged by people in South Africa and in other countries, not to play with apartheid.

But the West Indian Cricketers are still here.

After fast bowler Colin Croft was asked to leave a whites-only coach of a Suburban train, many people believed that the West Indians would see the light and leave for home.

The West Indians, however, seemed satisfied by the Government's public apology and ignored this act of humiliation.

They instead became involved in a row with the South African Cricket Union (Sacu) about money owed to them.

In late November, about a week before the Croft incident, a West Indian match scheduled to be played at the Avonwood Sports Complex in Elsie's River, had to be abandoned after strong opposition.

People interviewed in Elsie's River felt the West Indians were making life harder for blacks in South Africa.

This is entirely true; We need only look at the amount of money spent on the tours. The President of Sacu, Mr Joe Pamensky said in mid-December that the two West Indian tours would probably cost more than R5 million.

This comes at a time when the Government says it has no money to build houses for hundreds of thousands of families throughout the country. When millions are jobless and transport and food costs are rising rapidly.

This comes at a time



The West Indians: playing with apartheid.

when the Group Areas Act threatens to evict thousands of people from their homes.

One of the organisations which has strongly criticized the West Indian tourists, is Acstop (The Action Committee to stop all evictions).

The Chairman of Acstop said: “It is evil to think that cricketers like Sylvester Clarke and Alvin Kallicharan can come to this country and live in white areas – yet the real citizens are hounded and threatened with eviction.”

And the cricketers are being shunned by

other West Indians. They are no longer welcome in the land of their birth.

Captain Lawrence ‘can no longer live anywhere’. His wife, was pressurised into resigning her job in Jamaica.

Since he left Guyana three years ago, Alvin Kallicharan has not seen his parents. He would have to fly them to England to do this as he was told ‘it would not be safe’ to go back to the Island.

Despite all this the tour continues. The team of cricketers, who have been banned for life from playing in their home country, stay on.

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People's struggles around the world.

# Namibians want freedom

FOR many years, South Africa has been fighting a war with SWAPO (South West African People's Organisation). We have often read in the newspaper, seen on TV news about the SADF's raids into Angola and Namibia. Recently, the newspapers have been full of the latest Angolan raid.

But we don't often hear about SWAPO's side of the story. Nor what the people in Namibia think of South Africa's presence in their country.

On this page, Grassroots looks at the story of SWAPO and Namibia.

IN 1880, the Germans took over Namibia. They robbed the people of their land and their wealth. They killed thousands of Namibians - nearly three quarters of the population.

When the Germans came, there were 70000 Herero speaking people, and 50000 Nama speaking people. By 1914, there were only 16000 Herero and 20000 Nama speakers.

In World War 1, Germany was defeated, and South Africa was asked to 'look' after Namibia. But South Africa took control of Namibia. The whites in Namibia held six seats in the South African government.

Many countries of the world, as well as the Namibian people, were angry about this. In 1966, the United Nations told South Africa to leave Namibia. And in 1971, the International Court of Justice said that South Africa's occupation of Namibia was illegal.

Namibia is under South African rule. And many of the hardships which South Africans experience, are experienced by Namibians.

Most of the 1,3 million blacks are forced into 'homelands'. As in South Africa, these are barren dumping grounds for workers and the unemployed. And the workers are controlled by the contract system and pass laws.

The 110000 whites own all the best farming land. And all the wealthy minerals of Namibia are found on their land.

The blacks are forced onto sandy land which cannot grow enough food.

They must work on white farms (wages are R21,30 per month) or as domestic servants (wages are R15,00 per month). Migrant workers who live in hostels work at the factories.

They earn R100 - R120 per month.

The mines and most factories are owned by rich British, American and South African companies. These companies take their profits out of Namibia. The wealth goes to the bosses, not to making the lives of Namibians better.

This is why it has taken so long for Namibia to gain independence. The most popular organisation in Namibia is SWAPO (South West African People's Organisation).

SWAPO wants to give the wealth of Namibia back to the people. And these countries, like America and South Africa, are afraid of SWAPO and of losing their profits.

In 1978, the United Nations called for a free and fair election in Namibia. South Africa did not want this. They knew that the people would vote for SWAPO.

So, instead, Botha created puppet "leaders" for Namibia. These "leaders" joined with some whites in Namibia to form the "Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA).

South Africa organised an "election", which was marked by bribery, cheating, and intimidation. And SWAPO refused to take part in such an election.

The Namibians are still being robbed of their rights. And South Africa carries on fighting SWAPO in Namibia and Angola.

South Africa says it will only stop fighting SWAPO when the Cubans leave Angola. But Angola is a separate country.

The Cubans in Angola have nothing to do with SWAPO, or Namibia.

South Africa is just using this as an excuse to keep control of Namibia. But sooner or later, they will have to give Namibia back to its rightful people.



A dusk to dawn curfew is kept in the operational area. Anyone moving after dark will be shot. People cannot go to help a sick neighbour.



## The Namibian people resist

THE people of Namibia have a long history of resistance to illegal rulers of their country. They have fought against first German, and then South African rulers.

The first political organisation formed by the people was the Ovamboland Peoples Organisation. This organisation aimed to organise contract workers, and to fight racial discrimination. On the 19th April 1960, it was renamed SWAPO. Sam Nujoma (present president of SWAPO) was one of its first members.

SWAPO was fighting for the right of the people of Namibia to rule their own country. For the land and its wealth to belong to the Namibian people. For housing, work, education and health care for all Namibians.

The South African government tried to suppress SWAPO, through arrests, police harassment and torture. At last, SWAPO decided to form an army to fight against South

Africa's occupation of their country. This was called the People's Liberation Army of Namibia.

In 1966, a battle at Ongulumbasha started the war in Northern Namibia. Three years later, the South African government sen-

tenced SWAPO members and their president, Herman Toivo Ya Toivo to Robben Island prison.

When Angola won its freedom in 1975, it allowed SWAPO to put bases near the Angolan border. This made the SWAPO army much

stronger. The war in Namibia is still continuing. The SADF is spending millions of rands to fight this war. But SWAPO and the people of Namibia say they will not stop fighting until they have freed their land.

## Hatred and terror of Koevoet soldiers

WHEN people speak about Koevoet, many Namibians are filled with fear and hatred.

Koevoet, which means "Crowbar", is the South African Police's special unit to counter Swapo guerillas fighting for freedom in Namibia.

Koevoet members are trained to kill. In September a group commander of a Koevoet unit gave evidence in the Windhoek Supreme Court. He said that Koevoet members were trained almost exclusively as "killing machines".

One of the slogans Koevoet members wear "I'm Gonna Go Out To Kill Something Today."

In September last year, two Koevoet constables were found guilty of a number of crimes. This included the murder of an elderly Ovambo villager by one of the men. The other man was convicted of attempting to murder a woman. Both were found guilty of rape and robbery.

Over the years, the South African Government has tried to crush the resistance of the

Namibian people. People are constantly detained, banned and harassed.

The South African authorities are, of course, especially severe on the people's organisation, Swapo.

Swapo is a legal organisation. It is not banned in Namibia. Yet, it is almost impossible for Swapo to organise meetings in Namibia.

The South African authorities make sure that Swapo can't operate openly in the country.

# "There is still a spirit of defiance"

During the December holidays, some people from Cape Town visited Namibia, and spoke to the people there. Grassroots spoke to them to find out what they thought of Namibia, and what the Namibian people are thinking.

How did you find the people of Namibia?

With some of them, their spirits were a bit low. People are frustrated, man. But they are sure that the people of Namibia will overcome.

SWAPO is legal, but the government attacks them all the time - especially in the south. But still a spirit of defiance is there.

What do the people feel about South Africa's occupation of their country?

Everyone, with absolutely no exception, feels that South Africa has to get out. They see their country as being illegally occupied.

What are the feelings of the

people towards SWAPO?

Everyone, even those who are conservative, have a great respect for SWAPO. People speak of Sam Nujoma as their leader. SWAPO is the people - it is the only government they will accept.

In Keetmanshoop we went into a hotel. We asked a bartender what he thought of Swapo. He said, "SWAPO is everywhere - it is the people."

Are there any mass progressive organisations?

There are no community organisations as we know here. There is a youth organisation. Most people feel they don't need another organisation, apart from SWAPO. SWAPO is all they need.

The churches have taken a stand against South Africa's occupation of Namibia. How are the churches fighting on behalf of the Namibian people?

The only church organisation we really spoke to was the Namibian Council of Churches. They are very clear about their stand. They have spoken out very strongly against South African occupation.

How can we in South Africa support the struggle of the people in Namibia?

We must really make everyone aware of what is happening in Namibia. Their struggle is our struggle.

Do you have anything to add?

Well, I met a really interesting

guy on the beach at Swakopmund. I knew him because we had worked together during 1980/1.

I asked him what he was doing here in Namibia. He told me he was a member of Koevoet and showed us his ID. Then we asked him a number of questions.

He said that he had been recruited in jail. He was serving a seven year sentence for rape and murder. After serving only two years of his sentence, he was recruited as a member of Koevoet.

He was now getting R800 per month and all the dagga and drink he wanted. He said that it was true what was said about Koevoet. They raped and murdered and blamed it on Swapo.