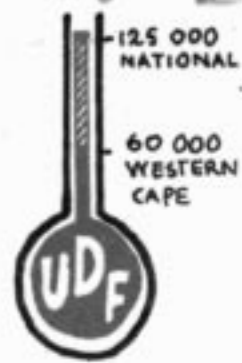


Make your mark!

60 000 have signed in the Western Cape and 125 000 nationally. Have you signed?



UDF Signature Campaign...Page 3



The striking Cape Underwear workers are remaining firm. Everyday they meet at a Church in Bonteheuwel where people have shown solidarity with them.

TEN RAND NOW!



THE call for a R10 increase is being taken up in clothing factories all over Cape Town.

And other workers are demanding increases. The bus drivers, Allied Workers, BKB workers, Municipal workers are saying "We can no longer survive on our low wages. We have a right to a decent life. If the bosses will not listen, we will take action to fight for that right."

The Garment Workers Union is asking the bosses for a R4,00 increase - R2,00 now and R2,00 later.

"Maar R4 is heeltemal te min" a clothing worker said. "Selfs R10 is baie min. Die lae wages maak dat ons lewe van die hand tot die mond. Darem is dit in die werkers se belange om saam te staan en te veg vir meer geld."

And that is what the workers are doing. On 25th April, 74 Cape Underwear workers went on strike. Five days later, another 63 joined them. There have been work stoppages at Rex Trueform and Bibette.

On May 8th, the bosses called an emergency meeting to discuss the increases. The Garment Workers Union say that they themselves called the meeting.

But the workers say, "Die vergadering is as gevolg van ons aksie. Die baas is nou bekommerd. Vir al jare was hulle tevrede om starvation wages te betaal. Nou besef hulle dat ons bereid is om te veg vir wat is regverdig." "En Garment Workers is ook bekommerd. Hulle het nooit 'n hand vir ons gelig nie. Maar nou begin die werkers te verstaan die be-

langrikheid van 'n unie wat vir die werkers praat. En meer en meer van hulle wil sluit aan by Clowu."

The strike at Cape is still continuing. On May 4, the boss held a meeting with Clowu and the workers. He said he would take some of them back. But the 49 who first went on strike were dismissed.

The workers refuse to go back unless all are reinstated, and unless they get R10.

Their struggle is supported by other clothing workers, by other workers, by a number of organisat-

ions, churches and mosques. "Their struggle is our struggle, their victory is our victory. We must stand by the clothing workers. We must take their struggle forward."

In a letter to the other workers, the striking workers said, "What we did was for you too. Because of this, the bosses in all factories were forced to meet to discuss wages. We have achieved a lot. We are proud of that. Before now the bosses are trying to divide us. We will not allow that. AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL."

Ugwayimbo Lwabakwa Cape Underwear

ISIPHAKAMISO esithi imali mayinyuke nge R10 kubasebenzi bomzi mveliso wempahla siqwalaselwe kuzo zonke ezifemkweli lase Kapa lonke.

Nabanye abasebenzi nabo balwa idabi lemivuzo abaqhubi zibhasi abewulu bakwa BKB nabe khansile. Sinelungelo lemivuzo ephakamileyo nokuhlala intlelo eyiyo.

Abasebenzi bakwa Cape Underwear bagwayimba ngolwesithathu umhla we 25 April. Imanyano yabasebenzi i GAWU ithi mayonyuswe nge R4,00 imali inyuke nge R2 ngoku ukuze iphinde inyuke nge R2 ngo July.

Bona abasebenzi bayakhala bathi incinci gqithi kuba kwa R10 leyo nayo incinci. Sithi abenza lemveliso ngoku sithi nathi makhe sicuntsulel-

we kuyo. Ngomhla we 8 May abaqeshi babiza intlanganiso ekhawulezileyo unukuxoxa ngolu nyukomivuzo."

"Ngoku basengxakini kuba bayabona ukuba ikho into esizaskhuyenza xa bengasimameli. Yiyo lonto bedibana." Abaqeshi bakwe Cape Underwear bathi bayakuthatha inxenye yabasebenzi bazimisele ukuba abayikuphindela de babe babuyela xa bebonke.

"Ukugxothwa komnye kukugxothwa kwethu sonke batsho". Olugweyimbo luxhaswa yimibutho emininzi necawe ne mosques. Nabanye abasebenzi batsho bathi idabi labo lelethu. Uloyiso lwabo luyoyiso lwethu. Phambili kwidabi laba basebenzi."

Ufuduso lwabahlali Khayelitsha

BONKE abahlali base Nyanga, Langa, Guguletu kungekudala bazakufuduselwa e Khayelitsha. Oku kuthethwe yinkulumbuso yeli epalamente kwiveki ezintathu ezidulileyo. Uthe lo ka Botha iKhayelitsha izakubanazo zonke izibonelelo abantu abazifunayo izikolo iKliniki nezinye. Uthi yiminqweno yabantu ukufundukela e Khayelitsha.

Kodwa abantu bakwa Langa, Nyanga, Guguletu banomsindo lolufuduso kuba khange, balufune. Malunga ne 3000 abahlali balapha ebebeye kwikomfa ye WCCA apho batsho ngazwinye bonke besithi asiye e Khayelitsha

sakuzilwela izindlu zethu kuba sizilungisile.

Uthe ummi wase Nyanga xa ebethetha no Grassroots "lo rulumente sele elahle ama 3 million abantu emaphandleni apho abantu babulawa yindlala. Ngoku ufuna ukulahlala ama 150 000 abantu e Khayelitsha lento yeli Khayelitsha yindlela u rulumente afuna ukusiqhobosha ngayo." Omnye yena umntu uthe le Khayelitsha ikude nasemisebenzini yethu samnkela imali encinci ngoku yonke iphelela ekukhweleni."

Lo rulumente uzenza isithulu. Uyala ukuphula phula abantu ukuba bathini. Khona kulonyaka uphelileyo isithethi se UDF sathi kwintlanganiso

eyayiyiwe ngabantu abayi 2000. Ukuba u Koornhof no Morrison bacinga ukuba ukuhlala elwandle kumnandi mabaye bona bayoku hlala e Khayelitsha."

Sathi esisithethi "kokho abantu abaphupha amaphupha obuxoki abo ke ngalamabhulu e Nationalist Party aphupha uboxoki kuba asoze siye Ciskei nase Transkei nase Khayalitsha thina sadalewa sazalelwa apha kwaye sakufela apha." Urulumente kufuneka asimamele sifuna ukuhlala apho sithanda khona sithi mayiphele imithetho yamapasi. Mayiphelise imfuduso.

Grassroots workers supplement inside

WORKER'S DAY



Grassroots supplement on workers

May 1984

LET'S CELEBRATE WORKER POWER

Carry forward spirit of May Day

"WE should carry the spirit of May Day in our hearts. We should not let the government stop us from celebrating and showing our solidarity with workers world-wide."

This was the message of the May Day rally held at Fun City on Sunday May 6. The rally was organised by the United Democratic Front (UDF).

UDF president Oscar Mpetha said the workers must be strong. "Freedom does not come on a tray."

"Matanzima boasted that Transkei got freedom without a single shot being fired. But how many bullets are flying now? How many people haven't been jailed and exiled? What do the people of Transkei think of Matanzima now," he said.

Dr Boesak said that August 22 should be made a day of protest. Coloureds are expected to vote for the new tri-cameral parliament on that day.

Freedom

Dr Boesak called on people not to vote.

"To vote is to say yes to this government and that we are satisfied with things. It would mean we agree with Allan Hendrickse and his Labour Party that the government should be given time. Time for what? For more apartheid, for more bannings and detentions. We say to this government: We the people of South Africa, who are going to claim their rights and their land, don't want to give you any more time.

"We must say to this government: No matter what you do, we shall have our freedom.

"You can take our children and poison their minds and make them unfit to lead a decent life. You can take our workers and exploit them and pay them starvation wages. But we shall have our freedom.

"You can send your propaganda agents around the world, including your Prime Minister, to lie to them. But We shall have our freedom.

"You can make the world believe that we are afraid to continue the struggle. And we shall have our freedom."

Liz Abrahams, a member of the United Women's Organisation and a trade unionist, said the workers held the solution to the country's problems in their hands.

"We must organise, that's the only solution," she said.

About 2000 people attended the rally. Apart from the speakers, the programme included drama from the Cape Flats Players and music by Vukani, Ukhanyo, Basil Coetzee and Trevor Parker and Friends.

LOMHILA ka May lusuku lwabasebenzi kwihlabathi liphela. Lusuku apho abasebenzi bekhumbula amandla nomanyano lwabasebenzi.

Lomhla ka May kweli leNtshona-Koloni ukhunjulwe kwiqondo eliphezulu. Ngephezu kwama 2500 abantu ebebeze kulomhlangano ubuququzelelwa zimanyano zabasebenzi ngolwesibini umhla ka May 1. Kwangalomhla mnye ngaphezu kwama 800 abafundi ebebenomhlangano kwi univesithi yase UWC nabo bekhumbula lomhla. Nge cawe umhla we 6 May bebengaphezu kwama 2000 abantu ebebeze kulomhlangano ubuququzelelwa ngumbutho omkhulu i UDF e Flakeni.

Abasebenzi babonisa amandla abo.



'May 1 must be a public holiday'

WORKERS must demand that May 1, 1986 be a public holiday. 1986 is the hundredth year May Day will be celebrated throughout the world.

This was said at a May Day meeting in Athlone. The meeting was organised by a number of unions belonging to the new trade union federation. About 2500 workers attended.

May Day is being celebrated as a paid public holiday in a number of other countries.

Virginia Engel of the National Union of Textile Workers spoke about the government's new apartheid parliaments.

This parliament will continue the rotten deal workers have been experiencing, she said.

"We can have no part in this. This is the new face of apartheid. We can have no part in making oppression and exploitation work better," she said.

Mr John Ernstzen, the secretary of the Cape Town Municipal Workers Union, said workers were no longer begging for their rights.

"We have the power to achieve what we want. The power lies in our hands. We must change the system which oppresses us if we want to end oppression," he said.

Mr Eddison Stevens, assistant general secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, said the struggle of workers all over were the same.

Workers must fight oppression, apartheid, but also capitalism, he said.

A time for unity

"EK werk nou al 15 jaar by Cape Underwear. Ek verdien R54 'n week. Is dit regverdig?"

These are the words of a striking Cape Underwear worker. She was speaking at a May Day meeting of about 800 students at the University of the Western Cape.

A member of the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) spoke about the importance of May Day. Why it was an important day of unity.

He also spoke about the hardships of workers in South Africa.

"Workers get low wages. They have bad working conditions. They have to live in

hostels away from their families. And in the community they face high rents. There is not enough housing. For workers, South Africa is a place of suffering."

He said it was important for workers to have trade unions.

"Trade unions unite workers to fight for improvements in wages and working conditions. But trade unions must not only speak for the workers. Workers must also control their unions.

Workers at Cape Underwear and Dairybelle spoke to the students. They explained why they went on strike. They spoke about their prob-

lems at work.

The Cape worker asked the students: "Is a R10 increase a reasonable demand?"

"We make your clothes, but look at the wages we get. Can we live on R54 a week?"

The Garment Workers' Union does nothing for us. We are forced to pay them but they don't speak for us.

"They say we'll get a pension when we are 60, but it is only R500. How long will it last? I'm a loser all round unless I stand up now. I am a garment worker, but I don't want my children to be the same.

Students gave a rousing

welcome to the guest speaker, Mr Billy Nair. He has been on Robben Island for 20 years. Before that he was a popular worker leader of the 50s.

Billy spoke about the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU). He said Sactu was a powerful trade union movement. Sactu fought for worker rights. But Sactu also taught workers that they cannot just fight for higher wages, but also for political rights.

He said trade unions must join hands with other organisations to end apartheid. Only then will they share in the wealth that they produce.

Werkers staan saam! Vir 'n beter lewe

GIVE US HOUSES AT COST

THE government has decided to sell houses. Many people were pleased to hear this. "At last we will have security for us and our children," they said.

"But this new housing deal will not bring houses, security and comfort," a CAHAC spokesperson said. Instead, it will bring many hardships to our people.

For example:

- * the government will make big profits from the sales. Houses which cost them R1 000 will be sold for R5 000 to R7 000. And they have the rent which we paid all these years.
- * houses will not be fixed before they are sold.
- * instalments will be more than our present rent.
- * tenants who don't buy may be forced to

pay more rent.

- * those who earn under R150 per month will get houses with no electricity, no paint, no ceilings.
- * NO more houses will be built for those earning more than R150 per month. CAHAC is holding house meetings all over Cape Town to explain these things. The people are very

"Why must they make a profit? Have we not paid enough for these houses? What did they do with all our rent money?" said Mrs Booyesen from Facreton. Another woman said, "This is plain robbery. Council never fixes our houses. They are falling apart!"

In the River, the Divisional Council decided to sell 3 700 houses. But at a meet-

ing held by Connaught Committee and Avondale Tenants Association, over 400 people rejected the housing deal.

On 8th April, Bonteheuwel Civic Association held a meeting of 800 people to discuss the issue. The people all rejected:

- * the Labour Party and Management committees
- * the new housing deal.

They pledged support to the Bonteheuwel Civic and UDF.

"CAHAC demands that houses are sold at cost. People have paid rent for years. This money must be deducted from the sale price. And the rents must not be increased for those who do not want to buy.

"We are not animals. We deserve a decent place to live" said a Cahac spokesperson.



Bonteheuwel 800 people reject Labour Party and new deal

CAHAC rejects housing deal

THE government has committed many sins against the people. It has broken down houses, and scattered us far from our friends and places of work. Now we must pay high rents and transport costs.

The government says it has no money for houses. But they spend R3 billion per year on the army!

The government must take responsibility for providing decent houses for all. Working people are paid very low wages. How can they afford to build their own homes, or to pay high rents?

CAHAC rejects the new housing deal. It will cause more suffering and hardship. But to reject it is not enough. We must ORGANISE and show our demands.

CAHAC is launching a campaign around these demands:

- * HOUSES AT COST. RENT PAID ALREADY MUST BE SUBTRACTED.
- * RENTS MUST BE REDUCED.
- * DECENT HOUSES FOR ALL AT RENTS WE CAN AFFORD.



Western Cape Civics Association AGM



Signing the UDF signature form at WCCA

CAHAC: solidarity with WCCA

AT the moment the government is trying to drive out all the Africans from Cape Town and move them to Khayelitsha, 40 kilometres away.

This would mean higher busfares, higher rents. We who have suffered under Group should know. The African community has decided to fight this forced removal. WCCA and the UDF is leading the fight.

CAHAC supports this struggle. We must show our solidarity with our brothers. Together we must smash bad laws which break up communities and families. Together we must oppose forced removals. In our unity and our organizations lie our strength. "AMANDLA"

Resist removals

THE WCCA held its first AGM on Sunday, April 29. Over 2 000 people from all over Cape Town attended

At the rally, people agreed to:

- * resist removals to Khayelitsha, Ciskei and Transkei.
- * resist the SADF camps for our children.
- * support the bus drivers in their struggle for higher wages and better working conditions. "It is us workers who produce the wealth, but we cannot afford what we produce" a speaker said.
- * support the UDF
- * work with CAHAC to fight for houses, security and comfort.

"We cherish a vision of a united, non-racial South Africa. Let us fight to make this vision come true" said WCCA spokesperson.

i WCCA icele abahlali bangahambifani nemfundufo!

EMVA kwethuba elide umbutho wabahlali base Ntshona-Koloni wede wayifumana indawo. Umbutho wabahlali i WCCA kudala usokola ungafumani indawo yokubambela inkomfa yawo ngenxa yabonopopi bazi community council, bahambe begrogcisa abefundisi besithi mabangavumeli amaholo ecawe ebeyindawo yemibutho yopolotiko. Kuba besazi ukuba lo mbutho unceda abahlali kwingxaki ezibadlayo kuba kaloku bona ngoohlohlezo izisu.

Bebephumile abahlali be Ntshona koloni ukusuka e zweletembe e Worcester e Mbekweni nakuzo zonke ilokishi zalapha. Iholo lase St Francis beliphuphumela ngaphandle ngabantu bebemalungu nama 3000, abantu ebebelapho.

"Uthe xa ebethetha u sihlalo we PEPCO uthetha-thethwano lwase Nkomati phakathi kuka Botha no Machel akuzukuzisa nkululeko, inkululeko iyakuza nomanyano lwethu. Watsho ecut-sula kumqulu wabantu, kungca othi uMzantsi Afrika ngowomntu wonke ohlala kuwo. Kwakubakho izindlu ukhuseleko nolonwabo.

Isithethi se UDF sithe sele ingamawaka-waka e signatures esele ziqokelelwe kweli le Ntshona Koloni. Kufundwe imiqweno emihle ibivela kweminye imibutho oma CAHAC, UWO no COSAS.

Yonyulwe ikomiti entsha yalombutho u Mr Ngxobongwana woyulwe sisininzi njengo sihlalo omkhulu walombutho uMr Stuurman uphinde wonyulwa njengosekela sihlalo walombutho.

Unobhala omkhulu walombutho konyulwe u Indie Mfeketho nesekele lakhe u Mzonke Jack u Mr Deliwe njengo nondjubo walombutho namalungu amahlanu engezelelweyo ukwenza ikomiti. Apho ama Afrika atsho akhumbula imbali yomntu apho asuka khona nalapho ivela khona lengcinezelo.

Izindululo zabahlali mawuphe le umthetho wamapasi, mayiphelise ijoyini asiyi eKhayalitsha iSADF mayohlukane nokuthatha abantwana bethu ezikolweni ngaphandle kwemvume yabazali. Unyaka ka 1984 mayibe ngunyaka wentshukamo ibe ngu 1984.

PHAMBILI KUMZANTSI AFRIKA OKHULULEYO!!!!

"Die mense moet weer eens betaal"

IN 1974 was 'n dam net buite Saldanha Baai gebou. Die dam staan vandag bekend as die "misverstand dam".

Hierdie dam was gebou met die uitsluitlike doel om die industriële gebied en nie nabygeleë visgebied van water te voorsien.

Die regering het baie groot planne gehad vir hierdie gebied wat ook as 'n desentralisasie punt bekend was. Ongelukkig was hierdie planne nie uitgevoer nie. Slegs die dam was gebou, maar geen fabriek en indusgrië wat

belas kon word met die onkoste van die dam, was gebou nie.

Die desentralisasiepunt was verskuif na Atlantis nader aan Kaapstad. Wie moet nou die gelag betaal?

Die mense van Veld-drift, Saldanhabaai en omliggende gebiede moet nou vir die groot misverstand dam betaal. Mense betaal tot agtrand vir nege gallons water. As jy nie op tyd betaal nie, sny die munisipaliteit onmiddellik jou water af.

Die mense moet weer eens betaal vir die regering se misverstand.

U GRASSROOTS UKAHLELA ABASEBENZI

Workers fight back



1972

Durban — stevedores gather outside the company's office, to demand higher wages.



1980

Port Elizabeth — Ford workers on strike being paid off by the boss.



1984

Cape Town — Cape underwear strikers to speak to other workers outside the factory.

"UKUGWAYIMBELA imivuso ephakamileyo, asisayi kududulwa" kulo lonke eli lase Kapa, abasebenzi bacula eli culo.

Kulo lonke elase Kapa abasebenzi bathi, asiyifuni imivuso ephantsi. Sidiniwe kukubilela ilize baba bona ong-xowa nkulu behlutha kukubila kwethu.

Sithi makuyekwe ukunyuswa kwama-xabiso. Ziveliswa sithi ezimpahla kodwa asikwazi ukuzithenga.

Mayiphele imithetho yemfuduso ngokwebala nemithetho yamapasi. Elizwe lakhiwe zezizandla zethu. Sinelungelo lokuhlala apha.

Asibafuni onomgogwana. Sithi abaninzi sinalo ilungelo lokuzonyulela inkokeli zethu, sibanelizwi kwimithetho yethu naku Rulumente wethu.

Kulo lonke eli lase Kapa abasebenzi bangcamla amandla obunye. Abasebenzi bempahla abaghubi bebasi onodairy abasebenzi bakwa Allied nabakwamasipala, bamanyene ukulwa imfuno zabo. Abanye baphumelele Abanye basalwa. Kodwa bonke bakubonile ukubaluleka komanyano, nithetha ngazwinye. Urulumente nabaqeshi bazama ukuqhekeza olu

manyano lwabasebenzi. Basicinezela ngemivuso emicinci. Basohlula ngalemi-thetho yobuhlangano nalamapasi. Basibhanxa ngezithembiso zalemithetho mitsha imdaka.

Kodwa ngaphandle kwabasebenzi ezomatshini zabo zakuma zithi cwaka. Ngaphandle kwabasebenzi izityalo ziyakubolela phantsi komhlaba. Ngaphandle kwabasebenzi izimbiwa igolide ziyakuhlala phantsi komhlaba Abasebenzi banangelo kubutyebi belilizwe, noku-banelizwi kuburulumente. Belwela eli lungelo nakwi manyano nakwimibutho yabahlali nakwi UDF.

Abasebenzi bane lungelo lokuphila kakuhle nentshapho zabo. Ngoku ke bafuna elo lungelo.

Umhla ka May lusuku lwabasebenzi usuku apho bonke abasebenzi behlabathi bekhumbula ubunye babasebenzi. Ngalomhla ka May kulonyaka ka 1984 u Grassroots iphepha labantu wothulela umqwazi abasebenzi. uGrassroots uthi ujonge phambile kwimihla apho yonke imihla iyakube ilusuku lwebasebenzi. Masimanyane siorganize ide ifike lomini.



"STRIKE for higher wages, we shall not be moved." All over Cape Town, workers are singing this song.

All over Cape Town workers are saying, AWAY with low wages. We are tired of sweating all our lives for nothing while the boss gets rich.

AWAY with high prices. We produce the goods, but we cannot afford to buy them.

AWAY with the group areas, removals and pass laws. We built this country with our own hands. We have the right to live here.

AWAY with puppet bodies. We are the majority, we have the right to choose our own leaders, to have a say in our laws and our laws and our

government.

All over Cape Town, workers are tasting the power of unity. The clothing workers, the bus drivers, dairy workers, Allied workers and municipal workers have united to fight for their demands. Some have won. Others are still struggling. But all have learnt the strength of standing together, and speaking with one voice.

The government and bosses are trying to break the backs of the workers. They oppress us with low wages, and high prices. They divide us with group areas and pass laws. They fool us with false promises of a "new" constitution.

But without the workers, the bosses machines stand silent. Without the workers, the crops rot in the earth.

Without the workers, the gold and minerals stay deep underground.

The workers have a right to the wealth of the land, to a voice in the government. They are fighting for that right in their unions, community organisations, the UDF. The workers have a right to a decent life for themselves and their children. Now they are claiming that right.

May Day is the workers day, the day when workers all over the world celebrate their unity. On May Day 1984, GRASSROOTS salutes the workers. GRASSROOTS looks forward to the time when every day is the workers day. Let us unite and organise to bring forward that day!

"The past is theirs, the future is ours!"

- Oscar Mpetha.



"It is useless for us to be afraid of prison and teargas.

No country will ever get freedom in its hand.

The Transkei got "freedom" in its hand. What kind of freedom is this? How many bullets, have been used on the people of Transkei.

How many people have been put into jail, or silenced?"

To win real freedom, we must be strong, unite and organise"

— Oscar Mpetha, May Day Rally 1984.



"Om te vote vir die consitution is net so goed as om jou kinderse dood-

UDF MAY DAY WORKER'S DAY



800 juig vir Boesak by UDF se Weskus stigting

"EK GAAN nie op 22 Augustus stem nie. Om te stem, is dieselfde as om saam te stem met die aanhoudende onderdrukking van miljoene mense. As ons stem op 22 Augustus, sê ons dat die regering nooit tot 'n einde gaan kom nie. Ek sal nie toelaat dat my kinders kan sê dat ek deel gehad het in die onderhoud van apartheid nie."

'EK SAL NIE STEM NIE'

Dié woorde was gesê deur Dr Allan Boesak by die eerste vergadering van die United Democratic Front se Weskus streek.

trent 800 mense die NG Sendingkerksaal in Saldanha gepak. Busse het gekom van Laaiplek, Hopefield, Vredenburg en ander dorpie.

Die bestuur van die streek, wat bestaan uit verteenwoordigers van alle organisasies, insluitende die West Coast Youth Congress (WEYCO), Pelikaan Ontspannings en Kul-

tuur Organisasie (POKO) en die Food and Canning Workers' Union takke, was aan die vergadering voor-gestel.

Mr Oscar Mpetha, president van die UDF, het mense versoek om nie vir die Arbeiders-party te stem nie.

"Die werkers maak dié land ryk. Die werkers vervaardig die weelde van die land. Werkers moet betrokke raak by die politiek. Hoe anders gaan ons dan ons vryheid kry?"

"Die broodprys is politiek. As pryse opgaan, is dit politiek. Dis hoekom ek sê dat julle by die UDF moet aansluit - as werkers en as mense wat vryheid lief het."

Dr Boesak het gesê dat almal wat vryheid liefhet, sal wegbly van die stembusse op 22 Augustus.

"Die Arbeidersparty

sê dat ons moet die regering tyd gee. Vir wat? Om ons verder te onderdruk? Die Arbeidersparty sal nooit apartheid kam verniel nie, want hulle trek voordeel daaruit.

Skande

"Ons moet die wêreld wys waar ons staan. Ons kan nie toelaat dat apartheid voortgaan nie. Apartheid is 'n skande," het Dr Boesak gesê.

Cheryl Carolus, een van die sekretariat van die UDF, het mense aangehits om by organisasies aan te sluit. Sy het gesê dat dit baie belangrik is vir vrouens om in die stryd betrokke te word.

Wilfred Rhodes, die voorsitter van die Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (CAHAC), het die mense ingelig oor die nadele van die nuwe behuisingsbeleid.



Oscar Mpetha word warm ontvang op die Weskus.

Have you made your mark against apartheid?



1 million!!



SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN

WE, the freedom-loving South Africans, declare for the whole world to know that:
WE reject apartheid

WE support the struggle and unity of our people against the evils of apartheid
WE stand for the creation of a non-racial democratic South Africa free of oppression, economic exploitation and racism.

WE say:

NO to the new constitution because it will further entrench apartheid and white domination
NO to the Koornhof Laws which will deprive more and more African people of their birthright
YES to the United Democratic Front (UDF), and give it our full support in its efforts to unite our people in their fight against the constitution and Koornhof Bills.

MAKE YOUR MARK AGAINST APARTHEID!

WE want:

	NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			

"NO, I'm not interested in voting. Will voting change anything? Look at my wages. Look at this house. Its ready to fall down. This government gives you nothing for nothing. No, I won't vote".

These are the words of Mr Fortuin, one of 10 000 people from Elsie River who made their mark against apartheid last month.

They came from all over the Peninsula. Young and old members of the UDF. 300 of them proudly wearing their T-shirts. "Apartheid divides" UDF Unites". They went to homes in Elsie River to collect signatures for the UDF's Million Signature Campaign. At the end 10 500 signautes were collected.

Every weekend UDF

members visit thousands of people. They explain to people the evils of the new constitution. They explain why we should not vote for apartheid on August 22.

Since Elsie River, signatures were collected in Ocean View (1 500), Belhar (1 900), Woodstock (1 500), Wynberg (900). 500 signatures were collected at the W.Coast launching of the UDF. At the Carnegie Conference 200 people signed. UDF members have also gone to the Sea Point and Pinelands areas. UCT medical students launched the campaign at Medical School with a mass meeting.

The next big signature drive will be in Mitchell's Plain on 20 May.

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You can fill in this form amongst your family and friends and send it in to the Grassroots office.



...so goed as om jou
kinderse doodsvonnis te skryf."
Liz Abrahams.

"We will not beg for freedom,
we shall take it!
Cheryl Carollus.



"Next year, all the workers must take a holiday
on May Day" — Municipal Worker.



"If the people want
freedom and are
willing to struggle,
we shall have our
freedom.
You can take our
workers and exploit
them and pay star-
vation wages, but
we shall have our
freedom!"
Dr. Allan Boesak.



"Ons is bly dat ons op strike gegaan het
want dit het ons geleer om mens te wees en
om saam te staan." Elizabeth Erasmus,
Cape Underwear.



WITHOUT WORKERS....



*The bosses machines would
stand silent*



The crops would rot in the earth



*The gold would stay deep
under ground*

GRASSROOTS SALUTES THE WORKERS

GIVE US MORE MONEY

We must be heard

WORKERS at the University of Cape Town are demanding to be heard.

A petition was drawn up by a group of workers and was sent to all the campus workers. It urges all campus workers to express their unity by signing the petition.

fellow workers to discuss what kind of organisation they want to solve their problems. The petition asks that workers' demands should be taken to the principal of the university.

Workers are asked to work towards a mass meeting of all campus workers.

The workers have many problems. Older

workers are fired because they are seen not to work productively. Benefit schemes are compulsory and inadequate, the pamphlet says.

"The medical aid scheme is out to prevent claims rather than see that we are healthy." Workers also said they were unhappy with pension and insurance schemes.

Pay 'far to low'

GRASSROOTS interviewed University of Cape Town worker. (His name has been withheld to prevent victimisation).

GRASSROOTS: How long have you been working at the University?

WORKER: Over ten years.

G: Are you satisfied with your job?

W: No, me and my fellow workers have many problems. Things have really been bad lately.

G: Could you give some examples?

W: Yes, our supervisor treats us badly. He often swears at us. If we stay longer than a few minutes in the toilets, he threatens to fire us. Also, the university is reducing staff and making the workers

who stay here do double work for the same wages.

G: What are your wages like?

W: Too low, far too low. After eight years service you still only get about R300 a month. (Federation of South African Trade Unions - Fosatu - have worked out that a living wage at present must be at least R600 a month.)

G: What are the chances of promotion?

W: There are very few. Many have been victimised by being kept in low positions.

G: Are there any transport problems?

W: Yes, many workers have to work until seven o'clock when there are very few buses or trains. It's dangerous to get home then.

G: Have you gone to the Campus Workers' Association?

W: Yes, but they are just stooges of Admin. I've even heard that some of them are often paid off by Admin.

From interviews done with casual workers, it was found that some casual workers had been employed for up to 15 years.

They can be fired at any time without any proper reasons or benefits, like pensions. Some casuals start work with R39 a week pay. G: Have workers tried to take their problems to the University Administration?

W: Yes, but they don't want to listen and if you complain too much, they give you a warning letter. The next step after that is out of the gate.

SAAWU MOVES ON

THE powerful South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU) had its Fifth National Conference in Soweto last month. The conference was attended by over 250 delegates and observers.

Thozamile Gqwata, president of Saawu, says workers are now more aware of their oppression and exploitation. This is shown by the bus boycotts of workers in Lamontville

and Mdantsane.

"Workers are rising up to organise themselves under trade unions," said Gqwata. They are fighting with the bosses for the recognition of their trade unions. Workers are going on "consumer boycotts and are even prepared to go to jail for what they believe is right".

All this points to one thing, says Gqwata. "The hour of worker liberation has come".

The conference was opened by Steve Tshwete, president of the UDF Border Region. He praised Saawu for not limiting the worker struggle to the factory floor and for linking its struggle with that of other democratic people's organisations.

The conference also welcomed Billy Nair and Curnick Ndlovu, two old worker leaders from the 50s. Both Billy and Curnick were leaders of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU), a militant union formed in 1955. They had been imprisoned on Robben Island for 20 years.

Billy spoke on the

"WE HAVE had enough. We demand a decent living wage."

This was the call of more than 3000 municipal workers who packed the City Hall recently. They belong to the Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association (CTMWA).

The workers rejected the City Council's present wage structures. They said these structures were discriminatory. It was against the lower paid workers.

"We don't have enough money for rent, or for train and bus fares. How can we feed our children?"

"Our children go hungry at night. They go to school without decent clothes. We have to turn to crime to survive. We cannot go on in this way," they said.

The workers have sent their demands to the Council.

* All labourers should be paid a minimum wage of R119,55. At the moment, they are being paid R59,77 a week.

* The scales of other workers should be increased in the same way.

The workers have said they may take further action if their demands are not met.



Council workers raise their voices.

Sally gets her job back

WHEN Sally Prins went off on Maternity leave last year, she was told to resign from her job. Sally did not want to resign from work. She needs her job, especially now that she has a child to support.

Sally went to the Retail and Allied Workers' Union for help. She had been a member of RAWU for a few months. RAWU told her not to resign, but to tell the manager she wants to come back and work after three months. They explained that she cannot be forced to resign. If she did resign Grand Bazaars would have no more responsibility towards her. So Sally refused to resign.

But in January, when Sally contacted the shop to find out when she could return

to work, she was told that there was no job for her. She was told to apply for her job as though she was a new worker.

Sally went back to RAWU and together they began fighting to win Sally's job back for her.

At first the managers were not interested in Sally's problems. They told Sally that Grand's policy is to take back only certain workers. They only take back the 'good' workers. And they only take back those workers if there is a vacancy.

RAWU took Sally to the lawyers who threatened to take Grand Bazaars managers to court for committing an unfair labour practice. Grand Bazaars did not want to go to court. They gave in and decided to take Sally

back.

Sally started work in the Parow branch on the 16th April. The managers have agreed to transfer Sally back to Bellville branch as soon as there is a vacancy.

Why do we have to fight so hard to keep our jobs? All over the world countries have made laws to protect workers. They have done this because over the last 10 tens workers all over the country have been uniting and fighting for their rights.

But they have not passed any laws to protect women's jobs. We cannot wait for the government to make laws to protect our jobs. Where we don't have the rights we have to unite and fight for these rights ourselves.

Factory Curtains

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198 LANSLOWNE ROAD CLAREMONT

Everite strike

WORKERS at the Everite Plant in Brackenfell struck briefly recently.

They demanded that the hostel superintendent and supervisor be fired.

The workers belong to the General Workers' Union. They said they were being ill-treated by the superintendent and supervisor.

They (the workers)

threatened further action if the issue was not resolved.

The men had to appear in front of a disciplinary hearing. The hearing cleared the supervisor of all charges. The hearing lasted 20 hours and 22 witnesses were called.

The hostel superintendent would appear shortly. He had been on leave.

UDF Signature Campaign

MITCHELL'S PLAIN

Sunday 20 May

UDF volunteers will be going around to houses in Mitchell's Plain on Sunday May 20 to collect signatures for the Million Signatures Campaign.

MAKE YOUR MARK!

Our people support the bus drivers

ON April 16, bus drivers put a ban on working overtime. A month later the ban still remains. The reason? City Tramways refuses to pay the 1 200 workers the 15 percent wage increase they demand.

A trade union statement says: "The bus drivers of City Tramways, like many workers in South Africa, are struggling for higher wages and improved working conditions." It criticizes City Tramways for making "large profits out of the basic needs of workers and communities for transport".

The dispute between the bus drivers and City Tramways was taken to the Industrial Council twice. Each time the talks ended in deadlock. Now City Tramways wants to take the dispute to an industrial court.

But the drivers say they have "very little faith" in the court.

They say City Tramways must agree to their demand. They say their demand is just and reasonable.

The UDF has come out in support of the bus drivers. A UDF pamphlet said: "Where the bosses may be dissatisfied with the bus drivers", they must know "that the people of Cape Town have long been dissatisfied with City Tramways".

The action of bus drivers is causing hardship for people. But "our people also recognise the justice of their demands".

The UDF warns that pay increases for bus drivers must come from increases in busfares.

"Increases must come from the pockets of City Tramways. There is more than enough money in the pockets of the bosses to pay these increases."

Anger at bus union

BUS drivers are angry. They say some of their union officials are not representing them properly.

The bus drivers belong to the Tramways and Omnibus workers Union. Last month, the workers decided to stop all overtime work, in demand of a wage increase.

But two weeks ago, some union officials told the boss that the ban on overtime will stop. But they did not ask the workers about this. They decided themselves. Now the workers are saying, "why weren't we consulted?"

One worker told Grassroots, "The workers feel that the top executive is selling us out. But we are clear about this. We will continue the ban on overtime until

we have won our increase.

"We are also angry about something which happened last week. Our union chairperson, Mr Soeker is the vice chairperson of the industrial council. Because the chairperson of the industrial council was sick, Mr Soeker was acting chairperson." He agreed with the bosses to take the dispute to the industrial court.

"But the industrial court sides with the bosses. We have no say in it. Who represented the workers at this meeting? We did not decide to take this matter to the industrial court."

The workers are united in standing for their increases. But they have many questions to ask of their unions officials.

CAPE WORKERS FIGHT BACK!

"Go where the grass is greener"

"EK werk al 20 jare by Cape Underwear. Ek is 'n masjienist. Ek verdien net R54,00 per week. Hoe kan ek deurkom met so min geld?" Die pryse styg net op - trein geld, kos, huur. Selfs as ons die R10 increase kry, moet ek sukkel om alles te bekostig. Maar die baas het geweier om so 'n klein bietjie te gee." - Mrs. Jacobs.

Mrs Jacobs' story is the story of thousands of clothing workers. The maximum wage for a qualified machinist is R54,00. Many workers earn less than this.

The rise in GST and food prices make it impossible for the workers to live on this wage. Now the workers at Cape Underwear, at Rex Trueform, and many other clothing factories are saying, "Ons het genoeg gehad. Ons eis R10 nou!"

The strike at Cape began in April. But the workers had asked for the increase in March. "Toe ons die baas gevra het, het hy gesê, "Go where the grass is greener". Nou besef ek dat die werkers daai gras groen gemaak het vir die baas. En nou, hy wil nie 'n portion van die groen gras aan ons gee nie.

On Wed. 25 April, the workers decided to stop work. "We wanted to talk to the boss. But he said we must be back at work in five minutes, or we would lose our jobs. How could we go back to work when he refused to listen to us?"

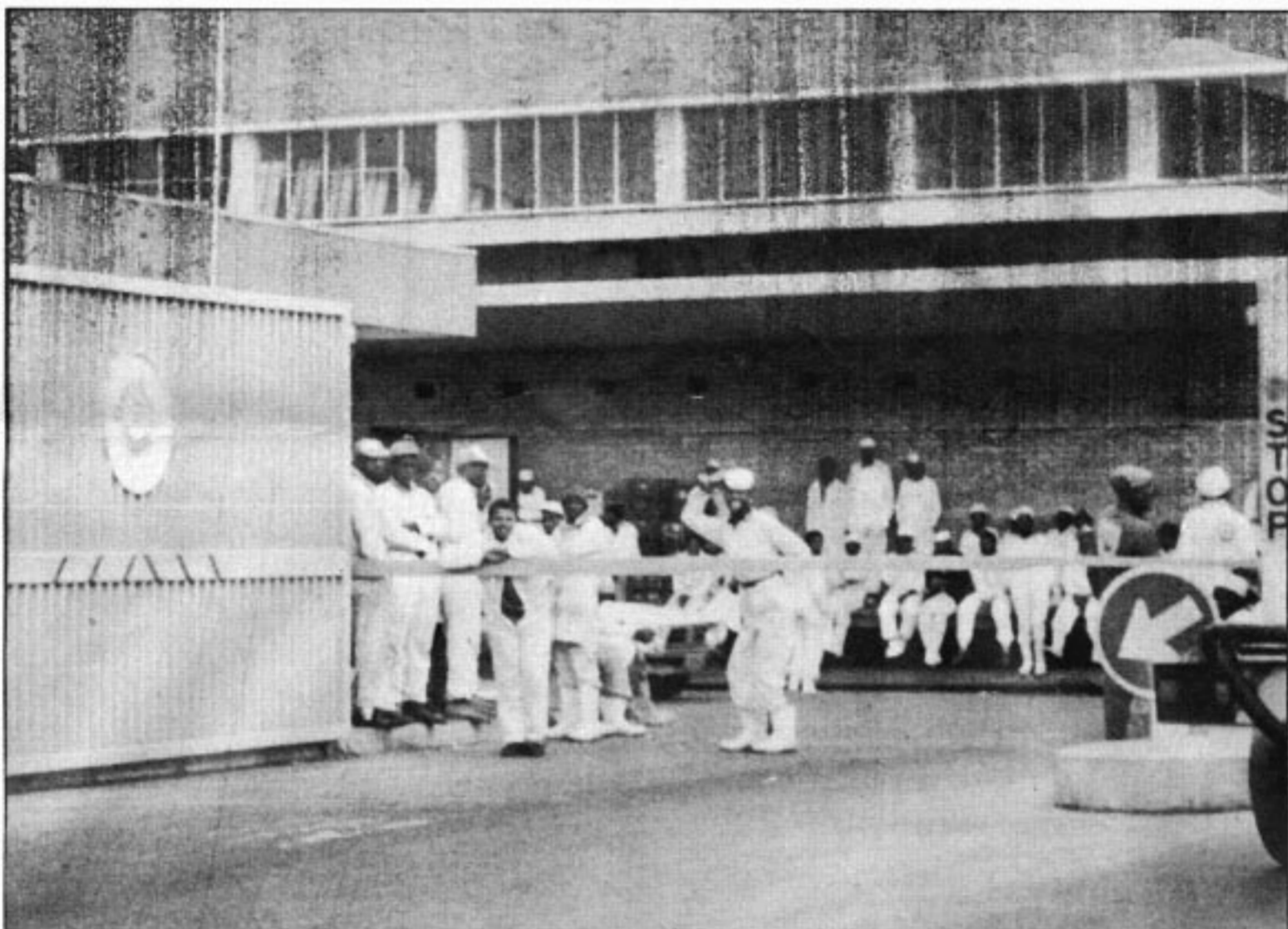
"Fifty-two of us left. The boss said that we were dismissed. He locked the factory gate.

"One of the Clowu organisers was there. We went to the church hall. Mr Petersen was also there at the factory. But he didn't even ask what was happening. He didn't lift a finger to help us."

At lunch time, another 22 workers joined the strike. "Ons get gevoel dat ons kan nie werk terwyl die anders op strike is. Al die werkers het saamgestem oor die increase."

On Thursday, the 74 striking workers went to the factory to speak to the others. "Ons het buite in die reën gestaan en met hulle gepraat. Maar ons het niks succeed nie. Ons was baie hartseer. Ons het besluit om 'n brief aan die werkers te stuur."

At lunchtime the bosses called the police to "disperse" the striking workers who were out-



600 Dairy workers strike to demand recognition of their union.

side. "The police just came and left. They could see that we were doing nothing wrong."

On Monday, the strikers were joined by another 63 workers. There are now 137 workers on strike.

The workers have been meeting in the church hall every day. They have spoken with people from other trade unions, church ministers, students. They have been discussing the strike with each other and officials from CLOWU. "Everything is so different now. We understand things so much better.

The community and other workers have supported the strike. The Cape workers have raised a lot of money from donations.

"At the factory, we never spoke to each other much. Now we are working together, speaking together. There's a good spirit" the workers are saying.

On Friday, the boss met with CLOWU and the workers. They said they will take back all strikers, except the first 52. But the workers are saying "Ons sal nie terug gaan sonder al die werkers, en sonder die increase nie.!"

Rex Trueform

THE workers at Rex Trueform are also demanding a R10 increase.

On Tuesday, April 24, the workers of the fourth and sixth floor went on strike. In the afternoon they went to the Clothing Workers Union for help. Clowu distributed a pamphlet informing other Rex workers of the demand.

On Wednesday morning, all the workers came out on strike. "But the floor managers told us different stories. They said that they would dismiss us, that they would close the factory and that other floors would do our work. We didn't know what was going on in the other sections so some of us went back to work." a worker told Grassroots.

The fourth and sixth floor workers, and warehouse workers continued the work stoppage for the rest of the week. Now they are waiting until next Wednesday for an answer from the boss on the increase.

"I think what we learnt from this is the need to organise. There

are so many different buildings and sections at Rex. It is easy for the boss to divide us. We must be organised and make sure that all the workers know what's going on," a warehouse worker said.

"The Rex workers support the Cape workers. If we get the increase, it will be because of the Cape workers. Their fight is the fight of all clothing workers."

Bibette

ON April 27th, 300 workers at Bibette clothing factory, Lansdowne, went on strike.

They were demanding:

- the reinstatement of five mechanics who had been dismissed;
- the dismissal of Mr Bianca, a workshop manager;
- a R10 increase.

The mechanics had been fired after an argument with Mr Bianca, when they asked him why they had not been paid the day before.

The 300 machinists went on strike in support of the mechanics. After 1-1/2 hours, the five were reinstated, and all the workers went back to work.

Action in brief

Dairy Belle

Malunga ne 600 abasebenzi bakwa Dairybelle abaye bagwayimba e Epping kulenyanga iphelileyo. Bebebanga ukuba abaqeshi bayamkele imanyano yabo u (RAWU). Abaqeshi baye bavuma ukudibana nale manyano nezibhambathiso zemvumelwano ziye zabhalwa. Kwakutsha nje le manyano u RAWU ibisandula ukuphumelela ezimvumelwano kwa van Riebeeck Dairies.

BKB

Abewulu bakwa BKB e Epping banyanzelwa ukuba basebenze izesha elifutshane ngolwezithathu. Kulenyanga iphelileyo malunga ne 150 abasebenziabaye bazibeka phantsi izixhobo zokusebenza bekhazela lemeko. Baye banyanzelwa ukuba ba sebenze kwintsuku ezimbalwa emva kwesisi ganeko. Kodwa abasebenzi abakoneliseki. Bafuna abaqeshi balicime elithuba lifutshane. Kwaye bafuna abaqeshi bayamkele imanyano yabo i (NUTW).

Allied

ABASEBENZI abakwa Allied bakhe bawubeka phantsi bekhazela imali encinci abayihlawayo. Khange bayihlawulelwe olwasuku lwepasika baze bala ukuhambisa amaphepha. Emva kwe awala umanejala uye wawuma ukubahlawula imali yabo. See pg. 11



Workers unite for a decent life!

WOMEN, UNITE AND ORGANISE

'They don't know how to suffer'

ANGER is building up in New Crossroads. And the causes of this anger are high rents and water bills.

Some people in New Crossroads pay water bills of more than R100 a month. One man says he has had to pay up to R200 a month.

"And the rents increase every year. We just cannot afford it. The rents here are much higher than in the old townships. Also, in the old townships we did not pay water," says Mama Nkosi, a member of the United Women's Organisation (UWO). She is also on the New Crossroads Committee.

"So many people are evicted for not paying rent, or for not paying rent in advance. The Board is forcing people out of the houses. They are now putting policemen in these houses. The arrangement was that they would take people from old Crossroads and put them into these houses. They are now breaking that agreement.

Rents in New Crossroads go up to R41,51 a month. The rent two years ago was R29,51 a month. In the old townships the rents are R18 a month.

The houses in New Crossroads do not have electricity.

"We have to use gas, candles and paraffin which can be very expensive and dangerous," said Mama Nkosi.

She showed us her budget for paraffin, gas and candles. Every month she spends R24 on paraffin, R27 on gas and three rand on candles.

Mama Nkosi says she would be able to afford electricity.

"It is much better to have electricity than to struggle like this. The children can get sick from the paraffin smoke and gas is very dangerous, especially if there are small children around.

"People who don't know how we struggle, want to come and live here. But they don't know we suffer," said Mama Nkosi.

Inzima eza nerafu yamanzi

APHA e New Cross Roads sitsala nzima sirenta amanzi angena limiti irente inyuka yonke iminyaka, inyuka nge R6,00 kuyoyonke.

Lontlupheko ingako siphinde sikhutshoe inyanga ingaphelanga. Kuthiwee akurentanga ukuba kusweleke abazali endlini baswelekile, ke ndifuna indlu ijikelwe kum mna mntwana walondlu.

Ndixelwe ukuba mandiphume endlini ndingoyiswanga irente nangoku, sine case yomntu okhutshoe endlini xa e buza imaliyakhe lena ebeyi renta emva kokuba eswelekile umntu we ndlu leyo.

Leyo indawo ayi phumeleli yaye aynampendulo ngako masimanyane maAfrika.

Libelinye sibheke phambili.

1954 to 1984: 30 fighting years

THIS slogan was proudly displayed on a huge banner at the women's rally in Rylands last month.

The rally, organised jointly by the United Women's Organisation, and the Women's Front, was held to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Federation of South African women (FSAW). Over 600 women and men came to join in this celebration.

Thirty years ago, when FSAW was formed, women were faced with many problems - passes, low wages, child care, housing.

These issues affect all oppressed people. But they affect women particularly, because women must bear the burden of feeding and clothing their families, of caring for their children.

In 1984, these problems are still with us. Women are still struggling to feed their families.

"Yesterday I saw something in a shop that made me very angry" said Liz Abrahams from Food and Canning Worker's Union.

"An old woman did not have enough money to pay for her weekly shopping. She had to leave some basic food-stuffs behind.

"We workers have a right to decent food,



We must not wait for another GST increase. We must say NO to high prices now. Why should we pay taxes, when we have no say in how the government spends them?

"Bring all the organisations together to fight

for prices we can afford. The unity of the working people is the best medicine for this problem of high prices."

We are still struggling to find houses. The UDF speaker said "The government used bulldozers in Werkgenot,

Modderdam and District Six. But they do not only use guns and bulldozers to move us. They cut off water and electricity supplies, increase the rents so that we cannot afford to pay them."

And the government is trying to recruit our sons into the army. They are organising SADF camps for school children. "The army and police oppress us" a WCCA speaker said. "We do not want our children to grow up to become our oppressors."

What can women do to fight these problems? "Slogans and singing will not stop removals, and high prices. We must UNITE and Organise." The women have shown that they are willing to work for unity and organisation. The UWO and WF worked together for the first time to organise the rally. They have shown they are willing to build unity.

The women are still fighting - and will continue to fight until their demands are won!

Makosikazi Umanyani

UMANYANO ayisisidlo sasemini, ingesiso esangokuhlwa nje ngenkululeko, ayizi ngepleyiti. Kufuneka silusebenzele umanyano. Ngaphezu kwama 600 abantu ebebez kumhlanagano wamakhosikazi wesikhumbuzo somhla wokuzalwa kombutho wamakhosikazi kweli lomzantsi Afrika ngomhla we 14 ku April.

Umsebenzi omhle owenziwe yi U.W.O. ne W.F. sithe xa besithetha isithethi sase Paarl sikhathazeke evenkileni xa besibona umama omdala ejika ezona zinto zisebenzayo ekhaya ngenxa yokungabinemali yaneleyo. Uthe masingalindi iphinde inyuke le tax (GST) masiyilwe kwangoku, mayidibane yonke imibutho ilwe ukonyuka kwamaxabiso.

Sithe isithethi se WCCA abantwana bethu benziwa amakhoba ngexesha le holide. Mayikhajwe imizamo ye SADF yokuzama ukufundisa abantwana bethu ubungcothoza kwezikampi bamane babasa kuzo ngaphandle kwemvume yethu.

Abantu base Driefontein zange babuye ngomva bema iminyaka eli 30 nangona sebebulele inkokeli yabo

zange baroxe. iUDF isikumbuze ngokudilizelwa kwabantu koma Werkgenot kom Modderdam koma district six. Kodwa akasoloko ediliza into ayenzayo uvele acime umbane namanzi avale izicawe nezikolo.

Uthe ukucwa kodwa akunakusinda masime simanyane iWCCA ne UDF zixhasa abantu bakwa Langa Nyanga Guguletu Crossroads abathe bala ukuya e Khanyelitsha imemeza abantu kwezinye indawo naba balwe ilidabi lokufuduswa ngenkani. Usihlalo ukhuze abantu ukuba basayine kolubhalo magama. (One Million Signature Campaign).

Kubekho nomdlalo omhle omfutshane obonisa ukuba abantwana bayichasile nabo lento yokusiwa ezikampini yi SADF, ibonisa abantwana befuna eyonayona kofishele Amakhosikazi ase Ntshona koloni akugxeke kabukhali ukonyuka kwamaxabiso Akhalimele nokonyuka kwerafu ntengo (GST) atsho asithi mawaphelise amapasi. Atsho esithi thina sifuna umzantsi Afrika okhululekileyo apho abantwana bethu bayakukhula ngoxolo nolonwabo.

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comment

Poverty strikes

IN the last few weeks, many workers have gone on strike. Over 120 workers at Cape Underwear went on strike. They were demanding a R10,00 wage increase. At Rex Trueform, at Bibbet, and other clothing factories, there were work stoppages.

The Dairybelle workers went on strike when the bosses refused to recognise their union, Retail and Allied Workers Union. And many bus drivers at City Tramways are refusing to work overtime. They are fighting for better conditions at work and better pay.

The demands of the workers are just and reasonable. A recent survey found that people need a minimum wage of R76,00 per week to survive. But most workers in the Western Cape earn far less than this. The clothing workers earn only R54,00 per week. Even an extra R10,00 will not make a big improvement in their lives.

Meanwhile, prices are rising all the time. The cost of bread, milk and sugar has gone up. GST has increased. How can workers cope with this? The Carnegie conference has reported that poverty is a huge problem in this country. The workers make big profits for the bosses, but do our workers share in the profits? No, they are getting poorer and poorer all the time.

On August 22, the government wants Coloured and Indian workers to vote for its new constitution. Workers must ask themselves, will this new constitution give us a living wage and better working conditions? Will it mean a better life for us?

Already, hundreds of progressive organisations have rejected the new constitution. They say the new constitution will change nothing. In fact, things will get worse. In the end, workers will see that they have no choice but to also say NO to the new constitution.



GRASSROOTS '84 AGM



Terror Lekota: "We must be proud of the alternative papers"

Tell the truth

This was the message Terror Lekota brought to the 600 people attending the Expressions Concert on the night before the AGM. His words were enthusiastically applauded.

Unfortunately, this enthusiasm was not shown by the attendance at the AGM itself. Very few of the 70 member organisations of Grassroots were represented.

The delegates present were faced with the difficult task of deciding the future direction of Grassroots, choosing officials to carry out these decisions, and grappling with the practical problems facing the project.

The two days of the AGM were spent mainly in small groups, where delegates discussed these issues. Delegates agreed that Grassroots was facing a particularly demanding challenge in the next few months - of educating and informing our people about the

WE must be proud of the alternative papers. They carry the truth. They have an important message for our people.

"We must carry that message into every corner of the land. We must not keep it back from the people. We must not hide it under our beds, in piles."

Apartheid government's new deal.

But, it was felt, Grassroots would not be able to meet that challenge unless organisations participated more actively - in both the selling and writing of the paper. Grassroots should work hard to encourage this.

But the task does not only lie with Grassroots" one delegate said. "All progressive organisations must actively show their commitment. Newspapers such as Grassroots are important in our struggle. We cannot neglect Grassroots work."

Much of the discussion focussed on distribution problems. It was felt that Grassroots must explore new ways of getting the paper to the people. And that "organisations must take

more responsibility for this work.

Some of the resolutions passed at the AGM were:

1. That Grassroots reaffirms its commitment to a free, nonracial and democratic South Africa, and to opposing the new deal and Koornhof Bills.
2. That Grassroots will have stories in English, Afrikaans and Xhosa.
3. That Grassroots is open to all progressive organisations.
4. Some copies of Grassroots could be sold in shops on commission - this might help with distribution problems.
5. That Grassroots would hold education programmes for organisations to encourage them to participate in the news and selling of the paper.

Facing the challenges

IN a few months, the government will be holding elections. They will be asking the Coloured and Indian people to vote for "leaders" to sit in a racially divided "kombuis" parliament.

In these months, they will use everything in their power to persuade people to vote. Every day and night, millions of South African will hear the voice of the government, the Labour Party and other puppet bodies, in the newspapers, on the radio, on TV.

"Many of us are clear about these issues. We remain firm in our opposition to the repressive regime in this country.

But to some people, the issues are not so clear cut. They are told that they are getting the vote, that PW Botha is not a bad man - he fights with Andries Treurnicht and shakes hands with Samora Machel. They are told that the Nats are here to stay." They can educate

"THIS AGM comes at a crucial time in our history. On the one hand we find the government engaged in a massive public relations exercise attempting to convince us and the rest of the world that it is all for peace and that democratic changes in the form of the new constitution are in motion within South Africa itself. On the other hand we find the democratic forces of our country engaged in a massive effort to educate our people that Botha's new deal brings no real changes, that we have to unite and fight the new constitution and Koornhof Bills.

our people about the kind of society we live in, who benefits from

How can we teach these people the real facts about the new deal? Our organisations do not have the money and resources of the government. We do not control the newspapers, TV and radio. We must use every way possible to pass on our own messages.

That is why newspapers such as Grassroots are so important. They can give a voice to the oppressed people of South Africa, to their hardships and demands which will not be answered by the new constitution. our oppression and exploitation, and how to

end our misery.

Grassroots can inform people about organisations such as the UDF. It can unite people in schools, communities and factories, in the towns and on the farms, by informing them about activities and organisations in other areas.

Grassroots can be used by organisations to mobilise people, to encourage them to take actions against the new deal.

These are the challenges facing us in the next few months. Grassroots must work hard to meet these tasks, to be a strong and useful tool in our struggle.

But it cannot do this without organisations.

It needs people to sell the paper, to make sure it is reaching all workers, students, housewives, the youth. And it needs people to write about their organisations, their problems and demands.

"Today we are marching along the great and difficult road to freedom. Nothing on earth can stop us on that road. Grassroots is part of that march. It is one of the many weapons that we have to wager the battle for freedom. Let us use it effectively!"

GRASSROOTS ESSAY COMPETITION

English, Afrikaans or Xhosa.

Look at this picture. Let your thoughts run, Concentrate, and enter Grassroots essay and poem writing competition!

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thoughts and your actions, words are the link. Now is the time To say what you think!

LAND OF PLENTY

Why do
our children
die of hunger?

THE problems of poverty in South Africa will only be solved if the unequal system in South Africa is changed.

So said Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and patron of the United Democratic Front. He was speaking at the opening night of the Carnegie Inquiry into poverty.

"We have come to realise that poverty in South Africa is not accidental. Neither must the causes of poverty be sought in some theological explanation about the "will of God", as the churches have for so long taught our people to believe.

"It is not true to say that some people are rich because they have been especially blessed by God. It is the kind of myth which provides the cloak of innocence under which the exploitation and humiliation of the poor can continue unabated. It is our duty to shatter these myths and to expose the lies which keep them alive.

"We shall have to expose the relationship between poverty and exploitation, and poverty and powerlessness. For the powerlessness of the poor is the precondition for the continued dominance of the rich. We must expose the relationship between poverty and wealth. The poor are so poor because the rich are so rich. The process of accumulation of surplus, augmentation of wealth and the law of the market prevailing in many countries including our own, create and sustain wealth for the wealthy and poverty for the poor.

"There is a direct relationship between the poverty of the masses of people and the value system upon which our modern society is built. There is something wrong with a society which takes away the necessities from the many to give luxuries to the few. There is something wrong with a society in which things acquire a higher value than human beings. There is something wrong with a society in which so much more is spent on weapons of mass destruction than on feeding the hungry and

SOUTH AFRICA, a land of plenty for most whites, is a land of starvation and poverty for the majority of its citizens.

At the recent Carnegie conference on Poverty, many examples were raised of poverty in South Africa.

Some of the main points raised

were that:

* Most of South Africa's people lived in inadequate houses;

* In some areas, most of the people are living below the breadline;

* South Africa's health system was geared towards serving the needs of the minority while the

majority was more in need of health services.

* Almost all labourers covered by Industrial Council agreements earned poverty wages.

The grim details of poverty released at the conference shows that the government's new deal will not change concrete living conditions.

A vote for a "coloured" or "indian parliament" will not raise our living standards or put some extra meat in our pots.

While Botha talks of peace with South Africa's neighbours, the majority of the people are saying: "What does a peace agreement mean to us while we have nothing to eat?"



the education of children. If the world had spent one million dollars a year since the birth of Jesus Christ up till today, we would have spent only half the amount Mr Reagan wants to spend on "defence" in the next five years: 1.5 trillion dollars.

"Poverty is a moral challenge!"
"But in this country we must go further and expose the relationship between poverty and racialism which is still the heart-beat of South African society. It is not by accident that 35 out of every 1000 black children die in this country. They die of hunger,

malnutrition and because of inadequate medical treatment. But they die of these things in a country which is one of the richest on this continent and whilst the white population is the recipient of every privilege modern Western society has to offer.

"The desperate conditions of black people in the homelands, the broken families and the destruction of human relationships, the erosion of human dignity and the perpetuation of political powerlessness - all this is not accidental, but by design:

it is the logical outcome of deliberate policy.

"It is the result of deliberate policy that whites, 17% of the population, receive more than 70% of all income, while 98.1% of all income from property is accrued to whites. This must make palpably clear that poverty in this country has to do with apartheid, with white greed, with black political powerlessness.

"This does not mean that the problem can be solved by "making the free market more accessible" to certain selected

groups from the black community. I do not believe that the creation of a black capitalist class will solve the problem of mass poverty in South Africa because it will not mean fundamental change in the inequitable system which capitalism is. And besides: are inequalities based on class any more acceptable than inequalities based on race? Or to borrow from the title of a now famous book amongst Christians: are rich black Christians in an age of hunger any more acceptable than rich white Christians?"

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(opp. BLOMVLEI ROAD)
LANSOWNE

CAYCO TO HOLD CONGRESS

THE Cape Youth Congress (CAYCO) will hold its Annual Congress on the 25, 26, 27 May.

Last year this time CAYCO was the word on everyone's lips.

Everyone was excited about the organi-

sation which would unite more than 20 youth organisations in the Cape.

Today, there are 35 CAYCO branches throughout the Cape. The youth are on the move.

At Annual Congress

all these branches come together to show their strength and unity. To make the call to all young people to come and be part of CAYCO.

Friday evening will be at the Lansdowne Civic Centre from 7 pm. The programme will in-

clude poetry, music and guest speakers.

On the Saturday night, there will be a gumba at the Lansdowne Civic Centre. The Sunday and Saturday during the day will be open to delegates only.

They will be discussing the problems that CAYCO has had and will look at the plans for the future.

They will also look at issues facing the youth today, like unemployment and forced removals to Khayalitsa.



One of the speakers address the CAYCO education week.

Youth and democracy

THE Cape Youth Congress (CAYCO) has had a very successful educational week.

The theme was "Youth facing the challenge of democracy in the 80's."

Speakers looked at issues facing youth today. They spoke about

the role of youth, labour and trade unions, the role of women and the many happenings in Southern Africa today.

One speaker looked at the way people must see the struggle in South Africa today. This is called national democratic struggle.

Trevor Oosterwyk, the president of Cayco, welcomed all the people to the educational week.

Jeremy Cronin spoke about national democratic struggle. He has served many years in prison. He said South Africa had a form of "internal colonialism". A small, privileged minority had rights while the majority were exploited and had no rights.

Two speakers spoke about the role of the youth. Pro Jack, a former Robben Island prisoner, spoke about the history of youth organisation. Dan Montsitsi, a former president of the Soweto SRC, spoke about the role of youth today.

There were also many books and publications on sale. Youth members could use the books to read more about the things discussed at the educational week.

IN the last few weeks schools in the Eastern Cape have seen the rising anger of pupils protesting for their demands.

In Cradock, Humansdorp, Uitenhage and Graaff-Reinet, confrontation has occurred between pupils and the educational authorities.

Some of these confrontations have led to violent incidents with police teargas and harassment angering pupils further.

Trouble in Cradock began when the Department of Education and Training tried to transfer a popular teacher, Mr Mathew Goniwe, to Graaff-Reinet.

The official reason was that Maths and Science teachers are needed in Graaff-Reinet.

However, pupils and parents did not swallow this reason as Mr Goniwe is needed as a Maths and Science teacher in Cradock itself.

As Mr Goniwe is chairperson of the Cradock Residents' Association and a sup-

porter of students demands for a better education system at school, it was suspected that his transfer was politically motivated.

The Department has been unable to force boycotting pupils in Cradock back to school and the schools are presently closed.

The dissatisfaction that pupils and parents are feeling towards the Department's repressive actions has extended to other areas.

In Graaff-Reinet pupils are boycotting classes in support of a fellow pupil, Mpumelele Pase.

This pupil was accused by the authorities of "forcing" pupils to attend meetings and was suspended from classes.

At the moment the situation is very serious. Boycotts and protests have been occurring throughout South Africa this year.

The bad Matric results last year have focussed direct attention on the appalling conditions in black

schools.

The violence between youths and police shows that the Department is not prepared to take any notice of pupils' grievances other than by calling in police.

This can only lead to escalating frustration and anger and

can do nothing towards seeking solutions to the acute problems pupils face.

It would appear that unless pupils are given serious opportunity to express and discuss their grievances, 1984 might be another year of bitter upheaval in our schools.

Bongolethu forms youth

AFTER the launching of the Bongolethu Youth Organisation (BOYO) in Oudtshoorn, the organisation is growing from strength to strength.

The youth started working in the community and presented papers and programmes to the youth.

Members of the youth are also active in selling Saamstaan, the community newsletter.

Up to date, more than 60 young people have signed up as mem-

bers of Boyo.

At the launching meeting on March 3, people spoke about the importance of building strong youth organisations.

Also present at the meeting were the vice-president of the Western Cape region of the UDF as well as the vice-president of Cayco and two members of the UWO executive.

One of the important aims of Boyo is to link up with other youth organisations with similar aims.

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Students say no to camps

"THESE camps are part of a campaign to make students accept injustice, falsehood, bad study conditions, overcrowding and unfair expulsions of students and teachers."

This is what members of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS) thought of a school camp held in Strand over the Easter weekend. The camp was organised by the Department of Education and Training for students from four high schools in Langa.

Students who attended the camp were told that they should accept corporal punishment and that SRC's were "bad en undesirable."

They were shown a UDF anti-conscription pamphlet and a COSAS leaflet allegedly calling on students to boycott schools. The students were warned not to get involved in COSAS or the UDF.

Refused

COSAS students who were invited to attend the camp, refused to go because the school principals did not properly inform the students or their parents of those who were organising the camp and what would be done there. The students were worried that the camp had been organised by the SADF.

A month earlier the SADF had organised a camp for primary school children in Hanover Park. The UDF, The Hanover Park Civic Association and the Hanover Park Branch of the Cape Youth Con-

gress immediately called a meeting to find out how the children's parents felt about the camp.

The parents said that the SADF was just trying to build up a good image in the community because of the new conscription which the government was trying to sell.

Apartheid

"But we know the real image of the SADF. The SADF upholds apartheid and all its injustices - we refuse to send our children to SADF camps or to fight in the SADF" said one parent.

After the meeting the Hanover Park School announced that the camp had been postponed. The parents saw this as a major victory against the SADF because the SADF is used against our people in protest and whenever we stand up against the apartheid.

COSAS believes that the Strand camp should also have been cancelled.

"The Department of Education and Training is now using lies and slander about COSAS and the UDF to win over Black students," they said.

But COSAS is committed to resisting these attempts and to opposing school camps organised by the Department of Education or by the SADF. COSAS sees this opposition as part of our struggle for a non-racial democratic education.

Don't preach apartheid!

UWC students boycott

THEOLOGY (religion) students at the University of the Western Cape don't like apartheid. And they don't like to be taught by people who preach apartheid.

This is why the students - 118 of them - boycotted the classes of white lecturers belonging to the Ned. Geref. Kerk. The NGK has refused to declare apartheid a heresy (against the will of God).

The students said their lecturers should not belong to the white NGK, but should be with the NG Sendingkerk.

The students belong to Koinonia, the organisation of theology students. They said they want a total restructuring of theological education at UWC.

The students boycotted lectures of white lecturers for about two weeks. But they did attend alternative classes.

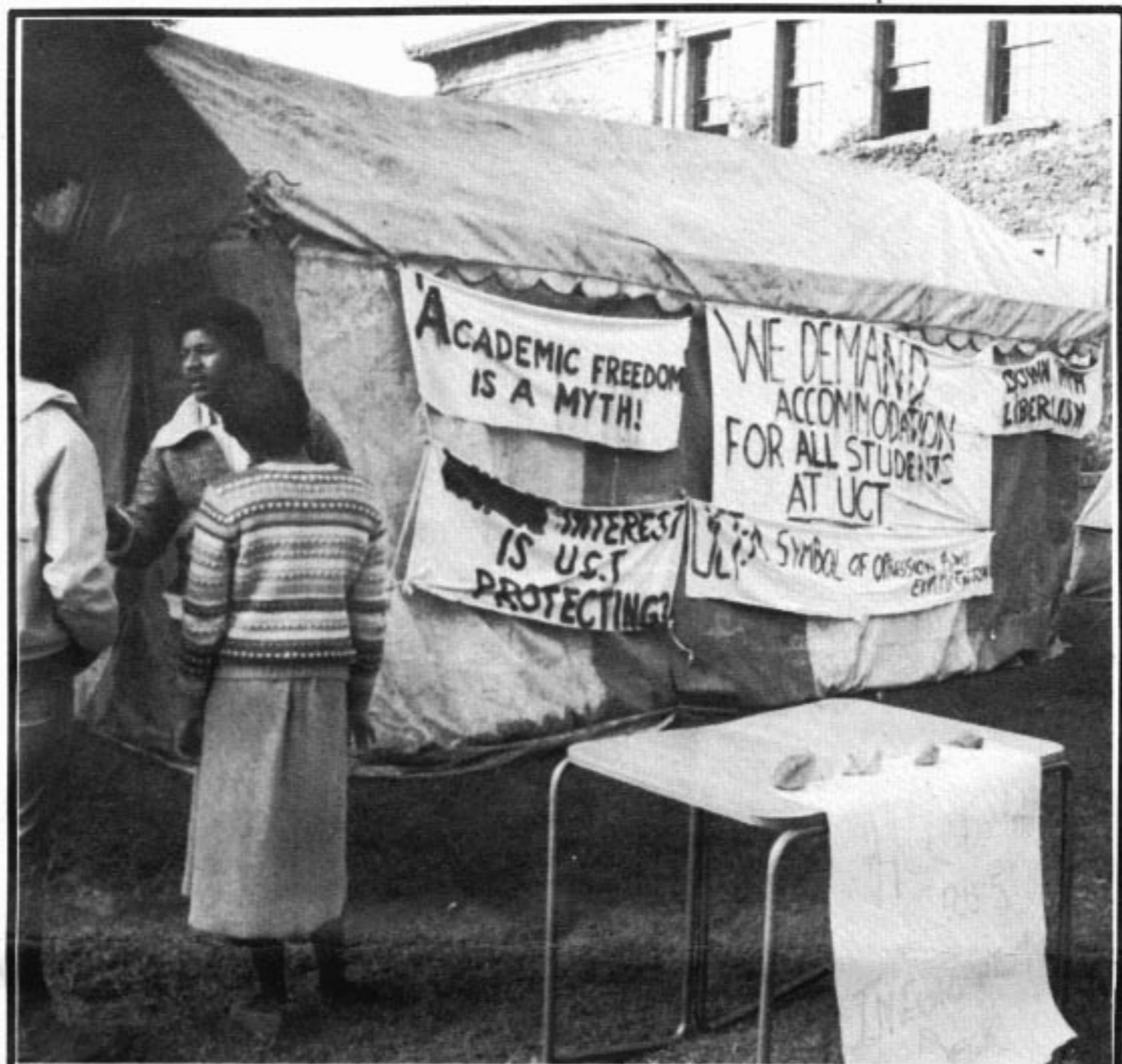
Other students at UWC pledged their support for the students at a mass meeting held on the campus.

The boycott ended after the students met the lecturers and the Curatorium of the Sendingkerk which oversees the Faculty of Theology.

It was agreed that not only white lecturers, but the whole Sendingkerk, would have to denounce the NGK. This would be discussed at a special sitting of the Sendingkerk's General Synod Commission later in the year.

All Sendingkerk ministers would have to sign that they denounce the NGK, in a statement to declare apartheid against the will of God.

Students said after the boycott that they achieved more than what they had set out to do.



This was the scene on UCT's "Freedom Square" when black students protested for accommodation.

Students squat at UCT

THE normal peace and beauty of the University campus was disturbed recently by the appearance of a number of large tents pitched on a patch of grass once popularly known as Freedom Square.

This action has been taken by black students

in an attempt to do something about the accommodation crisis they are facing. These students have no suitable place to live and study and have resolved to stay in the tents until their problem is attended to.

They demanded re-

peatedly that UCT takes responsibility for the accommodation of black students and that transport is provided for those who are forced by Group Areas to live far from campus. This latest "squatting" action is the result of no positive response so

so far from UCT administration.

The students have linked their problems to other forms of oppression in this country and to laws which lead to so many people being without decent places to live.

Rocklands to hold AGM

ROCKLANDS Ratepayers Association (RRA) will hold its AGM on 13 May. The venue is Rocklands Civic Centre. The meeting is from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The guest speaker is May Prins of CAHAC. A Mitchells Plain Co-ordinating Committee member will speak on the hospital campaign in Mitchells Plain. The AGM will also focus on the role of the Youth in the Community. A Rocklands CAYCO member will speak on this topic.

The Rocklands com-

munity faces many problems. A major problem is that the City Council is delaying the transfer of houses to residents. Another problem is the stink from the sewerage plant in Rocklands. There is also opposition to the building of a bottle store. The RRA says their real needs like creches, playgrounds and so on are not being provided.

The RRA invites all residents to the AGM. It says residents must attend and participate. This will ensure that the RRA will be the real voice of the people.

No to Labour Party

THE puppet Labour Party is trying everything to get people to accept the government's new deal.

Recently, a Gatesville shopkeeper complained that he was threatened by Labour Party members when he refused to give them money.

And in Hout Bay the party used primary school children to give out their pamphlets. They also made big promises to some Hout Bay residents.

The Labour Party called a meeting in

Hout Bay in the last week of last month. They said the meeting was for all residents of Hout Bay, to discuss the new housing deal.

Small primary schoolchildren had to give out pamphlets to about 40 of the 600 houses in the area, according to a member of the Hout Bay Housing Action Committee.

About 25 people attended and more than 20 others were turned away. Labour Party officials said: "You are UDF types. We don't want you to disrupt our

meeting."

The press were told they were not allowed into the meeting.

Inside the meeting, Labour Party officials said the new housing deal was a good thing. They asked people to vote for them in August.

They wanted to start a Labour Party branch in Hout Bay. But the people said No.

The Labour Party was forced to end their meeting early.

Police were present throughout the meeting and chased UDF supporters away.

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ADVICE

Boss can't just sack you

YOU can lose your job for different reasons. One reason is when the boss puts you off because there is no more work. This is known as retrenchment.

This article is to say what the boss must give you if you are retrenched.

NOTICE

The boss must tell you before the time that there is no more work.

This is called giving you notice.

If you are paid weekly the boss must tell you one week before he dismisses you. This is one week's notice.

If you are paid monthly, the boss must give you two weeks notice. This means that he must tell you two weeks before the time that your work is going to end.

But if you are a domestic or farm worker and are paid monthly the boss must give you one month's notice.

If you are paid daily, you will get one days notice.

NOTICE PAY:

If the boss wants you to leave at once, he must give you notice pay.

For example, if the boss has to give you one week's notice he can insist that you leave at once.

But then he must pay you as soon as possible to request for unemployment benefits.

Phone: the Department of Manpower at 45-7110 if you are not sure where and when to request.

Domestic and farm workers do not get unemployment benefits.

But if they worked at some other job before and have a blue UIF card when they left that job, they can draw unemployment benefits.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE:

The boss must give you a certificate of service. This must say what job you did, for how long and what your wage was.

It is also a good idea to ask for a reference but the law does not force the boss to give this.

PENSION:

If your payslip showed that money was taken off your wages for pension, this money must be paid back to you.

If you are 55 years or older and were put off you must ask if you can claim your full pension.

sion.

This way you will usually get more money than if you just ask to have the money that you paid into the pension fund given back to you.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP:

If you have been put off and we are not sure whether you got everything owing to you, you can come for help to: General Workers' Union Aid Service. Address: 1st Floor, Benbow Building, Beverly Street, Athlone. Tel. 67-0870 Times open: Saturdays 1 am to 12.30 pm.

If you are an African Worker and need help with your pass law position after being put off, contact:

Black Sash Advice Office, Address: 5 Long Street, Mowbray, Tel: 693150.



Beware of measles

Dear Grassroots

I have heard that measles is going around again. Last week my neighbour's child got it then he was very sick. He went to hospital for two weeks.

I am very worried. Will my child also get measles? And will he get so sick? What must I do? I hope you will be able to help me.

Yours

Mrs van Dieman.

Dear Mrs van Dieman

Yes - you are right measles is around again. Some people think every child must get measles. They think it is in every child and it must come out. This is not true.

Measles can be very dangerous. So it is better for a child not to have measles.

Measles is caused by a small germ. This is catchy. It goes from one child to another. This is made worse in winter when people are close together inside. It is also made worse when many people stay together in a small house. When a child gets measles, he gets a rash. His eyes also get red and sticky. Some people say you must wipe his eyes out with a fee nappy. This is not good, it can make his eyes much worse.

So people also say you must keep the child in a dark room. But this is not good or necessary. If the child doesn't want to look in the light, you can make the room dark.

If the measles is bad, the child can get a runny tummy. He can even get inflammation in his lungs. This can make him very sick, so what can you do to work out measles?

When your child is 7 months old, you must take him to the clinic. They will give him an injection against measles, but this is not enough. When he is 14 months old, you must take him back for another injection. Then he won't get measles.

If your child has not had the injections, and he is older than 14 months you can take him to the clinic (for injections). It is not too late.

Amalungelo Abasebenzi Abangamajoyini

LENTO ithetha ukuba xa uqalisa ukusebenza endaweni nje ngeyoni umqeshi funeka akubhalise ibodini kwangoko, uRulumente uyakunikela amalungelo abumi ukuba ubhaliswe iminyaka elishumi usebenza endaweni enye. Nokuba umqeshi khangela akubhalise usenako ukuwazama la malungelo. Cela kwi ofisi zengcebiso (Advice Office).

Bathi kufuneka usebenzele umqeshi omnye iminyaka elishumi Lento ithetha ukuba urulumente akawunikela amalungelo akho ka section 10(1)(b) ukuba usebenze kwindawo ezahlukeneyo. Umzekelo uMr Mangaliso usebenze iminyaka eli 20 emzini omnye kodwa esebenza kwidolophu ezakuhlukene umz e Paarl Stellenbosch. Lonto yenza u rulumente angavumu namalungelo akhe kuba kaloku usebenze kwindawo ezahlukeneyo hayi kwindawo enye apha e kapa qha wala no Section 10(1)(b).

Abasebenzi abangamajoyini bafuna ukwazi ngamalungelo abo. abasebenzi abaninzi abangamajoyini basebenze iminyaka emininzi ezidolophini kodwa abakabinamalungelo. Apha sichaza ibali ngabanye abasebenzi abathe baphumelela ekulweleni la malungelo. Sijonga nengxaki ezithe zafunyanwa nga basebenzi.

Mehlolo Tom Rikhoto wazalelwa e Gazankulu. Wayeka esikolweni kwibanga lwesine uStd 4 wafumana ijoyini kwi factory ethile e Germiston. Wahlala e hostel.

Waya kwandaba zabantu apho eboyokucela imvume yokuhlala ukuze akwazi ukufuna omnye umsebenzi. Bala.

UMr Rikhoto watshata unabantwana abane intsapho yakhe e beyibona ithutyana elifutshane kakhulu minyaka le. Eli ibibalithuba lokuhlaziya ijoyini. Emva kweminyaka elishumi waphelelwa ngumsebenzi, balau uMr Rikhoto wayimagelela ibodi yase East Rand. Inkundla yathi uMr Rikhoto makafumane amalungelo akhe ka section 10(1)(b).

Abasebenzi abangamajoyini kulo lonke bavuya. Nabo bafuna awabo amalungelo ka section 10(1)(b) obumi. Ngubani enokuwafumana la malungelo ka section 10(1)(b) mawafunyanwe nguye wonke ubani onelungelo lawo.

Osebenzele umqeshi omnye ndawonye iminyaka eli shumi 10. Osebenze kwindawo-ngendawo kodwa ehlala kwindawo enye iminyaka eli 15. Kodwa urulumente akathandi ukuwakhupha lamalungelo. u Koornhof uthi bambalwa kakhulu abantu abayakuwafumana lamalungelo. Ngeku urulumente uyenza nzima kuba ubaleka namalungelo.

BATHI ABANTU MABAFUMANE IKEFU LENYANGA QHO NGONYAKA

u Mr Mdandweni Mtiya usebenzae u Chicks Scrap Metal apha e Kapa ukusukela ku 1967. Ngo 1970 nango 79 uye ekhefina elingahlawulwayo inyannga zantandathu ngoku ibodi iyala ukumnika amalungelo ka section 10(1)(b). uMr Mtiya waya kwi ofisi yoncedo.

Bathi umele kukuwafumana amalungelo akhe kuba ebenezizathu ebezimbangele ukuba angabikho ithuba elingaphezu kwenyanga.

Unezizathu ezibangele ukuba angabikho. Ukuba

uthathe ikefu elingabataliyo ngemvume yomqeshi. Ukuba uyaqala awunakubuya ngexesha elimisiweyo.

Ukuba ulinde incwadi zakho zomsebenzi, Ukuba urulumente uwahlile amaphepha akho, iofisi yengcebiso iyakunyanzela ibodi ukuba inike u Mr Mtiya amalungelo a section 10(1)(b). ukuba uphumelele kwakubalwa nakwabanye abasebenzi ukuba bafumane awabo amalungelo.

NDENZENI

Kukho izinto ezine ekufuneka uzikhumbule xa ufuna amalungelo akho.

1. Fumana ileta evela kumqeshi wakho ethi umsebenzele iminyaka eli 10 okanye ngaphezulu.
 2. Khumbula kufuneka ubenesizathu esibambekayo esibangela ukuba uthathe ngaphezu kwenyanga ikhefu lakho.
 3. Ukuba ibodi iyala ukunikela lamalungelo ka section 10(1)(b) funa uncedo ibodi ayithandi ukunikela abantu lamalungelo kuba ayithandi oluthontelwano lwabantu ezidolophini.
- Nalu uludwe lwendawo zoncedo:
Black Sash Mowbray

Legal Resources Centre, Church Street, Cape Town.

General Workers Union, Benbow Building, Beverly Street, Athlone.

Food and Canning Workers Union, Corporation Street, Cape Town.

Zizo ke ezo indawo ezinokukunceda.

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CULTURE

EXCITEMENT, INSPIRATION, EXPRESSIONS

EXPRESSIONS night is the night on many people's calendars.

It is the one event of the year that nobody wants to miss.

And this year's Expression concert was no different, only more exciting.

More than 1000 people came to the Athlone Civic Centre on Thursday April 5 to listen to people's artists expressing themselves.

There was the drama, A Time to Act, about the struggle of our country. There was poetry and songs about freedom. There was music from Basil Coetzee, Feather and others.

Terror Lekhota, publicity secretary of the United Democratic Front, brought an inspiring message.

And to end it all off there were the sounds of Isebane to take everyone into the early hours of the morning.



Artists form Vakalisa

AN association of artists has given birth to an organisation called Vakalisa, meaning to spread, to propagate, publish or inform.

This group of artists, which has been functioning on an informal basis for the past two years, has previously been involved in group exhibitions, poetry readings and music festivals.

Vakalisa sees its work as being politically motivated by the struggles of the working class and rejects the idea of the artist as being individualistic, eccentric and politically divorced from his or her social reality. Recent events artists in the group have been participating in are: poster campaigns, running photographic workshops for community based organisations and a continual documentation of historical events.

The response from the community towards the calendar, Afrika 1984, has been very encouraging and has prompted Vakalisa to attempt another for 1985.



Some of the artist who form Vakalisa.

Sifuna u Rawu

NGOLWESITHATHU umhla we 11 ku April malunge 600 abasebenzi base dairy baye bagwayimba. u Grassroots uye wathetha nomnye umsebenzi efuna ukuqonda ukuba kwenzeka ntoni.

1. Kutheni ze abasebenzi bagquibe ekubeni bagwayimbe? Besifuna abaqeshi bamnkele imanyano yethu u (RAWU).

Abasebenzi baye babona ukuba kuyimfuneko ukuba sibemanyano eqinileyo neyomelele neyomeleleyo. Zange sibemanyano ngaphambile yilonto sinengxaki ezingaka.

2. KWENZEKA NTONI NGALOMHLA KA WOGWAMBO?

Sabe sinentlanganiso sagqiba ukuba sigwayimbe saya emsebenzi sazilayisha inqwelo. Sayeka uku-

sebenza sathi sifuna imanyano yethu u RAWU.

Abaqeshi basibizela abameli bama-phandle Transkei nase Ciskei. Bebefuna ukusohlala bathi owase Transkei ngapha owase Ciskei ngapha.

Sathi akukho mTranskei nam-Ciskei apha sonke singabasebenzi. Emva kwemini abaqeshi bathi bazakudibana no RAWU ngolwesihlanu. Savuma ukuphange ukuphangela ngosuku olulandelayo.

3. KWENZEKA NTONI KWINTLANGANISO NO RAWU?

Abaqeshi bavuma ukuyamnkela imanyano yethu. Wabona ukuba bonke abasebenzi bayayifuna le manyano. Wayeboyika abasebenzi kuba wayebona ukuba simanyene. Abasebenzi babona ukuba bangaqina kanjani xa bemanyene.

Anger at BKB

LAST MONTH about 150 woolpackers at B.K.B. in Epping downed wools, stripped off their overalls and, escorted by the police, marched 8 km. back to their hostel in Guguletu.

The strike happened after 60 of them were fired for refusing to work on Wednesday afternoons.

Since the start of the year the BKB workers have been on short time. On Wednesday work stops at 12 o'clock. Recently, however, some workers have been made to work on Wednesday afternoons.

The workers do not believe that short time is necessary. One

worker told Grassroots, "the bosses say there is not enough work but they are always taking on casual workers, even on Wednesday afternoons".

"With the short time we get very little money, only R37 a week. We have families in Transkei to look after. There is a drought. We decided no one would work on Wednesday afternoons unless we all would.

The BKB bosses refused to give in to the workers' demand for full-time shifts. When 60 workers refused to work on Wednesday afternoon, they forced

the workers to stop work.

After four days work resolved. The bosses agreed to take back all the workers, but they had to sign a new contract saying they would work on Wednesday afternoons.

The BKB workers remain angry. They are still on short-time. BKB also refuses to recognise their union, the National Union of Textile Workers (N.U.T.W). They only talk to the union of Mr Norman Daniels, the IUTW, said one worker.

"The IUTW does nothing for us. In the strike we did not see them".

"First wages, then work"

WORKERS at Allied Publishing recently had a short work stoppage because of short pay. One of the workers wrote this story for Grassroots.

On the Friday morning after Easter weekend, we were standing outside to collect our pay. The driver in front of me, looks at his payroll and swears.

"Ou Frankie," he says to me, "we've got to do something, my bra. Every Good Friday they rob us, every New Year they don't pay us our right wages.

All the ouens in the yard are mad. You know, you work for this company day in and day out. They don't

pay you overtime, they don't pay you public holidays!

Good Friday is a paid public holiday, that's what the union told us. But management takes our overtime hours to fill in for Good Friday.

The men are swearing and shaking their fists. But that won't bring us our money. We called an urgent meeting.

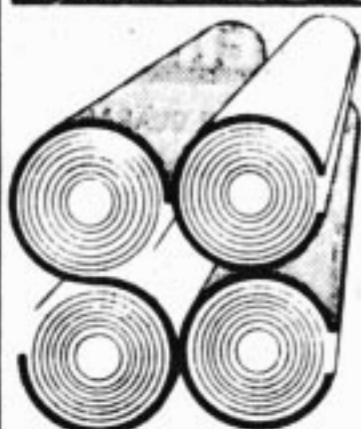
The workers, (that's us) drivers and vanguards, we decided we are not going to deliver

newspapers (the Argus) until we get our wages. We sent the union committee to meet the manager, Mr Rayner, and tell him what we want. First wages, then work!

Well, the manager comes rushing out. I've never seen a ou move so fast. He agreed to pay us if we go back to work. Hey, I learnt something that day. We can really make the bosses worry, if we try!

The workers of Mwasa from other factories say: "Forward brothers! We admire the unity you have shown with your actions. Only unity can bring you victory.

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PLAYING WITH APARTHEID!

English rugby players to play in South Africa

A rugby team from England will be touring South Africa soon.

The English players are being warned by South Africans and people of other countries not to come and play APARTHEID SPORT in South Africa.

Captains and members of rugby clubs interviewed, say that they are all against the tour.

A member of the South African Rugby Union (Saru), said: "We are totally against the tour. I personally feel there is no need to go deep into it as I can only express my disgust".

"Just once again the British rugby authorities show that they have a completely distorted view of how sports are organised in South Africa" the chairman of Silvertree Rugby Club, Mr Nedeem Hendricks,

said. He said that "the British authorities simply betray the grassroots of a non-racial society for a free and democratic country where all sportspersons can thrive equally."

Mr Charles Wyn-gaard, captain of Stalions Rugby Club, said that to him it does not matter who plays rugby, and that he only wants to educate himself from sport.

"But I am not in favour of the tour. My rugby team and myself are subjected to the rules of Sacos" he said.

He felt that young people and adults who go to watch matches at Newlands, are not well informed why they should not go watch multi-national sports.

He said Grassroots should have more publicity on multi-national sports.

"People do not understand why they

The English rugby players face lots of protest and dissatisfaction, but they are still coming to play apartheid sport in South Africa. This picture was taken during an anti-apartheid demonstration in Britain.



must boycott multi-national sports" he said.

Mr Danie Craven uses so-called black sportsmen as a camouflage to show other countries that multi-national sport is working in South Africa.

"No matter how

many tours Dr Danie Craven and other multi-national authorities organise, the struggle for a non-racial society will continue. We will strive towards a democratic country," non-racial sportspeople are saying.

JUST WHO IS ZOLA?

ONCE upon a time there was a small, frail little girl. But she ran like the wind. In the country in which she lived no one could beat her. She had big problems though. The athletes from other countries said they won't run in her country because there were many bad things going on there.

So the poor little girl had to leave her country so that she could show the world her talent's but the big bad politicians wanted to spoil things for her...

Sounds like a fairy-tale?

Maybe, but this is the picture the newspaper both here and in Britain are painting of

Zola Budd.

The real story though, is not exactly the same. What are the facts?

In the first place Zola will remain a citizen of South Africa, where apartheid is a fact of life - apartheid has caused millions of South Africans to suffer under laws such as the pass laws and the Group Areas Act.

The International Community showed their disgust with the apartheid system by breaking all sporting links with South Africa.

Not satisfied with this the White Sporting bodies and the government has tried every dirty trick in the book to once again play This is the reason

Zola Budd has suddenly decided to become a British citizen. In the meantime the White sportbodies and others are saying that Zola Budd is supported by all people in South Africa.

This is not true. The oppressed people have time and time again shown their support for the sports boycott. Last year for instance a campaign started by the Elsie River Branch of the Cape Youth Congress forced the 2nd string West Indian Team to stay out of the area.

"And we know that Zola Budd is not running for Britain but for South Africa, for apartheid," said one Hanover Park Cayco member.

What must not be forgotten also is that many people were forced to leave the country. People like Precious Macenzie who left, not because he wanted to, but was forced to. He like millions of others, were given a second class status in the country of their birth.

When one considers this; just what's so special about Zola Budd.

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