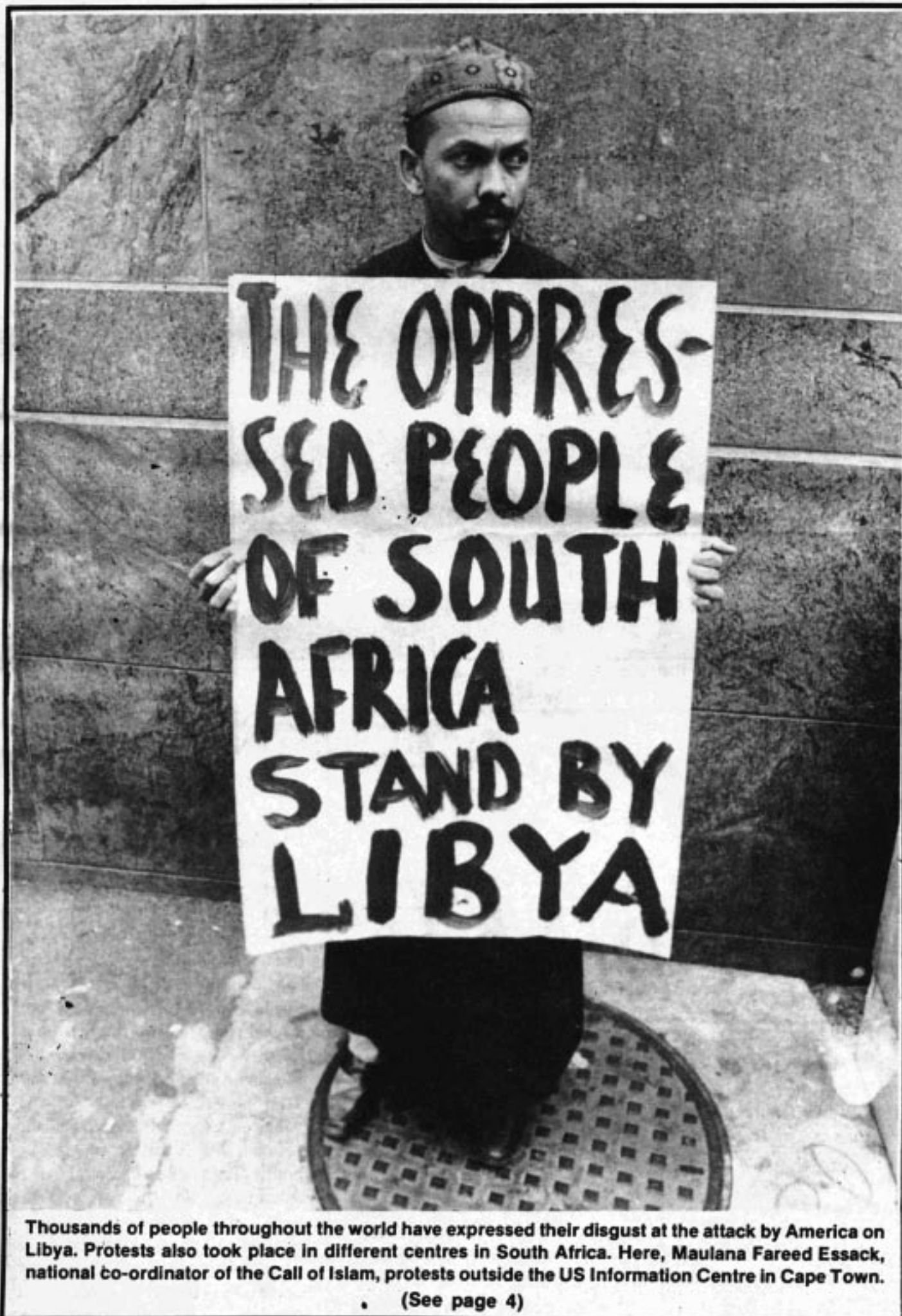


GRASSROOTS is being sold again — at 20 cents a copy. Because of the state of emergency we were forced to give the paper away for free to avoid people being detained for nothing. But we cannot give the paper free for always. We trust you will support the People's Paper the continue and to grow.

# 'MAY 1 MUST BE A HOLIDAY'



Thousands of people throughout the world have expressed their disgust at the attack by America on Libya. Protests also took place in different centres in South Africa. Here, Maulana Fareed Essack, national co-ordinator of the Call of Islam, protests outside the US Information Centre in Cape Town.

(See page 4)

"THE bosses and their government celebrate their public holidays, which for us, represent the continued repression of our people in this country. For workers, May Day represents the struggle to end this repression."

This was said by a spokesperson for the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). Cosatu has called for May 1 to be a paid public holiday.

"This year is the 100th anniversary of May Day and we will be building on that tradition started 100 years ago when workers demanded an eight-hour week and better working conditions.

"But we will not only be making demands on May Day. We will also celebrate the gains we have made as workers."

Cosatu's central executive committee has decided to take May 1 as a public holiday.

They have urged the bosses to recognise the right of workers to celebrate May Day and has warned that any victimisation or harassment of workers for celebrating May Day would be viewed as an attack on the whole labour movement.

"Cosatu in the Western Cape calls on all trade unions outside the federation to unite in celebrating May Day. In this way we can build our wider unity or organised workers against our common enemy," the spokesperson.

Four factories in the Western Cape have agreed to allowed May Day as a holiday. These are Corobrik, Crammix, Serina and P G Glass (who will pay workers full pay for the half-day off).

Cosatu has organised three big rallies for May Day. These will be held at the Nyange East Civic Centre, Westridge

Civic Centre and Bonteheuvel Civic Centre between 12.30 and 5 pm.

Speakers will include Cosatu regional office-bearers, shopstewards, and student representatives

"The rallies will focus on the demands around the rights of workers in the factories as well as broader political rights.

"Our first demand is for the right to work and a 40-hour week. But we know our struggle must go further. So we demand the right for all workers and students to build our own democratic organisations.

"Without the right to build our own democratic organisations, we cannot hope to win our most basic demands.

"On this 100th year of May Day, workers throughout the world will be celebrating 100 years of struggle, when workers can support and give a lead to the struggle of all oppressed people.

"With our demands, we are committing ourselves to the complete dismantling of all apartheid laws," the Cosatu spokesperson said.

The United Democratic Front said it "recognises the brave struggle by workers throughout our country".

"We also salute the tremendous strives made during the past year in the organising of workers.

"We fully support the call for May Day to be a paid public holiday. We urge workers to support the call and celebrate their past victories and struggles on May Day." (See our centrespread)

## No more free health services

FROM April 1 this year, free hospital services have been done away with.

This means all patients - pensioners, unemployed and those earning very little - will have to pay whenever they go to hos-

pitals like Groote Schuur or to day hospitals.

The new fees system has upset many people who believe that they will not be able to afford medical care when they really need it.

In April 1984, when fees went up, there was a massive outcry from patients, doctors, health organisations and progressive community organisations.

At the time a petition was sent to the Minister of Health to protest against the increases.

It was shown then that hospital fees had gone up by about 1 000 percent since 1974.

"They can continue building their R180-million rand extension to Groote Schuur Hospital, but they can't afford to give free health care to the poor," one angry patient said.

In the next Grassroots, we will be looking in more detail at how these new fees affect people.

Thousands must re-apply for housing



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Mitchell's Plain Demand a hospital

Pg. 5



Bus Driver's Challenge

TUCSA Pg.13



Challenging Apartheid Courts

Pg. 14



Advice for women who are beaten by their husbands/boyfriends

Pg. 15





Worker and student unite in action at the Cosatu rally at the UWC sports stadium on Sunday March 23.

HERE follows an incomplete diary of events shortly after the state of emergency was lifted.

Police and army activity - repression in general - has not decreased.

Many organisation, severely hampered by the ban on meetings and detentions, have started to organise again.

Successful mass meetings have been held in the Western Cape and elsewhere recently.

**SATURDAY MARCH 15:** Seven men, alleged by police to be ANC guerillas, are buried in Guguletu by about 30 000 people. The men were shot by police in Guguletu.

**Wednesday March 19:** P E businessmen say they plan legal action to have the bans on two Eastern Cape community leaders, Mkhusele Jack and Henry Fazzie, lifted.

**Thursday March 20:** Thousands of high school pupils in Guguletu, Nyanga and New Crossroads take to the streets after a rally in the area. Police troops move into the townships.

Five-hundred Rylands High School pupils walk out of school in protest at the arrests of two pupils at the school.

Police find the bodies of seven Guguletu and New Crossroads men believed to be connected to the "fathers".

**Friday March 21:** Demonstrations and vigils are held throughout South Africa to mark the anniversary of the killings at Sharpeville in 1960 and in Uitenhage in 1985.

Three Rylands High School pupils appear in Wynberg magistrates Court, charged with intimidation.

The Appeal Court declares invalid 16 detention orders issued in August 1984.

**Saturday March 22:** The Port Elizabeth Supreme Court annuls the banning order on community leader Mkhusele Jack.

The United Women's Organisation and the Women's Front Organisation merge to form the United Women's Congress.

**Sunday March 23:** About 8 000 workers meet at the UWC sports stadium for the first Western Cape rally of the Congress of South

African Trade Unions (COSATU). **Tuesday March 25:** The banning orders on community leaders Johnny Issel and Trevor Manual are lifted.

Two policemen are found killed in Crossroads and Nyanga Bush. UWC elect a new SRC.

**Wednesday March 26:** Twenty-nine people die in violence in South Africa in 24 hours.

The "coloured" Department of Education and Culture confirms that they are investigating charges of misconduct against 42 teachers who refused to administer last year's final exams.

Louis Le Grange tells parliament that nearly 100 000 people were arrested in terms of the pass laws last year.

**Thursday March 27:** The government announce a renewed ban of one-year on all indoor gatherings to promote school boycotts and work stayaways and all outdoor gatherings, except sports.

**Friday March 28:** Ravensmead youth leader Trevor Wentzel is set free after successfully appealing against his terrorism conviction and five year prison sentence on Robben Island after the 1983 anti-election campaign.

**Saturday March 29 and Sunday March 30:** The National Education Conference is held in Natal and decides that pupils should go back to school to consolidate organisation, but demands still stood.

**Manday March 31:** The chairperson of the Nyange Bush Committee, Mr Melford Yamile, and members of his family are arrested as police raid the area.

**Tuesday April 1:** A delegation from the National Union of South African Students return from Harare where they had talks with the ANC.

The bans expire on Achmat Cassiem, former president of the South African Students' Association, and two members of the Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union, Dumile Makanda and Maxwell Madlingozi.

**Wednesday April 2:** Andrew Zondo, 19, is sentenced to death by a Durban Supreme Court judge for his role in the Amazimtoti bomb blast last year.

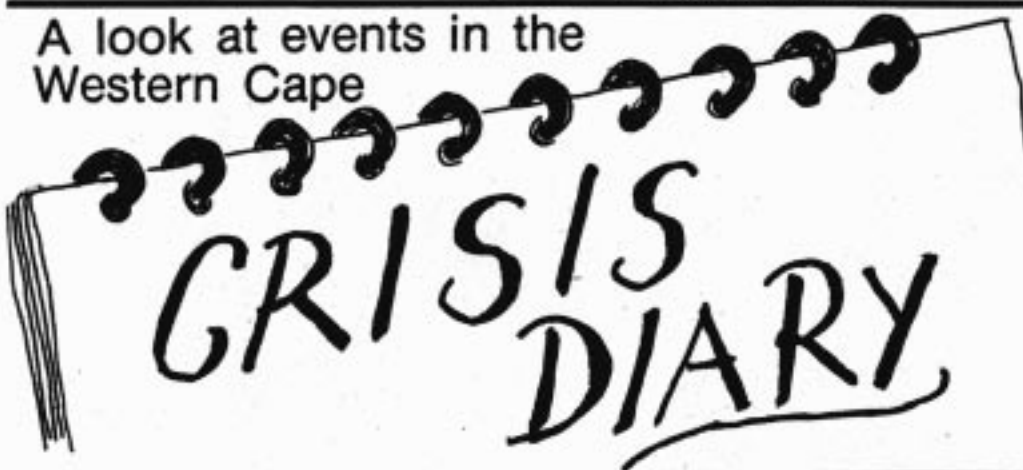


Police keep a close watch on mourners at a funeral in Guguletu on Saturday April 5



Students at the University of the Western Cape at a Sharpeville commemoration meeting on Friday March 21.

### A look at events in the Western Cape



Winnie Mandela goes back to her Soweto home after confusion over her banning order.

Bishop Desmond Tutu calls for sanctions against the S A government.

Few pupils go back to school in peninsula townships.

Police arrest 81 residents in Zolani, Ashton, after a march to demand more job opportunities in the township.

**Thursday April 3:** Police detain three Mitchells Plain residents on the eve of a big rally in the area.

Hundreds of women march to Cape Town to demand the release of Nyanga Bush leader Mr Melford Yamile and others.

**Saturday April 5:** Police keep a close watch on the funeral of three people killed by police in Guguletu.

Rivonia Trialist Raymond Mhlaba married Dediko Heliso, the mother of his three children, at a quick ceremony at Pollsmoor Prison.

**Sunday April 6:** Police turn out in force in Mitchells Plain where a "Free Mandela" rally is held at the Westridge Civic Centre.

The New Crossroads branch of the Cape Youth Congress holds a rally at a primary school in the area.

The Atlantis Women's Organisation is launched.

The government announces a new system of identification whereby all South African citizen's would have their fingerprints in their identity documents.

**Monday April 7:** The consumer boycott in Port Elizabeth is renewed after demands are not met.

About 100 Nyanga Bush women sit outside the Cape Town magistrate's Court to demand the release of Mr Melford Yamile.

**Tuesday April 8:** About 900 pupils at Alexander High school stage a walkout after police question pupils.

**Wednesday April 8:** The George Municipality agrees to stay the demolition of a workers' hostel in Lawaakamp, the town's african township, after 215 workers were fired.

**Thursday April 9:** This Prisons Services confirm that jailed trade union leader Oscar Mpetha is in Grootte Schuur Hospital under medical

care. Calls are made for the authorities to stop the prosecution of teachers who refused to administer last year's final exams.

About 50 UCT students interrupt a meeting where they believed a member of Inkatha was due to speak.

**Friday April 11:** Hundred stay away from schools in Cape Town's african townships.

**Sunday April 13:** It is reported that a rebel New Zealand rugby team is on their way to South Africa.

**Monday April 14:** Bishop Desmond Tutu is elected as head of the Anglican Church in South Africa.

Police with sjamboks charged at pupils inside Kasselsvlei High School after firing teargas into the schoolgrounds. Pupils were demonstrating against the arrest of a matric pupil, Kenneth Erasmus.

A delegation of women from Nyanga meet with the Western Cape Development Board to demand lower rentals and better housing conditions.

**Wednesday April 16:** Call of Islam members demonstrate in front of the United States Information Centre in Cape Town, to protest against the US raid on Libya.

The Woodstock Area Committee of the UDF holds a successful meeting in the Woodstock Town hall to call for the release of political prisoners.

**Thursday April 17:** A delegation from the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference return from Lusaka, hopeful after meeting with the ANC.



## Hanover Park family desperate for house

THE Advice Office Forum is appealing for people to assist the family of Mrs Anne Alexander, who have been living in an open backyard in Hanover Park for quite some time.

Mrs Alexander, her husband John and their three children have been sleeping on the floor of his parents' house for some time but they have also been staying outside in the yard.

At the moment, because of the rain, they have been taken in by sympathetic neighbours. But still they have to sleep on the floor of the people's small dining room.

"We have applied for a council house, but we

have been told we are not on the priority list. I have walked everywhere and so has my husband, but to no avail.

"When people hear you have children, they don't want to give you a place. But I need to find a place because I want to give a better future to my children."

Mrs Alexander said her children had developed chest problems and her eldest daughter, Juanita, 10, could not concentrate properly at school because of the conditions under which they live.

Anyone who can help Mrs Alexander is asked to contact the Advice Office Forum at 637-2898.



Mrs Anne Alexander with her furniture in a Hanover Park backyard.

## 'Free Mandela' call grows

DESPITE attempts to disrupt a United Democratic Front rally, a large crowd of people packed the Woodstock Town Hall to call for the release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners.

More than a thousand people crammed into the small hall and were forced to move up on to the stage during the three-hour-long meeting organised by the Woodstock UDF Area Committee.

Speakers included Trevor Manuel, UDF Western Cape Secretary,

Nomandia Mfeketo of the United Womans Congress, Henry Fazzie, UDF Eastern Cape Vice-president and Maulana Faried Esack, national co-ordinator of The Call of Islam.

Throughout the meeting, speakers called for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners and the unbanning of the African National Congress and all banned organisations.

During the meeting, tyres of about seven cars



Henry Fazzie

and a bus were slashed. A small group of people went outside to investigate but returned minutes later.

The night before (April 15), "cancelled" stickers were placed on the post-

ers advertising the meeting.

Maulana Faried Esack told the meeting: "Tonight we have gathered to call for the release of Nelson Mandela. This is the big issue in South Africa today. It is an issue taken up by the UDF, its affiliates and sister organisations."

Maulana Faried spoke about Mandela who "little children in Manenberg and Guguletu sing about, who is known from Oslo to Peking, who refuses to be imprisoned and who

daily grows in stature.

He said that the ANC had also risen in stature. "The people have unbanned the ANC. They have imprisoned PW Botha.

We believe that Mandela shall be free, the ANC shall operate freely and the exiles shall return,"

Henry Fazzie was given a resounding welcome. He said that the Botha Government was no longer in control. He believed that the people would achieve their freedom next year.

## Commtra calls for meat inquiry

IRREGULARITIES in the meat industry - including unexpected price hikes and sudden short supplies of meat - came under discussion at a meeting of the Chamber of Muslim Meat Traders (Commtra) recently.

The meeting, held at the Athlone Civic Centre on Wednesday April 16, called for an enquiry:

- To establish the precise reasons for unprecedented fluctuations in the market prices at the abattoirs;

- To inquire why there is a sudden short supply of meat on the market at times;
- To ensure that every abattoir in the country slaughters enough to meet the demand of the geographical area it serves;
- To establish a maximum market price at the abattoirs.

Commtra represents about 400 muslim butchers in the Western Cape. They called the meeting after price increases of almost 100 percent just after the

Easter weekend.

In a resolution adopted at the meeting, the meat traders said that the market price of meat at the Maitland abattoir sometimes rose steeply because of the demand from other centres, like Johannesburg and Durban.

There was a minimum market price to guarantee the farmers a profit, but no maximum price to fit in with the consumers' paying ability.

Whenever there were steep increases, neither

the Meat Board nor the farmers try to restrain the prices. In fact, they let the prices go as high as possible.

Meat was a basic dietary commodity and should be maintained at a price the consumers could afford.

The excessive fluctuations in the price of meat was a total disregard for the consumer's need to budget, especially because of the high inflation rate and the recession.

Consumers needed

to be forewarned of any imminent increases to avoid hardships.

Commtra chair Adam Jaffer said it was "a disgusting situation where a basic commodity like meat can fluctuate by margins of 100 percent in less than a week."

Mr Latief Gaffoor, secretary of Commtra, said: "Monopolies controlling the meat industry obviously treat a small retail butcher as a pawn in its aim of total control of the industry."

## Churches welcome Tutu's election

THE election of Bishop Desmond Tutu as head of the Anglican Church in South Africa has been greeted with "joy and delight" in progressive church circles.

Bishop Tutu, presently Bishop of Johannesburg, will take over from the Most Rev. Philip Russel as Archbishop of Cape Town, the highest position in the church in Southern Africa. He will be enthroned at St. George's Cathedral on September 1.

In a message from the South African

Council of Churches, its general secretary Dr Beyers Naude congratulated Bishop Tutu.

"In the six years during which Bishop Tutu served as general secretary of the SACC, we experienced at first hand the qualities of leadership, integrity and deep spirituality which have been affirmed by his position.

"It is our earnest prayer that Bishop Tutu will enjoy the fullest support from all his people and that the

whole South African community will listen with new seriousness to the cry for justice and reconciliation which he has sounded for so long."

The South African Catholic Bishops' Conference sent a telegram to Bishop Tutu to assure him of their support and collaboration.

He has also received lots of other messages of support from many quarters since his election by the church's elective assembly recently.

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# APRIL HOME SOON

FIFTEEN years ago, a young man from Silvertown, James Edward April, was jailed on Robben Island for "terrorism". But in two weeks time April will be back with his people.

James April was a student at the University of Cape Town. He joined the African National Congress, and in the mid 1960's underwent guerilla training in Russia and East Germany. Described as "highly trained", April was part of the first Umkhonto we Sizwe unit, which clashed with the Rhodesian army in Wankie in 1967. Also part of the Umkhonto unit was Basil February who stood single-handed against the Rhodesians to allow the other Umkhonto soldiers to escape. February was killed in this campaign.

Thereafter April was arrested in Botswana for importing arms and ammunition. He was sentenced to one year imprisonment and then deported to Zambia. In 1970 April, with a false passport in the name of H.D. Marais, entered South Africa via Jan Smuts airport. Since he was known in Johannesburg and Cape Town, he could not contact friends or family. He moved to Durban to try and establish contacts, and was eventually arrested at a house in Chatsworth.

In his court trial April told the judge he was "kept in solitary confinement and beaten up" by the Security Police.

In a statement from the dock, he told the government: "It is no use blaming the ills of South Africa on communism. This is the way you hide behind your own fascism. The ANC is tainted with communism in order to isolate it".

April described the ANC as the "spirit of the people". He felt that "we can find solutions to the problems in our country, but only on a democratic basis, and not a democracy imposed upon a majority group by a minority group."

April was not prepared to plead for mercy. He told the court:

"I believe what I did was the right thing. I am prepared to face the consequences of my actions no matter how stiff the penalty may be". He also warned the government: "You must realise that people will not tolerate Apartheid. I believe, we shall overcome."

James April was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. He will be 46 years old when he is released in two weeks time.

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# THOUSANDS TO RE-APPLY FOR HOUSES

## Government's new plan

THE government has announced new housing plans which will affect thousands of people.

They will scrap all the existing waiting lists for housing when they introduce a new computer system.

All people on the waiting lists will then have to re-apply for houses.

This is the implication of a new housing survey introduced by the government. They say they want to find out the housing needs of all South Africans.

But community leaders see this as their first attempt at forcing people to accept their plans for regional services councils (RSC's).

Mr Wilfred Rhodes, chairperson of the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (CAHAC), said this new plan was in-

built into the RSC's. "Each area will now have their own waiting list and people will have to apply to their own local authority which will be the government puppets.

"The City Council waiting list will be declared null and void. This is because the government has pushed the responsibility of housing on to the local authorities. The government now say it is no longer their responsibility.

"They want to save more money to buy more bullets and guns. We in Cahac totally reject this. We believe that housing is the responsibility of the state.

"They should build houses for all the people in our land," Mr Rhodes said.



Members of the Call of Islam organisation protest outside the US Information Centre in Cape Town.

## Outrage at US attack on Libya

ANTI-AMERICAN demonstrations involving thousands and thousands of people throughout the world, followed the American attack on Libya earlier this month.

America became the target of widespread condemnation and anger after its bomb attack which left more than 100 Libyan men, women and children dead and many more injured.

Last week, thousands of

people demonstrated outside United States Embassies throughout the world. There were protests in Warsaw, Bangladesh, Belgium, Kuala Lumpur, Lagos and

Accra. On Friday 18 April, the United States Embassy in Cyprus was forced to close early.

Earlier that same week, 40 000 demonstrators gathered in West Germany in one of the biggest anti-American pro-

tests in recent history.

In Libya, tens of thousands of people attended mass burials of victims of the US bombings. The small country of four million prepared itself for possible further attacks. Margaret Thatcher came under heavy attack in the British Parliament for allowing American planes to take off from Britain.

Many South Africans, too, joined in the condemnation of the American bombing. Organisations such as the UDF, AZAPO, the New Unity Movement and other organisations expressed horror and shock at the bombings carried out by "the American imperialists".

A Demonstration was held in the Johannesburg City Centre by members of AZAPO and in Cape Town, a muslim organi-

sation, THE CALL OF ISLAM, held a lunch-hour demo outside the American information centre.

Thousands of Anti-American pamphlets were distributed at

mosques throughout the Peninsula.

About 800 people attended a Call of Islam mass rally in Wynberg on Thursday 17 April to express their support for the people of Libya.

## Cops try to stop sportsday

POLICE tried to stop a sportsday in Walmer Estate to protest against government plans to build houses in the area for members of parliament.

The Open Day was organised by Organisations United Against Traitors (OUT), an alliance of cultural, religious, educational, sports, civic

and political organisations. OUT was formed to counter the government plans to settle MP's in the Woodstock, Walmer Estate, Salt River area.

The Open Day included a fun run, stalls, and other sports and novelty activities.

It was held on The Greens, Walmer Estate's last public park.

More than 100 people took part.

Police said the gathering was "illegal" in terms of the ban on meetings announced by Minister Louis le Grange.

They gave the people 30 minutes to leave.

The sportsday was allowed to go on after advocate Mr Dullah Omar intervened.

## Busdriver reinstated

A DRIVER at City Tramways, Mr Arendse, has won back his job after being dismissed by the company.

Mr Arendse, who works at the Arrowgate depot, was suspended and dismissed after he forgot to give someone's change.

Mr Arendse approached the union but they could not help him. Workers at the depot

decided to take up the case themselves.

They appointed a lawyer who wrote to management.

The case was due to come before the Industrial Council on April 28. However, on Friday April 18, the lawyer was informed that Mr Arendse would be reinstated and paid out for the time he was out of work.

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Kuthe ngelishesha umfazi wakhe omkhulu u Nomoscow nonyana wakhe uBambilanga besesenkundleni no Winic Mandela wawuba uMatanzima umzimba waya kuwungcwaba. Abasebenzi bomzi wokungc-

waba bayayingqina into yokuba uKaizer uwuthathe umzimba ngentsimbi yeshumi ngelishesha inkundla ibisahlilele.

Abantu ebebekhona kulo mgcwabo bebemalunga ne 800 apho uKaizer nomtshana wakhe u Ngangomhlaba bathethe ngobomi buka mfi kodwa khange bayiphathe indima yakhe emzabalazweni. Ungcwatyelwe eBumbane kwindawo ekuhle ngokungcwatywa khona iinkokheli zabathembu.

U Chief Dalindyebo Sabata no Kaizer bangabethshana baka Nelson Mandela. Kodwa kuthe ngenxa yokungavisisani kuka Sabata no Matanzima wanyanzeleka ukuba alishiye elo lase Trankei, Waye ewuchasile umthetho wocalulo nozimele-geqe owanikwa uMatanzima ngenkxaso yamabhulu ePitoli.

Uthe ngo 1977 wakuncama ukuba yinkokheli yesizwe waya eZambia apho athe waba lilungu le ANC. Uswelike ngomhla we 7 ku April waziswa umzimba ngenqwelo moya. Amangquina athi kukhe kwakhwitsha ngelixa bekungcwatywa uChief ngebhokisi yegolide. Kuvakala ukuba iimoto neebhosi zihikiwe kwimida yase Trankei ne South Africa.

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# 'WE WANT A HOSPITAL'

**MITCHELLS PLAIN** residents have re-committed themselves to fight for a general hospital in the area.

At a recent meeting, attended by about 5 000 people, it was resolved that a general hospital was a main need in the sprawling township.

"It seems the government has no intention of building a general hospital at all. The government spent R220-million on a mental hospital but has no money for a general hospital. We resolve to demand the building of a general hospital without delay," the residents said.

The meeting, organised by the Mitchells Plain region of the United Democratic Front, also focussed on the call for the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, and the rejection of the government's planned regional services councils.

The Mitchells Plain Doctors' Association, in a message to the meeting, said they fully supported the campaign for a general hospital in Mitchells Plain.

"Your quest for a hospital in Mitchells Plain, now in its tenth year of existence with 400 000 people, is a sad but necessary one.

"As doctors working in the area we have the daily unpleasant experience of witnessing patients suffering both morally and financially because of a lack of a hospital.

"We sincerely hope your efforts to obtain a hospital for the people



**JOHNNY ISSEL** at the Mitchells Plain mass rally (right) and the play by the Student Union for Christian Action (SUCA).

in Mitchells Plain are justly rewarded and that their sufferings are duly ended," the Doctors Association said.

The National Medical and Dental Association (NAMDA) said they supported the campaign for a general hospital.

"Namda believes that health care is a basic human right.

"When we look around, we see that health services in this country are in a mess. For most of our people, state health services are inadequate or not available, and private hospitals are beyond what most people can afford.

"The government seems to have two ans-

wers to this problem: First, they have decided that, to fit in with their apartheid ideology, we must have a separate department of health for each ethnic group.

"So now we have 14 ministers of health, one for each house in the tricameral parliament, and one for each of the so-called homelands. It is not difficult to see that this splitting up of health services is going to be chaotic and very expensive to run.

"Why should we have to pay the salaries of 14 fat-cat ministers of health? The end result will be worse health services for the majority.

"The other answer

the government has is called privatisation. This means that health services must become more and more privately owned and run. They want health care to become like any other commodity which is bought and sold, with profit as the motive.

"Those who can afford it can buy good health care at private clinics, but for the majority, privatisation means health care they cannot afford.

"In Namda we believe that health care is not just a commodity to be bought and sold to the highest bidder, but that every citizen has the right to the best

health care the country can provide.

"The health resources of the country should be distributed equally among all its people. We need a national health service run by a single Department of Health.

"We are not saying there is no role for the private doctor. We know that many GPs do provide a good service at a reasonable rate.

"What we are saying is that Mitchells Plain needs a proper hospital with X-rays, emergency facilities, and maternity facilities. Not a private hospital for the rich, but a hospital for everyone," Namda said.

# 'No peace until Mandela is free'

ABOUT 5 000 people gave a standing ovation to recently-unbanned community leader Johnny Issel at a "Free Mandela" mass rally in Mitchells Plain on Sunday April 6.

In his first public speech after being banned for a total of 13 years, Mr Issel made calls for militant and defiant action and said there could be no peace in South Africa while Nelson Mandela remained in jail, the ANC was banned and other leaders were forced to live in exile.

The meeting, organised by the Mitchells Plain region of UDF, attracted about 100 policemen and soldiers in 14 vans and 9 Casspirs. They surrounded the meeting hall as people left.

As Mr Issel was introduced to speak, two youths, their faces covered with scarves went on stage and draped him in a black, green and gold ANC flag.

## Battles

Mr Issel, the first organiser of Grassroots, said:

"We have seen many battles and we can now say the racist government has never been as weak as it is today. Also, the African National Congress has never been as strong as it is today. It enjoys more support than Botha's government, even in the Western world.

"But what hurts the government most is the fact that millions of oppressed people have stood up against them.

"It is only with determination that we shall overcome the government and it is for this that Nelson Mandela stands, he said.

Mr Trevor Manuel, Western Cape secretary of the UDF, said there was a pattern of more and more people taking control over their own lives.

"We see this in the Vaal Triangle where people are refusing to

pay rents, in Warmbaths where people stayed away for a week, at Lingelihle township where crime has been done away with by street committees and in the Eastern Cape where 50 000 people came together to discuss the consumer boycott without a single poster or pamphlet going out.

"Last year, we had a small taste of people's power in the Western Cape when our community decided to re-open the schools closed by Casspir Ebrahim.

"But we can't have people's power today and tomorrow it is gone. When we say the people shall govern, we don't mean it should happen some time far into the future. The building of people's power today is an investment in our future," he said.

## Isolated

Mr Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), said the government was "directionless and isolated from the people and the world".

"Cosatu's roots are on the factory floor but we cannot separate ourselves from the broader struggle for liberation.

"The wealth of this country is produced by workers, but workers still see starvation and hunger," he said.

Mr Naidoo said that the struggle should reflect the demands of workers so that "freedom will not only mean a change of faces in the government".

Other speakers at the meeting were Mr Willie Simmers, chairperson of the Rocklands Ratepayers Association, and the Reverend Chris Nissen, of Graaff-Reinet.

The meeting passed resolutions calling for the release of Nelson Mandela and all other political prisoners and for the building of a general hospital in Mitchells Plain.

# Cosatu launched in Cape

COSATU's first rally in the Western Cape was dominated by a 76-year-old diabetic who was not even present.

Speaker after speaker spoke with admiration about him and a message from him met with wild applause from the 8 000-strong crowd.

Repeated calls were made for the release from prison of Oscar Mpetha, the veteran trade unionist described as "the father of trade unions in South Africa" by Cosatu president Elijah Barayi.

The workers and supporters at the Cosatu rally, at the University of the Western Cape on March 23 showed their approval when Cosatu's Western Cape secretary Nic Henwood announced they had received a message from Oscar Mpetha from "Pollsmoor University" dated March 19 and addressed to the workers.

A huge red banner with a picture of Mpetha and calling for his release was displayed behind the speakers next to the Cosatu



**LEADING** the singing at the Cosatu rally.

banner. The message from Mpetha was the only one read at the meeting even though 30

messages of support were received.

In his speech, Cosatu national president Elijah Barayi called on the

South African government to release "the father of all our trade unions."

"They must release the old man Oscar Mpetha and all our leaders so that South Africa can become a happy place where all the people can live in peace," he said.

Food and Canning Workers' Union organiser Ms Lizzie Phike dedicated her whole speech to Mpetha, who at different time has been national organiser and general secretary of the FCWU, Western Cape secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, Cape president of the African National Congress and national president of the United Democratic Front.

"When I speak about unions in the Western Cape, I must speak about Oscar Mpetha. He was a great organiser, one of the best. He would go work at factories to organise the workers.

"He always told the workers to stand to-

gether to fight against the injustices in our society," she said.

Other speakers at the open-air rally - which was thrice interrupted by the rain - were Jerry Ntombeni of Natal, Cosatu's Western Cape chairman Wellington Mtiya, and Western Cape vice-chair Noel Williams.

Mr Williams called on workers not yet in Cosatu to make a decision to join Cosatu.

"Today, we are making history. We are saying to the bosses: So far and no further. Away with production, production. Away with retrenchments.

"We will not only fight on the factory floor, but also in the broader struggle against slavery and oppression.

"Workers create the wealth of this country. We must control that wealth so that we can divide it among all the people.

"Workers must support the militant actions of our students," he said.

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# grassroots COMMENT

## We salute the workers

THIS year is the 100th anniversary of May Day, the day when workers throughout the world celebrate their strength and their unity.

Since the first May Day in 1886, when workers fought for an eight-hour working day and for better working conditions, we have seen the spirit of May Day spread from country to country.

In many countries, May 1 is now a public holiday. In some countries, mass rallies or worker festivals are held where thousands, even millions, of workers can come together to celebrate on the day specially reserved for workers.

The workers are the backbone of any economy. Without the workers, no factory or mine would be able to operate. The workers must be able to celebrate this strength that they have.

In South Africa, the struggle for May Day to be recognised as a public holiday has been long and hard.

Only recently, some companies have agreed that May 1 could be a holiday. But this is only a drop in the ocean.

Grassroots supports the view that all workers should be allowed to celebrate May Day.

May Day is an opportunity for workers to look at the injustices in our country and to see how they can change this.

In South Africa today, workers are still exploited. Many workers still work more than eight hours a day. Many workers are still paid slave wages. The little rights they have, they have won through hard struggle over many years.

Grassroots salutes those workers who have decided: "Enough is enough." The 600 000 workers who have come together to form COSATU and the many workers who have thrown their weight behind the struggle for freedom and democracy in South Africa.

No worker in South Africa can be free while there is still apartheid and injustice. That is why it is important for workers to fight against exploitation and apartheid oppression in South Africa.

It is only through the combined efforts of workers and all those who believe in freedom and democracy that we will be able to move forward to a society where the interests of the workers will be the first consideration of that society.

## The cowboy strikes

SO, Cowboy Ronald Reagan has finally carried out his threats to attack Libya.

The attack should come as no surprise, taking into consideration other acts of aggression by the US army and government against countries trying to build just and democratic systems of government.

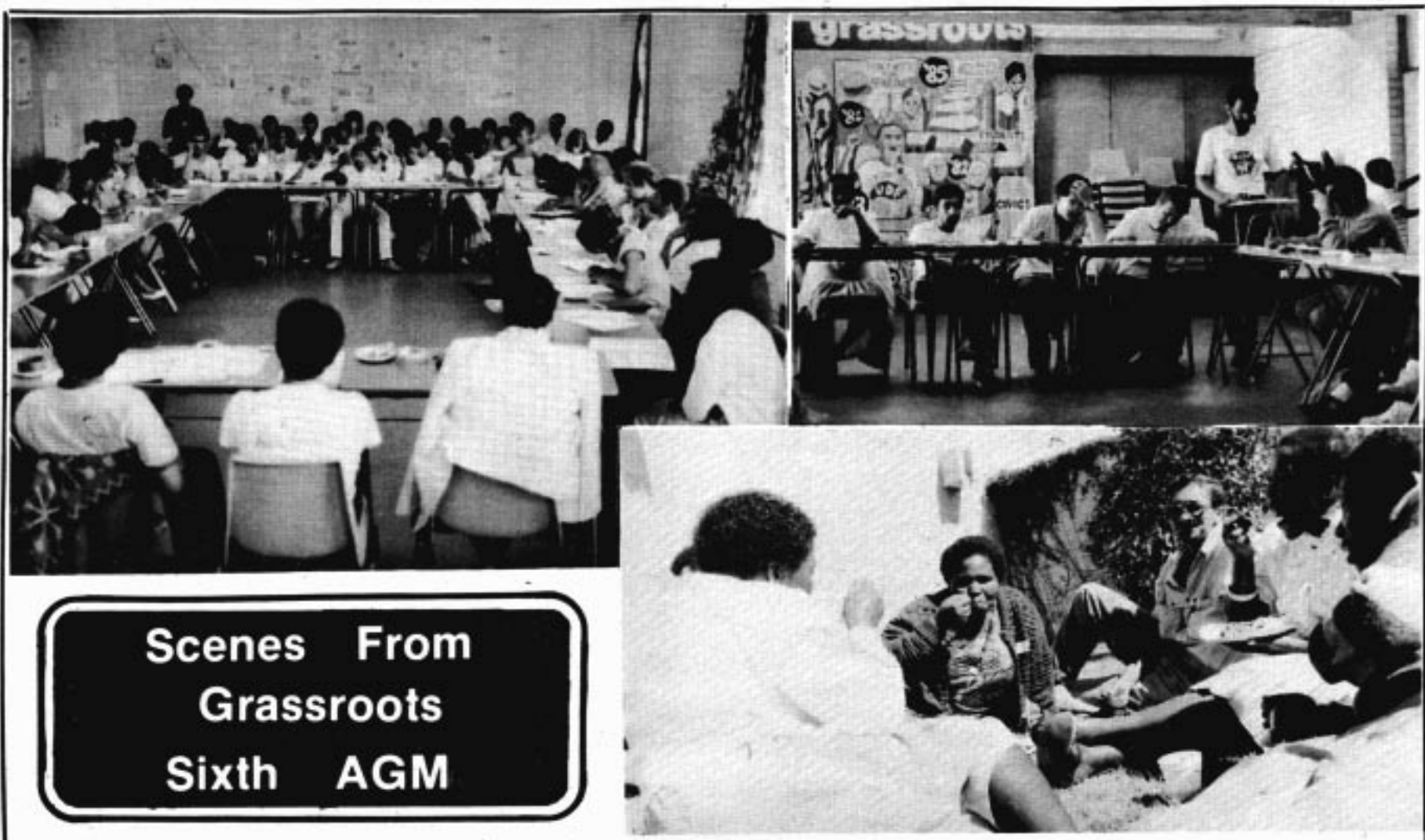
Reagan has always condemned violence as a means of bringing about change in South Africa. Where is the consistency in his attitude towards Libya? His state-controlled Voice of America called on the people of Libya to "unite to overthrow Gadaffi and put an end to dictatorship and tyranny".

The people of South Africa have for many decades been trying to put an end to the tyranny and dictatorship in our country.

Yet, this same Reagan, who called on the Libyan people to overthrow their government, has been reluctant to even put the mildest pressure on the South African government to bring about change here.

One can see that the building of democratic systems of government is not in Reagan's interest, like it is not in P W Botha's interest.

Our sympathies go out to those brave Libyan people who have lost loved ones in the shameless and cold-blooded attacks by the US.



Scenes From  
Grassroots  
Sixth AGM

# GRASSROOTS GROWS

## Selling again

SEVERAL important resolutions were taken at the AGM of Grassroots.

The resolutions related to the workings and future role of Grassroots. But it also looked at the struggle for freedom of which Grassroots has been a part since its formation six years ago.

The AGM delegates first had group discussions on the various issues facing Grassroots. Afterwards, the resolutions were accepted by all the delegates.

### LEARNING ROOTS

The AGM decided that Learning Roots should come out separate from Grassroots. In this way it can reach more pupils at schools who may not be able to buy Grassroots.

It was felt that through Learning Roots, Grassroots can make a contribution of support for the student struggle for progressive education.

### GRASSROOTS

The AGM decided that the Grassroots community newsletter should be sold again now that the state of emergency has been lifted.

During the state of emergency, we had been forced to distribute the paper for free because we feared people could be arrested and detained under emergency regulations for selling the paper.

However, Grassroots can not continue giving out the paper for free for always.

### POLITICAL PRISONERS

The AGM called for the immediate and unconditional release of Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu and all other political prisoners.

It also demanded the unbanning of the African National Congress and all other banned organisations.

# The People's Paper and People's Power

A PANEL discussion on "Building People's Power" was attended by about 600 people at the Hanover Park Civic Centre on Saturday night, April 5.

The panel was organised as part of Grassroots' sixth AGM.

The discussion was chaired by Grassroots' sixth AGM.

The discussion was chaired by Grassroots' first organiser, Johnny Issel, who was recently unbanned. Mr Issel received a standing ovation at the start of the panel.

Trevor Manuel, Western Cape secretary of the United Democratic Front, who was also recently unbanned, spoke about building people's power. He made some examples from the struggle in Nicaragua.

Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the Congress of South African Trade Unions

(COSATU), spoke about building workers' power in the factories and in the community.

"The time for shouting socialist slogans is over. It is time to implement a socialist programme," he said.

The Reverend Chris Nissen, of Graaff-Reinet, spoke about how the people in the rural areas and the Eastern Cape have built people's power in the community.

"We are showing that the people can govern. People no longer go to the authorities with their problems. They now go to their street or area committees. Even crime has been eradicated," he said.

Peter Bolters, a member of the Bonteheuvel Inter-school Committee (BISCO), spoke about building student power and the struggle for a democratic system of education.

# Saamstaan has successful meeting

SAAMSTAAN, the Southern Cape Community newsletter held its 2nd Annual General Meeting on the 12th and 13th April in Bhongolethu, Oudtshoorn.

About 60 delegates from Mossel Bay, George, Knysna, Willowmore, Dysseisdorp and Oudtshoorn attended the AGM.

For the two days, delegates heard various reports, spoke about the problems in their areas and worked out Saamstaan's tasks for the year ahead.

They decided that media committees

should be set up in each area to help in the building of Saamstaan.

They also decided that the price of Saamstaan would increase from 15c to 20c. The increase was made necessary because of higher printing costs.

Saamstaan also plans to hold a media training programme for people from the rural areas.

The first edition of Saamstaan appeared in February 1984. Since it started Saamstaan has taken a strong stand against oppression and exploitation

"GRASSROOTS has just come through what must have been its most turbulent year. To many it may seem a miracle that the organisation survived. But we did not only survive, We, in fact, grew and in some ways prospered."

These words were spoken by Grassroots chairperson, Mike Norton, as he opened Grassroots' sixth Annual General Meeting.

The AGM was held on Saturday April 5 at the Maryland Centre in Hanover Park. It was attended by about 100 delegates and observers from about 40 organisations.

In his opening address to the AGM, Mr Norton looked at the repression suffered by Grassroots in 1985.

"Our offices were raided no fewer than four times. Material - and money - were confiscated and never returned.

"Most of the Grassroots staff were detained, either under the emergency powers or Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. Two were, in fact, detained twice. Grassroots organiser Saleem Badat spent a total of 109 days in detention.

"The detentions also involved members of the Grassroots executive and a trustee.

"An additional act of harassment took the form of arson - the building where we had our offices were completely destroyed by fire on October-11 last year.

"But despite all this, Grassroots survived, and even in some ways prospered. Those who managed to escape the deformed arm of the law played an important role. On the run most of the time, it was mostly through them that Grassroots was able to bring out its full quota of issues for 1985," Mr Norton said.

After the secretarial report and a talk on "Building the People's Press" the delegates divided into smaller groups to discuss the future role of Grassroots Community newspaper, Learning Roots student paper and New Era, the new political magazine.

The day session of the AGM, which started at 10 a.m., ended at 5 p.m. to allow delegates and observers time to go before they attended the panel discussion held that evening.

One delegate remarked: "It was a very fruitful AGM. It shows that Grassroots is still the people's paper."

Because of this, Saamstaan has come under attack many times. During 1985 its offices were petrol-bombed no fewer than three times. The office staff and some officials were detained for varying periods during the year.

This resulted in the newspaper suffering a setback. It did not appear from July to November last year.

But the people of the South Cape are determined that Saamstaan will continue. And it was clear at the AGM that Saamstaan is very much alive.



# 'Workers want Oscar to be free'

"THE workers of South Africa are concerned at what is happening to Oscar Mpetha. They want him released immediately."

This was said by Jan Theron, general secretary of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, at a press conference in Athlone recently. The press conference was called by the Release Mandela Committee (Western Cape) to launch a campaign to demand the release of Oscar Mpetha.

The 76-year-old diabetic, described as "the father of trade unions in South Africa", is at Pollsmoor Prison, serving a five-year sentence for terrorism.

"Oscar has a long involvement in our union and the union movement generally. He organised many factories. He travelled everywhere on his bicycle. Oscar rose to the position of general secretary of the union until he was banned.

"He returned in 1978 as national organiser and did invaluable work.

"At an age when he was entitled to an old age pension, he was prepared to work till late at night to build the union.

"Oscar is a person who is loved by all. His situation is disgraceful. Even the court said he should not go to jail. It was a political decision to send Oscar to jail. This sentence is a death sentence for Oscar.

"All decent-minded people should join the campaign for his release. This issue will definitely be taken up by the national executive committee of COSATU," Mr Theron said.

Aubrey Mokoena, the national publicity secretary of the RMC, said the government had no justification for jailing Oscar Mpetha.

"We can say Oscar should be released on humanitarian grounds because he is sick and old. We don't want our father to die in prison.

"But we are also saying that Oscar should be released because he was penalised under unjust laws," Mr Mokoena said.

Esther Mpetha said her father was born in 1908 at Mount Fletcher in Transkei. He came to Cape Town in 1950 after joining the Food and Canning Workers' Union in 1947. He also joined the ANC in 1947 and was Cape

president of the ANC when it was banned.

"In all those years, since I was born, I never had the privilege to sit at one table with my father like other people.

"In 1960, my father was banned when his mother died and he could not go to the funeral.

"He always used to say he is not only our father, but also the father of all the children who are oppressed and exploited. That's why he had to fight as long as there was oppression and exploitation," she said.

Trevor Manuel, Western Cape secretary of the United Democratic Front, said the UDF had benefitted from Oscar's experience as an organiser and a leader during the time he was UDF president.

"The best therapy Oscar can have is to be back with his people, playing his rightful role in the community. He has devoted his entire life to the struggle," Mr Manuel said.

Mildred Holo, a chairperson of the United Women's Congress and a neighbour of Mr Mpetha in Nyanga, said: "When I speak of Oscar Mpetha, I speak about the father of the struggle.

"Oscar must not be in prison. The community needs him. If he was around, many of the bad things would not have happened. Oscar is a peacemaker.

"Oscar played a very important role in the women's struggle. He told us to unite.

"Oscar is a hero. We need him outside Pollsmoor now," she said.

Messages of support were received from the principal of the University of Cape Town, Dr Stuart Saunders, Bishop Stephen Naidoo, Dr Beyers Naude, Dr Allan Boesak, Father Smangalis Mkhathshwa of the South African Bishops' Conference, and Eastern Cape community leader Mkhuseleli Jack.

A message from Mrs Winnie Mandela was read out at the press conference.

The campaign to demand the release of Oscar Mpetha will be taken nationally, according to the organisers.



NEWLY-WED Mrs Dediko Mhlaba outside the Pollsmoor Prison gates minutes after she married Rivonia Trialist and life prisoner Raymond Mhlaba. The couple was allowed to touch for the first time in 22 years.

# MHLABA'S MOMENT OF HAPPINESS

LIFE prisoner Raymond Mhlaba had a brief moment of happiness at Pollsmoor Prison on Saturday April 5.

He married the mother of his three children, Dideko Heliso, in the office of the officer commanding the prison.

He was also allowed to touch her for the first time in 22 years. Because they were not married officially, the couple were not allowed contact visits for all the time he has been in prison.

Fellow Rivonia trialist, Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu, acted as best men at the 35 minute ceremony, which was followed by a brief "reception" where cake and tea were served.

The ceremony was "relaxed", according to Bishop Siggibo Dwane, of the Order of Ethiopia Church in Grahamstown.

"I said it was a time for rejoicing and that we share their joy and hope to be reunited in normal life soon," the bishop said outside Pollsmoor's gates immediately after the wedding.

Mrs Mhlaba said: "I have waited many years for this occasion, I have applied three times to get married to Raymond since the time he has been in prison. All three times I was

refused permission. I don't know why the government had a sudden change of heart."

Mrs Mhlaba received permission for the wedding in a letter dated February 27 1986 from the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, to her lawyer, Mr Ramesh Vassen.

Mrs Mhlaba is 61 years old. Her husband is 66 years old.

Raymond Mhlaba has had a long history of involvement in the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party.

He was born in 1920 in the Fort Beaufort District of the Eastern Cape.

At school, he was involved in many student organisations.

He joined the Communist Party in 1943 and the ANC in 1944. From 1947 to 1953, he was the chairman of the New Brighton branch of the ANC, and was elected to the Cape provincial executive committee of the ANC.

He was district secretary of the Communist Party for the Port Elizabeth area from 1946 until the party was banned in 1950.

On June 26 1952, Raymond Mhlaba led a group of Defiance

Campaign volunteers through the "Europeans Only" entrance of the New Brighton railway station. He became the first ANC leader to be arrested.

He was later banned, but was still elected to the Cape executive of the ANC in 1954 and continued his political activity.

He was detained along with many other leaders and activists under the 1960 state of emergency. After his release, he undertook a number of secret activities for the ANC.

Mhlaba was one of the leaders arrested in a police raid on the Lelliesleaf farm in Rivonia in July 1963 where police uncovered the internal headquarters of the Umkhonto We Sizwe, the military wing of the ANC.

Mhlaba denied that he was a member of Umkhonto, but said he did underground work for the ANC.

He was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment with the other Rivonia trialists, Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Andrew Mlangeni, Ahmed Kathrada, Elias Motosoaledi and Dennis Goldberg.

Mhlaba was previously married.

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May Day Poster from Mozambique

In Free countries, May Day is a huge, public festival. This is a May Day rally in Luanda

### Eight Hour Song

We mean to change things  
We're tired of working for nothing.  
Not enough to live on  
Never an hour for thought  
We want to feel the sunshine  
We want to smell the flowers

We're sure that God wanted it  
and we mean to have eight hours  
We are calling our forces from  
shipyard, shop and mill  
Eight hours for work, eight hours for  
rest and eight hours  
to do what we want.

### The People's Flag

The People's Flag is deepest red;  
It shrouded off or martyred dead,  
And 'ere their limbs grew stiff and cold  
Their heart's blood dyed its ev'ry fold.

CHORUS: Then raise the scorial standard  
High!  
Within its shade we'll live or die.  
Though onwards March and traitors sneer,  
We'll keep the Red Flag flying here.

With heads uncovered sweer we all  
to bear it onward till we fall,  
Come dungeons dark, or galleons grim,  
This song shall be our parting hymn.

CHORUS

## 'EIGHT-HOUR DAY'

EIGHT hours for work, eight hours for rest, and eight hours to do what we want!

THIS is how May Day started - in 1886 - with the demand for an eight hour working day in America.

The American government had made a law that workers should have an eight hour day. But most bosses just ignored the law. They made workers work for 12 or even 14 hours a day, for very low wages.

Some workers had an eight-hour day. They called the things they made "eight-hour" goods. At meetings, workers would smoke "eight-hour tobacco", and they wore "eight-

hour shoes". In 1886, the workers decided that the only way they would get an eight-hour day was to fight for it. So, on May 1, 350,000 workers downed tools. The factories were silent - but the streets were full of the sounds of workers marching, and singing their "eight-hour song".

The workers won their demand - but the price was heavy. In Chicago, the police killed six workers. The police also arrested the leaders. They hanged four, and many others were sent to jail for life.

In many other countries, workers did not have an eight-hour day. And they had other problems, like very low wages, and bad working conditions.

So, in 1889, workers in Europe started an International Workers' Congress. They decided May 1 1890 "International Workers' Day". On that day, workers in US, Australia, Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Portugal, Hungary, Poland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, took action to win their demands, and so, May Day was born.

Since that day, workers all over the world have come together on May Day. In some countries, like

Cuba, and Mozambique, workers have won control of the factories, and of the government. But in most other countries, workers experience great hardships.

The demands made by workers on May Day differ in different countries. In South Africa, for example, workers are fighting apartheid as well as exploitation. In South America, workers are fighting the big USA bosses, who bleed them dry.

But the basic message of May Day all over is the same: "End to exploitation. End to suffering and low wages! Forward to freedom, dignity and justice for all workers!"

## MAY DAY: 100 YEARS OF WORKERS STRUGGLE

MAY DAY is the day when workers all over the world stand together. It has a long, proud history - but it is a history written in blood and suffering. May Day started one hundred years ago. But long before that, workers were struggling for a world without rich and poor, without hunger and pain, without war and destruction.

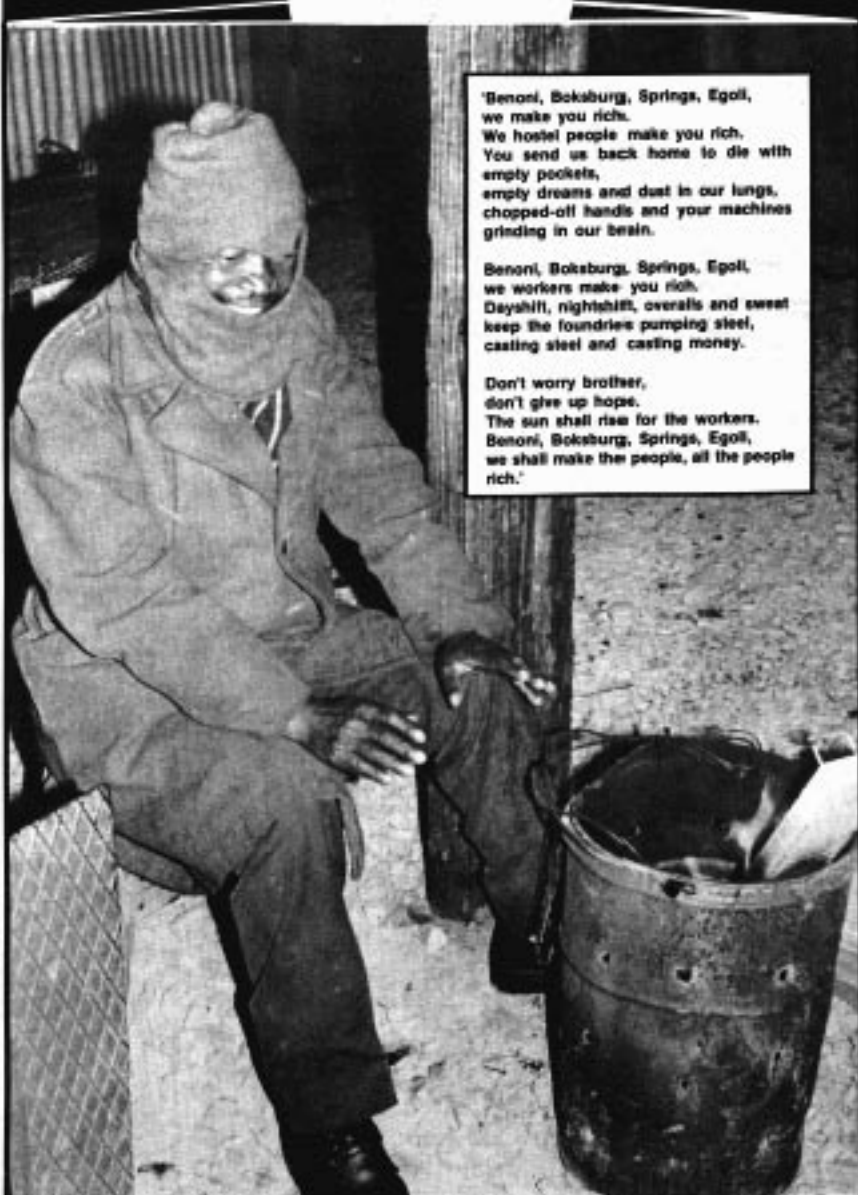
In South Africa, workers are still fighting misery of low wages, the chains of the pass laws, the guns and bullets of apartheid. They are still fighting for their fair share in the wealth and government of our land.

But now, workers are stronger than ever before. In the schools, they are beginning to take control of their children's education. In the communities,

they are forcing out the puppet community councils and management committees, and are governing their own townships. In the factories, they are uniting in strong trade unions, and winning their demands.

The long cherished dream of "People's Power" is becoming a reality. There are still many long and bitter battles to be fought. But workers are learning what it means to take control of their lives. Now they can say, with confidence and hope, "One day soon, the sun will rise for workers."

Grassroots salutes the strength and courage of the workers. On this page, we look at May Day - how it started, and what it means for workers in South Africa and all over the world.



'Benoni, Boksburg, Springs, Egoli, we make you rich. We hostel people make you rich. You send us back home to die with empty pockets, empty dreams and dust in our lungs, chopped-off hands and your machines grinding in our brain.

Benoni, Boksburg, Springs, Egoli, we workers make you rich. Dayshift, nightshift, overalls and sweat keep the foundries pumping steel, casting steel and casting money.

Don't worry brother, don't give up hope. The sun shall rise for the workers. Benoni, Boksburg, Springs, Egoli, we shall make the people, all the people rich.'

### The Freedom Charter

The Freedom Charter clause on work  
THERE SHALL BE WORK AND SECURITY!

All who work shall be free to form trade unions, to elect their officers and to make wage agreements with their employers.

The state shall recognize the right and duty of all to work, and to draw full unemployment benefits. Men and women of all races shall receive equal pay for equal work.

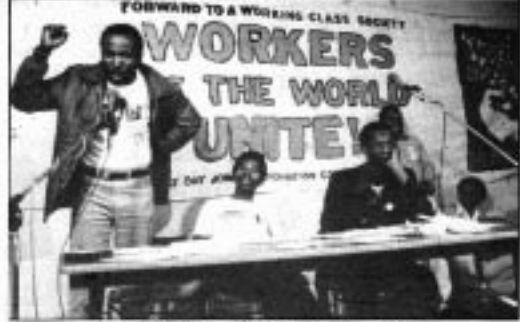
There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national minimum wage, paid annual leave, and sick leave for all workers, and maternity leave on full pay for all working mothers.

Misers, domestic workers, farm workers and civil servants shall have the same rights as all other who work.

Child labour, compound labour, the tot system and contract labour shall be abolished.



19th Century European Poster



May Day meeting in Johannesburg 1985



Workers play at Unions May Day meeting, Cape Town, 1985



High Spirits at UDF May Day rally, 1984

## May Day comes to South Africa

ON 1st May, 1944, about 1000 white workers came together in Market Square, Johannesburg. This was the first time May Day was celebrated in South Africa. But the theme of worker unity was not followed by the workers. Their slogan was, "Workers of the world unite for a white South Africa."

The workers did not understand that their fellow black workers were not their enemy. This was because the bosses encouraged division between white and black workers. They gave white workers certain privileges. They knew that if all the workers united to fight the bosses, they would be much stronger.

But May Day was not to stay "white" for very long. In 1915 the International Socialist League (ISL) was formed. This was later to become the South African Communist Party (SACP). This organisation saw that no workers' struggle could be fought



Police attack workers in the 1950 stayaway

without black workers. They strove to unite ALL South African workers in the fight for freedom and justice.

In 1917, the ISL organised the first May Day meeting for black and white workers. They invited Horatio Mhala, of the African National Congress to speak. But the meeting was broken up by soldiers and white workers, who did not like a black man talking to white workers. Workers continued to celebrate May Day - but there were separate meetings for black and

white workers. In 1921, the Communist Party brought black and white workers joined in with the black workers, but many had their own meetings.

The Nationalist Government came into power in 1948. They brought with them Apartheid, and special privileges for white workers. After that, there was very little unity between black and white workers. The Nationalist Government also decided to crush the SACP. They brought out the law called "the Suppression of Communism Bill" in

## Back on the road to worker Freedom

FOR the workers of South Africa, May Day 1986 will mark a giant step forward on the road to worker unity. Because this year, half a million workers will be united under the banner of COSATU - the biggest union federation our country has ever seen.

The growth of May Day in the last few years shows us how worker unity and strength has grown. After a decade of many years, workers started forming trade unions again in the 70's. And slowly, quietly, they started to have small May Day meetings again.

Then, in 1984, unions started coming together to hold joint May Day meetings - in Cape Town, Natal, Transvaal and the Eastern Cape. This was the year of the elections for the dummy tri-cameral parliament, and speakers at May Day meetings called on workers not to vote.

John Erasmus, of Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association,

### COSATU Demands:

- The right to work
- The working week must be no more than 40 hours.
- May Day must be a paid holiday for workers.
- We want and living wage. UFW must be improved, and unemployed workers must not have to pay rent.
- Women must be paid the same as men.
- Pensions must be paid every month.
- The Right to Strike and Organise in Trade Unions
- The Right for Students to elect Democratic SRC's!
- All Organisations must be unbanned, and All Political Prisoners must be Released!
- End to Pass Laws and the Hostels!

"This parliament will continue the rotten deal that workers have been experiencing" said Virginia Engel of NUTW. "We can have no part in this. This is the new face of Apartheid. We can have no part in making oppression and exploitation our country has ever seen."

The UDF also organised a mass rally for May Day 1984. About 5000 workers came together in Cape Town. Liz Abraham of FCWU, said "Only the workers can bring peace and freedom to South Africa."

1985 saw May Day celebrations all over South Africa - even in small towns such as Estover and Kwa Thema. In Johannesburg, a May Day committee of 31 unions was set up. In Cape Town, the unions held a joint rally in Mitchell's Plain, with speeches, plays and songs.

We hope that this year May Day will be the biggest we have ever seen.

In the last 2 years, workers have also been demanding that May Day is a paid public holiday. One of the first unions to win this demand was the Chemical and Industrial Workers Union - at Pilkington Glass factory. But many other unions have won this at different factories. This year, COSATU will be taking up the demand that May Day be a public holiday.

For many years, the workers did not celebrate May Day. But they carried the spirit of May Day in their hearts. They knew that one day, workers would rise again, and unite. Now in South Africa, this is happening. Workers are coming together in trade unions, and in other organisations. The unity and strength of workers is more powerful than ever. And they are determined that never again, will the bosses or government deny them the right to celebrate May Day.





May Day Poster from Mozambique

In Free countries, May Day is a huge, public festival. This is a May Day rally in Luanda

Eight Hour Song

We mean to change things
We're tired of working for nothing.
Not enough to live on
Never an hour for thought
We want to feel the sunshine
We want to smell the flowers

We're sure that God wanted it
and we mean to have eight hours
We are calling our forces from
shipyard, shop and mill
Eight hours for work, eight hours for
rest and eight hours
to do what we want.

The People's Flag

The People's Flag is deepest red;
It shrouded off or martyred dead,
And 'ere their limbs grew stiff and cold
Their heart's blood dyed its ev'ry fold.

CHORUS: Then raise the scorial standard
High!
Within its shade we'll live or die.
Though onwards March and traitors sneer,
We'll keep the Red Flag flying here.

With heads uncovered sweer we all
to bear it onward till we fall,
Come dungeons dark, or galleons grim,
This song shall be our parting hymn.

CHORUS

'EIGHT-HOUR DAY'

EIGHT hours for work, eight hours for rest,
and eight hours to do what we want!

THIS is how May Day started - in 1886 -
with the demand for an
eight hour working day
in America.

The American government had made a
law that workers should
have an eight hour day.
But most bosses just
ignored the law. They
made workers work for
12 or even 14 hours a
day, for very low
wages.

Some workers had
an eight-hour day. They
called the things they
made "eight-hour"
goods. At meetings,
workers would smoke
"eight-hour tobacco",
and they wore "eight-

hour shoes".
In 1886, the workers
decided that the only
way they would get an
eight-hour day was to
fight for it. So, on May
1, 350,000 workers
downed tools. The fac-
tories were silent - but
the streets were full of
the sounds of workers
marching, and singing
their "eight-hour song".

The workers won
their demand - but the
price was heavy. In Chi-
cago, the police killed
six workers. The police
also arrested the leaders.
They hanged four, and
many others were sent
to jail for life.

In many other coun-
tries, workers did not
have an eight-hour day.
And they had other
problems, like very low
wages, and bad working
conditions.

So, in 1889, workers
in Europe started an
International Workers'
Congress. They decided
May 1 1890 "Inter-
national Workers' Day."
On that day, workers in
US, Australia, Britain,
France, Italy, Germany,
Spain, Belgium, Portu-
gal, Hungary, Poland,
Denmark, Norway and
Sweden, took action to
win their demands, and
so, May Day was born.

Since that day,
workers all over the
world have come to-
gether on May Day. In
some countries, like

Cuba, and Mozambique,
workers have won con-
trol of the factories, and
of the government.
But in most other coun-
tries, workers experi-
ence great hardships.

The demands made
by workers on May Day
differ in different coun-
tries. In South Africa,
for example, workers
are fighting apartheid
as well as exploitation.
In South America,
workers are fighting the
big USA bosses, who
bleed them dry.

But the basic
message of May Day all
over is the same: "End
to exploitation. End to
suffering and low
wages! Forward to free-
dom, dignity and
justice for all workers!"

MAY DAY: 100 YEARS OF WORKERS STRUGGLE

MAY DAY is the day when workers all over the
world stand together. It has a long, proud history
- but it is a history written in blood and suffering.

May Day started one hundred years ago. But
long before that, workers were struggling for a
world without rich and poor, without hunger and
pain, without war and destruction.

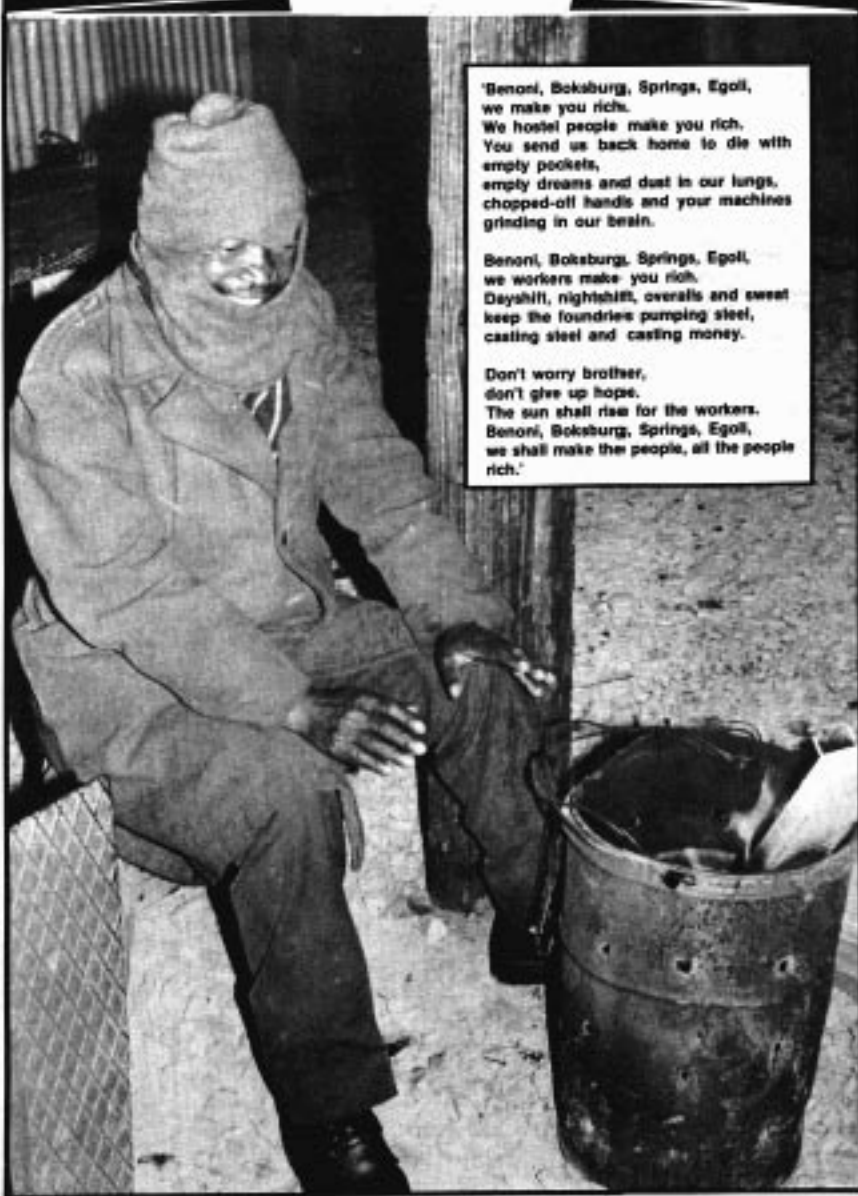
In South Africa, workers are still fighting misery
of low wages, the chains of the pass laws, the guns
and bullets of apartheid. They are still fighting for
their fair share in the wealth and government of
our land.

But now, workers are stronger than ever before.
In the schools, they are beginning to take control
of their children's education. In the communities,

they are forcing out the puppet community coun-
cils and management committees, and are govern-
ing their own townships. In the factories, they are
uniting in strong trade unions, and winning their
demands.

The long cherished dream of "People's Power"
is becoming a reality. There are still many long
and bitter battles to be fought. But workers are
learning what it means to take control of their
lives. Now they can say, with confidence and hope,
"One day soon, the sun will rise for workers."

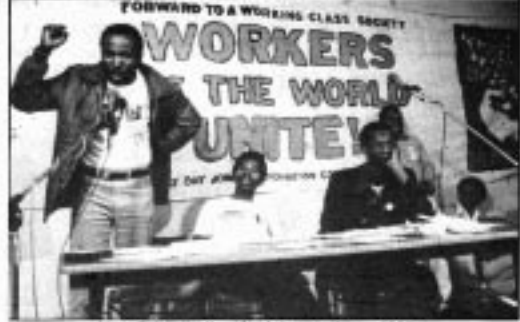
Grassroots salutes the strength and courage of
the workers. On this page, we look at May Day -
how it started, and what it means for workers in
South Africa and all over the world.



'Benoni, Boksburg, Springs, Egoli,
we make you rich.
We hostel people make you rich.
You send us back home to die with
empty pockets,
empty dreams and dust in our lungs,
chopped-off hands and your machines
grinding in our brain.

Benoni, Boksburg, Springs, Egoli,
we workers make you rich.
Dayshift, nightshift, overalls and sweat
keep the foundries pumping steel,
casting steel and casting money.

Don't worry brother,
don't give up hope.
The sun shall rise for the workers.
Benoni, Boksburg, Springs, Egoli,
we shall make the people, all the people
rich.'



May Day meeting in Johannesburg 1985



Workers play at Unions May Day meeting, Cape Town, 1985



High Spirits at UDF May Day rally, 1984

Back on the road to worker Freedom

FOR the workers of South Africa, May Day 1986 will mark a giant
step forward on the
road to worker unity.
Because this year, half a
million workers will be
united under the
banner of COSATU -
the biggest union federa-
tion our country has
ever seen.

The growth of May
Day in the last few
years shows us how
worker unity and
strength has grown.
After a decade of many
years, workers started
forming trade unions
again in the 70's. And
slowly, quietly, they
started to have small
May Day meetings
again.

Then, in 1984,
unions started coming
together to hold joint
May Day meetings - in
Cape Town, Natal,
Transvaal and the East-
ern Cape. This was
the year of the elections
for the dummy tri-cameral
parliament, and speak-
ers at May Day meetings
called on workers not
to vote.

We hope that this
year May Day will be
the biggest we have ever
seen.

COSATU Demands:

- COSATU members have drawn
up 5 main demands to take forward
on May Day. These are:
- The right to work
- The working week must be no
more than 40 hours.
- May Day must be a paid holiday
for workers.
- We want and living wage.
- UDF must be improved, and un-
employed workers must not
have to pay rent.
- Women must be paid the same
as men.
- Pensions must be paid every
month.
- The Right to Strike and Organise
in Trade Unions
- The Right for Students to elect
Democratic SRC's!
- All Organisations must be un-
harnessed, and All Political Prisoners
must be Released!
- End to Pass Laws and the
Hostels!

May Day comes to South Africa

ON 1st May, 1944,
about 2000 white work-
ers came together in
Market Square, Johan-
nesburg. This was the
first time May Day was
celebrated in South Af-
rica. But the theme of
worker unity was not
followed by the work-
ers. Their slogan was,
"Workers of the world
unite for a white South
Africa."



Police attack
workers in the
1950 stayaway

The workers did not
understand that their
fellow black workers
were not their enemy.
This was because the
bosses encouraged divi-
sion between white and
black workers. They
gave white workers
certain privileges. They
knew that if all the
workers united to fight
the bosses, they would
be much stronger.

But May Day was
not to stay "white" for
very long. In 1915 the
International Socialist
League (ISL) was form-
ed. This was later to be-
come the South African
Communist Party (SACP).
This organisation
saw that no workers'
struggle could be fought

without black workers.
They strived to unite
ALL South African
workers in the fight for
freedom and justice.
In 1917, the ISL
organised the first May
Day meeting for black
and white workers.
They invited Horatio
Mhala, of the African
National Congress to
speak.

But the meeting was
broken up by soldiers
and white workers, who
did not like a black
man talking to white
workers.
Workers continued
to celebrate May Day -
but there were separate
meetings for black and
white workers.
In 1921, the Communist
Party brought
black and white workers
together in a May Day
meeting in Johannesburg.
After the meeting,
about 2000 black and
white workers marched
to the Raad Club -
where the bosses were
enjoying a rich meal.
The workers stood
outside singing "we want
bread, we want work."
Many bosses found that
they could not enjoy
their lunch after that!

For many years after
that, workers celebra-
ted May Day. They had
meetings, social even-
ings and picnics. Some
of the white workers
joined in with the
black workers, but
many had their own
meetings.
The Nationalist Gov-
ernment came into
power in 1948. They
brought with them
Apartheid, and special
privileges for white
workers. After that,
there was very little
unity between black
and white workers.
The Nationalist Gov-
ernment also decided to
crush the SACP. They
brought out the law
called "the Suppression
of Communism Bill" in

1950. The workers
were very angry that
their organisation was
being attacked in this
way. They decided to
fight back.
So, on May 1, 1950,
the ANC, the Natal
African Congress, and
the Council of
Non-European Trade
Unions, came together
to organise a huge stay-
away.
The government
tried to stop the stay-
away. They banned
meetings. They patrol-
led the townships. The
bosses pleaded with
workers to come to
work, and offered them
free meals and a place
to sleep.

But the workers had
suffered too much at
the hands of the gov-
ernment and the bosses
to be interested in "free
meals". Thousands of
workers all over South
Africa followed the call
for the stayaway. The
bosses' machines stood
silent. In Cape Town,
workers marched down
Adderley Street, sing-
ing, "Down with Apar-
theid! We want freedom
now!"
The police moved in
with force. In Johan-
nesburg, they killed 19
workers, and injured
many more. But they
did not break the spirit
of the workers.
After this, the South
African Congress of
Trade Unions organ-
ised some May Day
meetings. But after the State
of Emergency, our peo-
ple's organisations like
the ANC and SACTU
were crushed or bann-
ed.
For many years, the
workers did not cele-
brate May Day. But
they carried the spirit
of May Day in their
hearts. They knew that
one day, workers would
rise again, and unite.
Now in South Africa,
this is happening. Work-
ers are coming together
in trade unions, and in
other organisations.
The unity and strength
of workers is more
powerful than ever.
And they are deter-
mined that never again,
will the bosses or gov-
ernment deny them the
right to celebrate May
Day.

The Freedom Charter

The Freedom Charter clause on work
THERE SHALL BE WORK AND SECURITY!

All who work shall be free to form trade unions,
to elect their officers and to make wage agree-
ments with their employers.

The state shall recognise the right and duty of all
to work, and to draw full unemployment benefits.
Men and women of all races shall receive equal
pay for equal work;

There shall be a forty-hour working week, a national
minimum wage, paid annual leave, and sick
leave for all workers, and maternity leave on full
pay for all working mothers;

Misers, domestic workers, farm workers and
civil servants shall have the same rights as all others
who work;

Child labour, compound labour, the tot system
and contract labour shall be abolished.



19th Century European Poster





Davy Daniels shows his injuries

# 'Principal beat me with iron bar'...

BISHOP Lavis students are once again experiencing problems with corporal punishment.

On 8th April, Grassroots went to speak to Davy Daniels, who had allegedly been assaulted by his principal. Davy is a STD 9 student at Beauvallen Senior Secondary School.

Speaking with difficulty through a torn and swollen lip, Davy told us his story:

"The Beauvallen students have been asking for an SRC for months. The principal has just ignored our demands. Today we decided once again to present

our demand for an SRC.

"The principal just hit us and swore at us. We left his office, and started going around the other classes, telling the students about the principal's attitude.

"I was standing outside one of the classrooms. The principal came up and told me to leave - which I refused to do. Then he started beating me.

"He hit me with an iron pipe, on my head and arm. The pipe was about 1 metre long and 4cm thick. Then he started hitting me in the face with his fist. Then I left."

When we saw Davy, he had a bruised head, swollen and cut lip, and a badly bruised arm. His mother was very upset about the incident.

"The principal phoned me this morning, and told me that I must come and fetch Davy because he was breaking up the school. It was only later that I heard the truth from the mother of another student."

"The principal has often told me these stories about Davy. He says that Davy is a bad influence, that he intimidates the other students, he runs wild. I won't

believe these stories.

"When I heard that Davy was beaten with a pipe, I was very angry. I will not let this thing stop here. I want to take it further.

This is the second allegation of serious assault by teachers of students in Bishop Lavis. Last month, Brian Bezuidenhout, a student at John Ramsay, laid a charge of assault against a teacher who he said had beaten him and kicked him. Brian had serious bruising on his face and body, and experienced headaches and stiffness for a week.

# 'We stand by our teachers'

PARENTS, pupils and teachers have called on the "coloured" Department of Education and Culture to drop charges of misconduct against about 50 teachers at schools in the Western Cape.

The charges arise out of the refusal by many teachers not to administer the final examinations last year when many pupils decided not to write.

The Western Cape Teachers' Union (WECTU) has warned that the prosecution of teachers was "provocative in the extreme". They called for the charges to be unconditionally withdrawn and for the community to join in protest against this action of the Department.

WECTU said it seemed like the Department was determined to disrupt schooling after the call by the National Education Crisis Conference for pupils to go back to school.

The affected teachers come from schools like

Harold Cressy, Groenvlei, Alexander Sinton, Crestway, Belgravia, Ned Doman, Cathkin, Bonteheuwel, Marion High, Elsie's River and Mountview. They include a principal, four deputy principals and 11 department heads.

WECTU said the Department had conducted a systematic and pernicious "attack" on teachers after last year's education crisis.

They condemned the victimisation of teachers and resolved to defend their members "against this attack on their professional dignity and integrity.

"We will fight to redress a system which seeks to punish honest educators who act in defence of those they educate and the high educational principles to which they subscribe," WECTU said.

The Harold Cressy Parent, Teacher, Student Association and the Harold Cressy Past Student Association said the Department's action was "anti-educational and punitive."

Pupils at Cathkin

High have come out in support of 15 teachers at the school who are facing charges of misconduct. They have written to the Department to defend the actions of their teachers and to call on the Department to drop the charges.

They said teachers refused to administer last year's final examination because it was educationally unsound.

THE new Student Representative Council (SRC) at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) want to get students much more involved in decision-making on the campus.

The SRC was elected at the end of last term. The previous SRC was elected in August 1984, but because of intense activity, a new SRC could not be elected in August last year and the old SRC was mandated to continue until the beginning of this year.

"Maybe that explains a bit why we had such a low voting poll, 28 per-



FORMER UDF secretary Cheryl Carolus lights a candle for all those who have given their lives to the struggle. She spoke at a Sharpeville Commemoration meeting at the University of the Western Cape on March 21.

# New SRC for UWC

cent as opposed to 44 percent in 1984. A great deal of the student population is made up of first-years who don't know the people who stood for the SRC and decided on that basis not to vote.

"Another reason could be that the 1984 elections were held at a time when student awareness was very high. Now we had elections at a time when many people were still feeling the scars of 1985. There

are those people who failed, the differences

between those who supported the boycott and those who didn't," said Leslie Maasdorp, president of the SRC.

"What was central to all our manifestos was the fact that the SRC had tended to neglect many UWC issues while we were focussing more on national political issues.

"This year, we will look at building up faculty councils. We will attempt to democratise the SRC. We are only eleven people and we cannot represent 7 000 properly.

"Through faculty councils, people can become more critical of their courses and must start having a say in running these courses.

"We will also be

participating in the campaign initiated by AZASO to draw up an Education Charter. And obviously, we will try to put into effect the idea of building people's power," Leslie said.

Leslie said students at UWC now ran a bigger risk of being co-opted and made complacent about the system.

"The nature of UWC is changing. It is no longer a bush campus, with that atmosphere of a place where deprived students come. There is the new stadium and student union building. UWC is getting a more liberal image. Even the hostel food is much better nowadays!

"This could all add up to diverting students' attention away from the real issues.

# 'No-one must be demoted'

THE Bonteheuwel Interschol Committee (BISCO) has warned the "coloured" Education and Culture Department not to demote students at Bonteheuwel Senior Secondary School, or any other school.

BISCO has asked the Department for a written guarantee that the pupils will not be demoted.

Students said they were told that about 300 students who did not pass the June exam last year and were promoted, would be demoted.

The pupils were promoted after a government announcement earlier this year that pupils who did not write the final examination could be promoted.

"We cannot accept the Department's decision. We will continue as we have up to now.

"Many pupils who had written the final exams last year were allowed to pass when they wrote only one or two subjects, wrote exams with textbooks open next to them, and so on.

"It is unfair to single out those pupils who failed last June when many of those who wrote the finals in effect also failed," Bisco said.

# Wincwadi azinaxabiso

UGRASSROOTS ukhe wathetha neny yetitshala ezifundisa kumabanga aphezulu malunga nokunika kwabantwana iincwadi zesikolo. Utitshala uphendule ngelithi zonke izikolo zinikwe iincwadi kodwa azonelanga.

Uyicacisile into yokuba iincwadi ezinikwe amabanga aphantsi zibhetele kunezo zinikwe amabanga aphakamileyo.

Utsho esithi iincwadi ezinkulu ezinamaqeqwe amnyama nezinye izinto ezibalulekileyo nezinto zokuzoba azikho. Uyibonakalisile into yokuba ezinwadi zinikwe amabanga aphezulu azinako nokugqiba inyanga le. Into ethetha ukuba abazili baseza kuzithenga iincwadi.

Sithe sakumbuza ukuba akukho nethemba eli lezinye iincwadi wathi umphathi wezenfundo uthule uthe cwaka malunga nombandela wencwadi. Uthe into athembise ngayo kukulungiswa kwezikolo qha. Uthe kwa imeko yezikolo inkenekene amanye amagumbi kunzima kwa ukufundisela iifestile zophukile kungena umoya nengqele nje. Abafundi bakwa Mandlenkosi e Beaufort West babala ngumsindo bakubona iincwadi ezazisizwe ngabathunywa besebe lezefundo noqeqesho Bathe ngoku lixesha lokuba uRhulumente angasithathi nje ngonopop Babuze bathi-uRhulumente ecinga ukuba siyintoni? Khona ziyakusiq huba ixesha elingakanani?

Ikomiti yabafundi ibinentlanganiso apho igqibe ngendlela abazakusebenza ngayo emva kokuba bedibene nomhloli walo ngingqi. Into eyenzekayo kwabanjwa inkokheli yombutho wabahlali etyholwa ngokuba nguye oqeqeshisa abafundi. U Mr Lerato Oliveer wayesiya kuzalisekisa imigaqo awayeyinikwe ukuba asayine yonke imihla ngo6 p,m e mapoliseni. Loo migaqo wayeyifumene xa wayenezityholo zobu ndlobongela nezinye. U Mr Oliveer usajongene nezinye izityholo ezine awayezifumene ngexesha kwakukwaywa iivenkile zabamhlophe.

# Books are 'inferior'

GRASSROOTS spoke to one of the primary school teachers in the townships about free books supplied at schools by the Department of Education and Training.

The teacher's reply was that all schools were supplied with free books but they were not enough.

She explained that the pupils did not get hard covers and other important things like mathematic instruments. She also made it clear that the books won't last even a month. This means parents will

have to buy more books.

We asked her if there was no hope for more books and she said the DET kept quiet about this matter. They were promised about the renovation of schools which are already in a state of collapse.

Students in Kwa-Mandlenkosi in Beaufort West burst out with fury when books were delivered to their school by the DET officials.

Students said it was high time that the DET did not take them for dummies. They asked

the DET what they thought and for how long would these books keep.

The students committee had a meeting with students and decided on this strategy after the meeting of the Regional Inspector.

Fortunately no student has been detained for the incident. A day after a prominent Civic leader Mr Lerato Oliver was detained and police alleged that he is the instigator of students.

He was charged with public violence and other charges.

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# 'We want houses in Hout Bay'

"WE HAVE been living in Hout Bay for many, many years, some all our lives. We are tired of being pushed around. We demand that the Divisional Council should build proper houses for us here at Hout Bay."

This was said recently in a memorandum by squatters living in Hout Bay. They were protesting against the possible eviction of squatters whose camp faced demolition.

The squatters tried to send a delegation to the Divisional Council to deliver the memorandum, but they were stopped by police.

The police were in the area by 6.30 a.m. and erected roadblocks on Hout Bay and Victoria Roads, the only two roads leading from Hout Bay to Cape Town.

Thirty families living at Dawidskraal have been served eviction notices and 14 other families at Disa River also live in uncertainty.

"The Divisional Council is responsible for housing us, but we are the people who suffer. They do not want to address the problems along the guidelines given by the squatter community," the squatters said in their memorandum.

"The overcrowded conditions in the Harbour area, together with the shortage of available land in the Harbour area, aggravates the pressing needs for housing, and we therefore demand that more land be made available in the Hout Bay Valley area for the purpose of providing an acceptable standard of housing for the people living in Hout Bay and who need houses.

"While we are waiting for an acceptable standard of housing, we demand that:

- "The Divisional Council of the Cape make land available or purchase land, if need be, outside the Harbour area but within Hout Bay Valley and build acceptable permanent housing.

- "That the Divisional Council treat this matter as URGENT and get the funds needed for this project NOW.

- "The the Divisional Council inform the landowners of this urgent project and specify

## Isavalelwe inkokheli

NGOMHLA we 31st ka Matshi ngomvulo kwangena iihagu (casspirs) ezintathu eNyanga Bush. Ixesha yayiyintsimbi yesihlanu malanga. Abantu bathi besakulandela befuna ukuqonda ukuba kuqhubeka ntoni bagxothwa kakubi ngamapolisa.

Aye ehamba nendoda eyayizogqume ngebalac-lava ebusweni eyayikhomba. Angena egxalathelana endlwini ka Mr Yamile amanye akhwela phezu kwezindlu. Afrika u Mr Yamile ehleli nosapho lwakhe nezihlobozakhe. Nalapho bavala iminyango ukuba abantu bangaboni.

Bavumbulula begqogqa befuna into abangayaziyo. Bagqogqa nezindlu zabamelwane. Ekuvum-

## Release our leader

THE people of Nyanga Bush are angry. They want to know why the police arrested their leader, Mr Melfort Yamile, and his family.

Mr Yamile was arrested on Easter Monday, March 31 when three Casspirs and a van raided Nyanga Bush at about 5 p.m.

People followed the police but were turned away, according to a member of Nyanga Bush Committee, which represents the area's 40000 people, and of which Mr Yamile is chairperson.

"There was a man with a balaclava cap over his head with the police.

"They searched Mr Yamile's house and other houses around there. Some policemen were standing outside and on top of the house, while others were warning people not to come near the scene.

"They found Mr Yamile sitting with his family and friends. The police closed the doors so that no one could see what was happening inside.

"They took Mr Yamile's family and friends to a casspir outside. Others found two guns in different houses.

"All together 10 people were detained.

"On Thursday April



WOMEN of Crossroads, Nyanga Bush and KTC protest against Mr Johnson Nxobongwana, the former chairman of the Crossroads Committee. The women also demanded the release of Mr Melford Yamile, the leader of the Nyanga Bush committee.

the time limit as well as get them to agree that we stay where we are for the interim period.

- "That a reasonable time of nine months be allowed until the houses are made available.

- "That no interim movement, such as site and service camps (as proposed by council) takes place.

- The Council have already received these demands through our representations throughout 1985. We want to stress once again that an interim solution is no solution.

"We are determined to have our demands met and will therefore resist, with all our strength, the removal by council of our people.

"Finally, we wish to stress that it is our right and not a privilege to live in decent houses in comfort and security," the memorandum said.

bululeni kwabo bafumana iintonga zamadoda (imipu) emibini kwizindlu ezohlukeneyo.

Bamthatha uMr Yamile nabanye abantu abalithoba. Ngolwesi thathu kwakhululwa abantu abane. Ngolwesine umhla wesi3 amakhosikazi ase Nganga Bush nawase KTC aya eCaledon Square ebonakali sa ukungoniseki kwabo kukuthathwa kwenkokheli yabo.

Amakhosikazi lawo ayegcwalise iibhisi ezintlanu nexi ezi sixhenxe. Ahi esakuyibeka ingxaki yabo emapholiseni axelelwa ukuba agaxela imipu leya yeyobanina bangakhululwa abo bavalelweyo.

## Ualafelo eNew Crossroads

Ukususela ekupheleni kuka 1985 abahlali base Newcrossroads abazange bahlala ntlalo intle ngenxa yamadoda akrokreleka ukuba ngabaxhasi be Community Council. Unobangela wohlaselelo kungenxa yokuba omama babiza imali eyayiqokelelwe mhla babanjelwa umzabalazo werente.

Uhlaselelo olu belujongise kakhulu kumalungu emibutho yomama iUNITED WOMENS CONGRESS, I WESTERN CAPE CIVIC ASSOCIATION kunye ne CAYCO. Emva kohlaselo lokugqibela apho amadoda ayi 9 aphulukana nobomi bawo kuye kwabanjwa amakhosikazi amathathu uMrs Ntongana, u Mrs Ngemntu kwakunye noMrs Pieter.

Kuye kwabanjwa no Mr Madlavu othe yena walixhoba lokutshiselwa indlu yakhe zezizibhongobhiyane. Kubanjwe nabantwana abayi 16 amantombazama namakhwenkwe. Ngomhla we4th ka April amakhosikazi amatsha aya e police station egunyazisa ukuba abo bavalelweyo bakhululwe.

Baxelelwa ngabasemagunyeni ukuba basancinwa malunga nokusweleka kwamadoda ayi 9. Baye bavela enkundleni nge 7th ka April betyholwa ngokubulala nobundlobongela kwakunye nokutshisa. Kodwa kuye kwenzeka into engaqhelekanga yokuba abanye bavele nge 7th kodwa belimiselwe il5th. Abo bavele bengaziwa njalo banikwe umhla we 30th ka April ukuba ze baphinde bavele enkundleni.

'Where is our bail money', ask angry residents

FROM the end of 1985 New Crossroads residents have never lived in peace.

They have been attacked by "fathers" from old Crossroads believed to be the supporters of the community council.

The attacks have been aimed at members of progressive organisations like the United Womens' Congress, Cayco and Western Cape Civic Association.

The trouble started when women of New Crossroads demanded the money that was collected by fathers when 209 women were detained last year when they took up the rent campaign.

After the last attack nine men lost their lives.

Three women, 16 youths and 1 man were detained. They are Mrs Ngemntu, Mrs Pieter, Mrs Ntongana and Mr Madlavu. Mr Madlavu's house was also burned down.

On April 4, women marched to Guguletu police station to demand the immediate release of those detained. They were told that the detainees were being interrogated in connection with the deaths of nine men.

They appeared in court on April 7 and were charged with murder, arson and public violence. The case was postponed until April 15. But on April 9 some of them appeared quietly in Langa. The case was postponed till the 30th April.

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UWO, Women's Front form one organisation



MEMBERS of the executive committees of UWO and Women's Front and guest speakers at the launch of the new organisation.

# WOMEN UNITE

"THE United Women's Congress is a baby born out of struggle. And we all know that no baby is born without pain."

This is what a speaker said at the conference last month where the United Women's Organisation (UWO) and the Women's Front Organi-

sation (WFO) decided to become one organisation.

The decision to unite was taken after months of discussion, according to members

of the organisation.

Speakers at the launching conference, held at St. Francis Centre in Langa on Saturday March 21, included Helen Joseph and Sister Bernard Ncube, president of the Federation of Transvaal Women.

Sister Bernard Ncube of the Federation of Transvaal Women opened the conference with an inspiring call on women to commit themselves.

"We must not delay our struggle over petty differences. This is an historic day for women in the Western Cape and in South Africa.

"In the different provinces women are saying we want freedom in our lifetime. We must say it together, all the women of South Africa.

"We must unite, strike together and stand firm as a rock," she said.

"Mothers must be prepared for action on a national basis. We will not stop until we have the keys to the people's parliament," she said.

Helen Joseph spoke about the importance of unity and the Federation of South African Women which organised in the 1950s.

## ECC cleans up for peace in the townships

HELPING to build a children's home, cleaning up polluted rivers, . . . these are all part of the activities organised by the End Conscription Committee in their "Working for a Just Peace" campaign.

"The ECC believes that the activities of the SADF cannot be seen as 'national service'. Facing township residents over the barrel of a gun can never build peace in this country" an ECC member said.

"ECC is trying to show what real 'national service' is, by organising volunteers to do work that will really benefit the people of South Africa.

"All over South Africa, volunteers are signing up to help with health projects, child care, environmental projects and many others.

- "In Cape Town, we will be:—
- Gardening at the Bruce Duncan Home for Children
  - Helping old people and retarded people
  - Cleaning up polluted rivers and beaches
  - Painting murals
  - Teaching people to drive"

Anyone who is interested in participating can phone Paula (47-9170) or Alistair (47-7181).



ECC members outside St George's Cathedral in Cape Town. The banner was stolen when ECC members were assaulted by four unidentified men

## Usekiwe umbutho wamakhosikazi

UMBUTHO wamakhosikazi iAtlantis Womens Organisation uye wamiselwa ngokusemthethweni ngomhla we6th ka April ku 1986. Abantu bebemalunga ne200 abebelapho. Phakathi kwezithethi ebezilapho bekukho usihlalo wombutho wamakhosikazi oyi United Womens Congress.

Uye wahlaba ikhwelo kumakhosikazi alo lonke eli ukuba mawamanyane lwe idabi lamandla abantu. Uye wathiakunakubakho nkululeko ukuba amakhosikazi ascinezelekile. Uye wamemeza kuma khosikazi ukuba mawaququzele amise imibutho yamakhosikazi ukuze akwazi ukulungiselela ukumiswa kwe Federation yase Cape.

Owayesakuba ngunobhala we UDF u Cheryl Caroulus wongeze ngelithi omama ngabona bacinezelekileyo ikwangabo abajongene neengxaki zamakhaya. ithe ke lentombi ingu Cheryl amakhosikazi onke aseAtlantis uwanqwenelela impumelelo ekumiseleni umbutho wabo wamakhosikazi.

## New women's organisation in Atlantis

THE Atlantis Womens Organisation was launched on Sunday April 6 at a meeting attended by about 200 women.

The spirit was very high and among the speakers was a chairperson of the United Womens Congress

Noma-India Mfeketho, and former UDF secretary Cheryl Carolus.

Noma-India called on women to unite and fight for people's power. She said there could be no liberation if women were still oppressed.

She called on women to organise and form a strong organisation and work towards forming a Cape Federation of Women.

Cheryl Carolus said women were the most oppressed and they were under paid.

She said women had to cope with problems at work and at home. She paid tribute to the women of Atlantis for the step forward they had taken.

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# TUCSA UNDER FIRE

## Bus union breaks away

WORKERS at City Tramways have decided to break away from the conservative Trade Union Council of South Africa (TUSCA).

The workers, who belong to the Tramways and Omnibus Workers' Union, took this decision at the union's AGM recently. They re-affirmed their decision at a meeting two weeks later after it appeared as if members of the executive refused to put the decision into effect.

This is a big blow for the pro-government TUSCA, who plan to hold their AGM in Cape Town, in September.

The workers also decided to disaffiliate from the National Council of Transport Workers.

Several changes to the constitution were made at a special meeting held on Sunday April 20. An old clause which made provision for a white treasurer was changed.

Workers said they were dissatisfied with TUSCA. "We don't know Tucsa. We never see Tucsa. Only the officials go to the executive meetings.

"We don't even get reports of these meetings.

"We will also save a lot of money now that we have disaffiliated. Workers paid about R2 000 in affiliation fees and lots more in conference fees to TUSCA.

"Tucsa is not a union for the workers. It has many workers as members, but it is not controlled by the workers. It is controlled by white collar workers who are mainly middleclass," one of the workers said.

The workers said they received no support from Tucsa last year when they were beaten up by police during a march to the union's office to complain about the lack of protection in unrest areas.



Railway workers at a meeting in Langa to discuss their demands.

## Rail workers angry over hostel food

A GROUP of railway workers from Langa have won a court battle against their bosses, the South African Transport Services (SATS).

The workers had complained about the bad food in the hostels and the money deducted for food.

They also went on a boycott of the hostel food for nine months, but still money was deducted from their wages.

The SATS deducted R39 a month while the workers' contracts stated that they had to deduct only R17.

The court ruled that the bosses had to pay back the workers' money.

One worker said: "We were robbed of our money. They took much more than they were supposed to take for food and hostel fees.

"We took our complaints to the Black Staff Association, the internal union, but they did not do anything.

"We then decided to fight the bosses on our own. We approached sympathetic people in the community to help us, and then we took the railways to court.

"Now we are considering starting our own union," he said.

EARLY in March this year, a dispute started between Beaufort West construction workers and their boss.

The workers were employed by a construction company called Triple J and were

## Triple J Strike

busy building a school in the KwaMandlenkosi township.

The workers, who started building the school from late February, were paid weekly.

In early March, the workers walked off the site because of the low wages they were getting.

The workers claimed they were promised 92c

an hour, but when they started working they were only paid 67c an hour.

The workers approached management who refused to increase their low wages.

The workers want to take legal action

## National Support for Dairy Strikers

FOOD workers all over South Africa are showing their support for the striking workers at the Dairybelle plant in Kleinvele (near Johannesburg).

The strike started when the union (Food and Canning Workers Union) was busy with wage negotiations. The workers wanted the same wage negotiations for the Kleinvele plant, and for the two dairybelle depot's in Pretoria and Turfontein. However the bosses refused. The workers decided that this was another attempt of the bosses to divide them.

The workers went on strike on March 28. They were sitting in at the plant, but the bosses got a court interdict to get them removed.

They returned to work two days later - and found scab labour at the factory. They decided to strike for one more day to punish the bosses.

When they returned to work, the bosses called the police to arrest 3 shop stewards. The police later found that they could not charge the workers and released them.

But the other workers were extremely angry. They

decided to continue the strike, and workers from the two depots joined them.

The workers also sent representatives to workers at other ICS factories (Dairybelle is an ICS company) in Bloemfontein, Johannesburg and Cape Town. The ICS factories are organised by the Retail and Allied Workers Union, Sweet Food and Allied Workers union and Food and Canning Workers Union which are all COSATU affiliates.

Workers at each factory demanded from their bosses that the Dairybelle workers be reinstated, and that their demands are won. In Bloemfontein, where the ICS bosses were meeting, workers held 2 hour work stoppages in five factories. Workers in other factories have threatened to strike if the workers do not win their demands.

"This shows us the power of united action" a union member said. "COSATU has really helped the workers stand together - we can see how strong we can be when workers from different factories and different towns unite".

## Cleaners to lose jobs

LOUISA NGQOLA, 45, has three children and two grandchildren and no other income than the R218 a month she earns as a cleaner in Cape Town.

From the end of April, she will be losing that income also.

Mrs Ngqola, of Crossroads, is one of about 50 cleaners working for the Berco cleaning company, who will be losing their jobs.

The Domestic Workers Association is trying to help the workers keep their jobs.

A DWA spokesperson said they were told the management of Berco was retrenching staff because they had "lost some contracts".

"But the people will be put off at places where they still have contracts. We don't understand how they can put off people like this," she said.

Mrs Ngqola works at the Union Castle Building every morning from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. In the afternoon, from 4.30 to 8.30, she works at the Cape Town Civic Centre.

"I sometimes go home in between my shifts, but most of the time I can't afford it so I just stay in Town and wander around. I hardly see my children. I leave home at about 4.30 every morning and get home at 10.30 every night.

Mrs Ngqola, a widow, said she was the only one working in her family.

"I feel very sad about losing my job. I have no husband to help me.

"Already the money we get is little. Now we will have no money at all.

"In my heart I'm

asking: Who is going to get my job, because they will still need people to clean at the Civic Centre and the Union Castle Building."

Mrs Ngqola said cleaning offices was tough work.

"I always said I wanted to work one shift a day, from six o'clock in the morning to four o'clock in the afternoon, but this was refused. They said staff was short.

"I told them about the struggle at Crossroads, the fighting, that it was bad for us to get home in the late hours of night. But they did not listen to us."

Mrs Ngqola said she spent about two rand a day on transport. She would spend more if she went home in between her shifts every day.

"I take a taxi from Crossroads to Langa and then a train from Langa to Cape Town.

"At night I take the 9.03 - train at Cape Town station and then get a taxi at Nyanga Station. I normally get home by 10.30," she said.

Other cleaners spoken to said they suffered the same as Mrs Ngqola. All the cleaners said they earned the same pay.

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"PEOPLE'S justice is part of People's Power"

This is what Raymond Suttner told a UCT law conference this month. He explained that people's power was very different from ungovernability.

"If an area is ungovernable, no one has control. But with the growth of people's power, the people are beginning to govern themselves. In many areas, the people's organisations are taking over institutions that used to be run by the government — such as creches, first aid centres, parks and so on.

### Police seen as enemies

"The development of people's justice is a very important part of people's power. Most people do not believe in the police, or the courts. They do not see these things as helping them in any way. In fact, they see the police and courts as enemies of the people.

Now, when people have problems with crime, or family quarrels they do not go and lay a charge at the police station. They go to the people's organisations — the civics, or the street committees, or the UDF.

"In townships all over South Africa — particularly in the Transvaal, and Eastern Cape, the people's organisations are finding ways of dealing with quarrels and crime. In some areas, they have set up people's courts, or people's advisory centres, as they are sometimes called."

"But we do not see these things as working like the government's courts. They are very different," a community leader told Mr Suttner.

Mr Suttner said that the "people's courts" are different from the government courts in four important ways:—

- They are created by people's organisations, and are completely responsible to the people of the community. They cannot do anything that the people would not approve of.
- They do not have this difficult "legal" language that nobody

# People's Justice

## Challenging the Apartheid Courts



The South African legal system has been used to oppress people for years. Now the people are finding their own ways of dealing with crime - and building a new system of People's Justice.

understands. Everybody follows what is happening, and takes part.

- There is no all powerful judge, or prosecutor. Everyone has a fair chance to explain their case.
- They do not punish offenders. They try to make people understand the wrongness of their actions.

This last point is a very im-

portant part of the People's Justice. "We understand that crime is because of apartheid," a community leader said. "We cannot punish someone for stealing because apartheid has made him poor, and hungry, and unconcerned about his fellow human beings."

"If somebody steals, first we make him give back what he has

stolen. Then we explain why stealing will not solve our problems of hunger and poverty. We educate him about why there is poverty, and how we can work together to solve it.

"Our biggest concern is that our people can live in peace together, and can give their attention to fighting our real enemies — oppression and exploitation.

Mr Suttner said that this was

what made People's Justice different from the so-called "Kangaroo Courts". In these courts, the youth are trying to rule the people with fear. They threaten to beat them if they do not support the struggle. But they do not explain WHY they must support the struggle.

But through people's justice, the leaders do not frighten the people. They help people understand their problems. Then they support the struggle because they can see it is right — not because they are afraid.

The people's organisations have done something that the apartheid government could never do. They have greatly reduced the crime rate in the townships. All over, people are saying, "Now we can walk the streets at night with no fear." The crime rate has been lessened through the people's courts, and through gangsters and people in shebeens being asked to give up their guns and knives.

"Of course, there are some problems. Some people abuse their power — particularly the youth. But in areas where the older residents are involved, there are very few problems.

Even some of the police are recognising the power of People's Justice. In the Eastern Cape, if residents go the police office with the complaints, the police tell them to "Go to Jack" (a UDF leader), or to go to the area committees. This is because the police know that they cannot do anything to solve the problem.

### People's Power

The creation of people's justice is an important new step on the road to people's power. In the words of an Eastern Cape pamphlet:

"We are no longer prepared to wait for Botha to make changes. We are taking our future into our hands. Democracy is not something that will happen on the day of liberation.

It is something that we must learn, and develop NOW. The historic task of building a new society has now begun.

## A look at the Regional Services Councils

# New Apartheid puppets

INCREASING resistance to apartheid by the majority of South African citizens has forced the government to try and make it appear as if blacks are being given a say in the running of the country, while at the same time making sure that the white minority remains in power.

The tricameral parliament introduced in 1984 was one of the systems the State created to give the impression that people other than whites were being given a say in decisions taken by the central government.

Now it is trying to do the same thing at a local level.

### com. council - failure

Previous attempts to "include" blacks in local government through management committees and community councils have been a complete failure because people have realised that these bodies are powerless and fall far short of the people's demand for a share in government through one person one vote.

The government has now come up with a new plan.

It is going to create new "multiracial" councils which will serve regions, rather than just a single city or town.

The regional council in the Western Cape, for instance, will

include Cape Town, the townships, other municipalities like Stellenbosch, Bellville and Kraaifontein and neighbouring farming areas.

### RSC's - little Power

The RSC will provide services to all the communities within the boundaries but will have very little power — the National Party and its collaborators in the tricameral parliament will have final control over the RSC.

Within the various regions, the government will divide communities of various races into many small local authorities — similar to the white city and town councils which exist at the moment.

In black areas where no councils exist, the management committees and community councils will play the same role as town councils and divisional councils in white areas.

### Appointed by Govt.

In areas where there are no management committees, the government will appoint them and there will be no elections until 1988.

Each of the racially-defined authorities will appoint representatives with voting rights on the Regional Service Council (RSC). The people within the areas will have no say in who represents



their interests on the RSC.

The Administrator of the Cape Province — who is a government official — will appoint the chairman of the RSC.

The number of votes given to each local authority represented on the RSC will depend on the amount of money each of these areas spend on services — like electricity, water and sewerage — which they will buy from the RSC.

This means that the poorer black areas — many of which are not connected to these services — will have very little say in what happens on the regional council.

The rich white areas will therefore make final decisions which will affect the whole region.

All the claims made by the government about the benefits of the RSCs have been contradicted by the reality of the new system.

The government said the RSC would give people of all races a say in local government and that much of the power which the government now holds over local authorities would be transferred to the people.

### No consultation

The truth is:

• the whole system has been designed without consulting the people.

• the RSC cannot make decisions which go against the government's apartheid policies.

• the government can over-rule any decision taken by the RSC.

• the government and the ministers in the tricameral parliament will dictate the form, the nature and the functions of the RSC and the local authorities.

The government said the RSC would lead to the redistribution of wealth from richer to poorer areas.

The truth is:

• the RSC will cost so much to run that there will be no money left over to develop poor areas.

• whites will hold the power in the RSC and are unlikely to agree to giving up their wealth to help poorer areas.

### Poor must Pay

• money raised to run the RSC will come from taxes on businesses. In the end these taxes will be passed on to the consumer. Poorer people will have to pay more for goods, Businesses will have to pay tax on the number of people they employ and it is likely that management will re-trench staff to avoid having to pay high tax.

Many people including politicians, academics and community leaders have rejected the RSCs as another form of puppet government designed to fool people into thinking they have more power.

### Govt. - more control

In the end, the government will have even more control at the local level and it will be even more difficult for people to organise against their oppression if they take part in this undemocratic system.



ADVICE

# Breastfed babies

TO bottle feed a baby will cost you R30 to R40 for the first month for the milk powder alone.

Breast milk is the cheapest and most perfect food for a baby. It is always the right strength and it is easy - there is no fuss with sterilising feeding bottles. Mothers often worry about breast feeding. These are some of the questions they ask.

*Is there enough milk in my breasts the first few days after birth?*

For the first few days your breasts make a special clear sticky liquid, called colostrum. It contains enough protein to satisfy your baby. It also protects your child against many diseases. It is better NOT to give your child a bottle at this time because the child will get confused.

Make sure that your

baby takes your whole nipple and the dark area around the nipple into his mouth. If he doesn't, he will not suck the milk out properly and his anxious sucking will make your nipples sore.

*How do I know that my milk is enough?*

You can be sure that your baby gets enough if he is happy and satisfied. It is the sucking of the child which stimulates your breasts to make more milk. So, if you give the child a bottle in between, he will suck less on the breasts and your milk will also get less.

*How often should I feed my baby?*

It is best not to stick to a strict timetable. In the first few weeks, the child will wake often to feed. He can only take small amounts at a time. Later on he will settle into a feeding pattern

## POSITIONS FOR RELAXED BREAST FEEDING



Choose a really comfortable position for breast feeding to help you relax and enjoy it. Some mothers like to lie down. Others sit with their feet up. You can use pillows to support the weight of the baby so that your arms don't feel tired.

that will make life easier for you.

*I'll have to go back to work soon, is it worth starting breast feeding?*

Yes, every drop of breast milk is worth giving! Some working mothers even continue to breast feed. While at

work they press out their milk and at night and early in the morning they breast feed.

Workers should stand together and demand crèches so that mothers can feed their children during the day as well. Get your union to take up this

issue with the employers.

*Where can I get help when I have problems with breast feeding?*

There is a 24-hour telephone service from the Breast Feeding Association. Phone 021-668364 for advice. Good luck.

# Help for battered women

MIRIAM has been married to her husband Alex for six years. To their friends and families, they seem to be happy. But Miriam is an unhappy woman because she is a battered woman.

When they first got married her husband was kind and gentle to her. But her husband seemed to change after only a few years of marriage. His boss has been treating him badly at the workplace and forcing him to work overtime. He could not complain otherwise he would have been fired.

Alex started to become moody when he got home from work. One night, after returning from being out with his friends, he was angry that his supper was cold. He hit Miriam and beat her up quite badly. Miriam was relieved the next day that there were no bruises or marks on her face that would have shown she had been battered. Her parents were coming to have lunch and she did not want them to know that she had been beaten.

## Domestic affair

Alex continued to batter her. But she still loved him. She did not know what to do. She once went to the Police station after her husband had beaten her up very badly one night. She had a big cut above her eye and a bruise on her cheek. But the Police told her it was a "domestic affair" and that they could not help.

She did not know what to do. Miriam felt too weak and helpless to leave her husband. She had no money and was dependent on her husband to support her. She felt she could not tell her friends and family that her husband battered her. Miriam did not know what to do.

Miriam's problem is not unusual. Researchers have found that battering happens in about 25 to 50 percent of all families. In Mitchells Plain battering was the second highest crime reported in 1981/82.

## Low opinion

We can explain battering by looking at the way boys and girls are brought up in society. Boys are expected to grow up and become fathers who are the bosses of the family. They are supposed to be in control of the family. Girls are brought up to be mothers who are quiet and who listen to their husbands.

Sometimes the husband may have a low opinion of himself or may be frustrated. Because of these and other problems, the man may batter his wife or girl friend. He does this to show that he is in charge and in control of his wife or girl friend. He might do this because he might not be in control of other areas of his life, like in the workplace for example.

Many women are battered like Miriam. If you have a problem like Miriam's you could phone Rape Crisis at 479762. They have trained people who could help you.

# Changes to influx control

In the last issue of GRASSROOTS, there was a story on "The hated dompas". This told of the way influx control is used to stop Africans from living permanently in town. But some of the facts in the story were not up to date.

## WHAT HAS CHANGED IN INFLUX CONTROL?

Section 10 (i) of the Black Urban Areas Act of 1945 was changed last year to make it a little easier for Africans to settle permanently in town. What do these changes mean?

*Section 10 (i) (a)* used to let you stay in the town if you had lived there since birth.

10 (i) (a) now lets you stay in a town if you have lived there OR ANY OTHER TOWN OUTSIDE THE "HOMELANDS" since birth.

So, for example, if you were born in Stellenbosch and have a 10 (i) (a) stamp to stay there, you can now have this transferred to Cape Town. BUT BEWARE: the Administration Board will ask for proof that you have a job and a

**IF you need help with getting a stamp in your pass book, go to the Black Sash Advice Office, 5 Long St., Mowbray (opposite Mowbray Station). They are very helpful. They are open from Monday to Friday. Phone: 69-3150.**

house in Cape town before they will change your stamp.

*Section 10mx (i) (b) of the Urban Areas Act* has had more important changes. This section USED to say: You can live in town after you have worked as a migrant for one employer for ten years, or worked for different employers for 15 years.

NOW, Section 10 (i) (b) means you can get a stamp which says you can stay in town if you have worked, or lived legally in any town outside the homelands for 10 years. You must also still be living legally in this town when you make your application.

FOR EXAMPLE: Mr Mbusa has worked as a migrant for one boss for five years in Port Elizabeth. Then he worked for

someone else for 2 years in Worcester, and for another employer for 3 years in Cape Town. So, altogether he has worked for 10 years in towns outside the homelands. He can get Section 10 (i) (b) rights to stay in Cape Town - because that is where he was working when the ten years was finished. But he cannot get rights to stay in PE, or Worcester.

Another change is that you can leave your employer for up to six months, and still get Section 10 (i)(b). BUT ONLY IF YOU GO BACK TO THE SAME EMPLOYER. If you change employers, you can only have a break of one month.

You can also change your 10(i)(b) rights from one town to another.

## SAME OLD STORY

These changes make it a little bit easier for migrant workers who were born in a town outside the homelands, or worked in a town for a long time.

But influx control is still used by the bosses and government to keep workers divided. The only solution is to scrap pass laws completely, and to end the homeland system.

## Workmen's Compensation Award

THE General Workers' Union Aid Service would like to contact MR JOHN MABI, who used to stay at 5 Cola Rd., Nyanga East. Mr Mabi was working for Kamish & Sons Electrical Contractors, Gatesville, when he was injured on duty.

We have a cheque for Mr Mabi from the Workmen's Compensation Fund, but we do not know where to find him. If you know him, please tell him to come to our office at Benbow Building, Beverley St., Athlone, or phone us at 637-0870.

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# grassrootsSPORT

## Hanover Park Youth holds Fun Run

THE Hanover Park Youth had a very successful fun run recently. About 200 entries were registered. A large group of people took part in the fun run on Saturday April 12. They started running from the parking lot of a big supermarket in the area. The youth is a branch of the Cape Youth Congress. Donations of oranges, cold-drinks, toys and pens were collected. The toys were used as prizes for the winners in the under-15 category and the pens for the winners in the senior category. Preparation for the fun run started three months ago, with the election of a fun run committee. They had to organise the route, liaise with the council, civic, traffic department, as well as the St. Johns first aid team. Raffles and donation lists were drawn up and filled and the youth elected marshalls, made posters, flyers and other advertising for the fun. Invitations were sent to other organisations and sports clubs.

“There was great competition among the runners and this certainly helped to make the fun run a successful fundraising effort. “This was mainly due to the hard work, sacrifice and commitment of all the people in Hanover Park Youth Youth. The next fundraising effort is certainly something to look forward to,” a member of the youth said.

## New calls for Stofile's release as rebels come to SA

# No to rebels

NEW calls have been made for the release from detention of the Reverend Arnold Makhenkesi Stofile, who was central in stopping the All Blacks tour to South Africa last year. The calls come as a team of rebel New Zealand rugby players prepare to tour South Africa after mysteriously leaving their country.

It is believed that each of the players who are “amateurs” may earn up to R120000 for playing against South Africa, who have been virtually banned from any international competition. Murphy Morobe, acting national publicity secretary of the United Democratic Front, said the presence of the rebels “smacks of

utter selfishness on their part”. “Their flagrant disregard for the people's will – those here and in New Zealand – has turned them into mercenaries colluding with the apartheid government. “It is significant that as they will be playing on apartheid fields, Rev. Stofile is still languishing in detention,” Mr Morobe said.



‘Did you hear what he said? Something about being dictated to by a minority.’

Rev. Stofile, the UDF's Border publicity secretary and president of the Victoria East Rugby Union, was detained by Ciskeian police on March 12. An urgent application has been made to the Ciskeian Supreme Court to stop police from assaulting him and there has been a call for a stayaway in the Border region to protest at his detention. Mr Frank van der Horst, president of the South African Council on Sport (SACOS), said: “The rebel mercenary rugby players from New Zealand are clearly collaborating with the violent minority regime and are playing for blood money while the rightless blacks are brutally repressed under the fascist jackboot by the police and army.”

# Gearing up for the World Cup

EVERY four years, the cream of international football teams gather for two months of intense competition, in the World Cup. Ever since the 1982 finals in Spain, all the world's football-playing nations have been playing each other in qualifying matches, for only 26 teams are allowed to play in this year's tournament in Mexico. Although soccer is clearly the national sport in South Africa, apartheid prevents us from playing in the world cup. We will only be allowed to play once apartheid has been demolished. The world cup always produces many surprises. In-form teams suddenly lose their form in the face of the high tension and drama of the world's most important football matches. Less highly rated teams play far above themselves, inspired by the highly charged atmosphere. And there are some teams who always turn it on for the world cup, no matter how badly

they have been performing in the qualifiers. All this makes it difficult to make predictions. Most experts predicted that Brazil and the Soviet Union would be the major contenders in 1982, yet neither even made the final. Old favourites like West Germany and Italy had been turning in dismal performances in the qualifiers, yet made it into an extremely exciting final, won 3-1 by Italy. Teams from Africa are usually considered ‘pushovers’ by the more established teams, yet Algeria was the surprise of last year's tournament: they shocked the world by beating West Germany. The other great surprise was among the British teams – while the more glamorous Scotland and England faltered badly, little Northern Ireland provided the shocks by beating Spain and qualifying for the final stages. Predictions for Mexico are difficult – the South American

teams will have the advantage of being accustomed to playing in the intense heat which is expected. Of these teams, Brazil must stand as the strong favourite, despite some poor performances recently. They can still call on some of the world's best players – Falcao, Socrates, Zico etc. – and will be the team to beat. Uruguay have surpassed Argentina as the other major challenger from South America, and are expected to do well. Among the European teams, it is difficult to identify clear challengers. 1982 finalists, Italy and West Germany, are both out of form, and unlikely to produce the flair necessary to win the cup. Neither England nor Scotland are likely to make it to the late stages. The challenge from the socialist countries is led by the Soviet Union, who remains one of the giants of European football.

Poland reached the semi-finals in both 1978 and 1982, and they will present a strong challenge once again. Europe's strongest challengers are likely to be France, and a surprise prediction, Denmark. France reached the semi-finals in 1978 and 1982, and won the European Championship in 1984. They still have a brilliant squad which plays with great attacking flair – similar in style to Brazil (a final between these two would be most exciting). Denmark are a tiny football nation, but they have produced a brilliant crop of footballers, who star in the English, Italian and German leagues. The Danes are likely to provide the surprise challenge in Mexico. All in all, we can look forward to a fascinating two months of quality football on our TV screens, and to the day when we South Africans have eradicated apartheid, and can also compete in the world cup.

Mr van der Horst said many anti-apartheid rugby administrators and players are arbitrarily thrown into jail under the emergency regulations and many were shot and killed by the police. “Whilst meetings are banned in South Africa and we are living in an undeclared State of Emergency, these mercenary rugby players are making political propaganda for apartheid sport. The filthy lucre they earn comes from the sweat and blood of the oppressed and down-trodden blacks in our country. “These rebels have sold their souls to the violent devil of apartheid,” Mr van der Horst said. Both the UDF and SACOS condemned the tour in the strongest terms. “The rebels and their hosts must bear full responsibility for the mass anger which their presence here will generate,” Mr Morobe said.



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