

ENVIRONMENT

1975 - 19~~8~~78

HANSARD 10

Q. Columnno 696-97
15/4/75

Hakea in Western Province

*14 Dr F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) (a) How many hectares of mountain and veld in the Western Province are infested with hakea and (b) what steps have been taken by his Department to eradicate hakea and combat its spread;
- (2) whether these steps have been successful; if not, what further steps are to be taken.

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (Reply laid upon Table with leave of House).

- (1) (a) Approximately 120 000 ha, of which about 80 000 ha are classified as heavily infested.
- (b) (i) By having hakea declared as a weed for the purposes of the Weeds Act, 1937 (Act 42 of 1937), with the result that owners and occupiers of land are required to eradicate the weed.

(ii) By obtaining the co-operation of the Department of Forestry to eradicate hakea on State-owned land and under its control

(iii) By undertaking research into possible methods of controlling the spread of hakea biologically.

(2) Yes, on land which was treated intensively mechanically. Research into biological control measures has produced promising results.

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HANSARD 10

Question
Write on both sides of the paper

15/4/75

Prosecutions in Cape Town magisterial
area in terms of Atmospheric Pollution
Prevention Act

*15 Dr A I BORAINÉ asked the
Minister of Police:

Whether any persons or bodies within
the Cape Town magisterial area have
been prosecuted for failure to comply
with notices issued in terms of section 17
of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention
Act, in respect of nuisances caused by
smoke or other products of combustion;
if so, (a) what persons or bodies, (b) when
and (c) with what result

†The MINISTER OF POLICE:

No, not according to Police records.

Q. Column 697

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Curb on illegal labour

13/4/75

ARGUS

16/4/75

The Arms Parliamentary Staff

OPPOSITION Senators yesterday attacked proposed powers in a new Bill which would give Government officials the right to enter factory premises and investigate offences involving the illegal employment of Black labour.

The proposed powers are contained in the Physical Planning and Utilisation of Resources Amendment Bill which has not

IN THE SENATE

yet been debated in the Assembly.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator H. F. B. Oelrich, warned that if the powers were used it would 'frighten off industrialists.'

He said his party was in favour of most of the Bill's provisions but would oppose it because of one clause which allowed the Secretary of the Department of Planning and of the Environment to ap-

point officials who could investigate, without a warrant, offences involving the illegal use of Black labour.

Senator D. Worrall (Nat) said the Opposition had made a 'mushy' attack on the Bill. It had based its argument on the basis that the Bill was ideologically inspired, that it was unconcerned about industrial and economic development and the

suggestion that the State was playing the role of Big Brother.

In fact, the Bill would give effect to the worldwide concern over environment, more sophisticated techniques of planning and the fundamental effect of decentralisation.

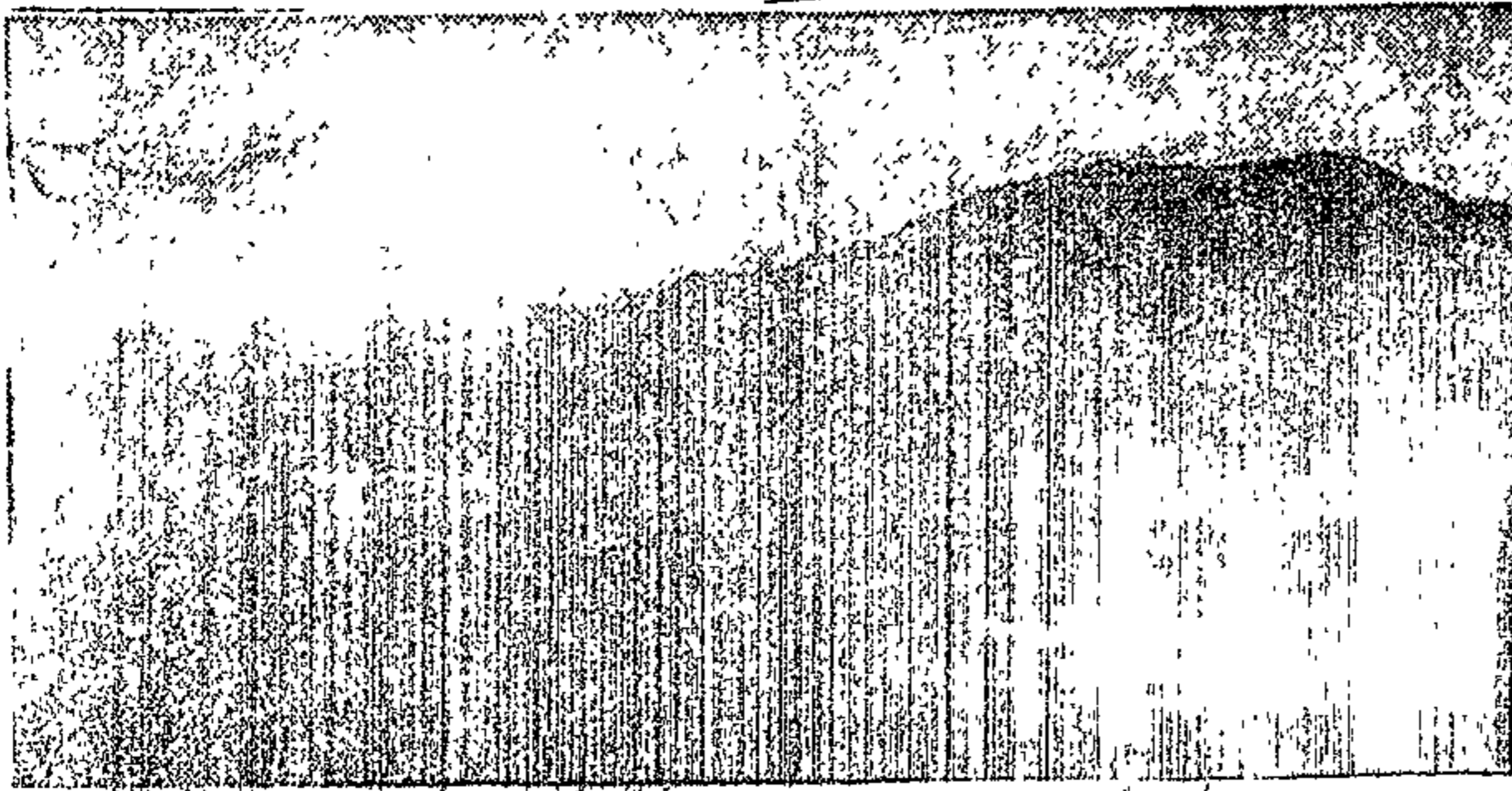
The Minister of Planning and of the Environment, Mr J. J. Loots said when he introduced the second reading debate on the Bill, it had not been felt necessary to have an inspectorate when the original Act was passed in 1967.

technical difficulties had been no problem. The Attorney would not prosecute without documents, and always documents. Inspectors did not have authority to seize documents.

WITCHAMOUNT

It was not intended to go on a witch hunt against industrialists, but use of officials to investigate only where the department believed serious violations were taking place.

- ① 62
- ② 200
- ③ 206
- ④ 57



'No glut' in TV set market

John Cundill,
TV Correspondent

STAR 28/4/75

Mining attention on two key dune forest areas off the Zululand coast could spark off an international row.

South African conservationists are determined to put a stop to titanium-mining plans at Mapelana, just below St Lucia estuary, and at King Oscar Hill, south of Sordwana Bay.

They have called in aid from the world's most powerful outdoor organisation, the American-based Sierra Club with more than 3-million members, and the influential World Environmental Resources Council, based in

Mining interests are moving in on two forests in South Africa — Mapelana, just the Zululand coast, and King Oscar Hill, discovery by geologists shows the Zululand titanium-bearing minerals. Now conservationists are opposing the forests. Peter Croeser of CARE, who

Television manufacturers have denied that the market is choked with unsold sets.

Today, another member of "the big six," Barlows, fully endorsed a statement issued at the weekend by other leading manufacturers and retailers.

Switzerland, to bring pressure to bear on at least one of the American interests in the mining ventures.

On the home front the Minister of Mines, Dr Piet Koornhof, has called for a meeting with conservationists, mining interests

and Government departments in Cape Town tomorrow.

On a private visit to Mapelana, site of the world's highest indigo-forested sand dune, Minister expressed personal dismay at mining interests

The statement denied that there was a glut of sets on the market, and added that even now some models were not available in the required quantities as orders had exceeded supplies.

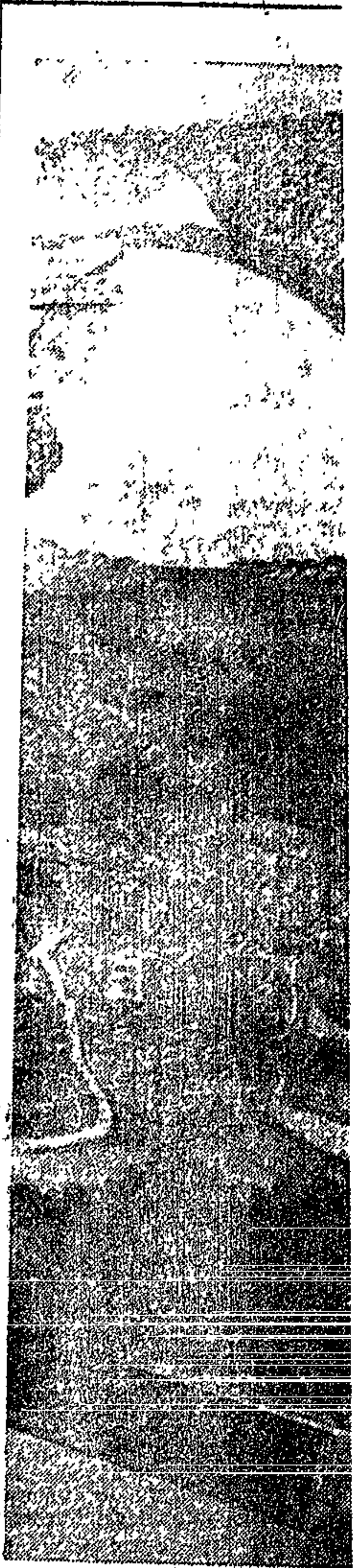
After conceding that sales had been slow to take off, a spokesman for one of the six said: "There is all the difference in the world between saying sales are slow and saying that the market is choked with sets."

ADJUSTMENT

The spokesman said a glut was not possible because as soon as manufacturers realised that sales would be slow they adjusted production plans.

Mr Morris Maram, who runs a specialist radio and TV appliance shop in Johannesburg, said today he was arranging five to six sales a day.

"If business stays this way, I'll be perfectly happy," he said. "I've already sold out of two models and can't get any more."



Ninety-five-year old Mr. Jonatha

① 210
② 107
③ 62

440

MASSIVE OIL SLICKS HEAD FOR BEACHES

Mercury Reporter 29/5/75

MILLIONS of litres of oil last night threatened Durban's North beach, Anstey beach and Brighton beach.

The oil was spilt at the single buoy mooring, allegedly from the 107 000-ton tanker, Mobil Petroleum.

In two separate slicks, it was being driven towards the shore by strong south-westerly winds.

From Cape Town, the Secretary for Transport, Mr. J. Driessen, said: "All available anti-pollution craft have been ordered to attend to the oil-slicks."

His department would make every effort "to bring to justice the culprit responsible for this ecological disaster," he added.

"It is shocking that something like this can happen, and once we have pinpointed those who have been negligent a file will be handed to the Attorney-General."

The Mobile Petroleum did not respond last night to numerous attempts to contact her by radio.

A new single buoy mooring was launched at Durban on Tuesday and will be towed to a position off Reunion in 10 days to replace the existing one, responsible for many pollution incidents.

BLACKOUTS

The strong winds, with some gusts of up to 83km/h recorded, also caused power cuts in Durban when tree branches were blown on to power lines.

The winds started at 8.30 a.m. and blew throughout the day, averaging between 32 km/h and 48 km/h.

Power supplies in the Venice Road - Windermere Road area of Morningside were disrupted between 11 a.m. and 12.50 p.m. and at Kloof, on the Old Main Road near Cook's Farm, between 2.05 and 3 p.m.

Mr. D. H. Fraser, Durban's Chief Electrical Engineer, said supplies were disrupted by

branches damaging overhead lines.

Last night a short power cut blacked out the Currie and Florida Roads areas. Mr. Fraser said this followed an overload on one of the high voltage circuits due to the cold snap. The cut

lasted from 5.40 to 6.30 p.m.

Port and air traffic was not disrupted.

The Durban Weather Office expected the wind to drop by late last night, although a precautionary gale warning had been sent out.

'It won't make sense'

By a Staff Reporter

PRESERVATION of the ecologically valuable Langebaan lagoon 'will make no sense' while forward planning for a possible commercial harbour in Saldanha Bay existed, a leading environmentalist said today.

At the same time a member of the Provincial Council is pressing for the lagoon to be sealed off from the proposed harbour area and opened to the sea through a man-made channel to protect the area from tide-borne pollutants.

The lagoon — presently an unspoilt and ecologically valuable preserve of marine and bird life — will be declared a nature reserve in terms of a master plan for the development of the greater Saldanha industrial complex.

But the umbrella development plan announced by the Minister of Planning, Mr Jannie Loots, makes contingency plans to site a commercial harbour at the northern end of the lagoon if further growth demanded it.

FUGGLE

Professor Richard Fuggle, head of the University of Cape Town's School of Environmental Studies, said: 'I feel the declaration of this area as a nature reserve will be a positive step.

'But unfortunately a question mark hanging over it has not been removed because the possibility still exists that the whole scheme might be negated by the commercial harbour planned.'

Mr Loots said it was unlikely a commercial harbour in Saldanha Bay would be a viable proposition in the next 15 years, but it had to be included in forward planning.

62
ARGUS 18/6/75

If growth demands it, Langebaan lagoon will have a commercial harbour

Professor Fuggle said: 'The Government has indicated sympathy for not doing the harbour . . . but it will always be a question mark over the whole scheme.'

Dr Douglas Hey, chairman of an ecological committee set up by the Department of Planning to monitor the effects of development in the bay on the lagoon said the 'watch-dog' body would collect a data bank as an initial step to investigate isolating the lagoon from the proposed harbour area.

Much detailed information would be needed 'before we can even hazard a prediction as to whether it will be effective or not.' If these studies appeared to justify the heavy cost, a physical model could be built to simulate the proposal.

'WISHFUL'

Mr Kent Durr, MPC for Constantia who is pressing for the lagoon to be sealed off from latent pollutants, said: 'I think the plan for the lagoon is a step in the right direction.

'But it is wishful thinking if they believe they will be able to retain the lagoon without cutting it off from the rest of the bay.

'I am not happy about provision for a commercial harbour, but that is an inevitability we must accept.'

He said 'as a matter of priority' the Provincial Department of Nature Conservation should appoint a director specifically for the lagoon region.

'My idea was pooh-poohed as being over-ambitious but now they're seeing the logic of it,' Mr Durr said. 'A number of people have conceded it will be the only thing they can do.'

Cape Times Chief Reporter

SALDANHA. — The Minister of Planning, Mr J Loots, was applauded at a public meeting here yesterday when he said he intended using the powers he would be given under an act now before Parliament to designate Langebaan lagoon a nature reserve.

"Langebaan lagoon," he said, "is one of South Africa's most precious possessions in the ecological field, and we feel this is something well worth preserving."

Mr Loots was announcing acceptance of a master plan for the development of the greater Saldanha area. About 400 people at-

Lagoon to become a nature reserve

tended the meeting, held at the Military Academy here.

Mr Loots said an ecological committee under the chairmanship of Dr Douglas Hey, Director of Nature Conservation in the Cape, had been appointed to watch the effects of all development projects in Saldanha's environment, and that two of its recommendations had already been accepted. One of these concerned dredging opera-

tions which affected the lagoon.

Although provision was made on the master plan for a commercial harbour in the Donkergat area of Saldanha Bay, there was no reason for undue concern about this as it was a long-term provision which might eventually not be found necessary.

"The Railway administration," he added, "must be accommodated somewhere in this area. It is my opinion that the

future commercial harbour should be located in Saldanha Bay itself, but it is not possible at present to see how this is going to be worked out.

"Meanwhile it is necessary to reserve the Donkergat area for a commercial harbour, although this might not be a viable proposition for the next 15 years."

Mr Loots said he hoped the White and Coloured communities would show that together they could,

unaided, build up the Saldanha area. Although provision was made on the master plan for a small area for Africans, he hoped it would not be necessary to bring Africans into the area to augment the labour force.

He wanted to give an assurance that although a big new area was planned for Coloured people, with access to the sea, there would be no need to move those Coloured families already living in and around Saldanha.

Others speakers, representing Government departments and the Provincial Administration, outlined plans for improving water supplies, communications, educational and other facilities in the Saldanha area.

SA AN EXAMPLE TO WORLD — VORSTER

ARGUS

17/6/75 The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — If the time, money and energy spent on conserving the ecology was a criterion of civilisation, South Africans had the right to consider themselves civilised, the Prime Minister, Mr B. J. Vorster said here.

Mr Vorster was presented with a centenary medallion by the Port Elizabeth and District Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for introducing as Minister of Justice the Animal Protection Bill in 1962. He said South Africans had to ensure that in future people came to this country not only to see what had been done to preserve its plants and animals, but how harmony between its peoples had been achieved.

'South Africans will soon be able to hold their country up to the world as an example of a place where people of different opinions, races, cultures and languages live peacefully together,' he said.

BUSINESS

At another ceremony in Port Elizabeth, to open the sixth Rotary International District 232 annual conference, Mr Vorster said the world trend to blame the plight of underdeveloped countries on Western capitalism had reached such proportions that in the eyes of many it was a sin to run a business successfully.

'Democracy and free enterprise are on trial as never before and leaders in commerce and industry who are tempted to make excessive profits or run monopolies should heed this warning,' he said.

PROFITEERS

There were profiteers who abused the free enterprise system and laws controlling them had to be

enacted and continually revised.

Too many people used the facilities and freedom of democracy to break down the system.

'It is the right of a minority to work to become the majority provided such is by fair means and not by foul means, violence or blackmail,' Mr Vorster said.

'Those that shouted for the shackles to be done away which were most often those that allowed little freedom when they were in power,' he added.

Natal Mercury By BILL FAILL 17/6/75 (Zululand Shows Supply)
ALTHOUGH the controversy over mining operations in the Zululand coastal dunes has been muted for several weeks now, the issue is far from settled.

It seems clear from every angle that interference with coastal dunes is fraught with peril.

It is disastrous if destruction of natural vegetation is followed by inadequate measures to stabilise dunes, says Professor Trevor Steinke road sand-free.

The economic situation on the Zululand coast is quite clear. The mineral concentrations that matter occur between Richard's Bay and St. Lucia. These deposits represent the largest proven reserves of heavy minerals of this type in the world over a 2 000 hectare area.

cial advantages to the country of exploiting minerals in the Mapelane area might outweigh those of undisturbed nature conservation," Mr. Robertson quoted the Minister as saying.

The Minister, he says, backed this up with the ruling of the Depart-



THE threatened dunes of the Zululand coast. Can they be mined without irretrievable damage? Here NPB rangers study Lake St. Lucia.

of the University of Durban Westville.

From south of Perth on the west coast of Australia, Dr. E. A. F. Heydorn of Durban's Aquarium personally reports very deleterious developments.

Closer to home, and perhaps on a scale we can better comprehend, many commuters from Durban's northern suburbs will bear witness to the mess which resulted when vegetation was removed on Snell Parade.

Stability now reigns along this approach to town but for a very long time, Corporation lorries will be kept from the main 2 000-hectare area.

It is estimated that during the next 20 years, R2 000 million in foreign exchange could be earned, according to Mr. M. T. de Waal, general manager of the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa.

DISPUTE

Unfortunately, this is the area most disputed by the conservationists. The mature climax vegetation of the Mapelane Forest is said to be irreplaceable, an asset of both use and beauty.

The sensitive state of St. Lucia has been a topic for years now. Exposure of the dunes fringing the eastern shore and the Mlusi swamps could tilt the balance fatally, by allowing the spread of sand inland.

On the other hand, R2 000 million is at stake, with the northern limit of the mining area ending 24km south of Mapelane, according to Mr. de Waal.

SENTENCE

This limitation of area was not always the case, says Mr. T. C. Robertson, retired chairman of the Veld Trust, writing recently in an American magazine.

He reports that in 1972, the then Minister of Planning gave a verdict that was like a death sentence on Mapelane.

In the opinion of the Government, the financing of Mines which

was "not prepared to agree to the reservation of the Mapelane area or any part thereof as a nature reserve or as a botanical garden."

If this indeed was the attitude of the authorities at the outset, then we must indeed thank the conservationists for their efforts.

The official case now rests on the claim that landscape and vegetation can be fully restored after mining operations. This process is described by Mr. de Waal.

DREDGERS

The method of mining will be in accordance with a new technique perfected in Australia — that of using dredgers.

In the case of Richards Bay, it is proposed to build a series of dams in the dunes, 30 metres above sea level.

Two dredgers will pump the sand from the front of the dam to a concentration plant — also floating in the dam — where the heavy minerals will be extracted in the wet and the remaining sand — 90 percent of the original quantity — pumped to the rear of the dam.

"In such a way the dam will be eaten away from one side and filled on the other, thus forming a continuous operation in the dune area without any discharge to the sea or adjoining water courses."

Harbour debris menaces beach

(62) Shipping Reporter *Mercury* 16/7/75

AN UGLY mixture of oil, timber, plastic, tins and dispersant—the remains of a two-day slick in Durban harbour—drifted towards the open sea yesterday — and threatened the city's beaches.

While the vast majority of the fishermen on the North Pier cast their lines northwards — “We don't want to mess up our tackle in that channel slick” — the mixture moved seawards between the two piers.

Keith Plummer, the SAR&H pollution control officer for Durban harbour, admitted yesterday that the source of the oil pollution was unknown.

“The mess must have caused by a vessel in the port more than likely at night. We are simply unable to pinpoint the culprit.

“If we knew him, we would be too pleased to act and immediately call the police,” Mr. Plummer told me.

After reports of the oil slick had been received, dispersant was applied immediately on Monday morning. The biggest oil concentration was near the Point A berth.

Mr. Plummer agreed that the pollution could have been caused by a ship illegally cleaning its double bottom tanks and dumping the residue into the bay.

Meanwhile, some of the muck was reported to have reached Addington Beach late yesterday, and beach officials were hoping to be spared from north-easterly winds which could blow the whole lot on to the beach.

Cape coast rape slammed in Council

Cape Times 1/8/75

MR KENT DURR, MPC for Constantia, accused the Provincial Administration yesterday of allowing and even helping in the rape of parts of the Cape coast.

Mr Durr speaking in the no-confidence debate in the Provincial Council, said there were 42 000 vacant plots between Rooi Els and the Kei River and described the situation as scandalous.

He also accused Mr Frans Conradie, MEC in charge of local government, of supplying answers to questions put in the council that were "a few hundred percent wrong".

In a slashing attack on coastal development, Mr Durr said that in the past 10 years there had been a

rape by "the few" of the East Coast of epic proportions.

"We have witnessed a series of developments, many aided and abetted and certainly sanctioned by this province which collectively are the greatest acts of ecological and environmental vandalism ever perpetrated against our coastal land and the investing public."

He said that the blitz development had damaged many of our estuaries irrevocably. "I ask you why? Has it brought wealth to many or to the few?"

The unspoilt coast had been desecrated by the so-called planner in a "short orgy of frenetic profiteering". It had been an act out of keeping with the character of South Africa.

He accused Mr Conradie of giving answers that were "gross inaccuracies" to his questions and pointed out that he had been told by Mr Conradie in February this year that there were 2 079 undeveloped plots in Kleinmond. In fact there were about 5 076 vacant plots in the resort and these were registered at the Deeds Office.

The result of the oversupply of plots on the coast was that hundreds of millions of rands were tied up in plots and the country was being starved of investment funds.

"We must stop bilking the widow and the small investor and we must stop vandalizing the coast," Mr Durr said.

Cape 'rape' rejected as scandalous

Cape Times 2/18/75

MR FRANS CONRADIE, MEC in charge of local government yesterday rejected an attack on coastal development as "scandalous" and "sentimental nonsense". He was speaking in the no-confidence debate in the Provincial Council yesterday.

He did concede, however, that saturation point had been reached and that there should be no reason to approve new coastal townships in the near future.

Mr Conradie was replying to an attack made in the debate on Thursday by Mr Kent Durr, United Party MPC for Constantia. Mr Durr had accused the Provincial Administration

of helping on the rape of parts of the Cape coast.

Mr Conradie rejected suggestions that the province had given in to pressure from developers intent on speculation and profiteering.

If more plots had been approved in recent years than would seem justified by the demand, the reason was to raise the standard of services at coastal towns and this included improving the services in old towns.

The developers had sometimes been granted a liberal number of plots but in return they had provided water not only for the new township but for the old town too.

Also speaking in the Provincial Council, Mr Gavin Clarke, National Party MPC for King William's Town, said that there was a danger that opposition parties might seek an alliance with Black leaders against the majority of Whites in South Africa.

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Page 11

and operated through the
election in 1974, must be
continued for the benefit
of better opposition as
much as for the National
ist regime. The latter has
enough challenges other
than the party political to
help safeguard it against
the dangers of opposition-
lessness. It only needs to
remain open and receptive
to those stimuli.

border roads plan

STAR 5/18/75

Pretoria Bureau

Proposed boundaries of urban development in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand - Vereeniging

(PWV) complex have been altered in a number of cases to ensure the conservation of hills and valleys.

This was revealed in Pretoria today when the Department of Planning and the Environment released "amended proposals for a guide plan for the PWV complex."

Last year the original proposals drew comments from 98 bodies or individuals, including Government departments, local authorities, conservation bodies, property developers and professional men.

In view of these, and of site inspections and discussions, it has amended the proposals.

NO URBANISM

The modified proposals firstly alter the short to medium-term urban development boundary in the PWV complex. Secondly, they identify areas within the boundary which the department thinks should be kept free from urban expansion.

The department recommends that for the next 20 to 25 years no urban development should take place outside its proposed boundaries.

Among the modifications aimed at are:

- Preserving parts of the valleys of the Hennops River, the Olifant Spruit and the Jukskei River in the Olifantsfontein area;
- Limiting urban development in the Klip River valley;
- Keeping the northern part of the Hennops River valley and the Skurweberg area free from urban penetration;
- Excluding the areas draining to the Crocodile River in the Fourways-Lanseria region from urban development; and
- Conserving agricultural holdings in, and the hills south-west of, the Tweefontein - Zwavelpoort - Tierpoort area.

West Coast conservation bid rejected

Cape Times 8/8/75

THE Provincial Council yesterday rejected a call for special steps to protect the Western Cape's coastal environment from the impact of development.

This was proposed in a private member's motion by Mr Kent Durr (UP Constantia) calling for a separate West Coast region within the Department of Nature Conservation to co-ordinate research and limit the impact on the environment of the planned development in the area, particularly at Saldanha Bay.

Mr Durr also suggested the establishment of nature reserve areas, including Langebaan Lagoon.

"The lagoon cannot share the bath with Saldanha Bay," he said. The lagoon already had an oil and flotsam ring around it and the industrial giant at Saldanha "has only just put its toes in the bay".

The motion was seconded by Mr G F Rautenbach (United Party Walmer) who said the area which should be conserved would be within 30 minutes of three major cities — Cape Town, Saldanha and Atlantis.

Dr W C Malan (Nationalist Moorreesburg) opposed the motion and said the project did not fall within the jurisdiction of the Province.

An advisory committee of 18 national experts under the chairmanship of Dr Douglas Hey, director of Nature Conservation in the Cape, would assess the problems.

The motion was defeated by 31 votes to 16.

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A DETAILED plea for the environmental protection of the Saldanha Bay and Langebaan lagoon areas was rejected by the Nationalists in the Provincial Council yesterday when Dr W. C. Malan (Nat, Moorreesburg) said State departments, including the Weather Bureau, were responsible for this protection.

ARB 4/5
8/8/72

See also PUBLIC SECTOR - PROV. Admin

Dr Malan was replying to a plea by Mr Kent Durr, the Opposition spokesman on the environment, for a separate west coast regional office within the provincial Department of Nature Conservation.

Mr Durr also asked for co-ordinated research to minimise and record the environmental impact of the Saldanha Bay development project and for specific action to preserve the Langebaan lagoon and its bird and fish life.

Dr Malan accused him of being ill-mannered and impolite by 'sticking his nose into another man's constituency' and said he hoped Mr Durr would not raise the matter again in the council.

POLLUTION

He said the Provincial Administration had no responsibility for the Saldanha Bay development project. This responsibility was shared by the Department of Planning, the Department of Sea Fisheries, the 18-man advisory committee and, in the case of air pollution, the Weather Bureau.

Mr Durr's motion was amended by a Nationalist motion expressing confidence in the planning already under way and stating that no special action by the province was necessary.

Introducing his motion, Mr Durr said the council was privileged to be able to shape the future and the destiny of a new city. The benefit of hindsight and the additional benefit of foresight through scientific prediction were available and they should be used.

ECOLOGICAL

Great things were going to happen there and there was need for a special body to supervise the ecological protection of the whole area. The area was rich in bird, fish and plant life.

Even though development would not be in the immediate vicinity of the lagoon which was to be declared a nature reserve it was subject to pollution from the ships entering the adjacent bay.

He suggested that the present mouth into the bay should be closed off at its narrowest point and a new opening directly linking it to the sea should be made. This would protect it from all forms of pollution likely to affect Saldanha Bay.

CONSERVATION

Mr Durr said Saldanha

Firms to STAR 16/8/76 fight pollution

Own Correspondent

WITBANK — A multi-million rand project has been launched by the major industries in the Witbank area— often described as the most heavily polluted industrial region in the country — to combat air pollution

Rand Carbide, a mammoth industry situated in the heart of the town — which has often been criticised by CARE — is about to commission its massive R1.6-million structure towering 11 storeys high — and which will douse the smoke from the middle of the three stacks serving the industry.

The shortest of the three stacks was "put out" earlier this year

Highveld Steel and Vanadium, the area's largest industry, is engaged in

a continuous pollution control programme, which is aimed at controlling smoke and dirt emission in the near future.

Now two other companies, Ferrometals and Transalloys have announced their plans.

In the past four years the Ferrometals works have expanded considerably with the addition of three 48 MVA furnaces producing ferro-chrome and ferro-silicon.

These furnaces are among the largest of their kind in the world, and, according to a spokesman, control of air pollution is of prime importance in their operation

The two ferro-chrome furnaces were installed complete with plant capable of cleaning the furnace gases to such low limits that all visible smoke is eliminated

FILTER

An American fibreglass bag-type filter for control of the emission from the ferro-silicon furnace is being installed at present at a cost of R2½-million

Transalloys have confirmed that they are busy at present sorting out a programme with air pollution authorities in Pretoria which will clean out their towers and control smoke emission.

Heavily polluted Witbank may soon become a smokeless town after all

Killed fish: action plans

Mercury Reporter

2/9/75

THE SOUTH African Council for Conservation and Anti-Pollution (Saccap) will today discuss with its legal advisers possible action against the Durban Corporation and two factories on the Umgeni River following the discharge of effluent into the river at the weekend, resulting in the death of thousands of fish.

This was announced yesterday by Mr. Tim Condon, national chairman of Saccap, who was commenting on a report that a breakdown of a corporation sewerage pumping station on the Umgeni on Sunday could have been responsible for the pollution.

City Engineer Mr. D. C. Macleod said yesterday a fault had occurred in the pumping station on Sunday. He added this would have resulted in a sewer back up of effluent until it overflowed into the river.

"The effluent from the sewer could kill fish," Mr. Macleod said.

The pumping break had been rectified, he said.

Meanwhile, the general

manager of S.A. Board Mills, Mr. B. Stafford-Mayer, said yesterday that the water pollution had "nothing to do with us at all."

"We had our factory water reticulation system revamped about three years ago at a cost of R300 000.

"As a result our effluent goes to the corporation sewer. This costs us about R3 000 a month. Not a drop goes into the river."

Mr. Stafford-Mayer also said his company had the numbers of two cars which were used by people who threw dead fish over the factory fence . . . "into our premises on Monday night."

"I suppose this was done as some kind of protest gesture. We are

going to consider what action we can take against these people."

A spokesman for a chemical factory, also alleged by Mr. Condon to have been involved in the effluent spill, said last night: "The effluent did not go from our premises into the river."

He said he had referred Mr. Condon to the Corporation

(66 /

Thousands of fish ^{Daily Dispatch} poisoned ^{2/9/75}

DURBAN — Thousands of poisoned fish — “The biggest fish kill in South Africa in the last five years” — lay rotting on the banks of Durban’s Blue Lagoon.

Effluent pouring into the lagoon from a nearby factory was the cause of the slaughter, according to Mr Tim Condon, the national chairman of the South African Council for Conservation and anti-Pollution.

Samples of the orange-brown steaming hot liquid with an “unpleasant smell” will be analysed by experts and will then be used as evidence against the factory, he said.

“The council and I have laid charges against the factory in terms of the Water Act and we will also demand the strongest possible action from the Minister of Water Affairs, Mr S. P. Botha,” Mr Condon said.

Meanwhile many people collecting the fish could be in danger of contamination as some of them had been dead for 48 hours and had already gone bad.

The council was not the only body concerned, however, schoolchildren seemed to be the most upset and showed their concern when about 40 of them collected several hundred “dead and stinking” fish and dumped them at the factory.

One of the largest dead fish found was a 1½ metre salmon. The rest were mostly small grunter, mullet and yellow bream.

A spokesman for South African Board Mills said that if there was effluent in the river, it had definitely not come from his factory.

“We pay about R3 000 a month to have the effluent from our factory fed into the Durban Corporation Sewerage works,” he said. — DDC.

REJECT THE SANDY BAY PROJECT — MPC

ARGUS 22/10/75

THERE can be no question that the public is strongly opposed to the development of Sandy Bay and if the Administrator is to act in the public interest, he must reject the scheme, says Mr Kent Durr, MPC for Constantia.

The Provincial Secretary, Mr H. R. van V. Gie, said the Sandy Bay question would probably be put before the Executive Committee 'within the next 10 days.'

Mr Durr said protests against the development of Sandy Bay were not merely the voices of a lunatic fringe. Objections had been broadly based and had come from such responsible bodies as the Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Cape, the Institute of Architects, the Association for the Protection of the Environment and the Institute of Town and Regional Planners.

EARLIER CALL

'In the Provincial Council sessions,' he said, 'whenever I have raised the Sandy Bay issue, I have been told that I was being premature. I now wish to jump the gun once more and say I trust that, in keeping with the attitudes on conservation expressed by the Administrator, he will turn down the development application.'

'If he does not turn down the proposals, then I would call on him to hold the matter over until the next session of the Provincial Council so that it can be debated openly and (hopefully) on a non-party basis.'

'Apart from the environmental considerations, in these times when we should all be making an



MR KENT DURR

effort to combat inflation, the building of 381 luxury homes for two-car families is against the national interest.'

Mr Gie today denied that any decision on the Sandy Bay development project had been taken by the Provincial Administration. A financial publication reported that conditional approval would be given to the building of the first 381 houses at Sandy Bay.

This is 'utter nonsense,' Mr Gie said.

A memorandum on the Sandy Bay development was still being prepared and this would probably be in the hands of the Executive Committee members within the next 10 days. Only then would it be discussed.

Coloured wage gap widens

STAR
22/10/75

Labour Reporter

The absolute difference between earnings of Coloured and White workers increased by 42 percent from 1970 to 1974.

That was revealed in Johannesburg today by Mr Tony Kedzierski, personnel and training manager of the Coloured Development Corporation.

Addressing a course of the National Development and Management Foundation, Mr Kedzierski said the wage gap had widened in spite of higher percentage pay rises for Coloured people.

EARNINGS

In 1970 average monthly earnings of Coloured employees were R77,1 compared with a White average of R267,9. Last year the Coloured income stood at R127,3 compared to R399 for Whites.

That meant that Coloured earnings in 1974 were 31,9 percent of White earnings compared with 28,8 percent in 1970.

Mr Kedzierski said one often heard that Coloured managers or supervisors

were not accepted by their own people. That was mainly due to the lack of physical signs of status and the lack of support which the organisation gave to his new position.

The habit of the White superior to speak directly to the workers would undermine the Coloured foreman's authority, he pointed out.

Behaviour described as unsociable, ignorant, lazy or unmotivated was resulted from socio-economical and cultural circumstances of labourers.

If realistically approached, it was a normal and responsible response to the slum conditions in which they lived

62A

Stiff litter laws soon

Cape Times 7/11/75

Staff Reporter

LEGISLATION aimed at providing a strong deterrent against pollution and littering is now in preparation by the Cape Provincial Administration.

It is likely to follow the lead of the Natal Provincial Administration, which this week drafted an ordinance providing for fines of up to R600 and imprisonment of up to three years for persons who pollute or litter the land or sea.

An Administration spokesman said yesterday that the four provinces had originally agreed on uniform legislation to cover the whole country in dealing with pollution

and littering, but this had proved impossible due to administrative structures which varied from province to province.

Each province had now decided to go ahead with its own legislation, with Natal the first to come up with a draft ordinance. Similar legislation for the Cape was "in the pipeline", he added.

The campaign against littering and pollution is being followed up at municipal level in the

Transvaal. Tomorrow the Transvaal Municipal Association will consider proposals to limit the spread of disposable containers by imposing a two-cent levy on all cans and plastic bottles. Of this one cent will be collected by the shopkeeper when the container is returned, and one cent by the supplier for accepting the returns.

In the Cape Town municipal area the health, building and refuse collection by-laws provide for penalties against dumping, littering or polluting.

Maximum penalties are R200 or imprisonment for six months, or both, and a R5-a-day fine for continued pollution or littering.

81 days left

Name (opt to 'save', ^{Cape Times} 11/12/78

Test mark

Degree + **Sandy Bay**

ECONOMICS IB

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1. (a) List the conservationists and others opposed to development at Sandy Bay exactly 81 days in which to save the last unspoilt beach in the Cape Peninsula.

THE Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, has given the conservationists and others opposed to development at Sandy Bay exactly 81 days in which to save the last unspoilt beach in the Cape Peninsula.

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In a statement issued last night, Dr Munnik said the Executive Committee had not yet taken a final decision on the controversial development plans.

He said his general view was that "development of any kind should not be summarily refused, but that development on the kind and scope proposed cannot be approved without reservation."

The committee accepted that the area had an "amenity zoning", and this gave the owners certain development rights. If the developer was refused these rights he would have to be compensated or the land could be expropriated at market value.

POSSIBLE

Dr Munnik said that if any authority was in earnest about preventing development and was prepared to pay the price, Administration would make this possible by either dezoning the property (which would involve compensation) or by approving the expropriation.

He warned, however, that if such steps were not taken before March 1 next year, the committee would grant approval in principle to the owner to exercise his development rights.

At this stage specific consideration would be given to the nature and scope of the development.

FUNDS

This means, in effect, that people opposed to the development have 81 days in which to stop it and they can only do so by backing their protests with the funds to finance an expropriation.

The present market value of the 282.8 ha site is not known but it has been reported that the present owner of the land, Mr Bill Mitchell, paid about R200 000 for it in 1972.

Munnik's full statement, page 2.

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Cape Times 11/12/75

Sandy Bay: Statement

THE following is the full text of the statement issued last night by Dr L A P A Munnik, Administrator of the Cape, on the proposed property development at Sandy Bay:

1. The Executive Committee has not yet taken a final decision on the applicant's development proposals, but has formulated certain general views on the matter as a whole.

This was done after very careful consideration of a memorandum submitted and comprehensive documentation made available by the Department of Local Government; after hearing verbal representations against as well as in favour of the proposed development; after a thorough study of the legal position, and after an inspection in loco at which all members were present together with members and staff of the Divisional Council, the chairman of the Townships Board and other senior provincial officers.

2. The general point of view amounts, in brief, to this: That development of any kind should not be summarily refused, but that development of the kind and scope proposed cannot be approved without reservation.

SCOPE

3. The Executive Committee accepts that the "amnesty" zoning that the property has in terms of the Divisional Council's town-planning scheme gives the owner certain development rights; and also that he may exercise such rights at any time — provided that the nature and scope thereof are approved by the Divisional Council and the Administrator.

4. If, therefore, there should be no sound and bona fide objection to the nature and scope of specific proposed development, either it would have to be approved or the owner would have to receive reasonable compensation. This could be done either by rezoning



Dr Munnik

coupled with compensation in terms of section 35 ter of Ordinance No. 33 of 1934 or by complete expropriation at market value.

5. The Executive Committee is not prepared to consider either rezoning or expropriation for provincial purposes, especially as the committee agrees with the Department of Nature and Environmental Conservation that Sandy Bay is, from the point of view of the preservation of fauna and flora, not so exceptional that its acquisition as a nature reserve would be justified at the high price that would necessarily have to be paid for it.

EARNEST

6. If, however, any authority should be in earnest about preventing development on the property, and be willing to pay the price for it, the Administration would be prepared to make this possible in any one of the two ways referred to, i.e. rezoning or approval of expropriation.

7. If such steps are not taken before March 1, 1976 for the effective prevention of development on the property, the Executive Committee will after that date grant approval in principle to the owner to exercise his development rights, and

then give specific consideration to the nature and scope of the development that can in fact be approved.

8. Before any development is finally approved, the Department of Planning will first be consulted in the spirit of the understanding that exists with that Department in respect of applications of this kind.

PLOTS

9. If it should happen that development is in fact allowed, the Administration will not necessarily consider itself bound to limit this strictly to the existing "amenity" area, but will be at liberty, if considerations of sound planning and meaningful development justify this and make it desirable, to approve reasonable amendments and/or to make adjustments to the existing zoning.

10. If and in so far as any approved development may also include residential accommodation for permanent occupation, the Executive Committee very decidedly takes the stand that this will not be considered in the form of conventional township establishment (cutting up and selling building plots to individual owners).

CIVILIZED

11. In the deliberations that led the Executive Committee to take this view, it was strongly influenced by the consideration that the natural and other potential attractions of Sandy Bay should also be accessible to the general public and that these should be made available on the basis of civilized standards. This will only be possible by means of properly controlled development, and the availability of such facilities to the general public will in fact definitely be part of and a requirement for any development that may eventually be approved.

13. General comment

12. Should there be tutorial exercises?

have you found staff and tutors. Comment

Monday Jan 6 1976

The STAR

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R 30 000 city plan is on the cards

A comprehensive environmental plan for Johannesburg will be drawn up this year — if the city council approves spending R30 000 on consultants.

The council's environmental committee will consider the matter next week and the council's approval is expected to be sought at the end of the month.

This follows the dissolv-

ing of the former aesthetics and noise abatement committees and a council decision not to replace them with other committees.

Instead the environmental committee, which consists only of city councillors, will use consultants.

It is proposed that Dr G F Chadwick, who has been a visiting professor on town planning subjects at several South African universities, be appointed.

TWO PROJECTS

If he is appointed he will work in association with Professor N N Patriotic of the department of town and regional planning at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Dr Chadwick has drawn up two projects. The first deals with a city environmental assessment and policy. The second deals with a study and policy on the mining areas.

If the council approves the proposal, only the first project, with some fringe work on the mining areas, will be done at first.

The analysis proposes to include a street-by-street assessment of the city, and the need for changes or conservation.

SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE S.P. BOTHA, M.P., MINISTER OF
LABOUR AND OF MINES ON THE OCCASION OF THE WILDERNESS
AWARENESS EVENING OF THE WILDERNESS FOUNDATION AT THE
ELANGENI HOTEL IN DURBAN ON 6 FEBRUARY 1976 AT 20H00.

FOR RELEASE ON 6 FEBRUARY 1976 AT 20H00.

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Introduction

Aldo Leopold, a great American forester, ecologist and protagonist of the values of wilderness, once wrote, "Many of the attributes most distinctive of the Americans, are due to the impress of wilderness and the life that accompanied it."

He could well have been talking about us South Africans. Dominant in the forging of the South African personality was the impact of the wild environment in which our forefathers matured. South African is still a young nation, and we remain close in culture and custom to the pioneers, those brave and robust men and women who forged this country from the untamed veld.

The values and importance of wilderness are intuitively appreciated by many of our people, who do not have to be convinced of the need for periodical exposure to wilderness conditions or of the necessity for formal demarcation of wilderness areas for national recreation.

In the long history of development of many of the European countries most of the land has lost its wilderness character for ever. The vanishing wilderness is in fact a world phenomenon, and there is international concern at the rate at which physical development has destroyed the character of many of the world's wild places.

Many things have come out of the United States, and among the good ones is the concept of a young country, demonstrating responsibility and foresight by preserving untamed areas as permanent reminders of the primeval state in which the first settlers found the land. As in our own case, a nostalgia for the primitive life swept the United States as the frontier receded. President Theodore Roosevelt, and the famous historian Frederick Jackson Turner became leading apostles in the U.S. of what came to be known as the Wilderness cult, which culminated in the reservation of nearly four million hectares of Wilderness in over sixty Wilderness Areas in parts of the National Forests of the U.S.

Turner claimed that the American was a higher type of person because he had struggled with and conquered the frontier. As he put it, "Out of the wilderness, out of the freedom of his opportunities, the American fashioned a formula for social regeneration".

Roosevelt agreed with Turner. He said, "As our civilisation grows older and more complex, we need a greater and not a less development of the fundamental frontier virtues".

Roosevelt was instrumental during his term as President in creating some of the most important U.S. Wilderness Areas, because he felt that wilderness meant not vistas of aesthetic delight, but places where the people could act as frontiersmen.

I believe that wilderness helped form our own national character, and that the pioneer life that many of the truly great South Africans led in the formative stages of their lives, played a most significant role in the forging of their characters. The people who confronted the wilderness in those early days did so with awe and misgivings. The character of the wilderness of those times, and the impact that this had on the characters and lives of the pioneers has been firmly interwoven into our national history, folklore, art, music and literature.

The United States has a Wilderness Act under which their Wilderness Areas are proclaimed and managed. South Africa is one of the few other countries in the world that has the necessary legislation covering the declaration of Wilderness Areas. The Forest Amendment Act of 1971 was promulgated for this purpose, and thus it is possible for the Minister of Forestry to dedicate areas of State Forest land as Wilderness Areas, and it is the policy of the Department of Forestry to manage them on a multiple-use basis. Included in the management objectives is the preservation of the components that contribute to the wild character of these areas - recreational, conservational, scientific, educational and historical values, which are of the greatest importance to the people of the Republic of South Africa.

As you are aware, there are not many parts of our country that still possess truly wild character. Present legislation makes it possible to dedicate only existing

State Forest areas as Wilderness Areas. However, the Department of Forestry has been given custody of the very extensive national catchment areas, which are primarily set aside for water production. These, and portions of other State Forests (including those containing indigenous forests) are not only large in size, but include important representative samples of our natural veld types. The areas are fragmented, but are close in total area to the Kruger National Park.

Wilderness Area enjoys the highest conservation status of any forest land in South Africa, a legally entrenched status that requires the sanction of both houses of Parliament before such land can be alienated or violated. Management roads must be kept to a minimum and must be as unobtrusive as possible.

Four Wilderness Areas have so far been declared in the Republic. These have a total area of 160 000 ha. and consist of the Cedarberg, in the Western Cape, Mtendeka in Northern Natal, and the Middelburg and Upper Mkomazi Wilderness Areas in the Drakensberg. The latter two lie on either side of Giants Castle Game Reserve, part of which is managed as a Wilderness Area, thus providing an almost continuous stretch of wilderness from the Ndedema river, near Cathedral Peak in the north, down to Sani Pass in the south.

A fifth area has already been defined, and will be dedicated in a few days time as Groendal Wilderness Area. The boundaries of a sixth, comprising the greater part of the Baviaanskloof and Couga mountains in the south-eastern

Cape, are being defined. Other areas are also under consideration.

It might be worthwhile to examine now the role that Wilderness Areas can or should play in the utilisation of our land and in the service of our people, particularly at a time when the human populations are increasing and projections indicate that present world shortages of food and fuel will become more serious. One may well ask how we may afford the luxury of setting land aside for apparently unproductive purposes.

In other words, is it possible that areas declared Wilderness now, will be able to withstand future land-hunger pressures? Will this land not be required to produce fuel to cook meals to feed the hungry, or food for the same purposes?

Basic to land-use planning is the recognition of natural capability categories. It is important to realise that within such categories, natural agricultural or recreational potentials exist. Thus not all land is well-suited for agricultural production or afforestation. The high watershed catchments that play a very important part in the conservation of our basic water supplies, are by large, marginal or unsuitable for intensive economic agricultural production. They are frequently fragile, sensitive areas that react badly to mismanagement. Water is a limiting factor in our industrial economy. At present, there is no known alternative economic means of protecting the water required by the economy, other than by good management of the catchments.

The multiple land-use policy of the Department of Forestry, enables the water catchments in State Forests, or parts of State Forests containing large indigenous forests, to be managed not only for the primary management aims of either water conservation or timber production, but also for compatible secondary management objectives. These may include the provision of outdoor recreation facilities, the conservation of the indigenous vegetation, wildlife and the wild character of the area, as well as the preservation of these areas for scientific, educational and historical values.

Natural capability categories for recreational use may also be recognised. While it is not considered necessary that only broken mountainous areas, or country marginal for other land-uses, be set aside as Wildernesses, these are obviously naturally well-suited for dedication for this use. The relation between wilderness and mountains is well-known to us all.

Wilderness Areas are by definition, only capable of being used by a limited number of people at a time. A primary requirement is the provision of solitude, free from mechanical disturbance and the areas must ipso facto, be relatively large in size. The question of how we justify setting aside these relatively large areas for relatively few people cannot be answered only in economic terms, because the moral, spiritual and physical recreational values that wilderness provides can no more be quantified in monetary terms than can the church. However, the provision of an "exclusive" or "éliteist" recreation oppor-

tunity is futile only if we fail to provide a full spectrum of recreation opportunities, in addition to wilderness, to serve the preferences and wants of the whole range of society. We must, however, remember that while the whole of society has legitimate recreational claims, these cannot all be met on the same area.

It is generally accepted now, especially from experience and research gained from the U.S., that there is a real need by society for wilderness. A small - if you like - élite portion of the population regularly participates directly in wilderness experience. A slightly larger proportion participates directly only on a sporadic basis. However, society as a whole benefits both directly and indirectly from the existence of wilderness areas, not only in the ways I have mentioned, but in particular because of the scenic backdrops they provide, and their very great conservational and scientific importance, and simply from knowing that they exist.

Many of us here tonight have a rural background, and those who have it will agree with me and the experts that I have quoted, on the highly beneficial moral, spiritual and cultural effects that this has had. Today many of us are forced to live in the cities, and fear for the impact that this has on our children. The cities can only grow larger in the future. The opportunity for regular participation in quasi-wilderness and real wilderness experience is one way of ensuring that our young people acquire some of these benefits. I think that there is no doubt of the

very great value that Wilderness can have for our youth in so many ways. Aldo Leopold summed it up well, when he said, "The richest values of wilderness lie not in the days of Daniel Boone, not even of the present, but rather of the future".

Perhaps the most important use for wilderness is that we preserve at least some portion of the primeval landscape and as many examples of the natural ecology of our country as possible for the populations of the future to appreciate and use as I have outlined. We can still have Wilderness and all other land uses. Each type of use is directly related to other uses in what has been called "a continuum of environmental modification, ranging from the paved to the primeval". (Hendee, 1974)

Having dedicated some Wilderness Areas, and with plans afoot for others, it is of considerable importance that we do everything in our power to see that the declared Wilderness Areas are managed so that the values we set out to conserve are not destroyed.

The Department of Forestry has established teams of specialist resource managers and research ecologists to determine the most effective practices to meet our management objectives. They will in particular monitor the impact of management in the long term. Work has in most instances only just begun, and there will be periods of adjustment until final policies have been formulated.

The vital role of management of the Wilderness Areas cannot be overemphasised. By the turn of the century at the latest, the last Wilderness Areas will have been

dedicated. Thereafter, the fate of these areas will depend solely on their management.

The threats to the Wilderness Areas are well known. Since we are discussing Wilderness Awareness tonight, it might be opportune to examine some of these.

Uncontrolled use of these fragile sensitive areas has so far been the most serious environmental threat. In the Drakensberg, for instance, uncontrolled wildfire, and the use of the high basalt areas by domestic livestock, has resulted in damage to the vegetation and erosion, sometimes of a serious nature. However, law enforcement of a high order can limit these threats to safe levels.

Research in the United States has shown that overuse by recreationists, particularly in certain places, is an emerging feature of Wilderness use.

Some evidence of this is already apparent in some of the more popular South African mountain areas which have been visited by climbers and mountaineers for very many years. No-one can fail to view with alarm the gullies that have formed on the face of Table Mountain during the past two decades. Signs of wear that seriously prejudice the wild character of parts of U.S. Wilderness Areas, are now evident. The oldest of the U.S. Wilderness Areas has been established for a little over fifty years, a short period of time when viewed against the time-span that the Wilderness Areas must serve. The wear is most evident at trail-head entrances, major trail corridors, scenic spots and logical campsites (Hendee, 1974).

Resource managers charged with responsibility for managing Wilderness Areas have a major challenge to develop management technology for our Wilderness Areas, to control visitor-impact unobtrusively, and ensure use within acceptable limits.

Our Wilderness Areas, whether we like it or not, exist in close proximity to developed land in almost every instance. It is very important that we recognise that Wilderness Areas are extremely vulnerable to nonconforming peripheral use. The fragile wilderness character is very sensitive to what happens nearby. It is not difficult to prejudice seriously or destroy the qualities which should be preserved, by non-sympathetic development on adjoining land.

Protection of Wilderness Areas requires the perception and sympathy of many resource-management disciplines and organisations. It requires a comprehensive approach to land management and the responsibility for its protection does not lie exclusively with those whose jurisdiction is the Wilderness per se.

Mr Chairman, during my term of office as Minister of Forestry, I encouraged co-operation between officers of the Department of Forestry, and officials of the Natal Provincial Administration, particularly of the Town and Regional Planning Commission, in this direction. The Natal Drakensberg Policy Statement is an excellent example of a comprehensive approach to land planning. Not only does the policy aim at identifying land intrinsically suited for

dedication as wilderness, it aims at including the formal Wilderness Areas in the Provincial recreational mosaic, in the provision of the spectrum of recreation facilities so essential for our people, as well as safeguarding the Wilderness Areas. Finally, it makes provision for the protection of the existing Wilderness Areas from unsympathetic development.

I would like to mention here the contribution that I hope the National Hiking Way will be able to make in the provision of a spectrum of recreational experience. The demand for primitive forms of outdoor recreation is growing rapidly, and cannot be met solely by the Wilderness Areas. It is heartening to see the demand, especially amongst our young people, for wilderness-oriented outdoor recreational experience. I am looking forward to the Province of Natal playing a prominent role in the development of Hiking Ways as part of the national system, which will enable our people to visit on foot, at leisure, and on intimate terms with the countryside, many of the beautiful places in your lovely Province. There is a wealth of beauty, historical interest and nature to be explored. Many of the most exciting places are by-passed at speed on the highways. Few of us are aware of how little we know of our country, until we start walking through it. The Hiking Way, I need hardly emphasise, can play an important role in preparing people for real wilderness experience.

I would emphasise also that the preservation of Wilderness will depend not only on legislation, and the efficiency with which it will be managed, but also on the

provision of other areas outside the Wilderness Areas, where enthusiasts can escape from the pressures of modern life. Without areas of semi-wilderness in which people may backpack, and where facilities such as huts, picnic tables or other comforts are provided, there is real danger that the Wilderness Areas will become over-used, and some of this use will be by persons who are not seeking real wilderness. The importance of the recent enabling amendments to the Forest Act for the National Hiking Way, is that some private land will now become available to the public for this purpose.

A last great need, to help retain the integrity of our wild areas, is to intensify environmental conscience. This is vital, since outdoor recreation is the principal compatible land-use of many of our publicly-owned lands, and misuse of these by the public is a very serious potential environmental threat. I would like to give credit here to organisations such as the Wilderness Leadership School, which already have active programmes in this field, and which have done a great deal to initiate the leaders of our youth into their responsibilities.

The Wilderness Leadership School has in fact performed an outstanding job in this country, and is now expanding to other countries, in teaching young people the importance of Wilderness, and how to participate in wilderness experience. Without adequate preparation, Mr Chairman, wilderness experience for the uninitiated can be a disappointment. Full appreciation can only come with a true understanding of the meaning of wilderness. For this

reason, I would like to congratulate the Wilderness Foundation for holding this Wilderness Awareness Evening tonight.

The job of educating our people to respect and appreciate our conservation areas has nevertheless only begun, and I do not have to remind you of the very great task that lies ahead of us all. I would also like to take this opportunity of wishing both the Wilderness Foundation and the Wilderness Leadership School well in their efforts to educate the public, and especially our young people, in the values of Wilderness.

The Department of Forestry is the custodian of more public land than any other agency, and we are justifiably proud of the role it plays not only in the timber production field, but also in the fields of outdoor recreation and conservation.

The Department has an active planning and research programme to determine how these services can be extended. By and large, the facilities provided are for ordinary people and it is intended that, in contrast to the more intensive forms of outdoor recreation supplied by other organisations, including the Provincial Administrations, the Department of Forestry will tend to specialise in the provision of the more extensive forms of outdoor recreation, especially those that can only be carried out on foot. Special emphasis will be placed on the provision of highquality outdoor experience and on the conservation of the extensive unspoilt areas of wild country in the Department's custody.

In addition to the major role it plays in the basic planning and establishment of the National Hiking Way, the Department intends to preserve for posterity as many areas with intrinsic wilderness character as possible as dedicated formal Wilderness Areas.

When I dedicated the first two Wilderness Areas in the Republic in the Natal Drakensberg in 1973, I stated that a third area of intrinsic wilderness, which incidentally has been accorded de facto status since then would be considered for legal dedication in due course. This area lies between Sani Pass, and the Bushman's Neck area. It consists very largely of the Wilderness Heart zone recognised by the Town and Regional Planning Commission in its Policy Statement. The area is true wilderness in character, and sympathetic consideration will be given to declaring it a Wilderness area in terms of the Forest Act in the near future.

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AT THE REQUEST OF
THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND OF MINES.

CAPE TOWN

6 FEBRUARY 1976

Cape Times 15/1/76
Sandy

Bay:

62

Pledges pour in

C O N S E R V A T I O N I S T S around the country have reacted strongly to a Cape Times magazine article on Sandy Bay last week with a flurry of letters, pledges of money and calls in support of a move to buy the area threatened by developers.

Dr A V Hall, an executive member of the Council of the Habitat — a national umbrella body for conservation groups, told the Cape Times yesterday that Habitat's advisory committee on Sandy Bay "fully supported the move".

Taken together with other action, the move to "put your money where your mouth is" as suggested by the article could swing an eleventh-hour decision by the Administration in favour of the conservationists. There are 45 days to go until the deadline of March 1 when the developers have been promised a final ruling on the area.

Dr Hall has advised the Cape Times that as no formal organization has been set up to administer donations, pledges of financial support may be sent to The Athenaeum Trust, 154, Camp Ground Road, Newlands 7700. Messages of support, giving name, address and amount promised, may be telephoned to Cape Town 51-4001. This is the number of an answering service which will be checked each evening to compile a list of donors.

Readers are asked not to send cash or money in any form to this newspaper or to any organization. At this stage all that is required is a signed or telephoned pledge sent to the contacts given above.

Sandy Bay:

New plan

probable

Cape Times 28/1/76

IT IS LIKELY that the Divisional Council of the Cape will reconsider its decision to permit development at Sandy Bay at its monthly meeting next month — six days before the Administrator's deadline expires.

This will almost certainly be the consequence of representations made to the council yesterday by a delegation from the Council for the Habitat, headed by Dr A V Hall.

He told the council that traffic problems arising from development of the area would cost the council more than R10m and perhaps as much as R25m to solve. In the light of this new finding he asked the council to reconsider its decision.

The chairman of the council, Mr J H Heyns, MPC, said the council had legally taken a decision on Sandy Bay. "That decision stands till some councillor asks that it be rescinded."

When the issue was originally decided in December 1974 two councillors voted against the proposed development plans. They were Mr E P Austen and Mr John Bridgman.

OPPOSITION

It appears almost certain that in view of the new information and continued opposition from the public, one of these men will ask the council to reconsider its decision at its next monthly meeting.

Dr Hall, an executive member of the Council for the Habitat, told the Divisional Council that R29 266 had been pledged to a fund to buy Sandy Bay in the 12 days since arrangements had been made to receive pledges.

The pledges had come in spontaneously and were a tribute to the environmental concern of the community.

A traffic study by an expert, Mr J P du Plessis, had shown that if development took place in the area, traffic congestion would extend back along Victoria Drive, up to Kloof to Hout Bay.

Cape Times 1/6/76

11 Energy
99

Press turns on Dutch Govt

AMSTERDAM. — Dutch newspapers yesterday accused the Government of seriously damaging the country's international trade reputation by blowing a chance to participate in an R800 million deal to construct a nuclear power plant in South Africa.

The coalition Cabinet of the Premier, Mr Joop den Uyl, divided on the issue of doing business with South Africa, failed to agree in time on the granting of credit guarantees for three Dutch companies in a US-Swiss-Dutch combine which was expected to get the order. The South Africans eventually awarded the contract to a French group.

Our Amsterdam correspondent reports that the Cabinet was in emergency session late yesterday, planning a response to an opposition motion of censure that it should resign

because of its "inept" handling of negotiations over the nuclear contract.

The shaky coalition is certain to try to stand its ground but is being hammered by business and press opposition.

Amsterdam's mass-circulation, De Telegraaf, accused the Government of "cowardice" in a front-page editorial.

"The Cabinet has thrown to the winds Holland's name as an international trading partner," the paper said. "The credibility abroad of Dutch industry has been seriously damaged."

"Promises the Govern-

ment made earlier to the three companies were broken. Warnings about the deadline for a decision were ignored. The consequences for our country are very serious and go beyond the loss of the South African order, which would have created years of work for thousands of Dutchmen."

Rotterdam's Algemeen Dagblad called the affair a "scandal" and asserted the Government hoped all along the South Africans would award the contract elsewhere.

"The Government knew the South African customer, Escom, wanted official confirmation by May 28. Premier Den Uyl tried to write off this deadline as pressure by the three companies mounted. He made the companies look untrustworthy while in fact this is exactly what the Government was. It is unashamed political cynicism."

"The international position of Dutch industry has been dealt a blow in the face and an economic pep pill has been thrown away."

Amsterdam's De Volkskrant claimed the Government opted for the only way to avoid a crisis — by continually postponing a decision.

"The Government chose this road . . . knowing it might lead to South Africa placing the order elsewhere, a risk which for part of the Cabinet was perhaps not unwelcome."

— Sapa-AP

Trouble for France over nuclear deal

Own Correspondent

LONDON. — South Africa's nuclear deal with France was yesterday given huge space on the foreign and front pages of the British, West European and American press.

A headline across four columns in the Times of London warned: "France faces world disapproval over deal to build nuclear plants for South Africa."

Reports from Washington, Paris and the Hague dominated the front page of the international Herald Tribune. Most reports

warned that the French were heading for political opposition.

Anti-apartheid and African exile groups throughout Europe are directing their wrath at the French.

A typical message was delivered by Mr Peter Katjavivi, the United Kingdom and West European spokesman for Swapo. In a cable to the French Government he said that by signing the nuclear deal with South Africa "the French are putting themselves squarely on the side of the enemies of (independent) Africa."

Socialists 'delayed the deal'

1/6/76 NM.

BERNE — Anti-apartheid socialists in the Dutch Government were blamed yesterday for the failure of a Swiss, Dutch and U.S. consortium to win the contract for South Africa's first nuclear power station.

Mr Heiner Schulthess, general manager of Brown Boveri, one of the consortium firms, was quoted in an interview with the Swiss news agency ATS as saying the socialists had used delaying tactics to hold up the deal.

South Africa's Electricity Supply Commission (Escom) announced last Saturday that a French consortium had won the order.

The three-country consortium in which Brown Boveri, an engineering firm, was involved had been regarded as front runner in the bid for the R875 million contract to build the plant at Koeberg near Cape Town.

Escom insisted on a guarantee of political non-intervention in the project.

Mr. Schulthess said political opposition in the Netherlands and a division within the Government made it impossible for the consortium to give the South African Government assurances that the Dutch member of the group, Rijn-Scheldeverolme, would receive authorisation from the Dutch Government for the necessary exports.

The United States member of the unsuccessful consortium was General Electric.

Mr. Schulthess said the contract would have meant a lot of work for Brown Boveri and it now remained to be seen whether its loss would have consequences on employment in the company.

Meanwhile, it was reported from Paris that the French Government yesterday dismissed protests at home and abroad over the sale of two nuclear power plants as nonsense.

"The deal is strictly business," one official said. "To describe it as a sale of nuclear weapons is nonsense."

The French Government had taken "all the necessary safeguards, including international control," the official said. He pointed out that the

million deal in the face of tough American and West German competition.

Authoritative French Government sources emphasised that the plant would not be used to make atomic bombs

The extreme Leftist newspaper, Liberation, said: "The French Government is going to furnish the apartheid regime the means of building 100 atomic bombs a year.

"The possession of tactical nuclear arms... represents the gravest threat for the future of liberation of the Black majority in South Africa." — (Sapa-Reuter-AP.)

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Anglo superdump big as Brakpan

Graeme Addison
The Anglo American Corporation is planning a "superdump" on the East Rand big enough to bury a town the size of Brakpan.

It is to be built at Witkop, about 14 km south of Brakpan, in an open valley at present surrounded by smallholdings and farmland.

The superdump will be the biggest man-made mountain in the history of the Reef, covering 750 hectares.

The Star's CARE office has urged Anglo to design the dump as a community asset such as a sports stadium or scenic park.

Mr Denis Etheredge, head of Anglo's gold division, said the idea was "exciting" and Anglo would consider it.

The R100 million project is to recover gold, uranium, pyrites and saleable acids from old slimes dams along the East Rand.

The project entails the removal of about 16 dams over the next 20 years from Boksburg, Benoni, Brakpan and Springs — making way for houses, factories, and parks in these areas.

The reclaimed land will

be worth many millions of rands, and will start to become available in about six years.

Municipal councillors agree that the removal of the dumps opens up tremendous planning opportunities and could

change the face of parts of the Reef that are now sparsely populated.

The project will be developed by Anglo Rand Gold and Uranium Company (ARGO) since it has to be broken

down into smaller pieces of land. The project is expected to be completed in 2012.

(1)

The ENVIRONMENT care

wrecking of our fair Cape

The Sandy Bay issue has alerted South Africans to the wrecking of our beautiful Cape. GRAEME ADDISON, GRAEME ADDISON of CARE says saving the Peninsula must become a national issue.

Pictures by FRANK BLACK

2/3176

Who is to blame? That is the question they are asking in Cape Town today as more and more precious coastline and mountain land is bulldozed for development.

The answer is: everyone is to blame, from the Administrator of the Cape down through the ranks of urban and regional planners, from greedy businessmen to sleepy journalists, from the dazed local public to the Republic as a whole — because so few of us CARE.

But there are signs this is changing. Nearly R50 000 was collected in pledges to save Sandy Bay — four times the amount raised in the equivalent period by a fund for soldiers on the border.

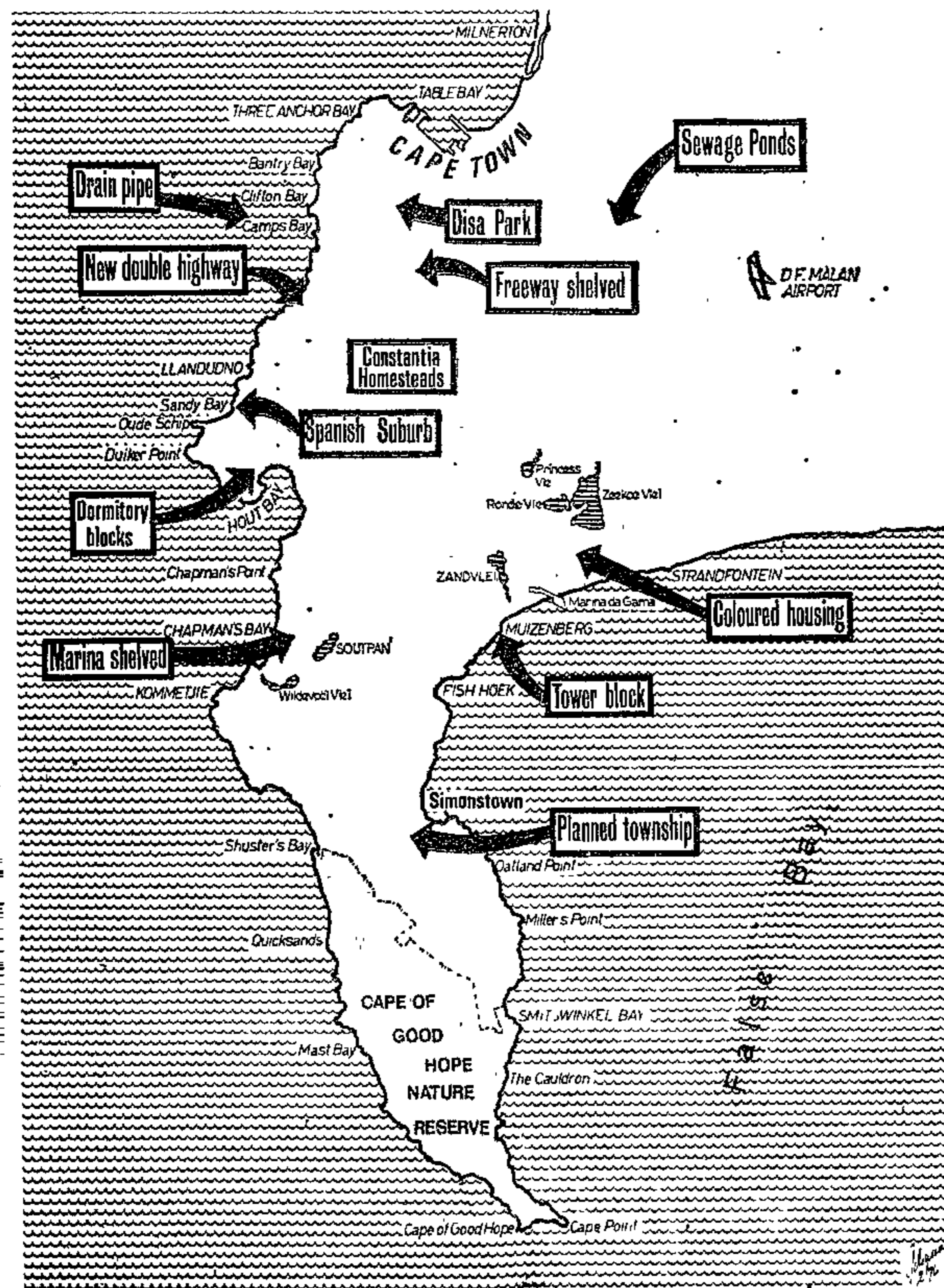
Vow

And conservationists like Dr A V Hall, chairman of the Sandy Bay action committee, are vowing that in future they will be far more vigilant.

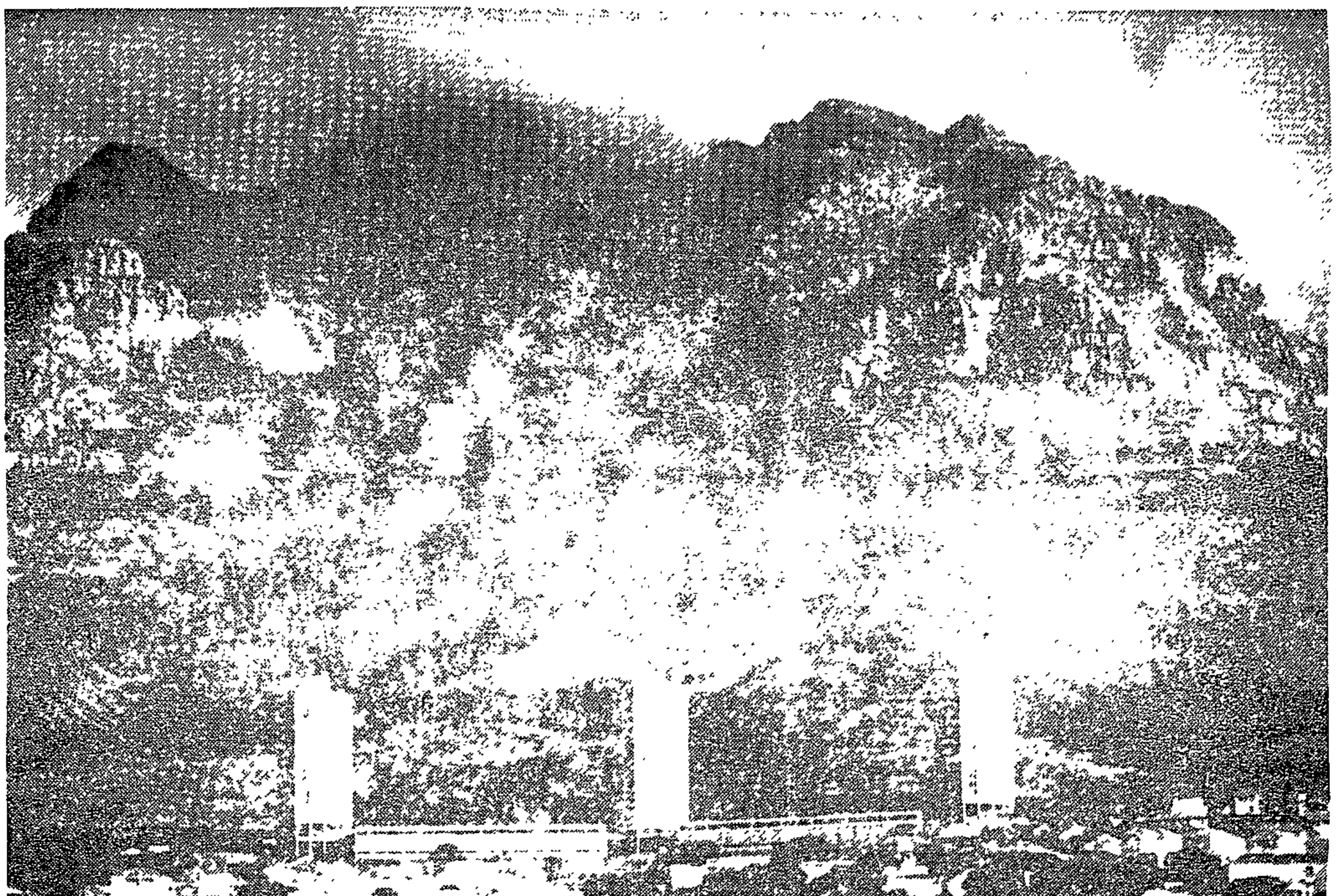
Sandy Bay could have been protected in 1968 if enough people had objected when the area was advertised for rezoning for "general amenity" purposes.

Instead, the zoning went ahead, the land was bought for R200 000. Now Trust Bank and Costa-Aerosta (Pty) Ltd will jointly build a multi-million rand pseudo-Spanish suburb at the bay.

The Administrator of the Cape, like his counterpart in the Transvaal, is empowered as the final planning authority. Town



The map shows some of the developments planned for the Cape Peninsula.



The Disa Park towers overlooking Cape Town ... three sore thumbs known as "Cruet Park."

and provincial planning departments have advisory status only.

If the Press kept its wits about it, plans would not slip through unnoticed and the public could be alerted at any early stage.

But the example of the Disa Park towers on the slopes of Devil's Peak shows how delay can be fatal to conservation.

In 1965, the Cape Town City Council rejected a proposal to build the R2,5 million block comprising flats, a swimming pool and shops. The plan went to the Administrator on appeal.

Experts

He appointed two town planning experts — Professor C Strauss-Brink

and Professor Julian Beinart, both of the University of Cape Town — to draw up a report. They recommended the development.

At this stage only a few short paragraphs had appeared in newspapers. Building began.

Judgment

In 1969, the first of the three round towers shot into view against the mountain backdrop and protests erupted in the Press. But too late

Now these eyesores, which look like pepper pots and have earned the epithet "Cruet Park," stand as a permanent monument to a city that was slow on the uptake.

"Of course, many planning decisions are largely a matter of judgment, and

the experts can make unpopular choices as in the case of Disa Park," says head of the department of Urban and Regional Planning at UCT.

"But what the Cape needs badly is a decision by all the people about the kind of future we envisage for ourselves.

"It is nonsense to maintain, as some developers do, that demand for land is the reason why the Peninsula must be carved up. We could choose instead to live in greater densities in the present built-up areas."

Threats

Among the threats now looming for the Peninsula is a plan by Simonstown municipality to build a township of 100 houses at

Red Hill, overlooking False Bay.

The plateau lies above the 150-metre contour. In 1973 the Cape Provincial authorities decided to freeze further development above the contour, as a way of preserving the Peninsula mountain chain.

But apparently Simonstown has found a way round the order.

"Discipline is needed," says Dr A V Hall, speaking on behalf of the Council for the Habitat.

"Local authorities must control themselves, or be controlled.

"Once development has taken place, it's permanent."

● Tomorrow, The Star will examine the suburbanisation of the fairest Cape.

Conservationists deny claim by Punt Janson

CAPE TIMES 3/3/76

Staff Reporter

HABITAT member organizations yesterday denied that they had withdrawn their support for conservationists as claimed by a deputy minister in the Parliamentary debate on Sandy Bay on Monday.

Mr Punt Janson, Deputy Minister of Planning and the Environment, said in Parliament that the Automobile Association, the Women's Agricultural Union and the Voortrekkers had dissociated themselves from the Council for the Habitat for its stand on the conservation of Sandy Bay.

Asked to comment on this, Mr Hennie Kleynhans, director of public relations for the Automobile Association, said in Johannesburg yesterday that no statement either for or against the Sandy Bay issue could be made on behalf of the association without a meeting of the board of management.

"This has not taken place, we have not contacted Habitat, and the Council has made no approach to us. At this stage the association has given no public statement of its policy on the issue," he said.

CANVASSED

He confirmed that the association's view had been canvassed "by the Administration" but said no statement had been made on this.

The national president of the SA Women's Agricultural Union, Mrs H Martens, said in Pretoria that she had no knowledge of the controversy and had issued no statement to anyone on the

withdrawal of support for Habitat.

Mrs Sybil le Roux, president of the Union's Cape Town Circle, which covers the Peninsula, said last night she was "mystified" by press and radio reports of the minister's statement.

"This circle has issued no official statement on withdrawal of support from Habitat and the Sandy Bay area falls within our administration," Mrs Le Roux said.

UNAWARE

A spokesman for the Voortrekker movement in Cape Town, who asked to remain anonymous, said he was unaware of any statement made by the organization withdrawing support on conservation issues.

The national president of the Council for the Habitat, Prof P R Botha, said in a telephone interview from Pretoria yesterday that he had not been informed by any of the Council's 52 member organizations that they had withdrawn support because of the stand on Sandy Bay.

Sandy Bay: Statement by Janson clarified

CAPE TIMES 5/3/76

MR PUNT JANSON complained yesterday that a report in the Cape Times on Wednesday gave the impression that he had stated that member organizations had withdrawn their support for the Habitat Council and for conservationists.

In fact he had made it clear that certain affiliated organizations had dissociated themselves from the Council's representations over Sandy Bay. To clarify exactly what the deputy minister said, here is the relevant extract from his speech in Parliament:

Mention is made here of affiliated bodies. I want to say that the Habitat Council is doing good work and I hope that they will continue in this way. I also want to point out to honourable members that you can help the Habitat Council — especially in the future, in case there should be a similar occurrence — by joining or becoming affiliated members of the Habitat Council. I feel that it is my duty to show that allegations — as those made recently in a newspaper — that the Habitat Council had made the representations with the full support of all its affiliated bodies were incorrect and misleading.

In the execution of my duties I had to establish whether this report was correct or not. I do not wish to mention the newspaper concerned by name, because I believe that the people who wrote it meant it sincerely. I deem it my duty, however, to show that it was misleading. It was mentioned that the Women's Agricultural Union was an affiliated member of the Habitat Council and associate itself with the representations which were made.

The Union has given me the authority to come and say here that it dissociated itself completely from the representations. Irrespective of the merits of the case, the matter has nothing to do with the Women's Agricultural Union. The mouthpiece of the South African Agricultural Union said the same thing.

The Voortrekker movement, which was also mentioned by the newspaper, said that it totally dissociated itself from the representations. The Automobile Association did not only dissociate itself from the representations, but also added: "We have said to them in writing that we do not want to be associated with this type of thing".

Cape Times 9/3/76

Sandy Bay: Lessons from the Transvaal

From Mr MICHAEL J HIME (10, Assan Avenue, Melrose, Johannesburg):

Letters

AT THE moment many people seem to be taking a defeatist attitude in regard to Sandy Bay. This must not be allowed to happen.

Statements are being made that Sandy Bay's loss will serve as a lesson to the authorities that property development must be rigidly controlled in future. This is not true; a win for the Sandy Bay developers will effectively rule this out. There has never been a case in the history of South Africa where the public are more united against a development and there is unlikely to be such a situation in the future.

If the public lose now, they will be so disheartened by the attitude of the authorities that they will offer little resistance to further development. What is the use if the authorities won't listen? Thus future developments will go through unopposed, and the authorities with short memories will soon forget the Sandy Bay lesson.

Incomparable

Anyway, what other area is more worthy of preservation than the incomparable Sandy Bay with its magnificent scenery and peaceful atmosphere which has captured all who have taken the trouble to visit the area? Once visited, Sandy Bay wins you over forever.

It is also time that Cape Town and environs woke up to the need of a guide plan for development, among other things. Johannesburg area is years ahead with its thinking. In the Vaal catchment area, in which the Rand Water Board has a tremendous say, no development is allowed unless it is in conformity with a guide plan. No development can take place unless adequate sewage treatment works exist; no pollution of rivers or dams being allowed. An adequate water supply must be laid on and services must be provided.

Also the Johannesburg municipality is clamping down on urban sprawl because of the ever-increasing costs of providing

services. It is now to be insisted that existing vacant stands in the more central areas must be fully developed before the outlying areas are attacked. No development is allowed within the 50-year flood level area of any river and this is also the case with any sewage treatment works or septic-tank locations; the freezing of the Hout Bay Valley development being an offshoot of this regulation. For once the Cape is waking up here. Development along the shores of our inland sea. Vaal Dam, is frozen. Our coastline is protected as a nature reserve.

In contrast to the Transvaal, the Cape allows discharge of raw or only slightly-treated sewage into many of its coastal bays or, alternatively, pipes it out to sea. What damage is being done to offshore reefs; also stray currents sometimes bring the sewage back to adjacent areas. I believe Sandy Bay was to have the sewage piped into the beautiful bay at Oude Schip Point. This is likely to be altered slightly but the sewage will still not be fully treated before discharge.

As to the Transvaal's curb on urban sprawl, the Cape is again asleep. There are many vacant plots in the greater city area and yet isolated Sandy Bay is to go. Costly water pipelines will

have to be routed from Hout Bay; this is not the end, for the Hout Bay reticulation will not be able to cope and will have to be increased in capacity. Road construction will really be costly because of the need for hillside stabilization as a result of deep road cuts. Powerlines and resultant substations will again add cost, having to be brought from Hout Bay.

In connection with the above, especially the water side, I feel I know what I am speaking about as I am employed as an engineer in the pipeline department of one of the largest water boards; and from the pollution point of view my father is in charge of this section with the same board. This board is one of the few organizations which are doing something to protect our environment.

How about it, Mr Administrator? I think it is your turn now. It also seems strange that you are about to approve a R80m development for the upper rich when at the same time developments costing much less for the Coloured community are being rejected.

I believe I may be right in saying that of Mr Mitchell's four controversial developments already approved, none have been fully developed, some have not yet been built on, and he is now to be given another controversial one to add to his record; the only developer having more than one controversial development.

A neutral policy?

From Mr R G C GERARD (Mossel Bay):

MY congratulations to the editorial staff, including Bob Molloy and Natie Ferreira, for their "neutrality" in the coverage of the Sandy Bay issue.

It has been stated in the past that the Cape Times only published expressions of public opinion. Mr Ferreira several weeks ago in his "Forum" column clearly indicated "impartiality".

Your editorial column (February 26) clearly indicates a neutral policy by suggesting to the voters a course of action to satisfy

the needs of a few.

In an advertisement published in the Argus Dr A V Hall, clearly states that R45 000 has been pledged to save Sandy Bay, and such amount has been promised without any advertising. He obviously omitted to state that the Cape Times was mainly responsible following Bob Molloy's "Put your money where your money is".

By the time the letter is received the Administrator will have made some decision so perhaps this letter could be published in accordance with your neutral policy.

R500 000 offer to buy Sandy Bay

CAPE TIMES
10/3/76

Chief Reporter

A LARGE South African company with overseas connections is believed to be behind a provisional offer that has been made to Mr Bill Mitchell, the controversial Cape township developer, to buy Sandy Bay for R500 000.

The company has stated that it proposes establishing a golf course on the eastern side of the mountain overlooking Sandy Bay, on a strip of land belonging to Mr Mitchell's company, Costa Areosa (Pty) Limited.

The controversial western part of Sandy Bay, including the beach, would remain untouched.

The company making the offer has already retained the services of a town planner to advise it on the golf course project. He is also investigating other potential golf course sites in the Cape Peninsula.

The Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, has also been approached on behalf of the company, but he has replied that the Provincial Administration cannot help in the matter and that the company should negotiate directly with the owners of the property.

Dr Munnik has also told the company's agent that he cannot comply with his request that the Executive Committee postpone its decision on the ultimate use of Sandy Bay, to enable the company to make further investigations.

UNDISTURBED

The company is understood to be prepared not only to leave the Sandy Bay beach area undisturbed; it would possibly also be prepared to consider disposing of it to "an appropriate public authority" for a nominal sum.

It is also understood that the executive of the Sandy Bay Advisory Committee of the Council for the Habitat agrees that, in principle, the company's suggestions would meet Habitat's conservation interests "in a most satisfactory way".

Mr Mitchell is at present overseas, and it is not yet known what his reaction is to the company's offer.

Last month the Administrator refused to extend the deadline for decision on Sandy Bay. He had ruled that permission would be given to the owners to develop the area unless, by March 1, an authorized body came forward to buy the land for the nation.

The agent for the company now wishing to acquire Sandy Bay states that the company's offer to Mr Mitchell was made before noon on March 1.

Eglin criticizes

Bay decision

11/3/76

Cape Times

Staff Reporter

THE Progressive Reform Party leader, Mr Colin Eglin, last night hit out at the Department of Planning for failing to act to save Sandy Bay from development.

Reacting to the decision by the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, to allow the Trust Bank-financed scheme for development of the bay, Mr Eglin said he was disappointed at the decision and did not agree with the reasons for it advanced by Dr Munnik.

"I am even more upset that the Department of Planning, which is supposed to be dedicated to the protection of the natural environment failed to act decisively in this matter since I first raised it in Parliament way back in August 1974."

He hoped the campaign to save Sandy Bay would be the beginning of a bigger campaign to make the public aware and to drive home to the Government the need to protect South Africa's natural heritage.

Dr Anthony Hall, chairman of the Sandy Bay advisory committee of the Council for the Habitat, said he deeply regretted the decision.

And Miss Annette Reincke, United Party MPC, said she was "bitterly disappointed" by the decision.

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Is this the end? SANDY BAY

(62) 14/02/76

THE days are ticking away relentlessly for Sandy Bay. And it now seems that not even money may be able to rescue this unspoilt spot for posterity. That lovely white stretch of beach and those bushy slopes may soon resound to the polluting belches of voracious bulldozers, crunching cement-mixers and diesel-engined tip-lorries.

D-Day is March 1 — a fortnight away

AND racing this deadline are dedicated groups of conservationists, ecologists and common-or-garden nature-lovers who have been striving for some weeks already to carry the save-the-day battle right into the pockets of the people.

Their aim is R200 000 — an arbitrary figure, the price paid for the land some years ago.

They say that if the money is not forthcoming — to provide strong financial backing to the local authorities in the hoped-for event of a rezoning or expropriation of the property — Sandy Bay could become just another monument to pseudo-Spanish kitsch.

Even the nudists, who have made the bay so popular (fotobros in more censorious eyes), are doing their bit to collect financial pledges. But the least said about bare bathing, skinny-dipping and languid low-tide streaking, the better. Right now, nudism will just cloud the issue and generate more heat in myriad disapproving quarters.



by Derek Wilson

and development doing the rounds on the issue at the moment, a salient piece of irony seems to have escaped notice: In 1976, a conscious band of citizens is running around doing good works by trying to get R200 000 from the public to try to rescue the Peninsula's last pristine bathing beach.

In 1968, however, it would have cost nothing had watchful citizens successfully objected when the authorities advertised their intended zoning of the area for general amenities. There were no objections at the time. And now it's going to cost the public R200 000 at least — even if a formal move is successfully channelled

ported the development plans and approved them more than a year ago.

And the Council chairman, Mr Klappies Heyns, last month told a delegation from the Council for the Habitat that the decision would have to stand — unless any councillor moved a motion to review and rescind it.

Some people feel it unnecessary to collect any money at all and reckon the developers — Costa Areosa (Pty) Ltd and the Trust Bank — should simply chalk up a speculation loss if they lose the battle against the preservationists.

But the land was not bought for speculation or resale, according to the managing director of the Trust Bank, Mr A. P. J. Burger. And the Administrator, Dr L. A. P. A. Munnik, said in his December statement on Sandy Bay that the owner would have to receive reasonable compensation if the development were not approved.



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The issue to hand is not save Sandy Bay for theists but to save Sandy Bay — period. Anyway, any one's all might be unfashionable in

And what if the idea of Kent Durr, United Pro-MPG for Constantia, ches on? Speaking in Provincial Council not a year ago, he said: If the authorities determined to develop the bay it should be the Coloured people become a mixer, recreational and recreational. Who can see skimping in such circumstances? With all the talk of ecology, pledges, ecology

Only a couple of months ago, Mr Frans Conradie MEC for Local Government, warned that the Sandy Bay matter was out of the hands of private individuals and that any efforts aimed at preserving the area as a wilderness would have to go through some statutory body.

If no such authority takes steps to acquire Sandy Bay before March 1, the Provincial Executive Committee (the Administrator and his four MECs) will grant approval in principle for the development of the area. It is unlikely that the Divisional Council will take any steps as it sup-

This could be done either by de zoning coupled with compensation or by complete expropriation at market value.

To return to the question of land values, Mr Durr, the U.P.'s main spokesman on conservation issues in the Provincial Council, feels the effort to save the bay cannot be assessed without knowing the precise value of the area. 'There is speculation,' he says, 'that Sandy Bay is now worth very much more than the R200 000 paid for it — anything up to R7-million, in fact. But one can deal with facts only. Nobody can predict whether the houses to be built there will be sold at a profit or a loss.'

Has the value of the property been enhanced at the stroke of a pen? If so, surely it can be devolved again at another stroke of a pen?

The following are the various values which have been mentioned since the pledge fund began: ● R200 000 — what mill-loner township developer Mr. Billy Mitchell paid for the land when he bought it from Mr. A. F. Bisschop in 1972. Costa Atreosa is one of Mr Mitchell's companies. He and the Trust Bank have gone into the R80-million scheme on a 50-50 basis. The R200 000 is also the figure the preservationists are sticking to. ● R300 000-R400 000 — A professional valuer, Mr

John Bayton, a member of last month's Habitat delegation to the Divisional Council, said no material change has occurred to the rights on the property, so the value was not materially different at present. With the change in money value, the property might now be worth R300 000.

● Re-million — a hypothetical expropriation figure in a pro-development letter to the Press from Mr. A. F. Fackler of Bantley Bay. ● R7-million — a figure quoted in an Afrikaans newspaper and dismissed as unrealistic by Mr Bayton. Mr John Bridgman, the Divisional Councillor into whose ward Sandy Bay falls, was asked for his

views on the issue. He felt no one could put a value on the land until one got down to working out bases. However, he believed the Mitchell land was worth more than R1-million and that Mr Mitchell must have spent upwards of R500 000 on it already.

These costs were incurred on the insistence of the Province, and the Divisional Council. He warned that the public would have to provide considerable help financially if Sandy Bay was to be preserved. He added that he was looking into proposing a motion of review-and-revise of the previous pro-development decision in the Divisional Council. Mr Conradie said the

value of the land might have to be set by arbitration. Dr. A. V. Hall, chairman of Habitat's Sandy Bay advisory committee, said: 'Our view is being taken — is that the rights have not changed at all since the property changed hands for R200 000 in 1972. The other point is that the target of R200 000 is a possibly attainable goal. We want to provide strong financial support for the authorities to dezone.'

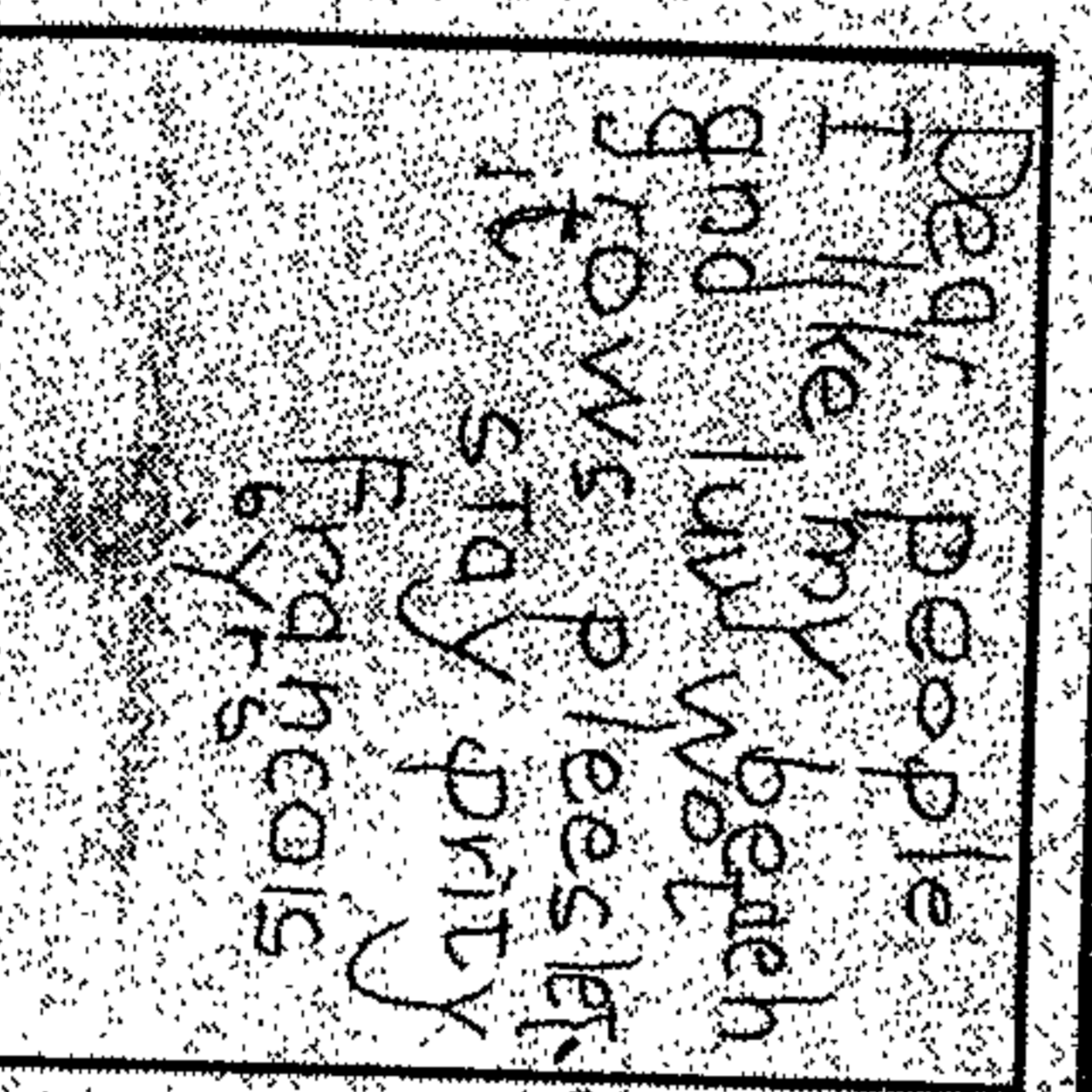
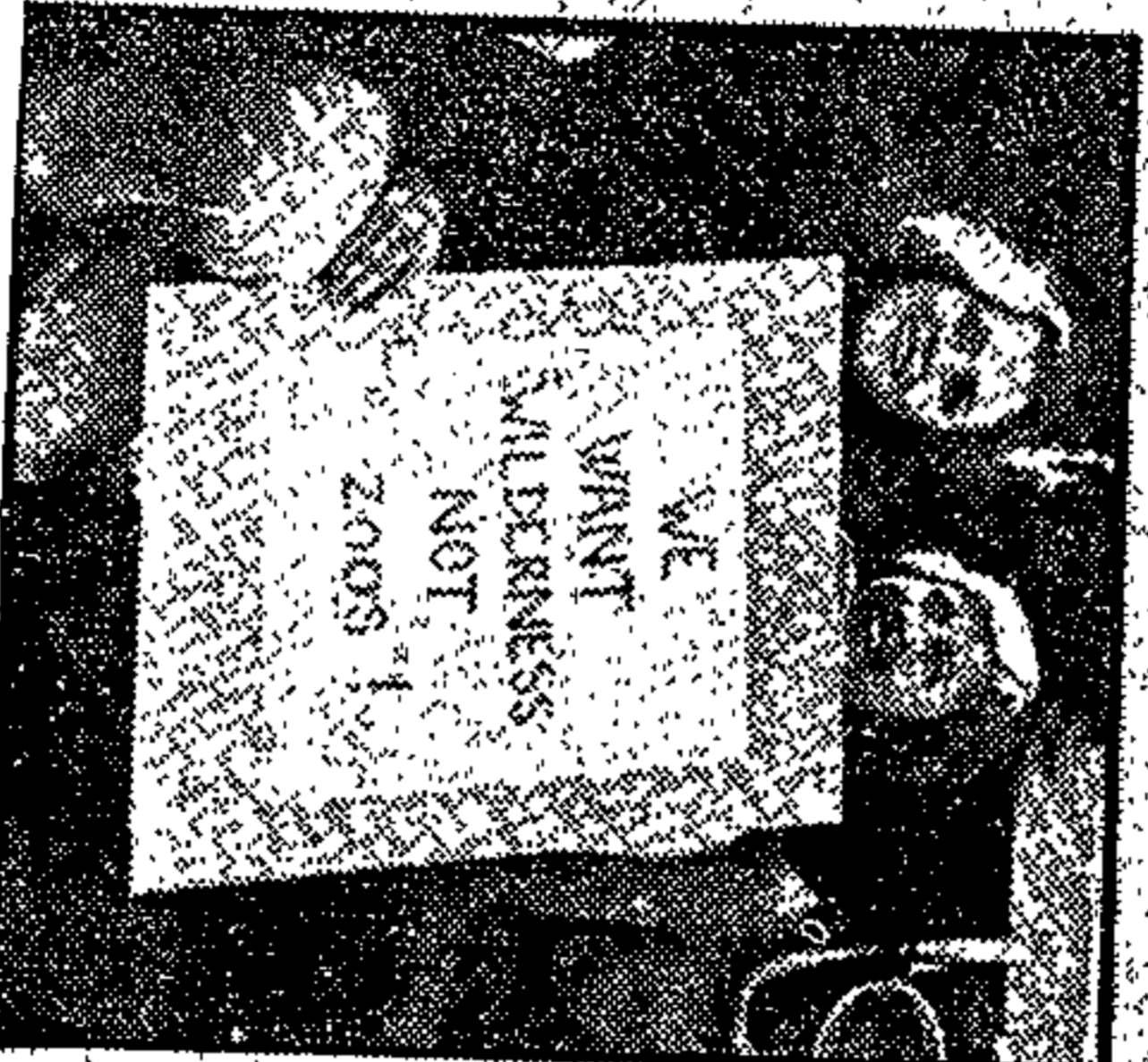
Dr. Hall was also part of the delegation to the Divisional Council. He presented a traffic study by Mr J. P. du Plessis, an authority on transport engineering. The study said the proposed development at Sandy Bay would result in traffic congestion that would cost more than R10-million to correct. (Mr Fackler has since dismissed the traffic warning as futile and artificial.) The Historical Monuments Council has discussed the possibility of proclaiming Sandy Bay an historical monument, but the consensus was that it was too late for the HMC to do anything. A spokesman said, too, that the HMC was not in a position to pay compensation.

A perusal of newspaper records, on Sandy Bay suggests a shift in the attitude of the Mayor of Cape Town, Mr John Tyers. Mr Tyers was still Deputy Mayor in August, 1974, when he became one of the first to hit out against the proposed development. He said at the time: 'One must consider the majority. The majority must be allowed to enjoy the beach. It is a beautiful bay. It shouldn't be kept for a minority. The public must be protected.'

In December last year, he was reported to have said that controlled and regulated development would do the area no harm. 'I don't think it is possible to keep such an area idle to be invaded in any case by people going to the beach. I do not see why development would not proceed there as it is a similar area to Camps Bay or Fish Hoek. When people go to the beach

they don't go to look at the mountain.' Just what are the developers' proposals? An R30-million scheme designed by three Spanish architects and including a five-star hotel, flats and chalets with Spanish overtones. According to Mr Burger, construction work would begin in 18 months' time if the first stage of the development was approved after March 1.

If you would rather not see anything like that you can make a financial pledge to save the bay by sending it to The Atheneum Trust, 154 Campground Road, Newlands, 7700, or by telephoning 51-4001. But then, of course, you might very well support the developers and even plan to live there yourself.



What they're fighting

Sandy Bay — 10 000 Capetonians say **NO**

Cape Times W/E 14/2/76.

These three men will decide

By BOB MOLLOY

WITH barely 14 days to go before the bulldozers move in on Sandy Bay, it seems that the conservationists have proved one point — the Little Guys make the noise but the Big Guys have all the muscle.

This week a Trust Bank spokesman made it abundantly clear that he knows what will happen during the Ides of March — a green light for bricks and mortar.

In a democracy of course muscle is unimportant. It is the number of votes that count — as Caesar discovered one sunny morning long ago in the Roman Senate. Strangely, it was also on the Ides of March — a period soon upon us.

There have been lesser Caesars in the Administrator's chair. One of them left us a legacy in the shape of the Dista Park pepper pots — otherwise known as Cruet Park.

Another closed his eyes to the seven-storey blot in Camps Bay, ignored the Mitzenberg, Sore Thumb and allowed that massive indicator of Things To Come at Blaauwberg Strand.

How does it happen? Don't we have town planners, people who know all about the need for green spaces in urban areas, ideal traffic flow, optimum residential concentrations, the theories of push-pull in the movement of people and concepts such as aesthetics, beauty and quality of living? The answer is that we



Mr Jan Marais, Trust Bank.

do. We have the best in terms of qualifications, ability and willingness to make it all happen. The problem is that the town planners don't make decisions. Their job is to make recommendations.

So what about our town planning schemes, the basic regulations that enforce zoning and prescribe particular areas for particular activities? Yes, we've got that too. Unfortunately, planning schemes are not Acts of God, though some people naively behave as if they are. The truth is all such



Mr Bill Mitchell, developer.

schemes, regulations and zoning rules are subject to pressure from interested parties.

That's why a few dozen Camps Bay residents now find themselves with a view of the beach — in spite of their plea that the view is what they paid for when they bought their houses years ago. The stiletto slides in so easily that it doesn't hurt until you see the blood. The gashes are made one by one until the Sea Point syndrome is achieved where



Dr Munnik, Administrator.

shrugged in council and it seems logical to think that one monument in the graveyard will make no difference.

To clarify the Sandy Bay issues: Trust Bank, in consortium with millionaire developer Bill Mitchell, intends building an upper-bracket Spanish-style hideaway in the area. It will be a multi-million rand project over a number of years. They claim, among other things, that it will give a fillip to the building industry, provide much needed ac-

commodation, boost divisional council revenue, beautify the area and increase tourist interest. The property is theirs and but for minor zoning problems (that ridiculous town-planning scheme again) and some noise from the conservationists they can go ahead.

Opposed are a growing body of people who refuse to accept these claims at face value. They point to population increase and the need to maintain some vestige of wilderness near the city as a lung for future generations. The claim that nature can be improved upon by bricks and mortar is dismissed immediately. The accommodation provided, say the objectors, is for an income bracket already surfeited. That the building industry will be aided is not doubted but the money will have to be invested in any case and reinvested in a potential circulation booster wherever it is spent. They also point out that the boost to Council revenue will take a long time to counter-balance the sum required to provide roads and other services to the area — an amount which may reach R25m according to recent figures. That sum will come out of the taxpayer's pocket. A few Little Guys, mainly in the Camps Bay, Llandundo and Hout Bay areas, are waking up to the fact that what they once dismissed as fringe lunacy is very much their problem. The Council for the Habitat has pointed out that traffic density will increase. It says much for the urban dweller's lack of awareness that this

single point gave him his biggest jolt. Dire warnings of ecology breakdown, urban sprawl, pollution and all the other evils of development made little impression.

The thought of nose-to-tail driving as a daily hazard brought the matter right into his own driveway, and may yet add muscle to the noise.

In December the Administrator ruled that the Provincial Council had washed its hands of the problem. Unless a statutory body came forward with an offer before March 1, development could go ahead.

This generated the new wave conservatism which has put its money where its mouth is and begun to fund a campaign to buy the Bay for the nation.

Earlier this week the pledge total topped R40 000 — a newling infant to range against the Trust Bank giant. But if the move to establish a Peninsula Trust as a long-term safeguard of public amenities takes root there may well be weeping in the boardroom — particularly when the public relations department tries to explain what happened to the company image.

Pontius Pilate's infamous act of handwashing established the good old art of passing the buck, but it takes the calibre of a Caesar to face the issue.

The epitaph of that long ago Caesar who ignored both the issue and its protagonists had a succinct phrase: "The evil that men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones."

What is

democracy,

gentlemen?

WHAT is democracy? It simply means "government by the people". Good government — at any level — means implementing the wishes of the people and bad government means ignoring the wishes of the people.

Why state the obvious? Because of Sandy Bay. In this particular case it seems as if the wishes of the people are going to be ignored. Mr Jan Marais of the Trust Bank and Mr Bill Mitchell, a property developer, want to urbanize Sandy Bay. Ten thousand other people, backed by R40 000, want Sandy Bay as an unspoilt beach.

Meanwhile the Administrator of the Cape, Dr I. A. P. A. Munnik, has declared that unless some recognized authority steps in with a cash offer to buy the land and retain it as a public open space developers will be given the go-ahead. The deadline is March 1.

The issue is quite simple. Democracy cannot be measured in terms of money. Money already spent, money invested or money to be made should not be allowed to overrule the straightforward democratic principle that the majority opinion should stand. It's a simple question of 10 000 against the interests of a few business men. Shouldn't that be your only guiding principle, Dr Munnik? Are the wishes of 10 000 people not a "recognized authority"?

And of course the Sandy Bay issue goes much further. If the present development mania is not stopped the entire Peninsula will one day be an extension of Sea Point.

But of course neither Mr Marais, Mr Mitchell nor Dr Munnik will be there to witness a city choking to death. Their children will witness that.

For goodness sake, here we have 10 000 people who are thinking ahead for a change. People who want to preserve something worthwhile. Are you really going to ignore that Dr Munnik, Mr Marais and Mr Mitchell?

Democracy does not mean a blank cheque to administrators every five years. There is a continuous system of checks and balances. One of these checks is "public opinion". It is a necessary and valid extension of the vote. Public opinion is obviously against the development of Sandy Bay. Dare it be ignored?

And the principle of democratic organization also includes, and regulates, big business. Economic democracy, it is called. No business man should be allowed to overrule public opinion. That would mean allowing free enterprise to function unchecked by the society in which it operates. In extreme cases it is called economic exploitation.

Politics are very often the art of obscuring the obvious. Sandy Bay is a political issue, make no mistake. A clever politician could throw up a hundred smokescreens to make the Sandy Bay development seem desirable, necessary and unavoidable. But after all the "jag" but . . . " arguments the fact still remains that 10 000 people are against the plan and a few business men are for it.

Sandy Bay— talks go on

Political Correspondent

Cape Times
18/2/76

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—Further consultations between the Government and the Provincial Administration will take place before a final decision is taken on the proposed township development at Sandy Bay.

This was stated yesterday by the Deputy Minister of Planning and the Environment, Mr Punt Janson, in reply to a series of questions by the Progressive Reform Party leader and MP for Sea Point, Mr Colin Eglin.

Asked whether the proposed Sandy Bay development was in conformity with the overall guide plan for the Peninsula being prepared by the

Central Guide Plan Committee, Mr Janson said that no detailed attention had yet been given to the Sandy Bay area.

He said the merits of the proposal seen against the background of the desirability had been discussed at various stages with the Provincial Administration and further consultation would take place before a final decision was taken.

Pressed further, Mr Janson told Mr Eglin that he had "no idea" when the guide plan for the Peninsula would be completed but that the Sandy Bay area would be included in the plan.

NO MORATORIUM

In reply to another question, Mr Janson said he was not prepared to ask the Administrator of the Cape to place a moratorium on the development of all coastal townships pending the completion of the guide plan.

Asked by Mr Radclyffe Cadman (UP Umhlatuzana) whether he had personally visited Sandy Bay, Mr Janson replied amid laughter: "No. I bow to the honourable member's superior knowledge."

Commenting later, Mr Eglin said the Deputy Minister's replies revealed a "ridiculous situation".

"On the one hand he says that Sandy Bay is to be included in the guide plan which he is preparing but has not yet completed. On the other he says that he is not prepared to ask the Administrator to place a moratorium on the development until the guide plan has been completed.

"What on earth is the use of including Sandy Bay in a future guide plan when he has already allowed development to take place ahead of the guide plan?"

Call to extend deadline on Bay

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Cape Times 19/2/76

THE ADMINISTRATOR, Dr L A P A Munnik, was asked to extend his deadline on Sandy Bay by three months in the Cape Provincial Council yesterday.

The deadline is March 1, when the Administrator will make a final decision on proposed development in the area.

The appeal was made by Mr. Kent Durr (UP Constantia) who told the Administrator that there was no urgency on the matter and there was no need for the area to be developed.

There were 45 000 vacant plots in the metropolitan area of Cape Town alone and there was land for 120 000 families at present densities.

The people of Cape Town had shown their support for the idea of saving the area from development and 10 000 people had signed petitions.

In an interjection Dr Munnik asked: "How many of those signatures were from Nusas?"

Mr Durr said he himself had brought in 2 000 signatures and none of them were from Nusas.

Mr Durr added that he wanted to see the area incorporated in a nature reserve under Kirstenbosch or the Province.

Sandy Bay:

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appeal for

more time

NR645 19/2/76

MR KENT DURR, MPC for Constantia, yesterday made an urgent appeal to the Administrator of the Cape, Dr L. A. P. A. Munnik, to extend the deadline for official objections to the development of Sandy Bay for a further three months.

He was speaking during the second reading debate of the province's Part Appropriation Draft Ordinance.

Mr Durr said there were an estimated 4500 vacant plots in the Greater Cape Town area, so there was no urgency for the proposed development of Sandy Bay.

He said a multi-disciplinary impact statement on the effect of development at Sandy Bay should have been prepared so that the Executive Committee could have based their decision on facts and not opinions.

He also asked the Administrator to say what the value of the land was, so that those members of the public who wished to raise money for it could have a goal to work to.

'What makes this particular developer so special?' he asked.

SPENT MONEY

He said property speculators could not always win on land deals if they spent money in anticipation of rights which particular properties did not have.

The public of Cape Town had shown they did not want Sandy Bay developed.

A fund for soldiers at the border, started at about the same time as the Sandy Bay campaign, had

raised only a quarter the amount that had been pledged for the conservation of Sandy Bay.

Dr Munnik interjected and asked what suggestions Mr Durr had for Sandy Bay.

'I should like to see all the land from the Sentinel at Hout Bay to Sunset Rocks declared a nature reserve under the control of Kirstenbosch or the province,' Mr Durr replied.

New appeal on Sandy Bay

THE NORMALLY publicity-shy committee of the Council for the Habitat, a government-recognized umbrella body for conservation groups, exploded into print on the Sandy Bay issue yesterday with a toughly-worded press statement and an open telegram to the Administrator.

This followed a refusal by the Administrator, Dr L. P. A. Munnik, to meet a deputation from the Council's Sandy Bay advisory committee.

Told on January 20 that the Administrator was "too busy for at least two weeks", the committee heard at its meeting on Tuesday that the Administrator would not see them at all.

An open telegram, re-

ceived by the Cape Times yesterday, reads: "Council for Habitat advisory committee expresses exceptional concern at your refusal to see its deputation on Sandy Bay and at absence of any reply to request for extension of deadline March 1. Committee reports immense public opposition to urbanization at Sandy Bay. Studies now or shortly available in committee's

opinion indeed give new information. Knowing your stated interest in conservation, committee earnestly appeals to you to reconsider your refusal."

The press statement says the committee asked the Administrator for a two-month extension of the March 1 deadline for a final decision on the Sandy Bay development, and that this was ignored.

The grounds for the request were given as:

- The proposed development would squeeze a population the size of Fish Hoek onto the narrow and steep mountain slopes of Sandy Bay.

- This would create traffic chaos at bottlenecks along the coastal corridor, in Hout Bay and elsewhere.

- The general rate and taxpayer would have to pay more than R10m to finance road improvements.

- The Cape Town City Council would have to expropriate properties from the central business area to the boundary of the city for road. The cost would be a serious breach of the anti-inflation campaign.

- There is widespread disgust at the prospect of permanent urbanization at Sandy Bay, and public opinion is backed by more than 1 700 pledges totalling R45 000.

- Expert legal, financial and technical opinion on all these aspects is to be heard by the Administrator.

The statement ended with an appeal to those opposed to development to send pledges of financial support to the Athenaeum, 154 Camp Ground Road, Newlands, 7700.

Cape Times 2/2/76

Sandy Bay

plea attacked

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Staff Reporter

THE CONSERVATIONISTS pleading for Sandy Bay had weakened their case by suggesting that they were also experts on planning, Mr Frans Conradie MEC in charge of Local Government said in the Cape Provincial Council yesterday.

He said they had used these tactics because they did not have a good case for conservation.

In a warning to conservationists he said they should watch the company they kept as associating with people whose motives were not pure and who would not advance their cause.

He also appealed for more responsibility from people who pleaded for conservation from public platforms.

Facts had been ignored and one of the arguments used was that development would be in violation of the plan for coastal development, but there was no such plan.

Mr Conradie said the much quoted figure of the vacant 45 000 plots in the greater Cape Town area was a red herring if ever there was one.

About 37 000 of the plots were in areas such as Bellville, Durbanville, Kraaifontein and Paarl and could not in any way be regarded as coastal plots.

Only an eighth or a 10th of the plots mentioned could be cited in connection with Sandy Bay. There were about 1 600 vacant plots between Bakoven and Hout Bay and the 1 200 Oudekraal plots that had been mentioned were unlikely to be developed. They had been approved in 1962 and

since then nothing had been done.

Unfortunately there was no provision to cancel an old township that had not been developed but this should be done in the case of Oudekraal.

TRAFFIC STUDY

He said the traffic study was based on maximum development but this was not being considered as only the first stage of development was being considered at Sandy Bay.

Mr Conradie said the question by Mr Kent Durr (UP Constantia) on what

had made the development of Sandy Bay so special lent itself to a possible ugly interpretation and it could be an ugly insinuation on the Executive Committee.

"A few years ago we had an ugly chapter in the province and I don't want that ghost to appear again."

He said the Sandy Bay development, if it were approved, would be a unique coastal development and it would not contribute one vacant plot to the country's coastline.

Big Sandy Bay sellout

A MASSIVE sellout was the public response to the first organized fund-raising event in the "Save Sandy Bay" campaign — the Sandy Bay dinner arranged for Monday evening in a Loop Street restaurant.

Miss Annette Reineke, MPC for Rondebosch, said diners would be asked to give a pledge and would have meal and wine at a

nominal charges. Pictures of Sandy Bay together with scenes of highrise building development would be on show.

Miss Reineke said that she had invited all Provincial Council members to visit the restaurant to see the pictures.

Members of the public can also examine the exhibition and give pledges daily.

R500 000 in Sandy Bay fund

THE Sandy Bay fund jumped by more than R6 000 this week to close on R50 000.

The latest figures from the pledge centre at the Athenaem and the Sandy Bay pledge telephone number show an increase in the flow of pledges from just over 20 a day to more than 50.

Burger challenge on Sandy Bay

A CHALLENGE by Die Burger to Provincial Council members to visit Sandy Bay before further discussion on the area was largely side-stepped yesterday.

The challenge, made by the newspaper's columnist Andre Rossouw, said that the bay had become a symbol of a bureaucracy opposed to the ordinary man.

Before the decision-makers came to an agreement on the area they should go there and experience what the ordinary man felt when he managed to escape from the urban clutter. But MPCs should not visit by helicopter, or pleasure boat or stare at the bay from the main road; they should walk with shoes off, breathe deeply and look around, said Mr Rossouw.

A poll of United Party members showed that all Peninsula representatives, including the leader of the opposition in the Provincial Council, Mr Cyril Brett, had been to Sandy Bay.

Mr Herbert Hirsch, Progressif and member for the constituency in which Sandy Bay falls, confirmed that he had visited the area "when the whole thing became an issue".

Nationalist Party members referred the question to their "environmental spokesman".

Mr D E T le Roux (Uitenhage), one of the Nationalist spokesmen on the environment said that it was not feasible for the entire council to view every development in person.

They can still save Sandy Bay

Cape Times 21/2/76

This statement of the case against the development of Sandy Bay has been drawn up by the Sandy Bay Advisory Committee of the Council for the Habitat. In view of the intense public interest in the controversy, which is likely to be discussed by the Divisional Council on Tuesday, the Cape Times has made space available to give the statement in full.

THESE 20 MEN still have the power to save Sandy Bay as a wilderness area for posterity:

The Administrator: His Honour Dr L A P A Munik.

The Provincial Executive Committee: Mr F D Conradie, Mr F A Loots, Mr P J Loubser, Mr G J Lubbe.

The Divisional Councilors (in order of DC wards): Mr G O Owen, Mr I N G Hampshire, Mr E P Austen, Mr D J O'Dea, Mr T J Tyers, Mr F E Firth, Mr T Henshilwood, Mr H A C B Cloete, Mr N H Hare, Mr J H M Bridgeman, Mr J M Earle, Mr P J Grobbelaar, Mr J H Heyns, Mr H L Starke, Mr H J Kriel.

The Administrator and Executive Committee could extend the March 1 deadline which they have set; and the Divisional Council could review and rescind their current policy, avail themselves of the Administrator's offer of assistance, and buy Sandy Bay for preservation in perpetuity as a recreational wilderness area, in accordance with the clearly expressed wishes of the public which elected them to their present positions. They could do this next week: it is their electors' almost unanimous hope that they will. Regrettably, it seems unlikely.

Vital importance

The environment and its conservation are no doubt very secondary considerations to the majority of profit-oriented developers and to their bankers. But to the public environmental considerations are of primary and vital importance, as also are the rights and interests of posterity. While in a capitalist democracy individuals may in principle have "the right to develop their property", it

is at the same time the bounden duty of the elected representatives of the public to deny that right in any case where it conflicts with environmental considerations, the birth-right of future generations, and the clearly expressed wishes of the public, as in the case of Sandy Bay. This is why the apparent determination of the authorities to permit the development of this amphitheatre is so surprising — and deplorable.

Protest against the developers' proposals has been of unparalleled scope and intensity. Ten thousand people signed petitions against any development of Sandy Bay, and 1 700 of them have to date pledged R45 000 towards its preservation. The size of this sum is particularly remarkable in that it was achieved without advertising or professional organization of any kind, in less than two months, over the Christmas holidays, and during a recession — it is a great and spontaneous manifestation and act of faith, and an unarguable expression of the wishes of the public. (Further pledges should be telephoned to Cape Town 51-4001 or sent to the Athenaeum, 154 Campground Road Newlands, 7700.)

The Metropolitan Planning Council and the Township Boards, both statutory bodies of standing, considered the matter fully and advised against development. Contrary to its own material interests, the C P Institute of Architects refused to participate in a competition for which the developers offered prizes in the region of R100 000 in view of its belief that the site should remain undeveloped. The SA Institute of Town Planners also advised against development. The professional staffs of certain statutory bodies did likewise, and many wellknown politi-

cians and other concerned individuals went out of their way to protest in public. The press has been strongly opposed to development throughout the controversy.

In fact, the single voice raised in favour of development has been that of the developers themselves.

Arguments against

The arguments against the development — any development — of Sandy Bay have been thoroughly covered in the press in recent months. They are cogent, numerous, and basic. They include such matters as the need for the preservation of this last natural wild coast area as a recreational "lung" in reasonable proximity to the growing (doubling itself in 25 years) population of the metropolitan area) as the uniqueness of the whole amphitheatre in its apparent seclusion, and its fine combination of sea, beach, and rugged mountain scenery, almost unscarred by human change. The former wild coast from Gordon's Bay to Hermanus has been "developed" to its great detriment in recent years — and the less said about Sea Point, Bantry Bay and Clifton the better; must Sandy Bay really be added to the list?

More recently adduced arguments include:

(1) A road-traffic study prepared by an independent professional engineer and endorsed by others, predicting severe congestion, costing the general rate and taxpayer some R10 000 000 to resolve, rising from the scheme.

(2) Another proposed development of more than 1 000 erven between Bakoven and Llandudno, already approved.

(3) The inapplicability of bus transport to use by the proposed high-income

group as even a partial solution.

(4) The inadvisability of approving development at Sandy Bay prior to the completion of the work by the Central Guide Plan Committee, which is supposed to include this coastal area.

(5) The presently growing interest world-wide in conservation and environmental issues; and specifically in the tourist and recreational aspects of the Cape Peninsula — in its natural beauty rather than in its buildings. In its present unspoilt condition, Sandy Bay is a national capital asset, no less. Are we to spend all our capital?

(6) The strong and overwhelming intensity of public opinion, *per se*, as it has now been seen to be expressed — the disgust at the proposed permanent urbanization of so highly attractive a natural area.

Red herring

Certain specious arguments of a red-herring nature have of course also been raised, including the following:

(a) The question of need and desirability (more townships); here one must mention that in fact there are already some 50 000 vacant residential plots in the greater Cape Town area (say, within commuting radius of Bellville); whi-

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Reading List
 E. Hunt & H. Sherman,
 R. Lipsey & P. Steiner,
 B. McCormick, P. Kitchin, J. Marsh
 J. Pen, Income Distribu
 J. Robinson & J. Eatwell,
 P. Samuelson, Economics
 D. Hobart Houghton, TI
 P. Randall (ed.), Some
 " " , Power,

Betty's Bay (11 percent developed after 30 years) when recently extended became only 6 percent developed, and offers nearly 3 000 vacant plots.

(b) The much-publicized question of nudism at Sandy Bay. In the view of this committee this is simply not relevant to the issue of conservation. The making and enforcement or otherwise of existing laws governing public behaviour are matters for the judiciary and for the police, and have no relation to place, or to the present issue.

(c) The quality of the proposed development. Whether the development is high-density or low-density, good, bad or indifferent is also irrelevant. There should be no development of any kind in our opinion — not even a road.

The Administrator in Executive Committee has been accused in the press of "washing his hands" of the matter — Pontius Pilate has even been mentioned! Possibly this is unfair, as the Sandy Bay issue was to some extent inherited from his predecessor by Dr Munnik, whose positive views on the importance of conservation and environmental issues were widely publicized when he took up his post last year.

However, the simple fact remains that it was within his and the Exe-

cutive Committee's power, in view of the very obvious wishes of the public, categorically to refuse any development rights of Costa Areosa, but they elected not to do so.

It is deeply regretted that, in the whole period between his original ruling of December 10 and the present time when its deadline is upon us, Dr Munnik saw fit only to delay and then to formally refuse a hearing of any kind to our committee. This in spite of the fact that we speak for no less than 47 conservation-oriented member societies with a membership in excess of 2m persons.

It is also regretted that no acknowledgement nor reply has been received to our letter to Dr Munnik of February 3 requesting a two-month extension of his March 1 deadline.

Underestimated

That the Administrator turned the problem over to the public in the first place, and that he has now turned this committee away, can only indicate that he has seriously underestimated the depth of public feeling and concern over Sandy Bay.

The Divisional Council, we understand, was offered the Sandy Bay property ten years ago for R70 000, and (tragically and unwisely in our opinion) turned it down. The price is now a great deal higher, but the Council has been given another opportunity by the Administrator, undoubtedly the last, and it must not be missed or let slip this time.

The Divisional Council is the obvious public body to buy the Bay — and the establishment of nature reserves is its specific responsibility.

The Council's annual revenue of R6 000 000 stems in part from the joint municipal-divisional rates which we all pay every year on our properties, wherever situated in the Peninsula.

Regardless of other commitments the Divisional Council should immediately offer the sum of R300 000 (or a mere five percent of this year's revenue) to the Administrator for the purchase of Sandy Bay for ever. In doing so they will be carrying out the very clearly expressed wishes of the taxpayers who elected them to their present position, instead of merely furthering the monetary speculations of a handful of people — if not only one person.

The preservation of Sandy Bay as a recreational wilderness area for future generations would certainly be the most popular action the present Council could take in its entire period of office.

MAREE

We challenge both the Administrator and the Divisional Council to make public in full their reasons for having so signally ignored the expressed wishes of the taxpayers who have voted them into power.

We do not need to ask the developers and their bankers (who have stated that they intend to proceed regardless of public opinion) for their reasons or motivation in furthering the development of Sandy Bay! But any possible motivation of the authorities towards the same end remains obscure; the reasons have never been given.

Whether (when and if given) such reasons appear to justify their past actions or not, we now earnestly implore the Administrator and the Divisional Council to review and rescind their former decisions, and to see that development of any kind is permanently refused.

Preservation is a sound investment — it is never regretted by the public. Development is irreversible.

Cape Town, South Africa, and posterity can ill afford the unnecessary loss of this unique, beautiful, and quite irreplaceable area—the Sandy Bay amphitheatre.

— THE SANDY BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE of the Council for the Habitat.

The member societies of the Council for the Habitat include the following organizations:

- The Automobile Association of SA.
- Boy Scouts SA
- SA Camping Club.
- Clean Land Association of SA.
- Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Cape.
- SA Council for Conservation and Anti-Pollution.
- The Ecological Board of SA.
- Envirac.
- Cape Rangers Association of Africa.
- Girl Guides of SA.
- Institute of Landscape Architects of SA.
- Institute of SA Architects (National Board)
- Cape Provincial Institute of Architects.
- SA & CP Agricultural Unions.
- The Mountain Club.
- SA National Consumer Union.
- SA Ornithological Society.
- United Municipal Executives of SA.
- Society for the Protection of the Environment.
- SA Women's Agricultural Union.
- Wildlife Society of SA.
- Zoological Society of SA.
- National Veld Trust.
- The associated Scientific & Technical Societies of SA.
- SA Institute of Civil Engineers.
- Die Voorbrakkers.
- National Association of Clean Air.
- Friends of the Earth.
- Nature Conservation Centre.
- SA Hunters & Game Preservation Association.
- The Wilderness Foundation.
- And many others.

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Cape Times 21/2/76

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Munnik: No extension

Continued from page 1

people who wanted the beach to remain unspoilt had already spoiled it.

He dismissed arguments that it was the last unspoilt beach in the Peninsula and said there were 97 miles of coastline in the area of which only eight and a quarter were built up.

There was plenty of unspoiled coastline in the Cape Point Nature Reserve. Cape Town with its mountains had enough open space.

The executive committee had visited the site and studied the proposals and the objections thoroughly. Holding up thick files for Provincial Councillors to see, he said he had spent nights carefully reading reports on all aspects of the development.

Nobody wanted to talk about nudism, which he regarded as an evil, and they wanted to brush the matter aside. He said the Administration would not spend a penny on acquiring a beach that would be used by nudists.

RIGHTS

The only thing special about the developer was that he owned the land which had certain rights when he bought it and he and applied to exercise these rights in the normal way.

Referring to an article by Andre Rossouw in Friday's Burger, Dr Munnik said he was tired of this man and the things he wrote.

The article said that he (Dr Munnik) had said that the 10,000 petitions were canvassed by Nusas. This was a lie and was printed to mislead the public.

The writer, he said, had knowledge of nudism and had written articles on it.

He said Bob Molloy in the Cape Times had printed photographs of himself, Dr Jan Marais and Mr Bill Mitchell and written "these three will decide": This gave the impression that he (Dr Mun-

nik) would sit down with the developer and the banker to decide the question. This was a lie to mislead the public.

Miss Annette Reinecke (UP Rondebosch) was a fellow traveller (a "meeloper") and the protesters were using Mr Kent Durr (UP Constantia). He warned Mr Durr that he would be hurt. Mr Herbert Hirsch (PRP Sea Point) was muddled by politics and the Council for the Habitat had woken up too late.

He dismissed their argument that the improvement to the road system to serve the area would cost R10m as nonsense and said the matter had been investigated thoroughly.

Dr Munnik said only 381 houses were involved in the first stage of development and this would not produce any more traffic than was created by the 2,000 people who sometimes gathered on the beach.

He said Peter Ravenscroft, one of the original protesters, had been head of Envirac, a sub-section of Nusas. They had got Mr Von Molkte to apply to the Supreme Court for an interdict. Mr Von Molkte, Dr Munnik said, had turned out to be named Blignaut.

IN THE BUSH

Mr Ravenscroft, Dr Munnik said, was a young man who at the time did not have a fixed address but had lived in the bush near Sandy Bay.

The young protesters had brought out a woman from the United States America to help them in their campaign.

Dr Munnik dismissed the argument that there were thousands of plots available in the greater Cape Town area. "You can't tell a man who wants a plot at Sandy Bay that he can buy 100 plots at Kraaifontein," he said.

**Sandy Bay
plea attacked**

— Page 11

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Sandy Bay: Deadline not to be extended

Cape Times
21/2/76

THE deadline for decision on Sandy Bay will not be extended. The Administrator of the Cape, Dr L A P A Munnik, said in an angry speech in the Cape Provincial Council last night that the final decision on

development of the bay would be taken on March 1 — his original deadline.

Dr Munnik, who spoke for nearly an hour, lashed out at journalists, who he said were trying to mislead the public.

He accused Andre Rossouw of the Burger and Bob Molloy of the Cape Times of printing lies and he said student protesters against the development were looking for a confrontation.

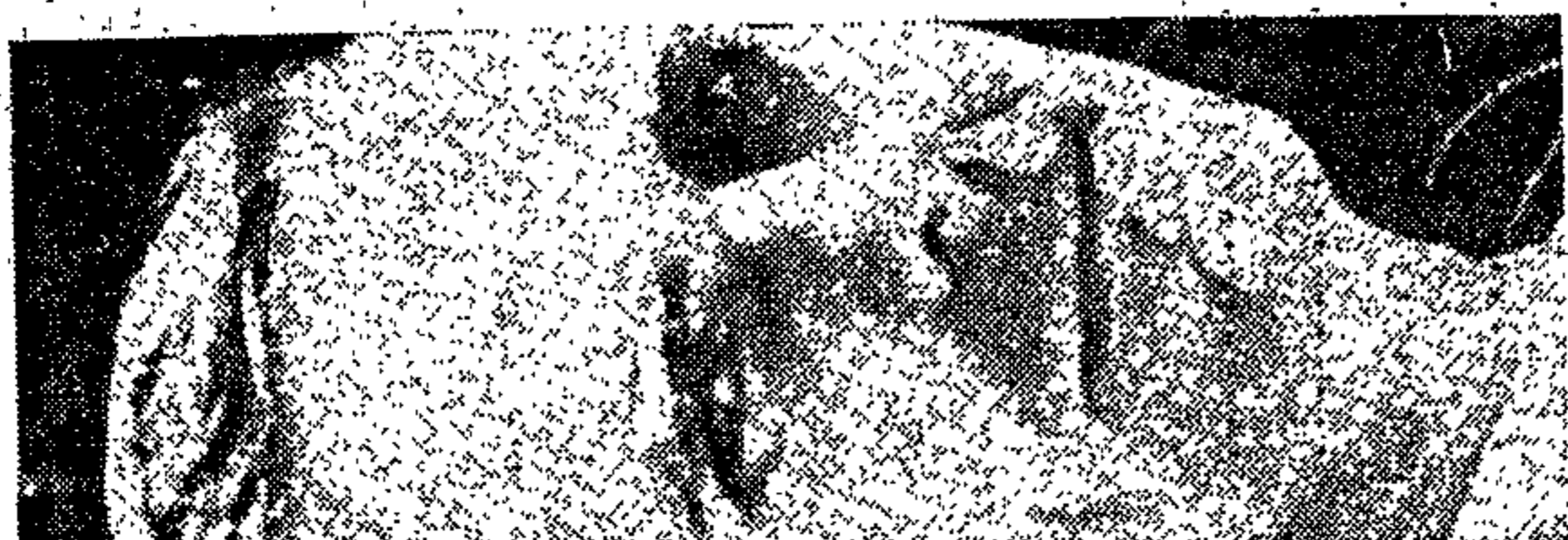
The protests, he said, had begun with Mr Peter Ravenscroft of Envirac, a Nusas sub-section and students had tried to stir up trouble between rich and poor.

About 2 000 of the petitions had come from the University of Cape Town and the language in these petitions was full of socialistic clichés.

Dr Munnik said the
Continued on page 2.

THE Administrator has taken the unusual step of accusing two well-known Cape Town journalists, one from the Cape Times and the other from the Burger, of lying. The Burger will no doubt deal with the reference to its reporter in the way it thinks fit; but for its part the Cape Times would like

to point out that it has the fullest confidence in the professional integrity of Mr Bob Molloy. Further, if Dr Munnik cares to utter these remarks outside the protection of the Provincial Council chamber, the matter will be referred to lawyers for appropriate action.—Editor, Cape Times.



DR. A. V. HALL
'we won't give up.'

SANDY BAY: 'WE WON'T GIVE UP'

By BEN MITCHELL
Cape Times
2/12/76

A LAST-DITCH fight has begun to save Sandy Bay from development following an announcement by the Administrator of the Cape (Dr. L. A. P. A. Munnik) in the Provincial Council that there would be no extension of time for conservationists to save the bay. And political spokesmen and conservationists slammed back at Dr Munnik today in reaction to his angry attack on Save Sandy Bay campaigners in which he spoke of the 'evil' of nudism. Announcing the fresh struggle for Sandy Bay, the chairman of the Sandy Bay advisory committee to the Council for the Habitat, Dr A. V. Hall, said tonight: 'We won't give up.' He said pledges of money were coming in at the rate of 'almost one a minute' following last night's address by Dr Munnik. Dr Munnik's statements last night have produced fresh leads for us and we are considering new approaches to the Divisional Council on the matter.

Dr Hall said his committee had authorised the following statement: 'The Council for the Habitat Committee on Sandy Bay is grateful for the new insight into the views and motives of the Administrator as expressed at yesterday's Provincial Council meeting. 'The committee finds serious misunderstandings clearly exist with regard to these views. It is essential that these be cleared up at once with an interview between the committee and the Administrator. 'At its meeting in Johannesburg yesterday the executive of the Council for the Habitat supported to the hilt the stand being taken by its advisory council on Sandy Bay. 'The Council for the Habitat is a national body set up to combat environmental damage. Mr Herbert Hirsch, MPC for Sea Point which includes Sandy Bay in its constituency, said Dr Munnik had underestimated the extent of public support for Sandy Bay's preservation.'

'A year ago in response to a question in Council I was given a list of 15 organisations and many individuals who opposed development at Sandy Bay,' he said. Today the number was far bigger. 'Many of these people are not members of the so-called lunatic fringe or nudists but decent, level-headed types. 'I do not think that the Administrator is aware of the wide opposition there is to this development from the man in the street. 'His argument does not outweigh in the least the case by the conservationists. 'I was disappointed that he (Dr Munnik) questioned the sincerity of some of the people who collected signatures supporting Sandy Bay conservation. Mr Kent Durr, MPC for Constantia, saw Dr Munnik's speech as a defeat for Sandy Bay. 'The machinery of the Government has not kept pace with the feelings of public opinion and has exposed a weak structure in the administration,' he said. 'It is a defeat for Sandy Bay but a victory, too. The authorities have learnt something from this. Dr Munnik had accused Mr Durr of having been led astray by supporters of Sandy Bay preservation. 'My main argument was for more time so reasons for and against the development of Sandy Bay could be advanced. 'Nudism is a red herring thrown in. It has nothing to do with the merits. Dr Munnik's argument has the effect of being a smokescreen and does not invalidate the case for preservation. 'Mr Durr stressed that there were other beach areas in the Cape which could be developed and there was no urgency to proclaim a township at Sandy Bay.'

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21/2/76

'SANDY BAY IS IN YOUR HANDS, SIR'

By BOB MCILLOY

RESEARCH by dedicated conservationists, working feverishly since the Administrator's ruling on a March 1 deadline for the development of Sandy Bay, have brought to light some facts which should dim the rosy glow that the developers have been casting on the scene.

They vitally affect each person who lives in the Peninsula, particularly if he is Mr Average Joe Littleleguy with no income from tourists, ice-cream concessions or tea and scones sites. And if Mr A J Littleleguy lives on the Atlantic side anywhere between the city and Noordhoek he should take note of what the conservationists are saying — the reason being that he is about to be sold a bill of goods that will keep his pocket stretched for years.

This is the Sandy Bay development scheme, a multi-million rand Trust Bank project to place several thousand houses on the sea-facing mountain slopes between Llandudno and Oudeschip.

How could such a perfectly-designed scheme cause harm to the average householder? After all, top architects will be commissioned, prestige dwellings will be erected and the financially stable Trust Bank will back it all the way — there will be little chance of a half-time cop-out on the part of the developers.

The scheme also promises to leave large areas of public open space for your enjoyment, the beach is to remain untouched and recreation facilities will be installed.

So what is wrong with that

Let's look at the facts:

● A township the size of Fish Hoek will be squeezed onto the narrow strip of steeply-sloping land between the coast and the cliffs of the Karbonkelberg.

● At least 7 500 people will live there in 2 100 dwellings. The final figure is likely to be twice that with the load tripled in season.

● You — the ratepayer — will have to provide them with sewage, roads, parking areas, refuse removal and all the other services. You'll be assured on inquiry that the gain in rates from the new dwellings will offset council expenditure. If that were true your rates would drop every time somebody built a new house, and that is patently not the case. Quite simply, expansion costs you money.

● The access roads will cost at least R10m. Locking at previous such



The Administrator, Dr Munnik

estimates we can more than double that to R25m. Again, you pay.

● To carry the excess traffic — remember that it will more than double in season — will require further expansion of an already obsolete coastal road. (The widening of the road to meet present demands will be complete in June. You are paying for that too, in rates and taxes.)

● Road-widening will require expropriation of property, perhaps yours. Regardless, you still pay.

● The rule of expansion is that traffic increases to fill the roads available. If you live along the route and already suffer from traffic, either in listening to it or driving through it, be assured that at present you have picnic conditions.

● Dwellings planned include multi-storey, mixed and single-storey structures. There will also be a hotel, restaurant, primary school, sports areas, and walkways, all in 180 hectares.

● The "public open space" on examination of the plan, shows mainly beach, precipitous rocks, steep slopes and bare hillside overlooked on either side by houses.

● As a weekend visitor or tourist to your favourite beach you will add your car to the few thousand already in residence, take your dog for a run among the few thousand home-based animals, and compete with your radio among those tuned in at the 2 100 dwellings. It should be fun.

● All subdivision of land must be approved by the authorities on the grounds of "need" and "desirability". There are already enough plots for the White population of Greater Cape Town for the next 30 years, at the rate of one house or flat for every increase of three persons in the population. How then can this development be either needful or desirable?

● If you have heeded the advertisements to "bank in land" — and the public have hedged against inflation to the tune of R780m in plots — you should know that each new development area opened undermines your investment.

● The Sandy Bay development is only the thin end of a monstrous wedge; an area more than twice its area has been bought on the slopes of the Twelve Apostles between Bakoven and Oudekraal by another developer for a township the size of Bellville.

● Local authority, and that includes the Administrator, have the responsibility for the provision of public open space for a population now in the process of doubling itself. That they have patently not fulfilled this charge is clear.

A look at the map shows the Peninsula as a natural lung, with the obvious expansion areas to the north and east where ground contours make for easy communication by road and rail. To develop the Peninsula further would lead to the exaggeration of such anomalies as that of the Fish Hoek and Simonstown rail commuters who take longer than the residents of Somerset West to reach the city.

The present trend of "decision-making in the context of development shows that Mr A J Littleleguy is shuffled around like a pawn on a chessboard. The reason for this is that he does not open his mouth.

Perhaps this is because he does not know the facts. It is unlikely that he would be delighted to have more than 7 000 people with all their problems in his backyard.

The conservationists ask only that he take note and give his opinion. And not in the pub or in front of the telly or at the office. Make it known. Better still, put your money where your mouth is and send it as a pledge of financial assistance to the Save Sandy Bay Fund, care of the Athenaeum, 154 Camp Ground Road, Newlands, 7700, or telephone it to 51-4001.

Habitat does not require a mandate

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CAPE TIMES Staff Reporter 5/3/76

THE Council for the Habitat, the government-approved umbrella body for the conservation front, made it clear yesterday that it did not require a mandate to act on the Sandy Bay issue.

In a press statement intended as a reply to criticisms of their mandate by the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, and the Deputy Minister for Planning and the Environment, Mr Punt Janson, the council reaffirmed its stand.

"In accordance with normal practice and according to the constitution, the executive of the Council for the Habitat has a mandate to act during intervals between meetings of the entire council which take place annually," said the statement signed by vice-president, Professor R C Bigalke, on behalf of the

council president, Professor R Botha.

"No specific mandate for acting on particular issues is required nor sought and the executive has received no notification from any member societies of withdrawal of support on any issue.

Neither have any member societies — contrary to the impression which might have been given by certain press reports — given notice of resignation from the council," Professor Botha said.

FOOTNOTE: The office of the Administrator yesterday passed to the Cape Times a fourth telegram canvassed from Habitat member organizations. (Three were published by the Cape Times yesterday.)

It reads: "The SAVLU (SA Women's Agricultural Union) is and remains a member of Habitat. SAVLU was however not consulted on Sandy Bay and the council therefore has no mandate to act on behalf of SAVLU. President, SAVLU."

By BOB MOLLOY *Cape Times* 11/3/76

(62)

THE ADMINISTRATOR of the Cape, Dr L A P A Munnik, yesterday granted approval to the Trust Bank-financed scheme for the development of Sandy Bay — allowing 450 residential units in the amphitheatre.

This ends several years of protest against one of the most controversial township developments in the Administration's history — including mass meetings, court action, intervention by a Government body, an unprecedented public subscription which reached more than R65 000 within a few weeks, and appeals at Cabinet level.

The area, famed for its beauty as the last unspoilt open beach in the Peninsula, and notorious as the Republic's most popular nudist centre, will be developed by Costa Areosa (Pty) Ltd a company formed and registered for this purpose by a consortium which includes millionaire property developer Mr Bill Mitchell and the Trust Bank.

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Two ways

In making the decision, Dr Munnik said his Executive Committee shared the aims of individuals and bodies who were concerned with the protection of the environment, but that "the ideal of conservation cannot unfortunately be the only criterion and the decisive consideration."

Development could have been prevented in only two ways: by expropriation or de-zoning to deprive the owner of his development rights.

"Either of these methods will obviously have grave and far-reaching financial implications," said Dr Munnik.

He added that "owing to the expenditure involved the Provincial Administration would not be justified in acting and intervening in either of the ways referred to."

A question of confidence

CAPE TIMES

12/3/76

BY granting approval for the development of Sandy Bay the Administrator has seen fit to reject the well-founded objections of a broad cross-section of public opinion. The concern for the future of the last unspoilt open beach in the Peninsula is a genuinely-held belief in many responsible quarters and has manifested itself in petitions and public subscriptions on an impressive scale.

The fact that the Administrator has imposed limitations on the development is an admission of his own concern, which makes his decision to go ahead even harder to bear. In the final reckoning, how-

ever, criticism of official failure to give expression to public opinion should not be directed solely at the Provincial Administration. The Government, and more specifically the Department of Planning, must shoulder part of the blame. The Sandy Bay controversy has been a fundamental test of government's awareness of the public mood and of the authority which is vested in those who pay taxes. Official response has been less than satisfactory. A change of mind is urgently required. It would satisfy a substantial section of the public, even at this late stage, that their confidence in those they have elected has not been misplaced.

Sandy

Bay:

62

Plea

CAPE TIMES
for 12/3/76

'realism

Staff Reporter

STELLENBOSCH. — Mr Frans Conradie, MEC in charge of local government, said last night that he had been more disappointed by the Cabinet decision to change the western facade of Pretoria's Church Square than he had been by the decision to allow development at Sandy Bay.

Mr Conradie was addressing a meeting of students and staff at the University of Stellenbosch. He shared the platform with Dr Antony Hall, chairman of the advisory committee on Sandy Bay to the Council for the Habitat.

Mr Conradie expressed sympathy with the conservationists' cause and said it was unfortunate that the Sandy Bay affair would be seen as another clash between conservationists and developers.

"We must be realistic, however.

"The Cabinet decision on the west facade of Church Square was a greater disappointment for me than Sandy Bay."

IGNORANT

Dr Hall described the campaign to save Sandy Bay as one of the greatest pro-conservation actions in the history of the Cape. "Too many of us are ignorant of how to treat the environment. We have a basic lack of conservation ethics", he said.

● The chairman of the United Party environment group in the Provincial Council, Mr Kent Durr, said yesterday that the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, had acted against the public interest in approving the development of Sandy Bay.

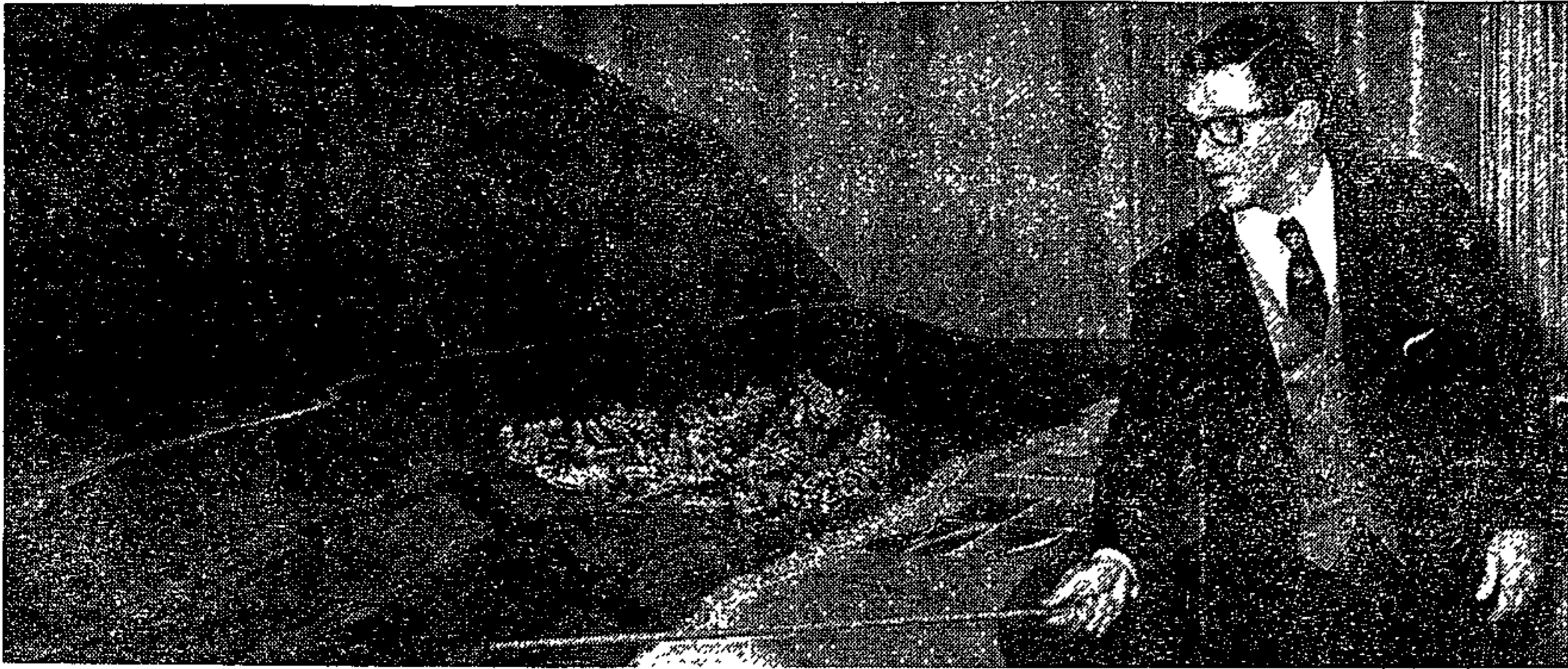
CLOSED DOORS

Mr Durr, who is the MPC for Constantia, said that none of the many compelling arguments for conservation had been answered by the Administrator or Exco.

"The divisional council has debated darkly behind

closed doors on the subject — groping for an answer and hopelessly out of their depth and out of touch with the people they represent.

"I trust the defeat of Sandy Bay can be turned into a victory for conservation and that public support so successfully mobilized by the Cape Times can now be channelled into the formation of a national trust to identify and protect our heritage in advance of conflict," Mr Durr said.



Mr Ian Fraser, a director of Costa Areosa (Pty) Limited, the developers of Sandy Bay, with a model, displayed here in 1974, of the first stage of the housing scheme. It is only this first stage that has been given approval by the Provincial Executive Committee. The beach can be seen below the pointer, with the clusters of houses towards the right.

Decision on Bay puzzles architects

Staff Reporter

THE SHEER WEIGHT of public opinion against the development of Sandy Bay made the Provincial Administration's decision to allow the development extremely difficult to understand, the Cape Provincial Institute of Architects said in a statement yesterday.

The statement said: "The decision to permit developments at Sandy Bay have been taken in the face of the most widespread, sustained and reasoned objections by the public that can be recalled.

"Professional experts and bodies, including the Institute of Town Planners and the Institute of Architect advised against developments. Both the Townships Board, the Provincial Administration's own body which advises it on planning matters, and the Metropolitan Planning Council advised against developments. The Council for the Habitat, and all Cape Town's daily newspapers advised against the developments.

PETITIONED

"Over 10 000, people petitioned against it and over R60 000 was pledged in less than three months in an attempt to save the area.

"Apart from the developers' advisers and the town planning officer of the Divisional Council, we are not aware of any other professional voice raised in support of this development.

"Whilst it is accepted that the strength of public protest cannot be the sole criterion of administrative action, the sheer weight and depth of opinion makes the administration's decision extremely difficult to understand or accept.

Road to Sandy Bay starts soon

By ROGER WILLIAMS, Chief Reporter

THE developers of Sandy Bay, Costa Areosa (Pty) Limited, said yesterday that work would start as soon as possible on construction of an access road to the beach area of Sandy Bay, and of parking and sanitary facilities for visitors.

The company said detailed planning of the first stage of the development scheme, for which the Provincial Executive Committee has announced its approval, would take 12 to 18 months to complete.

It was unlikely that the initial construction programme would start before the end of next year.

The first stage would involve construction of housing units in the form of single, cluster and group designs.

The company said no vacant plots would be available for sale.

All present users of the

beach would in due course have unrestricted and improved access to Sandy Bay.

"The unintentional damage caused by these visitors to the roads at Sunset Rocks, which till now have served as an unofficial car park for Sandy Bay, will no longer present a problem to the authorities."

They said that, as developers fully conscious of their responsibilities including conservation, they proposed a scheme "with the accent on a well-planned community establishment".

Asked yesterday how Costa Areosa would react to an offer on behalf of an undisclosed company to

buy Sandy Bay for R500 000, one of the directors Mr Ian Fraser said the offer would be rejected.

He added: "We are not interested in this or any other offer for the land. The company concerned in this latest offer has in any event never revealed its identity and, with other offers that have been made, we doubt its authenticity."

Mr Frans Conradie, MEC in charge of local government, said yesterday he could not say whether the Executive Committee would agree to development of Sandy Bay beyond the 450 housing units for which approval was granted this week.

He reiterated that this

Exco approval did not imply that approval for further development at a later stage would necessarily be granted.

Mr Conradie also said 450 units approved this week did not include a hotel.

Any plans there might be to erect a hotel at Sandy Bay would have to be dealt with as an entirely separate issue, he said.

REASONING

"It would be interesting to know the detailed reasoning behind the administration's view that the owner has a prior right to development, as the opinions of the institute obtains are to the contrary. The institute's view is that the obligation lies with the owner to satisfy the authorities that public need and desirability exists for the development of Sandy Bay.

"Failure to establish such need would entitle, if not oblige, the authorities to refuse the application. It is sincerely hoped that even at this late stage a way can be found for the decision on Sandy Bay to be reversed."

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Undeveloped ^{C.T.} townships ^{12/3/76} call

Chief Reporter

MR FRANS CONRADIE, MEC for local government, said yesterday he felt strongly that the authorities should be empowered to cancel approved and registered townships where these were not developed within a reasonable period.

He said he would probably raise the matter in Exco when the opportunity arose.

Mr Conradie had been asked about Oudekraal, between Bakoven and Hout Bay, which has been registered as a township since 1962 but which has never been developed.

In 1971 Mr Wilhelm Wiehahn, owner of a huge tract of land along the slopes of the Twelve Apostles and down to the sea, said one of the biggest property development

schemes for the Cape, which would turn Oudekraal into a super-residential and commercial area, might be announced soon.

But nothing happened.

At the Provincial Council session last month Mr Conradie said the 1200 Oudekraal plots were unlikely to be developed, and that unfortunately there was no provision to cancel an old township that had not been developed.

Yesterday he said: "I feel that this sort of thing can have the effect of blocking further development and that it is unfair to any new applicant."

Approval for 450 plots at Sandy Bay

Capt Times 11/3/76

THE STATEMENT by the further township develop the conditions are strictly roval in principle, the Ad- property, which it, as the re- As the property is privately owned, there are only two possible ways in which development at Sandy Bay can be prohibited, namely either de-zoning of the property (i.e. the owner must be deprived of his existing development rights) or expropriation. Either of these methods will obviously have grave and far-reaching financial implications.

Following on my press statement of December 10, 1975 the Executive Committee and I have now resolved that approval be granted in principle for limited township development on the property of Costa Areosa (Pty) Ltd at Sandy Bay. The approved development will be limited to a maximum of 450 saleable or lettable residential units which may be developed on a portion of the site situated more or less in the centre of the "amphitheatre" part of the property. The developers may now submit plans and confer with the Administration on the detailed planning of the intended development.

The Executive Committee resolution includes an amendment to what is indicated as the first phase of the proposed approximately 100 lettable units south-east of the beach and the re- placement thereof by the extension of the other part of the property situated above the sandy beach and up to the mountain and the nek (to the east of the permitted development).

TRANSFER

Direct access to the sandy beach, including access for vehicular traffic, adequate parking facilities and changing and toilet facilities must be planned and provided in consultation with and to the satisfaction of the Divisional Council at the east of the development. This planning will also be subject to the approval of the Administrator. On completion, these facilities will be transferred to and placed under the control of the Divisional Council for use by the public. This part of the development must receive priority. During final consideration of the application for approval

SIX PHASES

The applicant's overall planning makes provision for a total of six (6) phases, but the Executive Committee is not prepared at this stage to consider any further township development, over and above the above-mentioned approximately 450 residential units, nor does this approval imply that any

NOT JUSTIFIED

The Executive Committee had already taken a well-considered decision, as announced in my statement of December 10, 1975, that owing to possible expenditure involved, the Provincial Administration would not be justified in acting and intervening in the ways referred to. And during the time fixed therefor, no other authority such as e.g. the Cape Divisional Council, the Cape Town Municipality or a State Department came forward and offered to take the necessary steps to prevent development.

Apart from the obligation imposed on the developer, as already stated, it is also a requirement that provision must be made for sufficient public open spaces which will in due course be handed over to the Divisional Council.

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Munnik will meet council on Sandy Bay

CAPE TIMES 26/2/76
Staff Reporter

THE Sandy Bay issue took another turn last night, when Dr A V Hall, chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Council for the Habitat, announced that the Administrator of the Cape, Dr L A P A Munnik, has agreed to a meeting between the Council and himself on Monday.

Dr Hall said last night that Miss Annette Reinecke, MPC, has approached Dr Munnik during the Provincial Council session and he had agreed to the meeting. Miss Reinecke will also be at the meeting.

Dr Hall said Miss Reinecke had raised the question of an interview between the Administrator and the Council for the Habitat in her personal capacity.

The Administrator had agreed to the request after his busy schedule during the session.

The Council's study on traffic in the Sandy Bay area had been proved correct, except for a small ambiguity. "The traffic study was confined to commuter traffic and any internal traffic to Hout Bay would be extra."

The Save Sandy Bay fund had R52 000 and pledges were pouring in, he said.

Cape Times

24/2/76

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Sandy Bay fight hots up

The letter asks the Administrator to expropriate or rezone erven 1214 and 1215 at Sandy Bay, taking into account strong public support for conserving the natural condition of the Bay area.

Should the Administrator fail to do so, a further request is made in which the Council for the Habitat requests permission to approach the Cape Town City Council to take similar action.

MEETING

Meanwhile, the Sandy Bay issue is likely to be raised at today's monthly meeting of the Divisional Council.

Two councillors, Mr J H Bridgman and Mr E P Austen, voted against development when the matter was originally considered by the council and it is expected that one of them will try to introduce a review and rescind motion.

● Mr Austen told a public meeting at Sandy Bay on Saturday that development would go ahead, and that the Bay was "finished".

A deputation from the Council for the Habitat had talks lasting an hour with Mr Punt Janson, Deputy Minister of Planning and the Environment, in Cape Town yesterday.

Dr A V Hall, chairman of the council, said the groups had been cordially received and he felt "most encouraged" by the talks with the deputy minister.

"There is a great deal of action and discussion on Sandy Bay in relation to providing advice to the Provincial authorities," he said after the meeting.

The discussion took place at the invitation of Mr Janson. Mr Janson has already told Parliament that further consultations will take place between the Government and the Provincial Administration before a final decision will be taken on the proposed development.

"I feel encouraged that the last word on Sandy Bay has not been spoken," Dr Hall said.

In a statement yesterday Dr Hall said Sandy Bay was a potential recreational area of the highest quality and that to spoil that by development would be "an act of vandalism of the natural environment".

LETTER

In a letter to the Divisional Council, Dr Hall said nearly R49 000 had so far been pledged for the purchase of the property, and that given time the money to buy the property could be raised. According to the valuation of the property it was worth between R200 000 and R300 000.

"You've lost. I can tell you that the development will go ahead and Sandy Bay is finished," Mr Austen told a group of about 800.

"It's time to turn your attention to some other beach. Right now you are sitting on Mr Mitchell's ground," Mr Austen said.

He was immediately challenged by a speaker from the crowd who pointed out that all land below the highwater

mark, which included the beach, was public property.

At a beach meeting on Sunday a group of nearly 1 000 people voted to launch a nation-wide campaign to publicize the conservationist view.

A steering committee was formed and several professional men, including an advocate, an accountant and owner of an advertising agency, offered their services free.

Cost: R250 000

SANDY BAY will cost R250 000 to expropriate, Dr A V Hall, chairman of the Council for the Habitat, said in Cape Town last night.

Speaking at the Sandy Bay dinner, held in a restaurant to call for pledges of financial support to buy the bay for the nation, Dr Hall said senior counsel had estimated that expropriation would cost R250 000.

"This means the target is well within our means — we need not strain after the millions of rands claimed by the developers."

The amount collected by pledge, representing almost 2 500 people, has now

reached R51 000 according to the latest total.

Dr Hall added: "The last word has not been said. We have launched a nation-wide campaign supported by the two million people who are the members of some 20-odd bodies supporting Habitat, and much remains to happen before the final decision."

More than 60 people attended the dinner and were entertained by a folk song group. Country and Western singer Barry Knightley sang the newly-composed Sandy Bay theme song.

Miss Annette Reineke, MPC for Rondebosch, said more than R1 000 had been raised through the dinner.

Sandy Bay

Munnik showed how wrong you can be!

Cape Times 24/2/76

From Mr PETER RAVENSCROFT (5 1st Crescent, Camps Bay):

ON THE matter of Sandy Bay the public has been informed by the Administrator of a number of grave and important facts. We were informed that nudism was an evil, we were told that two of our senior local reporters

memorable use traditionally accompanies naivety and/or cynicism of a really outstanding order. If our Administrator is lacking in the common touch he certainly more than makes up for it in style—his remark puts him right up there with Marie Antoinette's "Let them eat cake", and with Caligula's making his horse a senator!

Dr Munnik may not be unique in not regarding students as people — but imagine having the courage to say it!

Not nature conservation

From K RIX (CapeTown):

IT IS obvious that Sandy Bay is a place frequented by many perverts, sexual exhibitionists and voyeurs. And yet, notwithstanding this, your newspaper misleads innocent people into parting with their money in the belief that they are supporting nature conservation. What rot!

Now that the Progressive Party and some giddy members of the United Party have taken up the fight on behalf of the so-called conservationists I hope that the authorities will recognize this campaign for what it is, and refrain from wasting the taxpayers' money in any attempt to disallow the development of the area.

May the evil that is Sandy Bay not give genuine nature conservation a bad name.

Letters

were liars. Their respective newspapers appeared to disagree, but who are they to pit their opinions against the Administrator of the Cape, Dr L A P A Munnik?

Miss Annette Reinecke, MPC, was told that she was a "meeloper". It could have been worse. She could have been discovered to be a strand-loper. Mr Kent Durr, MPC, was informed that he was the unwitting tool of protesting students, and that he would be hurt.

Whether Mr Durr is in danger from the students, from Dr Munnik or from forces unspecified, remains unclear. We can only hope that the police will be able to protect him.

We were also informed that a sinister organization named Envirac, linked to Nusas and headed by the writer of this letter, had not canvassed the 10 000 petition signatures that Mr Rossouw of the Burger said Dr Munnik has said they had.

Whether the eminent Doctor was defending or attacking Nusas and/or the troublesome 10 000 remains unclear, but we can be sure he was trying to be unfriendly to Mr Rossouw. The mysterious Envirac, which incidentally is engaged in such subversive activities as recycling the university's rubbish and removing Table Mountain's, turns out to be a truly fiendish thing.

We are informed that it brought out a woman from America to help it with its campaign, I had thought that the young lady referred to had arrived under her own steam when she first offered to assist in the campaign, which was about

six months before even I heard of Envirac. I had thought she was a member of staff at UCT, but obviously she wasn't. She was working for me! I bow to Dr Munnik's sources of information.

I personally had the distinct honour of being informed by the Administrator that I had no fixed address at the time and that I was living in the bush near Sandy Bay.

This just shows how wrong you can be. I thought I was living in an ordinary sort of middle-class house, known to the post office as 5 First Crescent, Camps Bay, and that I had lived there with my widowed mother for the past 23 years.

Obviously I wasn't. Dr Munnik is after all the Administrator of the Cape and his sources — one would assume — are impeccable.

If the worthy Doctor would do me the honour of stepping outside, the Provincial Council or inviting me to step inside and share its mantle of privilege, we could continue this debate on more even terms.

Students not people?

From Mr KENNETH GARDNER (16 Camp Street, Gardens):

IF ANYONE is offering an Oscar for the most reactionary throw-away remark of the century, I would like to nominate Dr Munnik's recent interjection apropos the petitions against the development of Sandy Bay: "How many of those signatures were from Nusas?"

COST OF COAL MAY SOAR

A DRASTIC increase in the price of coal can be expected soon as South Africa battles to cope with a power shortage because of technical delays at Cabora Bassa.

This week the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, announced that Escom's power supply could be cut during the coming winter months unless technical problems at the Mozambique hydro-electric scheme were ironed out. Mr Heunis emphasised that the problems were technical and not political.

The possible power shortage and the 17 per cent increase in the railway tariff on coal announced by the Minister of Transport, Mr S. L. Muller, in the Railways bud-

7/3/76 S. TIMES
By FLEUR DE VILLIERS

get this week has, however, made an increase in the coal price seem inevitable.

It will also lend fresh impetus to the recommendations of the Petrick Commission, which suggested price rises, and to a new look at the pricing policy of South Africa's coal. Because the coal is price controlled, investment in coal mining for domestic use is low. The result has been that although export coal is profitable, coal mining for domestic use is now "down to the bones", an informed source said yesterday.

With the delay in the supply of

power from Cabora Bassa, the industry will have to strain to meet South Africa's power needs.

These needs could be met if South Africa was willing to:

- ① Import coal at high cost.
- ② Divert some export coal for domestic use.
- ③ Persuade Escom and Sasol to switch entirely to low-grade coal for electric generation and part with some of their high-grade coal for general use.

All these solutions could mean a higher coal price, on top of the increase which is bound to come in the wake of the higher railways tariff.

(1) Knagy

(2) 246

(3) 227

(4) 276

Draft guide plan for greater Cape Peninsula

*7. Mr. C. W. EGLIN asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

When is it expected that the draft guide plan for the greater Cape Peninsula will be completed.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

Certain technical work towards the compilation of a draft guide plan for the

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Greater Cape Peninsula has been undertaken by the Cape Metropolitan Planning Committee and the first report in this regard was published during November 1975.

A guide plan covering all aspects in a single document is not seen as a practical proposition because of the complexity of the area. Consideration will be given to a series of reports covering either a specific sub-region or certain planning aspects. The first draft reports should become available towards the end of this year or early next year.

Black outlook in green valley

The most important green belt on the Witwatersrand—lying between the West Rand and the Magaliesberg—could be torn apart by development. Residents are calling on the Government to save it.

taken over their heads at provincial level after surrounding municipalities such as Randburg and Krugersdorp have had their say.

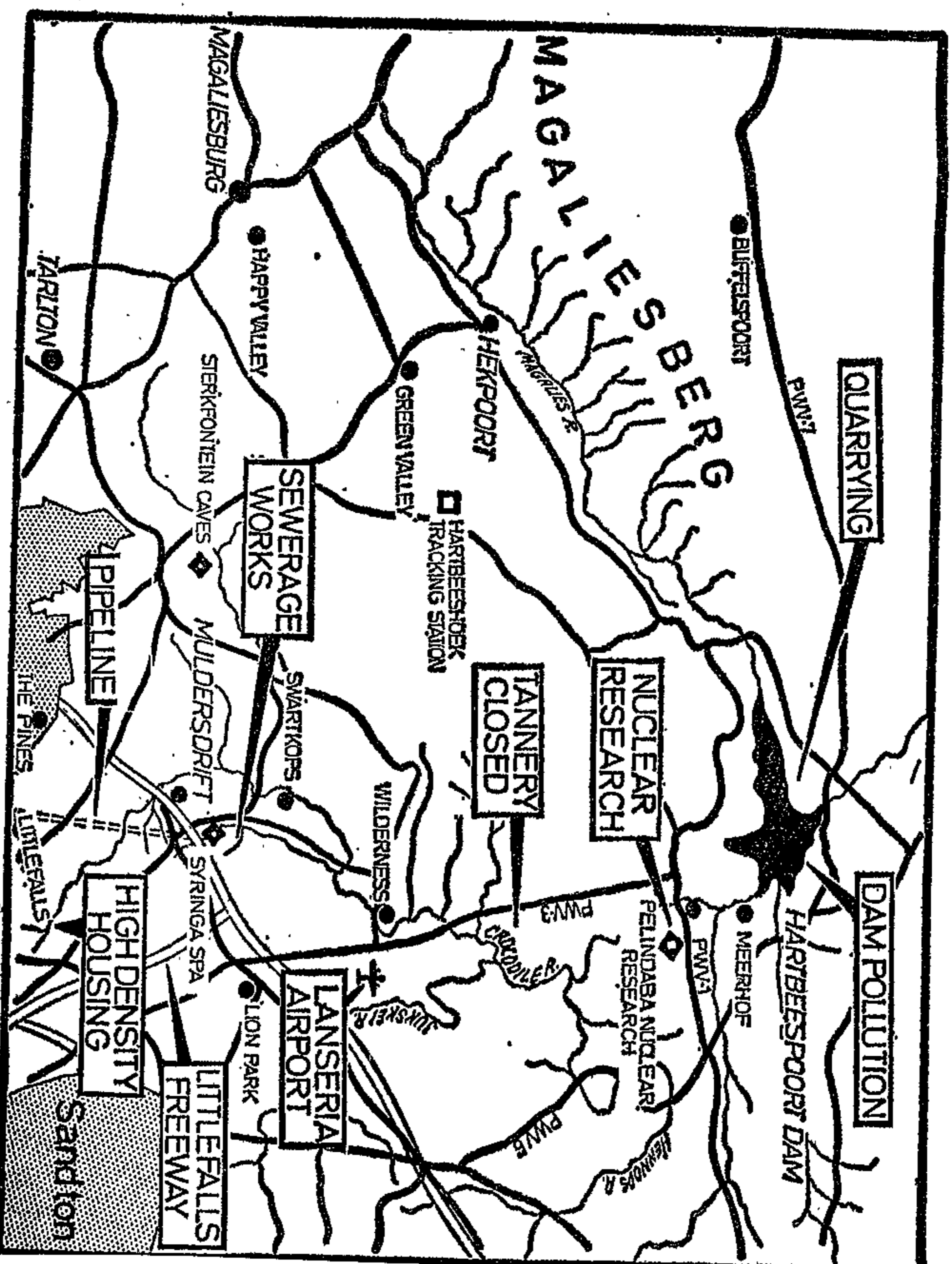
"Last year in March we asked for a local areas committee to be set up," said Mr de Villiers.

"We are still waiting. It's not much, really — to a large extent the Peri-Urban Board would control it — but it would be like a minor municipality."

The LAC is needed to cope with the population explosion of Blacks in the area and their needs, such as new clinics. It could also set up libraries, a voluntary fire brigade and other services.

But, above all, it could try to keep the valley green.

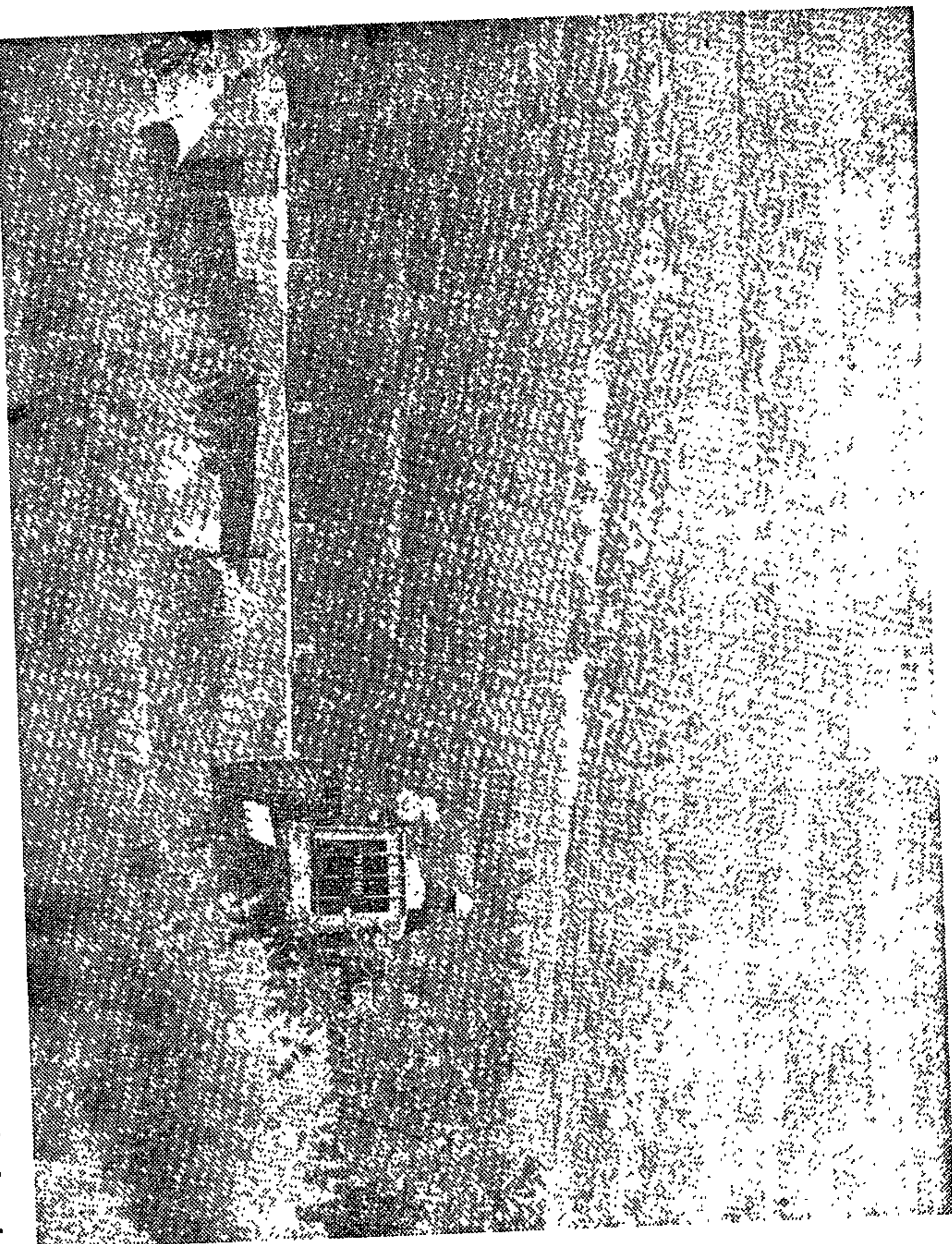
Story
by
Graeme
Addison



One triumph for residents near the Crocodile River early this year was the closing of a tannery — classed as a noxious industry — after loud protests from nearby farmers.

- Hartheespoort is to build a sewage works near Syringa Spa and is carving a swathe through open country with its huge pipeline.
- A freeway interchange will be built near the Lion Park. One freeway, the PWV 5, will ruin the Little Falls gorge, by slicing along its western side.

- The other, PWV 3, will cross Hartheespoort dam on a causeway.
- The dam is polluted by Johannesburg's sewage from the Diepsloot treatment plant. Quarrying goes on near Kosmos.
- Lanseria Airport brings noise and traffic to the green belt.
- High density housing is springing up in the south-east.
- A uranium treatment plant is to be added to the installations at Pelindaba's nuclear research station.



Quarrying for silica at Kommandonek above Hartbeespoort goes on while, in the distance, farmlands sleep in the sun.

They call the Muldersdrift-Hartbeespoort region Green Valley because of its holiday resorts, tea gardens, and riding trails.

It is marked as a "green belt" farming and recreation area on government maps of the Pretoria - Witwatersrand-Vereeniging complex guide plan for the future.

When there are 12-million people living in the PWV area in the year 2020 they will need a place to relax and breathe some fresh country air.

But from the way development is taking Green Valley by the throat at the moment there seems

to be little chance of saving it.

The map shows how freeways, housing, industry, mining, major research installations, and — to add that final touch — sewerage works, are fastening on to the hills and dales of the region.

Residents can see the threat of urban encroachment and they are trying to counter it. But they are crippled by the lack of any elected body to represent them.

They haven't got a local areas committee — although the dro"iver" has been talking for years about giving them one — and at the moment their affairs are administered

by the Peri-Urban Board in Pretoria.

At present the Farmers' Association is the only body in any way constituted to speak for the many smallholders and the few big agriculturalists living there.

This week CARE spoke to the deputy chairman of the association, Mr Stanley de Villiers.

He called on the Minister of Planning and the Environment to set up a commission of inquiry into the status of Muldersdrift-Hartbeespoort as a green belt.

"We need a thorough survey into the possible uses of this regional open space," he said. "Parts should be classified permanently for rec-

reation and then left alone by road planners and the rest of them.

"Other parts, I suppose, could be open to development if farmers do not need the land and it has no appeal to outdoor types."

Mr de Villiers said the association wanted a moratorium on development until the survey was carried out. They had asked the Minister to meet them urgently.

Green Valley falls in the Witwatersberg constituency — one of South Africa's biggest, stretching in a wide half moon from Krugersdorp to Brits and back to Springs.

Muldersdrift people feel their concerns are often overlooked as a result.

They feel that because they have no say in local affairs decisions are

How safe is our natural heritage now?

If a decision can be made over the heads of the National Monuments Council, which many say was the case with Church Square, Pretoria, what might be the fate of natural monuments such as Kirstenbosch, the Knysna Forest, the Kruger National Park and Cape Point?

The Government's decision to demolish Church Square's historic western facade in the face of public protest poses the question: How safe is our cultural, historical and natural heritage?

An analysis of existing legislation shows it to be full of loopholes and the Government appointed National Monuments Council restricted by red tape and inadequate funds.

According to the National Monuments Act of 1969:

• The Minister of National Education — a party politician, not a qualified preservationist — has the final say.

• The National Monuments Council shall consist of not less than seven members to be appointed by the Minister. No minimum qualifications are laid down.

• The council may not provisionally declare State property a national monument without the Minister's permission. To date, few State-owned buildings have been declared national monuments. This leaves the way clear for the State to demolish at will.

Previously, property of cultural/historical value was thought to be safe in State hands. Now, after Pretoria's Church Square debacle, preservationists are pessimistic.

Other buildings like those on the western side of Church Square, which are not national monuments, include: Libertas, the Prime Minister's residence in Pretoria; Overval, the home of

Transvaal's down-with-the-western-facade Administrator, Mr. Sybrand van Niekerk; the Union Buildings; Defence Force headquarters in Potgieter Street; the State President's residence in Pretoria; Groote Schuur; the Houses of Parliament in Cape Town and the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein.

But preservationists are not concerned only with saving old buildings. South Africa's natural heritage and fauna and flora reserves like Kirstenbosch in Cape Town, the Knysna Forest, the Kruger National Park and Cape Point also need more comprehensive protection.

The council must repair and restore national monuments. That this be done by specialists is not said. The recent facelift of the Palace of Justice in Pretoria is a case in point. Let to the Department of Public Works, the pillars were cemented to protect them from erosion, damaging them irreparably.

In terms of Section 10(1) of the Act, the Minister may whenever he considers it to be in the national interest that any immovable or movable property of aesthetic, historical archaeological or scientific value or interest be preserved, protected and maintained — subject to certain provisions and on recommendation of the council — declare by notice in the Government Gazette such property to be a national monument.

Read with the Church Square Act, the old buildings on the western side of the square were clearly not regarded to be "in the national interest." Preservationists are now pinning their hopes on

the new Minister, Dr. Koornhof, in calling for:

• A central body to correlate all conservation, preservation and restoration.

• A director general, whose rank is equal to that of a secretary of a government department, to head such a body. The post should be a full-time one. This they believe will secure continuity in preservation policy.

• Experts to take charge of restoration work.

• Local authorities to compensate persons whose properties have been declared national monuments by offering them alternative ground for development.

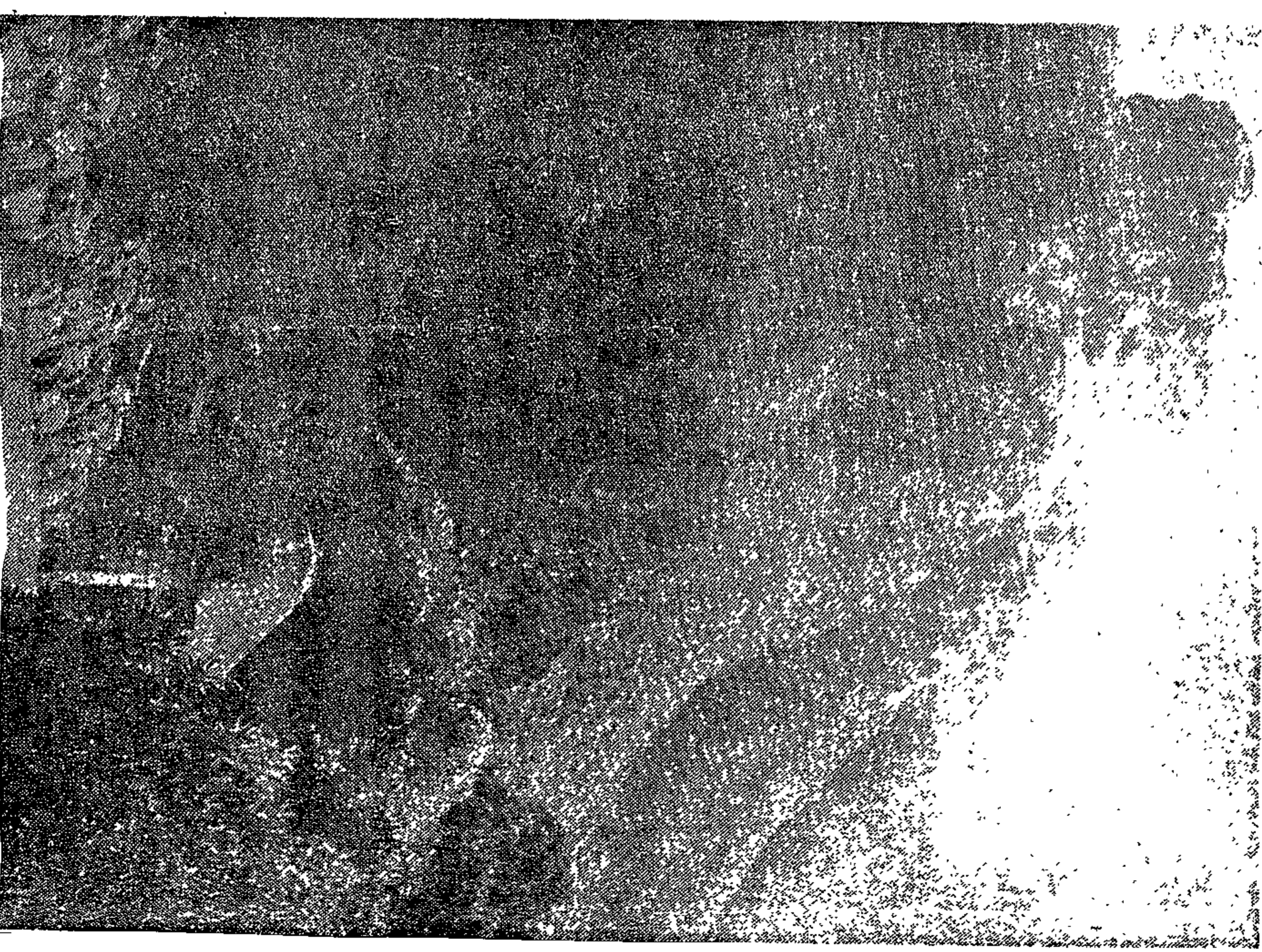
• A national register of properties worth preservation to be drawn up in conjunction with local authorities.

• The removal, destruction or sale of any listed properties to be subject to the decision of environmental courts, answerable only to the director-general, as in the Netherlands.

• A national fund for the preservation and restoration of the country's heritage to be established. It should be financed by the State and supplementary income derived from tourism, as in the case in France.

• More funds to be set aside for preservation.

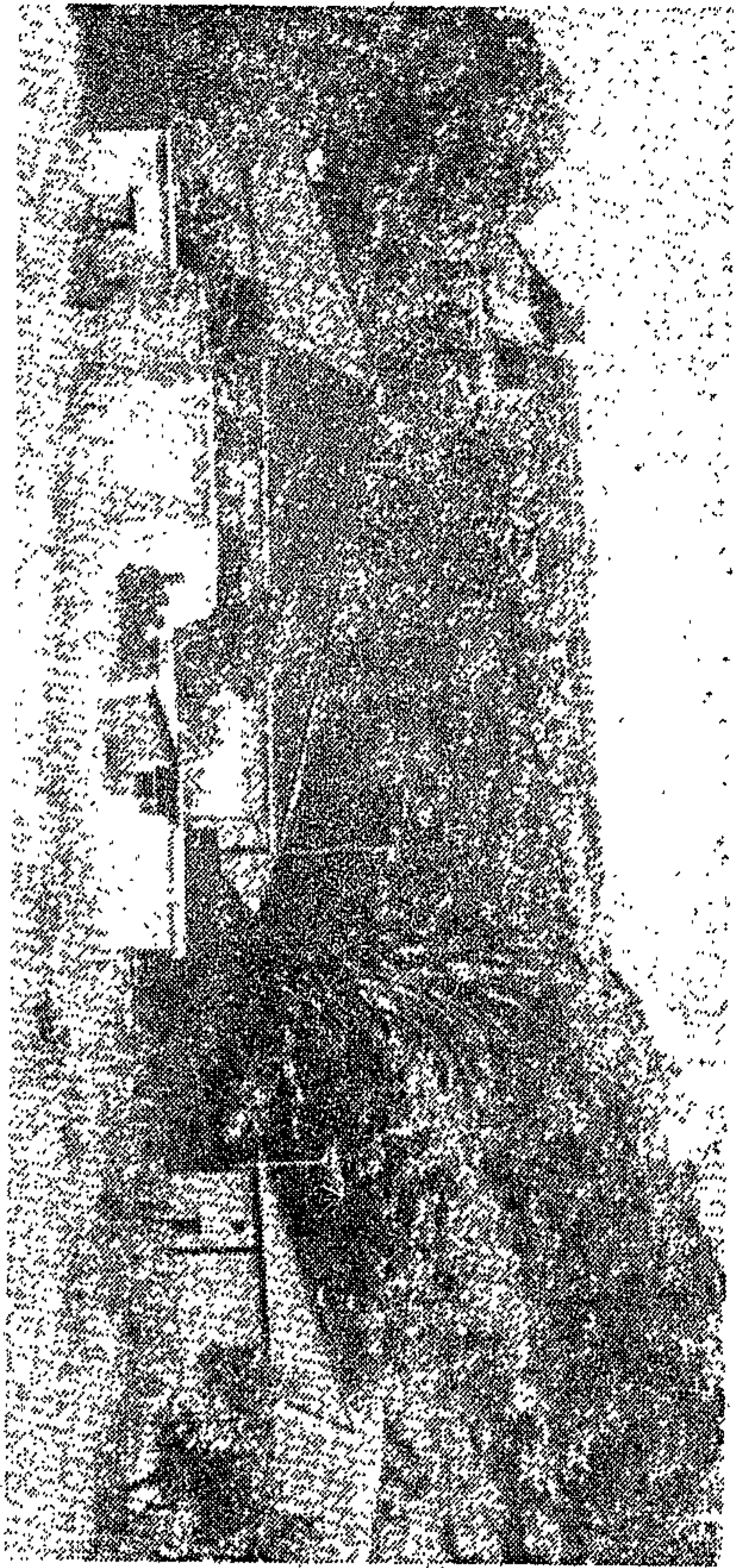
This is substantiated by the National Monuments Council which says in its latest annual report that the time has come for the State to participate more actively and "make a far larger financial contribution."



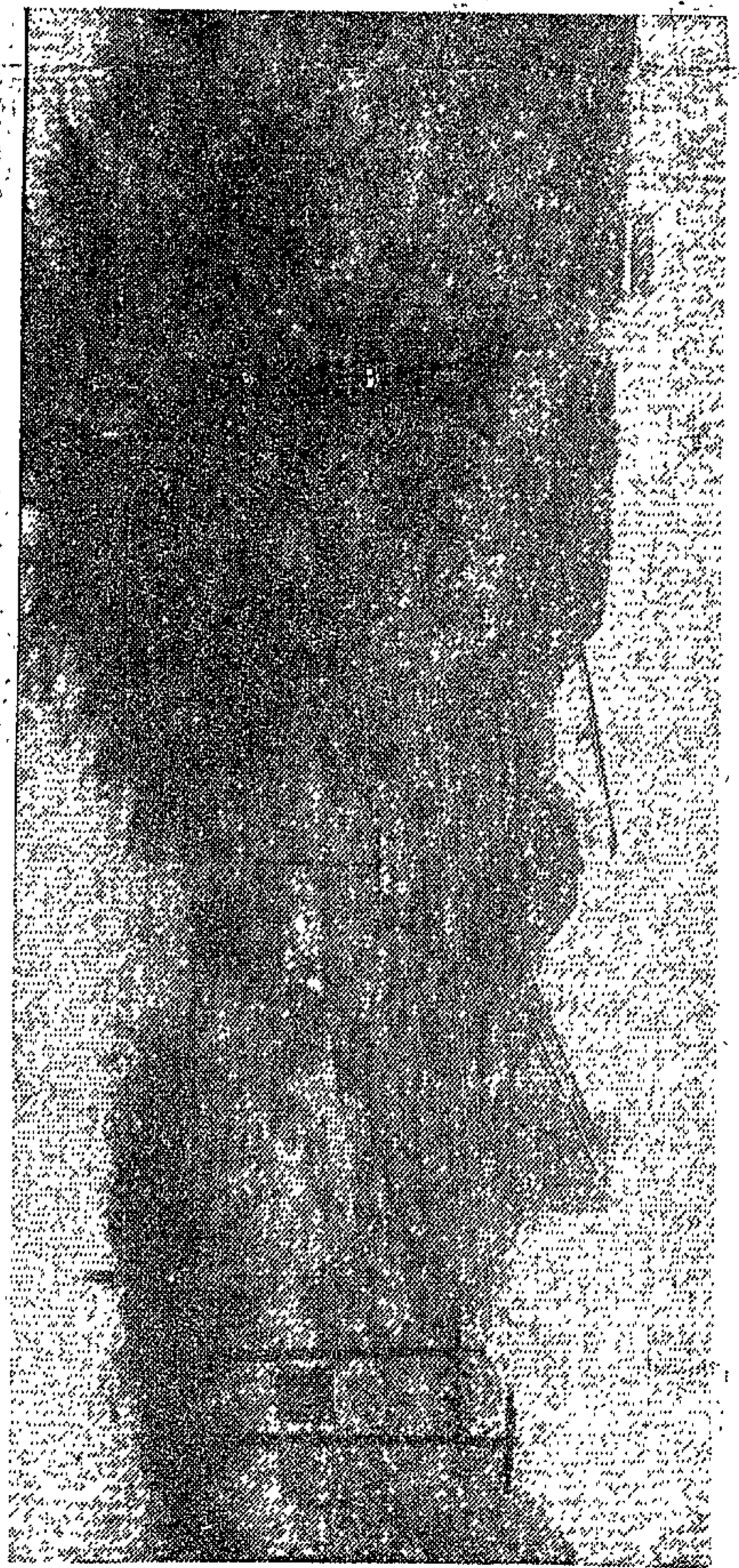
As the law stands, the future of Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens in the Cape Peninsula or any beauty spot in the country could be decided by people with no knowledge of conservation.



Demonstrators in Pretoria's Church Square. Seemingly, their call for preservation failed. The square as it exists today is doomed. In fact the Government can pull down almost any building it likes — including the residence of Transvaal Administrator, Mr. Sybrand van Niekerk, if the need arises.



Landscape planning could have avoided this eyesore of a municipal dam.



Right on the horizon — a crushing plant.

The hills ^{STAR}
are alive ^{27/4/76.}
with the
scars of

PROGRESS

Man has been messing about in the Klipriviersberg for a thousand-odd years. But only recently has he begun to gouge wounds which have literally changed the shape of the hills in Johannesburg's South.

Rocky outcrops have been permanently spoiled by the flat outlines of water reservoirs.

New townships are being bulldozed on to hill-tops so that residents can have panoramic views.

Excavations for oil and water pipelines have gashed the hills.

Quarries have been hacked out of the hillside. Man's presence in the hills has been traced to pre-Iron Age settlements. Circles of piled rocks have been discovered on the hills.

In the 1840s the Voortrekkers reached the hills, and the Meyer family established the farm Klipriviersberg.

During the Anglo-Boer War the Boers erected shelters on the hilltops to give them a commanding view.

Reservoirs

But these modest foot-prints look silly compared with the havoc 20th century man has wrought on the hills.

The Johannesburg City Council has built seven reservoirs on the hills. Five of these were built recently to cater for the newly developed southern areas incorporated in the city in 1970.

The Rand Water Board blasted away a hilltop to build the biggest reservoir in the south. A road carved from the hillside leads to it. Landscape-planners were not used.

"The constant blasting when they built the reservoir chased every living thing away for miles around," said Mr Des Prout-Jones, of Linmeyer, an honorary nature conservation officer with the Transvaal Division of Nature Conservation.

He said that rats, puff-adders and rinkhals had fled from the veld into the gardens of nearby houses. "We never had a

problem with rats before."

Rand Water Board pipelines have been covered with soil which has not been planted over. These scars on the hillside now bear the signs of soil erosion.

Mr Jimmy Hall, city councillor for part of the area and chairman of Operation Wildflower, said large aloes would be gathered in Natal and the Northern Transvaal this winter to camouflage the ugly outlines of reservoirs.

But thousands of aloes and other indigenous plants growing on the Klipriviersberg have been crushed by badly-planned development.

Transplant

New townships such as Natourna, Mulbarton and Glendale extensions have destroyed hectares of vegetation on the hills.

Mr Malcolm Meyerowitz, a student and nature enthusiast who lives in nearby Meredale, was bitter because by law a permit is needed to rescue the doomed plants.

He has still managed to pick-up already bulldozed plant flora threatened by development in a 15 ha reserve set aside by the Rand Water Board.

After representations by Mr Hall, a former provincial councillor, the Transvaal Provincial Council passed an ordinance preventing proclamation of new townships on hillsides with steep gradients.

Townships at present being developed on the hills were proclaimed before the ordinance was promulgated about a year ago.

Several years ago the South African Railways added its share by routing the oil pipeline through the hills.

City council pylons and Eskom pylons are a feature of the Klipriviersberg.

The city council fought in vain right up to the Appeal Court, the establishment of a large crushed-stone quarry at Elkenhof. This quarry is eating into a hillside. A dust pall hangs over the site.

The beautiful hills to the south of Johannesburg are being torn apart by development, and a golden opportunity has been missed for the establishment of a large community asset.

DAVID BRIER reports for The Star's CARE campaign.

quarrying was a mining activity and fell under the Mining Commissioner and not the city council.

The Mining Commissioner has allowed the quarrying to proceed.

Mr Hall said the company had agreed to blast into the gash in the hillside in the shape of an amphitheatre.

When quarrying was complete, the site would revert to the council, which would have an amenity, he said.

But when The Star asked for permission to enter the site and photograph the quarry, this was refused.

"It is company policy that we do not allow photographs of our operations at all. I am sorry," a senior spokesman for the quarry-owners said. He refused to give his name, and offered no reason for the decision.

But Mr Prout-Jones said he had so far failed to arrest any poachers. The peace-of the hills is

However, the site can be seen from the Vereeniging Road.

What little wildlife has been spared by developers, is falling victim to poachers, Mr Prout-Jones said.

Poachers

Duiker and klipspringer were still occasionally seen in the hills. But snares set by poachers were rapidly wiping out the remaining buck, he said.

Recently The Star reported that a wirehaired ferrier had been caught in one of the nooses.

Rock classes and game birds such as guineafowl and pheasants are also being killed off. Poachers' shots ring out in the hills.

But Mr Prout-Jones said he had so far failed to arrest any poachers. The peace-of the hills is

also shattered by motorcycle scramblers who roar down the paths. Tracks are visible.

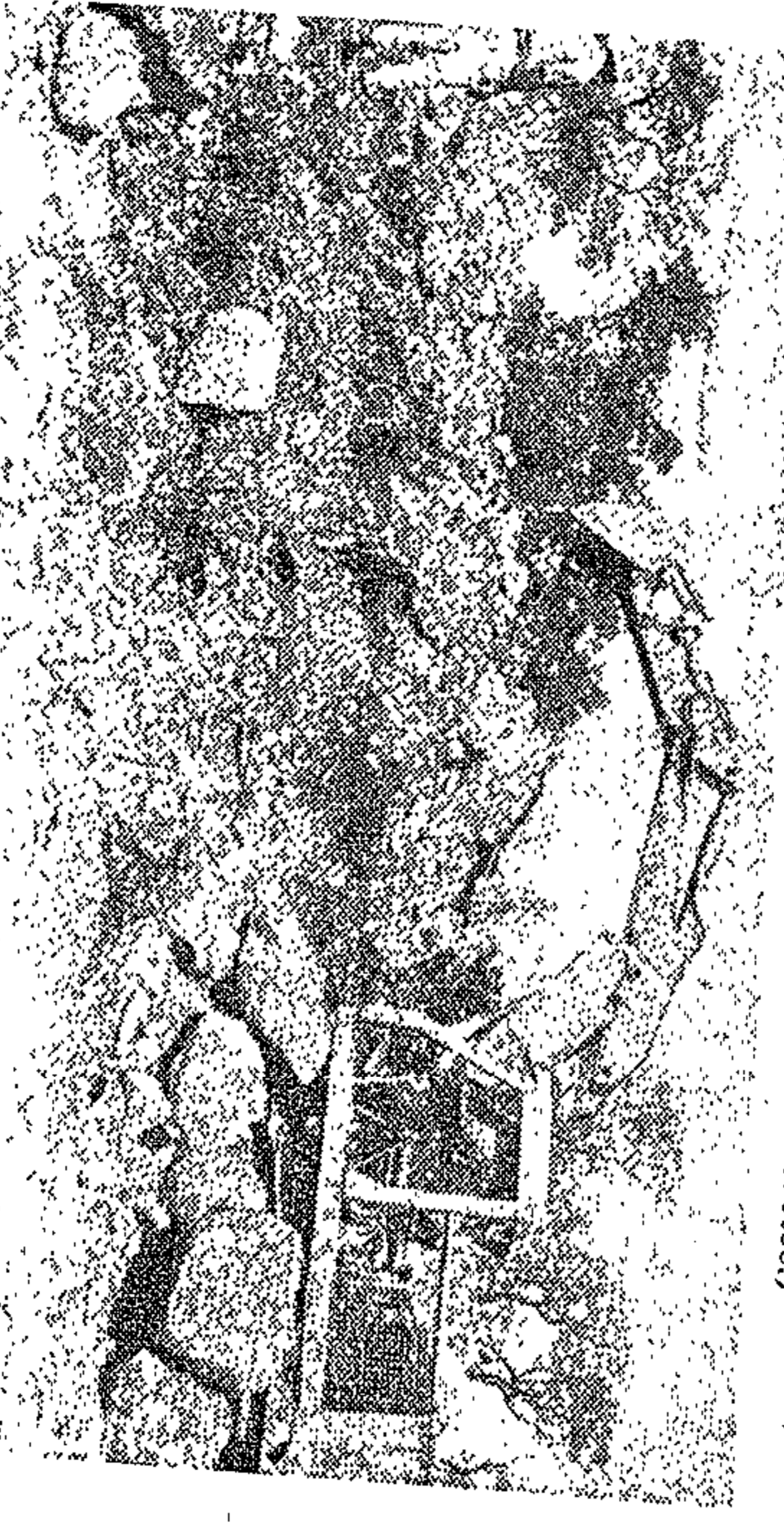
Near Winchester Hills is a memorial to women and children who died in the Turfontein concentration camp during the Anglo-Boer war.

But the peace of the memorial has been disturbed by the Department of Community Development bulldozing a site for an economic housing scheme nearby. This is in a valley across a stream.

The city council has bought large expanses of hillside for preservation.

With the ban on new township development in the Hills, the rot may yet be stopped.

(This article was written after calls were made to the man who CARES, a Star Service.)



Township development often means the destruction of a hill. The Johannesburg City Council is now trying to preserve the hills for everybody to enjoy. Most of the developers received the go-ahead before the council took over the South Rand's Klipriviersberg.

The court found that

Pollution in cities falling

26/4/76 STAR.

Pretoria Bureau.
A definite decrease in smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution is being experienced in most South African towns and cities.
Pretoria's Chief Air Pollution Control Officer, Mr W A Potgieter, said this at the International Air Pollution Conference in Pretoria.

He said this decrease was taking place regardless of the shortcomings of the fuel-burning appliances now in use and the limitations in applying smoke control legislation which were recently reported by the CSIR.

In Pretoria central and the adjoining suburb of Arcadia the smoke concentration had been halved over the past five years.

In the past year and since Pretoria's smoke control programme had been published, it had become clear that the trend was towards electricity rather than any other means of heating.

It was thus reasonable to see the problems experienced with coalburning appliances as merely a transition stage towards the total conversion to electricity or even solar heating.

Mr Potgieter said that with suitable operating skills, even incinerators were capable of smokeless operation.

845

686. Mr. C. W. EGLIN asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

- (1) (a) How many guide plan committees have been established in terms of the Environment Planning Act 1967, and (b) for what areas;
- (2) whether any guide plans have been (a) prepared and (b) approved by these committees; if so, in respect of what areas.

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

- (1) (a) None. Statutory guide plan committees cannot be established until such time as regulations in terms of section 6A(13) of the Environment Planning Act, 1967, have been published. Such regulations will appear in the *Government Gazette* of 9 April 1976.
- (b) Falls away.
- (2) (a) and (b) fall away.

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

Yes, only in Transvaal, as follows:

- (a) (i) 2.
- (ii) 11.
- (b) (i) 1.
- (ii) 1.

Planning Advisory Council: Report of subsidiary committee

711. Mr. T. ARONSON asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

- (1) Whether a subsidiary committee of the Planning Advisory Council has been appointed to draft a report on guidelines for the development of coastal and other townships; if so,
- (2) whether the draft report has been submitted to any Government authorities; if so, when;
- (3) whether the report will be made public; if not, why not.

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

- (1) Yes, separate subsidiary committees have been appointed to draft guide lines for the coastal zone (including areas for coastal townships) and inland holiday townships.
- (2) No, reports have been submitted to the Planning Advisory Council.
- (3) Yes. Reports on separate regions of the coastal zone have been published as follows:

- Volume 1: Tableia Bay—Langebaan Lagoon (1968).
- Volume 2: San Luides—Klein River (1968).
- Volume 3: Puffins (1968).
- Volume 4: Pongola—Milkerness Lake Complex (1970).
- Volume 5: Beulans River—Kowie River (1971).

845

Environment Planning Act

(699.) Dr. A. L. BORRINI asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

What is the status of the guide plan committees established in terms of the Environment Planning Act, 1967, and how many have been established in terms of the Act?

- Volume 6: Noetsie River—Maitland River (1971).
- Volume 7: Gouritz River—Kaaimans River (1971).

Reports on inland holiday townships will be published when finally approved by the Planning Advisory Council.

Draft guide plan for Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage complex

712. Mr. T. ARONSON asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

- (1) (a) What stage has been reached with the draft guide plan for the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage complex and (b) when is it expected to be made public;
- (2) whether there is any delay with the publication of the guide plan; if so, what is the reason for the delay.

mainly in regard to ecological aspects for use in the planning of the specific areas.

- (2) Yes. Whilst it is not the intention to publish the studies collectively, the information is usually included in scientific papers at public symposia or published in scientific journals.

4. Keep an eye on the time. If there is no clock within view, put your watch on the lectern or wherever you can glance at it discreetly. Check your pace from time to time against the timing marked in your notes, and speed up or slow down as necessary.
5. If anything goes wrong, treat it humorously: don't get irritated or embarrassed. (If you can make capital out of a boob, so much the better, but this does need quick thinking.)

6. If the chairman has left it to you to call for questions or orga discussion, control the proceedings tact- fully b

Answer are ans not cle large a repeat questio you tov

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

(1) (a) and (b) Upon completion of negotiations regarding the future direction of expansion of the existing Bantu residential area, the draft lineplan will be finalized and released for written comment.

(2) Falls away.

Technical committees to study Swartvlei-Wilderness area/Langebaan Lagoon area/ St. Croix Island area

713. Mr. T ARONSON asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

(1) Whether technical committees have been appointed to conduct studies of (a) the Swartvlei-Wilderness area, (b) the Langebaan Lagoon area and (c) the St. Croix Island area at Port Elizabeth; if so, what is the purpose of these studies;

(2) whether the studies will be made public; if so, when.

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

(1) (a), (b) and (c) Yes. The purpose of the studies is to gather information

Make sure you a question is t it. With a ard the question, Use all the audience with reach.

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2. Clear up home. returned to base. find it.

3. Wait till the next day at least before attempting to assess your performance and deciding what improvements you can make to your next one. Remember, one successful presentation will lead to another!

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HANSARD NO. 13

Environmental personnel 894

701. Mr H. E. J. VAN RENSBURG
asked the Minister of Transport:

- (1) Whether the Railways and Harbours Administration employs any environmental personnel; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many persons and (b) what are their qualifications;
- (2) whether environmental impact assessments are made in respect of construction projects carried out by or on behalf of his Department; if not, why not.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

- (1) No; because prevention of pollution of the environment by smoke, oil, effluents, residues, rubbish, etc. is given constant attention by numerous officers as part of their normal duties. Close liaison is also maintained with local authorities in the disposal of effluents and residues.
- (2) Yes.

World-wide cost of

Michael Chester,
Financial Editor

The Gnomes of Zurich have been on a world-wide shopping tour — comparing prices and incomes from one city to the next and, better still, the current state of the actual purchasing power of the average pay packet.

The results are listed in a 50-page booklet prepared by the Union Bank of Switzerland. It makes fascinating reading, especially in the middle of the big butter and cheese row.

The findings are likely to draw, in turn, means of envy and sighs of relief from the South African bread-winners and housewives.

Maybe there are many cities around the world more affluent than Johannesburg. But there are also many where the going is even harder when it comes to stretching the family budget.

Food

The bank researchers drew up a shopping list for a food basket carrying 35 fairly basic items — bread and sugar to meat and fish — and went off to supermarkets from America to Japan and from Norway to Australia.

In Johannesburg the total bill came to R113.41 — enough to set any housewife into a tantrum.

But hang on. Johannesburg turned out to be one of the cheapest cities of all, along with Buenos Aires, Dublin and Panama.

In Tokyo, with a sizzling cost of living that makes it about the most expensive town on earth, the bill came to R308.97. In New York it was R184.61 and in Paris...

Keepings alive and fed

3/11/76
STAR

and about the style of a middle-level executive — came to around R1 390. In Tokyo, most expensive of all, it came to about R1 739.

The Johannesburg rent: R344. This compared with R409 in London, R643 in Sydney, R709 in Toronto and R559 in Tel Aviv.

Rentals for unfurnished three-room flats — considered locally in the medium-price range — varied between R110 in Lisbon and a sky-high R864 in Tokyo.

Johannesburg rents were put at between R348 for an "expensive" flat to R246 in the "medium" bracket.

All the rents were based on the theory that the flats were no older than 1960-built and that the rents were the sort of levels demanded from people just moving in.

The best guideline the researchers were able to find for the normal sort of rent paid in Johannesburg — taking into account the majority of households, all neighbourhoods, and covering cheaper housing without going to the extreme of slums — was around R119.

This looked a lot easier on the pocket than the R260 quoted for New York and R199 for Toronto. But London came much cheaper — only around R87 a month.

The grass looked much greener across in Australia. Sydney teacher salaries were R12 324.

A bank teller in Johannesburg (10 years' experience, about 35 years old and married with 2 children) was shown on an annual salary of R5 549 — a long shot from the R15 441 paid in Zurich, though, in turn, better than the Buenos Aires bank teller on only R1 943.

Purchasing power

The real crunch, of course, comes with the comparisons of actual purchasing power — whatever the income or level of prices.

To find a reasonable guideline, the researchers concentrated on the average living standards for a cross-section in each city. It embraced primary school teachers, bus drivers, motor mechanics, construction workers, toolmakers, textile operators, departmental managers in industrial companies, bank tellers and secretaries.

The measure of real spending

power was based on the average number of hours that needed to be worked to earn the cash to buy various items.

First, the food basket. In Johannesburg it took 38½ work hours to earn enough to meet the bill — compared with only 25½ hours in Chicago, 25½ hours in Toronto, and only 24½ hours in Sydney.

On the other hand, it took 44½ hours to earn the cash in London, 67½ hours in Tel Aviv — and a slogging 92 hours in Lisbon.

A second exercise was to see the number of work hours needed to foot the bill of a whole basket of goods and services — food, beverages, cigarettes, household appliances, clothing, transport expenses and sundry services. Housing costs were left aside.

The package took 126½ hours to earn in Johannesburg. Comparisons included only 73½ hours in Los Angeles, a shade under 83 hours in Toronto, 93½ in Sydney and 124½ in London. Pity the poor Israeli. In Tel Aviv it took over 267 hours. Worse, in Manila it took nearly 356 hours. Worst of all, in Buenos Aires it took over 482 hours. Feel just a little better?

American

It came to a lower R137,11 in Tel Aviv and on down to R119,01 in Sydney. But not enough to match Jo'burg.

One or two items in particular tilted the bill. For instance, one kilogram of medium-quality rump or sirloin-steak cost R11,30 to R12,17 in Geneva — and half as much again in Tokyo. In Buenos Aires it was one-tenth the price.

Table butter — hold it — was about R4,35 in Zurich. And a 1 kg loaf of bread commanded prices higher than R1,23 in New York, San Francisco and Stockholm.

Wardrobe

Here the researchers shopped for two mini-wardrobes. His consisted of a medium-quality, ready-made suit (2-piece worsted/synthetic), a shirt (cotton/synthetic), one pair of socks and a pair of shoes.

Hers contained a summer dress and a skirt (both ready-to-wear in cotton/wool/synthetic), a pair of pantyhose and a pair of fashionable day shoes.

The researchers steered clear of boutiques and exclusive speciality stores and headed for good quality department stores.

In the large centres in the United States, the men's wardrobe cost anywhere between R192 and R236, while the women's cost R114 in London and as little as R87 in Milan.

By far the best bargain was in Manila — R63 and the suit tailor-made to boot.

The Johannesburg bill came to R109.

Hers, without much surprise, carried the highest price tag in Paris — around R139. Still, the chic and sophistication must help to keep the smile intact.

In the US the cost ranged from R105 in San Francisco to R120 in Chicago. One place to head for, as a lot of European belles on the Continent have discovered, is London, where the price was R114. The cost in Toronto: R197.

At home

Housing really set the budget askew in many big cities.

In New York and Hong Kong the monthly rent for a furnished four-room flat — in good neighbourhoods

On the town

The bank survey found that on average the cost of an overnight stay in a hotel in any of the 41 cities covered by the research had gone up 10 percent in little more than two years, with costs on the march virtually everywhere.

Paris — as many tourists would have guessed from experience, much to their chagrin — comes out most expensive of all with a double room with bath (breakfast for two and service included) stripping the wallet at the rate of R73,90 a night.

Buenos Aires followed at R69,56 London was put at R61,74 per night, even higher than New York.

Johannesburg: R26,96. Less than half the overseas cost. In all cases the status of the hotel was set at a Hilton or the equivalent.

To compare the cost of dining out, the researchers found what they considered to be fashionable restaurants and watched the price tag on the main dish (say rumpsteak with greens and potatoes) without counting the cost of starters and desserts and drinks.

The world-wide average, they found, had risen from R5,22 to R6,96 since 1973.

Now, diners in a good restaurant must pay anywhere between R9,56 and R13,34 for such basic fare in Chicago, New York, Tokyo and Tel Aviv. In Lisbon one can slide in and out for R2,25.

The Johannesburg bill: R3,94.

Pay packet

The research covered a number of occupations in detail to work on comparisons of gross annual earnings in various cities of the world.

As an example, primary school teachers — engaged say 10 years in a state school — were easily paid best of all in Geneva: R18 961 gross a year.

Next on the pay scale came Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Toronto, with gross annual salaries within the narrow range from R15 652 to R16 087.

The teacher in Johannesburg was put at R6 564 a year. The only consolation is that there are many cities where salaries are lower. The Tel Aviv salary, for instance, was R4 138.

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RETROSPECT

1 Disraeli (1969), p. 234.

2 On the Roosevelt — Selous exchanges, see J.H. Ferguson: American

56

Nuclear power plant threat

By BOB MOLLOY

Cape Times 10/12/76

INSURANCE companies will not pay out for radiation damage emanating from the new nuclear power station at Duynefontein and a major mishap could spread death and injury anywhere within 70 kilometres of the station.

Cape Town is barely 30 km from the site of the nuclear power station now taking shape north of Melkbosstrand. These facts arise from a leading article by Dr Jan Giliomee, secretary of the Society for the Protection of

the Environment, published this week in the latest issue of the society's newsletter.

Capetonians appear to show no concern at the prospect of having a structure on their doorstep that will regularly release radioactive material into the air at concentrations that have never been proved safe, says Dr Giliomee.

"Do they realize that any increase in the general level of radioactivity could possibly cause genetic damage and an increase in leukaemia cases?"

Deaths

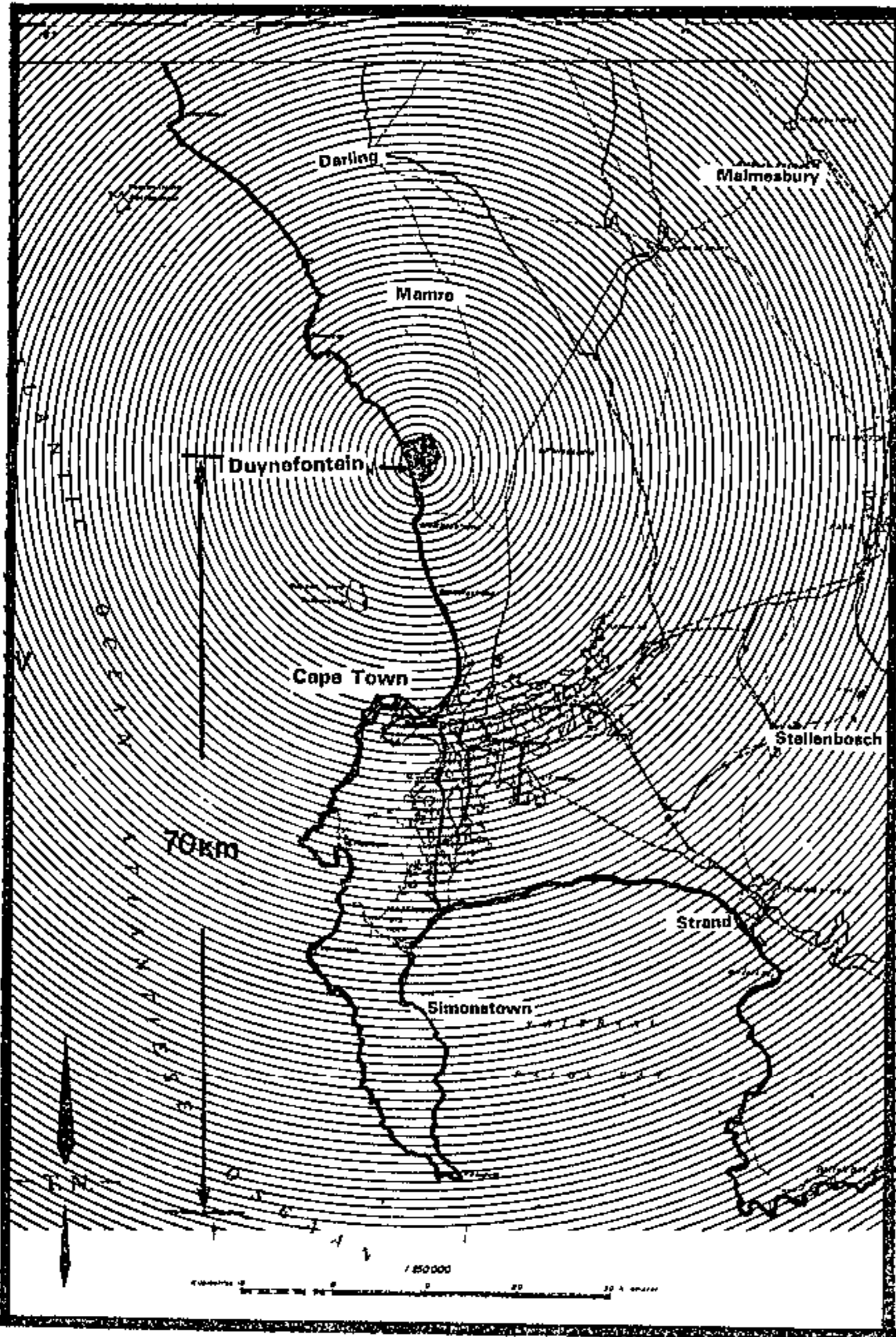
"Are they aware that in the event of a major mishap at the station many people within a radius of 25 kilometres will die and there will be resulting injuries to a distance of 70 kilometres? That all forms of insurance against fire and accident specifically exclude damage from radiation? They must have read this somewhere, but evidently feel assured that all necessary steps have been taken," the article adds.

It goes on to point out that one of the waste products of the power station will be plutonium-90, a radioactive isotope so poisonous that one three-hundredth of a gramme is lethal when inhaled, and that the material remains dangerous for 24 000 years.

Not discussed

The article says that nuclear power has been regarded as so dangerous in other parts of the world that a government was voted out of power on that issue alone and a decision taken to dismantle the nuclear programme. Yet, says Dr Giliomee, the matter is not even discussed at lunchtime meetings in Cape Town.

The society has continually lobbied against the siting of a nuclear plant at Duynefontein, debated the matter on the air with a representative of the Atomic Energy Board and even approached the Administrator of the Cape who "politely suggested that we contact the responsible Minister", Dr Giliomee said.



THIS scale map shows some of the most populated areas within 70 km radius of Duynefontein — the "destruction circle" outlined by Dr Jan Giliomee in the accompanying article. Even the lighthouse keeper at Cape Point falls within the radius.

Remarking on assurances that all precautions would be taken, an accompanying article in the same issue shows that in 1973 the American Atomic Energy Commission found 861 "abnormal" incidents in the country's 42 nuclear power plants. Two stations had been seriously damaged and another two had "accidentally" released radioactive matter into the air.

In a recent reply to similar objections an Escom spokesman said the Duynefontein site was in all respects found to be the most suitable one for a nuclear station and a tremendous amount of attention had been given to its safety and security.

Excluded

Insurance sources had also pointed out that all present forms of insurance against fire and accidents specifically excluded damage from radiation. A life assurance executive said at the time that with the strict safety precautions likely to be applied his firm would be prepared to give life cover at the standard rates.

No final decision on this had yet been taken.

"Abnormal"

3

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Warning on pesticides

Pretoria Bureau

Pesticides would at some stage be misused or over-used. The Deputy Minister of Planning and the Environment, Mr Janson, warned in Pretoria today.

For this reason strict control on the use of pesticides was not enough — what was needed was full co-operation between all the authorities concerned.

Mr Janson was opening

a conference on pesticide residues, organised by the Institute of Chromatography at the University of Pretoria.

The purpose of the symposium is to devise a system for monitoring the increase of residues in air, soil and water.

Mr Janson said it was fortunate that studies had shown the adverse effects on wildlife and other forms of life were often exaggerated.

It was nevertheless the responsibility of the Government and industry to continue their studies in order to minimise the effects of pesticides.

Dr W A Verweck, Secretary for Agricultural Technical Services, said pesticides were indispensable agents, not only in the producing of food, but also in the safeguarding of food supplies.

75/11/77
**Plan for
Magaliesberg
soon**

The Minister of Planning and Environment, Dr van der Merwe said yesterday he was "in the final stages of consultation" on the question of declaring the Magaliesberg a nature area, reports political correspondent, John Patten.

The Star's CARE campaign helped in the fight to save the Magaliesberg which is now likely to become a "natural area" under the Environmental Planning Act.

This means that any new plans to utilise the land have to be passed by the Department of Planning.

The issue, which has become controversial because of open-cast mining operations on the slopes of the Magaliesberg, has involved several different authorities.

Before reaching his decision within the next few weeks, Dr van der Merwe said he would consult the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Schoeman, and the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Sybrand van Niekerk.

Hansard 2 col 55 1/2/77

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Plans for Greater Cape Peninsula area

*12. Mr. C. W. EGLIN asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

Whether the Central Guide Plan Committee has completed its plans for the Greater Cape Peninsula area; if not, when is it expected that the plans will be completed.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

No. It is anticipated that proposals by the Cape Metropolitan Planning Committee for a guide plan for the Greater Cape Peninsula will be ready during the first half of the current year. Thereafter the proposals will be considered by the Guide Plan Committee with a view to finalizing them in respect of either specific sub-regions or certain planning aspects.

Hansen L vol 351 15/2/77

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● **Koeberg nuclear power station**

307. Mr. H. E. J. VAN RENSBURG asked the Minister of Economic Affairs:

- (1) Whether an investigation has been carried out into the possible effects on the public and the environment of radiation resulting from (a) normal operation and (b) accidents at the proposed Koeberg nuclear power station; if not, why not; if so, what precautions are planned;
- (2) what are the expected levels of radiation pollution of the (a) environment, (b) atmosphere and (c) sea;
- (3) what are the expected levels of radiation to which (a) the public and (b) the personnel of the power station will be exposed;
- (4) whether an independent authority will be created to ensure that the power station complies with the provisions of a code of practice to protect the public and the environment from the effects of radiation; if not, why not; if so, who is it envisaged will serve on such a body;
- (5) whether independent environmental scientists will be appointed to such a body;
- (6) whether the reports of such body will be made public.

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS:

- (1) Yes;

- (a) and (b) a comprehensive safety system and emergency procedure based on the proven systems and procedures of similar power station in the United States of America, Sweden, Japan, Western Germany and France have been designed and will be in operation at the Koeberg nuclear power station;
- (2) (a), (b) and (c) less than the total natural radiation which the public are subjected to in certain parts of the country;
- (3) according to the licensing conditions it may not exceed—
 - (a) 10 millirem per annum; and
 - (b) 5 000 millirem per annum,
- (4) the Atomic Energy Board is, amongst others, charged with this responsibility;
- (5) the Atomic Energy Board uses its own scientists at its discretion for the intensive studies which are being undertaken before a licence for a nuclear plant is issued; and
- (6) decisions in this regard rest with the Atomic Energy Board.

Nuclear power station at Koeberg: Radio-active waste

14 Mr. C. W. EGLIN asked the Minister of Economic Affairs:

Whether the agreement between Escom and the French consortium governing the nuclear power station at Koeberg provides that radio-active waste will be shipped back to France; if so, (a) by what means, (b) by what route and (c) to what harbour will this waste be conveyed.

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS:

The radio-active substances which will be formed in the operation of the Koeberg nuclear power station will be contained mainly in the radiated fuel elements. The procedures which are to be followed when such fuel elements have to be removed from the reactors and/or transported, stored or reprocessed are laid down in agreements between the governments involved and the International Atomic Energy Agency in terms of which the Atomic Energy Board has already determined on behalf of the South African Government that these elements must be exported for reprocessing abroad by means of facilities approved by it beforehand. Consequently the transport of radio-active waste as such will not be an issue.

As a contract for the re-processing of the said fuel elements has not yet been concluded it is not possible at this stage to furnish replies to parts (b) and (c) of the question.

Mr. C. W. EGLIN: Mr. Speaker, arising from the hon. the Minister's reply, is he contemplating any contingency plan should it not be possible to export this radio-active material from South Africa?

The MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, the Atomic Energy Act provides for such circumstances.

Where the price elasticity of demand for a good was relatively high, the effect of placing a sales tax on that good would be to:

1. Have almost no effect on sales.
2. Place a relatively high proportion of the tax on the shoulders of the consumers.
3. Place a relatively high proportion of the tax on the shoulders of the producers.
4. Reduce government revenue.
5. Shift the demand curve to the left.

If the price elasticity of demand for potatoes was 0.25 then the effect of a bumper harvest which raised output 20% above the expected level would be to

1. Raise revenue by 20%.
2. Raise revenue by more.
3. Reduce prices but no s
4. Both 1. and 4. above.
5. Reduce revenue, receive

If the equilibrium market eggs could not be below 18 the effect of legislation

1. EF per unit of land.
2. OABG
3. The amount ABCF
4. The triangle ECF
5. The rectangle ABCE

In the following diagram

1. Help alleviate the h
2. Increase the rate of
3. Increase the chances
4. Make it more difficult
5. All three possibilities

If the equilibrium market was 10 cents per square control that laid down a would be to:

1. Reduce the supply of e
2. Increase the demand fo
3. Both 1. and 2. above.
4. Cause a surplus of egg
5. Have no effect.

point flats

effect of rent

square foot

finding a flat

flat.

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Strip mining operations

(*) Mr. H. E. J. VAN RENSBURG asked the Minister of Mines:

What requirements have been laid down regarding (a) the protection of the environment and (b) the rehabilitation of damage caused in respect of strip mining operations.

†The MINISTER OF JUSTICE (for the Minister of Mines):

(a) No specific requirements have been laid down but legislation will be introduced during this session of Parliament in terms of which regulations in connection with the protection of the environment at mines and works can be promulgated.

(b) The proposed legislation will also apply to the restoration of the surface and a standing advisory committee composed of representatives of the South African Agricultural Union, the Chamber of Mines, the Departments of Agricultural Technical Services, Planning and the Environment, and Mines, has already been appointed to give attention to damage caused to high potential agricultural land by strip mining operations and to make proposals in connection with the prevention of such damage and the restoration of the surface.

SIZE GROUP (HECTARE)	Q6		Q7		TOTAL
	No.	Area	No.	Area	
	2 -	31	31	5	
5 -	89	261	31	89	120
10 -	54	372	41	277	101
20 -	75	1 063	55	802	130
50 -	194	6 333	117	3 824	177
100 -	214	15 544	103	7 292	111
200 -	271	39 355	102	15 088	169
300 -	193	47 769	50	12 240	143
500 -	326	127 758	57	22 106	183
1 000 -	485	348 827	75	52 576	260
2 000 -	329	454 243	74	107 223	183
5 000 -	111	331 523	64	201 623	175
10 000 -	16	104 992	12	78 427	28
OVER	13	203 833	4	44 887	17
TOTAL	2 401	1 681 904	790	546 459	3 191

18	4 524	7 922	32	32	18	4 524	7 922	32	32
33	12 893	23 547	58	58	100	38 828	38 828	58	58
88	62 961	48 884	67	67	78	55 435	55 435	67	67
276	419 634	77 322	56	56	47	68 563	68 563	56	56
889	3 024 050	111 507	39	39	37	107 961	107 961	39	39
632	4 383 747	32 681	5	5	10	75 795	75 795	5	5
310	4 972 013	21 309	1	1	8	114 741	114 741	1	1
2 334	12 884 859	341 166	846	846	1 048	520 321	520 321	846	846
		1 079	1 079	1 079	1 048	520 321	520 321	1 079	1 079
		736 322	736 322	736 322	1 048	520 321	520 321	736 322	736 322

56

HANSARD NO. 15 12/3/76

Environmental personnel 1004

836 Mr. H. E. J. VAN RENSBURG
asked the Minister of Planning and the
Environment:

Audio/visuals

Is it essential
to show any
visuals such as a
videotape?

(1) Whether his Department employs any
environmental personnel; if so, (a)
how many and (b) what are their
qualifications, if not, why not;

(2) whether any environmental impact
studies are made in respect of
construction projects carried out by
or on behalf of his Department; if
not, why not.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND
THE ENVIRONMENT:

(1) Yes.

(a) 13.

- (b) 1 with M.Sc. (Zoologist),
- 1 with B.Sc. (Hon) and Di-
- ploma in Town and Regional
- Planning,
- 2 with B.Sc.
- 4 with M.A. (2 geographers, 1
- marine biologist and 1 trans-
- grapher),
- 2 with B.A.
- 2 with B.Com.
- 1 with B. (and hon) Architecture.

(2) No. Construction projects are not
carried out by or on behalf of my
Department.

essential for your
presentation been decided?

Will you be playing at home or
in a meeting room
or at home to you?

What size table as a meeting
table for your audience and as
a table for your subject?

What is the right size for the
table expected?

Will anyone be able to see?
Will there be a dais or platform?
Is there enough room for the
positioning of one or
more projection screens?

Will anyone be able to hear?
Will it be needed to use a microphone?

Is there a public address system
already installed? Will there be
any distracting noises and can
these be silenced during your
presentation?

(f) Can the room be darkened easily?
Are there sufficient power supplies
for any projected visuals or
recorded sound?

Visuals

(a) What equipment will you have at
your disposal? Will there be an
experienced projectionist
available?

(b) Are there any suitable visuals or
other aids (e.g. films, videotapes,
sound tapes, slides, etc.) already
available?

(c) What facilities are there for
obtaining or making others you
may need?

Budget

Has a budget already been prepared?
If so, how much money has been
allowed for:

Aerosol men worried about ozone threat

STAR. 28/4/76

World aerosol experts will leave the congress in Johannesburg today with a big question mark hanging over their billion-pound international industry.

A major concern for the 100-odd delegates during the last two formal days of the World Aerosol Congress has been the flourocarbon effect on the protective ozone layer in the stratosphere, 15 to 50 km above the earth's surface.

Scientists have claimed that the flourocarbon propellants used in aerosols once released into the atmosphere would ultimately break down the ozone layer which shields the earth from the sun's dangerous ultra violet rays.

Many speakers at the conference have been un-specific about the flourocarbon dilemma, possibly

because a long-delayed official American report on the subject will not be published until May.

But an acknowledged American expert on aerosols said late yesterday that if the industry did have to switch away from flourocarbons it would be at the expense of cost and safety — unless new propellants were discovered.

Professor J J Sciarra, Dean of the Brooklyn College of Pharmacy, New York, said the industry was already aware of many alternative propellant forms but these would boost prices and often were not as safe as flourocarbons.

An example he gave was hairspray, which if hydrocarbons were used instead of flourocarbons as propellants, a virtually explosive mixture would result.

New plea on Sandy Bay

CAPE TIMES 4/5/76

DR J H GILIOME, a noted academic and secretary of the Society for the Protection of the Environment, has given notice that investigations are still under way to see if the proposed development of Sandy Bay can be stopped by legal action.

In a leading article in the latest issue of the society's newsletter, Dr Giliomee says that the decision to develop, which came as a "bitter disappointment", was allowed to happen, "against the declared will of nearly everyone who expressed an opinion on the matter".

"These people could have saved themselves a lot of time and trouble, and our country many manhours. The Provincial Council Executive seemed to have made up its mind long before and no arguments, not even the recommendations of official planning bodies, could make the slightest impression."

He added that the executive gave many reasons for its final decision — "different ones on different occasions, but all of them equally unconvincing".

Recalling that the Administrator, Dr L A P A Munnik, had given prominence to the fact that the beach was used by nudists, Dr Giliomee commented: "But then nudism, being a crime, should be handled by the police, not developers."

The Department of Nature and Environmental

Conservation did not regard Sandy Bay as a high priority area for conservation yet this had been the decisive factor according to Mr Frans Conradie, the



Dr J H Giliomee

MEC for Local Government.

"This department has so evaluated land in terms of its mandate only: from a flora and fauna conservation angle, and never in its socio-ecological context, as was necessary here," said Dr Giliomee.

Mr Conradie had said that the rights given to the owner in 1970 — "for free, gratis, we assume" — could not be taken back without costly compensa-

tion. When first asked how much this would be, Mr Conradie said he had not approached the owner; yet when it was suggested that R500 000 be offered, he had said that the land was not available for this amount.

"HOW MUCH"

"Since no one seems to have dared asking the owner, we do so now: Mr Mitchell, how much money do you want to stop your development plans, remembering that, if your demand is modest, it will earn you the gratitude of thousands today and millions in future? And our forgiveness for what happened at Pringle Bay."

Dr Giliomee adds that "events in the USA and more recently in Australia have earned political leaders the distrust of the people — with dire consequences for the whole Western world. South Africa can afford this least of all.

"Thus when the Provincial Council Executive takes decisions which go against the trend of public opinion and the advice of professional institutes we need better arguments than the ones above," he added.

PARKS BOARD JOINS POLLUTION FIGHTERS IN HUNT FOR EVIDENCE

Escom's the killer —and we can prove it!

9/11/77
S.M.P.

BY TONY
SPENCER-SMITH

THE COUNCIL for Conservation and Anti-Pollution will lay a charge under the Water Act against the Electricity Supply Commission for alleged pollution of Durban Bay.

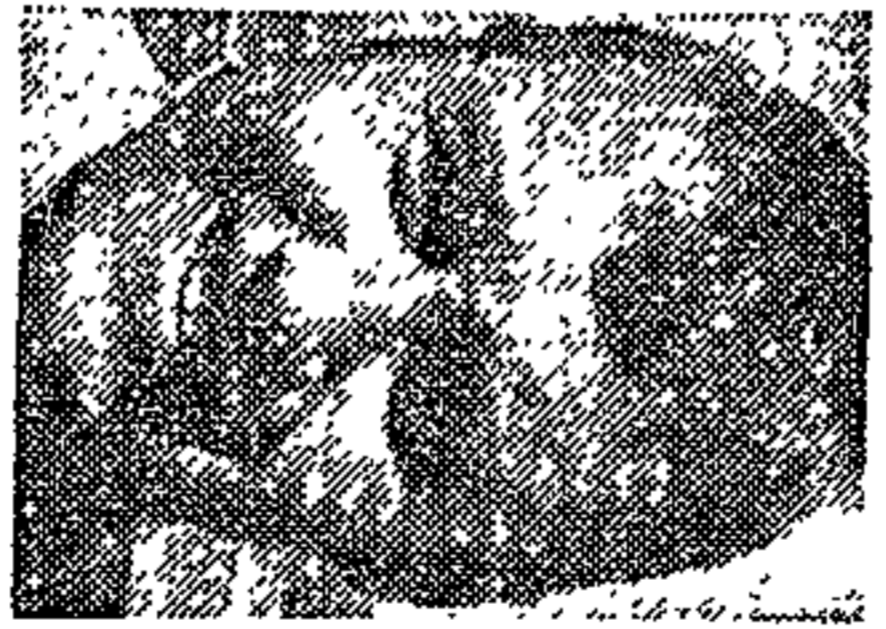
The chairman of Saccap, Mr Tim Condon, said this week his organisation is convinced that Escom's Congella power station was the major source of pollution which caused the mass death of marine life in the Bay over Christmas.

He said Saccap had asked the Department of Water Affairs to act against Escom. But this week the department had replied that it would not prosecute anybody so Saccap would go it alone, he said.

"We are appalled at their reaction," he said. "They conceded that a bad smell began at the Bay about midnight on Christmas Eve, but say they only heard about it after Christmas and it is now too late to take action."

"Surely they should have people available on a 24-hour basis to deal with this sort of thing."

Saccap was compiling an extensive dossier from eyewitnesses, scientists and others on the total pollution situation in the Bay at that time, said Mr Condon. "It is already clear that the fish, crabs and other marine organisms were not poisoned but died from lack of oxygen in the water caused by pollution. And the biggest polluter was the warm-stream effluent from the power station. The stinking sulphur smell from that stream then was too fantastic."



Tim Condon: "We go it alone."

**WE'LL
TAKE
THEM
TO
COURT
OVER POWER
STATION SPILL
THAT BROUGHT
CHRISTMAS
DEATH TO
DURBAN BAY,
SAYS CONDON**



The warm-stream effluent from Congella pours into Durban Bay

Millions died

Saccap had been taking samples from the warm stream every day since Christmas, but the results, which will be used as evidence, may not be released because doing so may prejudice the case, he said.

The kill in the south-west area of the Bay had been very bad. Not only vast numbers of fish had died, but even the tough giant crabs which had survived another serious Bay incident in 1967.

"Those crabs came up in hundreds and other hardy hideaway creatures like eels and rock cod also died.

"If one takes into account all the tiny fish which use the Bay as a nursery area, then it is probable that millions of fish died. Remember there were a hundred dead fish on the bottom for every one that floated."

Mr Condon said it was unfortunate that this had happened at a time when the fishing in the Bay was the best for years.

The pollution level had improved immensely, yet in the four days from Christmas — including Christmas Day — there had been a number of serious pollution spills and it appeared officials had not taken any action.

"We are upset about the apparent lack of interest of the authorities in this," he said.

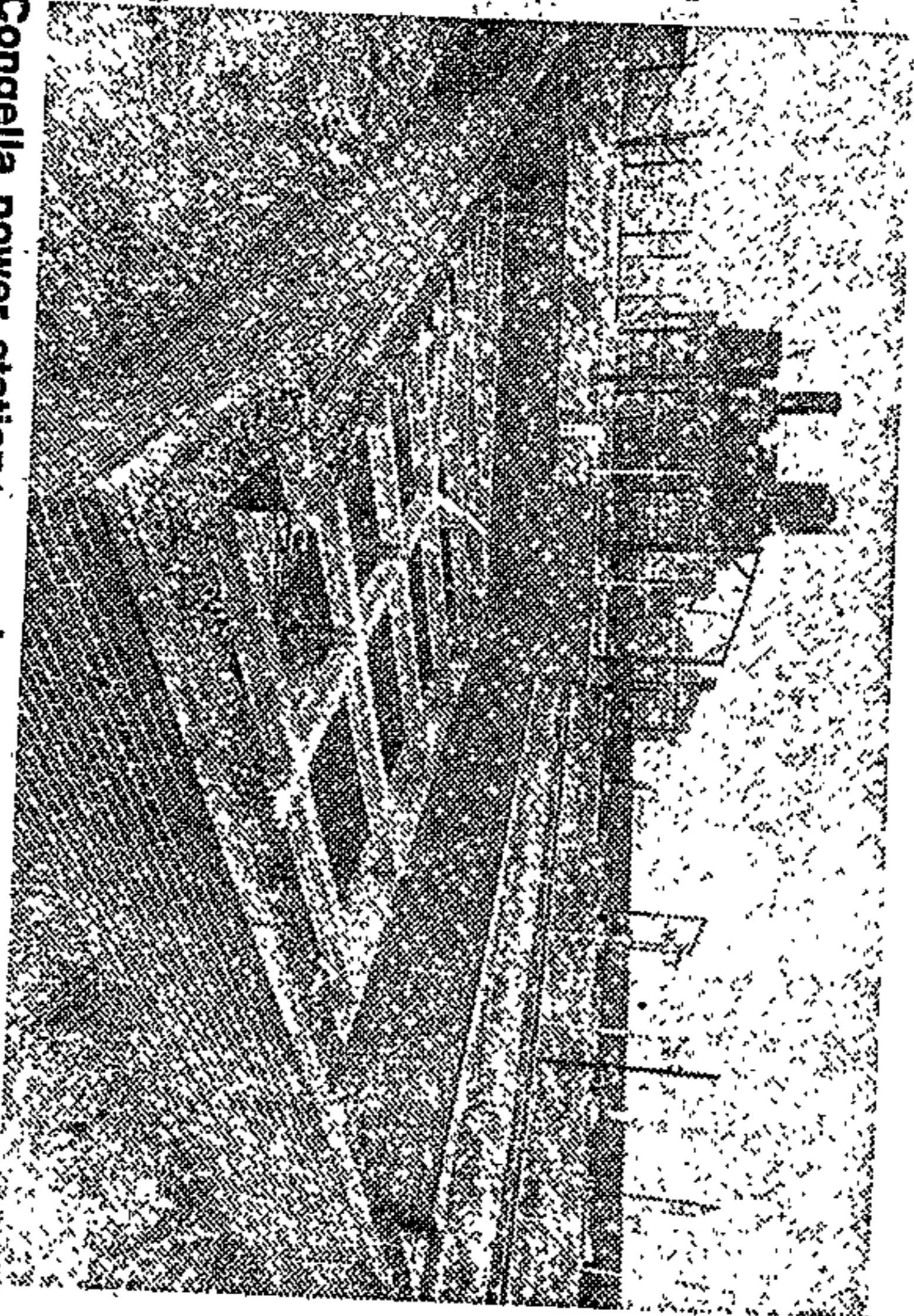
"We found two ships causing liquid waste pollution, and at least three different types of pollution from the north-west underground outlet at the Graving Dock.

"We want tighter control and we're going to fight for it. Besides the court case, we're taking the whole matter to the Habitat Council for sending to the Minister of Planning and the Environment."

A senior Natal Parks Board official, Mr Ted Burke, head of the coastal conservation section, said the board had been collecting warm-stream samples for Saccap.

The Congella power station appeared to have been an important pollution source at the time of the mass death of marine life.

An Escom head office spokesman has denied responsibility.



Congella power station . . . where the warm-stream effluent is collected before its underground journey to the Bay

MINING - Diamonds - General

MINING - Diamonds - Labour

MINING - Other - General

MINING - Other - Labour

Mixed marriages See

POPULATION - Registration

Motor industry & motor trade See

{ COMMERCE
MANUFACTURING - Motor industry

MOZAMBIQUE - General

MOZAMBIQUE - Labour

FIN MAIL 11/2/77

Still ticking over at Sandy Bay (56)

Slack market conditions have given Cape Town's Sandy Bay skinny-dippers a reprieve which, say the developers of the proposed Sandy Bay scheme. Trust Bank/Bill Mitchell, will run until the end of the year at least.

Ian Frazer, project co-ordinator, says the rest of 1977 will be devoted to detailed planning, lay-out, landscaping and architectural design by a small team headed by SA-born, Spanish-based, architect, Aubrey David.

Actual construction of (and heavy spending on) the first phase of the 30-year, 2 000 dwelling unit scheme will not be started until marketing conditions are "just right". In the meantime, the developers will invite tenders for the construction of an access road from Hout Bay and the erection of change-rooms, toilets and a parking lot.

Says Frazer: "We are not in a hurry, but we are going ahead. It would be a mistake to do nothing and wait until the next upswing."

The developers are cagey about the financial effect of the enforced postponement. Trust Bank says it has a convincing reason for refusing to discuss the matter: the developing company banks with Trust. The Mitchell half of the developing company says the financial



Good for the loose but not for the landed

implications of the delay in the marketing programme is their business "and no one else's".

But a source close to the scheme assured the *FM* this week that the financial commitment in the project so far is negligible. The developing company has a nominal share capital, and its expenses to date in connection with the scheme are less than R1m. To keep the project "ticking over" will require about R100 000/year. This represents less than 1% of the kind of exposure a bank would have in, say, a tower block in a CBD.

And the land at Sandy Bay was acquired a long time ago "before land values began to rocket". Interest on loans is no sweat.



PRESS

NIGERIA - General

NIGERIA - Labour

NORWAY - General

NORWAY - Labour

Nurses See

HEALTH & DISEASE - Nurses

Air pollution in SA cities 'not severe' — report

CITY-DWELLERS can take a deep breath. The air they inhale is almost pollution-free, says a scientific report published recently.

But in Cape Town health authorities are waiting for the results of a long-range domestic investigation of air pollution before deciding whether or not some curbs are needed on emissions from car exhausts.

Motor vehicle exhaust fumes are not polluting South Africa's atmosphere severely, says a report by the air pollution research group of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in the January issue of the South African Journal of Science.

And in Cape Town, where the problem of air pollution has been tackled 'just in time,' a health authority says the outlook for the future is quite favourable.

BAD PATCHES

But both the Medical Officer of Health, Dr R. J. Coogan, and a University of Cape Town researcher say Cape Town does have bad patches during peak motoring times.

The CSIR group conducted tests in six South African cities, including Cape Town, to measure the pollution levels caused by car exhausts.

The results showed that carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxide concentrations could be classed as 'light' air pollution.

Oxidant and ozone concentrations were so slight that the air could be regarded as free of the gases.

All the concentrations of gaseous pollutants were well below those levels at which perceptible psychological effects are experienced.

The research group concluded that there seemed no need to introduce control measures on motor vehicle exhaust emissions in South Africa.

Sandy Bay building to go ahead away

(~~56~~)

56

24/4
STimes

By LEONARD PORT

RUMOURS that the controversial development project planned for Sandy Bay on the Cape Peninsula had been postponed were refuted this week by the project co-ordinator, Mr Ian Frazer, who said he hoped preliminary construction would start in July or August.

Construction of an access road, a beachside park area and ablution blocks this year will be followed next year by the first 50 of 450 approved residential units on the slopes overlooking the bay, he said.

The proposed route of the access road from the Hout Bay valley has been approved by the Divisional Council and is now being considered by the Provincial Council.

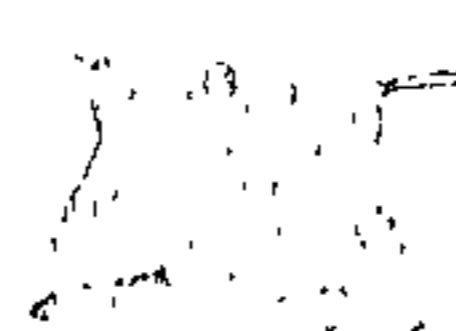
Marking

"There is absolutely no truth in the rumours that we are marking time on the project because of unfavourable marketing conditions or money problems," said Mr Frazer.

This means that Sandy Bay's days as a secluded nudist haunt are numbered, and those who like to soak up the sun together in the altogether must do so elsewhere next summer.

Speaking on behalf of the developers, Mr Bill Mitchell and Trust Bank, Mr Frazer said: "We cannot dictate what people do on the beach. What goes on there is no concern of this company."

However, with the beach easily accessible to all by car, the nudists are sure to move off in search of fresh pastures away from prying eyes.



ENVIRONMENT

56

STAATSKOERANT

DE REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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Vol. 116]

PRETORIA, 5 AUGUSTUS 1977
5 AUGUST 1977

[No. 5695

PROKLAMASIE

van die Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

No. 164, 1977

KOMMISSIE VAN ONDERSOEK INSAKE WETS-ONTWERP OP DIE BESKIKKING OOR HOUERS EN METODES OM DIE BEKAMPING VAN ROMMELSTROOIING IN SY WYERE OMVANG TE BEHEER, ORGANISEER EN FINANSIER

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 1 van die Kommissiewet, 1947 (Wet 8 van 1947), verklaar ek hierby dat die bepalinge van genoemde Wet van toepassing is op die Komsmissie van Ondersoek insake die Wetsontwerp op die Beskikking oor Houers en metode om die bekamping van rommelstrooiing in sy wyere omvang te beheer, organiseer en finansier, wat ek vandag aangestel het.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Durban, op beide die Veertiende dag van Julie Eendubbelend Negehonderd Sewe-en-veertig.

N. DIEDERICHS, Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-raad:

S. W. VAN DER MERWE.

DEPARTEMENT VAN BEPLANNING EN DIE OMGEWING

No. 1529

5 Augustus 1977

AANSTELLING VAN KOMMISSIE VAN ONDERSOEK INSAKE WETSONTWERP OP DIE BESKIKKING OOR HOUERS EN METODES OM DIE BEKAMPING VAN ROMMELSTROOIING IN SY WYERE OMVANG TE BEHEER, ORGANISEER EN FINANSIER

Hierby word vir algemene kennisname bekendgemaak dat die Staatspresident bejaag het om 'n Kommissie van Ondersoek aan te stel om ondersoek na die Wetsontwerp op die Beskikking oor Houers en metode om die bekamping van rommelstrooiing in sy wyere omvang te beheer, organiseer en finansier, in te stel en daaraan te bevestig te doen, met die opdrag verat in bylaag 1.

BY LAE
ONTWAG

Van die Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

aan:

- Petrus Hendrik Meyer.
- Samuel Johannes de Peer.
- Jan Hendrik Hoon.
- Gideon Francois Jacobs.
- Francois Jacobus le Roux.
- Jacobus Johannes Lloyd.
- Brian William Bromley Page.
- Jan Christoffel van den Berg.
- Andries Tjaart van der Walt.
- Hendrik Johannes van Eck.
- Horatio Filank Janse van Rensburg.
- Abraham Christoffel van Wyk.
- John Walter Edington Willey.

salint:

Nederrand el die diensliging om 'n Kommissie aan te stel om ondersoek na die Wetsontwerp op die Beskikking oor Houers en metode om die bekamping van rommelstrooiing in sy wyere omvang te beheer, organiseer en finansier, in te stel en daaraan te bevestig te doen, met die opdrag verat in bylaag 1.

PROCLAMATION

by the State President of the Republic of South Africa

No. 164, 1977

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE DISPOSAL OF CONTAINERS BILL AND METHODS TO CONTROL, ORGANISE AND FINANCE THE COMBATTING OF LITTERING IN ITS WIDER CONTEXT

Under the powers vested in me by section 1 of the Commissions Act, 1947 (Act 8 of 1947), I hereby declare that the provisions of the said Act shall be applicable to the Commission of Inquiry into the Disposal of Containers Bill and methods to control, organise and finance the combatting of littering in its wider context, which I have this day appointed.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Durban this Fourteenth day of July, One thousand Nine hundred and Seventy-seven.

N. DIEDERICHS, State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Council:

S. W. VAN DER MERWE.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

No. 1529

5 August 1977

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE DISPOSAL OF CONTAINERS BILL AND METHODS TO CONTROL, ORGANISE AND FINANCE THE COMBATTING OF LITTERING IN ITS WIDER CONTEXT

It is notified for general information that it has pleased the State President to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into and report on the Disposal of Containers Bill and methods to control, organise and finance the combatting of littering in its wider context with the terms of reference contained in the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE
COMMISSIONERS

By the State President of the Republic of South Africa

to:

- Petrus Hendrik Meyer.
- Samuel Johannes de Peer.
- Jan Hendrik Hoon.
- Gideon Francois Jacobs.
- Francois Jacobus le Roux.
- Jacobus Johannes Lloyd.
- Brian William Bromley Page.
- Jan Christoffel van den Berg.
- Andries Tjaart van der Walt.
- Hendrik Johannes van Eck.
- Horatio Filank Janse van Rensburg.
- Abraham Christoffel van Wyk.
- John Walter Edington Willey.

Greeting:

Whereas I deem it expedient to appoint a Commission to inquire into and report on the matters mentioned hereinafter;

AM. 28/12/77

Oil threatens Tsitsikama sea reserve

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — Blobs of oil were washed up at Jeffrey's Bay at the weekend and crude oil has reached the Tsitsikama coast, near South Africa's only marine reserve.

The oil is believed to be pollution caused by the collision between the giant oil tankers Venpet and Venoil on December 16 off the Storms River mouth.

The Port Elizabeth harbour captain, Captain Wally Shaw, said Kuswag anti-pollution vessels had dealt with some small spots of oil, but he did not know whether beaches were polluted.

Kuswag boats have poured foam detergent on to the main oil slick which was more than 22 km long and 3 km wide.

The chief warden of the Tsitsikama Marine Reserve, Dr Gilbert Robinson, said the detergent prevented a sticky mess but could destroy marine life. "It is just as lethal as the oil itself," he said.

The vice-chairman of the South African Foundation for the Conservation of

Coastal Birds (Sanccob), Mrs Althea Westphal, said volunteer workers would treat birds affected by the oil.

The Sanccob branch in Knysna had already treated penguins caught in oil. Five litres of an oil cleaning agent was recently flown to Knysna.

Cleaning solution was sent to Hermanus on Friday.

Mrs Westphal appealed to people picking up injured birds to bring them to the Sanccob headquarters at Forest Lawns, Doig Road, Wetton.

Arrangements have been made for Department of Sea Fisheries officials in other areas to collect sea birds and pass them on to trained workers.

The areas include Gansbaai, Agulhas, Hartenbos and Port Elizabeth.

Sanccob's secretary, Miss M Viljoen, said penguins affected by oil would be bathed in a solution and given medicine to counteract the oil.

The birds would be weighed, fed and then allowed to swim in a special pool, she said.

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES - LOVERS' WALK - RONDEBOSCH

POSTAL ADDRESS
UNIVERSITY PRIVATE BAG
RONDEBOSCH 7700



TELEGRAMS
UNIVERSITY RONDEBOSCH
TELEPHONE 69-4351

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLLEGE)

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

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Coal in Kruger National Park X

*18. Mr P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture:

15. Wanneer en Wat Whether the National Parks Board has given permission to any body to survey, prospect or drill for coal in the Kruger National Park; if so, (a) when was this permission granted, (b) to what body and (c) in terms of what statutory provision. vanne (2)
nie, gaan u terug huistoe

16. Gaan The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION (for the Minister of Agriculture):
No, but in discussions with the Minister of Mines I have agreed that a geological survey be undertaken in the Kruger National Park by the Geological Survey Division of the Department of Mines in the course of its normal activities

17. Watter deel van die jaar bring u deur by die huis?

18. Hoe reis u van u woonplek na die plase?

Van die een plaas na die ander?

Wie betaal u vervoer?

19. Het u bepaalde lone?

Hoe word hulle bepaal?

20. Betaal al die boere hierdie lone?

21. Is u betaling bepaal per skaap, per uur, per dag?

Weklikse betaling - kontant (per uur betaling x ure x dae/
per skaap betaling x skape, ens.)

ander betaling

22. Wanneer was die laaste verandering in u kontantbetaling?

Wat was die verandering?

Hoe het dit gekom dat u betaling verander het?

23. Watter probleme ondervind u met die werk?

Wat doen u gewoonlik om die probleme op te los?

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Plans for Greater Cape Peninsula area

X boere

*17. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

Whether the Central Guide Plan Committee has completed plans for the Greater Cape Peninsula area; if not, when is it expected that the plans will be completed

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

No. The Cape Metropolitan Planning Committee has prepared proposals on a non-statutory basis outlining policies for future growth and change of the Greater Cape Peninsula. These proposals were

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recently released for general comment under the title "Draft Guide Plan for the Cape Metropolitan Area". The Cape Metropolitan Planning Committee will submit the comments together with its recommendations, to the Administrator and myself for consideration. Thereafter it is intended to establish a statutory guide plan committee for the Greater Cape Peninsula and the aforementioned proposals will be taken into consideration in the preparation of a statutory guide plan

of handskere?

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6

b) dagsmanne is daar in die span?

7. Hoe lank werk hulle op u plaas elke jaar? weke.

8. Waarvandaan kom hulle?

9. Hoe werf u hulle?

10. Hoeveel keer het die span reeds op u plaas gewerk?

11. Hoeveel skape skeer hulle weekliks?

12. Betaling

Skeerders:	kontant	ander:	hoeveelheid
			waarde aan boer
			waarde aan skeerder

Dagsmanne:	kontant	ander:	hoeveelheid
			waarde aan boer
			waarde aan skeerder

13. Hoe word die betalings bepaal?

HANSARD NOV C.1 231/232

24/2/78

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FEBRUARY 1978

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†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (1) No, the survey comprises the sinking of a number of stratigraphical boreholes.
- (2) The activities are not of the kind for which action under section 20 of the National Parks Act, 1976, is intended.

Mr. R. J. LORIMER: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the hon. the Deputy Minister's reply, could he explain to me the difference between drilling for coal and prospecting?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, I think it would be only fair if he tabled that question.

Mr. H. H. SCHWARZ: Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the reply given by the hon. the Deputy Minister, does he not know whether that drilling is not prospecting?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! That is the same as the supplementary question asked by the hon member for Orange Grove.

Mr. R. J. LORIMER: Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the reply given by the hon. the Deputy Minister, if it turns out that drilling for coal is prospecting, will he take action in terms of section 20 of the National Parks Act?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member must table that question.

Questions standing over from Wednesday, 22 February 1978

X Geological survey in Kruger National Park

*23. Mr. R. J. LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) Whether the geological survey to be undertaken by the Geological Survey Division of the Department of Mines in the Kruger National Park will involve prospecting or mining of any nature; if not, what activities does the survey comprise; if so,
- (2) whether the National Parks Board is contemplating any action under section 20 of the National Parks Act; if so, what action; if not, why not.

HANSARD NO 14 COL 225,
2 24/2/78 226

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FEBRUARY 1978

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came to the fore. All requirements and comments are at present being incorporated in the report, which will soon be ready for submission to me. As soon as the report has been approved, the reservation of the land area can be proceeded with.

It may also be mentioned that in a press statement dated 22 December 1977, the Minister of Economic Affairs made known his intention of proclaiming the Langebaan lagoon as a marine reserve.

†Mr. I. F. A. DE VILLIERS: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the hon. the Deputy Minister's reply, would he make the information or decisions known at the earliest possible opportunity as there is wide public interest in this matter?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, this could only be done with due regard to all the factors which usually play a part in such matters. There is unfortunately the possibility that people would want to make use of such announcements for their own benefit by way of speculation.

*13. Mrs. H. SUZMAN—Reply standing over.

**Constantia triangle/Langebaan lagoon
declared protected areas**

*12. Mr. I. F. A. DE VILLIERS asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

What progress has been made in declaring (a) the Constantia triangle and (b) the Langebaan lagoon protected areas.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

- (a) The matter is still under investigation by the authorities concerned and is also the subject of negotiation with affected land owners.
- (b) A preliminary report on possible guidelines for the future conservation and utilization of the Langebaan lagoon and the shoreline areas was accepted in principle by me last year. Thereafter the report was submitted for comment to all interested bodies and persons, including landowners along the shoreline. In the meantime the needs of the Defence Force also

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Tests in Kruger National Park
1977-78
Mr. R. J. Lorimer

- (1) ...
- (2) ...

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

- (1) Yes
- (a) (i) The collection of data pertain-

... to land form, soil patterns and climate,

- (ii) As part of an assignment to compile a 1:250 000 land type map of the Republic;
- (b) The Department of Agricultural Technical Services;
- (c) Not available at present. The land form maps will, however, probably be published during 1979

(2) Yes.

Mr. R. J. LORIMER: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, can he tell me whether these tests were conducted over the whole area of the Kruger National Park, and also whether they have been conducted in other national parks?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: The idea is to make a survey of the whole country. Exactly how far this work has progressed, I cannot say with certainty.

**DEPARTEMENT VAN BEPLANNING
EN DIE OMGEWING**

No. 594

23 Maart 1978

**INSTELLING VAN 'N GIDSPLANKOMITEE VIR
UPINGTON EN OMGEWING**

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 6A (1) van die Wet op Omgewingsbeplanning, 1967 (Wet 88 van 1967) stel ek, Schalk Willem van der Merwe, Minister van Beplanning en die Omgewing, hierby 'n gidsplankomitee in vir die gebied omskryf in die Bylae hiervan, om 'n ontwerp-gidsplan op te stel waarin die vereistes vir toekomstige ontwikkeling en grondgebruik in dié gebied bepaal word.

Enige persoon wat by hierdie ontwerp-gidsplan belang het, kan binne 60 dae vanaf die datum van hierdie kennisgewing, skriftelike voorstelle vir opname in die plan rig aan die Voorsitter van die Gidsplankomitee vir Upington en Omgewing, Privaatsak X213, Pretoria.

Voorstelle deur 'n plaaslike bestuur moet deur middel van die Kaapse Provinsiale Administrasie voorgelê word.

Geteken te Kaapstad, op hede die 6de dag van Maart 1978.

S. W. VAN DER MERWE, Minister van Beplanning en die Omgewing.

BYLAE

**GIDSPLANGEBIED.—UPINGTON GRENS-
BESKRYWING**

Vanaf die noordoostelike baken van Erf 1, Upington (baken Wit Kop), suidwaarts met die oostelike grens van genoemde Erf 1 langs tot by die suidoostelike punt daarvan; daarvandaan suidooswaarts met die grense van Erwe 15 en 16 langs, sodat hulle by hierdie gebied ingesluit word, tot by die suidoostelike punt van laasgenoemde erf; daarvandaan ooswaarts in 'n reguit lyn tot by die noordelike baken van Plaas 555, administratiewe distrik Gordonia; daarvandaan suidweswaarts met die grense van genoemde Plaas 555 langs, sodat dit by hierdie gebied ingesluit word, tot by die baken geletter P op die kaart daarvan; daarvandaan suidooswaarts in 'n reguit lyn tot by die westelike punt van Perseel 3, Vaalkoppies-Nedersetting; daarvandaan suidooswaarts met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle uit hierdie gebied uitgesluit word, naamlik genoemde Perseel 3, Perseel 8, Gedeelte 23 van Plaas 40, administratiewe distrik Kenhardt, Persele 7, 153, genoemde 7 en 193, almal van Vaalkoppies-Nedersetting, tot by die oostelike baken van laasgenoemde perseel; daarvandaan suidooswaarts met die noordoostelike grens van Gedeelte 9 van Plaas 40, administratiewe distrik Kenhardt, langs tot by die baken geletter D op die kaart daarvan; daarvandaan suidweswaarts in 'n reguit lyn tot by die baken geletter n op laasgenoemde kaart; daarvandaan suidwaarts met die westelike grens van genoemde Plaas 40 langs tot by die baken geletter L op die kaart van Perseel 454, Olyvenhouts Drift-Nedersetting; daarvandaan noordweswaarts met die grense van genoemde Perseel 454 langs tot by die baken geletter F op die kaart daarvan; daarvandaan met die noordelike grens van Perseel 459 langs, sodat dit uit hierdie gebied uitgesluit word, tot by die westelike baken daarvan; daarvandaan noordweswaarts met die grens van genoemde Perseel 454 langs tot by die baken geletter C op die kaart daarvan; daarvandaan weswaarts in 'n reguit lyn tot by die westelike baken van genoemde Perseel 454; daarvandaan suidweswaarts in 'n reguit lyn tot by die oostelike punt van Plaas 451, administratiewe distrik Gordonia; daarvandaan algemeen suidwaarts met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle by hierdie gebied ingesluit word, naamlik genoemde Plaas 451, Perseel 644, Olyvenhouts Drift-Nedersetting en genoemde Plaas 451 tot by die baken

**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

No. 594

23 March 1978

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A GUIDE PLAN COM-
MITTEE FOR UPINGTON AND ENVIRONS**

Under and by virtue of the powers vested in me by section 6A (1) of the Environment Planning Act, 1967 (Act 88 of 1967), I, Schalk Willem van der Merwe, Minister of Planning and the Environment, hereby establish a guide plan committee for the area defined in the Annexure hereto, to compile a draft guide plan in which the requirements for the future development and use of land in the area are determined.

Any person who has any interest in this draft guide plan may, within 60 days of the date of this notice, submit written proposals for inclusion in the plan, to the Chairman of the Guide Plan Committee for Upington and environs, Private Bag X213, Pretoria.

Proposals by a local authority shall be submitted through the Cape Provincial Administration.

Signed at Cape Town, this 6th day of March 1978.

S. W. VAN DER MERWE, Minister of Planning and the Environment.

SCHEDULE

**GUIDE PLAN AREA.—UPINGTON BOUNDARY
DESCRIPTION**

Beginning at the north-eastern beacon of Erf 1, Upington (beacon Wit Kop); thence southwards along the eastern boundary of the said Erf 1 to the south-eastern point thereof; thence south-eastwards along the boundaries of Erven 15 and 16, so as to include them in this area, to the south-eastern point of the last-mentioned erf; thence eastwards in a straight line to the northernmost beacon of Farm 555, Administrative District of Gordonia; thence south-westwards along the boundaries of the said Farm 555, so as to include it in this area, to the beacon lettered P on the diagram thereof; thence south-eastwards in a straight line to the westernmost point of Lot 3, Vaalkoppies Settlement; thence south-eastwards along the boundaries of the following properties, so as to exclude them from this area, viz, the said Lot 3, Lot 8, Portion 23 of Farm 40, Administrative District of Kenhardt, Lots 7, 153, the said 7 and 193, all of Vaalkoppies Settlement, to the easternmost beacon of the last-mentioned lot; thence south-eastwards along the north-eastern boundary of Portion 9 of Farm 40, Administrative District of Kenhardt, to the beacon lettered D on the diagram thereof; thence south-westwards in a straight line to the beacon lettered n on the last-mentioned diagram; thence southwards along the western boundary of the said Farm 40 to the beacon lettered L on the diagram of Lot 454, Olyvenhouts Drift Settlement; thence north-westwards along the boundaries of the said Lot 454 to the beacon lettered F on the diagram thereof; thence along the northern boundary of Lot 459, so as to exclude it from this area, to the westernmost beacon thereof; thence north-westwards along the boundary of the said Lot 454 to the beacon lettered C on the diagram thereof; thence westwards in a straight line to the westernmost beacon of the said Lot 454; thence south-westwards in a straight line to the easternmost point of Farm 451, Administrative District of Gordonia; thence generally southwards along the boundaries of the following properties, so as to include them in this area, viz, the said Farm 451, Lot 644, Olyvenhouts Drift Settlement and the said Farm 451 to the

geletter C op die kaart van laasgenoemde plaas; daarvandaan ooswaarts met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle by hierdie gebied uitgesluit word, naamlik Erwe 5315, 5314 en 5313, Upington, en Gedeelte 1 van Plaas 425, administratiewe distrik Gordonia, tot by eersgenoemde baken.

No. 595

23 Maart 1978

INSTELLING VAN 'N GIDSPLANKOMITEE VIR KIMBERLEY EN OMGEWING

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 6A (1) van die Wet op Omgewingsbeplanning, 1967 (Wet 88 van 1967), stel ek, Schalk Willem van der Merwe, Minister van Beplanning en die Omgewing, hierby 'n gidsplankomitee in vir die gebied omskryf in die Bylae hiervan, om 'n ontwerp-gidsplan op te stel waarin die vereistes vir toekomstige ontwikkeling en grondgebruik in dié gebied bepaal word.

Enige persoon wat by hierdie ontwerp-gidsplan belang het, kan binne 60 dae vanaf die datum van hierdie kennisgewing, skriftelike voorstelle vir opname in die plan rig aan die Voorsitter van die Gidsplankomitee vir Kimberley en omgewing, Privaatsak X213, Pretoria.

Voorstelle deur 'n plaaslike bestuur moet deur middel van die Kaapse Provinsiale Administrasie voorgelê word.

Geteken te Kaapstad, op hede die 6de dag van Maart 1978.

S. W. VAN DER MERWE, Minister van Beplanning en die Omgewing.

BYLAE

GIDSPLANGEBIED.—KIMBERLEY GRENSBESKRYWING

Vanaf die noordwestelike baken van Plaas 69, administratiewe distrik Kimberley, noordooswaarts met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle by hierdie gebied ingesluit word: Genoemde Plaas 69, Plaas 70, Plaas 183 en Gedeelte 12 van Plaas 71 tot by die noordelike baken van laasgenoemde eiendom; daarvandaan suidooswaarts in 'n reguit lyn tot by die noordelike baken van Plaas 76; daarvandaan suidooswaarts met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle by hierdie gebied ingesluit word: Genoemde Plaas 76, Plaas 79, 124, 125, 123, 121, 80, Gedeelte 1 van Plaas 81 en genoemde Plaas 69 tot by eersgenoemde baken.

beacon lettered C on the diagram of the last-mentioned farm; thence eastwards along the boundaries of the following properties, so as to exclude them from this area, viz. Erven 5315, 5314 and 5313, Upington, and Portion 1 of Farm 425, Administrative District of Gordonia, to the beacon first mentioned.

No. 595

23 March 1978

ESTABLISHMENT OF A GUIDE PLAN COMMITTEE FOR KIMBERLEY AND ENVIRONS

Under and by virtue of the powers vested in me by section 6A (1) of the Environment Planning Act, 1967 (Act 88 of 1967), I, Schalk Willem van der Merwe, Minister of Planning and the Environment, hereby establish a guide plan committee for the area defined in the Annexure hereto, to compile a draft guide plan in which the requirements for the future development and use of land in the area are determined.

Any person who has any interest in this draft guide plan may, within 60 days of the date of this notice, submit written proposals for inclusion in the plan, to the Chairman of the Guide Plan Committee for Kimberley and environs, Private Bag X213, Pretoria.

Proposals by a local authority shall be submitted through the Cape Provincial Administration.

Signed at Cape Town, this 6th day of March 1978.

S. W. VAN DER MERWE, Minister of Planning and the Environment.

SCHEDULE

GUIDE PLAN AREA.—KIMBERLEY BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the north-western beacon of Farm 69, Administrative District of Kimberley, proceed north-eastwards along the boundaries of the following properties so as to include them in this area: The said Farm 69, Farm 70, Farm 183 and Portion 12 of Farm 71, to the northernmost beacon of the lastmentioned property; thence south-eastwards in a straight line to the northernmost beacon of Farm 76; thence south-eastwards along the boundaries of the following properties so as to include them in this area: The said Farm 76, Farms 79, 124, 125, 123, 121 and 80, Portion 1 of Farm 81 and the said Farm 69 to the beacon first-named.

HANSARD 9 24 April 1978.
Question 365. Colo. 528 a 529.

56

TUESDAY, 4 APRIL 1978

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

~~X~~ Draft guide plans

365. Mr. T. ARONSON asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

(a) For which areas are draft guide plans outstanding and (b) when is it anticipated that each such draft plan will be available for public inspection.

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

Assuming that the hon. member refers to so-called statutory guide plans prepared in terms of the provisions of section 6A of the Environment Planning Act, No. 88 of 1967, the reply is as follows.

- (a) Draft guide plans are in the course of preparation for Tzaneen, Greater Pretoria, the Vaal River complex and Middelburg (Transvaal). It is envisaged that guide plan committees for various other urban areas will be appointed in the near future.
- (b) The draft guide plan for Tzaneen is expected to be released soon for

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TUESDAY, 4

public inspection. The remaining three draft guide plans referred to above are in various stages of processing

It may be added that various state departments, bodies and persons are involved in the planning process. Due to planning problems which may arise, it is accordingly not possible to indicate with any degree of certainty when individual draft guide plans will be available for public comment. Notice will, however, be given to the public in the press in each individual case when the particular draft guide plan is ready for inspection.

HANSARD 9 5 April 1978.
Question 321 - 2 - Cols 543.

(56)

Guide plan for Port Elizabeth—Uitenhage complex

321 Mr T. ARONSON asked the Minister of Planning and the Environment:

- (1) Whether objections to the guide plan of the Port Elizabeth—Uitenhage complex have been received; if so,
- (2) (a) what changes are envisaged and
(b) when will the plan be (i) finalized and (ii) made public

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) (a) It is not possible to give an indication at this stage as representations are still being studied by my Department with a view to submitting a report embodying all the comments for my consideration.

PREFACE

This survey w
of the Enviro

the tour undertaken in 1977 in which Giles Hobson interviewed people in Southern Africa who have had practical experience of fish farming.

The survey is being published simultaneously by EDA and the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru).

(b)(i) and (ii) In the light of the information furnished under (a) above, it is likewise not possible to give a reasonably firm indication at this juncture.

edited by Robert Berold
DA). It is the result of

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
AND THE ENVIRONMENT

56

No. 857

28 April 1978

ESTABLISHMENT OF A GUIDE PLAN COMMITTEE FOR ATLANTIS AND ENVIRONS

Under and by virtue of the powers vested in me by section 6A (1) of the Environment Planning Act, 1967 (Act 88 of 1967), I, Schalk Willem van der Merwe, Minister of Planning and the Environment, hereby establish a guide plan committee for the area defined in the Annexure hereto to compile a draft guide plan in which the requirements for the future development and use of land in the area are determined.

Any person who has any interest in this draft guide plan may, within 60 days of the date of this notice, submit written proposals for inclusion in the plan, to the Chairman of the Guide Plan Committee for Atlantis and environs, Private Bag X213, Pretoria.

Proposals by a local authority shall be submitted through the Cape Provincial Administration.

Signed at Cape Town this 13th day of April 1978.

S. W. VAN DER MERWE, Minister of Planning and the Environment.

ANNEXURE

GUIDE PLAN AREA—ATLANTIS
BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From the point where the prolongation of the north-eastern boundary of the farm Ronde Berg 718, Administrative District of Malmesbury, intersects the high-water mark of the sea, north-eastwards along the said prolongation and the boundaries of the following properties, so as to include them in this area: The said farm Ronde Berg 718 and the farms Smal Pad 717 and Groote Post 716, to the north-eastern beacon of the last-mentioned farm; thence north-eastwards along the boundaries of the farm Conterberg 714, to its northernmost beacon; thence south-eastwards along the boundaries of the following properties, so as to include them in this area: Portion 2 (Vredendal) of the farm Conterberg 714, Portion 1 (Waterkloof) of the farm Papenkuilsfontein 713, the farm Groene Kloof 971, Farm 14, Administrative District of the Cape, the farm Dassenberg 15, Farm 17 and the farm Klein Dassenberg 20, to the easternmost beacon of the last-mentioned farm; thence south-eastwards along the north-eastern boundary of the farm Zouterivier 22 to its north-eastern beacon; thence south-eastwards and north-eastwards along the boundary of the farm Klipvllei 28 to the point where it intersects the north-western edge of the main road; thence south-westwards and southwards along the north-western and western edge of the said main road to the point where it intersects the south-western boundary of the farm Vissershok 957; thence north-westwards along the south-western boundary of Portion 1 of the farm Vissershok 957, so as to include it in this area to Beacon L on the diagram hereof; thence north-eastwards in a straight line to Beacon M on the diagram of Farm 222; thence north-westwards along the boundary of the said Farm 222 to point K on the diagram of Farm 223; thence westwards along the southern boundary of the said Farm 223,

DEPARTEMENT VAN BEPLANNING
EN DIE OMGEWING

No. 857

28 April 1978

INSTELLING VAN 'N GIDSPLANKOMITEE VIR
ATLANTIS EN OMGEWING

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 6A (1) van die Wet op Omgewingsbeplanning, 1967 (Wet 88 van 1967) stel ek, Schalk Willem van der Merwe, Minister van Beplanning en die Omgewing, hierby 'n gidsplankomitee in vir die gebied omskryf in die Bylae hiervan, om 'n ontwerp-gidsplan op te stel waarin die vereistes vir toekomstige ontwikkeling en grondgebruik in dié gebied bepaal word.

Enige persoon wat by hierdie ontwerp-gidsplan belang het, kan binne 60 dae vanaf die datum van hierdie kennisgewing, skriftelike voorstelle vir opname in die plan rig aan die Voorsitter van die Gidsplankomitee vir Atlantis en omgewing, Privaatsak X213, Pretoria.

Voorstelle deur 'n plaaslike bestuur moet deur middel van die Kaapse Provinsiale Administrasie voorgelê word.

Geteken te Kaapstad, op hede die 13de dag van April 1978

S. W. VAN DER MERWE, Minister van Beplanning en die Omgewing.

BYLAE

GIDSPLANGEBIED—ATLANTIS
GRENSBESKRYWING

Vanaf die punt waar die verlenging van die noordwestelike grens van die plaas Rondeberg 718, administratiewe distrik Malmesbury, die hoogwatermerk van die see kruis, noordoos met genoemde verlenging en die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle in hierdie gebied ingesluit word: Genoemde plaas Rondeberg 718 en die plaas Smal Pad 717 en Groote Post 716, tot by die noordoostelike baken van laasgenoemde plaas; dan noordoos met die grense van die plaas Conterberg 714 langs tot by die noordelike baken daarvan; dan suidoos met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs, sodat hulle in hierdie gebied ingesluit word: Gedeelte 2 (Vredendal) van die plaas Conterberg 714, Gedeelte 1 (Waterkloof) van die plaas Papenkuilsfontein 713, die plaas Groene Kloof 971, Plaas 14, administratiewe distrik Kaap, die plaas Dassenberg 15, Plaas 17 van die plaas Klein Dassenberg 20 tot by die oostelike baken van laasgenoemde plaas; dan suidoos met die noordoostelike grens van die plaas Zouterivier 22 langs, tot by die noordoostelike baken daarvan dan suidoos en noordoos met die grens van die plaas Klipvllei 28 langs, tot by die punt waar dit die noordwestelike kant van die grootpad kruis; dan suidwes en suid met die noordwestelike en westelike kant van genoemde grootpad langs, tot by die punt waar dit die suidwestelike grens van die plaas Vissershok 957 kruis; dan noordwes met die suidwestelike grens van Gedeelte 1 van die plaas Vissershok 957 langs, sodat dit in hierdie gebied ingesluit word, tot by Baken L op die kaart daarvan dan noordwes reguit tot by Baken M op die kaart van Plaas 222; dan noordwes met die grens van genoemde Plaas 222 langs, tot by punt K op die kaart van Plaas 223; dan wes met die suidelike grens van genoemde Plaas



Riet Bay, Langebaan Lagoon, is one of the environmental gems of the west coast and has been saved from commercial exploitation.

'No' to seaweed-farm bid is welcomed

THE DECISION of the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, to reject an application to establish a privately-run seaweed farm in Riet Bay at Langebaan Lagoon was widely-welcomed yesterday, and was hailed as a triumph of press and public vigilance.

The Cape Times received congratulations from many quarters for the role it played in revealing, in July, not only the seaweed scheme as such, but also the fact that work had already begun on it in a secluded corner of Riet Bay, which is regarded as one of the environmental "gems" of the west coast.

Last year, the Langebaan Lagoon area was proclaimed a marine reserve.

The ministerial decision was con-

firmed yesterday by the Department of Agricultural Credit and Land Tenure, after the Cape Times had reported that it believed Riet Bay had been saved from commercial exploitation.

The disclosures by this newspaper in July evoked strong and immediate public reaction, which resulted in a mass of widely-representative objections being lodged with the department's regional office in Cape Town.

These objections were forwarded to Pretoria for evaluation and consideration and the outcome was outright rejection of the scheme by Mr Schoeman.

The Cape Agar company, headed by Mr J L B Marais, of Durbanville, had

applied to the department for permission to erect poles, nets and cables in Riet Bay for the cultivation of seaweed over a period of 25 years. Agar, a seaweed derivative, is used mainly in the manufacture of sweets, and in confectionery generally.

Mr Stephen Levin, president of the Saldanha Bay Yacht Club and one of the most-prominent and respected figures in the Saldanha/Vredenburg/Langebaan area, said yesterday he had been delighted to read of the Minister's decision.

"I think the Cape Times deserves a medal for its efforts in this matter", he said.

"There are several lessons to be learned from this, the main ones being the need for constant vigilance in all matters affecting the public interest, and the need to draw the attention of the authorities to any plan or scheme that can be shown to be against the public interest."

"The public cannot expect to have wrongs redressed, unless it keeps a constant watch on day-to-day happenings around and about it."

"Another lesson to be learned from this is that no government, however powerful, can afford to ignore public protest if this is well motivated — and strong."

Concern at False Bay fish-netting

Argus
27/11/78

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AN AUTHORITY on marine biology has voiced his concern over the effect the opening of False Bay to purse-seine fishing will have on angling.

Professor John Grindley, professor of environmental studies at the University of Cape Town, was reacting to the announcement by the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr J C Heunis, that all False Bay would be opened to purse-seine trawlers for 3½ months of the year.

The population of pelagic fish — surface-living fish such as pilchards and anchovies — had already been depleted by overfishing along the West Coast, Professor Grindley said.

'Having overfished one area, they have now moved into the traditional sport-fishing areas like Walker Bay and False Bay,' he added.

It could be argued that the trawlers were con-

cerned only with the pelagic fish and that the angling fish would not be affected.

But now that the buoys confining trawlers to deep water had been removed the trawlers could catch anything.

'There have been many cases where purse-seine boats have caught large numbers of, say, yellow-tail,' Professor Grindley said.

Accounts from the 1920s and 1930s showed that False Bay was an excellent fishing spot.

OVER-EXPLOITED

But the area was already heavily over-exploited and the livelihood of the traditional fishing communities had been seriously affected.

'A great many of us felt that large parts of False Bay should be set aside as a marine reserve, and last year Mr Heunis announced that part of the western shore would be declared a reserve.

'One wonders how this will be affected by the opening of the bay,' Professor Grindley said.

Environment

23.2.79

25.9.79

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X months. (v) at least 12
 Hansard 7 col 532
 23/2/79
Radio-active wastes

Environment

540. Mr. N. B. WOOD asked the Minister of Economic Affairs:

(a) What methods of disposal are envisaged for radio-active wastes which will be produced by South Africa's nuclear power station, (b) what are the main substances of which the wastes will consist and (c) what is the half-life of each such substance.

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS:

(a) Spent fuel will be stored in special facilities on site. However, various suitable technical options are being examined in South Africa and abroad in connection with the ultimate disposal of nuclear waste which is not reprocessed;

(b) and	(c)
Caesium 137	30 years
Plutonium 239	24 000 years
Krypton 85	11 years

False Bay—five years away from 'marine desert'

By Vicky Gunn

A LEADING conservationist sounded an ominous warning this week that unless the Government's controversial decision to allow purse-seine netters into False Bay was reversed the bay could become a marine desert within five years.

Dr A V Hall, an executive member of the Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Cape, said that allowing purse-seine netters into the bay was like allowing climbers to deplete Table Mountain of its vegetation.

'False Bay is a special place, with superb topography around it,' he said, 'and it strikes me that while we are making such massive strides in land conservation, we are neglecting our immediate coastline areas.'

He said the council saw the bay as a future marine reserve, with areas set aside as sanctuaries, and other areas for people to fish.

Now that dream has been destroyed by the Government's decision to open the entire bay to purse-seine netters for 3½ months of the year. 'We have such a marvellous heritage to look after in the South Western Cape, and we must

put a reasonable curb on these exploiters of the marine life.'

But they are not the only threat to the bay. An executive member of the False Bay Conservation Society outlined other dangers to False Bay.

'At present there are too many trek-netting permits and there is little that can be done to enforce the regulations covering these permits,' he said.

'Too often, undersized fish are caught in these nets, and the netters have the excuse that they could not know they were there.'

'Then, there are the holidaymakers and residents, who comb the rocks for shell fish and who collectively destroy thousands of marine species.'

He said the decision to allow purse-seine netters into the bay was made on a total lack of adequate scientific information.

'There are so many people who have until now been deriving benefit from the bay, and who are affected by all these things.'

False Bay could be a major tourist attraction but anglers would be discouraged from coming down, and the small hotels would lose out.

He said the only way to prevent the threatened ruination of the bay was to close it

for 10 years, to give it 'the protection and scientific attention it so richly deserves.'

Doubt was expressed this week that the Kalk Bay fishermen would be able to survive in competition with the big seine-netters.

One of the longest-resident fishermen at Kalk Bay, Mr Gerry Fish, said none of the fishermen was happy about the decision.

'I've been fishing for 49 years, and spent some time at Walvis Bay, and they've already fished that place out,' he said.

'Now, like there, we'll have to go 10 to 24 hours from the harbour before we can find anything.'

'There is little we can do about it, because we don't stick together.'

But another fisherman, Mr V W Cloete, disagreed: 'We've approached our MP, Mr Witley, and there are many other things we can do.'

'These chaps who come with their purse-seine netters take about 30 percent of the fish, disrupt the fishing banks, and drive the rest of the fish away.'

'They'll take chances, their nets will get stuck, and as they are nylon, they won't rot, but will remain there.'

He sat solidly and calmly on his boat, Colleen,

and said: 'But nature has a strange way of coping with these people, and God will come up with something.'

'I'm a fifth generation fisherman at Kalk Bay, and there is no chance that a time will come when there won't be any of us here.'

'The pity of it is, is that while people are starving in South Africa, some of these people are turning their catches into fishmeal.'

His optimism about the future of False Bay was shared by Mrs Margaret Smith, director of the J L B Smith Institute for Ichthyology at Rhodes University.

'There is hope for the bay,' she said, 'but only if the life there is allowed to breed undisturbed.'

'The sea has a marvellous ability to regenerate itself, and we can still salvage the damage done.'

'However, human beings are devastating, and if they do not become aware in time, our seas could become like those around Mauritius, where the situation is dreadful.'

She called for more reserves along the whole of the South African coastline, 'which is unique as it stretches between three of the main water masses in the world.'

Argus
32/11/79
56

'Not enough' water in S.A. by 2000

Mercury Bureau

10/27/79

PIETERMARITZBURG — By the year 2000 South Africa would not have enough water to go round and purified effluent would have to be used for domestic consumption, Dr. G. O. Oberholtzer, deputy director of environmental health, said yesterday.

Speaking at the Midlands Health Year seminar, he suggested that local authorities ensure that provision be made for facilities capable of supplying drinking water.

People in Windhoek were already drinking treated and purified effluent.

He told the Mercury that South Africans already drank partly recycled water.

Most of the effluent entering rivers was of an agricultural, rather than human, origin.

Turning to industrial health, Dr. Oberholtzer said there was no reason why more industrialists should lag in opening health clinics for their plants. Smaller factories could co-operate to open central or mobile clinics.

Mr. Graham Atkinson, Pietermaritzburg's City Engineer, said the two greatest contributors to

problems associated with human pollution were disposal of sewage and of industrial wastes.

A typical user of a flush toilet contaminated about 60 000l of fresh water in one year.

Politicians and the public often attached more importance in times of economic crisis to the advantages of a proposed industry, than to detractions such as pollution, he said.

There was less selectivity in the type of industry to be accepted in a city and anti-pollution regulations were applied more leniently.

Mr. Atkinson said the most important contributor to urban pollution was run-off water in a city.

The ideal would be to collect all run-off water at one point, treat it and discharge it into rivers. But economics had to "dictate the final solution".

Port Elizabeth harbour: equipment to
suppress ore dust pollution

350 Mr T ARGONSON asked the Minister
of Transport.

(1)(a) What was the total cost of the
equipment installed to suppress ore
dust pollution at the Port Elizabeth
harbour and (b) to what extent does
the problem exist;

(2) whether any other measures are neces-
sary to avoid pollution

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) (a) R155 120,00

(b) The pollution is under control.

(2) No

Hansard 5 (302)
6/3/79

56

Hansard 6 Question Column 394

13/3/79

56

Sandstone pollution of rivers/streams

139. Mr. D. J. DALLENY asked the Minister of Health:

(1) Whether the Department during 1978 took any action in regard to the pollution of river and stream which

run through Sandstone flows, what action.

(2) whether trace of bilharzia are found in any of the said river and stream.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

(1) No.

(2) No.

Hansard 6 Quest Col 409

14/3/79

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Lead content of petrol

MR. M. E. WOOD asked the Minister of Economic Affairs:

- (1) What is the maximum permitted lead content of petrol sold in South Africa;
- (2) whether the question of the reduction of such amount has been considered, if so, with what result if not, why not.

†The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS:

- (1) SABS specification No. 299/72 provides for a maximum lead content of 0,836 grams per litre but the specification is not compulsory.
- (2) the Department of Industries has made inquiries about the implications of reducing the existing level of lead content but the matter was not taken further in view of the fact that the industry's maximum usage of lead varied between 0,2 and 0,8 gram per litre at optimum refining efficiency and because of increased refining costs and/or reduced refining ef-

iciency which a further reduction in the lead content would bring about.

MR. M. E. WOOD. Mr. Speaker, arising out of the reply of the hon. the Minister, is he aware of the possible consequences of poisoning by tetra-ethyl lead, which is an additive to petrol?

†The MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member ought to realize that there are certain operations which are aimed at preventing what the hon. member is concerned about.

MR. M. E. WOOD. Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the reply of the hon. the Minister, is he aware that should we use ethanol as an additive to petrol, we would not need to add poisonous tetra-ethyl lead? (Inter-
jectedly.)

MR. SPEAKER: Order!

Hansard 6

Quies Col. 401

14/3/79

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61
Oil Pollution Prevention Fund *146*

*2. Mr. R. J. LORIMER asked the Minister of Transport:

What was the amount in the Oil Pollution Prevention Fund as at 31 December 1977.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

R3 194 148,41.

'Cannot compare reactors'

ARGUS
2/4/79
④55
②56

THE director of the Energy Research Institute at the University of Cape Town, Professor R K Dutkiewicz, said today it was not possible to compare the Harrisburg reactor with the proposed Koeberg reactor because they were different reactors.

While the events at Harrisburg should be cause for concern, because reactors always carried some risk, there was still time to incorporate additional safety factors into the Koeberg plant.

He thought that most of the lessons to be learnt from Harrisburg would be technical in nature.

The Koeberg site, 30 km from Cape Town by road was in a less inhabited area than the Harrisburg reactor. Thirty kilometres was 'not a bad distance,' he said.

'Nuclear plants are never completely safe,' said Professor Jan Giliomee of the University of Stellenbosch, who has issued numerous warnings since 1976 on the dangers of a nuclear plant so near to Cape Town.

'Being such a complicated piece of equipment there is always the chance that something will happen. All power stations have numerous small incidents every year. It's all just a matter of degree.'

INSPECT SITE

City councillor Mr Tom Walters said the council's executive committee was to inspect the Koeberg site about April 10 and evaluate the risks.

'The nuclear plant should have been put way out in the bundu, not next to a major city and residential area,' he said.

The Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr J C Heunis, said today he would talk to Escom officials about safety measures at the nuclear power plant being built at Koeberg.

N-plant

(Continued from Page 1)

overriding concern is the health and safety of people. If we make an error, it should be done on the side of caution and safety.'

Meanwhile, federal and state officials, were preparing an evacuation plan on a scale never attempted in peacetime in the US.

Officials prepared a three-stage evacuation, with the widest-scale scheme involving all people in an area of 3 255 sq km around the plant.

Private cars would be the major form of transport, with school buses, trains and other means used as backups.

Emergency centres would be set up in safe areas 160 km away.

The final decision was up to Pennsylvania's Governor, Mr Richard Thornburgh.

Pregnant women and small children living within 8 km of the plant were evacuated on Friday. They are most susceptible to the effects of radiation.

An indication of the deep concern felt at Middletown, the community closest to the reactor, was shown yesterday at the Seven Sorrows Roman Catholic Church.

A priest told worshippers their archbishop had granted a general absolution of sin, a rite generally given only to soldiers in wartime. — Sapa-Reuter-AP.

Koeberg A-leak 'could force 30-year pullout' out on radiation damage

Science Reporter

SHOULD a major leakage occur from Koeberg power station, it might be necessary to plough over all land within a 15 km radius to a depth of 30 cm, or evacuate the area totally for more than 30 years.

This was the view of the former chief nuclear engineer of Escorn, Mr J R Colley, expressed in a "Koeberg - warts and all" interview requested by the Cape Times two years ago.

According to the calculations of the Atomic Energy Board, all land between 100 km and 200 km downwind would be subject to "an unacceptable level of contamination".

People living in the path of windborne radiation would inhale radioactive material, mainly Iodine-131. This material is absorbed by the thyroid and, if breathed in sufficient amounts, could cause thyroid cancer up to 30 years later.

An extreme leakage could account for up to 6 000 deaths in that period but Mr Colley gave the assurance that if the wind were blowing in any direction other than Cape Town "the casualties would be far less".

If the fallout of Iodine-131 occurred on grass it could be ingested by cows and contaminate their milk. In the event of a major leakage, all milk taken from animals within a certain radius of Koeberg would have to be destroyed over a period of several weeks.

If longer-living radioactive materials were leaked, such as Caesium-137, which has a half-life of 30.3 years, then land up to a 15 km radius would have to be ploughed over and the topsoil buried at least 30 centimetres deep. The alternative would be to evacuate the area for more than 30 years, Mr Colley said.

He pointed out that this was an assessment of what would happen in the one hundred million to one chance of a major accident in the reactor core.

● An American report published in New York last December assessed South Africa's proposed nuclear plants as "among the world's safest". They added that, for security reasons, the plants were being built to withstand a direct hit by a missile.

Science Reporter
INSURANCE companies will not pay out for radiation damage emanating from the Cape's new nuclear powerstation at Koeberg.

This emerged yesterday when a statistician was approached to assess the meaning of an Escorn assurance that the chances of major leakage from the powerstation was "a hundred million to one".

"The figure is meaningless unless we are dealing with concrete amounts which can be quantified in some way. It doesn't mean that for every hundred million powerstations there will be one major accident — if that were so we'd have to wait a few hundred years for Harrisburg to happen.

Leakage

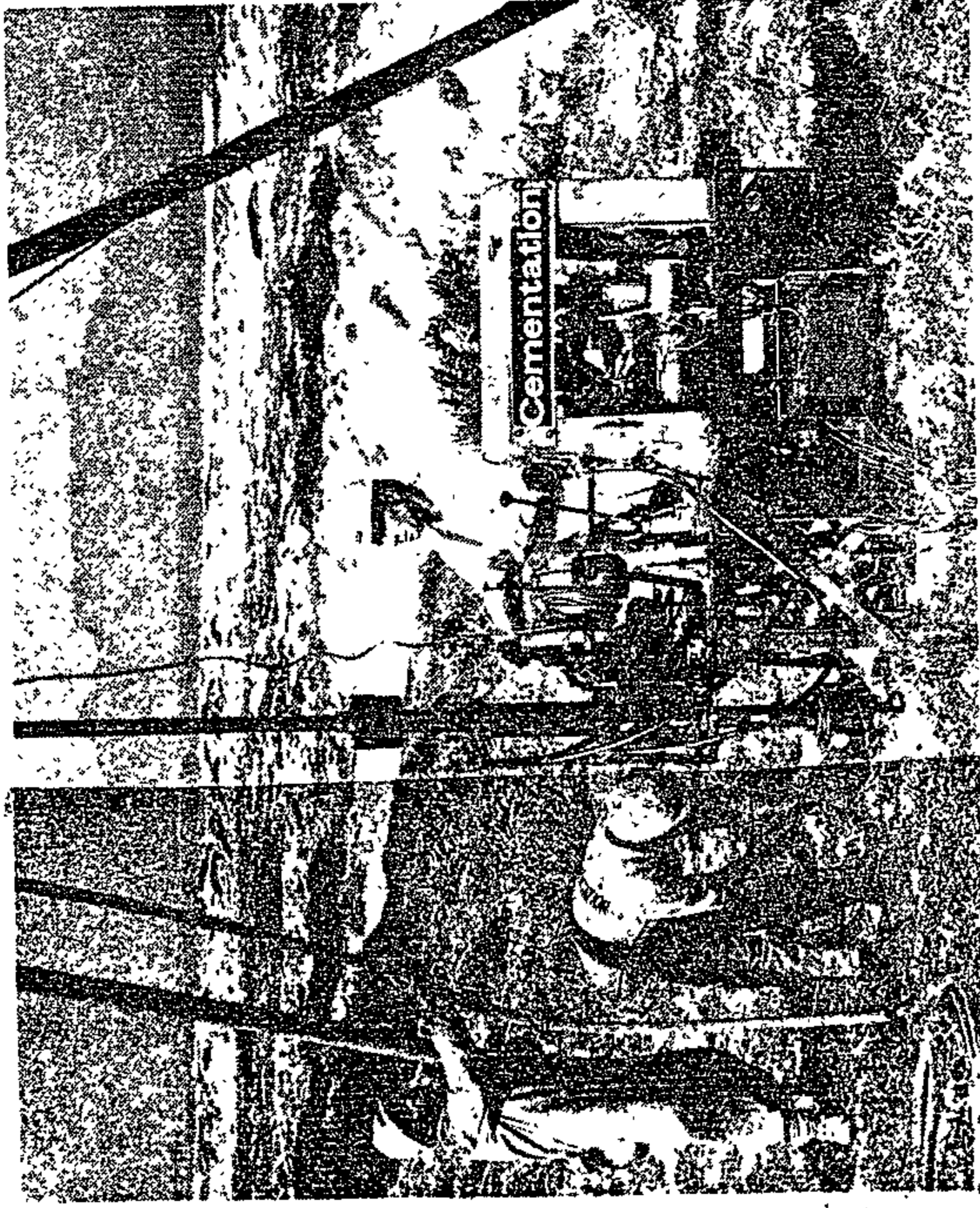
"At best you can accept that Escorn thinks the chances of a major leakage are pretty small. But if you want to know what the risk means in practical terms, money for instance, ask the insurance companies. They are the experts in risk assessment," he added.

The general response from a number of insurance companies and brokers approached by the Cape Times yesterday was that

they had "no provision" for radiation damage to property.

"We will include a radiation clause on a personal life policy," a spokesman for a major insurance company said.

A broker said that he would probably be able to offer life cover at normal rates to work-



A flashback to 1975 — core samples are taken at the site earmarked for South Africa's first nuclear power station in the background: Table Mountain and the City

Science Reporter

NO MUNICIPALITY lying within an 80 km radius of Koeberg nuclear power station, the main fallout area, has made any arrangements to handle radiation problems and most reacted as if they had only just awakened to the danger.

Mr J R de Villiers, town clerk of Goodwood, said he hoped the summer southeasters would "blow any leakage away" but pointed out that Goodwood lay in the heart of a low pressure system which had already caused problems with concentration of effluent gases from nearby fertiliser and oil refinery plants.

"This would make any leakage problem even worse and would tend to

concentrate radiation," said Mr De Villiers.

A spokesman for the mayor of Bellville, who asked the Cape Times not to use his name, said the municipality had no contingency plans for evacuation "and anyway where on earth would all the people go?"

Mr W P Visser, town clerk of Brackenfell, said "any thinking person would be scared no matter how safe the machinery is said to be" as there was always the human element. He cited the size of the investment in Koeberg and asked: "Can we stop the development now?"

Mr D Smit, town clerk of Durbanville, said he knew of the danger only

ers at the station both before and after the plant came into commission "but if this became a generalised request from the public we might have to rethink our approach".

None of the companies questioned would comment when asked if they thought possible radiation damage from power station fallout was a "good risk" in insurance terms.

Research

● Dr G G Garret, a member of the University of Cape Town's energy research unit warned scientists at an energy symposium in Cape Town four years ago that "doubts about safety (of nuclear power plants may in fact necessitate some downrating and destroy their marginal economic advantage".

He added that "catastrophic failure without prior warning from slow leakage" was in principle possible for light water reactors.

In assessing the degree of risk he pointed out that the effects of radiation and thermal shock (heat rise and loss) on construction materials were unknown, that stress corrosion in stainless steel piping used in such power plants was "virtually impossible to predict" and that "much of the available laboratory data is inapplicable".

Towns in nuclear fallout area unprepared

Millerton, said he had asked the town council to discuss the issue at its next meeting.

"You must decide if you are going to live with the risk and must bear the public in mind. We should be able to trust that the authorities have taken all the risk factors into account and have proven scientifically that it is alright to go ahead with Koeberg."

● Dr A G MacMahon, director of the Western Cape's Emergency Service Centre, said yesterday that plans were being drawn up to cope with "all nuclear emergencies including any risks associated with Koeberg power station. The plans were not yet completed but this would be done "well before the operating date for Koeberg in 1982".

from what he had read in the newspapers. The local authorities involved now had to ask direct questions and get some straight answers. Although Durbanville did not lie in line of sight from Koeberg and was protected by rising ground he still felt disturbed at the potential for disaster.

The mayor of Parow, Mr J T Louw, said he hadn't thought about it and hadn't been informed of any possible dangers. "I know nothing about Koeberg but I have full trust in those involved. The people involved could not be so stupid as not to learn the right lessons from Harrisburg - obviously they know what they are doing."

Mr J S de Villiers, town clerk of

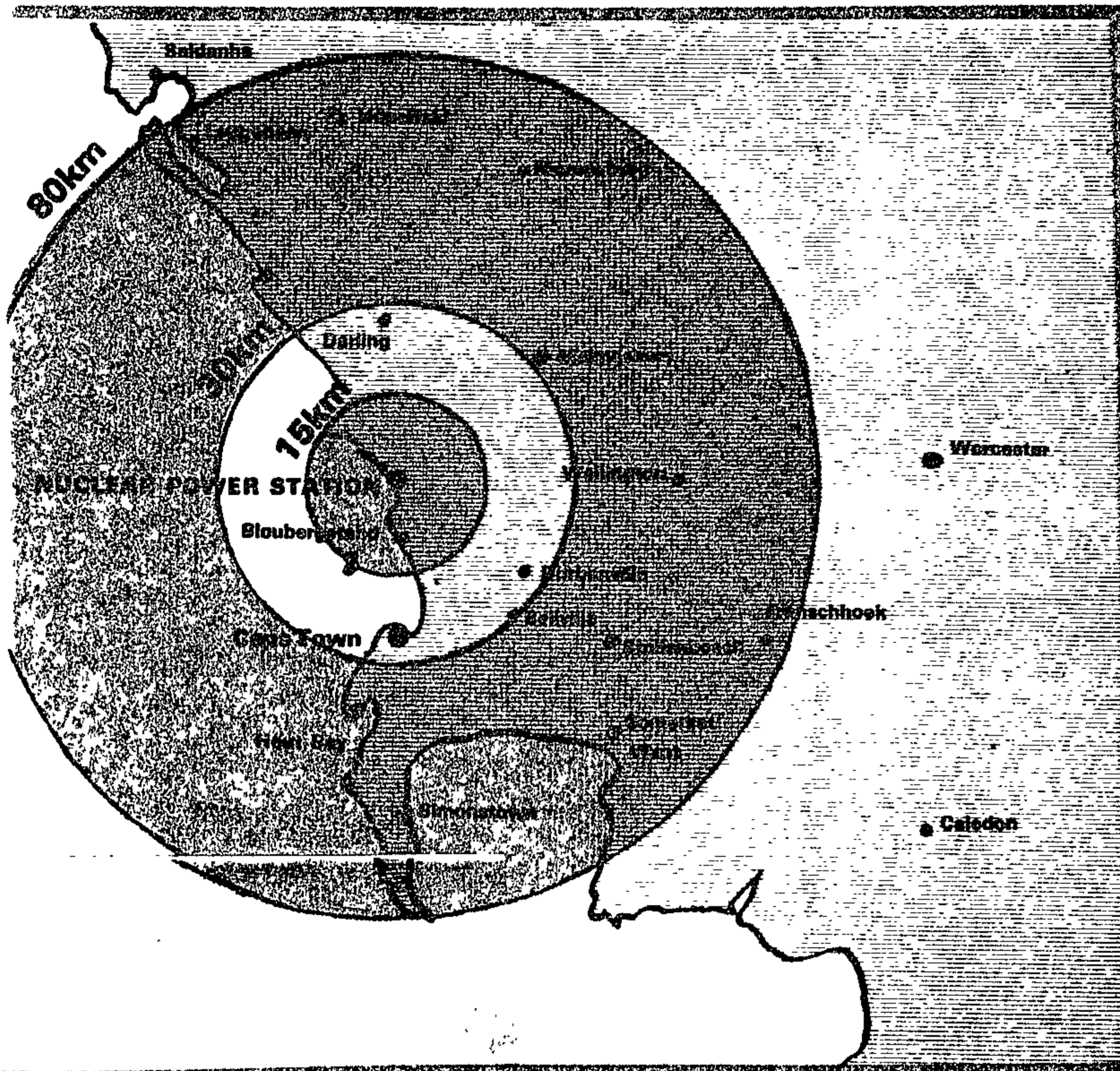
PRETORIA. — It was of great importance that the Harrisburg nuclear mishap should be seen in the right perspective, the president of the South African Atomic Energy Board, Dr Armstrong, said here yesterday.

were to be increased. He said nuclear reactors of the type at Harrisburg were designed "on the grounds of philosophy of in-depth defence and they have numerous security systems which support each other". — Sapa

SA study of US nuclear accident

Koeberg: The 80km radius

56 3/4/79



600 000 await order to leave homes in US

HARRISBURG. — More than 600 000 people awaited the order to evacuate their homes yesterday as scientists battled to control a radioactive leak at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant.

The scientists reported that the plant, damaged last Wednesday when a cooling system failed, was beginning to cool down. But they were still worried by a potentially-explosive hydrogen bubble in the reactor core.

State officials were preparing plans to evacuate 24 000 people from an eight kilometer radius of the plant. If the situation warranted it, the figure could go as high as 637 000 people from a 32 km radius.

The evacuation plans can only be implemented by Pennsylvania's Governor, Mr. Dick Thornburgh.

map shows some of the municipalities lying within an 80km radius of Koeberg nuclear power station, all of them within the fallout area. So far as can be ascertained, none have made any contingency plans for use in the event of a major leakage from the station.

Report page 3

CAPE TIMES 3/4/79

Koeberg reactor to be more powerful

1-55 (2) 56 (3) 360

By **BOB MOLLOY**
SCIENCE REPORTER

principle as the American reactor which overheated at Harrisburg but the South African reactors will generate a larger

amount of electrical power. And South African engineers from Escom observed the faulty Harrisburg reactor in operation last November while on a familiarization tour of nuclear plant in the United States.

Mr R P A Myburgh, managing director of Escom in the Western Cape, yesterday assured the Cape Times that there were differences in construction

"The two sets of reactors were built by different companies and there are important differences in construction. Our engineers observed the second Harrisburg reactor while it was undergoing power testing" Mr

half of these in the United States.

Nuclear-power reactors are simply heating plants for boiling water. The steam is then used to turn electrical generators which produce electricity.

In light-water reactors differences of design occur in the ways used to carry the heat to the steam plant.

The simplest reactor has circulating water which boils in the core itself and the steam is taken directly to the turbines. This is the boiling-water reactor or BWR.

In a pressurized water reactor, the type to be used at Koeberg, a coolant is passed through the core at a high pressure which prevents boiling

The US President, Mr Jimmy Carter, reflecting the anxiety felt by millions of Americans over the leak, said on a flying visit to the plant Sunday that health and safety should be the main concern.

"If we make an error, it should be on the side of caution and safety," he said.

The US Government's chief scientist at the plant, Dr Harold Denton, of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, admitted that the hydrogen bubble problem had not been anticipated in designing the reactor.

But Dr Denton insisted the bubble was shrinking and the overall situation was "stable".

Besides a general evacuation, authorities were trying to decide how some 1 200 convicts from local prisons and about 5 000 nursing home patients could be transported to safer places.

In an evacuation, emergency centres would be established up to 160 km from the crippled plant.

Pregnant women and pre-school children, who are most susceptible to radiation exposure, were urged last Friday to leave their homes if they lived within eight km of the reactor. — Sapa-Rev

43	...
44	...
45	...
46	...
47	See footnote 38.

amount of electrical power.

And South African engineers from Escom observed the faulty Harrisburg reactor in operation last November while on a familiarization tour of nuclear plant in the United States.

Mr R P A Myburgh, managing director of Escom in the Western Cape, yesterday assured the Cape Times that there were differences in construction.

"The two sets of reactors were built by different companies and there are important differences in construction. Our engineers observed the second Harrisburg reactor while it was undergoing power testing," Mr Myburgh said.

It is understood that the Harrisburg reactor was built by Babcock and Wilcox and the Koeberg reactors were designed by Westinghouse for construction by French contractors. The Koeberg reactors will generate 922 megawatts as against the Harrisburg output of 792 mw for the number one reactor and 808 mw for number two, the reactor which is now overheating.

The second reactor was not yet "on line" when the Escom observers saw it five months ago which means that it has not yet completed a year of operation.

• The type of reactor to be used at Koeberg is a "light water" (ordinary water) reactor. At the time this design was chosen there were 273 LWR stations out of 374 in operation around the world, more than

half of these in the United States.

Nuclear-power reactors are simply heating plants for boiling water. The steam is then used to turn electrical generators which produce electricity.

In light-water reactors differences of design occur in the ways used to carry the heat to the steam plant.

The simplest reactor has circulating water which boils in the core itself and the steam is taken directly to the turbines. This is the boiling-water reactor or BWR.

In a pressurized water reactor, the type to be used at Koeberg, a coolant is passed through the core at a high pressure which prevents boiling. This primary coolant gives off its heat in a heat exchanger and produces steam without touching or mixing with the water. The pressure is higher in the PWR than for any other reactor.

It is essential that the heat produced in the reactor is kept below a critical level and this is done during normal operation by constant circulation of the coolant.

First reports from Harrisburg were that a fault had occurred in the steam plant. Since then there has been a news blackout but it is clear that the coolant was unable to carry out its function and a rising core temperature increased pressure inside the vessel by a reported 800 percent and caused the first explosion.

But Dr Denton insisted the bubble was shrinking and the overall situation was "stable".

Besides a general evacuation, authorities were trying to decide how some 1 200 convicts from local prisons and about 5 000 nursing home patients could be transported to safer places.

In an evacuation, emergency centres would be established up to 160 km from the crippled plant.

Pregnant women and pre-school children, who are most susceptible to radiation exposure, were urged last Friday to leave their homes if they lived within eight km of the reactor. — Sapa-Reuters.

N-plant

'over-reaction'

PERTH. — One of Britain's leading nuclear experts yesterday accused the world press of over-reacting to the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident in Pennsylvania.

Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of the British Electricity Council, told reporters here that the over-reaction by the press had created a mistaken public impression of the nature and importance of the accident.

"It is inevitable that the press should over-react to these things and there has been a lot of sensational reporting about the incident."

Demolition can be costly

Science Reporter,
Sapa—AP-Reader

KOBERG power station's estimated cost has risen 5 000 percent in 10 years and there are still three years to go before the first electricity flows out to the Western Cape.

First mention of costs was given in the late Sixties as R9m. Since then the figure has soared to R2 000m.

An Escom spokesman told the Cape Times yesterday the final cost would be "about three-quarters that of a coal-fired station" but said no final figure could be given. Gains would derive from siting, saving in coal transport costs and the advantages from experience.

He rejected the view of an

American economist who had said it would cost as much to demolish an obsolete nuclear power station as to build it and said Koberg's life of 25 years would probably be extended to 40 years or more.

⊙ The first nuclear plant demolished in the United States

park the remains.

Corrosion experts insist that nothing devised to hold nuclear wastes is safe and that the material will eventually leak into the world water supply. One expert sees gold as the only material that will withstand decay for thousands of

More reports — page 3

was built in the Fifties. It cost R10m and just over R5m and two years to get rid of temporarily. Machinery used to demolish the reactor housing had to be cut up and disposed of in shielded storage tanks.

The pieces of the station are stored in water but no decision has been taken as where to

years

⊙ In Middletown, Pennsylvania, yesterday a top US government scientist said the hydrogen gas bubble that threatened a disaster at the crippled US atom plant has now dissolved.

Mr Harold Denton, sent by President Carter to oversee emergency repairs at the Three

Mile Island plant, said: "We are over the hump."

He briefed reporters as thousands of residents who fled the area after last Wednesday's accident started returning to their homes and schools prepared to reopen today.

Mr Denton said he was convinced the bubble trapped in the sealed nuclear reactor was gone and experts could start to cool the reactor to what is called "cold shutdown". But he added that he expected problems.

The bubble point grew to... for care and... housing. It... effective cooling... reactor and damaged uranium fuel rods.

Cable Times 4/17/77 @ 56

Similar cost, and N-power saves coal

Science Reporter

MR R P A MYBURGH, regional manager for Escom in the Western Cape, said yesterday that the estimated generating costs of Koeberg nuclear power station were comparable to that of a similar size coal-fired station.

"The present generating costs for Salt River, a much smaller coal-fired station, are 13 cents per kilowatt hour. This is because the station is not operated on a full-time full-load basis. If it were used to full capacity costs would be much higher as it is an old station and a lot of maintenance would be needed.

"A new coal-fired station, sited as far from the pithead as Koeberg would generate at a cost of about four cents a unit more or less the figure worked out for the nuclear station. Mr Myburgh said

A further consideration was the fact that Koeberg would save the country about four to five million tons of coal a year a commodity that was of increasing value both as an export

and for use in the petrochemical and plastics industries. An additional bonus was that the Railways would not be required to transport this amount of coal over long distances from the Transvaal.

"There is also the strategic consideration of having a major power plant in the Western Cape capable of taking over should the powerlines from the Transvaal fail. Mr Myburgh added

"A brochure or Koeberg issued in 1974 by Escom said the station would cost 'about' R500m. The core of each reactor would contain about 100 tons of fuel priced at nearly R500. Refuelling required a shutdown of each reactor for two or three weeks each year when about one-third of the fuel was replaced

This means that retelling costs for each reactor were estimated in 1974 as at least R10m. An Escom spokesman added that costs would probably be more than double by 1982 owing to fuel bills for both reactors when in operation of about R40m a year.

No estimate has been given of other costs such as extra money spent on disposal of spent fuel by contractors and on the cost of highly radioactive material on site.

An American economist has said that some substantial reductions in reactor costs could be achieved in reactors built as long as 100,000 years' delay to the stage where they could be regarded as harmless. It is to be said, the world has to be prepared to wait a long time



Psychological profile to screen nuclear personnel

Science Reporter

ESCOM has plans to develop a psychological profile of suitable personalities which could be used to screen out people unsuitable for work in sensitive areas of the nuclear plant.

This emerged yesterday from a query to Escom on safety precautions against cabin as opposed to planned maintenance nuclear installations.

"At present staff are tested as a matter of course and they have a full-time doctor whose job it is to ensure that people are suitable not only physically but also mentally. Further tests are being developed and these will include the requirements for which a nuclear power station, the spokesman said.

Checks on US reactors

WASHINGTON - The United States Government yesterday ordered checks on screening for reactors similar to those carried out at Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania.

The reactors are located in California, Arkansas and Ohio.

A spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said the operation of the reactors were ordered to run safely. He also reported their screens within 10 days.

The White House press secretary, Mr J. D. White, said the reactors were on take-time due to a problem with the screens. - Sapa Netter

A DOCTOR working in the field of radiology at a Cape Town hospital said this week he would move to another city if the giant Koeberg nuclear plant, less than 30 kilometres from Cape Town as the crow flies, went into operation in 1982 as planned.

Interviewed at the offices of Cape Town city councillor Tom Walters — who is himself deeply concerned about the potential dangers of Koeberg — the doctor said he would not live in fear of the health damage Koeberg could cause him and his family.

He asked not to be named for fear of trouble from the Cape Provincial authorities.

He told me many other doctors in Cape Town were also afraid of the potential hazards of Koeberg.

He said: "Koeberg will increase the background level of radiation in Cape Town, and in addition there is always the possibility of a full-scale disaster.

"I have studied radiation biology extensively. I know radiation can cause leukemia and various forms of cancer, and in animals has been shown definitely to cause mutations.

"It is true that if Koeberg functions as planned, it will only raise radiation levels slightly, but the less radiation one is exposed to the better.

"I'd rather live somewhere else where there isn't a nuclear plant. It is incredible that they have sited this thing so near 1.5 million people.

"I am also concerned about the nuclear waste problems."

The doctor quoted a report on nuclear plants drawn up a few years ago by the Committee of Concerned Scientists in America.

The authors of this report stated that they had concluded that a reactor accident with major consequences was a real possibility in the coming decades.

They quoted a report in late 1973 by an American Atomic Energy Commission task force, which had studied the reactor licensing process in America.

"This task force said that about 850 "abnormal occurrences" at reactors had been reported to the AEC in one 17-month period.

Its report stated: "The large number of reactor incidents, coupled with the fact that many of them had real safety significance were generic in nature, and were not identified during the normal design, fabrication, erection and pre-operational testing phases, raises a serious question regarding the current review and inspection practices both on the part of the nuclear industry and the AEC.

"This is particularly true when the increasing number of operating reactors which will be on-line in the 1980s and 1990s is considered."

Mr Walters, who recently persuaded the Cape Town City Council to make a tour of Koeberg with its experts to assess possible dangers to the people of Cape Town, said this week his function was to see the council put a stop to anything likely to endanger its citizens.

"We will be visiting Koeberg this month. I want to know why the hell we have this thing on our doorstep.

"We, as councillors, do not know enough about this plant. We are guilty by neglect. Up to now we sat around and did nothing.

"We must find out about possible meltdowns, leaks, what's going to happen to the deadly plutonium waste, that sort of thing."

Mr Walters said his fear about Koeberg, increased by the disaster at Harrisburg, had not been allayed by any of the statements from South African officials this week.

"It's a pity officialdom only reacts when there is some disaster. To hear they are going to have another look at Koeberg's safety standards means they didn't look hard enough in the first place.

"I question whether a bunch of civil servants like Eskom are competent to operate such a plant.

"And it seems to me the site of Koeberg was almost mathematically chosen to provide the maximum radiation effects on Cape Town, nestled as we are against Table Mountain."

Mr Walters quoted an article in the March 26 issue of the American magazine Time, which stated: "Are nuclear plants

safe?"

"The answer depends on the definition of 'safe', if it means accident-proof, then the answer, as applied to anything from a bicycle to a steel mill, is no.

"A nuclear plant cannot blow up like an atomic bomb.

"A plant could, however, suffer a 'meltdown' if it loses the water used to cool its uranium core, overheats, ruptures the core's container and releases a deadly cloud of radioactive gases.

"In the event of such an accident, people close to the plant would die quickly, while others, living as far as a couple of hundred miles downwind of the plant, might die later of radiation-induced cancer."

Mr Walters asked: "Do we really have to have this mammoth thing so near us?"

The Cape Divisional Council, with state financial aid, is currently establishing a major "coloured" city called Atlantis only 15 km from Koeberg.

And plans for Atlantis, on the west coast north of Koeberg allows for a population of half a million people by 2010 — when Koeberg will almost certainly still be operating.

At that time, Atlantis will probably stretch down to as near as 10 kms from Koeberg — putting a sizeable chunk less than 15 kms from the huge nuclear installation.

In addition, the 'white' villages of Melkbosstrand and Bloubaaistrand are both less than 15 km from Koeberg.

The terrible significance of this is that when he was Chief Nuclear Engineer of Eskom, Mr John Colley admitted that, in the unlikely

event of a nuclear disaster, land up to 15 kms windward of Koeberg would be seriously contaminated with longlife radioactive materials like Caesium-137.

He said top soil to a depth of 30 cms would have to be ploughed under or removed or it would be desirable or even essential to evacuate the stricken area for decades.

Any long-term evacuation of these populous areas within the 15 km zone would obviously have devastating social and economic consequences.

Large-scale industry is planned for Atlantis.

Mr Colley also admitted that up to 6 000 people in the path of the cloud of radioactivity, emitted in an extreme disaster occurring while the wind is blowing towards Cape Town, could die over 30 years from inhaling Iodine-131.

This substance can cause thyroid cancer.

If the fall-out of Iodine-131 occurred on grass, he said and was eaten by cows, their milk would be contaminated and would have to be destroyed for perhaps a few weeks.

Mr Colley said according to calculations of the Atomic Energy Board, ground to windward of Koeberg as far as 100 to 200 kms away would be subject to an unacceptable level of radioactive pollution by Iodine-131.

Thus in the event of a disaster the entire Cape Peninsula could be polluted in this way.

And other towns within even an 80 km radius include Stellenbosch,

Somerset West, Wellington, Paarl, Malmesbury and Moorreesburg, not to mention the rich rural areas in which they lie.

It seems to me the site of Koeberg was almost mathematically chosen to provide the maximum radiation effects on Cape Town

KOEBERG...

The ring of fear



TOM WALTERS

QUOTE

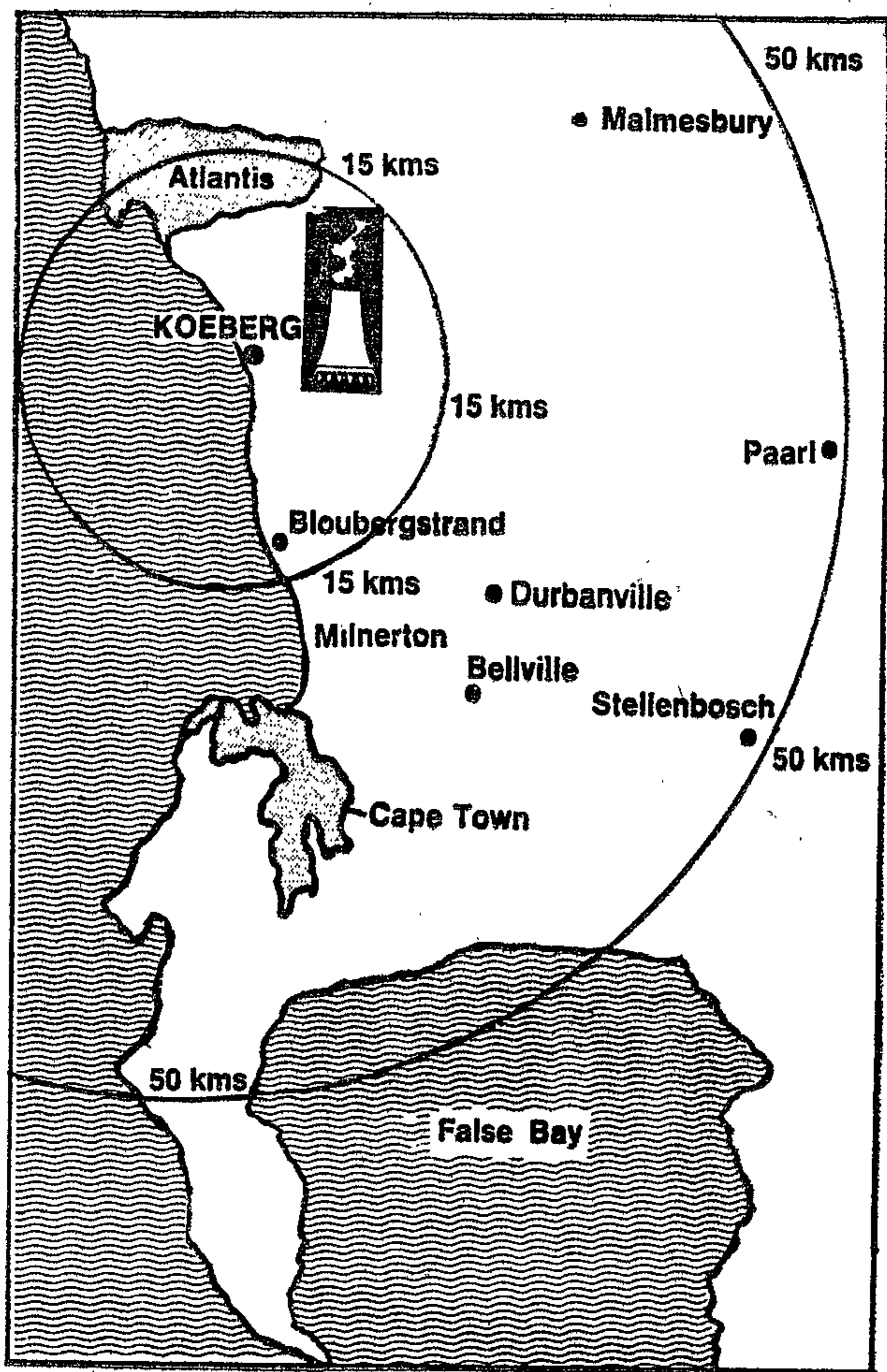
We will be visiting Koeberg this month, I want to know why the hell we have this thing on our doorstep.

It's a pity officialdom only reacts when there is some disaster. To hear they are going to have another look at Koeberg's safety standards means they didn't look hard enough in the first place. — TOM WALTERS

around the Cape

INVESTIGATION BY TONY SPENCER-SMITH

MEANWHILE IN THE UNITED STATES



MAP shows which towns are included in the 15 and 50 kms circles

Mr Colley who left Escom some time ago, and no longer works in the nuclear engineering field, this week refused to comment on these figures other than to say: "What I said at the time was probably sound."

He told me: "I was talking about an extremely unlikely event. But as Dr Roux of the Atomic Energy Board has himself said, no-one can say anything is totally impossible."

"Obviously Koeberg will be looked at again in the light of Harrisburg. Any responsible body in any field would do so."

"One wants to make these things as safe as humanly possible."

Dr Jan Giliomee of Stellenbosch University, Secretary of the Society for the Protection of the Environment who has fre-

quently spoken out about the potential hazards of Koeberg, said this week the events at Harrisburg could be just the first of a series of serious problems at nuclear plants.

"All this talk about million-to-one chances seems to me premature. Nuclear plants have not been operating very long and already we have a Harrisburg."

Dr Giliomee said it was too late to stop the completion of Koeberg's first reactor — due to go on-stream in 1982 — but appealed to the authorities not to build the second or any other reactors there, so close to Cape Town.

He told me: "The whole Atlantic seaboard from Cape Town to Atlantis is eventually going to be built up."

"The Koeberg plant will sit right in the middle of a future metropolis."

Dr Giliomee said he was worried about the danger of sabotage at Koeberg.

He was also concerned about the transportation of the plutonium waste from the plant.

He said plutonium was so toxic that one 300th of a gram in the lungs would cause death, and one 30 000th of a gram would greatly increase the risk of lung cancer.

"They are going to transport this stuff to Cape Town harbour for shipment overseas. Admittedly they have done a lot of tests on the containers which will be used. It is a dangerous thing to transport but perhaps they can."

"But what if terrorists hijacked one of the vehicles and threatened to blow it up in the heart of Cape Town unless their demands were met?"

"Remember that plutonium is used for making atomic weapons, which could make it highly desirable to seize."

Dr Giliomee said he would like to see extensive public debate on Koeberg.

"When Koeberg was first announced, it was all a tale of wonderful technology. Benefits to the Western Cape, and so on. Not a word about the danger."

"It is rather strange there has been so little debate so far in South Africa compared with other countries."

"The authorities must be made aware that we are worried and concerned, and want full explanations of the dangers, with full details made public of just what could go wrong."

Dr Giliomee also raised the question of increased general radiation levels in Cape Town and surrounding areas as a result of Koeberg.

"The total background radiation level might still be lower than that in Johannesburg, but it will be partly man-made."

"Perhaps humans are not adapted to this different, man-made radiation, and will be more susceptible to it."

"Anyway, any increase in radiation levels could lead to increased leukemia, lung cancer and mutations. Is this desirable? Not to mention the dangers of a disaster."

Mr Bill Robb, of the School of Economics at the University of Cape Town, who has studied environmental issues, said every expert would agree that there were risks attached to nuclear power plants. "Everything hinges on how great those risks are, and what we are prepared to risk."

"This is fundamentally a moral issue, a question of weighing up the safety of people's lives and property against money."

Mr Robb said experts in South Africa were expressing surprise at what had happened at Harrisburg.

"They shouldn't be surprised. They have been warned about this sort of thing for several years by such organisations as the Union of Concerned Scientists in America, which consists of really top-level experts."

"The surprise shown locally shows the experts have not taken all possible factors into account. Let's hope Koeberg doesn't also surprise us".

Both Mr Robb and Dr Giliomee said nothing man-made for peaceful purposes had the same potential for mass disaster as nuclear power plants.

Mr Robb accused the authorities in this country of deliberately keeping a very low profile on Koeberg to discourage public debate.

A MERE 30 km from one of South Africa's most populated areas, the Peninsula, the mighty Koeberg nuclear plant is mushrooming.

It is due to be taken into operation early in the next decade on a site once roamed by the Hottentot and Strandloper.

And there it will stay, disgorging energy at least until the year 2020.

When it was first mooted there were not many antagonists. But over the years concern has grown and the bubble eventually burst with the Harrisburg experience.

Questions

The man in the street began asking questions.

The leading question was, obviously, why build at Duynfontein?

According to Escom, the site was chosen for a variety of reasons, chiefly economic. An exhaustive study was made of the South African coast and in particular, the Western Cape.

The study on the Western Cape coast was confined to Stompneusbaai to Duynfontein, Kommetjie to Cape Point, Cape Point to Simonstown and Gordon's Bay to Hermanus and a number of other areas which suggested themselves as meriting further investigation.

Good transport

Escom added that the reason for concentrating on coastal sites for a nuclear power station was largely economic.

It also had to be within easy reach of good transport facilities and situated near existing power lines to which, via substations, its output could be fed into the distribution system.

KOEBERG NUCLEAR MISHAP 'REMOTE'

The transmission lines which will distribute the Koeberg electricity cost, in 1977 terms, R52 000 a kilometre.

Each kilometre farther from the city would have added R200 000 to the effective cost of the station.

Other factors taken into account when deciding on the Duynfontein site were transportation of construction materials and heavy equipment from Cape Town harbour, and the Bellville railway yards, housing costs, transport, amenities and facilities for the construction personnel and subsequent station staff.

Foundations

The Duynfontein topography also afforded an adequately sized terrace within a few metres of sea level, reasonable foundation conditions, and a seabed which allowed for the establishment of an intake works to draw cooling-water.

Further queries directed at Escom, and the answers received, were:

Q: In the light of the Harrisburg experience, what would the possibility be of resiting the reactor core of Koeberg while still

using the already constructed section?

A: Resiting the reactor core would be impossible, especially as the base for the reactor has been dug down to bedrock and nearly a million cubic metres of soil has been removed.

'Secondly, a very strong edifice of steel reinforced concrete has already been erected on the site. In the past it has been emphatically and clearly stated that the operation of Koeberg nuclear power station will not add significantly to the natural radiation of the Western Cape.

Koeberg will not add more than a few millirem a year to this natural radiation (110 millirem a year) which in some parts of India is as high as 1500 millirem a year, more than 350 in some parts of France and up to 130 on the Transvaal highveld.

A man living next to the Koeberg power station will thus be exposed to less radiation than a man living a normal life on the Transvaal highveld.'

Q: What is the life expectancy of Koeberg?

A: Between 30 and 40 years.'

Q: Once it is no longer operational, what steps have to be taken to declare the area radioactive free?

Confined

A: 'No area in the world can be declared radioactive-free, as there is always natural radioactivity. In the case of a nuclear power station which has been taken out of commission, the radioactivity is confined to the containment vessel.'

'The cost of completely dismantling a nuclear station is about 10 percent of its initial cost. There would be no significant radiation thereafter.'

Q: As far as safety features are concerned, how does Koeberg rate in relation to the world's other nuclear reactors?

A: 'The South African Acts regulating the operation of nuclear installations are ranked among the strictest in the world.'

Major mishap

Q: What are the chances of something similar to Harrisburg happening at Koeberg?

A: 'No man-made device is absolutely accident proof, but looking at the excellent safety record of the nuclear power generating industry since commercial operation started in 1956, one can assume that the chances of a major mishap occurring at a nuclear power station are indeed remote.'

Q: What effect will Koeberg have on the fauna and flora in the area immediately surrounding it?

A: 'As nuclear power stations are usually kept under strict security and properly fenced, the area surrounding them tends to become a wildlife refuge.'

To an extent this is already happening at the Koeberg site, with an increase in bird-life.

'Warm water discharged at the site is also expected to encourage some species like rock lobster and black mussels to move out and other species to move in.'

SUPER-TRAIN BETTER THAN GIANT HIGHWAY SAYS ANTHROPOLOGIST

Give the Bullet to Garden Route

CONCERN is mounting about the rape of the Garden Route with a huge four lane freeway that will smash its way through the lakes and forests of one of South Africa's last reserves of unspoiled countryside.

In Parliament this week Mr Rupert Lorimer (PFP Orange Grove) joined ecologists from all over the country in opposing the freeway plan, and warned that the Government was acting against the public will.

But the Minister of Transport, Mr Lourens Muller, has indicated the plan will go ahead in spite of protests because the freeway "was essential".

A desperate plea to scrap the freeway altogether has been made by Dr J L Bosch, an anthropologist and economist.

In an interview this week he said the Garden Route was a priceless asset to the nation, and the environmental damage which the freeway would cause would be horrifying.

Dr Bosch, a vigorous campaigner for a more sympathetic approach by the Government to the demands of a sound ecology, concedes that there is need for better communications between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, but claims a freeway is not the correct answer.

The ideal solution would be a bullet train.

His revolutionary idea is based on his observations of efficient mass transportation in Japan where a bullet train travels on an overhead rail at speeds of up to 240 km/h.

The bullet train, says Dr Bosch, could run through tunnels in environmentally sensitive areas, or be suspended to span cliffs, thus staying away from the lakes and avoiding the ugly prospect of cutting off holiday resorts from their free access to the seaboard by a massive freeway.

Express Correspondent

With the bullet train, it would be necessary to have only four or five stops at key points, and it could be linked up with the existing rail systems of the two cities so that passengers could be picked up and dropped off at convenient city centres or suburbs.

"Planning in South Africa is decades behind the times," said Dr Bosch. "The bullet trains in Japan are transporting millions of people safely, quickly and efficiently — and it is high time South Africa gave some serious thought to this form of transport as a

worthwhile investment in the future of the country."

He added: "How can a country like ours, with so many pressing needs in housing and education, afford the unnecessary luxury of a six-lane highway through the Garden Route that will cost R4-million a kilometre? It's ridiculous."

George Divisional Council held an urgent committee meeting on Thursday to discuss its standpoint. After the meeting the chairman, Mr Charles Robertson, confirmed that the council would take up the matter at the highest level — and that means the Prime Minister,

Mr P W Botha, who is also MP for George.

The shock proclamation of the route also came as a hammerblow to Mr Niel van Wyk, chief regional nature conservation officer based at Sedgefield.

Mr Van Wyk is one of a team of ecologists working on a Government-funded research project costing — and now wasting — R500 000 to determine what effect the proposed freeway would have on the ecology of the all important lakes system whose estuaries literally stock the sea with fish.

"What is the point of continuing our research now that the route of the freeway has already been proclaimed?" he asked.

Sierra (56)

continues

whaling

activities

By STEPHEN WROTTESELEY

IN SPITE of the international furore over the pirate whaler, Sierra, she is continuing her operations and this week was again berthed in Las Palmas, discharging her cargo of whale meat.

International observers watched the ship as she discharged her cargo and Japanese were seen on board.

The ship has caused international concern over unregulated whaling and has been proved to have strong South African and Japanese ties. The majority of her crew are South Africans, hired in Cape Town by the Sierra Fishing Agency of Dock Road.

While her captain and mate are Norwegian, their addresses are given as Durban and Johannesburg. Also on board are Portuguese and Japanese meat inspectors.

The ship arrived in Las Palmas early this week and left on Tuesday night. She is believed to have discharged her entire whale meat cargo.

● Mr Dave McFaggart of the Canadian-based Greenpeace organization, said from London that there were plans afoot concerning the Sierra.

The organization has harassed the Russian and Japanese whaling fleets in the past and according to informed sources, looks set to be present when whaling operations begin off Iceland soon.

● The Leader of the Opposition Mr Colin Eglin who recently called on the Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis, to launch an investigation into South African involvement in the Sierra, has first-hand knowledge of whales.

Recently, while sailing between Robben Island and Bantay Bay a whale approached the yacht he was on and followed it for about 20 minutes.

"I was most impressed with its friendliness and grace," he said yesterday when asked about the incident.

The incident occurred two weekends ago and the whale followed the yacht swimming next to it and underneath it

and are owned by Fritzwarren SA, of Panama City, Panama.

Mr Powell said he thought the Susan would be ready for sea soon but was unsure about the Theresa.

R150 000

The Theresa had a fire on board in April, which destroyed the accommodation space, bridge, electrical wiring, bulkhead linings and navigational equipment.

Three new generators above the accommodation area were slightly water-damaged and the lower engine-room flooded with foam and water. The cost of repairs has been estimated at R150 000.

The ships were originally owned by Union Whaling, who sold them to the Van Der Stel Foundation. They were in turn sold to General Ship and Yacht (Pty) Ltd, who sold them to their present owners.

An international expert who has been studying the activities of the Sierra told the Cape Times that he was convinced the ships were to be used as whalers.

Those involved in the retitling of the ships have consistently denied they are to be used as whalers.

● "Captain" Paul Nielsen, one-time captain of the Sierra and the Tonna, this week left the City hotel where he was staying, leaving no forwarding address.

Mr Nielsen, traced to the hotel by the Cape Times, refused to reply when asked about the operations of the Sierra. He refused to comment as to whether the ship was South African-owned.

He is believed to have gone to Durban.

● Mystery surrounds the whereabouts of some of the former crewmembers of the

about the incident.

The incident occurred two weekends ago and the whale followed the yacht, swimming next to it and underneath it. At one stage it was almost within reach.

● Mr "Nick" Carter, permanent adviser on non-IWC whaling to the People's Trust for Endangered Species said this week that reports that the Sierra was owned by South African interests "conformed with such knowledge" that he had available.

● Two independent sources said this week that they were convinced that two former whalers being refitted in the Durban Docks are to be used as whalers.

Mr Cameron Powell said he recently saw the ships and work was going ahead swiftly. While one of them looked as if it might not be used as a whale catcher, it certainly could be used as a factory ship.

The ships, now named the Susan and the Theresa, were formerly whale catchers called the C G Hovelmeier and Pieter Molenaar. They are being converted and lengthened at Dorman Long Vanderbijl

He is believed to have gone to Durban.

● Mystery surrounds the whereabouts of some of the former crewmembers of the Cape Fisher, formerly the Yashima Maru which left Cape Town earlier this month without her South African crew.

The South Africans left the ship within minutes of her departure and it is still not known why they walked off.

A number of the crewmembers were identified by a former member of the pirate whaler, Tonna, which sank last year, when the Cape Times telephoned a house in Langebaan a relative of one of the crew, a Mr Billy Meyer, said that a number of the crew had left to join the ship.

However, Mr Meyer was still in Langebaan, she added.

When Mr Meyer was approached he denied all knowledge of the Cape Fisher or having known the crewmembers of the Cape Fisher, but he admitted that he had served on board the Tonna.

The search for the crewmembers followed an anonymous call that a number of them had left by air to join the Cape Fisher.

Cape firm dealt with packaging of whale meat

A CAPE TOWN firm manufactured the packaging for the Sierra's whale meat before the ship moved its operations from SWA Namibia and Angolan waters to areas further north.

This was disclosed yesterday by the man who acted on behalf of the firm Paper Sacks, in its dealings with the Sierra Fishing Agency, which acted on behalf of the ship.

The Dock Road agency still hires crew for the pirate whaler which now operates out of Lae, Palmas.

Mr Chris Shatland said yesterday that the company had insisted on payment in advance of manufacture of the packaging. He said the packaging originally came from Norway but Paper Sacks later developed the wrapping. It was flexible paper with a plastic coating.

The wrapping had "frozen whale meat" written on the outside in English. There were also Japanese symbols which he was told meant the same thing. At one stage "Produce of Spain" was also printed on the packaging.

He believed that during the revolution in Portugal and the subsequent strife in Angola the manufacture of packaging in South Africa for the Sierra was discontinued.

The packaging was supplied in orders of about 20,000 containers each holding about 15 kilograms. One batch usually lasted a week and supplies from three trips were kept in store.

"He can seize a detail and render it emblematic; write satire which budgeons its subject in a satisfyingly thorough way". ROBERT GREIG, *To the Point*

"It is a beautiful and moving work which seems to have jumped Aragon's 'cage of words' and found the door of this 'world of black and white'" MARGUERITE EDMONDS, *New Nation*

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Chairman: D V Benade; joint managing directors: G S Thomas, B S W Winberg.

Capital structure: 10,5m ordinaries of 50c; 1,2m 6% red cum prefs of R1; 60 000 6,5% red cum prefs of R1. Market capitalisation: R13,7m.

Financial: Year to March 31 1979. Borrowings: long and medium term, R9,5m; net short-term, R4,3m. Debt:equity ratio: 58%. Current ratio: 2,3. Net cash flow: R3m. Capital commitments: R195 000.

Share market: Price: 130c. (1978-79: high, 180c; low, 105c, trading volume last quarter, 56 850 shares). Yields: 25% on earnings; 10,4% on dividend. Cover: 2,4. PE ratio: 4.

	'76	'77	'78	'79
Return on cap %	26,1	24,6	23,3	14,5
Turnover (Rm)	80,7	81,8	90,1	100,6
Gross profit (Rm)	6,8	7,1	7,3	5,6
Gross margin %	8,4	8,7	8,1	5,6
Earnings (c)	28,1	29,7	32,3	32,4
Dividends (c)	10	11	12,2	13,5
Net asset value uuc)	141	170	192	208

It was marginal but it was enough. Malbak, with a 0,1c a share increase in earnings for the March 31 1979 year, has kept intact its 11-year record of increasing every year its turnover, earnings and dividends. But the company very nearly did not make it. Earnings from the farm equipment division plummeted from R1,4m to R66 000. This drop in contribution to earnings from 39,1% to 1,9% was the worst swing in profitability "suffered by any division in any previous year," chairman Dan Benade says.

The "inherent strength" which the group draws from its diversified interests saved the day however. Bakke, the packaging, plastics and mining supplies division, increased its contribution by 66% to R2,2m while Malbak Motors contributed R682 000 (R401 000) and group services R570 000 (R379 000).

Poor weather conditions hit farm equipment sales hard with new equipment selling on thin margins; and demand for second-hand equipment was sharply down, leaving the company overstocked. Management reaction has been swift and after examining operating expenses "the company is now restructured to be profitable in tight trading conditions but can react quickly to a recovery of demand."

Star performer Bakke found itself well-placed to supply increased demand for its food packaging and mining products and the company's insistence on price competitiveness, — prices were kept to 4% below the inflation rate, — ensured not only higher sales but also increased market share.

Malbak Motors capitalized on pre-gst buying and, given tight control of costs and asset utilisation and the success of the

engine reconditioning division, the company may not suffer too badly in future when fuel costs are expected to depress sales.

The group as a whole is in fact, very dependent on fuel costs — which may even cut back the sales of farm machinery when conditions restore farmers' buying power.

Asset utilisation is Malbak's strong point and the philosophy of running the divisions entirely autonomously has proved to be profitable. Although margins for the group are historically low, the depressing effect from Malcomess could be non-recurring in its severity.

For this reason the share at 130c on a 10,4% yield looks under-priced. The directors themselves signalled their optimism in restoring higher growth levels by raising the payout to 13,5c. It only needs a small increase in farm equipment sales to push Malcomess' profits higher — and the goodwill the company has built over the years with the farming community should ensure that it does not lose market share. In fact, the 37,4% discount on nav unjustly undervalues the goodwill built up by Malbak.

Ian Muir

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Large handwritten scribbles and signatures on the left side of the page.

Large handwritten scribbles and signatures on the right side of the page.

MALBAK *Jan 20/79* (56)
Spreading the risk

Activities: Investment holding company with interests in packaging and plastics, motors, farm equipment and "exploratory investment."

Group to fight ⁵⁶STAR for environment 13/9/79

A broad-based pressure group aimed at protecting the environment of greater Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand was formed last night at a public meeting in Lyndhurst.

The meeting was convened by Miss Ruth Levy who is campaigning to save the Lyndhurst stream from canalisation.

Johannesburg City Councillor Mrs Janet Levine, who will steer the group in its initial stages, said she was very disturbed by the public apathy towards city planning.

"When we are talking about urban environment, we are talking about the quality of life. This is the soul of the city," said Mrs Levine.

It was only when the issue affected Johannesburg people personally that they were prepared to get involved.

There was organisations concerned with the environment, but they were so disjointed that they were not an effective lobby.

"The result is that a bulldozer organisation like the City Council can carry on and do things the way it wants to," said Mrs Levine.

What she hoped would come out of the meeting was some sort of environmental committee to look after the environment of the city.

Mr Graham Ferreira of The Star's CARE campaign said what struck him when he moved from Cape Town to Johannesburg recently was that the people of Johannesburg did not care about their city.

The meeting decided that Mrs Levine should convene public meetings with leading environmentalists who would be elected to serve as a committee for the group.

KOEBERG FIRMS IN N-GRADES SUARE

(51)

~~1/2~~ ~~3/4~~

Sum, Tribune

2/2/77

by TONY SPENCER-SMITH

THE Atomic Energy Board and the Minister of Industrial Affairs, Dr Schalk van der Merwe, are to investigate claims by French union leaders that cracks were found in components during construction of a nuclear reactor there.

The reactor is being built by Framatome, the French company contracted to build the nuclear reactors at the giant Koeborg plant near Cape Town.

The reactor is being built by Framatome, the French company contracted to build the nuclear reactors at the giant Koeberg plant near Cape Town.

At a Press conference in Paris on Friday, the French nuclear industry union leaders threatened to strike unless the French Government stopped three new nuclear power plants from going into operation until checks had been made.

They said cracks 5 millimetres to 6 millimetres wide and 6 millimetres deep were found in the steam-generating vessels and tubes of the reactor, and claimed defects in the steel alloy used in the construction could lead to a disaster worse than the accident at the Three Mile Island plant in America recently.

The State-owned Electricite de France (EDF) has closed part of the nuclear power station at Bugey for "minor repairs" and it will reopen in a few days.

John Baggeley reports from Paris that trade unions have charged that the authorities controlling plants hushed up the discovery of dangerous cracks.

The socialist newspaper Le Matin published a report suggesting there had been a cover-up by EDF, the Industry Minister and the Nuclear Information Ministry.

The first fault was found by a workman soldering a special band on to a 50 centimetre plaque forming the base of a temperature transformer. This resulted in new controls, which led to other cracks being discovered in tubes leading to and from the heart of the reactor.

But EDF described the faults as superficial and said they involved no operational risks.

to load en-

But EDF described the faults as superficial and said they involved no operational risks.

Authority to load enriched uranium into certain types of nuclear power stations had been suspended for at least a few weeks, probably for checks.

Dr Wynand de Villiers, president of the Atomic Energy Board, said defects in steam-generating vessels could lead to serious problems in a nuclear reactor.

He said the steam-generating systems for Koeberg were no being built in France.

"The vessels contain the coolant of the nuclear core," he said. "If you lose coolant, you get overheating."

Dr de Villiers said the board's quality control experts would look into the matter carefully.

"If steam-generator components are found to be defective they will be rejected."

Dr Schalk van der Merwe said that if the French had found cracks "of course this is something which must be gone into immediately."

"At the moment I have not been officially informed about this. It is not something to panic about, but the whole matter will have to be looked into."

Members of the council of the Stop Koeberg Campaign said their campaign would be lent fresh impetus by the news from France.

Koebbers

... on Stream in 1982

WITH the coming on line of the Koebberg nuclear power station at Dufnefontein in the Western Cape in 1982, nuclear energy will start playing its role in supplying the national grid with electricity.

By 1985, some 12 000 GWh will be sent out annually by Koebberg — almost 10 percent of the total in the grid.

By the year 2000, the figure for nuclear power is predicted to reach some 53 000 to 60 000 GWh, fully 17 percent of the total.

Extrapolating to the year

2020, this percentage could rise to 25 or more.

In anticipation of nuclear energy being harnessed worldwide to an ever greater extent, South Africa has embarked on an intensive search for new deposits of uranium.

Should the demand arise, the Republic could in the mid-1980s be in a position to produce about 11 000 tons of uranium a year, a production figure it should be able to maintain well into the next century.

Current annual earnings from uranium sales at present stand at some R500 million.

To complement the increased production of uranium, extraction metallurgy techniques have been continuously refined to ensure the greatest possible beneficiation of uranium ore.

Following the incorporation of ferric and pressure leach processes, as well as other new techniques, the percentage of uranium recovered is expected to exceed 90 percent.

Dr. J. W. L. de Villiers, president of the Atomic Energy Board, said recently that if South Africa uses its energy resources efficiently, it will be able to

provide adequately for its own electricity needs well into the next century.

If economically justifiable, it will be feasible to erect nuclear power stations in the Eastern Cape Province and in Natal.

“We must use our resources in a complementary way,” he said, adding that nuclear energy should play a very important role in South Africa’s future electricity generation.

Considerable research has gone into the development of fast breeder reactors. A 1 200 MW prototype

commercial reactor is at present under construction in France, and it is quite possible that power stations based on the fast breeder reactor will in the not-too-distant future come into their own.

The main attraction of fast breeder reactors is their low consumption of natural uranium in comparison with current commercial reactor types.

They will use only 1 or 2 percent of the uranium required by the current types when producing the same amounts of energy.

South Africa may also introduce fast breeder reactors in the future if they

are economically justifiable and can be built and operated with adequate safety.

Looking further into the future, one must take into account the great likelihood of a breakthrough in fusion technology.

Such an achievement would revolutionise the nuclear power industry and would place almost unlimited resources for electricity generation at the disposal of mankind.

In spite of the opposition from some quarters to nuclear power, Dr. de Villiers is convinced that it is the cleanest and least

polluting form of energy.

The amount of radioactivity reaching the environment from a conventional coal-fired power station is many times greater than that from an equivalent nuclear station.

It is a simple fact that no one has yet died as a direct result of radiation arising from nuclear power generation.

This potentially enormous source of energy is being safely harnessed for the betterment of man’s natural environment and hence for the enhancement of economic and industrial development throughout the world.

DR. J. P. HUGO, deputy president of the Atomic Energy Board, contributed this article

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ENVIRONMENT

1-1-80 - 31-12-80

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Hans.

22/5/80

(56)

Dumping at Sea Control Bill

See S. Hansard 9 col. 1905 - 1912

22/5/86

(56)

Dumping at Sea Control Bill
Red leading

See Hansard 9 Cols. 1905 - 1912

20/5/80

(56)

Dumping at Sea Control Bill
Second Reading resumed

See Hansard 14 cols 6762 - 6789.

Koeberg waste: Sharp reaction by environmentalists

By BOB MOLLOY

A SHOCK DISCLOSURE in the Koeberg Report that dangerous radioactive wastes will be retained in South Africa has brought strong reactions from environmentalists, a call to mothball Koeberg and a dis-

claimer from Escom that there was any intention to mislead the public.

Dr Jan Giliomee, secretary for the Society for the Conservation of the Environment, said yesterday that disposal of the wastes was "one of the biggest problems in the production of

electricity from nuclear power. "I have a brochure in which Escom informed us that the wastes from Koeberg would be stored overseas, and I am very disturbed that this is no longer the case."

This posed a number of questions, said Dr Giliomee:

• When was Escom told that they would have to store the wastes from Koeberg locally?

• Did they know this from the start or was there a change in the attitude of the French processors since the brochure was published?

• What certainty was there that a suitable site was available in South Africa?

"Such a major aspect of nuclear power generation should have been fully investigated and settled before a final discussion on the building of the plant was taken. The storage of wastes requires increased transportation of these hazardous substances, initially from Koeberg to France, back again to South Africa, and then to the unfortunate part of the country chosen for eternal monitoring of the leakage.

"I feel more strongly than ever that Koeberg should not be put into operation until the problems of nuclear waste disposal have been solved or until its use becomes imperative," Dr Giliomee said.

Dr Arnold Abramowitz, a senior lecturer in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cape Town and a firm anti-Koeberg campaigner, told the Cape Times that the social and political implications of waste disposal were "enormous."

"The history of the disposal of high-level wastes in other countries has been marked by tremendous opposition on the part of people who live near the disposal areas. The issue has aroused great emotion. Even people who are pro-nuclear say 'not in my backyard'."

"The problem is that every place is somebody's backyard and this has not been faced up to. Disposal problems have only been solved on paper, and in every country with nuclear plants there are enormous waste-dumps sited temporarily while awaiting a decision for final disposal.

"I had hoped that South Africa would remain a nuclear waste-free area."

Politics

Mr Peter Spencer, project leader for Koeberg, said the problem of nuclear waste disposal was "locked up with international politics and the attitude of America."

"Escom cannot act unilaterally in this matter and must accommodate attitudes in France and the United States. In any case, I don't think it very responsible that we should expect anyone else to be our nuclear dustbin."

He disagreed with the view that the problem of final disposal of nuclear waste had not been solved.

"It depends on what time-scale you are speaking. I think the technical solutions are available and the present processes are adequate."

Asked if this meant "safe", he replied "Yes, they are safe."

He had "no knowledge of any brochure" which stated that wastes would not be stored in South Africa.

Some wastes active for millions of years

THREE TYPES of radioactive waste will be produced by the Koeberg nuclear power station, according to the Escom Report to the City Council.

These will be separated into gases, liquids and solids.

• Gaseous wastes will be filtered, stored in the plant till radioactivity dropped and then "released in permissible quantities to the atmosphere, mostly when the wind is blowing out to sea."

• Liquid wastes, according to the point of origin in the plant, will first be treated to remove solids and then stored in the plant till radioactivity dropped. They will then be "diluted to harmless levels and discharged into the sea."

• Solid wastes will be the only radioactive wastes retained. These in turn are rated as high-level, intermediate and low-level wastes. The high-level will be highly radioactive but small in amount, intermediate will be of lower radioactivity and small volume, while low-level wastes will have low radioactivity but will be large in volume.

All forms of wastes will be disposed of in South Africa.

According to literature on radioactive substances, the atomic garbage created by nuclear reactors contains many high-level wastes. Some of these have an active life only seconds long, while others remain dangerously radioactive for millions of years.

About 1 000 years

Among the poisons created are some which are particularly lethal to humans: Strontium-90, caesium-137 and plutonium-239. All are long-lived. There are others of shorter duration, such as iodine-131 — with a half-life of eight days, which can also be a threat to life.

Strontium-90 and caesium-137 give off intensely-penetrating radiation and great amounts of heat, requiring isolation and safekeeping for about 1 000 years.

The first is a bone-seeking isotope which accumulates in the body and cannot be excreted. As an example of the problems faced by Escom, about five litres of high-level liquid waste may carry up to 100 curies of strontium-90. To dilute this to legal guidelines requires some 1 500 billion litres of water.

Caesium, like strontium, is a powerful cancer-causing agent which gives off gamma rays. If absorbed by the body it concentrates in the muscle tissue and the ova of females.

Iodine-131, if vented into the air, contaminates vegetation and passes quickly into milk from where it may lodge in the human thyroid gland. It may be combated in the early stages with heavy doses of iodine tablets.

Low-level wastes are not as innocuous as they sound. They may contain plutonium, a synthetic element which never existed till created by scientists working on the first atomic bomb. It is the most lethal cancer-causing agent known and gives off dangerous radiations for up to half a million years.

So persistent is this substance that the same particles can kill generation after generation as they recycle themselves through the ecology. For example, cremation of a person who died of plutonium poisoning would simply disperse the plutonium into the atmosphere. Burial could release the same poisons into the groundwater.

Alpha, beta, gamma rays

American experts have admitted that no material known to man can retain long-lived radioactive substances safely throughout the period of dangerous radiation. Methods of disposal adopted so far included dumping containers in the sea, burying them in deep mines and creating special storage facilities which require reconstruction periodically.

A recent source estimates that the United States and other Western nuclear powers have dumped a total of 337 000 curies into the world's oceans. There is no record of Russian dumping.

• Radioactivity is caused when certain elements disintegrate atomically. When they do, they give off dangerous rays or forms of energy. These are of three main types, alpha, beta and gamma particles.

The rays differ in their penetration power. Alpha particles can be stopped by a sheet of tissue paper; beta particles can penetrate thicker objects, gamma rays — similar to x-rays — can penetrate substantial barriers.

Radiation of human tissues is invisible, tasteless and painless, unless of abnormally high dosage. Depending on the degree of radiation, tissue damage may not appear for decades or may occur only as genetic defects in succeeding generations.

Radioactivity is measured in curies, rems or rads. One curie of radiation is the emission of 37 000 million atomic disintegrations a second, based on the rate of decay noted in radium by the famous physicist Madame Curie.

LOW LEVEL SOLID WASTES FROM KOEBERG CANNOT BE PINPOINTED.

Through a NHS, the provision of staff and services would not be determined by the economic laws of supply and demand, but by the needs of the people. However, medical practitioners would not be forced into the NHS, and private practice would be allowed to continue, in the same way as private schools continue to exist, in spite of free education.

The Commission also discussed the various types (insurance, technocratic, bureaucratic and democratic) of NHS and came to the conclusion that the democratic one would be the most suitable. In practice, this would mean that technical and administrative staff would be under close control of the people. The people would have the power in their district councils to discuss and modify any plan coming from the central health authority.

As we have already mentioned in the Introduction, the Health-Centre was designed to be the basic unit and foundation of the proposed NHS. In the preview section of the Report, we find a very clear summary of what was envisaged:

...the National Health Service in being should not be merely the health education, in which the family physician will play the leading part, rather than in the writing of prescriptions. But when all health does overtake any member of the family, the initial responsibility for this treatment will lie with the same physician, who will have at his command the entire specialist and institutional resources of the National Health Service.

As has been stated above, the great advantage which the Health-Centre model offered was apparently an integrated approach to the promotion of health and the prevention and cure of disease of the people on an extra-institutional basis at grassroot level. In Part IV of the Report about the organisation of the NHS, the Commission unfolded its views about the Health-Centre in further detail.

There were to be trained special clerical assistants to write down verbatim reports dictated by doctors during their clinical sessions. This would save a considerable amount of doctors' time. Careful attention would also be given to the collection of reliable statistics needed for research and planning purposes by the NHS.

Each Health-Centre was expected to care for a population varying from

Koeberg waste to be under control

NO final decision on the storage of nuclear waste from the Koeberg plant has yet been taken, according to the Atomic Energy Board.

A spokesman for the board was reacting to an emphatic statement in a report by Escom to Cape Town City Council in which it was said that all forms of nuclear waste were to be disposed of in South Africa.

Statements that reprocessing would take place overseas still held true, but whether or not the waste would be returned to South Africa for storage would depend on details of the reprocessing contract, the spokesman said.

The statement in the report disturbed environmentalists and caused a flurry among critics of the project. They said the possibility of nuclear waste being stored in

people in whose environment it was to be stored.

Another facet which would have to be watched closely was the possibility of leakage into subterranean water.

However, a spokesman for the Atomic Energy Board said that no final decision regarding storage of waste arising from spent fuel reprocessing had been taken.

Previous statements that the spent fuel would probably be reprocessed still held true.

However, such reprocessing would take place overseas and whether or not the waste would be returned to South Africa for storage would depend on the details to the reprocessing contract.

Remote

In any event, the possibility of such wastes from reprocessed fuel being stored in South Africa before the turn of the century appeared remote.

However, the possibility existed that South Africa might eventually have to store all her own nuclear waste and a programme of work was in hand to provide for this possibility, said the AEB spokesman.

Waste returned by reprocessors would probably be fixed in solid glass before being placed in its final containers and stored permanently.

But it would probably be well into the first decade of the next century before nuclear waste arising from spent fuel was stored in South Africa.

Decaying

Spent fuel removed would first be kept on site would first be kept on site for several years to allow some of the radioactivity to decay before being shipped for reprocessing.

The waste remaining after reprocessing would stand for some years before being returned.

Twenty years or more could elapse between now and the first waste from spent nuclear fuel being returned to South Africa.

Gaseous waste would first be filtered, and then stored inside the plant before being released in 'permissible quantities', mostly when the wind was offshore.

Liquid waste would be diluted to harmless levels and discharged into the sea.

Solid wastes would be the only radioactive wastes from Koeberg to be retained. Some of these wastes would be highly radioactive, but small in volume.



Professor J H Gilliomiee

South Africa 'opened up a whole new ball game.'

Waste from Koeberg, which is due to become operational in 1982, is estimated at 11 tons a year from 1987.

In the report it is indicated that waste would be stored under controlled conditions in South Africa.

Professor J H Gilliomiee, of the University of Stellenbosch, said most environmentalists were under the impression that waste was to be transported through Cape Town and shipped to France for reprocessing and storage.

Capsules

The statement by Escom in its report had put a new complexion on the matter.

Professor Gilliomiee said that if South Africa was forced to store the nuclear waste remaining after her spent fuel had been reprocessed, most probably by France, a wide-ranging field would have to be investigated.

Consideration would have to be given to encapsulation, transport storage and the attitude of the

...the National Health Service in being should not be merely the

labo.

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24/1/80

Hansard No 1 col 13
8/2/80
56

13 FRIDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 1980

FRIDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 1980

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Oil tankers: distance from coast lines

*1. Mr. N. B. WOOD asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

What progress has been made in taking steps to increase the prescribed distance from our coast lines for routes taken by passing oil tankers?

†The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

Agreement was reached on an international level that laden tankers would as from 1 September 1979 maintain a minimum distance of 25 nautical miles (previously 12 nautical miles) off a line drawn between certain salient points along the South Africa coast line. These points are:

- South Sand Bluff
- Bashee River
- Hood Point
- Cape Recife
- Cape Agulhas
- Quoin Point
- Cape Point
- Slangkop Point and
- Cape Columbine.

During summer months they should steer to pass at least 10 nautical miles south of Alphard Bank. Tankers in ballast are allowed the right of free navigation.

Hansard 2

Quest Col 56/57

13/2/80

Umkomaas: pollution by effluent

*20. Mr. R. J. LORIMER asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

- (1) Whether complaints of pollution by effluent from a factory at Umkomaas were investigated by his Department in January 1980; if so,
- (2) whether any damage was caused by the pollution; if so, (a) what was its cause and (ii) extent and (b) what steps were taken to obviate this pollution?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes.

WEDNESDAY, 13

- (2) (a) (i) An electrical failure caused the pumps which would normally ensure that the effluent is pumped to sea, to cut out and the effluent therefore spilled and ended up in the mouth of the river and in the surf causing excessive foaming on the beach.
- (2) (a) (ii) Foam on the beach. No other or permanent damage was detected.
- (2) (b) Verbal warnings of prosecution in event of a repetition were given to the company and this was confirmed in writing

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Hansard 2 Ques Col 70/71 14/2/80

THURSDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 1980

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Soil Conservation Act

51. Mr. H. E. J. VAN RENSBURG asked the Minister of Agriculture:

- (1) How many farms (a) had been and (b) remained to be planned in terms of the Soil Conservation Act at the end of 1979;
- (2) in respect of how many farms were subsidies for soil conservation paid during 1979.
- (3) what was the total amount of (a) subsidies paid in respect of and (b)

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THURSDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 1980

money, excluding subsidies, spent on soil conservation for 1979;

- (4) (a) how many farmers were (i) prosecuted for and (ii) convicted of offences under the Soil Conservation Act during 1979 and (b) what (i) were the charges and (ii) was the penalty in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (1) (a) Actual figures are not readily available but it is estimated that 74 per cent of the farms in the Republic have already been planned.
(b) Due to the composition of farming units it is not possible to furnish a definite number but it is estimated that 26 per cent of the farms in the Republic have not yet been planned.
- (2) 4 564 farms.
- (3) (a) R5 800 000
(b) R3 631 080
- (4) (a) (i) 2 farmers.
(ii) Both were found guilty.

C. Times
19/2/85
56

River may soon be 'open sewer'

Science Reporter

THE Hout Bay river is dying and only active intervention by a local authority or concerned conservation group can save it from becoming an open sewer, a fisheries management expert warned yesterday.

Mr S J McVeigh, a nature conservation officer based at Jonkershoek Fisheries Station, whose work involves the development and management of fisheries and angling resources in the Peninsula, told the Cape Times, that the river was now "little more than an eroded and polluted stormwater drain", but it was "still retrievable by anyone motivated to do so".

Known as the Disa River and formerly a much-loved angling spot in the Peninsula, the river now contains "a few stunted specimens of fish", Mr McVeigh added.

A Cape Times investigation of the river last year found that it contained poisonous levels of aluminium sludge dumped there by the Cape Town municipal water purification works at Constantia Nek. Department of Water Affairs tests showed a level of toxicity 200 times higher than that required to harm fish.

The acting city engineer, Mr C J Freeman, told the Cape Times in a letter last year that the municipality discharged an average 50 kilolitres of waste water a day into the river, but added that tests had shown "considerable pollution from other sources along the river".

Last week, Mr McVeigh reported the results of a survey of the river to a public meeting of conservationists in Hout Bay. He had found sea haarder in the small lagoon at the river mouth and some small-sized indigenous fish in the upper reaches. He had seen no trout, although the river had at one time been known for its trout fishing.

Asked to comment on the reasons for the deterioration of the river, Mr McVeigh said it could be blamed on "pollution, erosion, silting, spread of alien vegetation and general lack of interest in preserving the river as an amenity".

"What is needed is a single authority for at least a 40-metre wide strip on either side of the river running its full length so that management can be effectively administered," he said.

Hansard 3 Quest. Col 151

20/2/80

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Pollution of the sea by oil

299. Mr. R. J. LORIMER asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

- (1) How many cases of pollution of the sea by oil occurred during 1979;
- (2) (a) what was the cost of combating such pollution in 1979 and (b) what amount was recovered from the owners of the vessels concerned?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

- (1) 36
- (2) (a) R41 660,74.
(b) R6 031,79.

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Discharge of effluent into sea near Umkomaas, Natal

*3. Mr. N. B. WOOD asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

Whether he or his Department has given a permit for the discharge of effluent into the sea near Umkomaas, Natal; if so, (a) to which undertaking, (b) why and (c) on what conditions?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

Yes

- (a) South African Industrial Cellulose Corporation (Pty) Ltd. (SAICCOR)
- (b) The factory was commissioned in 1955 before the promulgation of the Water Act, 1956 (Act 54 of 1956). In 1952 the Water Court authorized the abstraction of water from the Umkomaas River and the use thereof for industrial purposes, on condition that any effluent resulting from such use be discharged into the sea. The factory is situated on the southern bank of the Umkomaas River four kilometres from the sea and there is no demand for purified effluent down stream of the factory. The issuing of a permit was recommended by a committee consisting of representatives of the Natal Provincial Administration, the CSIR and the Department of Water Affairs. The recommendation was endorsed by the SABS and the Department of Health.

(c) The permit is subject to 15 conditions which can be summarized as follows:

1. The quantity of effluent is limited to 145 454 cubic metres per day.
2. The permit does not detract from the conditions of the Water Court orders of 26 June 1952 and 16 May 1960 with regard to the creation of nuisances or harmful effects or the concentration of free sulphur dioxide in the effluent.
3. Pre-treatment of effluent is required to prevent harmful effects on the environment.
4. The pipeline must comply with prescribed specifications.
5. The pipeline must be extended in future if it should become necessary.
- 6 to 10. In terms of conditions 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 the company must take certain measures to prevent pollution as required by the Minister if it should become necessary in future.
11. The company must carry out chemical and bacteriological analyses of the effluent.
12. Chemical and biological studies must be carried out in the disposal zone to determine the effect of effluent disposal on marine life.
13. Details with regard to the route of the pipeline must be submitted to the Minister.
14. Domestic sewage must be pre-treated before discharged into the pipeline.
15. An investigation with regard to the sea currents must be carried out by a competent person approved by the Minister.

Mr. N. B. WOOD: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the detailed reply given by the hon. the Minister, could he tell us whether, in view of the fact that the regulations appear to have been made a long time ago, he will give consideration to up-dating the conditions which he has just read out to us? Could he give us the assurance that that will be done should the need arise?

†The MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, continual attention is paid to the conditions which are laid down. If the hon. member for Berea thinks he can improve on them, I should like to receive his suggestions.

Mr. D. J. N. MALCOMESS: Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the reply given by the hon. the Minister, can he perhaps tell us whether these investigations have been carried out in the sea, in the area in which this effluent is disposed of, and whether it has had any sort of effect on the surrounding area, either advantageous or disadvantageous?

†The MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, the Department of Water Affairs regularly receives reports in connection with the tests to be made. If the conditions are not complied with, the department therefore must be aware of it and the matter will be followed up. From the nature of the case I am not able to say exactly what the position is. There are many cases of this nature. The hon. member should rather give notice of such a question.

Hout Bay — Rape of a Village

By Bob Mollooy and Tony Robinson

THEY letter to the editor says ratepayers fear that the proposed road works plan may carry heavy traffic would threaten the road at evening and to be out that the roads would be closed for a week they will be out for less than 24 metres (80 feet) on Cape Peak Drive

1975 August: Shock finding — most of land in proposed new sub-division lies within 50-year Dista River flood line.

1976 April: Spate of murders, rapes, muggings and break-ins prompts Cape Times investigation, residents of coloured township refer to Hout Bay as 'Moorlabai' (Murder Bay).

1977 August: Dista River floods: council denies responsibility, ratepayers accuse council of using river to carry water from stormwater drains.

1978 September: Oil spill from fish factories soils hundreds of metres of beach, residents protest.

1979 April: Ratepayers call for UDI and formation of own municipality. Association reports no water-borne sewage, few tarred roads, no street-lighting, no stormwater draining system, no sports amenities and 'virtually no public facilities. They point out that there was 'not a single sports ground or even tennis court' in the area not privately owned.

1980 June: Cape Times financial editor visits factory, says small mill will be eliminated.

1981 February: National Veld Trust to study flood threat and erosion in Dista River.

1982 March: Council approves construction of third fish factory, and also use of Hout Bay road network by heavy lorries employed by the fishing industry.

1983 January: River Board appeals to council for funds to repair river damage and reduce flood risk.

1984 January: Council refuses.

1985 October: 220 houses built in harbour area to house coloured labour.

1986 January: Ratepayers fear increase in crime rate with sudden influx of labour to man industries.

1987 May: Ratepayers call for UDI in the form of separate Local Area, Village Management Board or municipality.

1988 February: Letter to the editor complains of suffocating smells.

1991 February: Medical officer of health warns fish factory on smell and threatens closure.

1992 February: 700 residents sign petition to Minister of Economic Affairs alleging discharge of oil, bilge water, oil and petrol waste, sewage, plastic bags and other rubbish into the bay.

1993 August: Council says it will approve construction of one million-litre oil tank in harbour area if suitably camouflaged.

1994 November: Yachtmen complain of water and beach pollution by 'fibre glass' which 'looks like tiny little fish bones'.

1995 January: Ratepayers call for UDI and formation of own municipality.

1996 June: Cape Times financial editor visits factory, says small mill will be eliminated.

1997 August: Dista River floods: council denies responsibility, ratepayers accuse council of using river to carry water from stormwater drains.

1998 February: Letter to the editor complains of suffocating smells.

1999 January: River Board appeals to council for funds to repair river damage and reduce flood risk.

2000 October: 220 houses built in harbour area to house coloured labour.

2001 January: Ratepayers fear increase in crime rate with sudden influx of labour to man industries.

2002 May: Ratepayers call for UDI in the form of separate Local Area, Village Management Board or municipality.

2003 June: Cape Times financial editor visits factory, says small mill will be eliminated.

Hout Bay: Case for the silent majority

THEY people of Hout Bay believe they have had a raw deal from the Divisional Council of the Cape and they have advanced powerful arguments to show that they are grossly under-represented.

The total number of registered voters in all the rural areas of the council is 18 268 and 10 263 of them are packed into one ward, where they are represented by only one councillor. The ward concerned is Ward 10 Tokai, Hout Bay and Llandudno.

During the course of the year, this ward will contribute about 40 percent of the Divisional Council's income from rural areas and about one sixth of the total income from general and local area rates.

But in spite of this, Ward 10 has only one representative, Mr John Bridgman, on the 15-member council and he can be outvoted by 14 to one on local issues in spite of the full support of his ratepayers.

Add this to the arguments put to the council's works committee last week by Mr Len Potlifer, chairman of the Hout Bay and Llandudno Ratepayers Association:

'The ward has a rateable value of more than half the entire rateable value of all local areas in the division and it produces half the council's daily problems.'

Hout Bay and Llandudno alone have a valuation of more than R19 m and as such rank among the 50 largest municipalities in the province.

BY far the largest portion of the council's income is derived from the municipal areas and this year the contribution is expected to be R11.4 m.

Eight of the 15 councillors are elected by municipal ratepayers from Cape Town.

A further councillor is elected by the municipal voters of Parow and Bellville shares another councillor with 25 voters in the Tygerberg rural area.

This leaves only five seats on the council to represent the rest of the rural population as well as the municipal voters of Fish Hoek, Simonstown, Pinehills, Milnerton and Durbanville.

Four of these councillors each have an average of 2 339 rural voters to look after and then there is the unfortunate man who has to represent 10 000 people in Hout Bay, Llandudno, Constantia and Tokai all by himself.

The total income from all the rural areas is R7.4 m and R2.9 m or 40 percent of this comes from Mr Bridgman's huge ward

WHAT makes the whole system slightly crazy is the fact that the Divisional Council has jurisdiction in only five of its 15 wards! The broad principle is that the money from the municipal areas is used to finance projects of a regional nature, such as roads and resorts while the local areas are self-supporting.

LETHAL a quarter of a century of protest against environmental deterioration, a quarter of a century of public opinion and mounting anger by residents in Cape Times on Hout Bay. The account, which could fill several volumes, was a "saga of time", according to one irate ratepayer. These are a few items selected at random.

1960 October: Council decides not to object to proposed ship-building in harbour area.

1961 November: Council announces intention to dump rubble on bathing area to prevent sand movement, and to create a parking area.

1962 August: Ratepayers association registers strong protest at industrial development of Hout Bay harbour and says that residents fear pollution of their environment.

1963 October: Letter to the editor warns that as the roads will be used by heavy vehicles supplying the fishing industry, they will have to be built to provincial standards, thus ruining the village atmosphere.

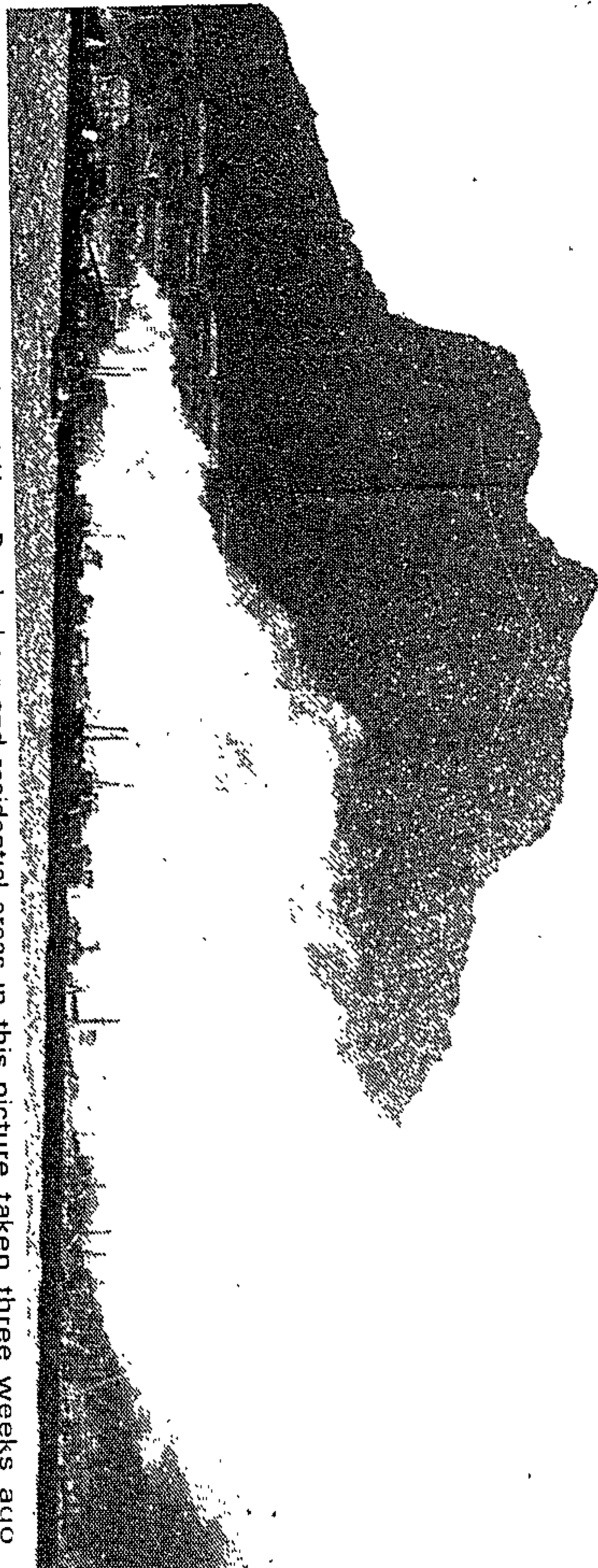
1964 November: Council gives the go-ahead to extension and modernization of fish-meal factory harbour area, provided that no nuisance will be created. Assures ratepayers that it is "aware of their problems in regard to the industrialization of the harbour".

1965 March: Ratepayers association complains of "offensive smells" from the fish factory.

1966 April: Small reefers, Llandudno, residents say that, even laundry hanging on clothes-lines lashed by fish smell. Medical officer of health takes note. Managing director of fish factory says "matter is receiving attention".

1967 May: Council discusses further development of industrial area. Ratepayers hold protest meeting. Letters to editor claim that water pressure in village is affected by factories, complain of discharge of effluent into the sea.

1968 June: Cape Times financial editor visits factory, says small mill will be eliminated.



Blinding clouds of smoke blanketed Hout Bay harbour and residential areas in this picture taken three weeks ago after normal factory hours. Residents complain that the factory works around the clock. The smoke smelt strongly of rotting burnt fish. Hout Bay residents were complaining of an identical smell and smoke 21 years ago.

1972 February: 700 residents sign petition to Minister of Economic Affairs alleging discharge of oil, bilge water, oil and petrol waste, sewage, plastic bags and other rubbish into the bay. Petition notes 'minuscule particles of fish bone in the sea-water', resulting in skin irritation while bathing and walking on the beach. Calls for an end to round-the-clock burning of rubbish on the coastal slopes of the Sentinel.

1973 August: Council says it will approve construction of one million-litre oil tank in harbour area if suitably camouflaged. Letters to editor warn of further industrial expansion in harbour area, regret 'loss of last open space in the village' to school construction, claim that 'political economy and big business will quietly destroy this gentle place, beloved of many'.

1974 November: Yachtmen complain of water and beach pollution by 'fibre glass' which 'looks like tiny little fish bones'.

RECYCLING

Waste not, want not

56
7017/3/80

More than R40m worth of cans, glass, plastic containers, paper and board (7 600 t a day) is discarded in SA each year. In addition, each ton of waste costs R2,50 to bury, with collection and disposal amounting to as much as R100m a year.

And it's going to get worse.

Within 20 years, SA will be faced with the problem of disposing of almost 15 Mt of common garbage and refuse, 130% more than the current 6,8 Mt. And that's a conservative figure. Keep SA Tidy estimates an annual increase of 18%.

So far, 50% of refuse is being recovered, of which 38% is paper, 9% glass, and 4% metal and plastic.

But it is not only the needless waste and pollution that is drawing firms into the recycling industry. There are savings and, therefore, profits to be had. With the constantly rising costs of raw materials, it makes good sense to recycle.

At the same time, pending legislation could mean that many firms will find themselves unprepared and subject to extra costs when the recommendations of a Parliamentary commission come into effect.

Metal Box's Collect-a-Can is in operation specifically for the collection and recycling of used cans, says GM Dudley Fraser, and has, since its inception, recycled 150m used cans.

More than 3 000 t of used cans are reclaimed every year by his company — the only one in its field — says Fraser, but he claims that over 100 000 t, with a potential value of R1,8m in tinsplate and steel scrap, are buried in dumps annually.

Re-using products also means an energy saving. About 50% less energy is needed to manufacture steel from scrap than from iron ore. The process is also cheaper.

Plastic recycling is another important energy conserver. According to a British survey as much as 2,24 t of oil equivalent is required to manufacture 1 t of low density polythene.

The capital costs of establishing recycling operations are also relatively low compared with other industries and plas-

tic recoverers can move into the end product at comparatively low cost and risk. For these reasons an increasing amount of firms are moving into plastic recovery. SA generates as much as 10% of its polythene requirements from recycled products and this is expected to rise to 20% in the next few years.

Paper is the largest of the recycling industries, recovering 38% of the reclaimable refuse. Half of all waste paper is reclaimable. Recycling Industries' Vincent Lamberti claims his com-



Scrap recovery . . . cans for Africa

pany recovers as much as 60 000 t of waste paper annually. They use 100% recycled materials, collecting the waste from supermarkets and factories and delivering it back again as a new product.

Lamberti claims a further advantage of reclaiming is that the fibres have already been exposed to the production process

and therefore "behave as they should behave." This cuts down on process costs, but he admits that the quality is not the same as could be obtained from virgin fibre. "However," says Lamberti, "we don't go where we have to compete with top quality."

The recovery rate for paper is about 30% in SA, says Lamberti, and is starting to compare favourably with rates overseas. The US recovers 17%, Japan 42%, West Germany 44%.

Glass is totally recyclable — the amount put in equals the amount that comes out. Over 50 000 t of glass is recycled every year in SA and the reclaimed product accounts for 20% of glass production.

Lein Schutz of Consolidated Glass says there are good profits in the recycling business. Reclaimed glass is at least 10% cheaper than its component raw materials, and the production process is far cheaper. More heat is needed to melt raw material components for glass manufacture than reclaimed glass.

By using waste products, furnaces can be fired at a lower rate, so using less energy. This extends the life of capital and further reduces price. "If energy costs are included, savings from recycling are as high as 20%," adds Schutz.

Consolidated Glass pays approximately half as much for waste as for raw material glass components. But, warns Schutz, the waste price can rise to within 10% of that of raw materials if there are heavy transport costs — and there often are with recycled products.

However, he points out that there is always an additional saving on capital depreciation and energy.

"At the same time recycling is conserving scarce resources," says Schutz. "SA does not have soda ash and has to import it for glass manufacture. Any recycling must also be seen in terms of foreign exchange savings." Lamberti claims that an investment of R10m in paper recycling has resulted in an annual saving of R50m in foreign exchange alone.

Lethal dam water kills countless fish and birds

By JOHAN BUYS

MORE than 100 large water birds and countless fish have died in a dam at Aston Woods.

Officials from the Springs Wild Life Society and the Division of Nature Conservation are trying to establish the cause of the deaths, checking the possibility that the dam, at Aston Woods, could have been polluted from factories in the surrounding area.

The shores of the dam have been littered with dead red-billed teal, yellow-billed ducks,

Egyptian ducks and coot. Dead fish have been floating among the reeds at the water's edge.

Water from the dam, also known as Aston Lake, feeds directly into the Blesbokspruit. This spruit flows past the Marivale bird sanctuary and joins up with the Suikerbosrand River, which eventually ends up in the Vaal Dam, major source of drinking water for the Reef.

Samples of water taken from the dam have been sent to the Division of Nature Conservation laboratories for analysis. Members of the Springs Wild

Life Society have set up an emergency station at the Grootvlei mine's No 6 shaft next to the dam to treat the sick birds. Some have been taken to the bird hospital in Johannesburg.

Mrs Linda Thomas, chairman of the Springs branch of the Wildlife Society, said: "The emergency station will be manned every day until we are sure the danger is past."

Experts said the poison could have come from three sources - agricultural poisons, industrial pollution or cyanide from gold mining activities.

EXAMINATION RESULTS IN FACULTY ARTS

YEAR : 1

AS AT

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION
162004R	BURNE	SUZANNE ELIZABETH	195103	ECONOMICS IA
158955C	CARO	SALLY-ANN	107101 116120 111101	ENGLISH I (PRE) DRAMA I CULTURAL HIST
162195Z	CHAIT	CHERYL	102101	AFRIKAANS
1539650	CLARKE	PENELOPE JILL	103202	SOCIAL ANTHRO
157789K	COHEN	DAVID	104101 110101	ARCHAEOLOGY I HISTORY I
156503M	COLLIER	LINDSEY JEANNE	911101 916103	MATHEMATICS ANIMAL BIOL
1539990	COLLINS	HEVERLEY RAYMON	116120	DRAMA I
153621E	COUCHER	ROBERT GEORGE RENESON	004101	PSYCHOLOGY I
158572X	COURFEMAX	COLETTE	107101	ENGLISH I (P
153796V	DAVIS	CASSANDRA ELAINE	107101	ENGLISH I (P
140457W	DELAHUNTY	ANNA TERESA	900101	GEOGRAPHY I
162384E	DOMAN	MICHAEL EDWARD	106102	ECONOMIC HI
1559310	DU PLESSIS	MARGIA ELIZABETH	107101	ENGLISH I
156919N	DUNCAN	ANDREW SYMON	003101 004101	SOCIOLOGY I PSYCHOLOGY
156415R	ERASMUS	ANNO JACQUES ERASMUS	901101 910106	COMMERCIAL STATISTICS
1623107	EVANS	GAVIN MARK READ	101103	AFR LANG I
161480X	FAFAK	GIULIETTA	107101	ENGLISH I
153863I	FAMUHAR	GILLIAN DEBORAH	115101	FR-FRCH I
152866J	FARRELL	MICHAEL BRUCE	004101	PSYCHOLOGY
157359I	FINLAY	PAMELA JUAN	105100 115102 115103	ECONOMICS FRENCH INTENSIVE ITALIAN INTENSIVE
159744K	FIUKAVANTI	LUIGINA	214102	PHYSICS IA

UP (56)

UP (56)

UP (56)

UP (56)

RDM 17/3/80

56

Article 11/15/56
Watch on
(54) (55) (56)
Koeberg

urged

Municipal Reporter

THE Environmental Advisory Board wants 'the larger municipalities' to have representatives on the monitoring board which will keep watch on radiation levels from Koeberg nuclear power station.

The City Council's executive committee considered this recommendation today.

DISPOSAL

In a letter to the committee the advisory board said it was 'an added cause for concern' that spent fuel from the power station, which would be sent to France for reprocessing, would be returned to South Africa for disposal.

It is believed local authorities should be represented on the monitoring board 'to assure the public that the highest standards are being complied with.'

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Kruger Park coal-mine fears are rekindled

New Iscor probe?

A VISIT to the Kruger National Park by a high-level deputation from Iscor recently has rekindled fears that the park is to be mined for coal.

Fears are growing that in spite of public demand that the park be left untouched, Iscor may go ahead with plans for a coal mine in the Parfuri area of the northern section of the Kruger Park.

Zoologists say that the plan could have disastrous effects on the park as a whole.

The area under consideration is one of the most remote areas and is the heart of the breeding ground for the park's elephant herds. Many prospecting holes have been drilled there already. This week, Mr Mike Nicol, editor of African Wildlife,

By Graham Ferreira

the magazine of the Wildlife Society, said an Iscor deputation had visited Punda Milia camp, near the likely site for a mine.

If mining development did take place, it could also involve a dam on the Levubu River (an important tributary of the Limpopo), the building of a mining town and a railway line through the park.

Thousands of people have signed petitions against a mine.

The head of the mining section of Iscor, Mr Michael Deats, told me an Iscor group had visited the Kruger Park.

But he said they had merely gone to Punda Milia 'for tea'.

'We have a drilling camp in Venda (near the border of the park), and we use the airfield at Punda Milia. We went to the camp for tea. We are not drilling in the park,' he said.

GOOD LOOK

Mr Nicol said he believed the deputation had a 'good look around' inside the Kruger Park.

Mining experts believe that if the coking coal deposits in the Kruger Park are to be mined, the infrastructure and shafts might be sunk inside Venda.

Mr Nicol said: 'As far as I can see, if they mine those coal seams they will use open cast technique.'

'Wherever they put the mine they will have to dam the Levubu River, and the effects of that to the area will be very, very, bad,' he said.

Mr Clive Walker, director of the Endangered

Wildlife Trust said that the principle at stake was that it appeared that the prospecting holes and the permission to drill had been granted in contravention of the National Parks Act.

SACRED

'If they don't observe the Act what's the point of having laws, and if they change the act to allow mining then the future is very black. Then nothing is sacred,' he said.

'The area where they want to put that coal mine is possibly the most important area in the whole park.'

Among the fears expressed by zoologists, ecologists, and conservationists should mining take place are:

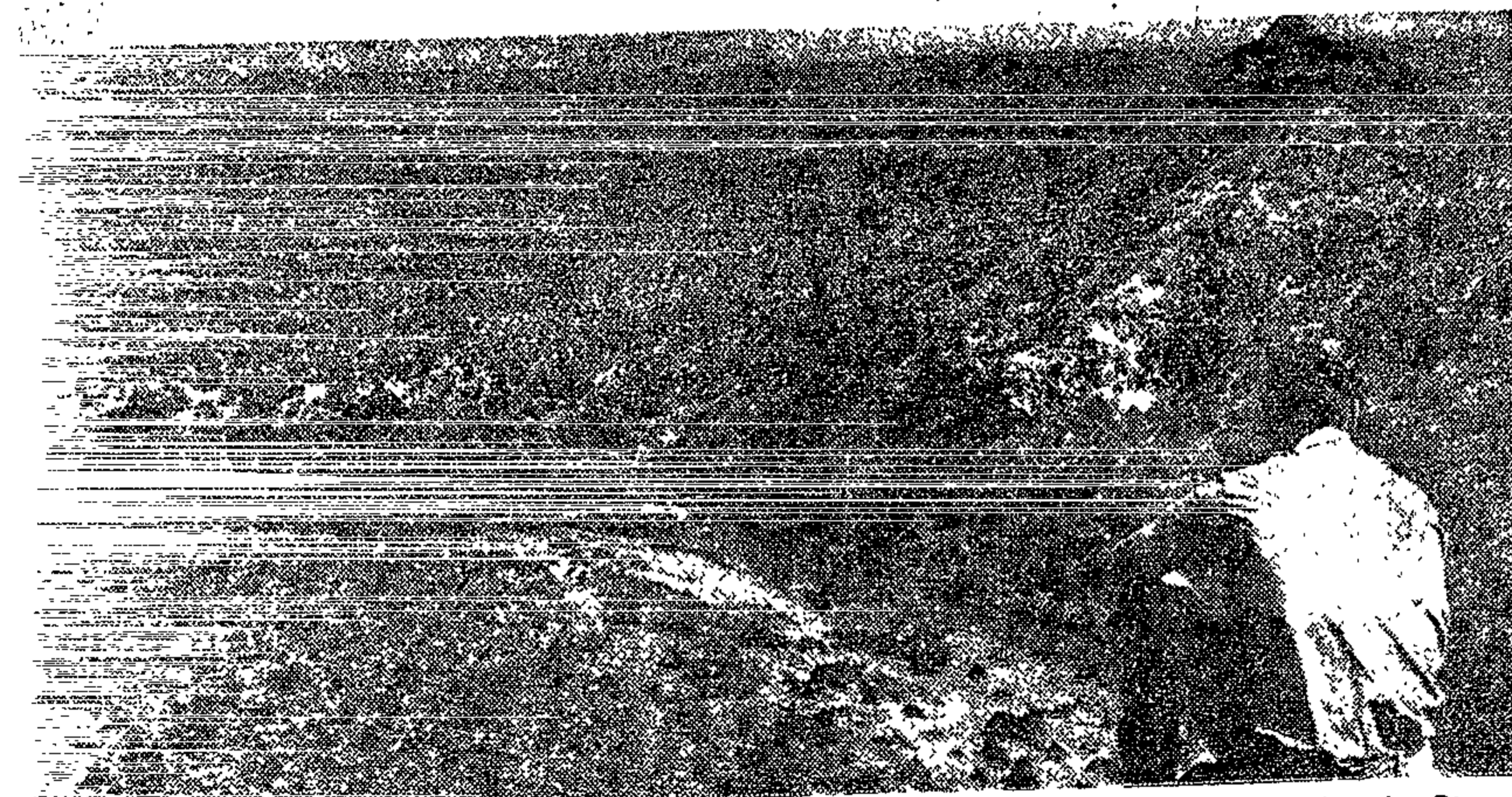
- Most of South Africa's baobab trees in a protected area are found in Parfuri. These could be badly affected by any change in the water table caused by damming the Levubu River.

- South Africa's only mopani forest in a protected area occurs nearby. This could be destroyed or badly damaged.

- The most important breeding ground in South Africa for elephants, would be seriously disturbed.

- The Levubu River would be seriously polluted, and this pollution would find its way into the Limpopo.

- Before the presence of coking coal seams became of interest to mining concerns, plans were afoot to turn a large part of the area into the world's most exciting wilderness trail. These plans may now have been scotched.



THE most likely site for the mine is just behind an d to the left of the koppie, near the Levubu River in the foreground.

JUST

Botulism 'killed fish and birds'

By JOHAN BUYS

TESTS have shown that the large numbers of birds and fish which died over the past three weeks in a Springs dam were poisoned by botulism.

A spokesman for the Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Station said that a very weak coot sent for tests this week was treated with a botulism anti-toxin and recovered.

Botulism is a kind of food poisoning caused by rotting or decaying plants, insects and carcasses in the dam, the spokesman said.

Fears that the poison could have come from agricultural poisons, industrial pollution or cyanide from gold mining activities have been ruled out by the Onderstepoort test.

More than 100 large water birds and countless fish have died in the dam, known as Aston Lake.

The birds which have died include red billed teal, yellow ducks, coot, white faced whistling ducks, Cape shovellers, black ducks, marsh sandpipers, Siberian ruffs, which were getting ready for their annual migration back to Russia, cormorant, crebe, black headed herons and moorhens.

A chain reaction is feared as many land birds may eat the carcasses and suffer.

This week another seven sick birds were rescued by members of the Springs Wildlife Society, which will continue to patrol the area to remove dead birds and fish.

STU13-9	EXAMINATION RESULT	FI
13010	BACHELOR OF ARTS	
STUD NO	SURNAME	FI
152163V	VAN NIEKERK	MURIEL
159757Z	VAN WAGENINGEN	ANNEMARI
155815P	VISSER	ANNELEIZE
153767N	WACHER	GUY STEV
160280L	WESSELS	CHARLENE
158400Z	WHITAKER	ANDREW
115226Y	WHITING	ROBERT GEORGE GURZON
157399L	WILLSHER	MELANIE GABRIELLE ROSANNE
154408K	WOLFE	ANGELA KILMARDEN
159697J	WOOD	NICHOLAS
155858L	WYNGAARD	GAVIN WILLIAM ERIC

24	158400Z	158400Z	1	(58)	UP	3NX	PSYCHOLOGY I (PRE-1980)
26	115226Y	115226Y	7	(52)	UP	3NX	ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)
28	157399L	157399L	.1	(56)	UP	3NX	FRENCH I
30	154408K	154408K	1	(59)	UP	3NX	PSYCHOLOGY I
32				(59)	UP	3NX	PSYCHOLOGY I
34				(59)	UP	3NX	SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY I (PRE-1980)
36	159697J	159697J	1	(58)	UP	3NX	ENGLISH I (PRE-1980)
38	155858L	155858L	1	(55)	UP	3NX	SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY I (PRE-1980)
40				(50)	UP	3NX	CULTURAL HISTORY OF N.E. I
42							
44							
46							
48							
50							
52							
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58							
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62							
64							
66							

* TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS 137

REGISTRAR (ACADEMIC)

UJCT

ARGUS 24/3/80

56
205

UCT study of polluted water

ENOUGH water under the Mitchell's Plain area to service a city of several millions — but polluted and rapidly becoming useless — is just one aspect of the 'nature versus development' conflict now being documented by

researchers at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Cape Town. 'The water is already badly polluted with lead, sulphur dioxide and other noxious solids leached from the air by rain, and

a very valuable natural asset will soon be lost to us if nothing is done,' Mr Maurice Toporowski, planning research assistant, said today.

ONE ASPECT

'But this is just one aspect of a study we are now making of exactly how our natural environment is being affected by residential, industrial and commercial development in the Western Cape, and what we can do, through intelligent planning, to reduce undesirable effects on the natural setting,' he said.

Mr Toporowski said the root cause of over-exploitation, pollution, destruction of irreplaceable habitats and the permanent loss of fauna and flora was inadequate knowledge of the natural environment.

Mr Toporowski has discovered a serious lack of widespread and consistent rainfall figures for the Peninsula, Cape Flats, West Coast, and the north-eastern areas, and has issued an appeal to all farmers, schools and other organisations operating rain gauges to contact him with their findings.

He can be contacted at Cape Town 69-8531 extension 681, or 61-9991 after

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL
154230R	ARR	HANS-ERIK	105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	UP (59)
157795R	PARKETT	MICHAEL COURAN	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP (59)
1535620	BUEHLINSKY	GLENN RICH	102101	AFRIKAANS	UP (50)
156581X	COHEN	PETER DAVID	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP (57)
155002E	COOPER	THOMAS	105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	ABS (57)
157455G	DE KOCK	RODNEY JAMES	105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	UP (56)
154305E	DE VRIES	WADSWORTH	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP (59)
240LEY			105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	UP (51)
ILES LUTHER			102101	AFRIKAANS	UP (50)
FAIN			105104	LATIN I	F (34)
GRANT			102101	AFRIKAANS	UP (50)
SAADOR PETER			105104	LATIN I	UP (50)
GENE			105104	LATIN I	UP (50)

UCT

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL
154230R	ARR	HANS-ERIK	105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	UP (59)
157795R	PARKETT	MICHAEL COURAN	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP (59)
1535620	BUEHLINSKY	GLENN RICH	102101	AFRIKAANS	UP (50)
156581X	COHEN	PETER DAVID	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP (57)
155002E	COOPER	THOMAS	105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	ABS (57)
157455G	DE KOCK	RODNEY JAMES	105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	UP (56)
154305E	DE VRIES	WADSWORTH	117101	POLITICAL SCIENCE I	UP (59)
240LEY			105105	LATIN ELEMENTARY	UP (51)
ILES LUTHER			102101	AFRIKAANS	UP (50)
FAIN			105104	LATIN I	F (34)
GRANT			102101	AFRIKAANS	UP (50)
SAADOR PETER			105104	LATIN I	UP (50)
GENE			105104	LATIN I	UP (50)

EXAMINATION RESULTS IN FACULTY ARTS

AS AT 29 02 80

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Giant parkland planned for Job

CARE
24/3/80
(56)

By James Clarke

The Johannesburg City Council has approved in principle a plan to turn the Braamfontein Spruit into a 25 km unbroken parkland — the largest and longest municipal park in South Africa.

The plan includes recommendations to establish:

- several large nature reserves along it
- jogging tracks
- new dams and pools for boating and fishing
- cycleways and horse trails with stables where the public can hire horses.

It will mean thousands of homes from the western suburbs right across the northern suburbs and across Randburg and Sandton will be within walking distance of a multipurpose parkland covering several square kilometres.

Randburg and Sandton councils are expected to ratify the plan soon. It was drawn up by experts and consultants from all three municipalities.

The report also recommends a reversal of the policy of turning the stream's tributaries into concrete channels. Instead, consulting engineers advise, new dams and lakes should be created to absorb the shock of floods. They also suggest some existing channels could revert to natural stream bed.

The report was drawn up by Cocco — the Co-ordinating Committee on Community Open Spaces. The scheme will eventually be applied to other river valleys in the metropolitan area.

The first stage of the revival of the Braamfontein Spruit will be the 6 km stretch between the 160 ha Delta Park south of Blairgowrie to Sandton's River Club suburb.

The stretch contains at Craighall a large natural area with a waterfall and wetland which voluntary nature organisations will be invited to reinstate as a sanctuary.

suggested east of the Nicot Highway to be used for recreation including fishing.

It will have a riding trail and a jogging track marked with kilometre stones.

The Braamfontein Spruit which technically springs in Hillbrow is a tributary of the Limpopo River. Its three main feeders (the tributaries which begin in Hillbrow-Parktown, Westdene and Montgomery Park areas) will also be developed as parkland.

One of the recommendations is that the walking trail could begin at Hillbrow in the Peter Ross Park on Empire Road. The park could be a possible site for a new lake and such activities as CARE's Hillbrow Farm will be encouraged.

Because much of the stream in this area is now concreted, the walk will be planned to go through Parktown and Westcliff to include historical homes and other points of interest — and then alongside the Parkview golf course to meet the stream further on.

Another water feature is suggested near Victory Park at the confluence of the Westdene tributary (which flows through Beaumont) and the Montgomery Park tributary.

The confluence is just west of where, in 1974, The Stars CARE campaign, Lions International (200 Jpb) and local volunteers with the cooperation of the council created a 20ha park in an area that was formerly an overgrown dumping ground.

The move has come eight years after CARE campaigned to make what it called "the forgotten stream," into a river park.

The three councils accepted the idea in 1976 and the project became the catalyst for South Africa's biggest residents associations' conglomeration — the Northern Area Group.



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25/3/80

The Star

Tuesday March 25 1980

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE

Anglo American coal is spending around R7 000 a hectare to rehabilitate "spoil" — the rocky ground that is thrown up in digging down to the coal seam in strip mining.

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Reclaiming the Vaal highveld

CARE Reporter

Coal mining groups and Escom are spending several million rands on turning strip-mining dumps into land fit for farming in the Eastern Transvaal.

At Arnot Colliery in the Eastern Transvaal, Amcoal has flattened and regrassed about 200 ha of "spoil" — the rocky ground that was thrown up in digging down to the coal seam.

The rehabilitation of spoil costs about R7 000 a hectare. If the land were to be sold, it would fetch between R200 and R500 a hectare.

Some shareholders might describe this as a waste of money. An outlay of about R1.5-million adds a mere 200 ha to Transvaal farmland.

Yet as Amcoal's ecology consultant, Professor John Phillips, points out: "The value of Arnot's effort lies not in the 200 hectares themselves, but in setting an example to future strip mining which will

run into thousands of hectares."

The case for reclaiming mined land arose in 1970 when General Mining opened Optimum Colliery at Hendrina, Eastern Transvaal. This was the first open-cast coal mine in South Africa.

The open-cast mining of other minerals, such as diamonds at Finsch mine and copper at Prieska, takes place at concentrated deposits. This type of mine creates a huge hole and a few dumps around it. But strip mining follows the coal bed for kilometre after kilometre, gouging out successive trenches, and throwing up row upon row of spoil heaps.

Overburden

An idea of how much land will be distributed in this way is provided by the facts that Arnot will continue for 35 years and Optimum will last 30 years.

The alternative to the strip method is underground mining. This technique is applied at the older collieries whose coal beds lie at depths which make it un-

economic to use strip mining.

The newer collieries — Arnot, Optimum, Kriel and Kleinkoppie — are situated at places where the overburden is so shallow that the advantages of strip mining cannot be resisted.

Arnot's overburden is 20 to 25 metres deep. The mine manager, Mr H C "Billy" van Zyl, estimates that were the most sophisticated underground techniques to be used, the mine would recover only 40 percent of the coal seam.

With strip mining, Arnot recovers 90 percent.

Its disadvantage is that reclaimed land is unlikely to be as fertile as undisturbed soil. The rehabilitated ground has a thinner layer of top-soil, a higher rock content, and its natural acidity-alkaline balance has to be rectified.

One of the main motives for rehabilitation is that if the mines did not take the initiative, pressure groups such as farmers and conservationists would force the Government to impose conditions.

This occurred in the US where some collieries left their spoil dumps like long welts across the land. When the Government did legislate, the mines found the stipulations to be excessively punitive.

South African strip mines began their rehabilitation within a few years of the start of operations. Optimum has already regrassed 236 ha and Arnot's restoration programme is never more than two rows of dumps behind the advancing pit.

As Billy van Zyl puts it, "We thought we should take the lead rather than wait to be pushed."

Production

The Chamber of Mines has drawn up a code of practice for strip mining and the Government has approved it. The main consumer of coal, Escom, is helping to offset the costs of rehabilitation.

The code obliges the mines not only to flatten their dumps, but also to establish vegetation which "if possible" is of economic value.

Optimum began its rehabilitation on ground that was a swamp before it was mined. Experiments with pine trees and beans failed, but sunflowers and mealies have taken well.

The mine manager, Mr Rob Cowley, hopes to begin large-scale crop production on the drier land that is being mined now.

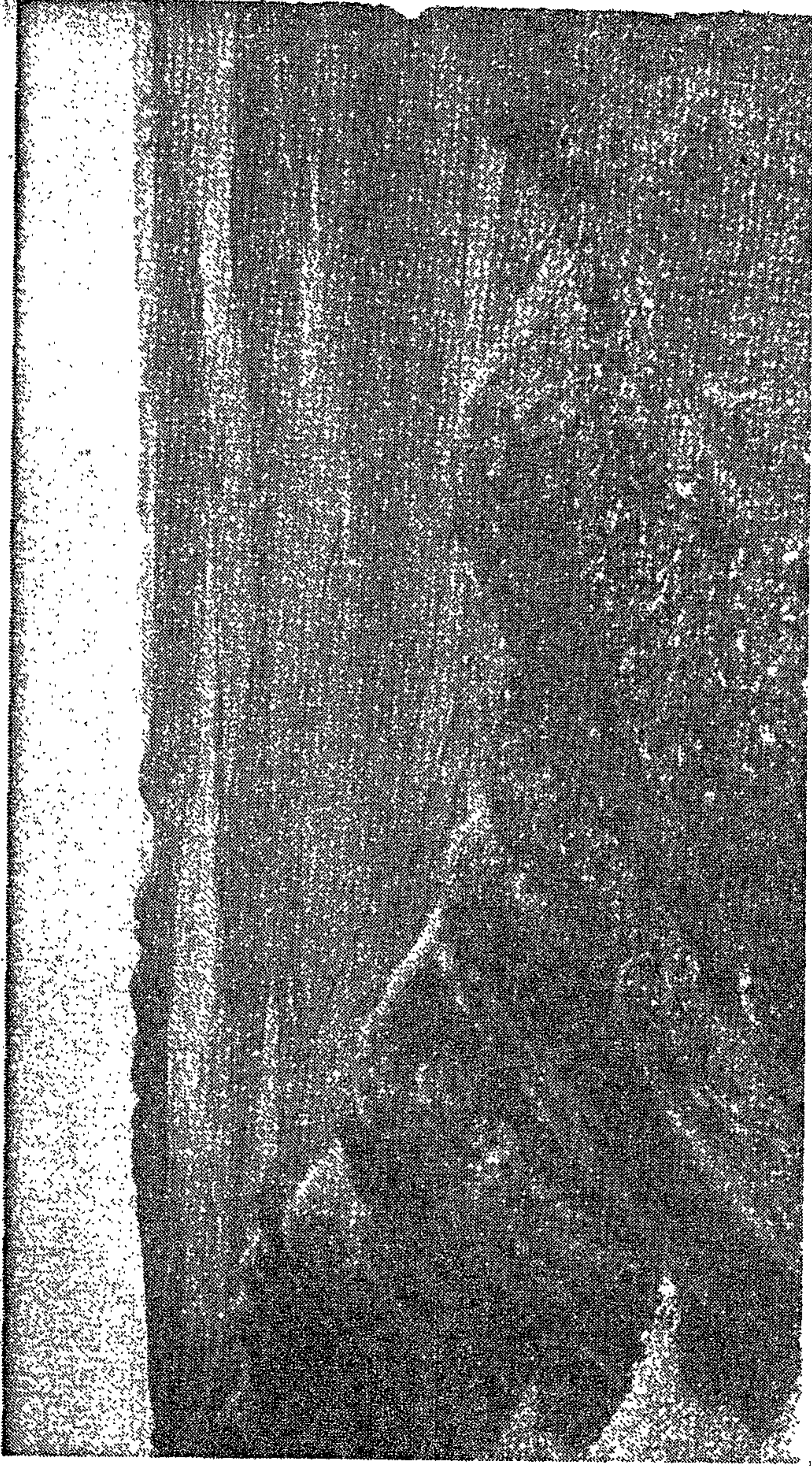
Kriel and Kleinkoppie are newer Amcoal mines and so have regrassed only a few hectares.

From this season's results, Arnot hopes to be able to support sorghum on a third of the reclaimed land. The rest will support livestock.

So far the plant density of the sorghum fields is lower than what a farmer would require, but Professor Phillips is confident that adequate rainfall and continued nursing of the soil will yield a better crop.

"Nature is a funny old woman," he smiles, "you can push her so much, but then you've just got to wait."

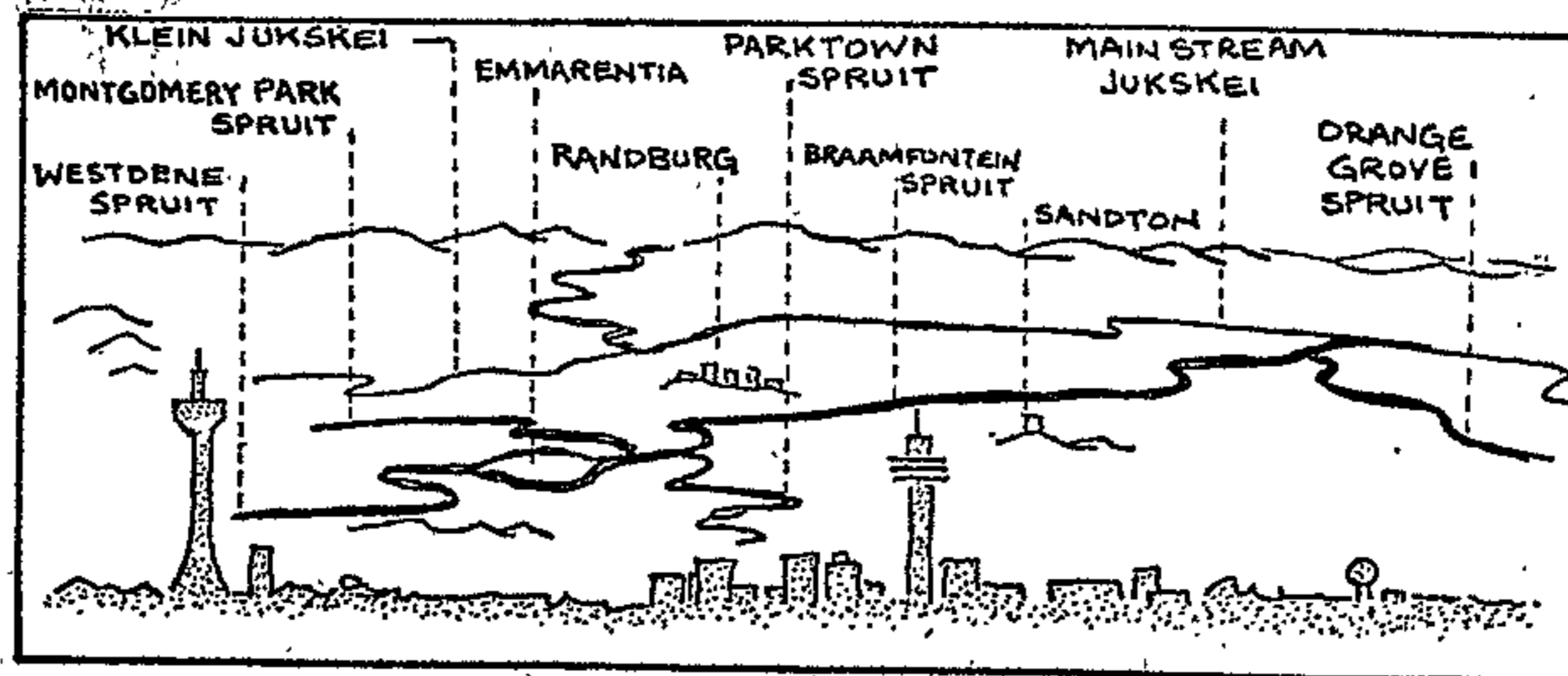
BRIEFING



This row of spoil dumps at Arnot Colliery will be flattened and grassed until it is like the land in the background. Strip mining reduces the fertility of the soil, but it recovers so much more coal than un-

derground methods that it cannot be avoided, particularly at today's energy prices. However, the rehabilitated land can support livestock and possibly crops.

Johannesburg has accepted that the Braamfontein Spruit becomes an unbroken 25 km long parkland studded with large water features and nature reserves. JAMES CLARKE of CARE recalls the public campaign to put the sparkle back into what CARE called "the forgotten river."



This diagram indicates the course of the cleaned-up Braamfontein Spruit.

Suddenly— there was a river!

It was April 1971. The Star's CARE campaign was not much over a month old but it had struck a deep seam of public discontentment.

People were sick of air pollution, filthy rivers, misguided town planning done without their knowledge, noise and dross.

CARE was in distinct danger of becoming a negative campaign: A bit like a doctor who, every time he saw his patient, said: "My gosh, you do look sick."

It was then we discovered a river.

Hardly anybody had heard of it and no specific map of it existed. The Braamfontein Spruit. The name was a bit of a switch-off. Like the river itself, it lacked sparkle.

Suggestion

I had tracked its course on foot from Westdene dam, down through Emmarentia and on through a serpentine stretch which was choked with several hundred tons of rubble and refuse. At times the route was impenetrable.

I walked on through Parkhurst, Craighall, Bryanston and into the

open country where it joined the Orange Grove Spruit (which drains the north-eastern suburbs) to meet the Jukskei's main stream at Leeuwkop.

The homes along the stream tended to turn their backs on it. Fences shielded them from its sight. There was little in the way of wildlife but, in places, it was a very beautiful stream.

And so in April The Star published a two-page article suggesting that the people of the western and northern areas of metropolitan Johannesburg take out this river and dust it down.

CARE published maps of it. We had chemical analyses done to show the river was safe to wade in. We checked it out for pathogens and bilharzia and found bilharzia had never been recorded in the river.

By then Sandton had already decided to create parkland strips along all its rivers including its section of the Braamfontein Spruit. Randburg was not particularly interested. Johannesburg planners liked the idea of a do-it-yourself revival for the river and backed us to the full.

But it was ordinary su-

burban people who were really enthusiastic.

Lions International's Zoo Lake Club called on CARE for talks. The club wanted to demonstrate how the public itself could tackle the job. They chose a dreadful little spot on the Victory Park-Parkhurst border. We called for weekend volunteers. On Saturdays there were rarely less than 300 people pulling car wrecks from the stream, hacking at the overgrown wattles

and picking up tons of junk.

Waste-Tech, free, sent along massive bins and carted the junk away. A soft drink manufacturer, a brewery and a local butcher provided food and drink for volunteers — all free.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg — the Bensusans — turned up in their Rolls and spent three hours toiling away. There were three other councillors and several members of the City Engineer's department. The Scouts

built a bridge over the river which speeded up work.

Within a couple of weekends a 20 ha park emerged. Today, with its willow trees and lawns and its indigenous trees supplied by Toyota it is one of the prettiest parks in Johannesburg — and the Lions won an international prize.

Here I must confess to something: we noticed that the stream was flowing the wrong way — west instead of east. It turned out that the little

park was not on the Braamfontein Spruit after all but on a small tributary that joins it near the Old Rustenburg Road.

Meetings

But it proved a point and the momentum built up.

Schools conducted botanical and zoological surveys. RAU and Wits piled on the data.

We organised public meetings.

I remember a RA student, Miss Barbara Price, attending a lot of them and pumping in many useful ideas. She became so interested she took up town planning, did a dissertation for her degree on the stream (which became CARE's bible) and she is now a town planner with Sandton and a member of the official three-town planning committee.

Mrs Wendy Bodman, a former Matron at Baragwanath, offered her help. "I don't know much about the stream but I'm sure I can help in some way," she said.

Today she is the leading authority on the complicated pattern of the Jukskei drainage system and she went on to campaign through the SA Council for Conservation of Anti-pollution (Saccap) for the revival of other streams in the "white waters ridge" (Witwatersrand) system.

Protest

She persuaded the then Mayor of Germiston to accompany her along a Germiston tributary of the Jukskei which the council was canalising. "Preferably landscape it," she suggested. The council pulled up the concrete and did just that.

The now more perceptive public, rightly, began to protest about the concreting of other stretches of the river system — and now, with this comprehensive report on the future of the Braamfontein Spruit, Johannesburg Council has accepted the recommendation that there be no more concrete channels "unless absolutely necessary."

Instead stormwater will be absorbed by a new system of pools and dams.

The Cocco's report (drawn up by the coordinating council on community open spaces — a body comprising officials and consultants from all three towns along the river) is the second step towards putting the sparkle back into the stream.

The first step was when the public decided: "Let's do it."

Details

Here are a few details from the report.

The Braamfontein Spruit is 25 km long and takes its name from its highest feeder stream — the one that springs near Johannesburg Girls High School in Berea.

The catchment area covers 95 sq km. About 11.5 km flows through Johannesburg, the next 2.5 km flows between Randburg and Johannesburg and a further 11.5 km through Sandton.

The first stretch recommended for development is the section between Delta and Sandton's Field Centre near River Club, Bryanston — 6 km long. It has 378 ha of open area which can be converted into nature sanctuaries for picknicking, fishing, boating, riding, cycling and jogging — or just bird watching.

Delta, which amounts to about a quarter of the total open space, is already an attractive sanctuary but not yet ready to be opened to the public.

Along most of the stream the banks have been preserved for some distance back — mostly because occasional floods made development unwise.

The next step in the project is the detailed planning of this 6 km section.

The Cocco's report recommends that the public bodies, such as the Wildlife Society and the Witwatersrand Bird Club be called in for advice and physical help in creating sanctuaries.

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The rape of Hout Bay

HOUT Bay, the "jewel of the Peninsula", has become a festering sore according to residents. With the beaches fouled with rotting offal from the fish factories, tibre glass in the surf from the industrial area, choking fumes in the air from the fishmeal ovens and sewage in the sea it seems as if they have a point.

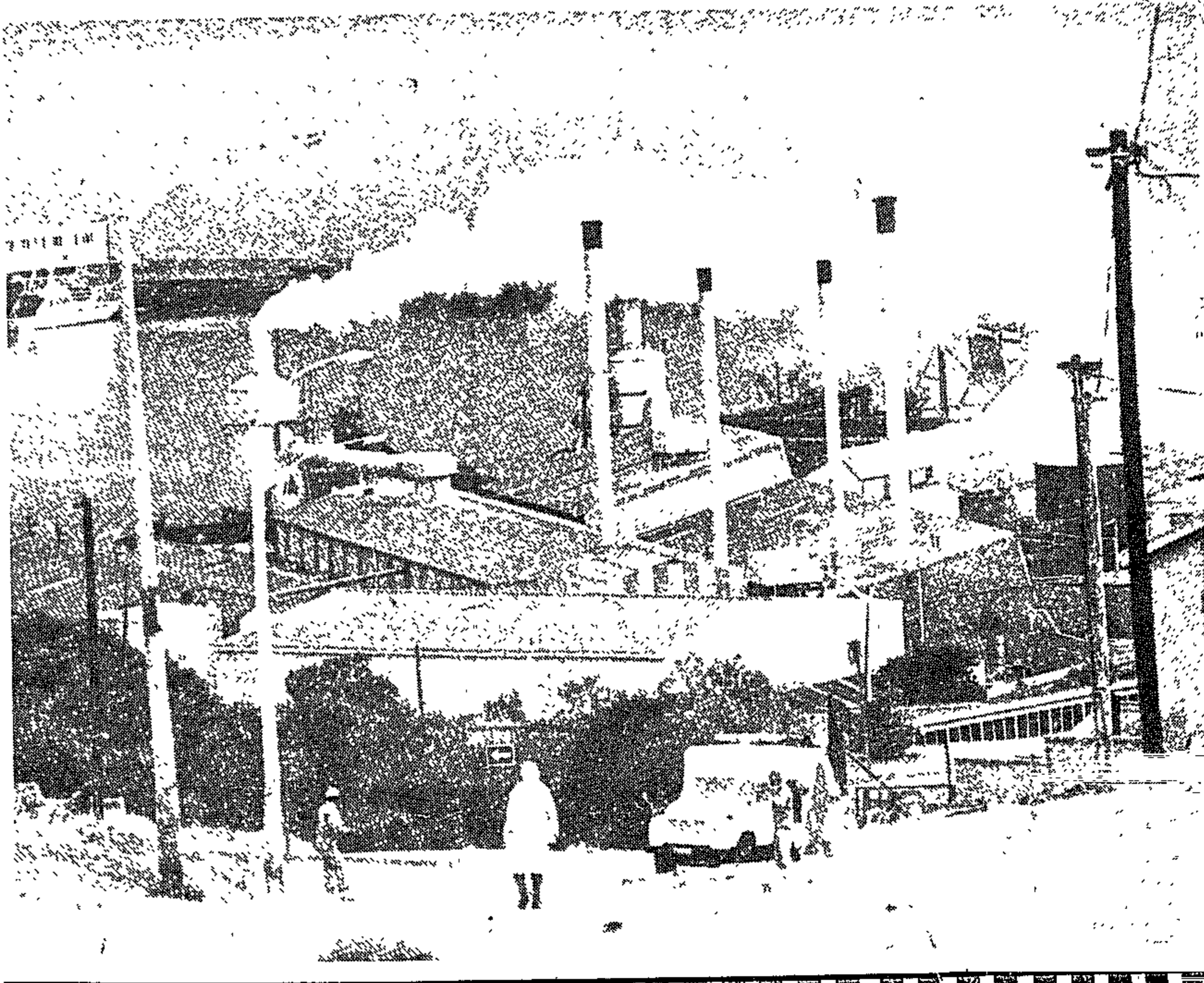
The Cape Times went to have a look at working Hout Bay, the part which tourists seldom see. It was an eye-opener. Effluent from factories poured into the harbour, a sewage pipeline dribbled across the rocks, burning refuse smouldered at a coastal tip and factory vans coolly tossed plastic bags and other rubbish into the sea.

The picture above shows the visible fumes from the fishmeal factory stretching for kilometres up into the Hout Bay valley. The

greasy smoke clings to clothing and exposed laundry, smells of burnt fish and has been known to cause vomiting in children. Newspaper records show that ratepayers have complained to the Divisional Council medical officer of health for more than 20 years without any change in the situation.

One of the factory chimneys is shown below, an industrial area set in the middle of an area of prime scenic beauty. **Top left:** Factory workers live in cramped rows of sub-economic flats, surrounded by rubble, scrub, sand and polluted air. **Bottom left:** another view of Hout Bay "fishing village" showing an air-polluted valley in the background and a foreground of filth and litter. The bins shown were visited on four successive days and remained un-emptied.

Pictures by Dan Bosman



CAPE Times 3/4/80

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Magaliesberg

STAR 27/3/80

Which course will prevail in the end?

With the big Magaliesberg conference less than a month away — a conference that will help decide the direction of the Rand's most important conservation region — JASPER MORTIMER of The Star's CARE campaign reviews the conflicting arguments.

Two bodies, the Department of Nature Conservation and the Magaliesberg Protection Association, have separate plans for the 120 km-long mountain range that stretches from Pretoria to Rustenburg.

The Department wishes to expropriate the whole range and turn it into a nature reserve. This will entail buying about 30 000 ha of hillside, fencing it off, and stocking it with large herds of game.

There will be numerous hiking trails for the public, but access will be limited according to the vulnerability of the flora and fauna around the particular trail. The Department will not expropriate any pleasure resorts, such as those near Hartbeespoort Dam, but will ask several of them to restrict entry to the trails.

The MPA plan calls for Parliament to set up a Magaliesberg management board to control the region. The board would curtail the building of roads, powerlines, and the exploitation of mineral deposits.

The board would comprise representatives of the local and state authorities (who would finance it) as well as the landowners and interested societies such as the Mountain Club and Wildlife Society.

The Transvaal Administrator would appoint the board's chairman.

In the middle of this debate sit you, the Johannesburg who likes "to get away from it all" on weekends.

The rivers, kloofs

and wilderness of the Magaliesberg lie less than an hour's drive from the most densely populated part of South Africa.

The range's proximity is both its chief attraction and its vulnerability.

The question is, how should it serve the people and be conserved?

Earlier this month, the MPA put forward its plan at a symposium. Mr Kevin Gill, an attorney, spoke on the legal implications Mr Hugh Roberts spoke for the Magaliesberg farmers, and Mr Peter Milstein answered questions on behalf of the Department of Nature Conservation.

Next month, on April 17 and 18, the MPA's and Department's plans will be thrashed out at a multi-lateral conference in a Rustenburg hotel.

These are the issues and the comments they have evoked recently:

● Is the Government likely to create a management board?

Mr Gill: We must not be timid in pushing for something new. Here we have the most heavily-used mountain in South Africa, apart from Table Mountain, next to the most populous area. We deserve a management board.

Mr Milstein: To me, it's pie in the sky. I cannot see it going through because you are asking for vast powers over private land. I am not saying the Department is the best body to conserve the Magaliesberg, but I

am saying we can do it.

Mr James Watson, town planner: Municipalities have such land, why can't a mapowers over private management board have similar powers?

● Will the Magaliesberg be secure in the Department's hands

Mr Gill: The department has proved to be unable to withstand the pressures from other departments (eg Roads) that are incompatible with conservation.

Mr Milstein: We can be overruled by the Administrator in executive committee, but is he going to do it? We do not kowtow to other departments, we managed to kill a plan for a road going through the Suikerbosrand.

Advocate H F Ju-

nod, a landowner, wrote a feature in The Star asking if in the future there were to be pressure for the public to have greater access to the range than would be good for its ecology, could the Department withstand the move?

Mr Milstein: We do not allow the habitat to deteriorate, because that is not conservation.

● Does the Department manage its reserves well?

Several critics say the Department spoiled the Rustenburg Kloof by allowing a road to be built to the top of it. Advocate Junod asked whether the State's achievements at Blyde River Canyon and Suikerbosrand set a good example for the Magaliesberg.

Mr Milstein: The road at Rustenburg

was not our responsibility, but it will allow people who are not strong walkers to reach the top. I don't want to boast, but we have had 4 000 visitors a day walking through our information centre at Blyde River, and they have been laudatory in their praises. The Suikerbosrand will be opened to the public later this year, but those persons who saw it by arrangement were impressed.

● When will the Department make its plan public?

Mr Milstein: "It is not a secret plan. We have given lectures on it to the Wildlife Society, Rustenburg Rapportryers and others. But we will not allow the public to see the plan documents. I cannot say when these will be made public."

A farmer at the symposium: What bugs me is that we have never been approached by the Department. Last year surveyors started surveying on a private stand without the owner knowing what was going on.

Dr G Batchelor of the Department: Your information is wrong, there has been no surveying yet. We will inform farmers before going on to their lands to survey.

● Why expropriate the land of those farmers who do conserve the mountain and grant limited access to the public at no cost to the taxpayer?

Mr Milstein: We want to conserve the mountain as a complete ecological system. You can only do that

as a unit. There's no guarantee the enlightened attitudes of some farmers will continue into the future. What if one of them sells out to a hotel?

● Can the department control fires better than the 400 landowners, many of whom depend on the grass for their livelihood?

Mr Milstein: The farmers' attitudes to fires vary greatly. Some farmers will go to great pains to extinguish fires, others will do nothing. In general, we can control fires better over the entire range.

● Compensation to farmers.

Mr Roberts said expropriation gave farmers a raw deal because (a) no amount of money could compensate for a mountain source of water, (b) the State undervalued hillside land in the erroneous belief that grazing there was not as valuable as grazing on the flats.

Mr Milstein: We will not interfere with water supplies. Those who have rights to water will continue to enjoy them. In fact, we will augment the supply by better management in some places. As to hillside grazing, we have expert opinion that it is not as valuable as that on the flats.

● Veld management.

Mr Pierre Retief of Retief's Kloof in a letter to The Star's Editor: If farmers are taken out of the mountains, the veld will deteriorate. If one does not stimulate grass by

grazing, the land soon deteriorates.

Mr Milstein: I disagree. We will try to use large herds of game to implement optimal grazing without any deterioration of the veld."

● Mineral deposits. Mining is a major threat to the range, not so much because of the Magaliesberg's resources, but because it usually takes priority over conservation.

A silica mine and clay quarries have already scarred one part of the mountainside. Recent prospectors near Castle Gorge cut roads through the bush and left the remains of their prefabricated huts. One MPA member, Mr Johann Billman, told the symposium the mine was "profit grabbing" as there were several silica deposits outside the Magaliesberg.

Neither a management board nor the department would be immune to the mining threat. Both could be overruled on that score.

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Some mountains are like theatres: in their valleys, on their slopes and in their kranzes and in their krantzes man acts out his frequently violent history. The Magaliesberg has often been a bloody stage.

In those peaceful prehistoric days primitive man fished the clear streams, hunted the vast herds that roamed the plains, and in his villages fashioned first stone and then iron tools.

Then came the drumming of savage feet as the great black tribes swept down from the north. Men were killed. Women were raped. The cliffs resounded with the cries of the grieving.

The tribes moved on and a time of peace followed. The Crocodile People built their beautiful rondavel-style huts in villages encircled by stone walls. Their cattle grazed in the valleys, and they sowed crops on the lands. But war came once more.

This time it was Mzilikazi's regiments. They attacked after sunset, butchered the old and the children, captured the women and enslaved the men and youths to be trained as warriors.

A year of seige left the country scarred with ruins, and the fields rank with weeds.

By now the white man's guns had sent explosive echoes among the mountain kloofs and the big game fell daily to the eagle-rifles. But the Magaliesberg was not at war. Not then.

On October 11 1899 war was declared between Britain and the two republics, Transvaal and the Orange Free State. Little more than a year later while men were slaughtering one another at Kommando Nek, Nootgedacht, and in the deep gorges along the ridge.

Deney's Journal, his Boer War journal, Commands, describes a particularly violent skirmish: "When they (the British) saw our men retire in confusion they set up loud shouts of triumph. Sung by their cries our whole force, on some sudden impulse, started to its feet and went pouring forward.

"There was no stopping us now, and we swept on shouting and yelling, men dropping freely as we went. Almost before we knew it, we were swarming over

Magaliesberg: role to play in man's survival

S-TAR 9/4/80 56

The Magaliesberg - the most important recreational area of the Pretoria/Witwatersrand region - is to be the subject of a two-day conference on April 17-18. Mike Nicol, writing for The Star's CARE campaign, looks at the prehistory, history and natural history of that 120 km mountain chain.

The walls, shooting and clubbing in hand-to-hand conflict. It was sharp work.

"I have a confused recollection of fending bayonet thrusts and firing point-blank into men's faces; then of soldiers running to the rear or putting up their hands, and as we stood patting the barricades, we could scarcely realise that the fight was won.

CULTURAL

"Our losses were severe. On the ground across which we had charged lay a trail of dead and wounded."

To archaeologist Professor Revil Mason, the Magaliesberg and its environs is "one of the richest parts of Africa for the study of the beginnings of farming, mining and settled community life in Africa."

He says the record of early black achievement and development over 1500 years is probably better in the Magalies Valley than anywhere south of the Sahara.

Undoubtedly the Magaliesberg is one of South Africa's great cultural heritages. But it is more than that. It is a valuable natural asset which has an immense role to play in the future development of the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging complex.

Elephant rhino, hippo, lion, and buffalo have gone, but all the smaller mammals that were found on this range are still at home there: Kudu, bush-buck, klipspringer, aardvark, brown henna, otter, jackal, antelope, leopard, civet are just a few of the 91 species of mammals that inhabit the mountain.

It is a rich range. There are 750 species of plants, 120 species of butterfly, 500 species of moths, 1000 species of beetles, and probably a grand total of 5,000 insect species.

A two-day conference to pull together the often conflicting views of conservationists, archaeologists, mountaineers, industrialists, and the authorities and land-owners, is to be held next week (April 17 and 18) at the Hunters' Rest Hotel, Rustenburg. Several illustrated talks will be given on various aspects of the Magaliesberg by experts.

The conference, organised by the Wildlife Society is open to the public who should apply to the society at PO Box 44344, Linden 2104. The R35 fee covers accommodation and meals.

In fact a report prepared by the Magaliesberg Protection Association points out that considerably more species occur in this restricted region than in the whole of the British Isles.

Of the 40 species of snakes found in the mountain, the Magaliesberg forms a boundary to the distribution of 24 of these species in the highveld/bushveld region. Twenty of the species are virtually absent south of the range, while the remaining four are not at home in the north.

If any creature has acted as a public relations officer for the mountain it is the Cape vulture. For centuries this magnificent bird has been the range's health inspector and refuse remover by cleaning up carcasses. Now, according to Dr John Ledger, of the Vulture Study Group, the Cape vulture is the most endangered bird of prey in Africa.

Two vulture colonies, one at Skeepoort overlooking Hartbeespoort Dam and the other on the western edge of the range, have probably witnessed as much of the human drama as the mountain itself.

Yet today their chicks are deprived of calcium because there are no longer hyenas to crunch up the bones of a carcass and provide the small splinters which the chicks so desperately need.

To help them overcome this deficiency the Study Group has established "Vulcha restaurant" where carcasses and smashed bones are left for the birds.

Some of the other big birds that wheel above the mountain are: black eagles, martial eagles, fish eagles, the jackal buzzard and the blue crane.

"The impact of man on the range is not as yet severe with the result that much of the fauna and flora retains its original character," comments the association's report.

"But a great deal still remains to be learnt about the plants and animals indigenous to the area. Very little direct study of them has been made to date and little or nothing is known of their overall ecological framework. It would be a considerable loss if man were to unwittingly allow this natural storehouse to be edged out of existence."

The Magaliesberg is a threatened range. Despite its proclamation as a natural area in 1977, it is not inviolate. The Mines Department can still give permission for its exploitation and provincial geologists already exist that will cut up the mountain with major roads.

EXPLOITING

The Magaliesberg Association feels that only landowners who are thoughtless exploiters of the mountain should be exploited. That way the Province would be enlisting "the active participation of the true enthusiasts."

The State and the Province have already severely scarred the mountain. Insensitive and holiday resorts in at the natural features. Nine roads slice up the vegetation and by the time the Province is finished there will be 22 mines dig into the hills.

side, pylons march over summits, and radio masts spoil the skyline. Chicken factories with steel roofs glare in the sun, farms are overgrazed and motorcyclists tear around the mountain over weekends. Says Professor Mason: "An entirely new range of environmental controls must be applied to prevent further deterioration of the environment, to repair the damage done to the Magaliesberg environment and to develop the resource management on a scale not yet seen in southern Africa.

"We need control of building plans to prevent fake Bryanston style villas springing up in our Magaliesberg garden. We need control of farming to force chicken factories on to the waste mainland where they belong.

"We need new kinds of traffic control to conduct motorcycles on to Kyalami and Springs Spas."

The important future role of the Magaliesberg will be as a recreation area for the urban millions on the Rand.

Sociologists and planners have long pointed out the need for city dwellers to have natural areas if they are to survive among skyscrapers and canyon-like streets.

Explains the association's report: "Nature has a critical place in the new ecological structure that

has been fashioned by mankind in that it provides a point of stability in relating the urban scene to the whole environment."

Basically this means that man needs the simplicity and quiet of nature if he is to survive in a city that continually bombards him with sounds, sights, and incidents.

Mountains are fragile, and the Magaliesberg would soon be worn down beneath the rubber soles of the thousands flocking to its slopes. What is needed is a filtering system of open spaces and parks leading from the heart of the city along the suburbs' ridges and valleys across the plains to the mountain.

CAMPING

As the association's report states, this does not exclude more caravan camps, camping sites and picnic spots being built around Hartbeespoort, Buffelspoort and Olifantsnek, after all these are the areas where most people will want to go. Only a very small proportion will want to use the mountain itself.

The Magaliesberg has a long and fascinating history and as Professor Mason says, "it must obviously become the garden of the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging urban areas."

Recycling could mean millions for Sowetans

(5-6) STAR 8/11/80

Soweto rubbish might become a source of wealth when a R100 000 recycling plant is opened in the township later this year.

The plant will be commissioned by the Keep South Africa Tidy campaign and its black associate, the National Environmental Awareness Council (Neac).

KSAT's Dave Jackson estimates that Soweto throws away about R2 700 000 worth of tin

cans, plastic, glass and paper a year.

The plant will have a compacter machine for baling the cans and will be served by a fleet of trucks bringing in refuse from all over the township.

The building plans are ready, permission has been granted for the site, so all the project needs is the go-ahead from the financial backers.

In another move, KSAT and Neac are appealing to

private companies to give money to turn 300 Soweto dumping sites into playgrounds.

Neac's labour force — thousands of Soweto pupils — will clear the sites.

KSAT estimates it will cost R10 000 to turn one site into a play park. This includes the cost of landscaping the area, building toilets, buying swings, slides, seesaw, and roundabouts, and maintaining the equipment.

EXAMINATION RESULTS IN FACULTY ARTS

YEAR : 2

AS AT 29 02 80

PAGE 2

15026

STUD NO	SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	SYMBOL	MARKS	REGISTRATION NO
15026	B.A./LL.B.						
133011C	SCHWEITZER	ANTHONY GIDEON	604201	ROMAN DUTCH LAW I	2- (61)	1	133011C
1349659	SMITH	ROBERT TRAVERS	105103	LATIN I	F (41)	3	1349658
1351059	SMUTS	PETER WEFSTER	605202	ROMAN LAW & JURISPRUDENCE IUP	(54)	1	1351958
100311J	SNYMAN	GRAHAM THEODURE	603202	ROMAN LAW & JURISPRUDENCE IUP	(51)	1	100311J
132288R	SONNENBERG	GRAHAM JOHN	604201	ROMAN DUTCH LAW I	UP (66)	1	132288R
136545T	STRAUSS	JENNIFER SUSANNE	105104	LATIN I	UP (62)	1	136545T
133262A	TRIP		105104	LATIN I	F (47)	3	133262A
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Water pollution research

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17/4/80
D.D.

PRETORIA — Uitenhage had become a research centre for controlling water pollution from the textile industry, says the Water Research Commission.

A pilot plant for the treatment and recycling of effluents, and the recovery of process chemicals in textile manufacturing, had been successfully developed at Veldspun; and an investigation into the treatment of wool scouring effluent would soon be launched at Gubb and Inggs.

headed by its chairman, Dr M. Henzen. Representatives of interested government departments, the textile industry, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and the University of Natal participated. — SAPA.

The work at Veldspun was undertaken by the University of Natal's Department of Chemical Engineering, under contract to the Water Research Commission.

At Gubb and Inggs, research will be done by the University and the South African Wool Textile Research Institute, under contract to the Water Research Commission.

"Although the two factories are making significant input into the research by way of facilities and manpower, the work is undertaken for the benefit of the South African textile industry as a whole," the statement said.

A demonstration of the pilot plant process at Veldspun was held during visits to the factory and to Gubb and Inggs this week by members of the Water Research Commission.

employed by the firm, even the hired on a similar variety of (that is, borrow) capital funds plant and equipment. The on longer-term loans is con- period and the firm continues even during recessions when us is lower. The firm also uses usually bank loans, of a few at interest rates that are more term business conditions than borrowing rates. These short-aid off ("laid-off" or "unem- a firm reduces output in tran-

used in the firm is available risk-bearing, insuring arrange- ms to make risk sharing ar- te employer, probably because its (less security) for an em-

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A demonstration of the pilot plant process at Veldspun was held during visits to the factory and to Gubb and Inggs this week by members of the Water Research Commission.

There is an understanding that despite usual transient shocks, misfortunes, and even each would stay with the other, with the employ bearing the risks of those fluctuations and assu ing a relatively steady income to these "tenured" higher-security employees over the longer interval. During short recessions, the firm would not so quickly lay off those employees and would maintain their wages. Other unemployed people would, of course, like to get those maintenance jobs during that transient recession. But the employer would not hire them, even at lower wages to displace his "tenured" employees. We therefore observe many employers retaining workers at wages higher than those asked by other people seeking those jobs during transient decreases demand for the firm's product. He honors tacit agreement with his "tenured," senior employees. Otherwise, he would increase his long run costs of getting employees during future normal conditions, because employees would not so willingly work for contract violators.

A relatively stable business will have less risk in providing such assurance. A firm that makes a larger variety of products with higher probability of offsetting fluctuations in the demand for its various products can give more employment security by transferring employees from one product line to another.

Governments and some nonprofit enterprises which respectively derive incomes from taxes or investments rather than from customer sales give greater security of employment for lower wages. Initially government jobs with greater security paid less, as in the post office. But recent legislation requiring pay equal to that of private firms will create an excessive demand for those jobs if that equality of pay is not offset by disadvantages the more secure job.

less of the firm's fortunes. They agree to more assured employment at an assured (but slightly lower than otherwise) return. The employer then bears more of the risks of the future transient fluctuations in the net value of the products, net of the relatively constant, assured costs of those inputs. The employer maintains the wages and employment by using fluctuation-smoothing buffer inventories of goods and borrowed funds. When demand for products of the firm fall temporarily (the owner hopes), he retains those employees—at various, probably less-useful tasks. And during these arrangements have tacitly agreed on their part not to leave the firm for transiently higher wages that might be available elsewhere.

Call for STAR 19/4/80 one-man inquiry on Magalies

By Jasper Mortimer

RUSTENBURG — The MP for Maitland, Mr Kent Durr, has called for a one-man commission of inquiry to be appointed to investigate how the Magaliesberg should be administered.

Speaking at a conference on the Magaliesberg Range, Mr Durr said the commission's function would be to co-ordinate the views of the various parties concerned.

"It should not sit for ever because so much background work has been done."

He referred to the "outstanding" success of the Hay Commission into Table Mountain which reported in 1979.

Dr Douglas Hay, director of Nature Conservation in the Cape, had "created unanimity" for the administration of an area, which like the Magaliesberg, falls under numerous authorities and land owners.

"While we have excellent conservation authorities at government, provincial and municipal levels, they are not geared to dealing with areas such as Table Mountain and the Magaliesberg which have a plethora of owners."

"These areas must be dealt with by a management committee."

By management committee he was referring to the new Physical Planning Bill which provides for the appointment of such committees to administer land that has been proclaimed a natural area. The Magaliesberg was so proclaimed in 1977.

RATIONALISED

Mr Durr also said that the conservation bodies in South Africa are to be rationalised.

"I don't want to speak in advance of the Minister of Forestry, Water Affairs and Environmental Conservation but you will find that conservation is going to be rationalised."

The various private bodies, such as the Council of Habitat together with Government and Provincial Conservation Boards, are going to be brought under one authority.

more independently of his select his ownership of that house. By renting our wealth depend on the of owning one, you avoid preferred basis. By renting them on a selective, dis-hip entitlements to goods—the new owners. People transferred to the most will- is. With a private-property hanging values (profits and own certain goods, you

s, not you; if it lasts longer. If the oil well does dry up, value of that oil that other sell the well to him. You ing up can be transferred. Example, the risk of an oil- you can insure for some you can't buy insurance, divorce, or dull children, and demands shift away on your land, or having against your oil well going to escape the risks. You are not formally insurable,

is an insurance company insures.

Claims for indemnity against losses would exceed hazard diminishes the feasibility of insurance. "Influence the chances of the loss." This "more increased shirking. He could too easily and covering on the insurance to indemnify him for his entice a retailer to be less productive while re- against bad business or loss of customers would cause they are not accidental enough. Insurance Some accidental losses are not insurable to accident losses.

reduction of anxiety may exceed the increase avoidance of precautionary resource-use and insurance than without (as they may well be), losses. Yet even if total losses are greater decrease or increase total social accident to protection than with it. So insurance may either may devote more resources and care and anxiety with insurance; for without insurance, Otherwise, precautionary incentives might be insured person is often required to take special precautions as a condition of getting insurance the probability of the contingent event. Each insurance also may induce people to change insurance premium.

large loss for the certainty of a small loss—insurance trades each person's small chance of sufferers of any insured, actual losses. In general, premiums are supposed to be large enough to insure premium. These accumulated premiums are supposed to be large enough to provide the form of sure, regular, small fees, called spreading them over the group that bears the losses people often insure. They share losses by spreading damage (such as from fire or flood or theft) Because of risks of losses of wealth from physical

Insurance: Pooling Risks

The Star

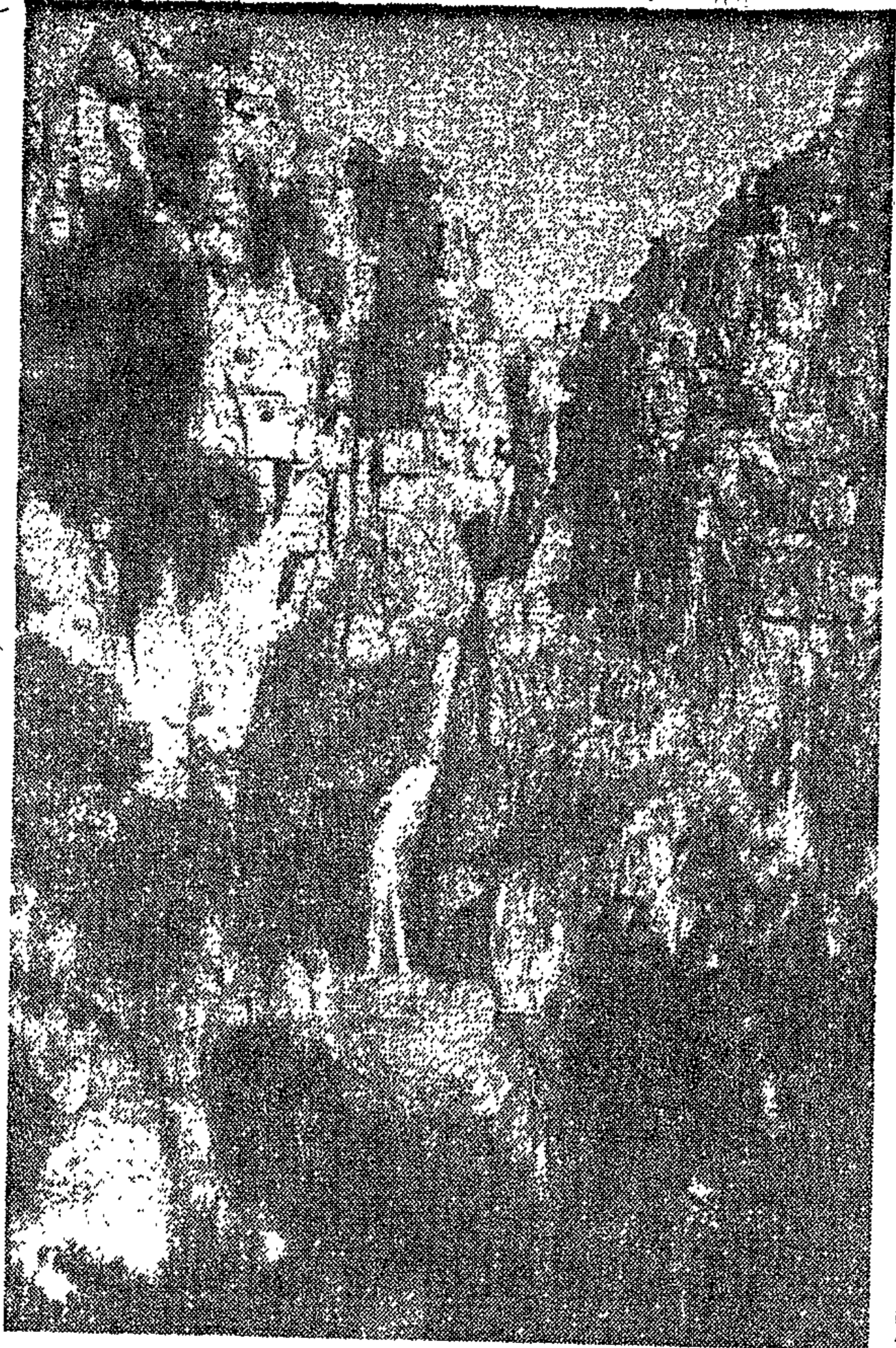
The Star Wednesday April 23 1980

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE

The recent conference on the Magaliesberg could be a watershed in the conservation of the Pretoria-Witwatersrand's best feature. JASPER MORTIMER of The Star's CARE campaign reports.

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Search for a formula to save a mountain



ABOVE: This 1500-year-old skeleton belongs to an ancient village in the Magaliesberg. Once reconstructed, the village could be opened to the public. LEFT From Castle Gorge's cliffs a waterfall drops into cold, clear pools. This part of the Magaliesberg is threatened by an application to open a silica mine.

The recent all-party conference on the Magaliesberg lasted two days, but it could have ended years of uncertainty about how the range is to be conserved.

When the 150 delegates arrived at a Rustenburg hotel on the weekend, Transvaal Nature Conservation was planning to expropriate the range. The Magaliesberg farmers were angrily, even tearfully, deploring any such move.

The Roads Department was proposing another 10 highways through the area. Escom was considering two more power lines. The SADF was speaking of the region's suitability for "war games."

Wits Professor Reval Mason was bustling around telling everyone to "lay off the archaeology sites." And one of the Wildlife Society hosts said solemnly, "Without nature, man is dead."

The only thing everybody agreed on, as we stood warming ourselves in the early morning sun, was the conference's locality. We were looking at the kloof where in 1836 Cornwallis Harris chased elephants into "country that was beautiful beyond description."

The enormous herds of roan antelope and buffalo are gone, but the mountain still stands proud against an infinitely blue sky.

Management body

By the end of the conference, none of the various proposals had been shelved. But the sensitivities aroused had led to the tacit understanding that any plan should be approved by an all-party body.

Fortunately, provision for such a body, called a management committee, is contained in

the Physical Planning Bill which will become law this session.

Under this act, the Minister of Forestry, Water Affairs and Environmental Conservation would appoint a committee representing the relevant State departments, local authorities, farmers, landowners and anyone he deemed fit.

The committee's basic function would be advisory, but the Minister might devolve on it specific powers regarding the region's control.

Sceptics of government initiative will be surprised to hear that the motion calling for a management committee was triggered by a State employee.

Unanimous motion

When the conference was bogged down in talks about where to go next, Mr A T Gouws of the Department of Forestry pointed out that the Hay commission into Table Mountain's conservation came into being before the new Bill. He suggested the conference should nominate a committee for the Department to consider.

Immediately another man on the floor turned Mr Gouws's idea into a motion. It was quickly seconded and passed unanimously.

The conference agreed:

- The archaeological ruins had to be fenced off from the public. Professor Mason said once they had been reconstructed, the sites could earn hard cash. Tourists would not mind paying a rand or two to see how man lived 1500 years ago and Voortrekker homesteads of the mid-1800s.

The Canadians had sunk 27 million dollars into reconstructing Fort William on the shores of Hudson Bay. The fort was opened to

the public in 1970. By 1974 every cent had been paid back in tourist revenue.

- Fire control had to be urgently organised on a large-scale basis. While some farmers never shirked climbing the mountain to put out what picnickers had started, other farms were owned by absentee landlords who did nothing.

The Department of Forestry said it had divided the range into three fire control areas and offered financial assistance to the farmers if they organised themselves into anti-fire units. The farmers had yet to take up the offer.

- The way to protect the Magaliesberg while allowing recreation was to demarcate public areas from limited-access areas.

Mr James Clarke of The Star's CARE campaign said surveys of tourist spots in America and Britain had found that about 96 percent of visitors clustered around the public resorts. Only 4 percent bothered to climb the mountain or explore the wilderness behind the resorts.

Wilder parts

By allowing resorts to develop in the Magaliesberg's public areas, one would "filter off" the masses from the more vulnerable terrain. So the wilder parts would be left to that small percentage of visitors who need them and are more likely to look after them.

- To conserve an area, the State did not have to buy up all the land. The Transvaal director of Nature Conservation, Dr S S du Plessis, said his department had proposed to expropriate the ridge since it saw no other way of creating a reserve from land that belonged to about 400 different farmers.

Professor Richard Fuggle of the University of Cape Town's School of Environmental Studies said State ownership was not necessary to create a public park.

"It is possible to have privately owned land used as a public park. We need only look at Britain to see this in practice."

Mr Kent Durr MP (Nationalist, Matieland) agreed. He said instead of costly expropriation, South Africa should move towards incorporating private land in conservation areas. Britain had some 250 000 people living within such areas.

- No road, no building, no development should be allowed in the Magaliesberg until the plans fulfil certain environmental criteria.

Population growth

With the industrial development of Bophuthatswana and the population growth in Pretoria-Witwatersrand, the range will have to give way to roads, power lines and tourist resorts. But their impact can be minimised by tightening the requirements of construction plans. All plans should detail reasons for the scheme, projections of its effect on the environment, and provisions for minimising that effect.

As the conference's legal expert, Dr Denis Cowen, said: "Bad reasons invariably bear their own death wound."

Moreover, if one authority, say a management committee, passed all the plans, it could confine construction to specific corridors. Escom's Mr J R Vandeventer told how his company had considered spending an extra R3 million to avoid spoiling Breed's Nek with power lines. Then it found the province was planning to put a road through the Nek anyway.

Dr. Denis Cowen, Johannesburg's chief law adviser, can be as crusty as a big wet bear when he chooses. The balance in numbers between his friends and enemies probably favours the former.

But he looks after his enemies by keeping them in a fine state of exasperation.

One of his associates told me: "He has a mind like a scalpel. It can slide easily through a confused argument and excise all irrelevancies spilling very little blood."

"He has his enemies. Any man with a difficult mission has his enemies. But he really doesn't deserve any because he is a supreme diplomat."

Dr Cowen's mission is to obtain a law that will protect the ordinary man in the street from secret planning and from bad planning.

He wants all big developments to be backed by what are called environmental impact assessments (EIA). And EIAs are to be developed, especially official developers, as a red rag to a bull.

An EIA is simply this: it is a public report which discusses fully and frankly (as Cowen puts it) the expected side effects as well as the advantages of any big development. The EIA must be issued at an early enough stage in planning for the public, and its independent experts, to suggest improvements.

What happens at the moment is that a road developer, let us say, finishes his plan and then "confronts" the public with it. Government planners have produced plans of enormous scope, a plan that might have taken years to work out — and then given the public only 30 days to study it and object.

I suspect it's a trick of his to force a listener to concentrate. His words are deftly chosen, almost savoured.

He believes South Africa has been caught up in the world-wide environmental revolution. There are big changes coming. Here are some of them:

● Conservation is likely to come under a new ministry soon — a coordinating ministry. The management of the country's wildlife resource (the resource is valuable as a protein reservoir and for the growing tourist industry) is at the moment fragmented between several agencies. For nearly a decade The Star's CARE campaign has campaigned for a Minister of Wildlife and Natural Resources. Now we may get one.

● The Environmental Planning Act has been repealed. It allowed planning authorities to plan in secret and gave the public far too little time to digest the import of guide-plans which could radically affect their lives.

● The Physical Planning Bill now before Parliament entrenches a high degree of public participation at an early stage in the planning processes of guide plans.

● The Physical Planning Bill also allows for land owners to remain on their land once it is proclaimed a nature reserve and help control development and management.

● There is a new frankness creeping into some aspects of provincial planning. At the recent Magaliesberg conference, Dr S S du Plessis, director of nature conservation, apologised for calling for the expropriation of the Magaliesberg without first consulting the farmers and confirmed a new deal in future.

● Johannesburg, Randburg and Sandton have formed a joint body to conserve the Braamfontein Spruit as a 25 km parkland and has agreed to use the project as a model for further riverine parks.



DR DENIS V COWEN

● Suburban residents groups are attracting more and more professional experts to their ranks and packing more political clout.

● More and more historical buildings and sites are being preserved following two significant public victories — the saving of Markham's and of Pretoria's Church Square.

● Air pollution in city centres is declining.

● More attention is being paid to noise pollution which is being recognised as pollution nuisance number one.

● Environmental studies are compulsory in schools.

It is in the Physical Planning Bill that Dr Cowen sees the most hope for the time being. "In it are the seeds of an adequate solution to the problem of people feeling they are being planned upon.

"It is good legislation. I have two criticisms of it: first I believe the advisory committees it envisages for such areas as the Magaliesberg could be given more executive power. Second, I would like to see Clause 14 changed — it exempts roads, railways and provincial administrations from certain key provisions.

"But with these reservations in mind, I believe we should welcome this move. There is a sincerity behind the Bill which is refreshing.

"But this country urgently needs a little more law — not a great deal, just a little more — if environmental planning is to be improved. I believe environmental impact assessments are

Is South Africa undergoing an environmental revolution? Several radical moves are afoot. JAMES CLARKE, of The Star's CARE campaign, examines with some of them and discusses with an environmental lawyer what might be the most important environmental move of all.



The National Transport Commission's concrete highway whose noise levels and routing have caused much misery north of Johannesburg. Its developers were not required to examine the impacts of noise nor to discuss its design and routing with the public. Could it have been better planned? Almost certainly it could have but it will require a new law to avoid such arbitrary planning in future.

Signs of Light

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24/4/80
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"But this country urgently needs a little more law — not a great deal, just a little more — if environmental planning is to be improved. I believe environmental impact assessments are

has not worked. But Dr Cowen's compulsory disclosure would still allow a developer to go ahead with a project even after producing an EIA that causes a public storm.

But at least he would have been forced to go through a great deal of soul-searching and self-appraisal, something which is often lacking in some of the developments which have been inflicted upon a helpless public in recent years.

The need for such a law was illustrated at the Magaliesberg conference when Mr J R van Deventer, an engineer who is now Escorn's environmental consultant. (A most interesting move by Escorn. Mr van Deventer came across as a knowledgeable and sincere environmentalist).

He told how Escorn had spent a considerable sum of money devising ways to avoid spoiling a beautiful area in the Magaliesberg with a line of pylons. It found a way.

And then along came the Transval roads department and planned a road through the area. Was there an alternative route for that road? What will be the impact of this road be on the nature area? Just how painstaking was the department in seeking a less sensitive route? Was the road in fact necessary? What were the province's reasons? Did they use consultants and did they consult with all concerned?

An EIA law would have forced them to consider these important questions and to have discussed their findings publicly before the plans were cut and dried.

It has produced a polarisation between the authorities and their planning authorities. Private enterprise can be just as bad.

In other words, as Mr Kent Durr, Nationalist MP for Matieland, said at a recent conference: "The public is called in only at the point of confrontation. There is no co-operation."

Dr Cowen, former professor of law at Chi-

● The Institute of Civil Engineers, traditionally suspicious of public participation in planning, has embarked on a year-long campaign to nurture public understanding of their profession.

● Soweto is undergoing steady environmental improvement encouraged by a new awareness among the young.

● Alexandra Township is the centre of official and voluntary attention to improve its quality of life.

and it is not required to give its reasons for doing so. Nor is it required by law to spell out in detail the reasons behind such massive projects as the infamous Southern Transval road grid which has caused widespread community disruption, financial hardship and which threatens continued urban sprawl.

"The wholesome discipline of giving reasons, might be a little painful, but it leads to better planning and better decision-making." In fact the whole principle of being compelled to produce EIA's for public scrutiny, he says, takes a very unusual architectural hardness to examine in depth all possible manifest self-discipline

Police test lethal spray to destroy dagga

A herbicide described as "highly dangerous" has been used by the South African Police in an experiment to destroy dagga plants in a remote region of the country.

Paraquat, the trade name for paradipryridyl dimethochloride, was used on one occasion in an experiment conducted by the SAP in conjunction with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to test its effectiveness on immature dagga plants.

The same herbicide was used in an American-funded programme to wipe out dagga plantations in Mexico.

But, according to a spokesman for the National Institute on Drug Abuse in Washington, the programme was halted and paraquat withdrawn when it was discovered that contami-

By WYNTER MURDOCH

nated dagga could cause severe lung damage.

"Paraquat was withdrawn in the summer of 1978. We regard it as a highly dangerous substance," it was stated.

Professor D A H Taylor, of the department of chemistry at the University of Natal, said he had been astounded to learn that paraquat had been described as a "harmless" herbicide.

"It is anything but harmless. It is a nasty, vicious substance that can kill in nasty, vicious ways."

According to his files a lethal

dose of paraquat was about 15 g. In lesser doses there was a "delayed toxicity" that became apparent about two to three weeks after absorption.

"Basically paraquat attacks the lungs. It makes them grow. The substance can be absorbed through the skin, inhaled or taken by mouth.

"The only time that paraquat is harmless is when it has come into contact with the ground. It is a highly ionized chemical and is deactivated when it comes into contact with the earth."

It was widely used by the agricultural sector because of this property.

Professor Vic Leary, head of

the department of pharmacology at the University of Natal medical school, said that if paraquat was absorbed in a toxic quantity "within 48 hours the person would experience symptoms of kidney and liver dysfunction".

He cited a case of a 15-year-old boy who accidentally swallowed a mouthful of 20 per cent paraquat solution and died.

In lesser doses a person who absorbed paraquat could develop lung trouble after a latent period of about two weeks.

"Scarred fibrosis may occur and lead to death, while with very heavy doses the brain is affected and convulsions may occur."

Test

According to the statement released by the Police Directorate of Public Relations "a herbicide containing 200 g/litre paraquat was used on one occasion only in an experiment conducted by the SAP in conjunction with the CSIR to test its effectiveness on immature dagga plants. The herbicide has not as yet been put to use.

"The dosage effectively used in the experiment is 50 ml of the herbicide dissolved in 10 litres water and applied under pressure.

"As all herbicides can be regarded as harmful in one or another way this experiment was conducted in a remote spot on a small scale with the necessary precautionary measures.

"We are aware of the fact that a herbicide was used in Mexico to destroy dagga plants but we are unaware that it has been recently withdrawn.

"The herbicide used by the police in the experiment is locally obtainable in the trade. It is unknown whether it is imported or not."



Spraying dagga plants with paraquat in a "remote part of South Africa"

Police grab R100 000 drugs

Sunday Times Reporter
NARCOTICS Bureau detectives scored a major success yesterday when they intercepted 16 800 Mandrax tablets en route from Swaziland.

Two detectives, acting on a

tipoff from a police informer, arrested a 26-year-old man and his 35-year-old woman companion close to the Oshoek border post in the Eastern Transvaal and confiscated the consignment of habit-forming drugs.

The consignment, worth more than R100 000 at black market prices, is one of the largest hauls netted by police.

Both suspects are being held in custody at Carolina and are expected to appear in court early next week.

243 59
Soweto's
Mr Clean
COM 2/5/80
for world
conference

Staff Reporter

THE director of the National Environmental Awareness Council, Mr Japhta Lekgetho, has been invited to an international conference "on a clean world" which opens in Washington, in the United States, on Monday.

Mr Lekgetho, who has been dubbed Soweto's Mr Clean, flies from Jan Smuts to the United States tomorrow.

This invitation is an indication that our efforts in Soweto are recognised by the world. It boosts our resolve to be united in cleaning our area, said Mr Lekgetho, whose council is dedicated to eliminating rubbish and cleaning the environment.

Mr Lekgetho also said he was leaving for the US heartened by the fact that Mr Louis Rive, chairman of the Greater Soweto Planning Council, has given his blessings to the activities of the National Environmental Awareness Council in the townships.

He would be attending the conference with delegates from more than 18 nations.

BRIEFS

56 WDM 17/5/80
Comment invited on pollution Bill

A DRAFT Bill dealing with oil pollution of the sea was published in yesterday's Government Gazette for information and comment. The long title of the draft Bill reads: "To provide for prevention and combating of pollution of the sea by oil, to determine liability in certain respects for loss or damage caused by the discharge of oil from ships, tankers or offshore installations, and to provide for matters connected therewith." Representations or objections should be directed to the Director-General of Transport, Private Bag X193, Pretoria, 0001 within 60 days.

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After tin cans go out into the world, we do everything we can to get them back.

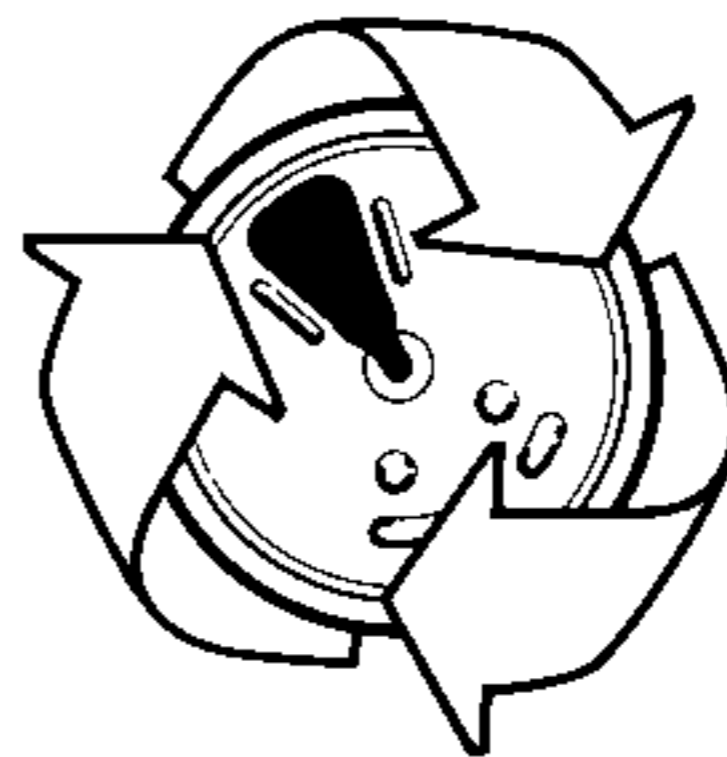


Left lying about, tin cans can be a pollution factor. Buried in the ground they waste an annual 100 000 tons, worth R1,8 million in recoverable tin plate. Two very good reasons why Metal Box, Crown Cork and Iscor have got together to recycle waste cans and stop both the pollution and the waste.

The Collect-a-Can scheme invites clubs, schools, charities, youth organisations, environmental bodies and municipalities in the Witwatersrand area* to collect waste cans in bulk. We will provide containers and a regular collection service and pay R18 per metric ton for all tin-plate collected. We will also give additional help in the way of free collection point signs and advice on how to get maximum benefit from participation.

Collect-a-Can means helping to keep South Africa tidy. It also means helping yourself to a tidy share of that R1,8 million every year.

Why not drop us a line? We'll give you all the help we can.



COLLECT-A-CAN DIVISION

Metal Box SA Limited

(Supported by Crown Cork and Iscor)
96 Side Road, West Turffontein, Johannesburg
P O Box 82237, Southdale, 2135, Tel 680-4553

*Shortly to be expanded to other areas.



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Today, Sasol One is the only commercially proven oil-from-coal plant in the world. Sasol Two, costing more than R2,4 billion, commenced production early in 1980. Sasol

Three, announced in February 1979 and now under construction at an estimated cost of R3,2 billion, will complete the present expansion of Sasol's synfuel production capacity.

Together, these three plants will convert more than 32 million tons of low-grade coal per year into liquid fuels, pipeline gas and chemicals, bringing the goal of energy self-sufficiency significantly closer to reality.

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Sasol - a proud pioneer in the successful application of tomorrow's technology to the energy needs of today.

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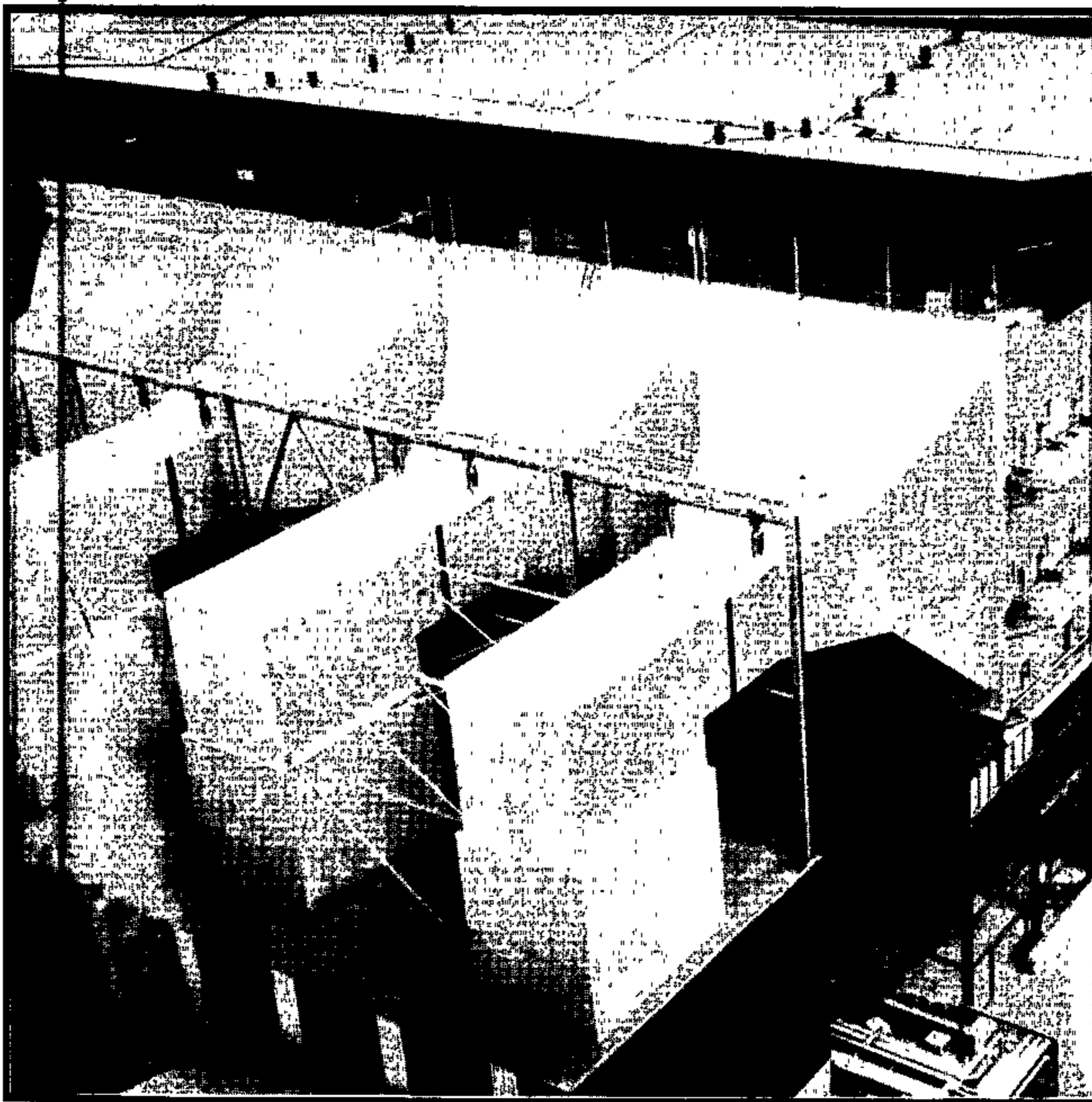
Sturtevant achievements ...here

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Now coming on stream is the new 630 MW coal fired boiler at Amercentrale, Holland. It is equipped with two Sturtevant "multitrap" electrofilters each with twin inlets and outlets (see illustration). These units are guaranteed to achieve a dust emission less than 26 mg/NM³(dry) Whilst this may be stringent, even by the most exacting international standards, in fact Sturtevant have, when dealing with some of the world's more difficult coals achieved under international test conditions, emissions as low as 7 mg/NM³(dry)

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An emotive issue

Pollution. Environment. Ecology. Buzzwords of the late Sixties and early Seventies when, after nearly a century of heedlessly fouling its own nest, the human race realised it was slowly choking itself to death.

As Nobel prizewinner Sir MacFarlane Burnet wrote rather desperately at the time: "Oxygen depletion through pollution is the most urgent problem facing mankind. It is even more urgent than the atom bomb. Everyone knows what will happen when the bomb button is pressed, but people do not realise the threat in pollution, and it is increasing steadily in the name of economic progress."

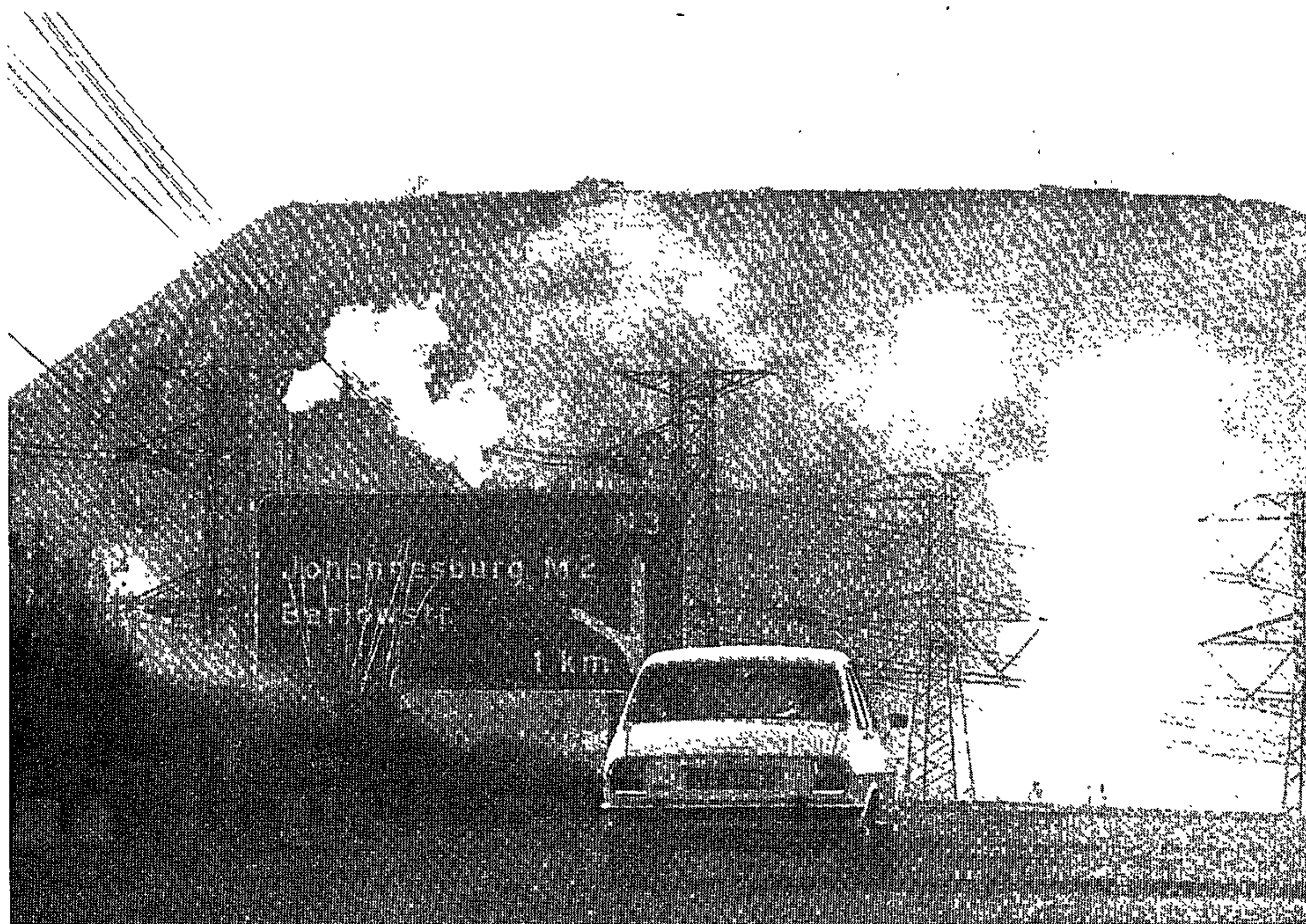
As this realisation worked on the minds of men and women, pollution became, almost overnight, a highly emotive issue. Books were published, rallies staged, campaigns mounted. All conjured up images of a dead planet, raped and gutted by its own inhabitants.

Today the ecomania has cooled a little, as increasingly effective action is being taken to combat environmental, air, water and even noise pollution. Statutory controls have

been imposed on industry and local authorities in most Western countries and, as technology progresses, these controls are gradually tightened.

A new environmental consciousness is definitely at work, although there remain certain areas where the dinosaur mentality still prevails. Nonetheless, pollution abatement technology continues to improve. New and less polluting production processes continue to evolve. And a growing recycling industry is playing an important role in keeping the problem within manageable limits.

The big finger is all too often pointed at industry as the major, indeed, sometimes the only culprit. Yet it's surely reasonable to suggest that the ultimate culprit is our whole society and its way of life: a society which demands a dazzling array of consumer products as conveniently, as attractively, as cheaply and as fast as possible. And until society as a whole accepts that it is this way of life that is responsible for polluting planet Earth, the problem will never be entirely solved.



Air today, gone tomorrow?

The most visible form of pollution, apart from the eyesore of litter in general, is that of the air. That grubby morning shroud which hangs over industrialised cities, those dark, satanic mills belching smoke of every hue, are familiar sights to

most South Africans.

Pollution of the air is hardly a new phenomenon — it began with the lighting of the first fire when man was still in bearskins. But it only really started becoming a problem after the introduction

of fuel-driven machinery during the industrial revolution.

Today products of combustion are still one of the major sources of polluted air. But there are other culprits too. One classification is.

- Products of combustion:

- Fly ash and grit which settle near their source;
- Other particles, including smoke or soot, which are so small that they remain in indefinite suspension;
- Sulphur dioxide.

- Emissions from:

- Metallurgical processes, ferrous or otherwise;
- Processes emitting strongly unpleasant organic odours;
- Petroleum refining and manufacturing processes;
- Other chemical plants, organic and inorganic;
- Pulp and paper manufacturing units;
- Processes giving rise to large amounts of dust;
- Gasification of coal, manufacture of coke and distillation of coal by-products;
- Concerns using or making quantities of volatile organic solvents, such as spray painters or dry cleaners.

- Non-reactive dust particles, either emitted directly by industry, or swept up by the wind from dumps.

- Automobile exhaust emissions.

Nonetheless SA can attribute a major part of its air pollution to the smoke and sulphur dioxide caused by the inefficient combustion of coal. (Those who complain that investment in pollution control is unproductive, should remember that such control can actually go hand-in-hand with more efficient energy usage.)

Sulphur dioxide, which can be formed in considerable quantities when coal, coke and certain fuel oils are burned, is soluble in water and it is in this form that it does most damage.

Although the vogue is to lay the blame for dirty skies solely on industrialists, the householder — or, more specifically, the coal fire lighter — certainly makes his contribution. Since local authorities began to discover the "smokeless zone" philosophy, white suburbs are pouring less smoke into the atmosphere (though delinquents in some areas have been noticed switching back to coal). But until large scale electrification of black areas takes place, these will continue to produce a sizeable summer and winter ration of coal smoke.

Petrol vapour from car exhausts may not appear at first glance to pose much of a pollution problem — largely because it is invisible for the most part. But in sunlight, some of the hydrocarbons contained in these unburned and partially burned vapours react with nitrogen oxides

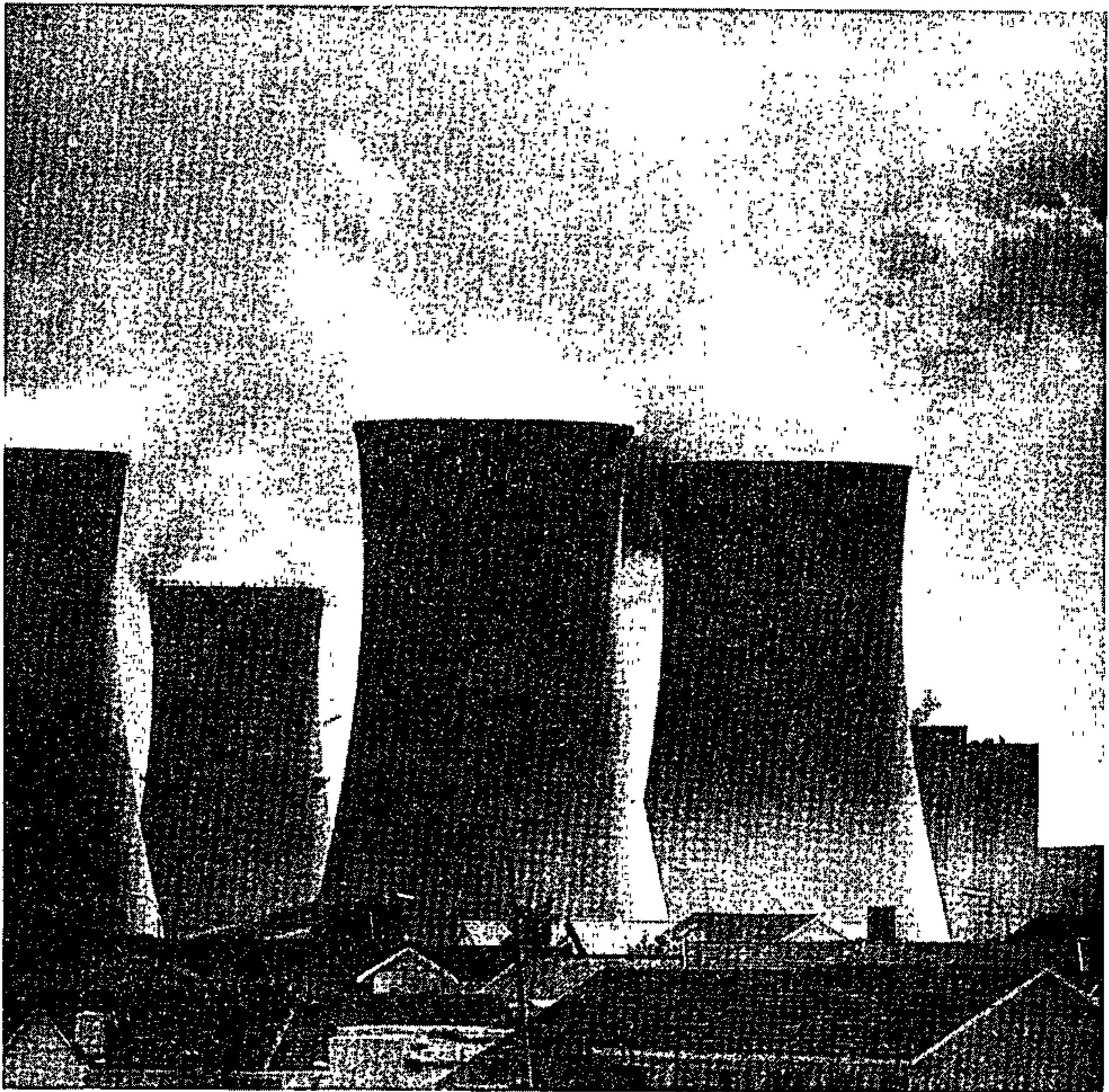


to form a number of oxidising substances. It's these substances which make up the photochemical smogs that are, or were, so typical of Los Angeles. Hence the development of platinum catalysts to remove hydrocarbons, nitric oxides and carbon monoxide from exhaust fumes.

Levels of atmospheric pollution are by no means constant, but show daily, seasonal and even yearly variations. Understandably, the production rate of smoke and sulphur dioxide increases slowly during the early hours of the morning, and reaches a peak just before sunrise — coinciding with the lighting of fires for domestic and industrial purposes. It then falls rapidly until late afternoon, when fires are stoked to prepare for the evening and another peak develops.

Smog concentrations in winter are higher than those in summer, because of the increased use of coal, coke and oils for heating. The CSIR has also found long-term variations as a result of changes in stability. When air pollution levels in Pretoria were measured over a 12-year period, it was noticed that winter smoke levels rose for four years, dropped for five years, and finally rose once again.

The pattern of production of oxidants differs: the concentration rises slowly as the sun's intensity increases, reaching a peak at around 2 pm or 3 pm before starting to fall again. Two smaller peaks are reached at peak traffic periods.



PRODUCTION MEN NEED TO MAKE COOL DECISIONS ON FACTORY COOLING AND HEATING SYSTEMS

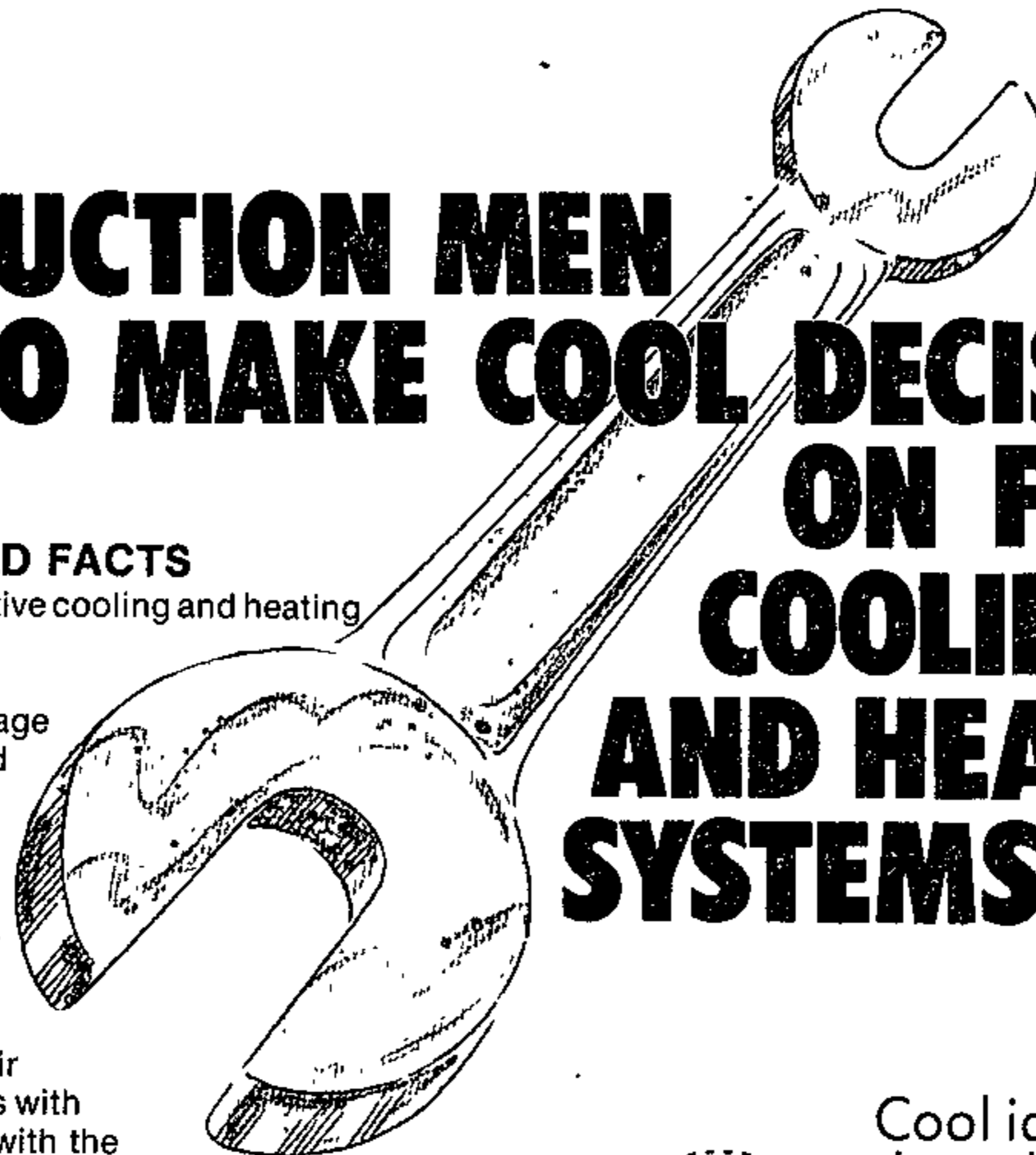
AIROMATIC GIVES THEM THE COLD FACTS

It's a hard task to choose the most cost-effective cooling and heating equipment for factories.

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Cool ideas and
the cold facts

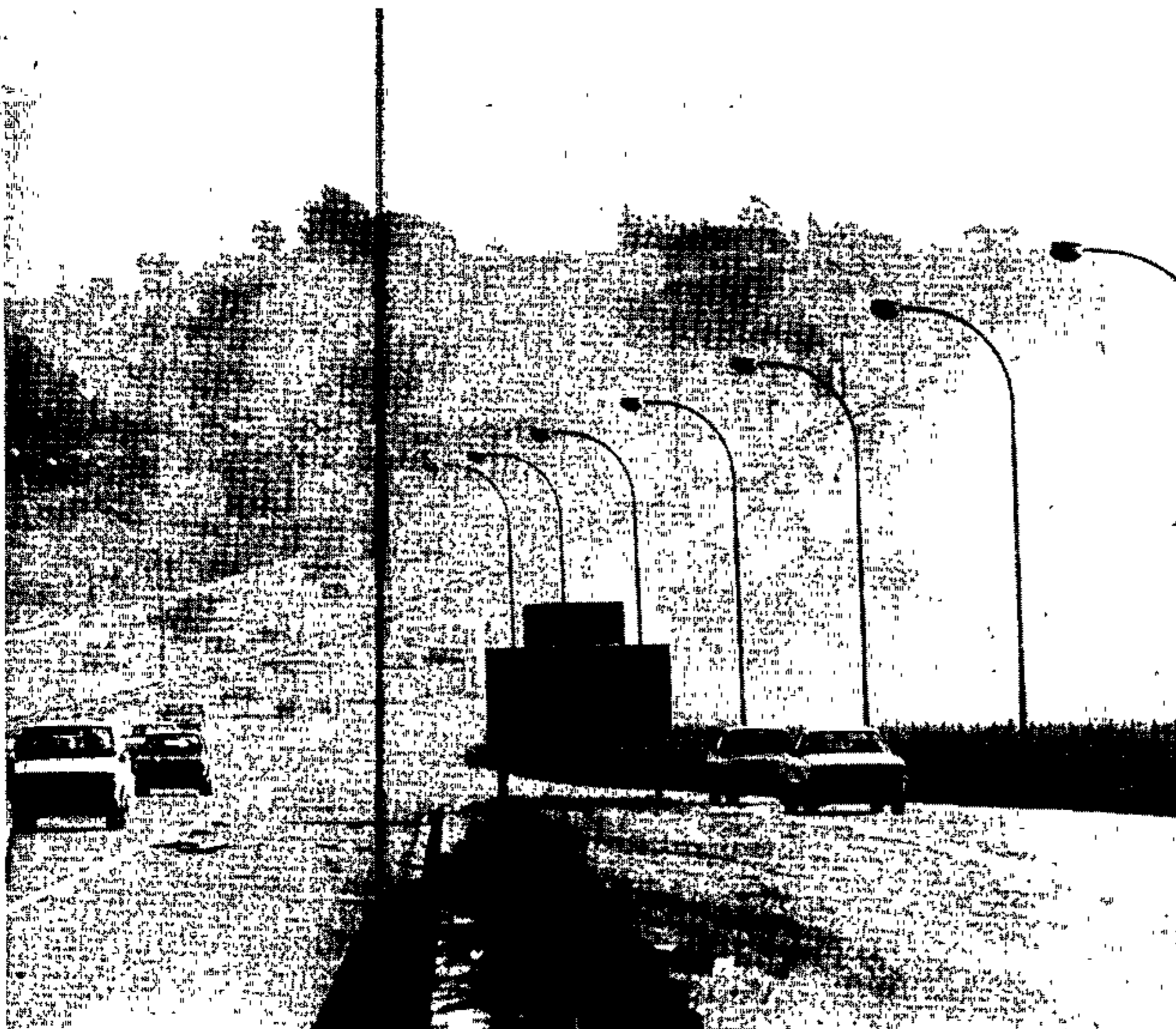
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Although legislation, in the shape of the Atmospheric Pollution Control Act of 1965, exists to curb undue fouling of the air, very little, if any, positive action has been taken against offenders.

There are those who feel that the time for a little whip-cracking is now overdue. One is Geoff Craig, vice-chairman of the Gas Cleaning Equipment Suppliers Association of SA. "Whichever way you look at

it, the economic boom is going to mean an upsurge in air pollution," he says. "Large capital projects, particularly in the petrochemical and power generation industries, will inevitably add to the problem, even if they have extremely efficient control equipment."

The body responsible for policing atmospheric pollution is the Air Pollution Control division of the Department of Health. Criticism has recently been levelled at the division for its lack of effectiveness, notably as a result of serious understaffing. However, the division's staff complement has recently been beefed up.

"For a good few years the emphasis has been on education rather than discipline," says Craig. "Some companies have taken action but many have taken advantage of the authorities' attitude and done nothing. The pollution control authorities have the muscle, as laid down in the Act, to enforce the cleaning up of old industries. The question we must ask is whether or not they have the determination. It might be a good thing if an example was made of somebody at this stage."

He adds that certain industries, which will be making increased profits this year, should devote some of that income to air pollution control. "The foundry industry, particularly, is placed to make a lot of money this year. So now there is no excuse whatever for them not to attempt to clean up their plants."

HOTELIERS NEED TO MAKE COOL DECISIONS ON COOLING AND HEATING SYSTEMS

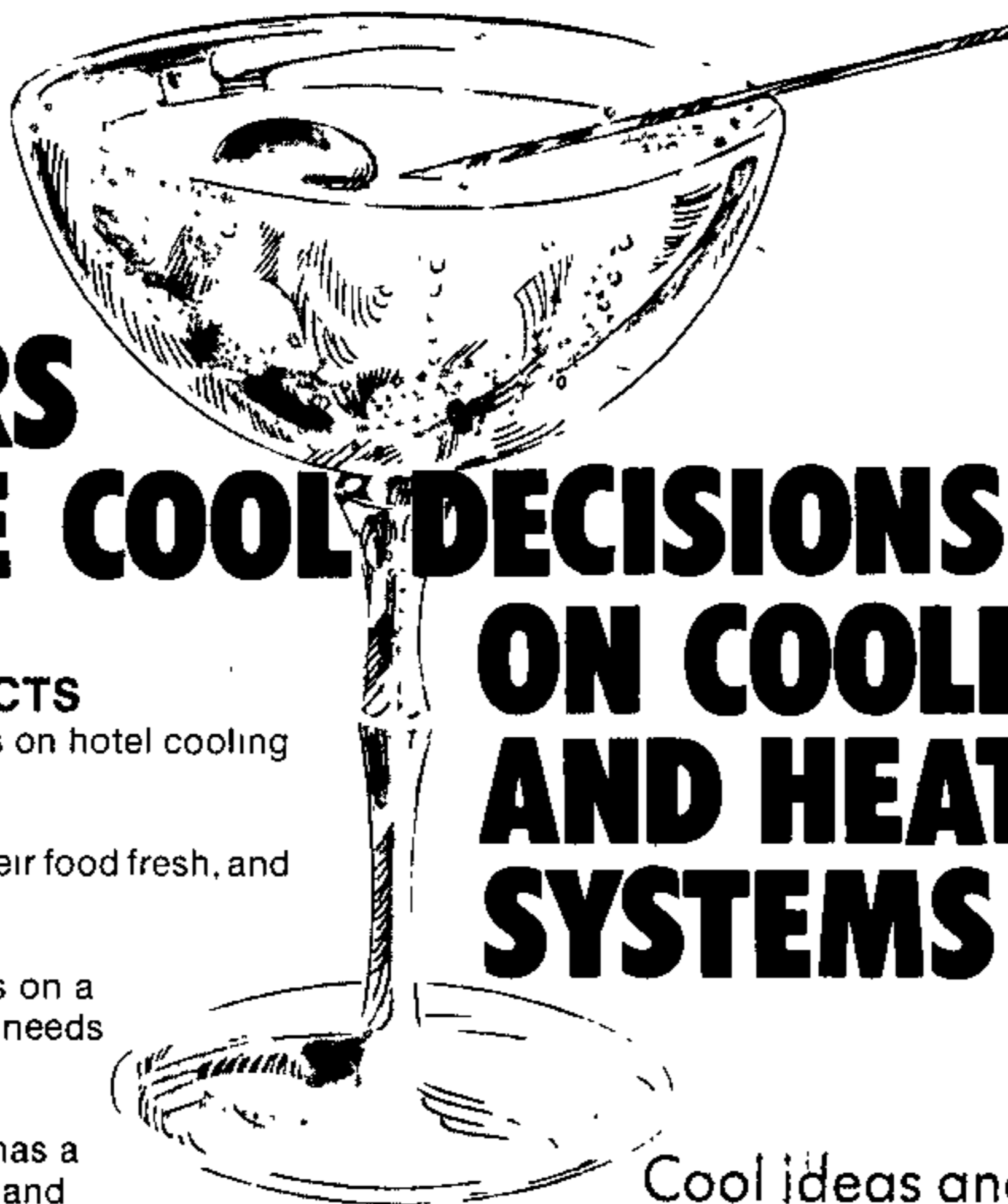
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Hoteliers face a difficult task in making purchase decisions on hotel cooling and heating systems

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The size of the SA market for air pollution control equipment is relatively small by international industrial standards. In 1978 it was worth R21m, against Japan's R250m; US's R428m; UK's R58m; and Canada's R13m. And it seems smaller still when the SA figures are broken down.

Cyclone and wet scrubber sales together accounted for less than R1m. The fabric filter market totalled slightly less than R3m. And the remaining R17m was spent on electrostatic precipitators. Yet R15m of that was for precipitators in a single power station. This year's total market may almost double to around R40m, but once again well over half will be accounted for by new power station equipment.

The apparent and continued reluctance of SA industry to install non-productive abatement equipment is justified by the argument that SA is still a developing country. The single biggest economic problem it faces is unemployment. And growth is the only mechanism which can solve it. Diverting capital into non-productive equipment, continues the argument, will inhibit the ability of individual companies to raise capital for the purchase of productive equipment.

The answer, then, is surely some real tax incentive for investment in abatement equipment, coupled with strict action against laggards — the carrot and the stick.



MANAGEMENT NEEDS TO MAKE COOL DECISIONS ON OFFICE COOLING AND HEATING SYSTEMS

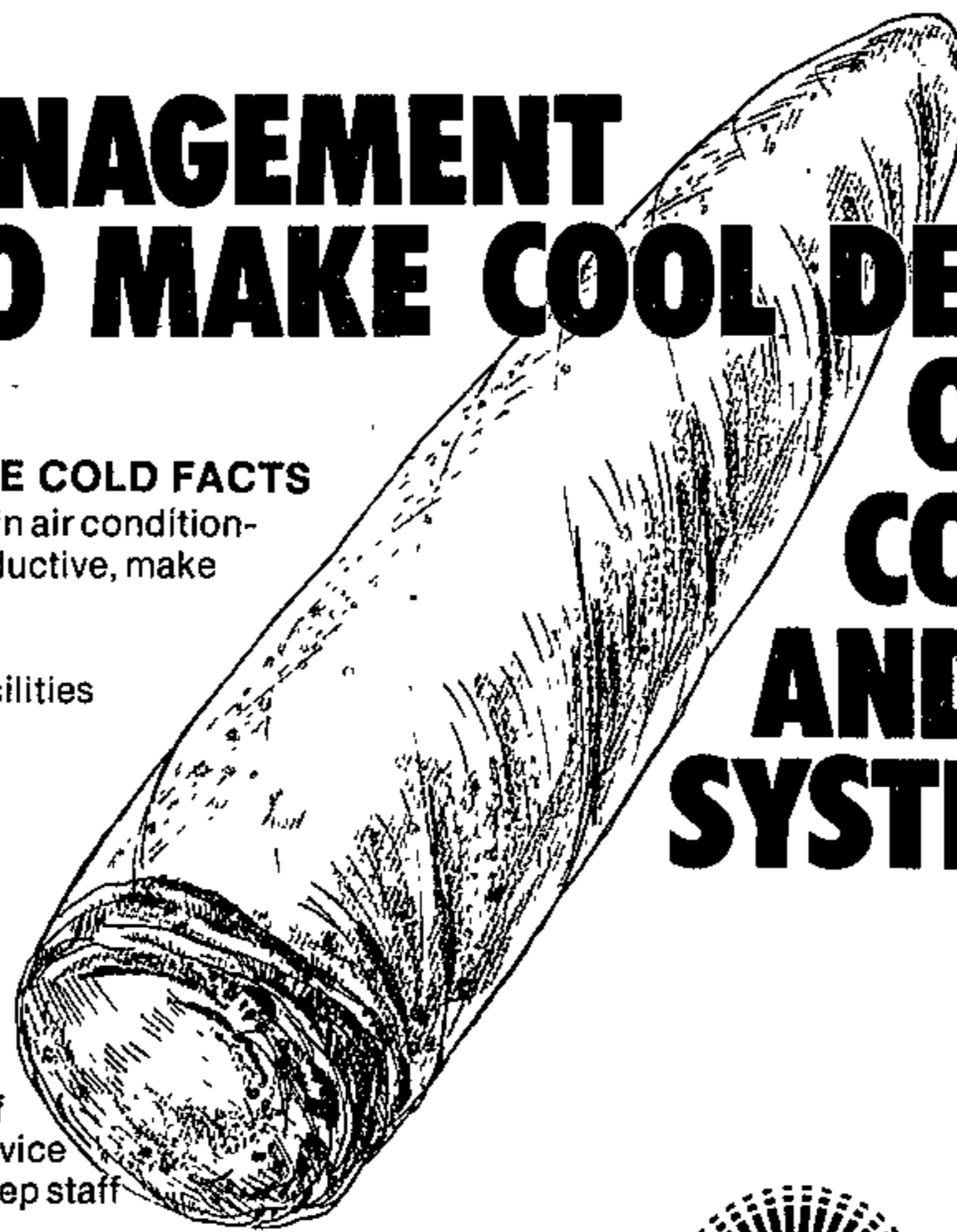
AIROMATIC GIVES MANAGEMENT THE COLD FACTS

The complexity of all the options available in air conditioning systems to keep staff comfortable and productive, make purchase decisions difficult.

Other benefits like cold water drinking facilities and the heating of workspaces have to be considered too.

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Not just a dirty word

normal convection. Consequently, the average monthly values of smoke and sulphur dioxide concentrations are anything from four to eight times higher during winter than in summer.

Temperature inversions are also more frequent in areas of high altitude, far from the benefits of warm ocean air currents. On top of that, the lower air density in these regions causes combustion problems. The highveld, for example, has temperature inversions of considerable strength during more than 80% of its nights. This, combined with its distance from the sea and the fact that the area lies within the high pressure latitudes, makes it difficult to control pollution. In fact, one authority is on record as saying that if Johannesburg were the size of Tokyo, its pollution problem would be one

of the worst in the world.

Although smog is less likely to occur in coastal regions where sea breezes blow, an exception to this rule is Durban. Here the cold air which moves down the river valleys during the night tends to produce inversions.

Action taken in the world's larger cities is having its effect on smog, but recent history reminds us of its continuing danger. During 1966 in Tokyo, for example, 154 days carried smog warnings. Policemen in 10 heavily polluted areas were forced to return to base every half hour simply to breathe pure oxygen. And, in a scenario rich in symbolism, children playing near an industrial area south of Tokyo wore respiratory masks to protect them from pollution emitted by nearby petrochemical plants.

On the water front

Water, it scarcely needs to be said, is our single most important resource. Yet when the world woke up to the menace of pollution during the Sixties, most of the industrialised nations discovered they had polluted almost all their major water resources.

Hence the joke about the American tourist who dropped his camera in the Rhine. By the time he fished it out, the film had been developed. Black humour, under the circumstances.

The situation in SA has never been quite as severe, but there is certainly no cause for complacency. One estimate, none too old, claimed that 25% of SA river water was polluted.

The most obvious sources of pollution are effluents from industries, towns and cities. Municipal and industrial use of water — and the discharge of effluents — is controlled by the Water Act No 54 of 1956 with, of course, its various amendments.

It's not too difficult to pinpoint cases of water pollution as a result of effluent discharge and, with advances in the technology of waste treatment, many of these can be controlled — if motivation is strong enough. More difficult to control are stormwater run-off from urban and agricultural areas and return waters from irrigation schemes. Chemicals and pesticides used on farms tend, sooner or later, to end up in the river.

Equally difficult to control, and a particularly pernicious problem in SA, is acid drainage from active and disused coal and gold mines. The oxidation of pyrites in underground workings and slimes dams where they are deposited, results in much

pollution. Soil erosion, oil, precipitation of air pollutants and radioactive fallout — all these contribute in some way to water pollution and all are awkward to deal with.

Organic pollution — eutrophication, as it is called — is highly unpleasant visually. But, in fact, it's fairly easily dealt with. Far more serious is mineral pollution. Except for expensive desalination processes, there is no effective way to treat mineral polluted effluents, and no natural process can deal with them either.

The Vaal, in particular, is suffering from a rapidly rising level of salts. The WHO specifies an upper-limit of 500 mg/l of total dissolved solids (tds) for drinking water. Many industrial processes require a low tds concentration. And the higher the tds concentration, the less suitable water becomes for irrigation purposes. All of which adds up to the fact that mineral pollution is bad news.

Water can also spread disease (such as typhoid and bilharzia) at an alarming rate. A case often quoted concerns an incident in Glion, Switzerland, during 1945. In this small community of 800, 101 cases of typhoid and 16 deaths were caused by the contamination of the water supply through leakage from a hotel sewer. A typhoid carrier, it can be assumed, stayed at the hotel before the outbreak.

Then again, water pollution can have serious economic side effects. The amount of chemicals used in water purification is determined by the quality of the raw water and the extent to which it is polluted. So more pollution means more chemicals, which means a higher consumer price for water.



One way to beat street-level smog

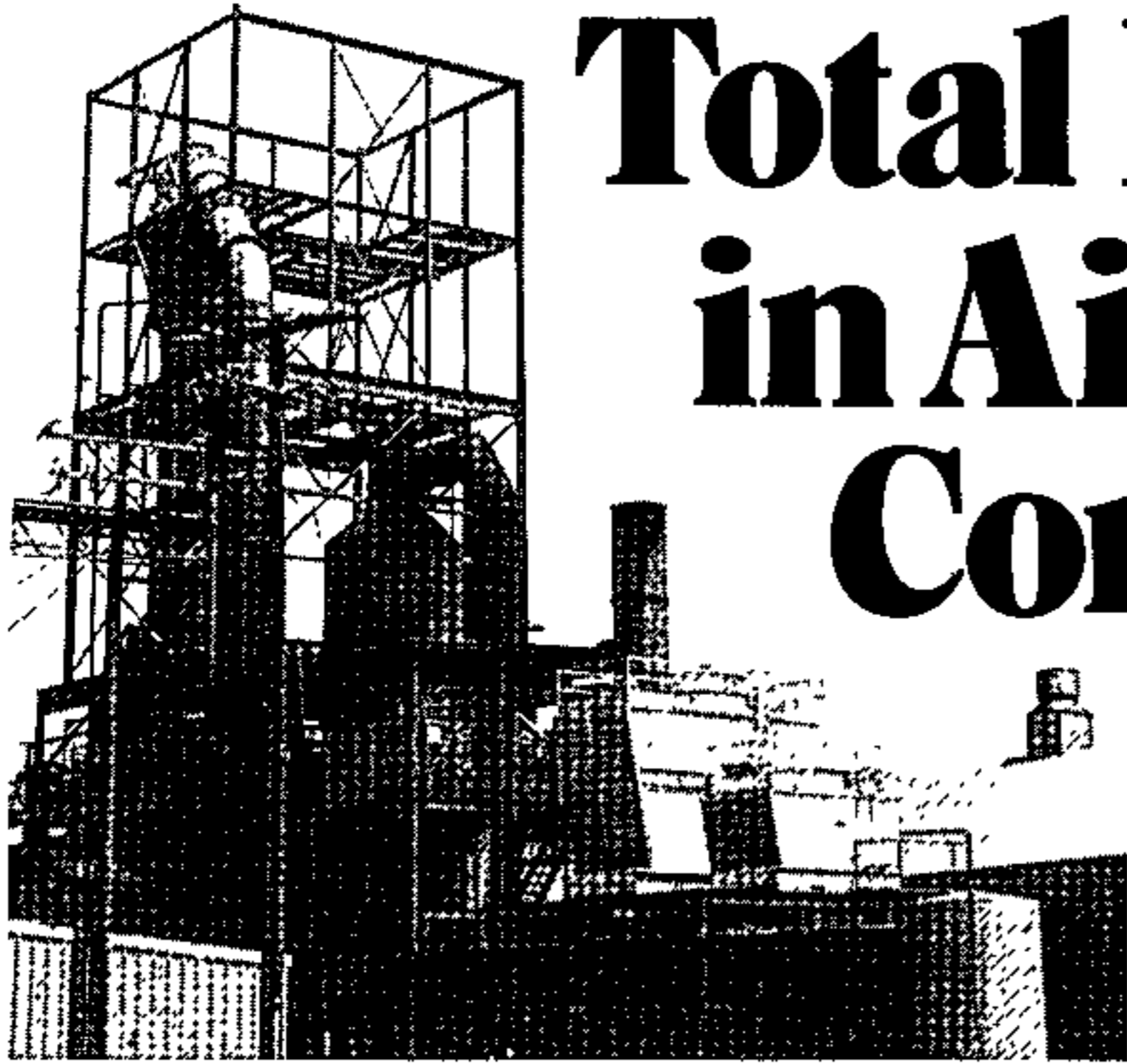
Smog is not merely filthy and unpleasant — it can be lethal. When a thick pea-souper, like a monster in a third-rate sci-fi movie, settled over London in 1952, 4 000 people died. In New York, 400 died as a result of smog in 1963. Many of these people were suffering from respiratory diseases, but that doesn't minimise the deadly nature of this 20th century blight.

Smog is the result of so-called temperature inversions — atmospheric phenomena which prevent the normal circulation of air. Normally warm air rises from ground level to colder regions higher up, taking with it much of the pollution. But sometimes the process is reversed when a layer of warmer air forms above cooler air. This inversion then acts as a lid and prevents pollution from rising and dispersing.

These inversions are more frequent in winter, when lower temperatures reduce

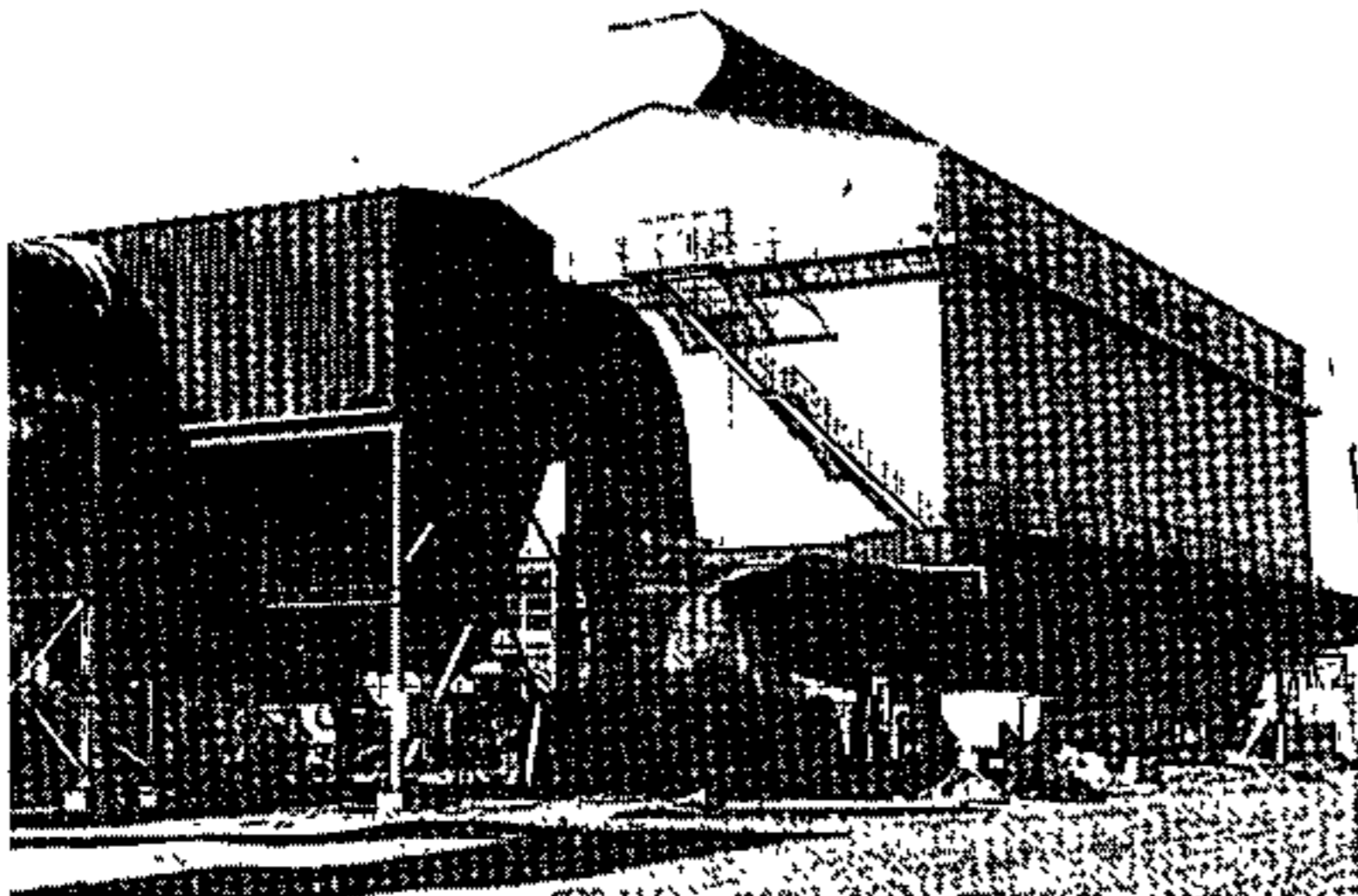
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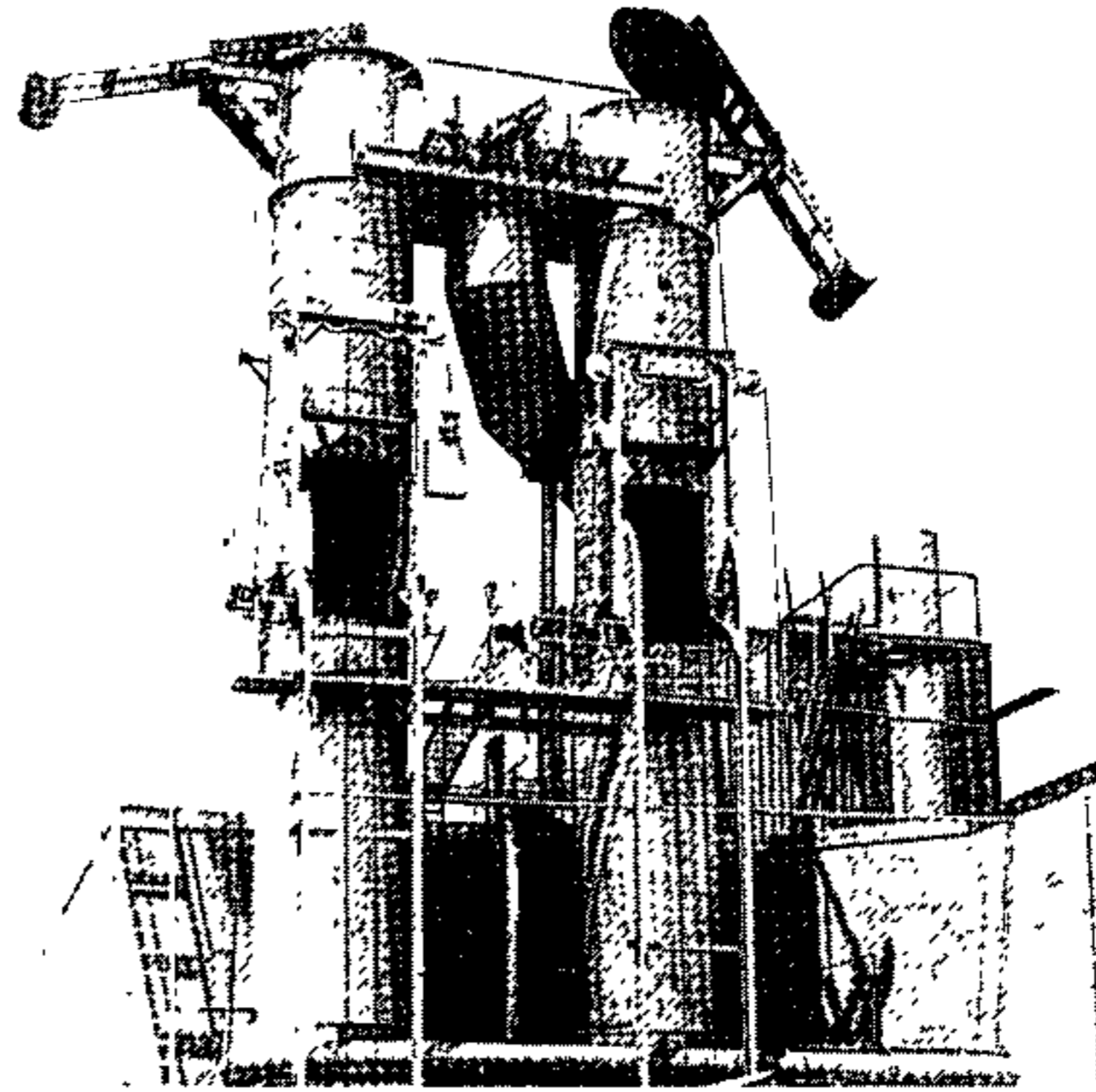


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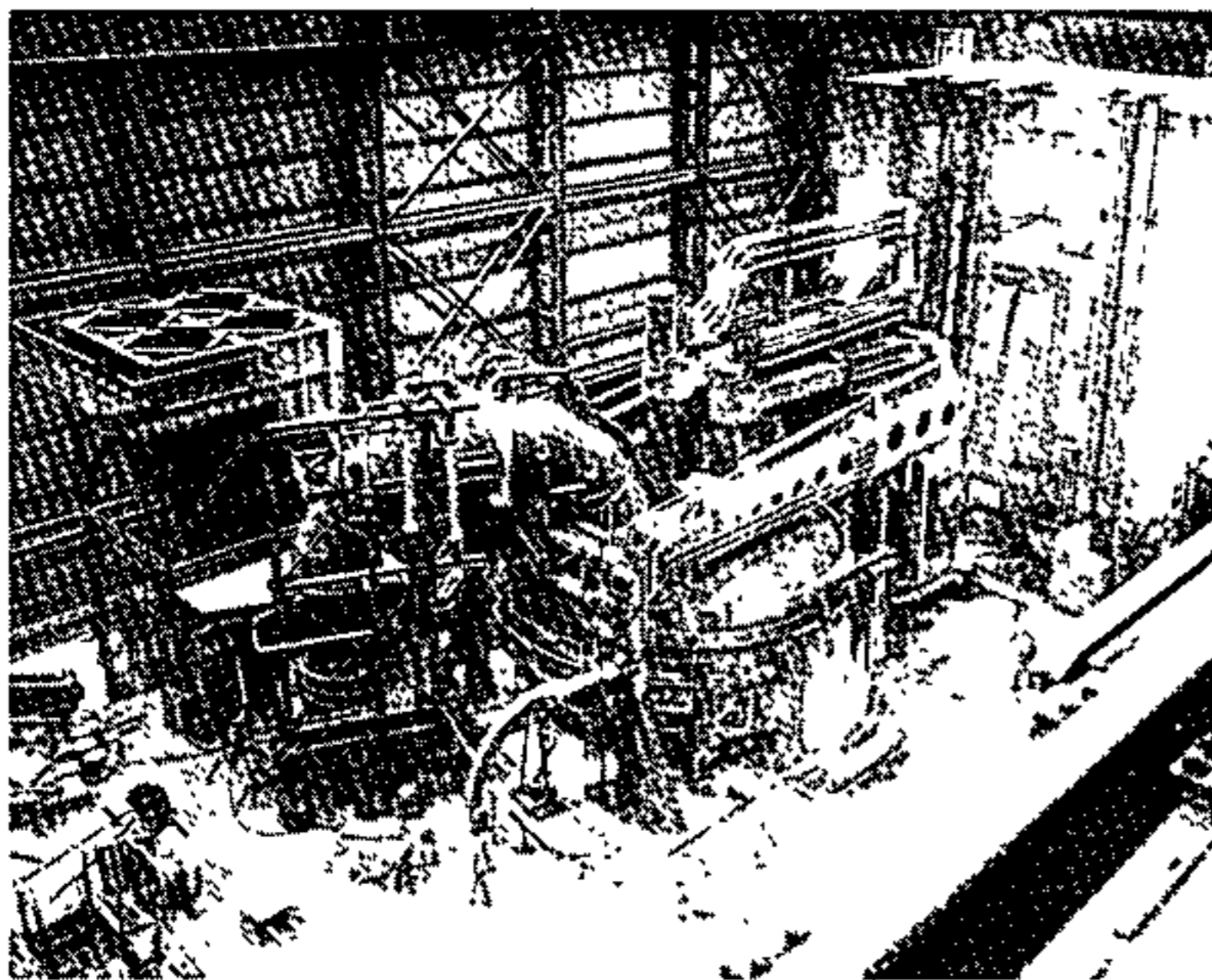
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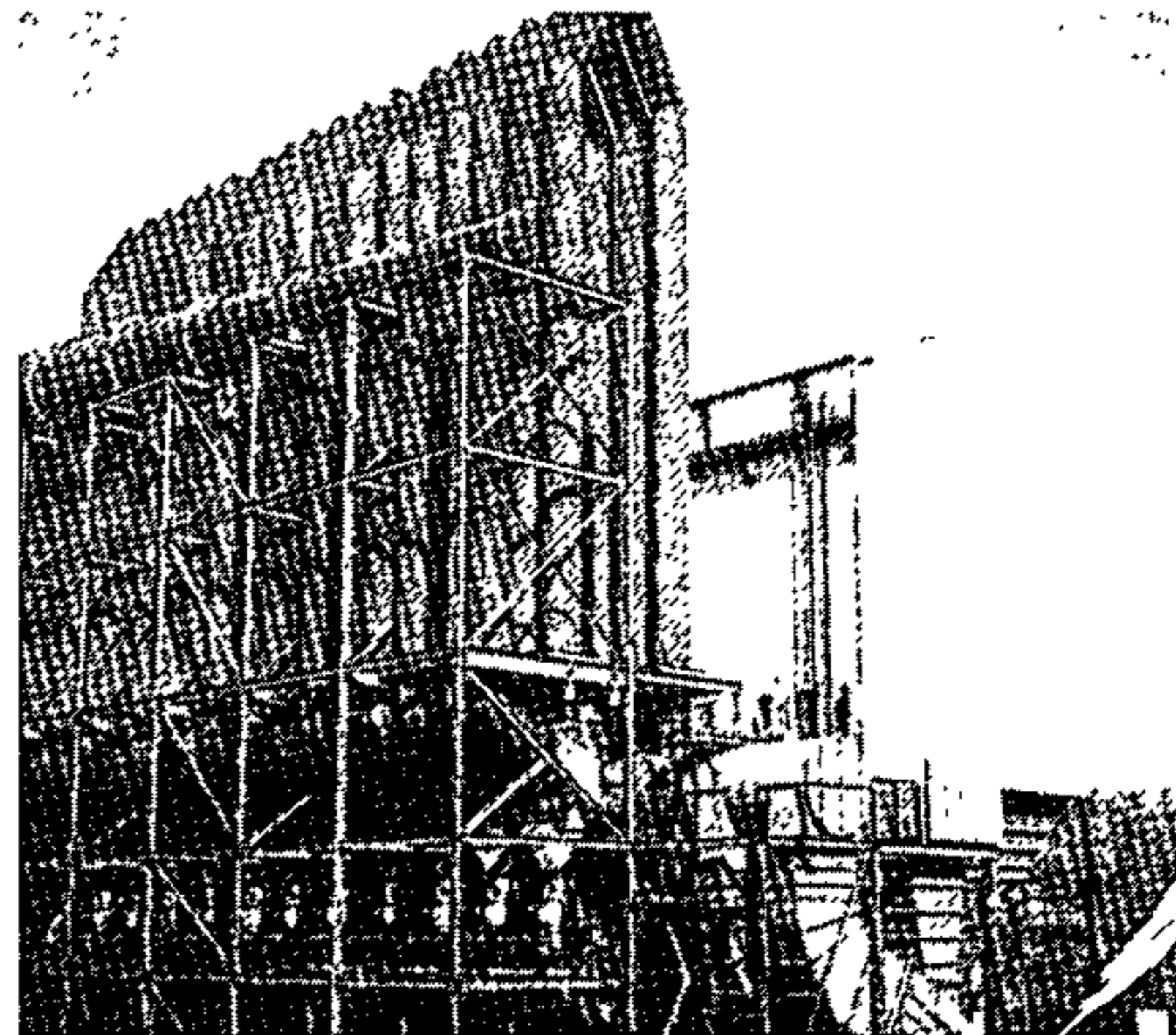
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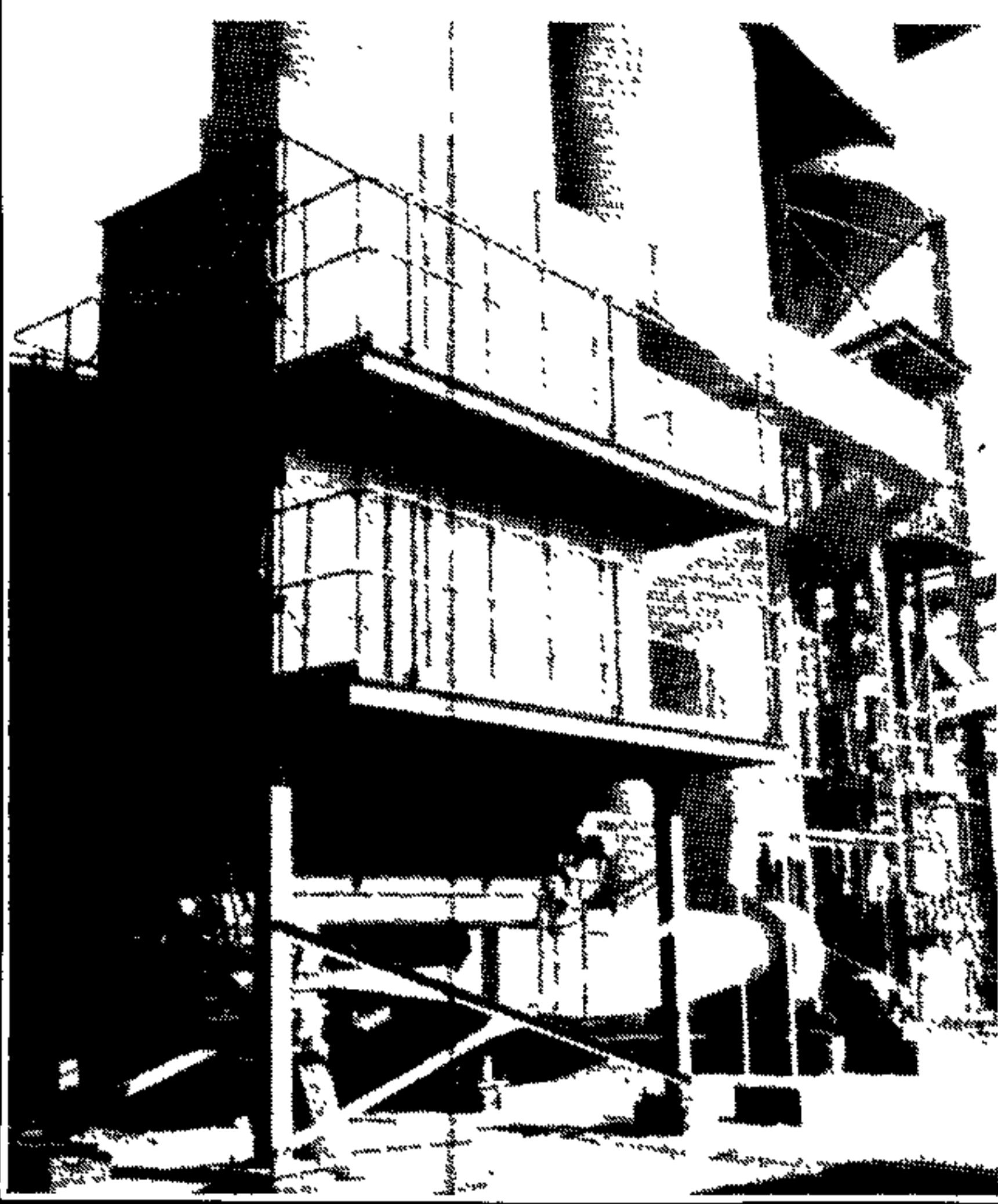
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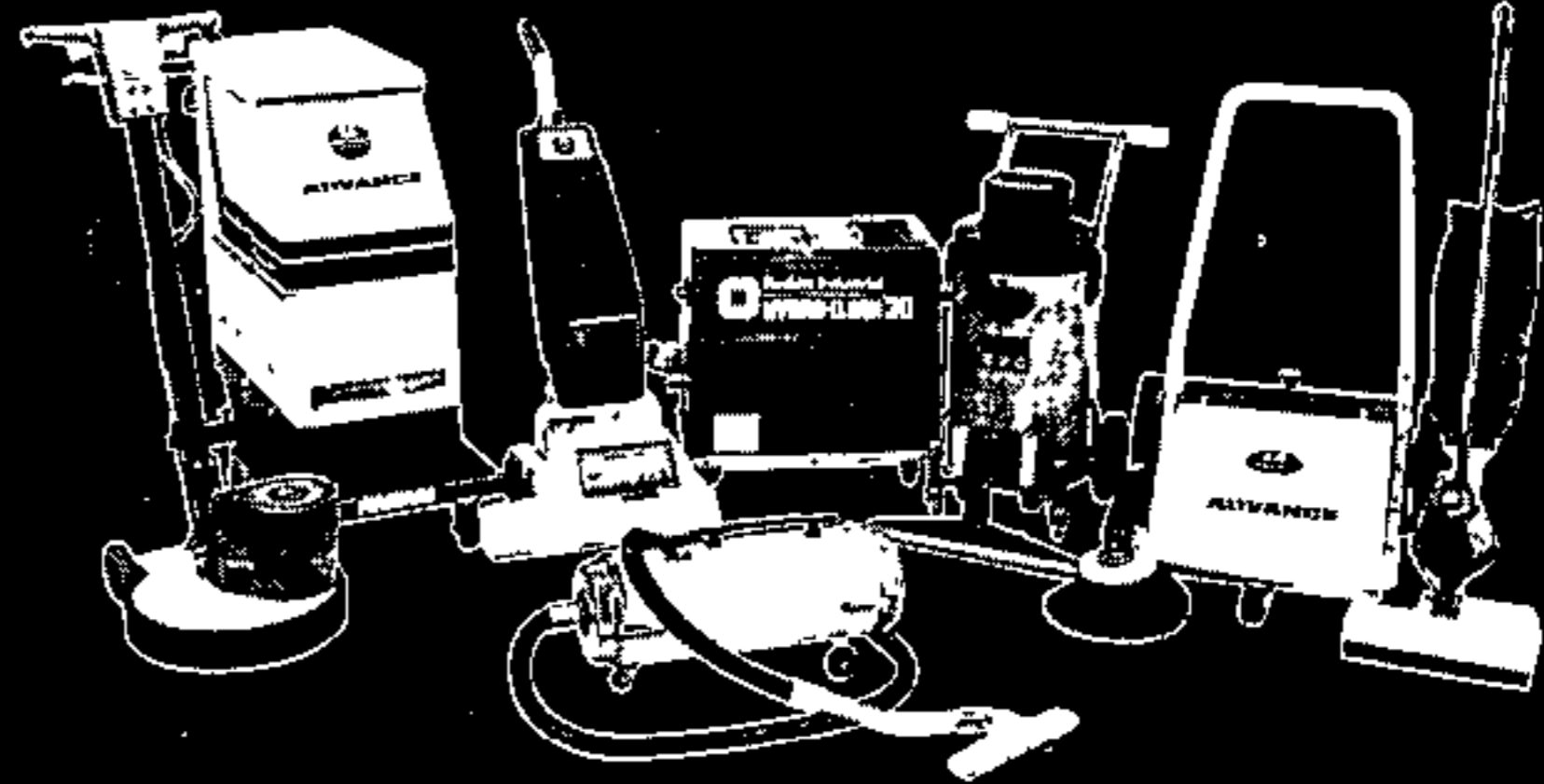
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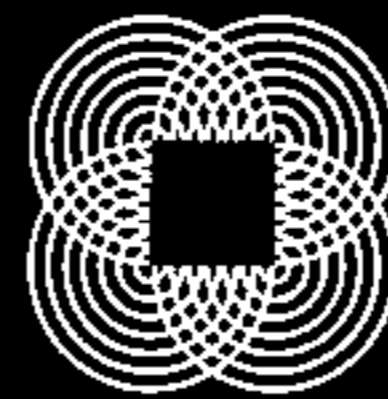
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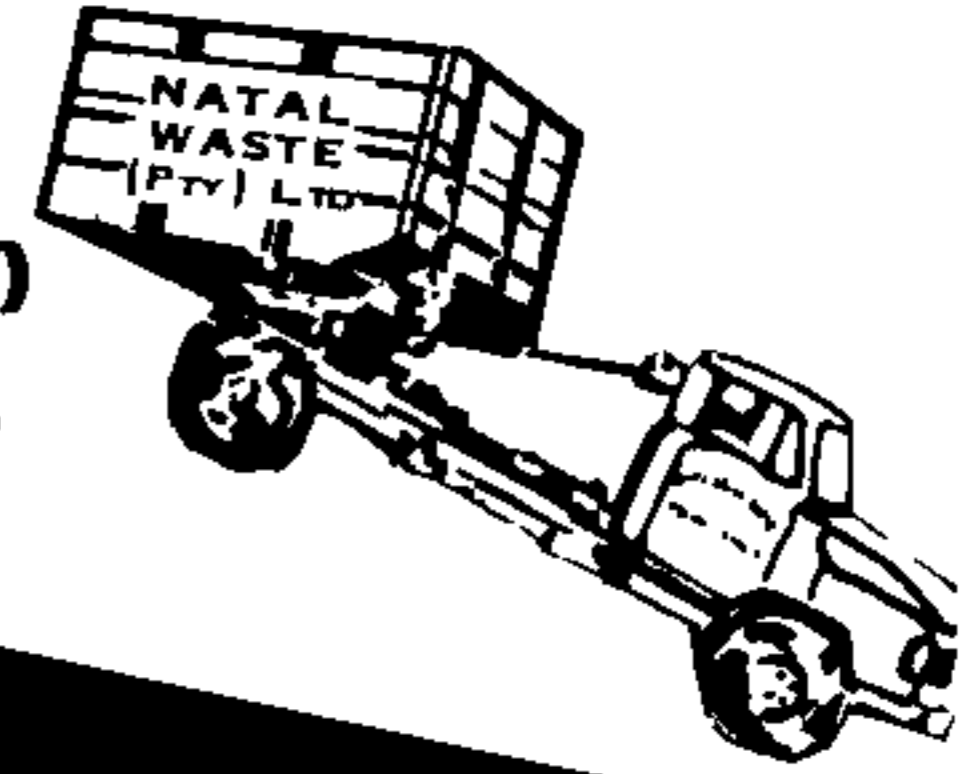
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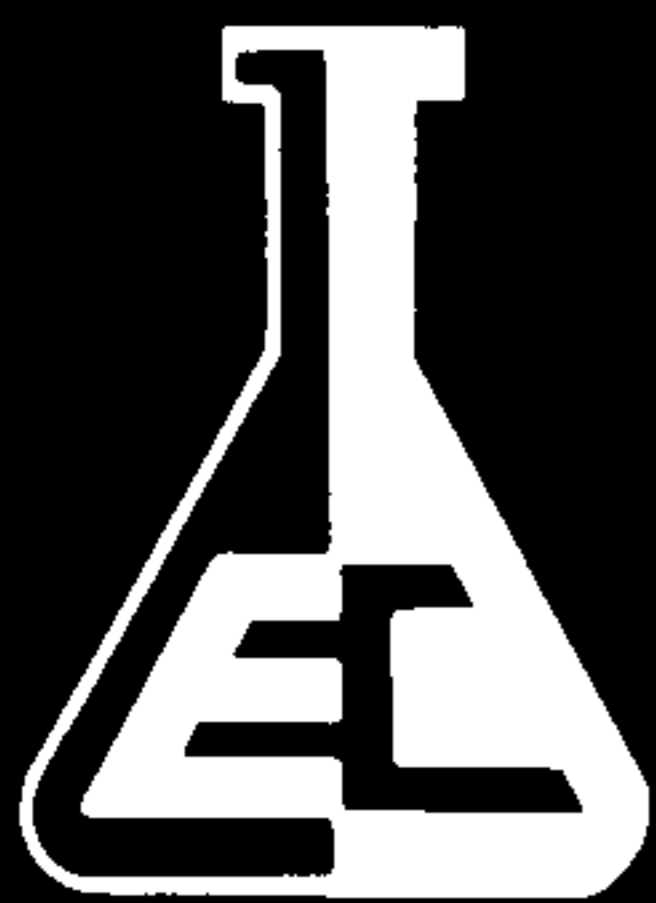
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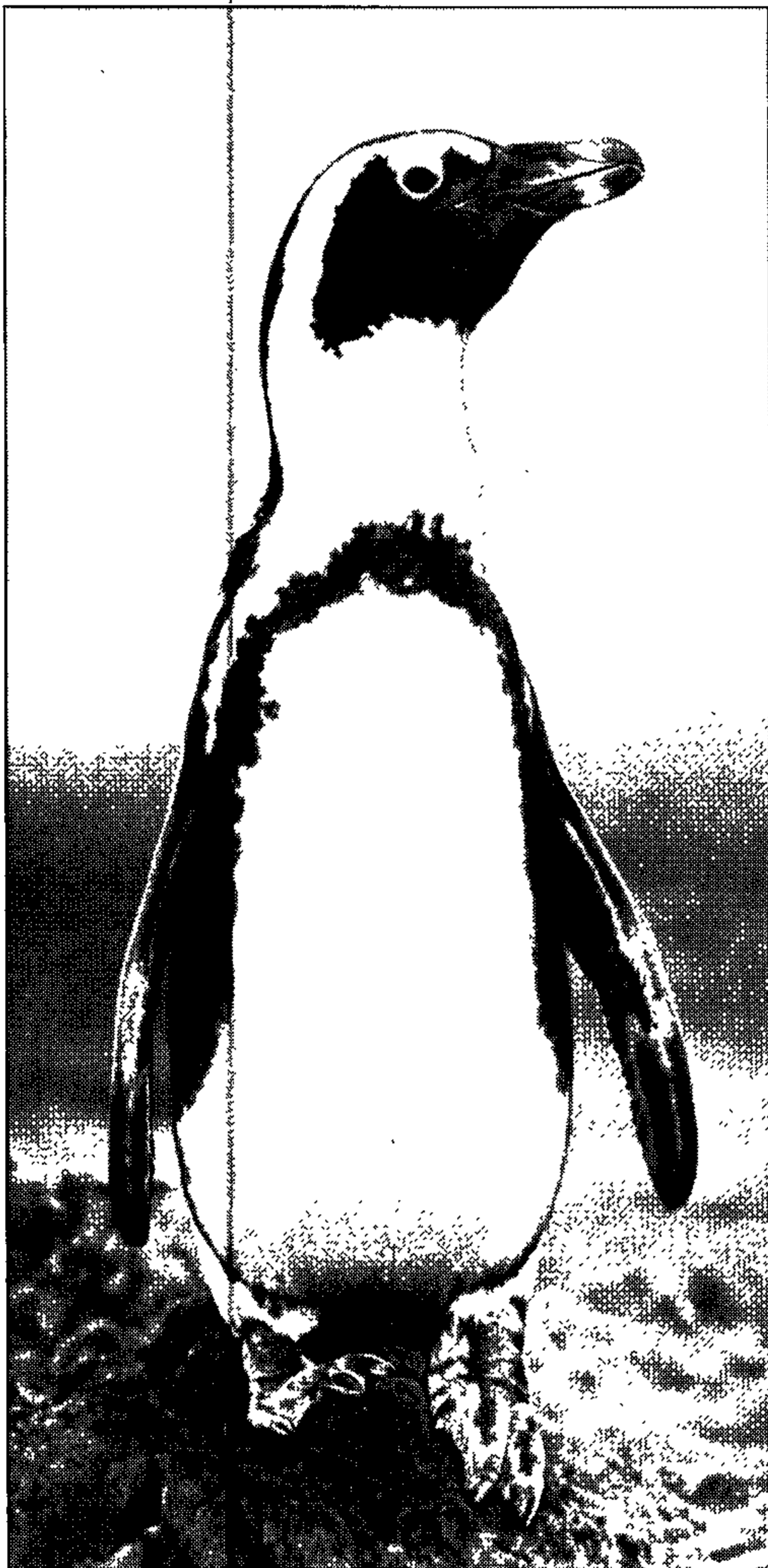
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Mineral pollution will affect the degree of corrosion or encrustation of pipes, pumps and other equipment with which it comes into contact. It can also dramatically increase the quantity of soap or detergent being used by a community.

Pollution may force certain industries, which need high purity water, to use special purification techniques (desalination, for example) which can only lead to increased production costs. Mineralisation of water also affects — adversely — the effective use of water for irrigation, since certain soils will deteriorate rapidly through the build up of salts. The soils, in turn, need more water for the same crop yield — ergo, higher costs of production.

The Water Act requires that any industry needing more than 273 m³ of water a day must apply for a permit from the Minister of Water Affairs. Before such a permit is issued, factors such as availability of water, suitability of the site and the effluents which will be produced are considered.

The Act also lays down standards for the purification and disposal of industrial wastes and effluents. Local authorities may agree to accept, treat and dispose of these wastes, but then the onus of meeting the prescribed standards is transferred to them.

If, however, it is regarded as impractical for an industry to purify its effluent to the standard laid down, the Minister may issue a permit of exemption. Nonetheless, the point of discharge must be such that dilution will render the effluent harmless to fauna and flora, and that no "other person will be prejudicially affected."

The re-use of municipal and industrial effluents can play a key role in pollution abatement. Windhoek, oddly enough, was the first city in the world to recycle water reclaimed from purified sewage effluent for use domestically. This practice has now spread to other cities, both in SA and



the rest of the world. One estimate is that, by the year 2000, 80% of the water in the Vaal River will already have been drunk once!

Industrial recycling of water has also spread. This offers the advantage of savings in water consumption of well over

90%. The practice is not only relieving what was a growing burden on municipal sewers and alleviating the water pollution problem as a whole, but it's also easing the pace of an already rapidly-shrinking gap between water demand and available supplies.

Disposing of the problem

Any concern for environmental pollution leads quickly to the concept of sanitary and efficient waste disposal.

Waste disposal in the narrow sense — the collection of rubbish and subsequent dumping into a hole in the ground — has traditionally been the preserve of municipal authorities.

Yet, tradition aside, there is no particularly good reason why it should remain strictly a municipal domain. In the US, for example, private enterprise is heavily involved in the collection, treatment, disposal and recycling of waste. Indeed, certain municipal dumps, both in SA and overseas, constitute serious pollution hazards in themselves.

Waste management is rapidly becoming a science in its own right — and a

reasonably complex one at that. The necessary skills are not yet available locally in large quantities, but there does exist a handful of professional SA companies devoted to waste management.

"In brief, waste management is the task of quantifying environmental pollution — be it air, land, water, or noise pollution," says Dr Peter Scott, technical director of D&H Waste Management, "and then of evaluating the most cost effective method to collect, treat and dispose of it."

SA private enterprise, in the shape of companies like D&HWM, is already getting involved to the extent of Scott's definition. Industrial waste collection services, using a variety of skips, tanks, compactors and other gadgets, have been

in operation for some years. These can generally handle both liquids and solids. Waste-Tech, a D&HWM subsidiary, operates regional treatment plants for handling toxic and hazardous waste such as acid oil sludges.

The company also operates bulk domestic collection services in the black townships of New Brighton near Port Elizabeth, and Johannesburg's Alexandra, and door-to-door domestic collections in a handful of white areas. It is keen to expand this business but many municipalities, understandably enough, feel this to be an invasion of their territory.

One of the problems of SA waste disposal, according to Scott, is that of disposal sites. Not only is the availability of sites shrinking, but many existing sites, in the

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Scott . . . looking for a licence to fill

absence of proper controls, have been selected poorly and cause, rather than cure, pollution. Leachates from typical domestic waste are 100-300 times more polluting than ordinary domestic sewage. If these leachates are allowed to seep from the disposal site into an underground watercourse. . . well, the results can be imagined.

"Sanitary landfill — the burying of waste — can be a very cost effective method of disposal," says Scott. "It can also be put to good use in reclaiming or levelling land for recreational and other purposes. But unless the geology and hydrogeology of the site are very carefully selected, the results can be disastrous. In any event, the quality of borehole water around a landfill site should be continually monitored to ensure that things are as they should be."

Scott is calling for mandatory licensing of such sites. "We now know the requirements for establishing an efficient regional waste disposal centre," he claims. "These should now form the basis of an acceptable application for a waste disposal site licence."

"Effective prevention of pollution needs to be achieved, and at a reasonable cost. Some sort of regulatory system is necessary to ensure this. The route followed by other countries has been waste disposal site licensing. Is this not also long overdue here?"



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Not going to waste

The affluent society is the effluent society. The fact is that working class communities don't have half the waste disposal problems of high-earning communities, because they tend to recycle their waste.

That may sound strange, but it's true. In urban black SA communities, for example, an empty jam jar will be put into service as a flower vase or a money box. Paper goes into the fire. A wine bottle will be used to hold paraffin. And has anyone ever seen a black housewife throw away a plastic bag?

The result is that waste from black communities in SA is largely unrecyclable. On the other hand, waste from affluent white communities most certainly is, and on the strength of it a substantial recycling industry has been built up in SA.

One estimate is that more than R40m worth of cans, glass, plastic, paper and board — or 7 600 t a day — goes into the national rubbish bin each year. Each ton of this domestic, as opposed to industrial, waste costs R2,50 to bury and the total

collection and disposal bill reaches about R100m annually.

The largest of the recycling industries involves paper. Half of all waste paper is reclaimable and, of that half, the industry recycles between 30% and 40%. Recycling Industries, for example, claims to recover as much as 60 000 t a year. One of the advantages of recycling paper is that the fibres have already been exposed to the production process — a fact which cuts costs, although quality is seldom up to virgin standards.

According to Recycling Industries' Vincent Lamberti, the recovery rate for paper in SA — about 30%, he says — is beginning to compare well with rates overseas. The US recovers 17%, Japan 42% and West Germany 44%.

Unlike paper, glass is totally recyclable — one ton of waste glass will yield one ton of recycled glass. Some 50 000 t are recycled annually, and the reclaimed product accounts for 20% of total glass production.

Metal Box has an operation called Col-

lect-a-Can, established specifically to collect and recycle used cans. According to MB's Dudley Fraser, the company recycles some 3 000 t every year. But, he adds, more than 100 000 t of cans are buried in dumps annually. And that represents R1,8m in tinsplate and steel scrap.

Recycling means more than profits for recyclers and less rubbish to get rid of. It can mean foreign exchange savings. (Lamberti, for example, claims that an investment of R10m in paper recycling has resulted in exchange savings of R50m). And it means energy savings. Making steel from scrap uses half as much energy as making it from iron ore — and the process itself is cheaper. Plastic recycling is another important energy saver. According to a British survey as much as 2,24 t of oil equivalent is needed to manufacture 1 t of low density polythene.

Combining the themes of recycling and energy, the Port Elizabeth Municipality, under the guidance of chief municipal cleansing officer Jack Lawrence, is doing some interesting research. Prompted by a shortage of landfill sites for waste disposal, the municipality is experimenting with the grinding and briquetting of waste for fuel. The briquettes appear to have half the energy content of coal, at slightly less than half the cost. They can be fed into a furnace together with coal, without any necessary modifications to the grate. If this process proves successful, Port Elizabeth's waste disposal problem will, quite literally, be reduced to ashes.

FIRM RESOLVE?

The recycling of chemical waste is of special importance to any anti-pollution effort, not simply from an economic point of view, but because it alleviates the load on toxic waste disposal facilities.

One of the lesser known SA recycling industries is the re-refining of waste solvents. Redisolv, a R1m-a-year Boksburg company, has been recovering solvents from waste for some seven years. It processes 1,5m litres annually and claims a 70% recovery rate.

Redisolv director John Saunders says that the recycled product sells at around 50-60% of new product price. Cleaning solvents, the staple of Redisolv's business, sell at 25c/l in recycled form. Pure toluene, which does the same job, clocks in at around 60c/l, while Sasol's Solumix, which is only available on allocation, sells at about 46c/l.

Other recycled products produced by the company include bituminous sealants and lacquer thinners.



Oil that troubles waters



EP Herald

Of all the types of environmental pollution, oil spills at sea are probably the most dramatic and the most widely publicised. Photographs and newsreel footage of oil-drenched birds and ruined beaches stir the meekest of us to protest.

Yet as long as oil continues to be transported by sea — and that is likely to be a long time — oil spills will continue to occur. One of the most devastating spills of all time, and the one which underscored the general lack of preparedness to cope with the problem, was that which followed the *Torrey Canyon* disaster off the Cornish coast in 1967.

The ship carried 119 000 tons of crude oil. Of this, all but 20 000 odd tons was spilled into the sea. In a relatively fruitless attempt to disperse or destroy the oil, more than 11m litres of dispersant were sprayed both on the shore and from 42 sea-going vessels; 80 000 kg of high explosive, in the shape of bombs and rockets, were rained down onto the ship; and 45 000 l of jet fuel and 15 000 l of napalm were added to the oil in an effort to get it to burn.

Apart from the ruinous damage to beaches and the coastline in general, it has been estimated that 40 000 birds were killed by the oil from the *Torrey Canyon*.

Appalling though the disaster was, it had the merit of alerting the world to the potential destructiveness of oil at sea. Authorities realised how unprepared they were, how inadequate their equipment was and how toxic their dispersants were — toxicity was on average 330 times higher than that of dispersants in use today. Britain, in particular, began active research into the problem at the Department of Industry's Warren Spring labora-

tory and the Ministry of Agriculture's Burnham-on-Crouch laboratory.

Oil spills don't occur solely as a result of disaster at sea. Far more regular, though smaller, spills happen as a result of the oil tankers' pernicious practice of cleaning out their tanks before they reach port. Happily this behaviour seems to be on the decline. The SA Department of Transport reported 29 oil pollution cases off our coasts during 1979, compared with 71 off Natal alone during 1975.

If all this oil would conveniently stay out at sea, it's arguable that there would really be no problem at all. Unfortunately the action of waves, winds and tides means that virtually all of it ends up on beaches and rocks and in harbours and tidal pools.

Crude oil is lighter than water and floats on the sea's surface. But, more important, it immediately begins to evaporate and so becomes more tarry and difficult to get rid of. So speed is a crucial aspect of the oil-combating process.

A number of methods of dealing with the problem have been developed. Ideally, the most satisfactory method would be to remove the oil from the sea altogether by, say, sucking it up. But, so far, this has been difficult to achieve in practice. People have tried surrounding an oil spill with booms so that it can literally be towed to where recovery is easier, but wave action generally slops most of the oil over the side.

The most successful method, and the most widely used, is that of dispersing the oil with oil spill dispersants. The idea here is to break up the oil into small droplets and then to disperse it throughout as much water as possible.

"Oil can be broken up — without the aid

of dispersants — simply by means of very vigorous mixing," points out Dr Roy Perry, technical director of Chemserve-Ardrox, which manufactures such dispersants.

"But once the energy input of mixing is slowed, the oil coalesces and rises to the top to form a slick again. So the object of a dispersant is to reduce the amount of mixing that is necessary to achieve a finer and stable dispersion.

"By dispersing the oil in this way, two things are accomplished — one, the dispersion is no longer a sticky, intractable mess, as crude oil is; and two, that the finely dispersed oil is far more rapidly biodegraded by micro-organisms present in the sea.

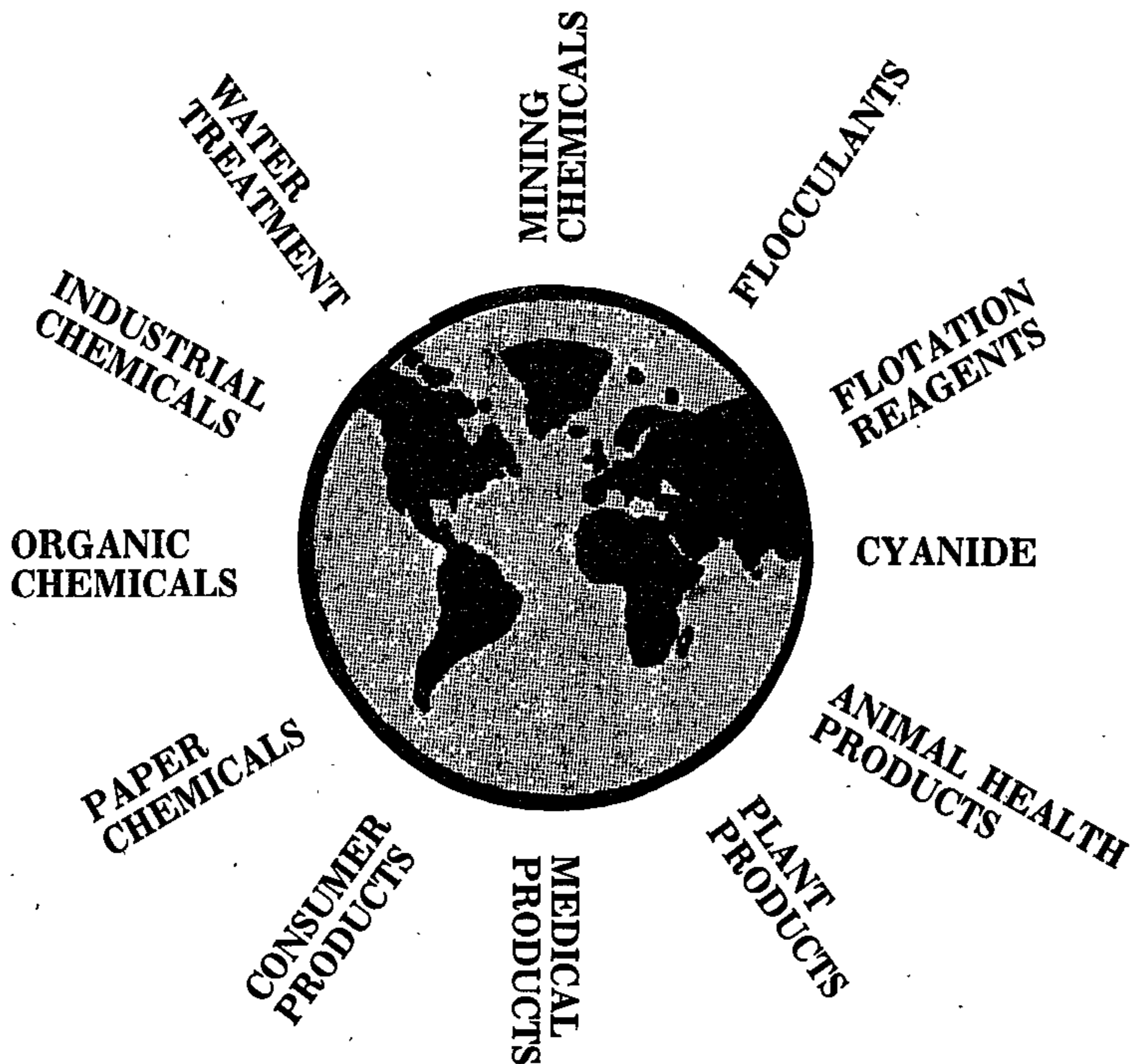
"In fact, a recent report from California states that the population of oil-degrading bacteria increases rapidly from normal levels in areas where oil is a chronic and consistent menace."

A well dispersed oil is termed an emulsion. There are oil-in-water emulsions, low in viscosity, which will disperse into large volumes of water, and water-in-oil emulsions, in which viscosity is much higher. These latter emulsions will not disperse in water. Such an emulsion is the so-called *brown mousse*.

Brown mousse is a thick brown fluid — more than three times greater in volume than the oil from which it is formed — which was created in large quantities at the time of the *Torrey Canyon* disaster, and after the collision of the *Veneta* and *Venpet* off the SA coast. (The latter disaster, it has been announced in Parliament, cost R1,2m to clear up.) Containing up to 70% water, brown mousse can be formed when poorly formulated dispersants are used on oil.



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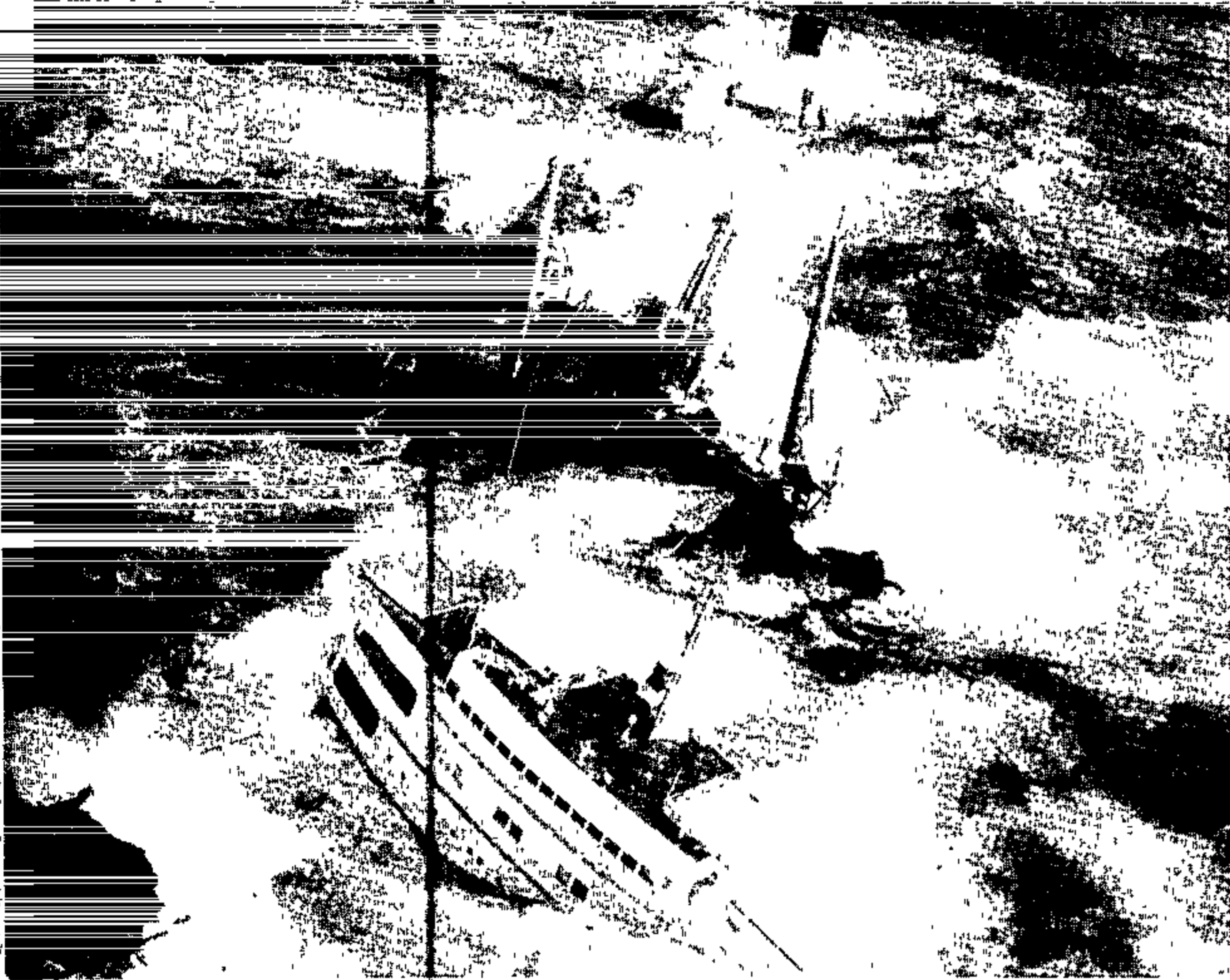


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The Torrey Canyon . . . 100 000 tons of oil on a marine rampage

Because of its high water content, brown mousse will not burn. Worse, it cannot be dispersed before it has been broken down into pure crude again —

well-nigh impossible on a large scale at sea. Oddly enough, certain types of crude — notably Kuwait crude — are more prone to mousse formation than others.

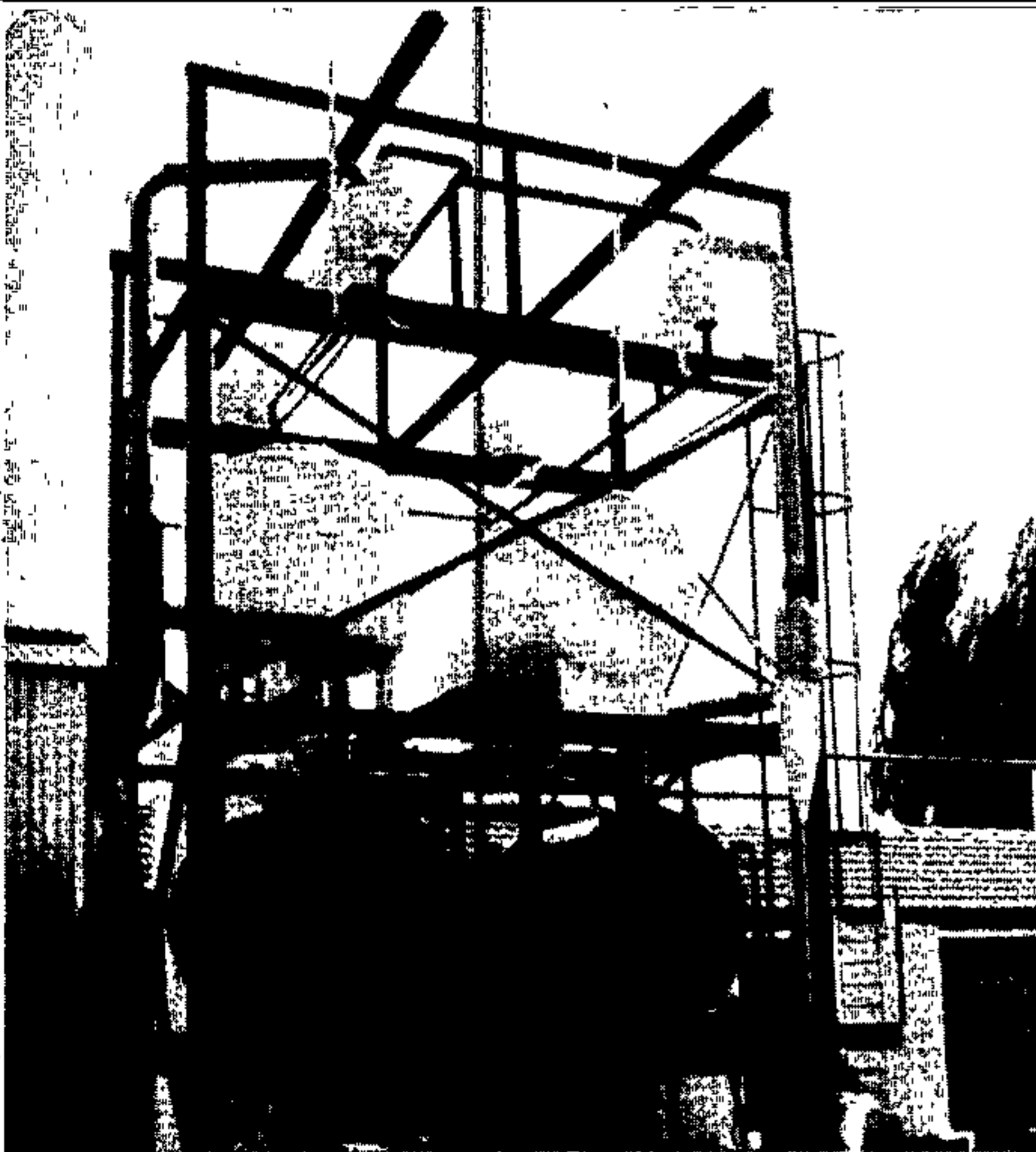
To lay the dispersants, specially fitted vessels cruise through the oil at predetermined speeds (too fast or too slow and efficiency is reduced) using sprays fitted to a boom. Behind the vessels, at a specified distance, are dragged breaker boards which churn the water and mix it with the oil.

The SA Department of Transport's Marine division maintains five coastal craft (all called *Kuswaa* and numbered 1 to 5), all of which are fitted with dispersant-laying equipment to Warren Spring specifications.

Other weapons which have been evolved in the fight against oil spills include barriers which, when sprayed on beaches and on the water close to the shoreline, keep the oil at bay. But, as high tide effectively washes the barrier off the beaches, these must be resprayed daily.

Some people have even tried sinking oil by applying powders which absorb the oil and make it heavier than water. So far, this method has not proved a dazzling success.

Efforts to develop and improve methods for physically removing oil from the sea continue. But, as Perry says: "Although it's worth trying to improve these methods as much as possible, I believe that there is a natural barrier to complete success here. And I don't see chemical means of fighting oil spills ever being entirely replaced."



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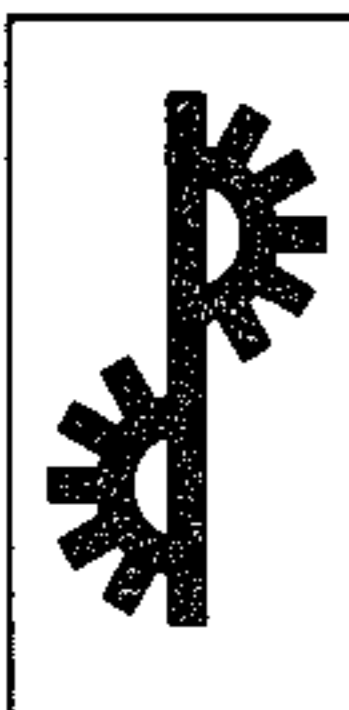
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The PWV 3 has become the ogre of roads.

To be brutal, it is a 52 km slab of tarmac that will crash through homes, dams, nature reserves and mountains from here to Rustenburg.

To be fair, it will provide an easy drive through what is probably the finest scenery a Johannesburger can reach on a Sunday afternoon.

The results depend chiefly on the planning of one body — the Transvaal Roads Department.

I interviewed the department's Director of Roads, Mr L. J. Terblanche, over the telephone.

The conversation centred on the most environmentally sensitive section of the PWV3: the strip called P160 across Hartbeespoort Dam and through the Magaliesberg at Pampoene Nek. The department has commissioned a R400 000 environmental impact assessment (EIA) of this part of the road.

CARE: What is the purpose of the P160? Is it for traffic to Bophuthatswana or Rustenburg, or has it strategic significance?

Mr Terblanche: The main purpose arises from the fact that the existing vehicle count on the road around the dam is 5000 cars a day and that is too heavy. We should have built the P160 five years ago. Bophuthatswana and Rustenburg traffic are also important. I don't know of any strategic significance.

CARE: Environmental-

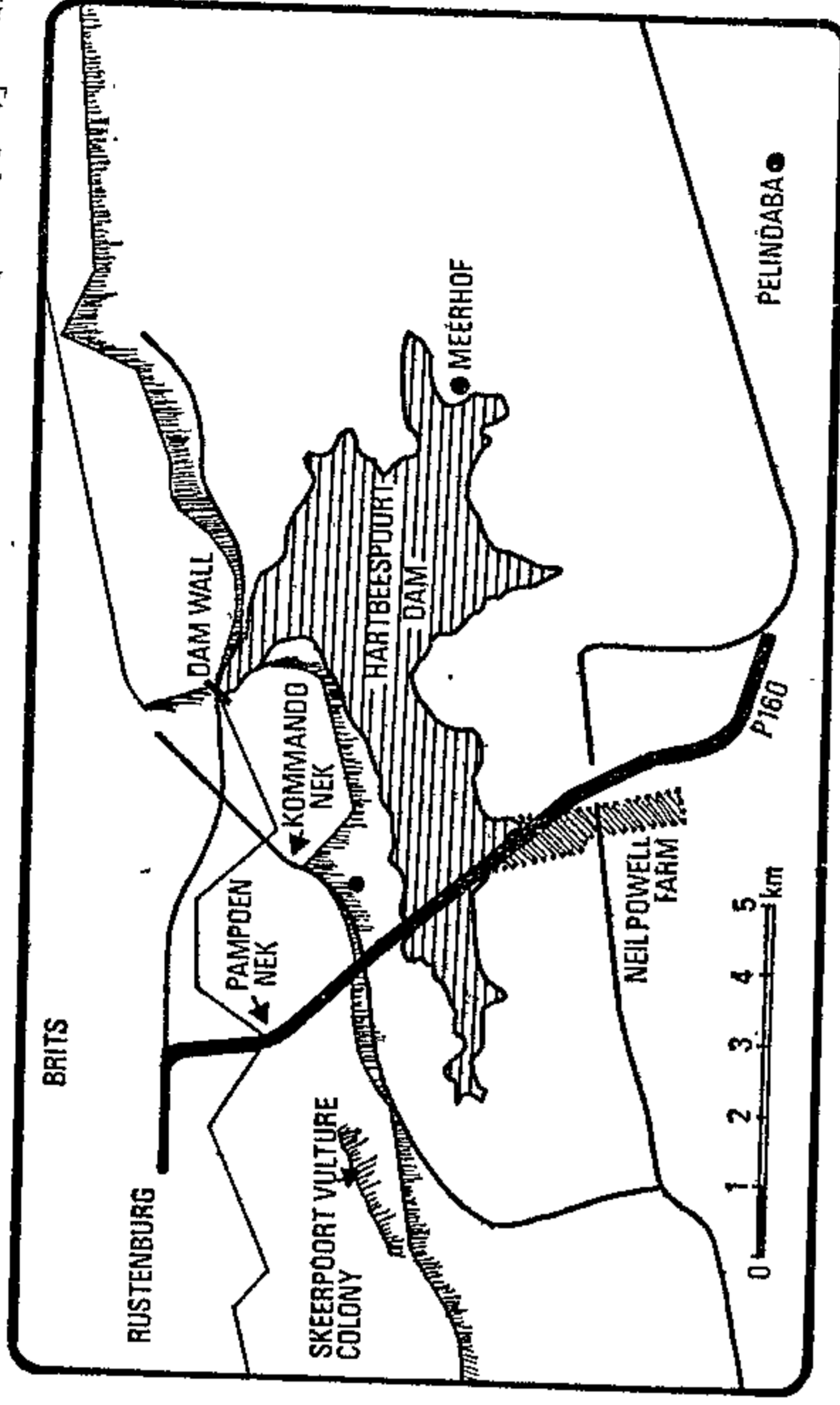
What comes first — development of our roads system or our environment? Can the threatened extinction of a rare vulture species have any bearing on the building of a highway?

JASPER MORTIMER of The Star's CARE campaign spoke to the Transvaal Director of Roads about the planning of the PWV 3, a new road that is fast becoming...

STAR 4/6/80

The OGRE

Is this PWV3 route absolutely necessary?



ists fear the Department has simply chosen the most economic route through the Magaliesberg and then commissioned an EIA as a public relations gesture.

Mr Terblanche: We didn't choose the route. It was chosen by the (old) Department of Environmental Planning some years ago.

(CARE subsequently confirmed that the Roads Department put forward two routes, over the dam in 1975. The one was the present P160, and the other was the P2/4 which would have cut through the Schoemansville resort area and crossed the dam to Kosmos. After representations from these

two towns, the Department of Planning said the Roads Department should take the P160 route).

CARE: Environmentalists would still say the EIA is window-dressing because the EIA team is not assessing the impact of alternative routes.

Mr Terblanche: It is not for the team to consider alternative routes because the alternatives have already been considered. We are pressed for time here. The road should have been built five years ago.

CARE: Instead of blasting through the virgin gorge Pampoene Nek, why don't you take the road through Kommando Nek?

where there is a road already?

Mr Terblanche: Kommando Nek serves the local people. To put the highway through that nek would mean additional distance and would be interfering with the existing road.

CARE: But it would be a detour of only 6 km. Pampoene Nek to Kommando Nek is 3 km.

Mr Terblanche: Only 6 km? If you want to go from Pretoria to Durban you don't go via Bloemfontein. If you've got 6000 vehicles travelling an additional 6 km, over a few years it adds up to a lot in extra petrol and engine wear.

Mr Terblanche: I'm not an expert on vultures, but I say they'll get used to

think the deviation is worth it in terms of protecting the Magaliesberg as a nature conservation area?

Mr Terblanche: I can't say. I don't think the P160 would do so much damage to the Magaliesberg, there's quite enough area left completely untouched.

CARE: Dr John Ledger, the Cape vulture expert, says blasting at Pampoene Nek is likely to force the Skeerpoort vultures to evacuate. If that happens, he says there's a real chance that 90 percent of them will die.

Mr Terblanche: I don't think it will be unsightly. If the road went round the dam it would be so much longer. As to the litter, have you seen how much litter the people on motorboats throw out? We must educate the public.

civilisation. I've seen aircraft fly right above Luern, and they just sit there. There are more birds around D F Malan Airport today than there used to be.

CARE: Critics say the bridge across the dam will be unsightly and will enable thousands of motorists to throw litter into the water.

Mr Terblanche: I don't think it will be unsightly. If the road went round the dam it would be so much longer. As to the litter, have you seen how much litter the people on motorboats throw out? We must educate the public.

CARE: Should the Transvaal Division of Nature Conservation, the farmers, the Magaliesberg Protection Association all oppose this route, will you still go ahead?

Mr Terblanche: The position is that the road has been proclaimed. We are beginning with expropriation and the route has been staked out.

CARE: So you will go ahead?

Mr Terblanche: It looks to me like that.

CARE: Then what is the point of the EIA?

Mr Terblanche: The main purpose of the EIA is to make sure the road is built in such a way that we do the least damage.

If the multiplier is equal to one
it will close the deflation gap by

Barren outlook on environment

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — Large parts of South Africa could turn into desert in the next 70 years if fossil fuels continue to be burnt at their present rate, the Institute of Environmental Sciences at the University of the Orange Free State has determined.

The University Institute is engaged in research into the earlier climate patterns of

Africa.

Fossil pollen distributed between 70-million and 500 000 years ago are closely studied as climatic changes in these periods are indicated by shifts in vegetation types which occurred in particular localities.

Apart from the scientific and geological importance of the findings other important conclusions have been reached.

The most important finding is that a general increase of about 1°C in the world temperature occurred between 1900 and 1950 and that this was possibly due to the industrial revolution.

Because of the rate at which fossil fuels are burnt it has been forecast that the world temperature will increase by 3,6°C within the next 70 years.

This could well lead to a drastic change in the South African climate and result in conditions returning to the post-glacial period about 9 600 years ago when the South African land masses below 25° south were continuously subject to arid conditions, a fact of particular importance to the future of the country.

(56) RDM
11/6/80

planning

in the hands of the public. This
they would have more personal disposable
income. As a result of this their MPE
would increase. With the aid
of the multiplier the deflation gap
would be closed. Here we would
hold government expenditure at a
constant rate. When we use taxes
to close a deflation gap we
however to encounter additional problems?
These are that because we have made
additional income available to the
public they would not necessarily
consume all of it. Some of it would
be saved or used for imports.
Here we see that we have a withdrawal
from the tax if we want to close a deflation
gap with taxes would decrease if
taxes by a larger amount than we
would increase expenditure to bring
about the same task. Here
we see the TASC or going to
have to be more realistic because,

A clean-up day

(56) THE Mzimhlophe branch of the National Environmental Awareness Council (Neac) has organised an operation clean-up for the township tomorrow.

The youth are requested to participate in the clean-up which starts at 9 am.

The spokesman for the branch, Mr Tsepo Selebi, said they will meet at Matshediso Higher Primary School. He added that

the branch has realised that the youth of Mzimhlophe must keep their township clean.

"We must be aware that we are living in polluted places. Rubbish has been dumped in the heart of our township and there is nobody who can clean our township. This is a health hazard," he said.

~~AP/5~~

P

O.

Rationalise, says conservation report

THE ASSEMBLY. — There is a need for the rationalisation of existing Acts regulations, ordinances and by-laws on environmental matters, says the Government's White Paper on national environmental conservation policy.

The report was tabled in the Assembly yesterday by the Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation Mr Braam Raubenheimer.

It says that to promote Government attention to the environment there is a need for

such rationalisation.

"This development pattern in regard to legislation should be seen in the light of the ultimate aim being pursued, namely, the creation of institutions and practices to ensure that Government will in future accord sufficient attention to the environment to ensure a healthy balance between development and environmental conservation," it said.

It proposes an Environment Conservation Act to create the necessary machinery to achieve this aim.

"The proposed Act will therefore be the first step towards the rationalisation of environmental legislation and will provide for the creation, amongst other things of a statutory council for the environment and the necessary machinery for the combating of noise and littering and the control of solid waste.

"The envisaged legislation is not intended to encroach upon the characteristic functions of other departments.

The White Paper said further legal powers which may be re-

quired will receive the attention of the new council.

Because the quality of the environment will determine the quality of life in South Africa, it was necessary to aim for a Government department equipped to deal with all aspects of the environment.

"This could best be achieved by apportioning overall responsibility for environmental conservation and promotion in its entirety to the Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation."

For practical reasons executive action in the field of con-

servation should, however, be the responsibility of those departments and institutions at present charged with such action.

The Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation should, however, be responsible for overall policy, with the aid of experts.

It should also be responsible for aspects of the environment not dealt with by other institutions, for example certain aspects of noise control and solid waste management — Sapa

Major clash rooms over Sandy Bay

CAPE TIMES
21/6/80
56

By BOB MOLLOY

FOUR IMPORTANT interest groups seem set for a major clash over Sandy Bay this month in a coincidence of events as the "war" over this area enters what may be the final phase.

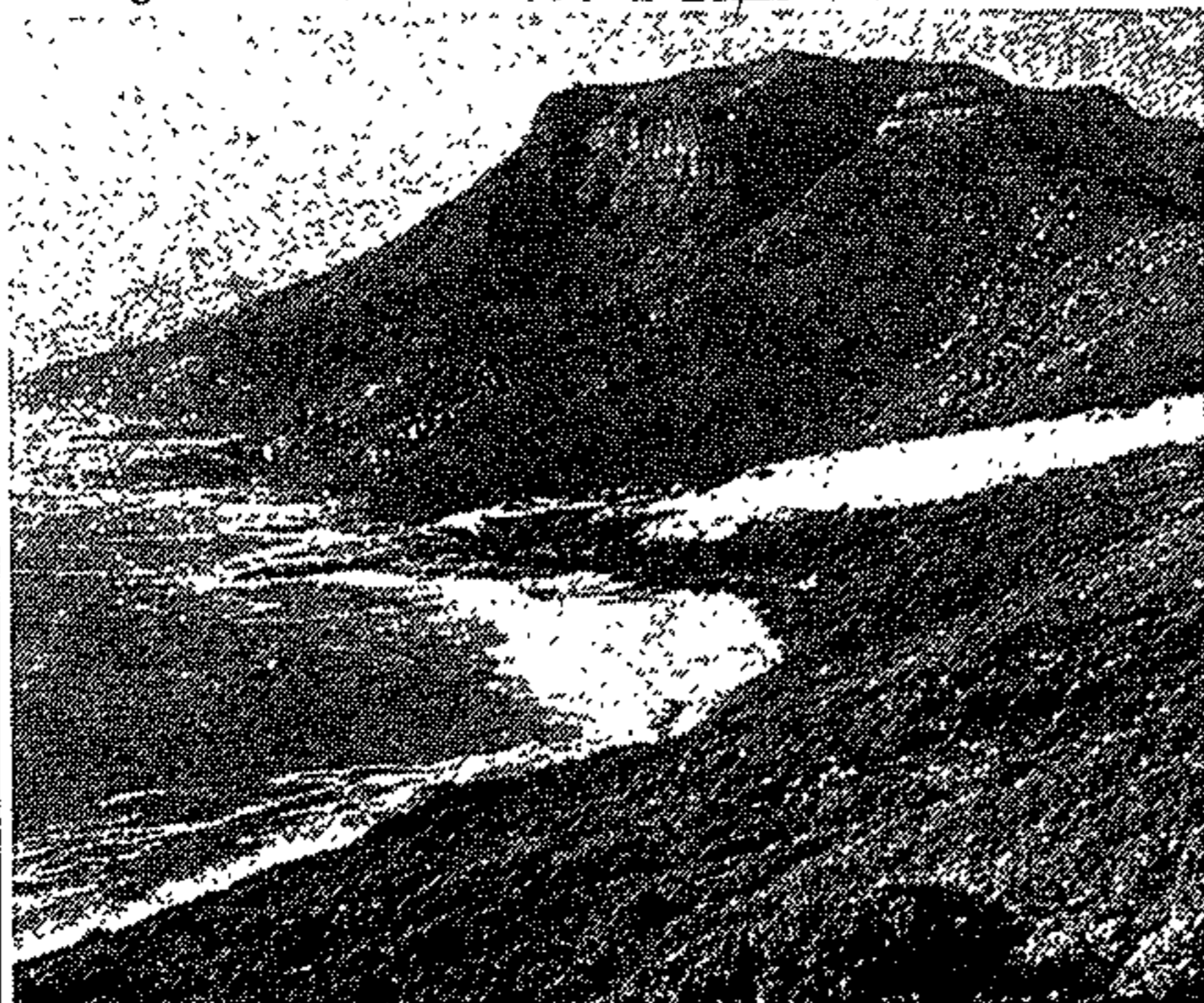
The Divisional Council has been directed by Province to take possession of land donated by Costa Areosa, the company which proposes to develop the area as a township, to provide access roads, parking and ablution blocks at Sandy Bay. Almost simultaneously, an urgent interim management committee has been appointed at Cabinet level to consider, among other things, its conservation as part of a Peninsula mountain-chain nature reserve.

At the same time the Trust Bank, in consortium with Costa Areosa, has been reported to be taking a fresh look at its investment and the Society for the Protection of the Environment has spoken out against development on the grounds that it is not justified in terms of shortage of seaside plots.

The directive from the Director of Local Government, which came before a meeting of the Works Committee last week, will be tabled at a Divisional Council meeting on Tuesday.

Last week, in the closing days of the parliamentary session, the Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Braam Raubenheimer, gave the green light to three interim management committees administering conservation of the Magaliesberg, Rietvlei and the Peninsula mountain chain.

The committees are a tacit acknowledgement that an important bill on environmental issues has been caught in the legislation backlog and will not come up for debate until the next session.



Sandy Bay

The bill, among other things, is expected to provide teeth for the environmental lobby campaigning for conservation of the entire Peninsula mountain chain above the 152-metre contour line.

Mr Kent Durr, MP for Maitland, said yesterday that Dr Douglas Hey, former director of the Department of Nature Conservation and a visiting lecturer at the UCT School of Environmental Studies, had been appointed chairman of the Peninsula committee. Dr Hey chaired a commission of inquiry into Peninsula conservation which recommended Sandy Bay and the Karbonkelberg as a "lung".

Bank reported to be 'looking again'

The other members of the committee are Mr J F Fenn, Department of Forestry; Mr G Du Toit Roux, Department of Public Works; Mr G S Hofmeyr, National Monuments Council; Commandant D C Besbier, SADF; Mr F A Roelelse, Cape Town City Council; Mr L I Lipman, assistant city engineer; Professor H B. Rycroft, director of Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens; Dr G A Robinson, National Parks Board; Mr P M Hedderwick, Fish Hoek municipality; Mr W.O. Morsbach, provincial Department of Nature and Environmental Conservation; Mr J Fick, Divisional Council, and Mr N H Grant, Simonstown municipality.

A Sunday newspaper reported at the weekend that the Trust Bank was "looking again" at Sandy Bay. The bank, in consortium with a development company, lost some of its popular image some years ago when it clashed with conservationists. A spokesman for the bank said the bay was "not a proposition" at present because the installation of services was too costly. Permission to develop, given by the Provincial Administration in March 1976, lapsed last year.

Professor M A Rabie, president of the Society for the Preservation of the Environment, came out strongly this week against development of Sandy Bay. In the society's newsletter he said research had shown an oversupply of seaside plots.

'Build and be damned' days may be few

By James Clarke

The days when developers could build and be damned — à la Johannesburg Hospital on Parktown Ridge or the police barracks overlooking western Johannesburg — may be numbered.

The Government has announced that in future "it will be necessary" for official and private developers to examine the environmental impacts of what they do.

In the recently tabled White Paper on "a national policy regarding environmental conservation" the Government has announced it intends to draw up guidelines, checklists and evaluation systems to ensure that developers avoid unsightly projects.

It will also guard against unexpected environmental side-effects — an example of which is the thousands of new traffic movements created by the building of Parktown's giant hospital which shattered the suburb's state-liest area.

A STEP

The announcement that the Government would request environmental impact studies has been greeted by environmental lawyers with guarded optimism.

"It is a small step in the right direction," one told CARE.

The White Paper falls short of going for compulsory public disclosure of environmental impact assessments which can then be examined by the public before a project goes ahead. That is what many environmentally concerned people want.

But at least it asks for environmental considerations to be given an equal footing with economic and other considerations when, say, the province or a hypermarket developer wants to put up a big development.

STMT
23/6/80

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Sandy Bay road, parking rejected

Cape Times 26/6/80 56

Staff Reporter

THE proposed construction of a road and parking area at Sandy Bay was rejected yesterday by the MPC for the area, Mr Herbert Hirsch, on the grounds that there was "absolutely no case for encouraging this type of development".

"The question of the preservation of the Hout Bay/Llandudno area is one to which all citizens should address themselves as a matter of urgency," Mr Hirsch said.

With an over-supply of seaside plots in the Cape, there was no case for development "or even for permitting unwanted infrastructure to be developed".

The decision to acquire land for a road and parking was "incredible" in the light of the Hey Commission report, which recommended that Sandy Bay be incorporated into the pro-

posed Peninsula mountain chain reserve.

"Why appoint a commission when its recommendations are to be ignored?" Mr Hirsch asked.

All that was needed in the area was improvement to parking at Sunset Rocks and toilet facilities at Sandy Bay.

The appointment of the interim management committee for the Peninsula mountain chain, with Dr Douglas Hey as chairman, was a welcome move, as was the decision by the Divisional Council to consult ratepayers on proposed development of Hout Bay beach, Mr Hirsch said.

"I trust that, with support from organizations such as the Society for the Preservation of the Environment and other conservation-minded bodies, the interim management committee will be in a position to influence the administrator and others to rethink the issues."

Beach plan welcomed

MR LEN POTHIER, chairman of the Hout Bay and Llandudno Ratepayers' Association, yesterday welcomed a proposed development plan for Hout Bay beach put forward by the Divisional Council this week.

"Ratepayers pushed for seven years for some decision on the beach and we are naturally glad to see some movement. I can't make any other comment till I see details such as height restrictions and landscaping of beach or dunes."

The association has arranged for a meeting with the administrator on July 25 to discuss "a number of contentious issues on which we have made no headway in Hout Bay," Mr Pothier said. Mr Herbert Hirsch, MPC, and Mr John Bridgeman, divisional councillor for the area, would also attend, together with Divisional Council representatives.

Plan for Hout Bay development

(56) *filed*
Cape Times 2/7/80

By BOB MOLLOY

FUTURE development of the Hout Bay beach area should be of a "low order" leaving the beachfront and the Disa River mouth undisturbed, according to recommendations put forward by the Divisional Council's Town Planning section.

In a conceptual development plan, tabled for council consideration last week, the Town Planning section noted that private developers requested planning permission for 42 single-storied housing units, eight maisonettes and a drive-in restaurant west of the river, plus an application for 44 housing units, a shopping complex and a private club on the east.

The applications were refused, pending an overall development plan for the beachfront.

Among other points for the east side, the plan recommends:

- No east side development to be permitted in front of the existing dune, even if proposed development accords with zoning.

- No development up to the edge of the river, banks to be kept open as public walkways.

- No extension of the residential zone to the Princess

Street boundary

- The land abutting Princess Street to be reserved as public open space for use as a picnic site, providing adequate control is exercised for protection of the Milkwood grove

- Maintenance of the amenity zoning behind the dune

- A shopping complex abutting Main Road and group cluster housing flanked by the complex and the river

Planners saw the site behind the dune as "an ideal opportunity for the development of a low-rise hotel - despite the fact that a view of the sea will be partly obliterated by the dune"

Undisturbed

"For the remainder of the beachfront area including the river and the area immediately behind and to the west of the hardened area - it is suggested that all these areas be left undisturbed with regard to any major development proposals," the report said

Recommendations for the west side were:

- The site of the old Madeira Cafe to be used for the development of a small, low-key tearoom/cafe to meet the requirements of visitors and the Yacht Club.

- Development of the

hardened section as a picnic and recreation area protected by a windbreak in the form of an artificially erected and stabilized dune

- Holiday chalets or some similar form of informal holiday accommodation to be permitted north of the proposed dune and west of the river.

- The bulk of the existing dune area to be held in reserve for future use

Sewage

"While certain of the proposals would depend upon the success of the experimental project to create a dune, other proposals could be implemented right away - for example the development on the eastern bank of the river and the development of holiday chalets - assuming that no other requirements existed such as the problem of sewage disposal

"Strong (pedestrian) linkages between all the activities are advocated - particularly towards the beach and along the banks of the river. Pedestrian movements over the dunes must not be allowed to continue and, if the experimental dune should prove a success, formal pathways would have to be provided," the report said

River estuary pollution gives cause for alarm

By AUCHELLWAID

THE pollution of estuaries in South Africa was continuous and was occurring at an unprecedented rate, Mr G W Epp, of the Oceanographic Research Institute in Durban, told a 10th international symposium on habitats and wildlife in Pretoria yesterday.

Even the most remote estuaries in Natal revealed high levels of chemical pollution from the malaria control operations practised by the State Department of Health.

Industrial pollution is attributable to organic enrichment from sugar mills, and fibre disposal from paper mills.

He said there was also crop land pollution from fertilisers, herbicides and insecticides which enter the water.

Faecal contamination of both rivers and estuaries was also frequently encountered, with consequent health hazards, he said.

Municipal sewage effluent,

septic tanks and sheer lack of sanitation in certain areas all contributed to the problem.

Urban development along the coast, with its heavy demand for residential sites, roads, stormwater drainage, sewage treatment facilities and refuse disposal sites all added to the estuaries.

Engineering structures in the vicinity of estuary mouths, such as bridges, embankments, weirs and tidal peals, had made their presence felt by further reducing the quality of the estuarine environments.

Increased traffic flows and the need for bigger and better roads owed their origin to increased development and population growth, which had caused almost every estuary and lagoon to be crossed by bridges.

Added to this were the effects of disused bridge structures that were left because of the cost of removing them.

The Government is showing a greater interest

STAR
7/7/80

56

Environmental conservation has never been a particularly strong point with the Government. There never has been a really holistic approach.

In 1971, the then Minister of Planning, Mr Jannie Loots, made a very humorous reply to a suggestion in the House that South Africa needed a Minister of Environmental Planning.

The complexity of genuine environmental planning was not then fully appreciated and the debate ended with much laughter on both sides.

In 1973, Mr Loots became Minister of Environmental Planning.

But his department was just not geared for such a complicated task. The environmental insults continued. The road-makers still went more or less where they wanted. Government and provincial developments popped up like mushrooms in the most inappropriate places. Soil loss continued. The cities became uglier and noisier.

The public was outrageously planned upon.

But, over the years, the public has changed. It is much more environmentally aware, more educated and more organised. The engineers and planners have also changed. They too, are becoming more aware of the dangers of the unforeseen impacts of their developments. So are politicians.

This month's White Paper on "A National Policy Regarding Environmental Conservation" is evidence of this. And although the new policy statement was celebrated only very quietly in South African homes, the effort deserves a round of applause. It is a beginning of an holistic approach.

In essence, it states the Government's intention to co-ordinate urban and rural conservation; to watch more closely what public authorities are doing and to define more carefully what they should be doing.

It does not intend to centralise executive powers but rather to give the revamped Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation a greater degree of environmental quality control over what developments go on in the man-made as well as natural environments.

The White Paper hints at tighter legislation "if necessary" to enable the Department to act as watch dog and adviser. It admits with some refreshing frankness to conflicts of interest between various authorities and between authorities and the

In a recent White Paper, the Government addressed itself to the broad issue of environmental conservation. JAMES CLARKE of CARE reports



Mr Jannie Loots . . . a humorous reply that eventually came true.

private sector — and it sees it as necessary that both, public and private enterprise, be requested to pay more attention to the side effects of what they do.

It admits to gaps in legislation.

● **Public Participation:** The Government states its intention to change the central Council for the Environment (mainly an establishment body today) into a statutory body with a balance between the public and private sectors. It can nominate any expert to join it and will afford "all interested bodies" the opportunity to make contributions. The council will play a "co-ordinating role and render expert advice."

Although the Paper comes out in favour of all developers (public and private) of large projects furnishing environmental impact studies it does not insist that these studies be made public.

● **Air pollution:** The report is very skimpy on this issue but at least the Government appears to be against air pollution.

● **Cultural-historical aspects:** The Paper admits to inadequate legislation for conserving buildings and sites which the public holds dear. It says the Government "must take the initiative" and "must acquire more power to oppose the impact of the demands of development where it poses a threat to the cultural environment." The Government will lay down guide lines.

● **Marine pollution:** More co-ordination between departments envisaged.

● **Nature conservation:** The objective here is to co-ordinate the control and management of wildlife and wild places be they national parks or game reserves. Research will also be co-ordinated.

● **Noise pollution:** The White Paper promises a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach - but the policy statement offers no firm commitments regarding new legislation which is badly needed. It does mention that the new Department of Environmental Conservation "should be empowered" to lead the fight against noise.

● **Radiation pollution:** There may be more co-ordination here in that an umbrella body "may" be established.

● **Soil conservation:** The Paper expresses deep concern about continued soil loss and says "steps have been taken and further action is contemplated" to prevent soil loss caused by development.

● **Solid waste and littering:** Again, more co-ordination is envisaged under the new department. The Government proposes to encourage recycling and to lay down guide lines for the evaluation of packaging material and containers.

● **Water pollution:** Pollution control is to be co-ordinated and optimised.

● **Legislation:** The White Paper discusses "the envisaged Environmental Conservation Act which will be used to set up machinery and pull together existing acts, regulations, ordinances and other efforts concerned with conservation."

The Act will make the Council for Environment a statutory body and allow for further legal moves by the Department of Environmental Conservation "as may be required," the ultimate aim being to equip the Department to co-ordinate "all aspects of the environment."

The Department of Environmental Conservation will also be responsible for environmental measures which at the moment have no home.

CAPL TOM B 11/7/80

Application for ~~ARB~~ plant approved ~~56~~

Staff Reporter

THE Divisional Council Medical Officer of Health, Dr L R Tibbit, yesterday gave conditional approval to an application for a fish-smoking and processing factory at Hout Bay.

The approval, which was tabled at a meeting of the Health Committee, will come before the next meeting of the council for ratification.

No objections were received when the application was advertised as required by the regulations.

In his report to the Health Committee, Dr Tibbit said the application had been made by Irvin and Johnson to conduct "the offensive trade of smoking and processing of fish" on Yorke Point, Hout Bay, in a factory previously occupied by Amalgamated Fisheries.

Approval was subject to:

- Any requirements which

may be stipulated by the Engineer, Inspector of Factories and Medical Officer of Health.

- Suitable arrangements being made for the disposal of liquid and solid wastes.

- Smoke emitted by the smokeboxes being kept to within an acceptable limit.

Mr Len Pothier, chairman of the Hout Bay and Llandudno Ratepayers Association, said yesterday the smoking and processing of fish had been previously carried on in the same buildings by Amalgamated Fisheries.

"This application is simply a continuation of the same business and has nothing to do with the fishmeal factory which most people see as a major nuisance in Hout Bay. Provided the business is run in an acceptable manner the association has no objection," Mr Pothier said.

Conservationists call on SA to back whaling ban

56 RDM 16/7/80
Own Correspondent

LONDON. — International conservation groups meeting in London yesterday urged South African support for their demand for a ban on commercial whaling.

This will come up when the International Whaling Commission holds its annual meeting in Brighton on Monday.

A spokesman for the conservation pressure group, Green Peace, congratulated South Africa on its stand on whaling, but added: "We would like to see South Africa do more in the conservation line and not abstain when it comes to voting for a total ban on commercial whaling. This has been its policy too often in the past.

Countries like South

Africa supported our call it would go a long way towards improving the chances for a negotiated end to commercial whaling."

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) will lobby for a moratorium on whaling at the IWC meeting.

They point out that if whaling continues on the present scale, the "timetable of extinction could be 10 years".

Speaking at a Press conference in London yesterday Sir Peter Scott, of the WWF, said that there were three good reasons for halting commercial whaling. These were:

- The threat of extinction.
- The extreme cruelty

involved.

- Lack of commercial need now that alternatives to whale products were available.

Sir Peter said that in the past two or three years conservationists had been getting closer to the possibility of a moratorium.

He pointed out that the Japanese and the Soviet Union were the worst offenders.

He predicted that Japan would have a very large delegation at the IWC meeting and would "fight as hard as they can" for the biggest whale quota possible.

On the other hand, it was hoped that the Russians might welcome the goodwill that would accrue to them if they got out of whaling.

Message to Prime Minister, call for inquiry as engineer slates 'ill-informed'

Anger spills over in sewage-in-sea row

18/7/80
N.M.
25

Municipal Reporter

AS HOTELIERS added to the clamour against a proposed experiment to pump 'solid' sewage into the sea off Durban, City Engineer Don Macleod yesterday hit back at what he termed 'ill-informed' criticism.

The sudden flare-up over the two-year City Council project, to be run in conjunction with the Water Research Commission, included a warning on the effect on tourism and a plea to the Prime Minister to intervene.

'No one asked us for information before shouting,' Mr Macleod said angrily. 'They don't seem to know much

about it.'

Retaliating, Mr Julien Yorke, vice-chairman of the Bluff-based Anti-Rates Committee, said the council seemed to be going ahead with the project without consulting anyone.

His committee yesterday sent a telegram to Prime Minister P W Botha asking him to block the plan before it was too late.

'If we pumped a tankerload of sludge into their council chamber, would the City Council understand then?' Mr Yorke said last night.

Slating Bluff councillor Jimmy Kyle, who backed the project, Mr Yorke said Mr Kyle had been elected by Bluff residents to protect their environment. He 'needed to get his facts straight'.

Mr Keith van der Wat, chairman of the Anti-Rates Committee, said: 'If the City Council approves pumping sewage or sludge from the Bluff or Durban, I will demand that the Provincial Administration appoint a commission of inquiry into the handling of the affairs of Durban City Council.'

Mr Gerard Stanek, chairman of the Durban and District Hotel and Bottlestore Association, said the public-

ity surrounding the project was terrifying. 'Our secretary has been told to get in touch with experts to give us their opinion.'

'I should imagine all laymen — and that must be 98 percent, of our tourists — would not believe Durban could do it.'

'Durban's main attraction is its beaches. Anything that would damage them would be unbelievable.'

But both Mr Macleod and City Medical Officer of Health Colin Mackenzie said their fears were unfounded and built more on connotations than fact.

'My main concern is the health of bathers,' Dr Mackenzie said.

'Our experience with the liquid effluent which is already pumped out — and most of the bacteria are in the liquid part — has been that the beaches are unaffected.'

Die
The sea's salinity had a differing effect on various organisms in the sewage, he said, and some did not die immediately.
'They will die in the sea, but at differing rates. Both State Health and my department will be on the steering committee overseeing the project.
'If there are problems, we'll stop the experiment. And it is just an experiment.
Filter-feeding animals such as mussels and oysters would be regularly tested for contamination too, he said.
Mr Macleod said the term 'solids' was misleading. Sewage would still be strained and settled and surface scum taken off.
But instead of incinerating or otherwise treating the settled sludge — which was itself in liquid form — it would be pumped out with the liquid effluent.
There was no point in treating the sludge against bacteria before pumping it into the sea, because that in any case, we're not worried about the bacteria. The only real danger lies in heavy metals disposed of by industry. But those are easily monitored.
'The Department of Sea Fisheries and State Health are prepared to let the project start. Surely that shows the project will be safe?'

STAR 1/7/80
Iscor has
clean coal
mining plan
for Park

By James Clarke

There will be no townships, dams, dumps or river pollution in Kruger Park's Pafuri area should Iscor be given the go-ahead to mine coking coal there, says Dr T F Muller, chairman of Iscor.

The Cabinet has frozen further activity by Iscor which is still uncertain whether the deposit is viable.

"There is a 50/50 chance it is not," said Dr Muller.

In his first interview with a newspaperman on the subject, Dr Muller said he would be against amending the National Parks Act to allow mining in Kruger Park. He agreed it would leave all national parks very vulnerable.

He said Iscor would favour a land swap with the piece of land adjacent to the Park. The coal area is roughly 15 km by 7 km (about 100 sq km).

The land under which the high-quality coking coal was found would be returned afterwards.

He said that at the moment it was felt the deposit could be approached underground from Venda in which case only ventilation shafts "might" be needed and surface disruption would be very slight.

Dr Muller gave The Star's CARE campaign an undertaking that before anything happened an environmental impact report would be made public and it would discuss the alternatives to mining Kruger Park as well as the negative and positive aspects if the park were mined.

● The full interview with CARE appears on Page 1 of Briefing today.

Council yes to sewage in sea

NM 22/7/80

(56)

Municipal Reporter

DURBAN City Councillors yesterday almost unanimously backed the two-year experiment to pump sewage sludge into the sea.

Councillor Carl Haupt dissented but all three Bluff councillors present — Louis de Beer, Gys Muller and Dick Burgess — were in favour.

They decided after the council had taken the unusual step of inviting City Engineer Don Macleod and Medical Officer of Health Colin Mackenzie to address them and answer questions.

The decision drew instant criticism from the Durban Publicity Association's director, Mr Terry Toohy, who said he was very worried.

'All we need is an abnormal tide to bring in a murky, smelly mess and the cost to our R300 million tourist industry could be vast — certainly more than the R2 million they're hoping to save.'

'I'd hate to have the job of explaining it to up-country people.'

He said there had been

comment from Johannesburg already.

'My fear is that what appears to be a fairly rational project has not taken into account the emotive issues.'

Mr Keith van der Wat, editor of a Bluff newspaper, predicted massive public reaction.

He had understood that at least Mr Burgess would vote against the scheme.

Mr Burgess admitted last night he had been opposed to the idea, but the City Engineer had convinced him.

'What pleased me most was that at any sign of pollution the scheme could and would be stopped.'

But he feared public reaction would be horrible.

He said: 'I will put my case honestly. I couldn't vote otherwise.'

And Mr de Beer said he had voted in the city's, not just the Bluff's, interests.

In his speech Mr Mac-

leod said the council had first agreed to an investigation into sea outfalls for liquid effluent from domestic and industrial waste in 1964.

The National Institute for Water Research had studied a 10 km stretch of sea from the Umgeni River mouth to south of Isipingo for currents, wind and wave direction, the nature of the sea bed, temperature gradients and sea life.

Two pipelines — one 2,7 km long from the Central works, the other 3,7 km long from the Southern works, both on the Bluff — were built and dilution of the liquid sewage effluent and bacteria in the water were measured.

Effluent

The beaches before the pipelines had been contaminated in varying degrees, he said.

But the two earlier outfalls were closed, stormwater pipes were cleaned up and most of the pollution in the Umgeni and Umgeni Rivers was stopped — and the quality of the beaches, and especially the sea water, improved.

At the moment, 70 000 m³ of liquid effluent a day poured into the sea from the Central works, the smaller of the two. Adding sludge would mean an extra 40 m³ a day.

At the Central works at present, because there was little space, the sludge was thickened, treated and put into a pump where it became 25 to 30 percent solid and was incinerated.

The expensive part was the chemical treatment. Durban could save close on R2 million a year from both works by cutting out treatment.

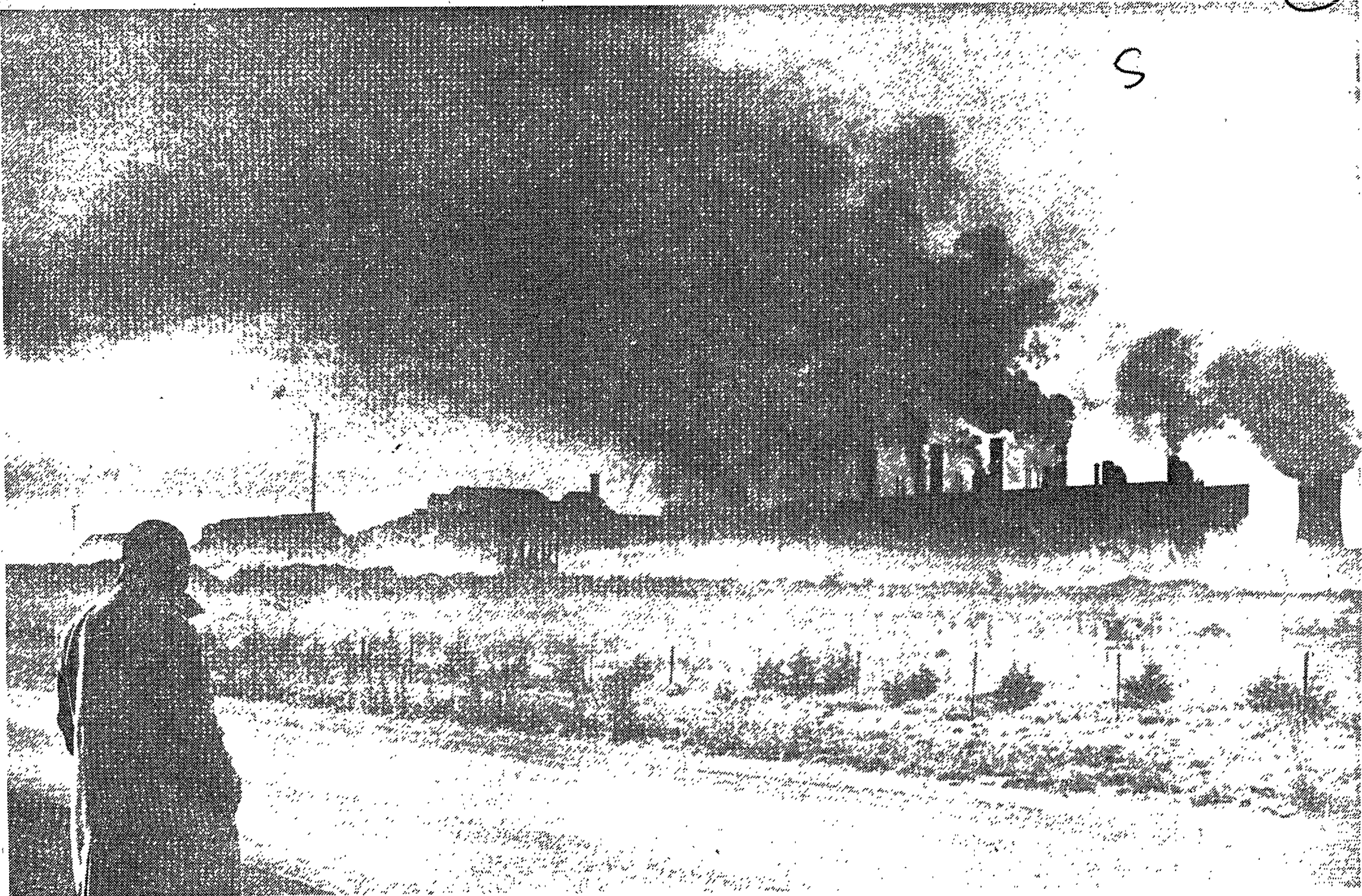
Blessing

During 1969 there had been an accident at the Central works and sludge had poured into the sea for 12 months without any apparent effect, so there seemed little chance of problems.

He said while other countries appeared to be turning away from using the sea, Britain was still in favour and the United States appeared to have over-reacted and was now faced with enormous costs. In this country, State Health, Sea Fisheries and Water Affairs had given the trial their blessing.

The high cost of progress

SPW 22/11/00
56



Possibly the biggest polluter in South Africa, Highveld Steel and Vanadium Corporation's plant near Witbank claims it will be clean by the end of 1981. By then its emission should

be down to 100 milligrams a cubic metre. At the moment it climbs as high as 4 grams a cubic metre. The smoke comprises carbon, ash, iron oxide and certain chemicals.

● Picture by Alf Chapman.

By James Clarke
The cost of national progress is exceedingly high for the people of Witbank, the armpit of South Africa. Daily, scores of tons of solids and tons of invisible gases engulf their town.

No figures exist to show whether the town has a higher incidence of respiratorial complaints than other towns, first because the town has no full time medical officer of health and second because no authority seems keen to find out.

But a medical man in Witbank told me: "It obviously must be higher. The pollution

is continuous, night and day."

The most spectacular polluter is Highveld Steel and Vanadium's plant just west of the town. When the plant was built 16 years ago, its pollution control was good.

More recently, as demands for its products soared — all for export — and its air pollution control devices were strained beyond capacity, it has been pouring out many tons of smoke a day. The town's officials were powerless to act.

The plant is a "scheduled industry" and as such only the Government can demand it cleans up. And the

The 'armpit of SA' pays with its health

Government's division of industrial hygiene is so understaffed that, according to a statement made at an air pollution conference a few months ago, it is hardly big enough to monitor a town let alone the entire country.

Two other notorious polluters are Rand Carbide and Transalloys which, like Highveld Steel, belong to Anglo American Corporation.

A spokesman for Anglo American told The Star's CARE campaign that by the end of this year Rand Carbide will have cleaned up. It has made the same assurance to Witbank municipality.

Highveld Steel will "improve" by the end of the year, he said, and by the end of 1981 it expects to reduce pollution to internationally acceptable standards.

The total cost of controlling Anglo's three plants will be R45-million which was described as "non-productive" spending.

"The electric power required to operate all these non-productive facilities is equivalent to that consumed in a city the size of Kimberley," Anglo said in a recent statement.

The people of Witbank, of whom 10 000

work for the plants, do not see it as non-productive spending.

A housewife told me: "My husband has a high position in that plant over there," (she pointed to a smoky landmark) "and he tells me that overseas they would arrest the management of a plant like that."

"Cleaning it up might be non-productive spending for Anglo but that is only because they don't count the costs we incur. I've had to do my washing three times in one day because of the fall-out."

"When my children

were here I wanted to leave. I wished I could wash their lungs out. They all suffered chest complaints. I also suffer but fortunately I'm in a medical scheme. Those who aren't pay. "I've seen children coming in covered in soot from playing grass."

She made the suggestion that CARE repeatedly made that the Government should encourage cleaner air by giving tax concessions on air cleaning devices for industry.

"After all, should Witbank people pay with their health" she said.

Council rapped for plan

NM
24/7/80
56

Municipal Reporter

THE Durban City Council should have considered adverse publicity and emotional reaction to the experimental project to pump sewage into the sea before making its decision, Publicity Director Terry Toohey said yesterday.

'Let's get this straight. I'm pretty certain that it's a sound scheme and that there will not be any comeback — literally.

'I heard the City Engineer's explanation to the council and I was convinced.

'But you can't look at this purely in economic terms.

He could see a situation arising where up country media had picked up the story but were not aware of all the facts. The potential tourist might have a vague recollection of this.

Discoloured

Then, as the City Engineer had said, the Umgeni River discoloured the water off the bathing beaches after floods.

'Say there's a slight smell — nothing to do with sewage — and try to persuade a Transvaler who vaguely remembers something about this project that it isn't sewage.'

The R300 million a year tourist industry was vital to Durban, but the predicted savings of R2 million a year by pumping sludge into the sea was a 'miserable' amount.

Elsewhere

'Basically, I'd be happy if they'd just do it somewhere else — just keep it away from our beaches.'

Candidates for the September 3 City Council elections mostly reacted cautiously to the scheme.

Mr Ian Morrison, candidate for Ward 14 (North Hills), who has an MSc in chemistry, said 'mass hysteria' against the project had put another 'black mark against the council.'

'Clearly the officials are happy, but only sitting councillors heard their explanations.'

He agreed with Ward 13 (Morningside) candidate Mrs Ros Sarkin that controversial decisions should be deferred to allow reaction from the public and interested groups.

Mr Morrison's opponent, Mr Randal Knox, said the public was 'in the dark about the project' except for what had been reported in the Press.

Ward 15 candidates Mr Gert Coetzer and Mrs Margaret Winter said they did not know the technical details.

But Mr Peter Corbett, who will contest Ward 12 (Stamford Hill), said he thought the publicity had been a bit 'hysterical'.

He agreed the project could frighten away visitors, but as far as he was concerned if it was the right decision, the council should go ahead with it.

Tough Bill will enforce environment conservation

Skw
25/7/80
56

Pretoria Bureau

A draft Bill aimed at enforcing tough environmental conservation was published in the Government Gazette, Pretoria today.

The Minister, after consultation with the council, will be empowered to make regulations to control waste, litter, noise and other forms of pollution.

Anyone contravening such regulations will be liable to a fine of up to R300 (or six months) or both.

If they fail to comply with regulations after conviction, they will be liable to a fine of R10 or five days' imprisonment, for every day they delay.

The regulations will be structured to give provincial administrators the power to ensure that all municipalities enforce the new regulations.

If any administrator fails to enforce the regulations the Minister will have the power to do so.

The Draft Bill also makes provision for the establishment of management committees to advise on the development of nature areas.

Called the "Environmental Conservation Act, 1980," the Bill aims to rope in the provincial administrations and all municipalities into conservation programmes.

The Bill aims at setting up a Council for the Environment consisting of up to 30 people appointed by the Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Mr Raubenheimer.

The council is to consist of members from his Department and up to 20 people from the public and private sectors whom the Minister regards as environmental experts.

The council will advise the Government on all aspects of conservation and will recommend new legislation if necessary.

The Bill aims to give the council "teeth" any person whom the Director General wants to summon before it, will be summonsed for questioning.

Anyone summonsed will be required to produce documents or evidence related to the subject and anyone who refuses to comply with the summons or to answer questions will face a fine of up to R200.

The council will be divided into committees including technical committees for solid waste and littering and for the combating of noise.

CO-ORDINATION

These committees will look into all legislation and will attempt to co-ordinate anti-pollution measures.

Sharper 'teeth' for environment Bill wanted

56
Jan 29/1980

By Drew Forrest

Environmentalists have welcomed a new draft Bill on environmental conservation as "a step in the right direction" while expressing fears that its proposals may not be tough enough.

The Bill, which could be introduced in Parliament next year, was published in the Government Gazette last week for comment.

Called the "Environmental Conservation Act, 1980," it envisages the creation of a Council for the Environment consisting of up to 30 people appointed by the Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Mr Raubenheimer.

The Council will advise the Government on all aspects of conservation and will recommend new legislation if necessary.

PENALTIES

The Bill also proposes penalties for breaches of regulations on waste, litter and noise.

Anyone contravening such regulations will be liable to a fine of up to R300 or six months' imprisonment, or both.

Mr Dave Jackson of the Keep South Africa Tidy campaign welcomed the proposals, saying it was "high time" legislation was enacted at a national level to encourage a greater awareness of environmental issues.

He was in favour of public participation in the Council for the Environment, he said, but was "a little disconcerted" by the idea that all members would be nominated by the Minister.

"I would like to see a more democratic system in operation," he said. "Organised industry and commerce, as well as environmental movements, should have the right to put forward names for consideration."

MISGIVINGS

He also expressed misgivings about the leniency of the penalties proposed in the bill for breaches of regulations on conservation.

"The fines seem to have been proposed with private individuals or small companies in mind," he said. "They would be pocket-money for a multi-million rand investment."

Mr Jackson felt the Bill had been "premature" in stipulating penalties at this stage. It would be more appropriate, he said, if the matter of legal sanctions was investigated by the technical sub-committees of the proposed Council.

He also criticised the Bill for not offering incentives — for example, tax-relief — to encourage compliance with conservation laws.

Mr Emile Adler, chairman of the National Committee for the Recycling of Waste, agreed the fines "seemed a bit low."

The public has been given more than a month to comment on the Environmental Conservation Bill, reports The Star's Pretoria Bureau.

Any member of the public can comment on the Bill. Comments must be submitted before August 31 to the Director-General, Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Private Bag X313, Pretoria 0001, quoting reference number 8/2.

Poll for executive rejected by NRP

Jan 27/1980
229
26
Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Although some of the principles of the New Republic Party could be found in the

Prices Down!

atts Wax Wrap **39c**
of
300 mm.....

O'Gold Sliced
root Salad
ice Grade **49c**

r Stuyvesant
Filters **R4,38**
of 200.....

O'Gold Choice
orted Biscuits **38c**

O'Gold Mint
erials **32c**

"Aime
y Spray **R1,35**

d Lemon **72c**
5.8/192
contains Aspirin 0.800 g. Ascorbic Acid

Sewage scheme to go ahead

DD 31/7/80

SB

13: Note that our definition of 'level of living' therefore corresponds to Allardt's notion of 'level of living welfare', while his concept of 'Quality of life welfare' corresponds to the social component of our 'State of Welfare'.

Municipal Reporter

DURBAN'S experimental scheme to pump sewage sludge into the sea will go ahead, the Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Braam Raubenheimer, said last night.

But it was only one of many experiments and a claim that all coastal municipalities and many industries would be allowed to pump domestic and industrial effluent into the sea was 'not correct', he said.

Statements by SA Council for Conservation and Anti Pollution chairman Tim Condon that Durban's plan was 'just a pilot scheme leading to the wholesale dumping of sludge from all coastal cities' showed 'a lot of ignorance', Mr Raubenheimer said.

Although he refused to comment further, there have been hints that the Government is worried about any possible ill effects — at least because of dwindling natural resources.

And officials gave the impression they were waiting for research findings before expressing any opinions.

Several scientists, unwilling to say much, shrugged off Mr Condon's claims that sewage was harmful to the sea's ecology and said he had little credibility in the scientific community.

But they agreed sewage was a valuable source of nutrients which should be used on land.

Durban's plan, to pump out settled sludge with the liquid effluent which has long been dumped along the two Bluff pipelines, is one of six projects being directed by the Water Research Commission, a Government-created body which funds studies into water resources and use.



towns, the Department of Health has appointed a committee to look into the use of sludge on land, and is hopeful it may overcome the danger from hookworm eggs.

And the Department of Water Affairs will 'in the very near future' force inland sewage works to limit the amount of phosphate — cited by many scientists as potentially valuable fertiliser — in sewage.

Already, more than 20 sewage plants were removing phosphate, Mr Rudd said.

The three higher levels so far discussed 'resource availability', and 'level of living' below, and so determine the zero-level ('the start final level in the main set is the 'minus-one' is the state of welfare, and will be called the zero level manifesting the results of either a or lack of it. The two main kinds of pressure are 'consequential' pressure (automatic results of the a high death rate following from a poor health situ

But Durban City Engineer Don Macleod said using sewage as fertiliser was not that simple.

Ignoring the health aspect, the nutrients were not in a form readily absorbed by plants. To make them more productive would cost more than artificial fertiliser.

The Water Research Commission had said information from Britain showed sludge was not much use for crops.

Research

Chief engineer, pollution control for the Department of Water Affairs, Mr RT Rudd, said in Pretoria there was research underway into reclaiming sewage water for drinking.

'We will have utilised all our water resources early in the next century,' he said. 'We will have to reuse water and even look at desalination programmes to cope.' Primarily for inland

Direct Political Power	Direct Power
i) National Government	i) E
ii) Local government	ii) E
iii) Specific Utilities and organisations	iii) iv)

Natural Resources	Human
i) Land resources	i) Po
ii) Non-renewable resources	ii) Li
iii) Renewable resources	iii) M
	iv) Re
	v) Ski
	vi) Le

Table 1: Components and as are discussed in the Appendix functioning of the main fee

Coercive Power	Political Freedom
i) Local	i) Political action
ii) National	ii) To organise
iii) International	iii) Expression

ling resources	Economic Freedom
stability	i) Ownership
Information	ii) Work choice
Assessment	iii) Trade and manufacture
adaptability	iv) Training
motivation	v) Information

available Resources" levels. They reflect important aspects of the continuation of Table 1.]

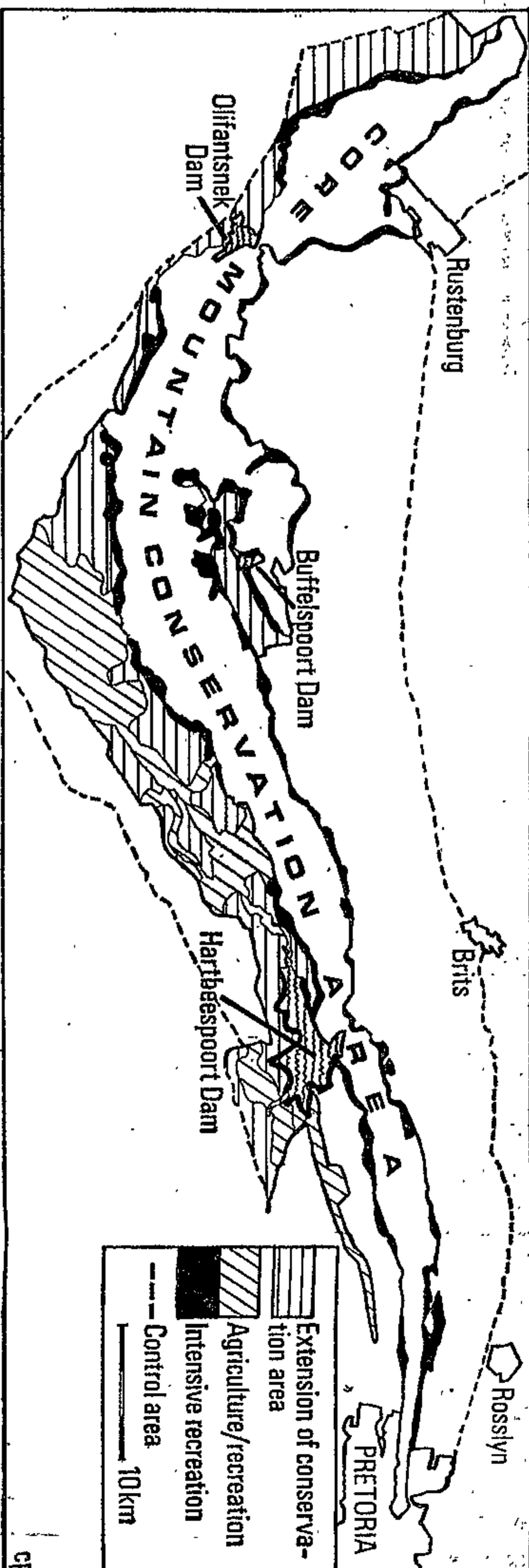
Pretoria Bureau

A master plan has been drawn up for the conservation and development of the Magaliesberg and development of its surroundings.

A study of the 120 km mountain range was conducted by Dr Leon Hugo, a senior Geography lecturer at Potchefstroom University for the Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Planning. It gives a detailed outline of aims for the range, which include:

- A core conservation area which runs through the centre of the Magaliesberg from Rustenburg to the heart of Pretoria.
- An extension of conservation areas south of the range to allow for "green sectors" in potential urban growth points.
- Intensive recreational areas along the foothills on both sides of the mountain.
- The dual use of land in certain areas for agriculture and recreation.
- A control area from Rustenburg through Brits to Pretoria with a southern boundary marked out along the Skurweberge.

A place in the sun...



Magaliesberg plan caters for farmers, nature lovers

Dr Hugo said in the report published in the Department's official journal, Environment RSA, that by using the concept of the English National Parks greater use of land could be attained.

Plan helps farmers keep their land

The Magaliesberg could be turned into an agricultural nature recreational

reserve, said Dr Hugo. This would help private individuals to retain ownership of their land in the conservation area and enables them to let their land be used for recreation and agriculture.

This will be co-ordinated by a committee which controls tourism and also helps farmers maintain their resources and the

general character of the area. "plain-corridors" in the Maanhaarand area and eastwards to Scheerpoort, high areas with a gradient of more than eight percent with ground too shallow for agricultural purposes, was seen as an appropriate extension to the central mountain range, said Dr Hugo.

It could be adapted into the Magaliesberg River system and also had a rich cultural background. Between these corridors, where there was intensive farming, farms could also be used for recreation and agriculture. The report suggests multi-purpose use of the land as a principle. But the biggest problem lay in the acceptance of

the concept by farmers and other land owners of city dwellers using their ground for recreation.

'City people have a right to access'
Dr Hugo said that 80 percent of the country's population in the year 2000 would live on one percent of the land and have no contact with ru-

ral life and farming life in particular. People had a right to access to country areas.

He also indicated on a map certain areas which could be used for high intensity recreation.

The area between Pretoria and the Hartbeespoort Dam could house more than 450 000 people in the future.

There would be a need for "green sectors" in the urban area, and Dr Hugo said this should be planned.

It was necessary to expand the area of conservation control to the area south of the railway line from Pretoria via Brits to Rustenburg, using the natural boundary of the Skurweberge.

BY CONNAL
VICKERS

BLOOD RIVER is the name a group of locals have given the Umsindusi River since the new Cato Ridge abattoir started polluting it with effluent.

It is the only water supply for thousands of drought-stricken people and cattle living in the valley near Mago Dam — just outside Durban — and a Sunday Tribune investigation this week showed that effluent from the abattoir is pumped through a stormwater outlet into a stream that flows into the Umsindusi.

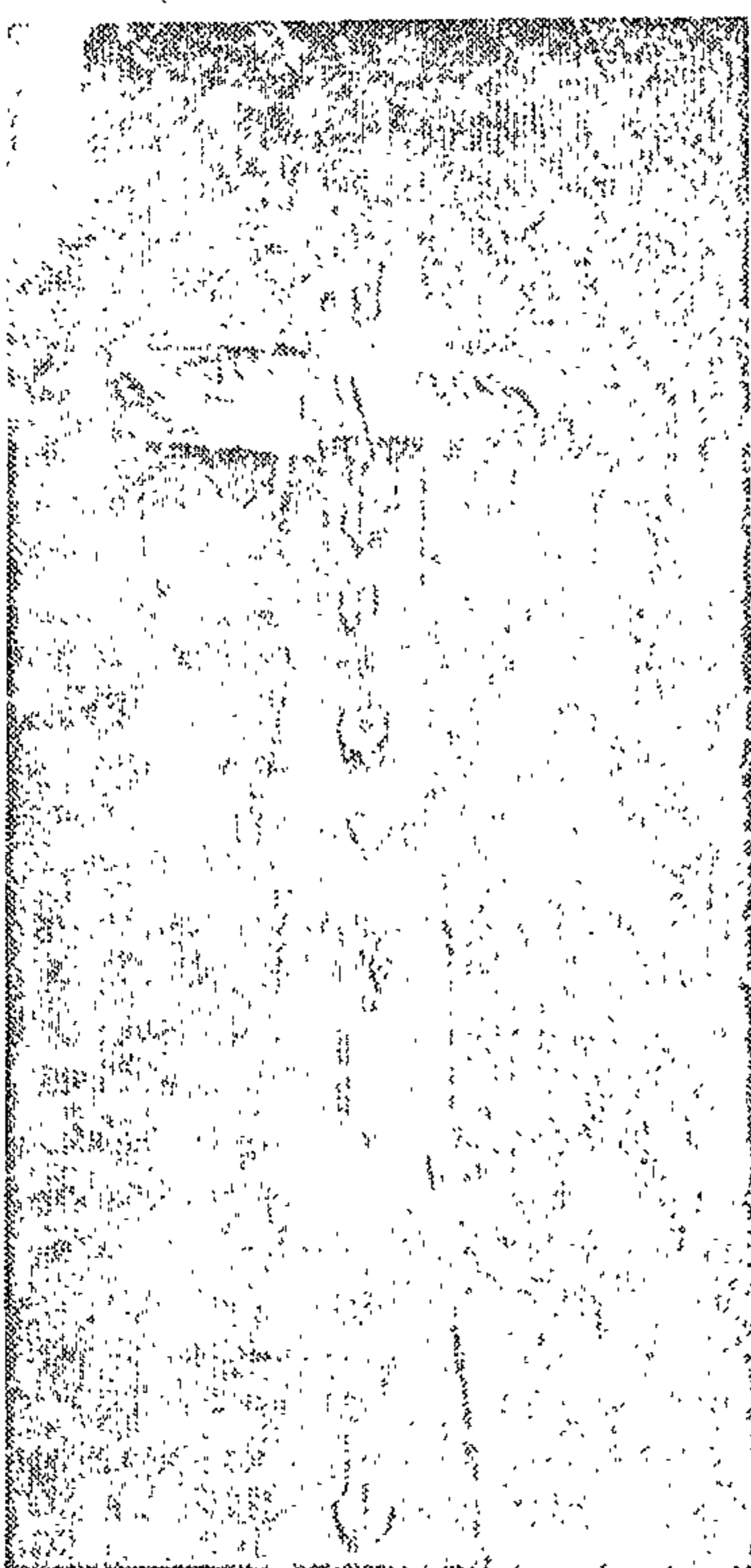
A chemical analysis of the water — made at an independent laboratory — revealed horrifying facts on the water contents.

The river gives off a pungent smell and flocks of white foam are caught on twigs and rocks all along its course.

The situation is desperate here. Our cattle are dying because they can't drink the water. Mr. Jool Moya, an old resident of the valley.

BLOOD RIVER

15/3/30, 12:00 PM



"Our cattle are dying because they can't drink the water."

Mr. Jool Moya on the banks of the Umsindusi River. The abattoir at Cato Ridge is blamed for the pollution.

That's what they call the Umsindusi as effluent from Cato Ridge abattoir fouls the water for people and cattle

also five times greater than the regulation standard for effluent.

The river gives off a pungent smell and flocks of white foam are caught on twigs and rocks all along its course.

The situation is desperate here. Our cattle are dying because they can't drink the water.

Mr. Jool Moya, an old resident of the valley.

The people in the district have to walk far every day to fetch water from the uncontaminated stretches upstream.

"They carry the water in plastic containers and the women have to make five or six trips a day to provide enough for their families," Mr. Moya said.

On the banks perched cattle stand uninterested in the water flowing just metres away.

"Cattle will not drink water that has even a trace of blood in it. Even if an animal is hung dead in the water half a kilometre upstream, they won't go near it to drink," Mr. Moya said.

The managing director of the Abattoir Corporation, Mr. Ben Kruger, said he was unaware of pollution in the river.

"We must treat all

water that comes from the abattoir before it goes into the stream and we have a way experimentally take steps to rectify the situation."

"We test the effluent every day and the Department of Water Affairs also watches it closely. We must act responsibly to all people

in the community and if there is any truth in the claim that our water is polluted we will immediately take steps to rectify the situation."

Mr. Kruger said the effluent consisted of treated sewage, dung, blood and chemicals materials from the abattoir floor.

Mr. Fred Muro, circle engineer of the Department of Water Affairs in Durban, said they were keeping a check

"We know it has been bad in the past, but we are watching it and it is improving. The plant is under stress to rectify the situation," he said.

Mr. Jim Gordon, of the anti-pollution organization SACCAP, said the pollution was largely irresponsible.

"They have shirked their community responsibility. All rivers are low in this terrible drought and the abattoir

is complicating the situation by polluting the little water we have left," he said.

He would make immediate representations to the Minister of Water Affairs to have the pollution stopped.

The KwaZulu Government, which controls the area, has taken samples of the water and sent them to Edendale Hospital in Pietermaritzburg for testing.

Conservationists demand ban on killer insecticide

Staff Reporter

AN AGRICULTURAL insecticide which has caused havoc with wildlife in the Caprivi area has evoked strong reaction among conservationists who have called on the Government to ban it.

In the latest bulletin of Endangered Wildlife Trust, Dr John Ledger, chairman of the trust's vulture study group, called for the insecticide to be banned.

The source of the insecticide, known as Curaterr, appears to be the Economic Development Corporation's agricultural project which has bought large quantities of it.

"Information has been received about ducks and other waterfowl being poisoned by the insecticide in the East Caprivi.

"The birds presumably dig up the maize seed after planting. Hundreds of paralysed birds are found in the mealie lands and the locals collect them. It is only a matter of time before people get poisoned," he warned.

"The information about the paralysed waterfowl seems to indicate Curaterr should not be used at all, even if adequate supervision could be assured. What happens if rain washes away a maize field just after

planting and the Curaterr gets into our rivers?"

"It is ridiculous that the Endangered Wildlife Trust should be spending thousands of rands on research to conserve vultures and then one or two misguided individuals can destroy more than 250 of the birds with the greatest of ease because they have access to a deadly poison," he said.

Dr Ledger is chairman of the vulture sub-committee of the International Council for Bird Preservation.

Conservation authorities throughout all maize-growing areas in Africa should be warned about the danger of Curaterr, he said.

In two separate incidents the insecticide has been used to poison carcasses that were then eaten by scavengers.

Near the Kwando River, members of the South African Defence Force found a dead impala which had traces of a blue crystalline substance on it.

Around the impala were a dead lion, dead warthog and about 100 dead vultures. The blue crystals were identified as Curaterr.

In the second poisoning, Curaterr was applied to a dead elephant near Katima Mulilo. Six lions and about 150 vultures were found dead around the carcass.

Dumping the Landmarks

Imagine for a moment that London suddenly chose to demolish the Tower of London, sell each of its stones off to eager American tourists and then redevelop the site for public housing.

One would expect a public uproar over the loss of part of Britain's heritage, and of a national not just a local landmark. The strength of the British conservation lobby makes the very idea laughably unlikely.

Yet a similarly destructive act is about to occur before the unseeing eyes and the deaf ears of the people of Johannesburg.

If you were asked to identify the most characteristic and unduly typical elements or landmarks in the Johannesburg townscape and skyline — whose disappearance would profoundly affect your mental picture of the city — would you not single out the mine dumps?

Yes, like the Tower of London in the example above, they are about to go under the axe, to be ground away in a new gold reduction works.

Three separate pilot studies carried out in the Department of Town and Regional Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand, one by Professor Nicholas Partridge, in 1972, and two by myself in 1975 and 1979, involving altogether about 120 people, all showed that the mine dumps were a significant belt of landmarks in the public's mental vision of Johannesburg.

While the two earlier studies were only peripherally concerned with the mine dumps, the 1979 exercise focused more sharply on them. From a restricted sample, on account of the limited resources available, the interviews established that the three elements most strongly symbolic of Johannesburg consisted of (in order of importance) — the mine dumps and brow and Birikon.

Similarly, the most characteristic views were first those containing the mine dumps and slimes dams,

followed by views of the Hillbrow tower and views northwards from the ridge, and the view of the city from the Jan Smuts Airport Freeway at the Gilllooly's Farm interchange.

When questioned about the importance they attached to being able to orientate themselves in Johannesburg, 75 percent of this same group, comprising doctors and medical personnel between 20 and 40 years of age, who daily travel through Johannesburg, regarded such features as very important.

The importance this group attached to these elements was also reflected in their attitude towards the future of the mining land: 43.5 percent described the mine dumps as being "what Johannesburg is about," 30 percent would be "sorry to see them go," and 26 percent said that their removal would lead to "loss of character" in the city.

When asked to draw maps of the city from memory, 65 percent showed the mine dumps. Clearly this group may not be representative of the city as a whole, first because they all frequently traverse the belt of mine dumps on their way from the Northern Suburbs to Bargawana. Hospital and second, they do not live so close to the minebelt that they experience its dust pollution. But two further points of view are also worth discussing.

● Nadine Gordimer, one of South Africa's greatest writers, wrote in 1968, when it seemed as if the mines along the Witwatersrand were closing down for good: "In a curious way the landscape came to express a spiritual hunger whose bread is memory" just as it did the demands of the work — we, born in the 1920s and 30s opened our eyes not so much on God's creation, as on our fathers' hold rearrangement of it. . . . the forms were as austere as Egypt's, but these pyramids (of sand and slimes) entombed no lost civilization. It was ugly . . . but sometimes it became pervasively the parody of picture postcard beauty."

Talking of their fate she said: "The towns that grew up like camp followers to live off the spending of the mining communities, are taking their properties into urban anonymity without a trace. A landscape that was being made is being dismantled . . . everyone is forgetting fast."

● The comprehensive Reader's Digest Illustrated Guide to South Africa (1978) concentrated, in its discussion of Johannesburg and the Witwatersrand, largely on the mines, their dumps and their landscapes. Surely this indicates their symbolic and visual importance?

Three distinguished visitors from Britain, in the last decade, were all intrigued by the mine landscape. Alison and Peter Smithson, two of the leading architects in the UK, stated during their visit to Johannesburg that the contrast between the rolling natural landscape and the geometric mine

dumps and slimes dams was visually unique and must be retained.

Similarly Mr Derek Lovejoy, former president of the Royal Institute of Landscape Architects, was greatly impressed by the landscape and recreational potential of the minebelt, during his visit a few years later.

Certainly they are a unique record of the generating forces behind the establishment and early growth of Johannesburg.

Professor Kevin Lynch, professor of Urban Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, until he retired last year, spent many years investigating the "way in which people orientate themselves in cities," and his research emphasised the importance of continuity in the major elements which people use in giving structure to their mental images and maps of the settlements they live in and visit. These elements are paths, edges, landmarks, districts and nodes.

If he, and a prestigious group of supporting researchers, are correct, then we cannot afford to allow the distinctive form of our cities to be destroyed.

Accepting then that the dumps are important, the problem is that they also contain economic quantities of gold, which Rand Mines has indicated it will

be reprocessing in the near future. In many cases this would not be too serious. But an investigation of the relative importance of the dumps and slimes dams (using 23 indicators, varying from locational prominence and a gateway effect through barrier functions against pollution and incompatible land uses, and the extent to which they create spaces and define views to the extent to which they dominate the skyline) showed that the five most important dumps, using these criteria, include one currently being removed overlooking the Kazembe marshalling yards. There are also two large dumps (including A Dump) near the M1 South and Edgemoor, on Crown Mines, which are both to be removed.

The best options are the second and third, since the minerals would be removed, but the environmental functions would be preserved.

The first function is to shield the ground in the lee of the mounds from the air pollution concentrated along the valleys and also from pollution blown in from Soweto and industries to the south by prevailing winter winds.

Other functions include screening land from the high noise levels adjacent to the motorways, and acting as landmarks for a large part of the city, and the M1 and M2.

The third option, keeping only a rim of mound, frees the greatest possible area of ground for high-quality development. Discussions with an engineering expert indicate that this option is practicable.

Removing the entire dump in each case would not only destroy its landmark function it would also lead to increased pollution problems. It could also have adverse effects on land uses — by removing barriers between good land suitable for any use, and poor quality areas such as Lakeview and Booyens Reserve, reducing their value for development.

It could reduce the likelihood that mining land could be used to provide the city with facilities and amenities it would otherwise lack.

The facilities and amenities would include lakes, park belts, and specialised recreational complexes for the white and black parts of the city.

However, there are two other unusual opportunities — first a chance of "tying the city together," uniting it with a system of park belts, cultural, historical and perceptual landmarks, vistas and symbolic elements. The second opportunity would be to ensure that Johannesburg retains its own unique landscape of powerful man-made forms contrasting with gently rolling hills.

It is this sort of unusual quality about any city which makes its people love it, and tourists seek it out.

In the past our mining houses contributed significantly to our city — many of our older suburbs such as Parktown, Parkview and Houghton, and our amenities, such as the University of the Witwatersrand, the Zoo and Zoo Lake, are a legacy from them.

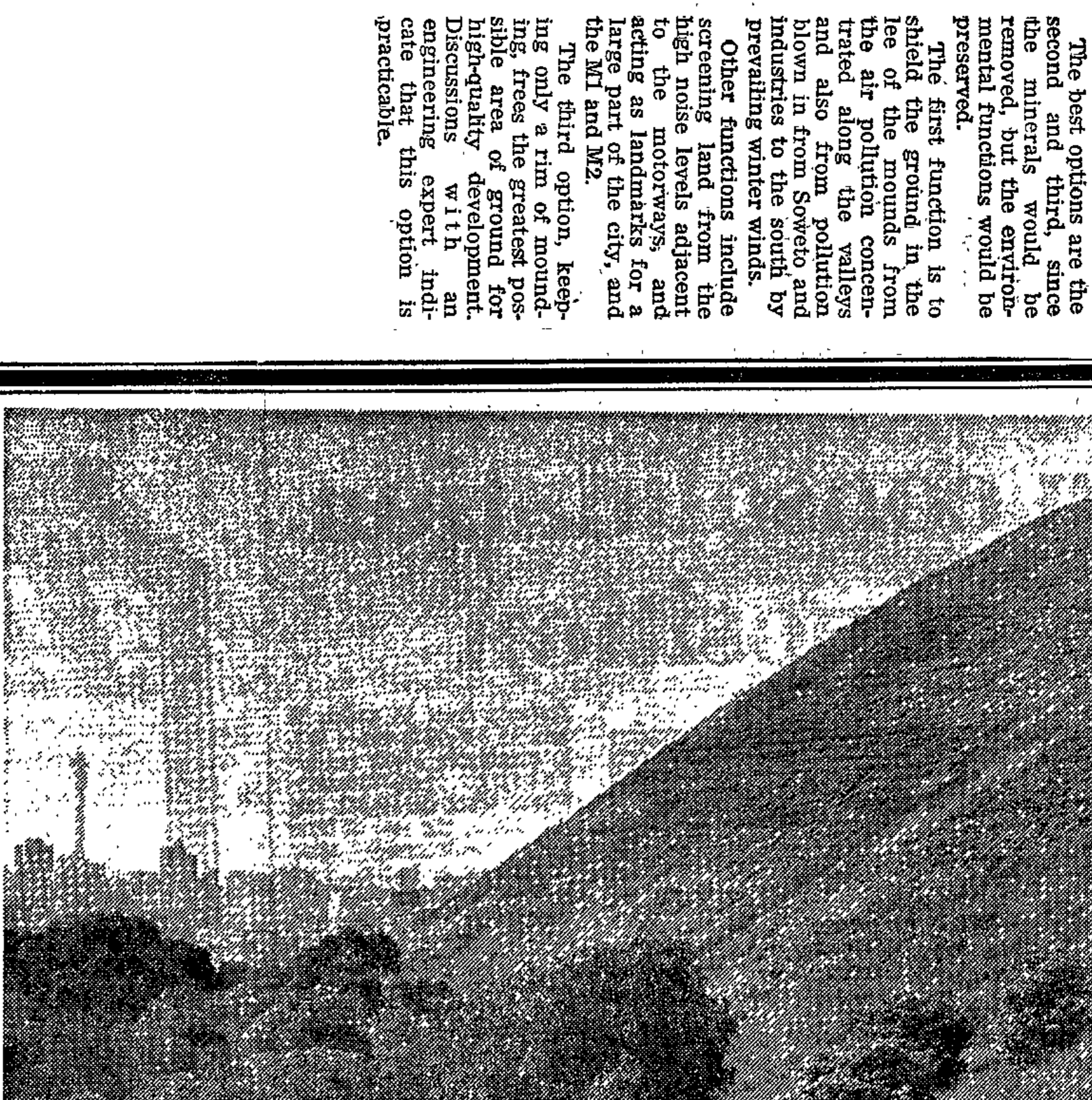
But are they, and our citizens as a whole, now willing to see all trace of their miners' awe-inspiring activities disappear under a carpet of mundane if not ugly, industries and warehouses

The world's biggest sand dump, Crown Mines A Dump on the M1 South is to disappear. Ironically its fate has been sealed just when it had ceased to be a dust pollution menace.

The sand will be reprocessed for gold and other minerals and the residue dumped elsewhere.

Town and regional planning lecturer, ROGER BODEN of the University of the Witwatersrand, who wrote his Master's thesis on the landmark quality of mine dumps and of their potential for recreation and housing, was asked by The Star's environmental awareness campaign, CARE, for his views.

In essence he sees many of the city's dumps as important parts of Johannesburg's internationally unique cityscape.



The world's biggest sand dump — Rand Mine Properties' dump south of Johannesburg — has been a familiar landmark in Johannesburg for years. Now it is to go. The question is: should it be preserved?

COMMENT

Conservationists

win five-year Mapelane battle

2-7/81/89
5B
N.M.

Joint owners

ENVIRONMENTALISTS have won a five-year battle to save the unique Mapelane dune forest from destruction by open-cast titanium mining.

renounce

General Mining and United States Steel, the joint owners of the prospecting rights in the Mapelane forest, have agreed to renounce their mining concessions in the area worth about R80 million a year.

mining

A spokesman for General Mining said yesterday: 'This area is very rich in minerals and a good mining proposition. We are not giving it up because it is worthless but because we can see the advantages of saving this magnificent forest.'

concessions

The secretary of the Council for the Habitat, Mr Boet du Preez, said in Pretoria yesterday it would have been

impossible to mine even a small section of dune forest — the highest and most intact in Africa — without causing serious damage to the system as a whole.

Joint efforts

The 900 ha dune forest situated between the Umfolozi River and Cape St Lucia was saved largely by the joint efforts of the SA Wildlife Society and the Council for the Habitat — a national co-ordinating body for voluntary environmental organisations.

The council made representations to the Department of Mines in 1975 which appointed a committee to look into the effects of dune sand mining along the Zgfuland coast and to draw up a list of conditions which mining companies would have to comply with.

Mr Keith Cooper, director of conservation for SA Wildlife and a member of the committee of inquiry, described the conditions laid down by the committee as 'very strict'.

No local or sea water could be used for mining and no roads built in the forest or housing built for workers. Barriers had to be constructed to hide the mining works from the public and seal...

Freeze

He said the Department of Mines could not withdraw prospecting licences once they had been issued, but they did freeze the issue of further prospecting licences for that section of the coast.

It had been up to the companies to decide whether they would go ahead with mining once they had received the committee's report.

Mr Cooper described the directors of the mining companies concerned as 'very environmentally conscious'.

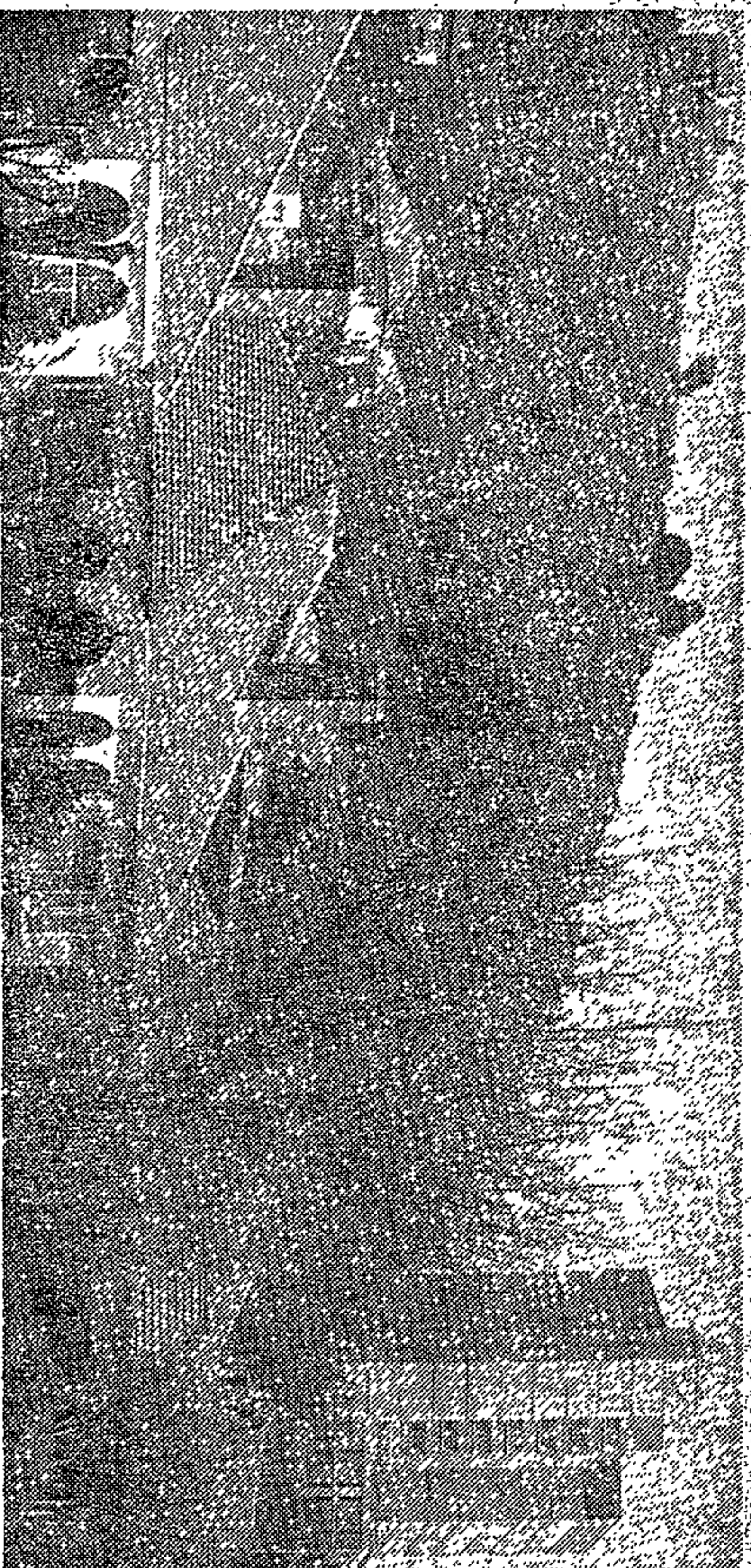
the roads around the proposed site would not be able to cope with the extra traffic generated.

NAG and the residents would prefer to see the council either guarantee that only townhouses will be built or preferably, buy up all the sites and leave the ridge as a public open space.

The council agreed in June to sell the stand to the developers for R16 500.

"This is a good example of how dumb the council can be," an angry Mrs Flo Bird of NAG said.

Mr Eddy Magid, chairman of the town planning committee, said he was against any interference with the ridges.



The Langerman's Kop ridge, where a new high-density development is planned.

Municipal Reporter

Yet another Witwatersrand ridge is threatened by development — this time in Johannesburg's Kensington.

The city council has agreed to sell a stand on Rocket Road on Langerman's Kop to a private developer, who wants to consolidate the stand with four others and build townhouses.

Residents in the area, who have until Monday to object, are bitterly opposed to any kind of high density development on the ridge. The Northern Areas Group (NAG), which has drawn up a policy for the preservation of ridges, has called for a public

Development OR destruction.

hearing on the proposed sale.

In the mid-1970s, the same developer tried to build a hotel on the ridge and when the residents heard the council was selling its stand, they thought "it was all going to happen again."

But the developer insists that he plans to build about 20 townhouses, not a block of flats or a hotel.

Mr Geoff Simpson, chairman of NAG, said that as long as the developers had the

right to build up to nine storeys, there was no guarantee that he would not.

Mr R P Prukl, a resident who has organised a petition opposing the sale, said "the less building there is, the better it will be for us."

He claimed that the water and electricity supplies in the area were "catastrophic" at the best of times, and any high-density development would put an added strain on them.

He also claimed that

ROM 26/8/80
(36)

Conservation in SA gets boost of R570 000 in aid

Pretoria Bureau

MORE than R570 000 was set aside for conservation in 1980 to 1981 by the Board of Trustees of the Southern Africa Nature Foundation which held its annual meeting at the Carlton Hotel yesterday.

The sum is the largest to be ploughed into conservation by the foundation and will be spent on projects throughout the sub-continent.

At a ceremony before the meeting, the president of the foundation, industrialist Dr Anton Rupert, handed over the title deed of the 3 374ha farm, Puttersvlei, to the director of the National Parks Board, Mr A M Brynard. The farm has been bought by the foundation to expand the Karoo National Park at Beaufort West.

Projects on which the funds allocated yesterday will be spent include the transfer of

white rhino, from Natal to BophuthaTswana and Botswana, a contribution to "Operation Genesis" — code name for the massive restocking of the Pilansberg Nature Reserve in BophuthaTswana, and marine research into the dolphins, penquins and St Croix island marine reserve.

The foundation, with the CSIR, is also sponsoring an international symposium at the University of Cape Town next month on endangered habitats.

The importance of the World Conservation Strategy, launched by the World Wild Life Fund earlier this year to promote conservation through development, was stressed by Dr Rupert.

"Nature conservation is a responsibility we dare not evade or postpone. Extinction is forever," Dr Rupert said.

Opmerking.—Voorsiening word gemaak vir 'n volle korting op 10% op ongesmede suik (uitgesonderd legerings daarvan), wat voor 21 November 1981 vir landelike gebruik geblaar word, in die hoeveelhede wat die Direkteur-generaal, Nywerheidsveso, Handel en Toerisme, by bepaalde permit toelaat.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, WELFARE
AND PENSIONS**

No. P. 2356

21 November 1980

PROMULGATION OF SMOKE CONTROL ZONE
ORDER IN TERMS OF SECTION 20 (1) OF ACT
45 OF 1965

In terms of section 20 (1) of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act, 1965 (Act 45 of 1965), and after consultation with the National Air Pollution Advisory Committee, I, Lourens Albertus Petrus Anderson Munnik, Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, hereby promulgate the following Order which was confirmed by me on 21 October 1980 and which shall apply to the area of jurisdiction of the Municipality of Germiston with effect from 21 July 1981.

**DEPARTEMENT VAN GESONDHEID
WELSYN EN PENSIOENE**

No. R. 2356

21 November 1980

AFKONDIGING VAN ROOKBEHEERSTREKKE-
VEL INGEVOLGE ARTIKEL 20 (1) VAN WET 45
VAN 1965

Ingevolge artikel 20 (1) van die Wet op Voorkoming van Lugbesoedeling, 1965 (Wet 45 van 1965), en na oorlegpleging met die Nasionale Adviserende Komitee op Lugbesoedeling, kondig ek, Lourens Albertus Petrus Anderson Munnik, Minister van Gesondheid, Welsyn en Pensioene, hierby die volgende Bevel af wat op 21 Oktober 1980, deur my bekantig is en wat met ingang van 21 Julie 1981, op die regsgebied van die Munisipaliteit van Germiston van toepassing is:

gg 7302

21/11/80

56

Public still

By James Clarke
Even though the petition to save the Kruger National Park from coal mining closed months ago the Star's CARE campaign is still receiving hundreds of signatures — including 171 from an Eastern Transvaal army camp — protesting Iscor's request to mine inside the park.

Among the 740 signatures were many from the Rand, the Eastern and Northern Transvaal, the Cape, Free State and from Durban. They were sent to CARE via the Wildlife Society.

The lists of signatures — in response to CARE's appeal earlier this year for the public to make known its objection to the exploitation of the beautiful Pafuri area for coking coal — bring the total of signatures received to about 60 000.

In June I took 56 000 signatures to the then Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Mr Raubenheimer who, as a result, set up a committee

of inquiry into the matter.

The committee was open to evidence until the end of last week.

Iscor claims it needs to mine the wilderness area in the north of the park for a special type of coal needed for steel production.

Iscor's chairman, Dr Tom Muller, told me in August that if the deposits are economically viable and the go-ahead to mine is given, Iscor will produce an environmental impact statement for the public to study. Then outside experts can help ensure there is minimal environmental damage.

The Wildlife Society says that if the Kruger Park is mined it will lose its international status as a national park. It could also adversely affect the country's tourist image which is important to the R200-million a year tourist industry.

The area where coal has been discovered was recently opened for wilderness trails. Its animal and plant life are unique in South Africa.



This could be some industrial town's municipal game reserve. In fact it is Kruger National Park where industrial development has crept up to the fence at Phalaborwa. The visitor who took this shot — a Craighall Park man — was so preoccupied with the sable he did not notice he had the industrial stacks in the background until the picture was printed. "It made me realise the awesome impact that Iscor is going to have when it develops INSIDE the park," he said.

56
5/11/80

'Noise (56)

RDM 23/10/80

control

depends on public goodwill'

DURBAN — Noise pollution, an environmental phenomenon which has not received the degree of official concern that other forms of pollution enjoy, is not likely to be curbed by legislation or "the strong arm of the law" alone.

"As with so many environmental problems, noise abatement will be achieved through co-ordinated public and private action, and a sense of goodwill towards one's fellowman. I doubt that it would be possible to legislate for silence and achieve this object," Mr J. F. Otto, Director-General of the Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation said at the University of Natal yesterday.

Opening the international symposium on sound, building and people, Mr Otto drew delegates' attention to the White Paper and subsequent Bill which was tabled at the end of the last general session of Parliament.

Titled "A National Policy Regarding Environmental Conservation," it is intended to co-ordinate all conduct which may have an influence on the environment and to establish a committee and subcommittees responsible for these functions.

Mr Otto said the Bill would enable the Minister, advised by a Council for the Environment and various technical committees, to regulate the abatement of noise pollution "by means of regulations at central, provincial and local government levels." — Sapa.

'Effluent into food' project (56) by AECL

RDM 18/10/80

AFRICAN Explosives Chemical Industries has developed a method to convert industrial effluent into animal feeds and to reduce pollution of rivers and dams, according to a Press release.

At its factory at Modderfontein, the company has developed mass algae culture methods which produce protein for animal feeds on a large scale. At the same time the amount of nitrogen in the factory effluent is reduced.

A pilot plant costing R750 000 has been developed in the past three years and next year will start to produce 200kg of dry algae a day in ponds which cover a hectare.

The environmental and services manager of AECL, Mr Dick Lever, said the process could be of great significance in the production of animal feed, as algae can replace ingredients such as fish meal and imported soya products as a new form of protein.

He foresees expansion of the project to produce 20 to 40 tons of dry algae a day. — Sapa.

1001 22/9/80 (56)

R570 000 plan for conservation

AN ESTIMATED R570 000 for an extensive conservation programme in Southern Africa is expected to be approved at the annual meeting of the Southern African Nature Foundation (SANF) in Johannesburg on Monday.

The board of trustees, consisting of 70 of South Africa's leading businessmen, will consider proposals made by the scientific advisory committee of the SANF.

The proposals include a R200 000 grant to the Pilanesberg Game Reserve in BophuthaTswana, R125 000 to buy more land for the extension of the Karoo parks and contributions to several marine re-

search projects involving the Cape jackass penguin, marine estuaries, fish and dolphins.

Other important projects are expected to include wildlife clubs in Southern Africa, support for the Save the Rhino Campaign and a number of educational projects in Malawi.

The SANF was founded in 1968 by Dr Anton Rupert, who is still the president. It represents 11 countries in Southern Africa and has so far contributed R1,5-million to conservation on the sub-continent.

The SANF represents the World Wildlife Fund in Southern Africa and is entirely sponsored by commerce and industry. — Sapa.

Kruger Park coaling mine plans slated

Staff Reporter

CONSERVATIONISTS have strongly opposed the decision by a Government appointed council to support plans to mine coking coal in the Kruger National Park.

Mr Rupert Lorrner, Progressive Federal Party spokesman on conservation, said "It is time they stopped subordinating the interests of the Kruger Park to material interests."

Mr Lorrner was reacting to a statement by the Northern Transvaal Regional Planning Advisory Council, which decided to support plans to develop the coking coal deposits in the northern section of the game park "in the interests of South Africa".

The council based the deci-

sion on three factors — that the far Northern Transvaal deposits were the finest in South Africa, that Iscor's needs were vital and that the steel industry should not be hampered.

A spokesman for the National Parks Board in Pretoria said yesterday that the National Parks Act, which prohibits mining in parks, would have to be amended before the plan could go ahead.

And Mr Lorrner warned that if the Government did decide to change the law to allow the mining of the park, it would "awaken a hornet's nest".

Coking coal was regarded as a strategic material, but national parks were irreplaceable, Mr Lorrner said.

"From the ecological view-

point the area of the Kruger Park which contains the coking coal is absolutely vital to the wellbeing of the whole park."

Mr Lorrner said he was heartened by the strength of public opposition from all political parties on this question.

"I believe the power of public opinion will stop any mining of this nature."

Dr O Martiny, president of the Wild Life Society and a member of the Parks Board, said the question was whether the coking coal in the park was of greater national importance for its "limited potential of coal production, compared with conserving this unique environmental area for all time".

South Africa's coking coal

deposits were so limited that the projected operation would only be a temporary solution.

Dr Martiny urged that alternative methods of fuelling steel production be sought as a long term solution for problems facing the industry.

Mr Clive Walker, executive director of the Endangered Wildlife Trust, said the trust "did not like the prospect".

His organisation recently had talks with the outgoing Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environment, Mr Braam Raubenheimer, at which the trust outlined its views on the subject.

It was awaiting the outcome of a committee set up by Mr Raubenheimer to look into the question.

Planners support game park coal plan

STW
56
7/9/86

By Dirk Nel

PIETERSBURG — A powerful statutory planning body has come out in favour of mining coking coal in the Kruger National Park.

The Northern Transvaal Regional Planning Advisory Council, a statutory body which assists and advises the Government on matters related to regional development, has decided to support plans to develop the coking coal deposits in the northern section of the Kruger National Park "in the interest of South Africa."

It plans to ask the National Parks Board to sanction the project.

"The Council will also ask the Government to place no obstacles in the way of Iscor should the latter find the development of the high grade coking deposits in Venda and the Kruger National Park to be economically viable," said the chairman, Mr Jack Botes, after the Council's quarterly meeting in Pietersburg yesterday.

Iscor is also to be assured of "the whole-hearted support of the Northern Transvaal" if the plan proceeds.

"Our decision is based on the fact that the Far Northern Transvaal deposits are the finest in South Africa, bearing in mind that the Natal supplies have a limited life span," Mr Botes added.

He said the Council appreciated that Iscor's needs were vital, and that the country's all-important steel industry should not be hampered in any way.

The coal project would also make a major contribution to the resettlement of people in the depopulated northern border area.

Durban sewage deadline

*10/19/80
POM*

50

DURBAN. — The Durban City Council has been given a 10-day deadline to suspend its controversial experiment of dumping sewage sludge in the sea.

Failing this, a Supreme Court interdict will be sought to block the experiment until a public debate has been held.

This follows the move by the scheme's opponents — spear-headed by the Bluff-based Anti-Rates Committee and the SA Council for Conservation and Anti-Pollution — to force a referendum on the issue.

Acting in terms of the Local Government Ordinance, the groups presented the mayor with a petition calling for a public meeting at which they intend pressing for ratepayers to be allowed the final say.

The proposed sewage experiment, carried out in conjunction with the Water Research Commission, is intended to take two years. — Sara.

12/19/60 RDN
46

Laws planned for protection of environment

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — Far-reaching legislation for the protection of the environment was envisaged in a draft Bill to be introduced during the next session of Parliament, the director-general of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Mr J F Otto, said yesterday.

Speaking at the opening of a two-day international symposium on the conservation of threatened natural habitats held at the University of Cape Town, Dr Otto said the proposed legislation provided for a statutory council for the environment.

Men with expert knowledge of the various aspects of the environment would be appointed as members.

Committees would be formed to handle specific issues and it was expected that nature conservation would have priority treatment. Co-operation and co-ordination in planning was essential in this field.

"Today, however, planning for mankind's comfort alone is too narrow a goal. The well-being and survival of other spe-

cies must now be a prominent factor in the planner's equations," Mr Otto said.

At present the total conservation area of South Africa is only 3,4% of the available land.

This did not compare favourably with the internationally accepted figure of 10% for conservation purposes.

A national conservation plan had already been embarked on by four provincial authorities. The aim was to:

- Secure the status of permanent conservation areas;
- Maintain a register of these areas and their purpose;
- Identify key areas for future conservation and outdoor recreation; and
- Secure the protection of landscapes of particular beauty.

"Apart from direct planning for the conservation of natural habitats, much can also be achieved through the evaluation of all development projects in the light of environmental considerations. This has been accepted as Government policy and is being encouraged by my department," Mr Otto said.

What will the world be like tomorrow? One of President Carter's last actions as President has been to put out a three-year study on the probable future. ROY STAULTH, American ecologist now working in South Africa, reviews the report for The Star's CARE campaign.

The Global 2000 Report has recently been published in the United States by the Council on Environmental Quality and the Department of State.

This three volume report, which involved 13 federal agencies and was three years in the making, projects world population, resources, and environmental conditions up to the end of this century if present policies continue. The report was requested by the President to serve as the foundation for longer-term planning, and represents "the first US Government effort to look at all three issues from a long-term global perspective that recognises their inter-relationships and attempts to make connections among them."

The major finding of the Global 2000 Study is that the ability of biological systems to provide resources for human needs may be expected to erode rapidly over the next 20 years. The principal recommendation is to initiate new programmes for more effective family planning, resource management, and environmental protection in order to ensure that social progress and economic development are sustainable.

The Global 2000 Study was based on three major assumptions:
 ● present policies will be continued without significant changes

● rapid rates of technological development and adoption will continue without serious social resistance, but no revolutionary advances or disastrous setbacks will occur (such as immediate wide-scale availability of nuclear fusion for energy production, or a widespread outbreak of plant disease affecting an important food crop) and

● there will be no major disruptions of international trade.

What will the world situation look like in the year 2000? "Despite greater material output, the world's people will be poorer in many ways than they are today."

POPULATION: The world population will increase more than 50 percent to 6350-million) and the annual rate of growth will slow by only 0.1 percent (from 1.8 to 1.7). "Ninety percent of this growth will occur in the poorest countries," and the gap between the rich and the poor will widen. The Global 2000 Study draws particular attention to the population problem in sub-Saharan Africa, where in many areas human numbers "have exceeded the carrying capacity of the immediate area, triggering an erosion of the land's capacity to support life."

FOOD: While global food production will increase by 15 percent, real prices for food will double and per capita consumption in South Asia, the Middle East, and the less developed countries of Africa will scarcely improve and may decline. Arable land will increase only 4 percent, so increased food production will depend heavily on fertilizer, pesticides, irrigation, and machinery — all of which require a steady flow of oil and gas.

ENERGY. But oil and gas prices will increase significantly, and sometime in the 1990s world oil production will begin declining. Other finite fuel resources are unevenly distributed and exploiting them will entail great economic and environmental costs. For the one-quarter of the human population which depends on wood for heating and cooking, demand for fuelwood will exceed supply by about 25 percent by the end of the century.

FORESTS. The world's forests, now disappearing at the rate of 18-20-million hectares a year, will continue to decline as demand for fuelwood and forest products increases. Growing stocks of commercial-size timber will decline 50 percent per capita, and 40 percent of the forest cover now found in developing countries will be gone by 2000.

WATER. Water shortages will become severe, new water developments will become more costly, and water quality will continue to decline. Population growth alone will cause water requirements to double over 1970 levels, and extensive deforestation in developing countries will make water sup-

A bleak forecast for world in 2000

By Steve 21/2/80

plies more erratic, making it difficult to improve the standard of living. **SOILS.** Agricultural soils will decline in productivity all over the world as greater demands are made on the land. Deterioration will result from increasing erosion, loss of organic matter, desertification, salinization, alkalization, and waterlogging. At present, over 6-million ha are lost from agricultural lands each year, including 3.2-million ha of rangeland, 2.5-million ha of rainfed cropland, and 125,000 ha of irrigated farmland.

ATMOSPHERE. The world's climate could be altered by increasing concentrations of carbon dioxide and ozone-depleting chemicals, though effects may not be apparent by the end of the century. As coal combustion increases, acid rain will cause greater damage to lakes, soils, and crops. Other hazardous materials will enter the atmosphere at an increasing rate, presenting health and safety problems in numerous countries. **PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE:** Species extinctions will increase dramatically, with unforeseen ecological

consequences. "Hundreds of thousands of species — perhaps as many as 20 percent of all species on earth — will be irretrievably lost as their habitats vanish, especially in tropical forests."

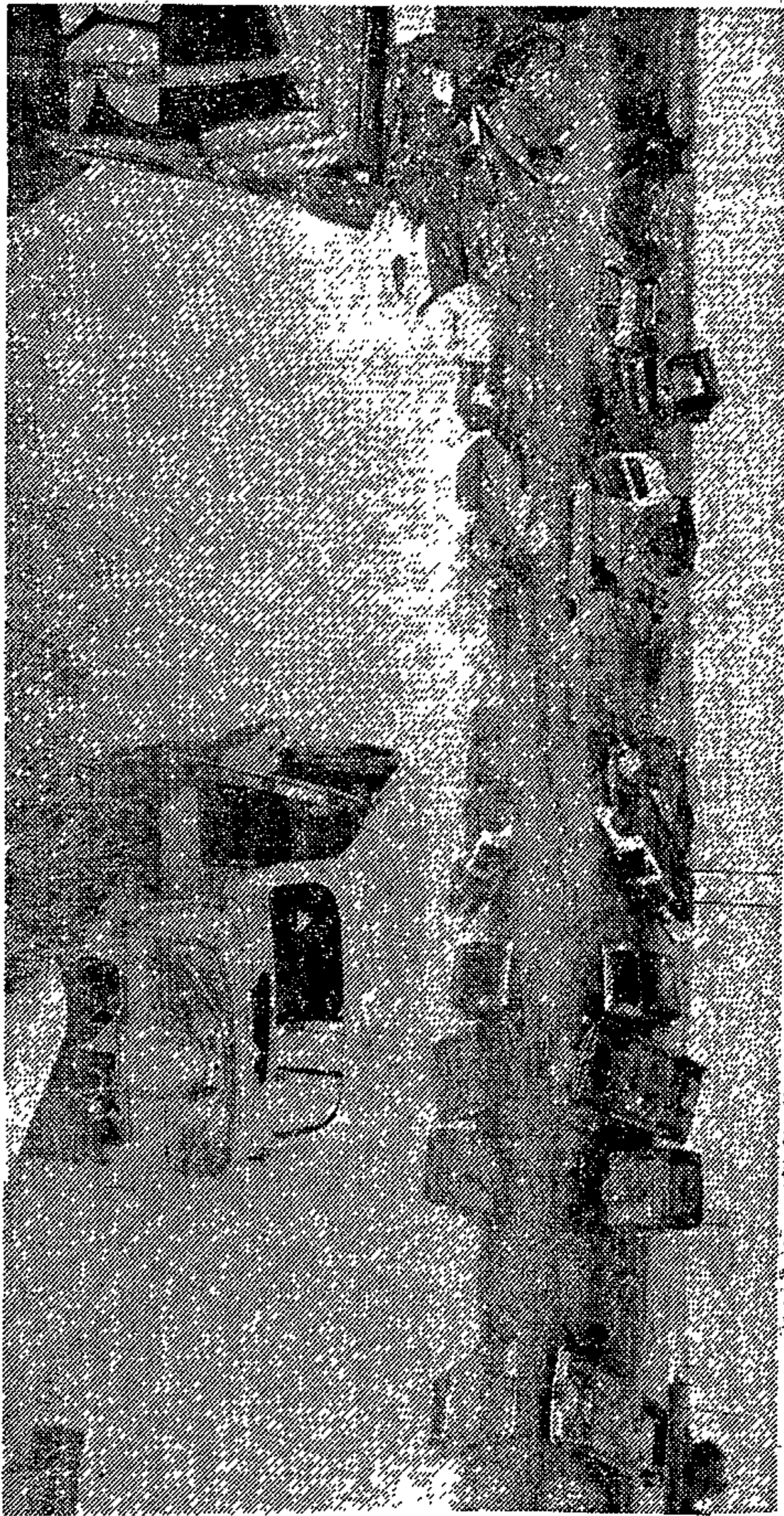
CONCLUSIONS. A major conclusion of the Global 2000 Study is that present policies are not adequate to meet the challenges of the next two decades. "Vigorous, determined new initiatives are needed if worsening poverty and human suffering, environmental degradation, and international tension and conflicts are to be prevented." The elements which contributed to the success

of the more developed nations over the past several decades may not meet the more complex requirements of man's new situation. For example, development based on non-renewable fossil fuels may have spectacular success in the short-term but prove a dismal failure in the long-term. "New and imaginative ideas — and a willingness to act on them — are essential."

And immediate action is needed: it is not possible to abruptly alter patterns of development when some resources become unavailable. Long lead times are required for effective action. If decisions are delayed until the problems become worse, options for effective action will be severely reduced.

Perhaps the principal lesson to be learned from this report is that new development paths must be explored and people everywhere must be prepared to adopt radically new life styles, more in keeping with man's new circumstances. The world is now overcrowded, non-renewable resources are rapidly being exhausted, and environmental degradation is spreading on a scale and at a rate which is unprecedented. A new concept of development is needed, one appropriate to man's new condition.

Appropriate development would seek to limit population growth and meet man's true needs in ways which were sustainable. This would involve assigning high priority to a population policy, emphasising the utilisation of renewable resources, and accepting limitations on environmental impacts. The question is whether decision-makers have the foresight, the wisdom, and the courage to adopt bold new policies, which will clearly require unpopular sacrifice and constraint, in time to avert ecological disasters of global proportions.



A herd of cars at a waterhole.

Steelworks 'drivings

family mad'

Woman tells Court

Judge asked to stop 'continuous' noise from factory

Court Reporter

AN UMBILO housewife yesterday claimed in papers before a Durban judge that noise from a nearby engineering steelworks was a threat to the mental and physical health of her family.

Her affidavit was one from people who since have complained to the City Council since early last year about conditions in Alpha Road because of the operations of Tracom Construction (Pty) Ltd, which also trades as Prospect Engineering.

Yesterday an application brought by

the Durban City Council before Mr Justice Milne for an order against the company was adjourned to February 22.

The Court was told by company director Mr David Eric Jehring, and provincial judicial manager, Mr John Stanley Evans, that not enough time had been available to prepare adequate response to the application.

Mr Evans said he intended opposing it because the relief sought would affect the company's continued existence and would have a drastic effect on its staff and creditors.

Mrs Natalie Becker said it was im-

possible for her family to sleep because of the factory's noisy operations which on occasions continued throughout the night. The factory also worked at weekends and on public holidays.

She said there was loud whining and grating which caused anxiety, tension, irritability and violent frustration.

Durban's Town Clerk, Mr Gordon Haygarth, submitted that since early in 1979 there had been numerous complaints about the volume of noise from sheet metal work outside the building and in the street.

In June that year the company had

agreed to cease its daily activities at 6 p.m. but from complaints since received from residents it had apparently not adhered to this for long.

He said the premises occupied by the engineering works were in an area zoned for general industrial use but bordered on an area zoned for special residential purposes.

In his submission, the use of the property in the manner reflected in the affidavits constituted a health hazard to the people living in the area.

Mr N V Hurt, instructed by Shepstone and Wylie, appeared for the Council.

in the 1960's and 1970's, real GNP per capita having risen faster than real GDP per capita reflecting the increasing

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Dept. of Statistics
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TABLE 8: NATIONAL ACCOUNTS OF THE HOMELANDS, 1960/1, 1970,

agriculture had dropped, probably considerably, since 1960.

that the proportion of people making a living from

ENVIRONMENT

1981

RHODES'S GIFT BELONGS TO THE STATE

THE announcement that the Department of Community Development intends to build 12 official residences on the Groote Schuur Estate — left to the South African Rhodes — has aroused widespread controversy.

In Parliament yesterday the Minister of Community Development and State Auxiliary Services, Mr S.F. Peir Koze, said plans of the R2-million scheme would not be published.

Interested MPs would be able to see perspective plans of the residences — one for a Minister, five for a chairmen of President's Council committees and six for deputy ministers, he said.

Members of the Opposition and the Press would be invited to visit the project on the estate when you can ask intelligent questions, Mr Koze said.

Mr Koze's statement was in response to questions put to him by Mr Brian Bamford, the PFP MP for Groote-Schuur. He also told the House that:

● The decisions to build the residences had been

made in April 1979 and August 1980.

● Tenders had not been advertised in the usual way.

● The National Monuments Council and Cape Town City Council had not been consulted because the land belongs to the State, falls entirely under its jurisdiction and is utilised exclusively for State purposes.

PRIZED

Weekend Argus has established that the architects and quantity surveyors involved in the planning of the project were this week instructed not to give any information regarding the residences to the Press.

There is widespread dissatisfaction in architectural, town planning and conservation circles because the Government had not consulted them or public opinion, but presented the plan as a fait accompli.

The Groote Schuur Estate is considered of invaluable historical significance and is one of the most prized green-belt areas in South Africa.

● Although the assurance has been given that

the residences will harmonise with the surroundings, the plan is not considered to be in the spirit of Rhodes's Will (Groote Schuur Devoluitie) Act No. 9 of 1910.

Rhodes's will, incorporated into the Act, says: 'No buildings for suburban residences shall at any time be erected on the said property and any buildings hereon shall be used exclusively for public purposes and shall be in a style of architecture similar to or in harmony with my said residence.'

BEQUEATHED

Sir Herbert Baker — the architect who designed the present Groote Schuur residence — wrote in The Times of London that Rhodes had bequeathed the estate to the country 'so that it might be saved forever from the hands of the builder.'

Sir Herbert wrote that Rhodes had been adamant that the gardens on the estate should be preserved and cared for to resemble English parkland.

● Once, when the Forest Department built an

ugly hut among silver trees on the mountain-side, Rhodes had it pulled down and rebuilt at his own expense. — a rare instance of the combination of a sense of natural beauty with the power and means to enforce respect for it, Sir Herbert wrote.

RESPECT

A letter written in 1928 by Mr F.K. Kendall, Sir Herbert's partner, to a Mr Straten at the Public Works Department indicates the respect in which Rhodes's will was held at the time.

Mr Kendall wrote that the yellowwood trees

between Groote Schuur and Westbrooke would benefit if the poplars of no particular importance among them were thinned out.

'You pointed out that the actual trees to be cut away could only be decided upon by the Governor-General and the Prime Minister jointly brought them on the spot,' Mr Kendall wrote.

He asked Mr Straten to draw this matter to the attention of the Governor-General and Prime Minister so that a decision could be made about the trees.

'IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDY'

MANY people are incensed about the Government's intention to build 12 residences on the Grootte Schuur Estate. What do those people who have been closely associated with the estate in the past think of the proposed development?

Mr H F Verwoerd, son of the late Prime Minister, felt the community should be able to see the plans of any development proposed for the Grootte Schuur estate so it could approve them and be satisfied with whatever was erected there.

Mr. Verwoerd, who lived at Grootte Schuur with his parents, said this week the house and its environs were the nation's assets. 'I don't know if the Government regards it as such, though.' He said he hoped that



MRS Betsie Verwoerd, widow of the late Prime Minister.

if anything were built on the estate it would be built without damaging the 'beautiful, unspoilt space' surrounding Grootte Schuur.

'But one wants to be quite sure that it will not be damaged. One hopes the public will have insight into what exactly is going to be built there,' he said.

His mother, Mrs Betsie Verwoerd, said she felt the unspoilt nature of the estate might suffer if buildings were erected on it. 'But it is very difficult to comment when one has so little information to go on.'

Dr G Strijdom, son of the former Prime Minister Dr J G Strijdom, said he had many happy memories of the holidays and weekends he spent at Grootte Schuur when he was a student.

'It is a unique estate — one of the most outstanding in the country,' Dr Strijdom said. 'It would be a tragedy if it were spoiled.'

Dr Strijdom and his sister, Mrs Estelle Crowson, also said the fact that so little information about the proposed scheme had been released made it extremely difficult to comment.

Mrs Crowson said: 'I don't know where they are going to fit in 12 residences.'

PARKLAND

She was distressed when she visited the estate a few years ago and saw the security fencing for the first time.

'When we lived there it was all beautiful parkland. There were a few old men looking after the estate and it was much more open. I can understand why security is necessary, but I was sorry to see it,' Mrs Crowson said.

● Mrs Tini Vorster, wife of former Prime Minister Mr B. J. Vorster, could not be contacted for comment as she was in hospital recovering from an operation.

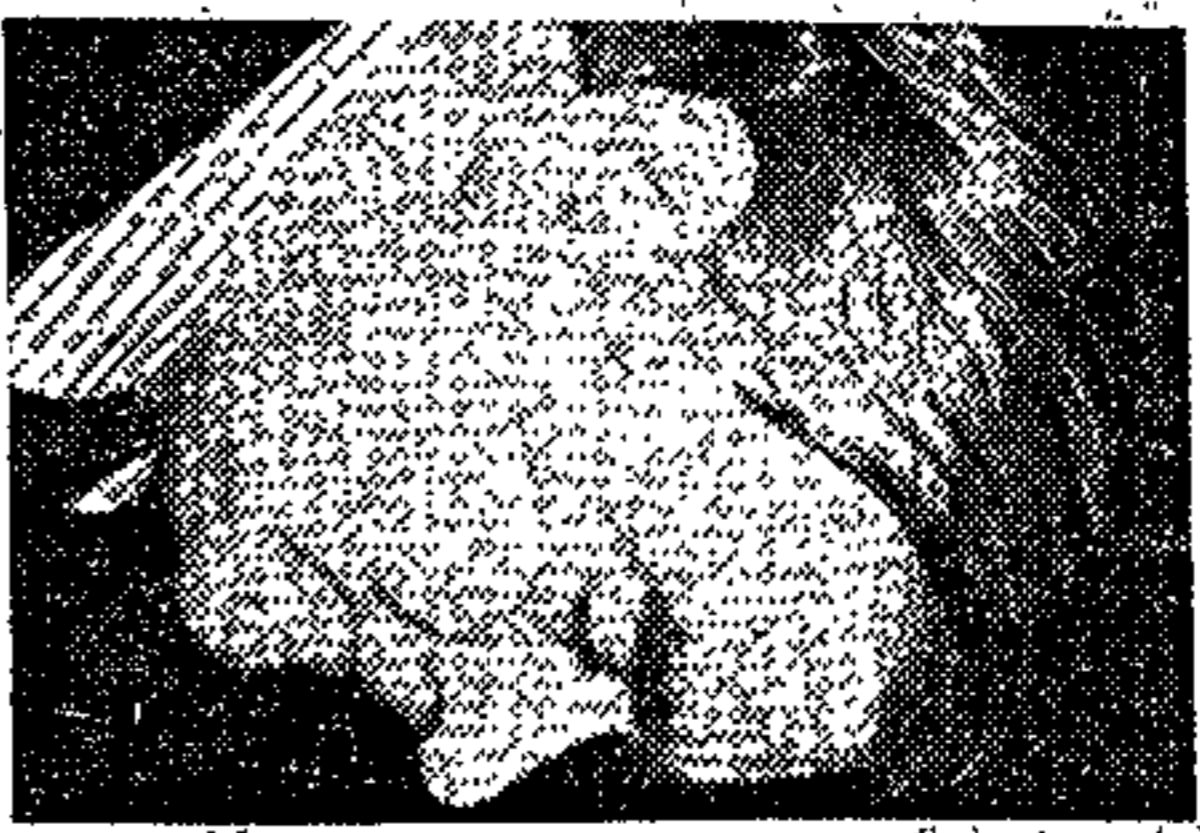


Cecil John Rhodes

A Political Dream

ON the lower slopes of Table Mountain there stands a dwelling which with its contents and grounds is without doubt the single most priceless cultural asset of the South African nation.

Its history has all the classic elements of promise, tragedy and rebirth. It started in 1657, when the Commandeer-in-Council resolved that the Dutch East India Company should establish a granary. Named De Schuur, it was tur-



By BRIAN BAMFORD, MP for Grootte Schuur

posed by those standards — in extent, 33 m by 12 m. In October 1661, Jan van Riebeeck noted in his journal: "The Company's agriculturalists shot a lion near the 'Schuur.' Three others are still roaming about.

In the following 200 years, and more the estate was first sold by the Company and then passed through several families before finally attracting the attention of Cecil Rhodes. He transformed and landscaped the place. And then disaster struck.

On the night of December 15, 1896, while Rhodes was away, a fire broke-out—in mysterious circumstances, probably the act of a political crank. Rhodes was shattered. His first question a plaintive: "Does the door remain?"

It did, partly, and from that consolation Rhodes built a new dream. His architect, Sir Herbert Baker, was called in to the house, literally, a political vision — a new Grootte Schuur to rise from the ashes as the home of the Prime Ministers of a South Africa still to be. And so it was. General Louis Botha took up residence in 1910, and was succeeded by all the later Prime Ministers except Mr P. W. Botha.

What are one's impressions today? Grootte Schuur epitomises what John Buchan must have meant when he described the Cape as the land of afternoon. It seems to drowse, as if on a summer's day, a white pile of softly moulded plaster, surmounted by Baker's motifs among vast sweeping lawns and terraces and shimmering banks of hydrangeas.

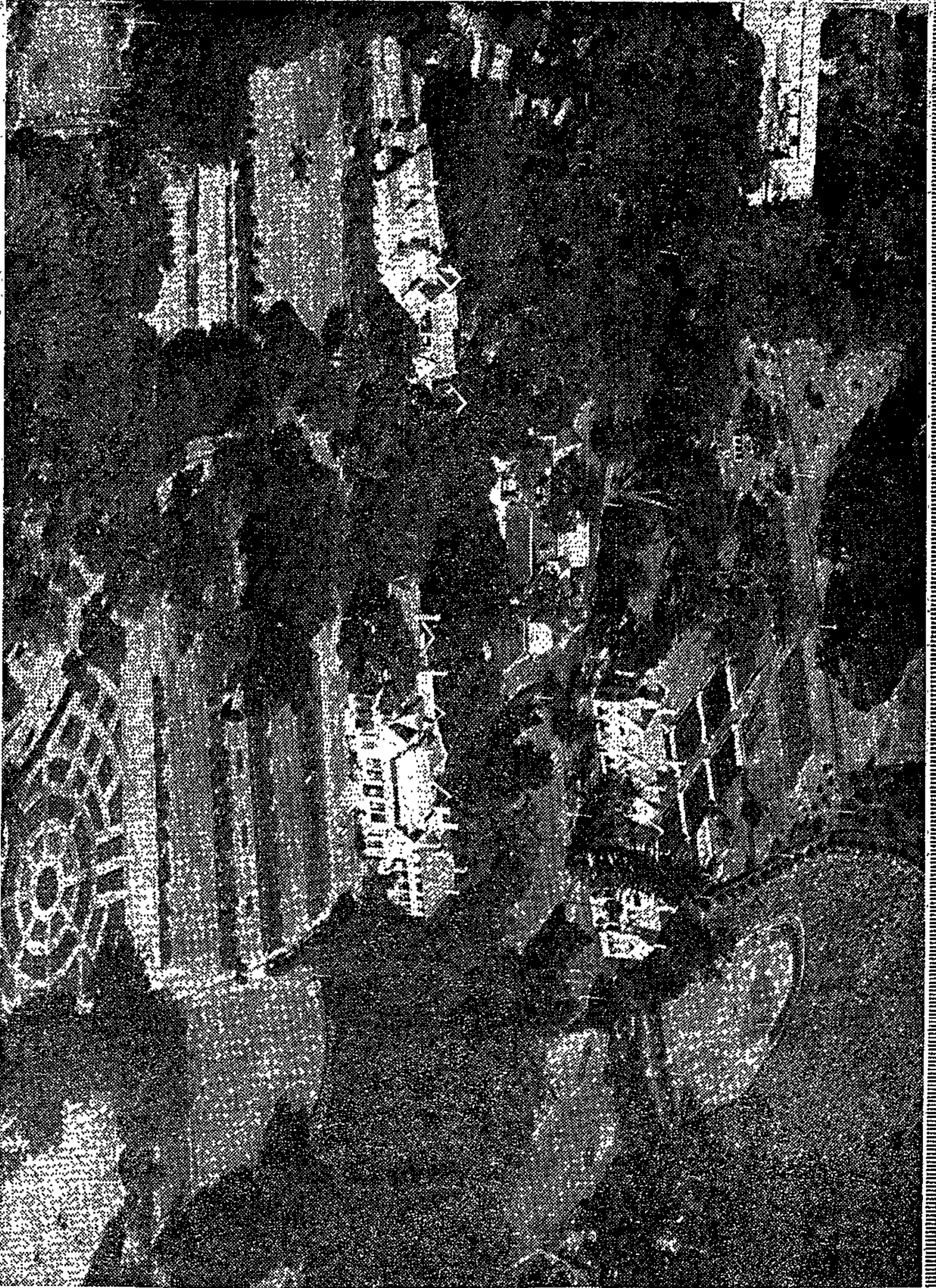
THE SKY Inside, past an entrance hall with a ceiling that reaches for the sky, each room is a copy of Dutch furniture, silver, table glass, paintings and clocks. Oddities abound. Rhodes's bath, surely 3 m by 2 m, in an enormous heap of granite; his library has translations of ancient Roman historians that have never been published; there is a wafting of blue and white Dutch tiles.

And some rather nice traditions were built up. Not so long ago, young nurses from Grootte Schuur Hospital would go down and pick huge bunches of hydrangeas to brighten the wards on Christmas Day. Do they still do that? Can they, with all those security fences and police dogs? But time has also been unkind. The present Prime Minister has moved to Westbrooke.

Grootte Schuur is now a museum. Fair enough. But it is not open for the South African people only to visitors on invitation. Why must this be so? Worse, other buildings and traffic have encroached insidiously, and the front apron is a harsh farm. And now, further desecrations threaten as politicians seeking new residences move covetously in.

SYLVAN GRACE I know of only one other (non-royal) residence remotely equalling the sylvan grace of Grootte Schuur, and that is Mount Vernon, the family home of George Washington in Virginia, overlooking the Potomac, now meticulously cared for by the American nation. Can one imagine what would happen to any attempt to build a political committee there?

Not only does Grootte Schuur belong to the nation. It is held in trust in terms of a sacred document — Rhodes's will. Clause 13 and Condition 3 are perfectly clear. I give my residence, known as De Grootte Schuur, and its said residence and its gardens and grounds shall be retained for a residence for the Prime Minister. Do we know what we are doing?



THIS aerial picture shows part of the Grootte Schuur estate which contains the main residences, Westbrooke, now the official residence of the Prime Minister in the centre and Grootte Schuur, the larger home behind it.

R66m aid for flood-hit farmers

CT 28/2/81 (56) ~~392/100/1~~

Staff Reporter

THE GOVERNMENT is putting aside R66 million for farmers in the Karoo and Boland who suffered loss in last month's floods, it was announced in Cape Town yesterday.

In addition, R15,6m will be spent on reconstructing property.

The subsidies and, in some cases, *ex gratia* payments for farmers to restore their lands and crops, is the largest amount ever made available in South Africa after a disaster. The decision was taken at cabinet level yesterday.

At a press conference the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, announced that farmers' losses in the area totalled about R66m.

About 4 000 ha of irrigation land on which vineyards, orchards and other crops had been established were washed away. A further 6 800 ha of similar irrigation land — which can be repaired at high cost — were damaged.

While other departments will provide aid for farmers for homes and irrigation appliances, the Department of Agriculture will give R43,2m to farmers in loans, subsidies and *ex gratia* payments.

About 1 000 farms in the Boland and Klein Karoo are affected, and some of the land washed away is irreplaceable. The minister said it was some of the best farming land in South Africa.

The government will supply loans:

- For repair costs of irrigation land on which vineyards and orchards had been established to a maximum of R1 500 a hectare.
- For re-establishing vineyards and orchards under irrigation on the repaired lands to a maximum of R6 000/ha.
- To a maximum of R1 500/ha for the repair of damaged irrigation lands on which no vineyards or orchards had been established.
- To a maximum of R250/ha for the re-establishment of crops other than vineyards and orchards under irrigation on the repaired lands.
- For the repair of drinking troughs, erosion-combating works and fences. Loans will be provided only if the items were erected in accordance with the planning of the farm by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, or if the farmers re-erect them in such a way.

80pc subsidy

Farmers will have to pay back only 20 percent of the loans. The rest will be converted to a government subsidy. The rate of interest of all loans is five percent a year.

Farmers whose lands have been washed away completely or damaged irreparably will receive *ex gratia* payments totalling R16,3m. Payment will depend on damage and type of crops grown.

Applications for irrigation assistance must go to the Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation.

Losses by farmers of supplies, livestock, farm buildings and personal possessions will be handled by the statutory Disaster Fund Committee.

The Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr J C Heunis, announced aid to coloured communities which suffered



The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis.

◆◆◆◆
To page 2

A

Aid for damage on farms outside those areas would be given by Agriculture and Fisheries. The government continued to provide temporary accommodation and rations for the destitute, Mr Heunis said.

In Lingsburg a few houses occupied by coloured people were damaged slightly. The repair cost is R6 000.

At Sunbraak the water-reticulation scheme, watering places for livestock and streets would be repaired at a cost of R17 000. In Robertson schoolbooks and handwork materials would be replaced at a cost of R1 000.

The 71 houses which collapsed at Zoar would be rebuilt, and the dam, damaged soil, weirs and roads repaired for R700 000. The water scheme, irrigation channel, bridge and river bank at Genadendal would be repaired at a cost of R6 000.

Sapa reported last night.

From page 1

Material losses in the floods.

28/2/81

392/100/1

'Save Hogsback' plea

Argus
23/2/37
Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — A plea has been made by the residents of Hogsback, which is marked for consolidation with the Ciskei, that the area be declared a nature reserve.

The Hogsback study group of six residents headed by Mr H P Carlisle, told the Van der Walt Commission in a memorandum that Hogsback should receive special status.

Meanwhile, the Progressive Federal Party's chief spokesman on pericultural matters, Mr Phillip Mabuza, has called

on conservation bodies to help protect the Hogsback area as a nature reserve.

He said Hogsback featured prominently in the Ciskei land consolidation proposal, without protection from over-population and agriculture which would damage the area's flora and fauna.

The group's plea is that the Hogsback water catchment area is of prime importance to South Africa and the Ciskei and that the precious forests should be preserved as part of the natural heritage.

Mr Carlisle said Hogsback held the headwaters for most of the rivers in the border area which watered many irrigation schemes.

obtaining the highest average
for the first year student
A F & C I Prize

CHEMICAL

L Meneguido
Drawing.
best classwork in Engineering
Awarded to the student with the
Sammy Jacks Memorial Prize

J H Rens
Civil Engineering.
student in Land Surveying or
examinations to the best male
Awarded on results of final
Professor George Henzies Prize

B F McClelland
J H Rens
D P Weeks
T J Cumming
P H Salmon
Fourth Year (Gold Medal)
Miss N C Davidson
Third Year (Silver Medal)
Miss G C Littlewort
Second Year (Bronze Medal)
of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.
For the best student in each
Corporation Medals

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Attempt to save sei, fin and sperm whales

Agenda 26/2/81

58

Environment Reporter

EVEN if sperm whales were completely protected, their numbers would probably continue to decline for many years and, in some places, might have already reached the point of no return.

And available information on fin and sei whales in the North Atlantic seems to show that the International Whaling Commission quotas were unjustified, says the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Reporting for the IUCN, Joanna Gordon Clark says that, although it could be argued that the population of sperm whales exploited by Japan was sufficiently large for it not to enjoy complete protection status, all the evidence pointed to a continuing decline in numbers that was likely to go on, even if sperm whaling stopped tomorrow.

Proposed

At the meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species at Delhi this week, the West German contingent will propose that all fin, sei and sperm whales be protected from trade by being placed on Schedule 1 of the agreement.

If this proposal is accepted, whaling countries will be deprived of a market for about 7 000 tons of whale oil, 69 per cent of which is sperm whale oil.

The EEC has already agreed to ban trade in all major whale products from the beginning of 1982.

Closed

If the West German proposal is accepted, Russia, Japan, Iceland and Portugal (not an IWC nation) would find their traditional European markets closed to them, even this year.

Similarly, Iceland and Spain would find the European and Japanese markets closed to fin and sei whale products.

Since Japan is the main importer of whale meat, including fin and sei whale meat, there is speculation that it might enter a reservation to the CITES agreement, allowing herself to continue importing.

Ironically, the West German proposal is in line with the IWC's scientific

committee recommendations, which the IWC ignored.

The scientific committee last year recommended no exploitation of the North Pacific sperm whale stocks,

but this was defeated by the full session of the IWC. South Africa abstained from voting on the North Pacific sperm whale question.

W Strickland

A Institution of Chemical Engineer's Silver Medal

for the best performance in project, design and practical courses over the 4-year curriculum.

M Salmon

T A Construction Prize

for the final year Civil engineering student submitting the best thesis.

P Mitchell

A Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors' Prize

for the best final year design showing constructional merit.

N Hvidsten

A Institution of Civil Engineers Student Chapter

Prize for the best written report submitted in C E 214, design

C Watt

IT'S OK TO

PUMP OUT POISON

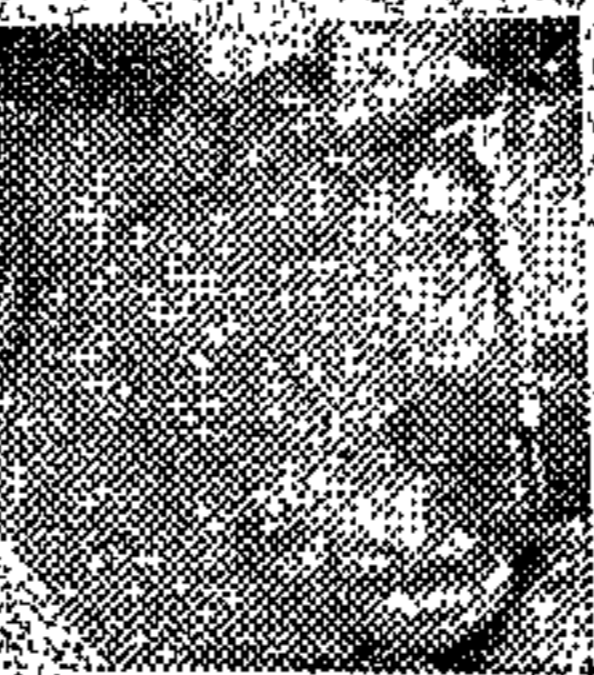
... and Government plans more 'dirt' for Richards Bay

S. Tribune
22/2/81
56

By IAN WYNNIE

RICHARDS BAY will become the dirty industry centre of South Africa. By building a R27-million poison pipeline in the sea the Government hopes to attract more "dirty" industries to the town with the promise of cheap effluent disposal.

This emerged in Durban this week when conservationists opposing the scheme were bluntly told the sea was "a desert" and made an ideal dumping ground for factory waste.



FRED OTTO Failed

A high-powered Government delegation made it clear at the meeting that the effluent disposal pipeline at Richards Bay is to be built despite opposition from the public, conservationists, research institutes and the Department of Sea Fisheries.

The Director-General of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Mr Fred Otto, accompanied by other officials and engineers, tried — and failed — to convince protesters that there were good reasons for the pipeline.

Secrecy remains the hallmark of the scheme, and this week's meeting was conducted behind closed doors at the insistence of the officials.

Mr Tim Condon, chairman of the South African Council for Conservation and Anti-Pollution (Saccap) described the attitude of the officials as "an ecological disaster". Disclosing details of what was discussed, he said conservationists had been told:

- The Government aimed to attract more "dirty" industries to Richards Bay by offering them an efficient, cheap effluent disposal system;

- The pipeline could be built large enough to take an expected flow of 200 cubic metres of effluent a day by the turn of the century;

- Sewage from Engenpangeni and Richards Bay would be discharged along with the industrial waste;

- The pipeline would go ahead after Parliament's rubber stamp Mr Condon said the hard-line attitude taken by officials was probably due to pressure from Mr Louis Luyt, the owner of Tritoni, for the Government to find a quick and acceptable way of disposing of waste gypsum from his factory at Richards Bay.

"I believe one of the big incentives offered to Luyt to stop him building a new factory in Brazil was that the Government would take care of the waste if he built at Richards Bay," Mr Condon said.

Mr Luyt was overseas

and not available for comment. The firm's public relations officer was also not available for comment this week.

Waste gypsum from Tritoni's plant has till now been used in the reclamation of 150 ha of papyrus swamp immediately behind the factory. But with the risk of flouride leaking from the waste and contaminating the nearby Tezak Lake is no longer regarded as satisfactory.

Most of the opposition to the pipeline so far has centred on this waste gypsum. It is to be pumped into the sea at the rate of 10,000 tons a day and will, according to Government officials, devastate about 150 ha of seabed.

Conservationists believe that the effects of the gypsum and of the 83 tons of flouride that will go out to sea with each day have not been fully investigated.

Now it seems that the picture is worse than conservationists ever thought possible. Not only gypsum and flouride, but large quantities of unspecified chemicals and sewage will also be pumped out to sea.

"We were shattered to be told we must accept second place to development," Mr Condon said.

"The consulting engineer, Mr Mark Bernstein, said the sea was an ideal place for all effluent. Problems like gypsum should be dumped into a desert and as the sea was a desert it made an ideal dumping ground."

"Instead of coming to us and giving us the full information we had been led to believe he would give, Mr Otto gave us a lecture on what he intended doing and how the Government monster is going to steamroller this thing through," said Mr Condon.

Mr Keith Cooper, director of the Natal branch of the SA Wildlife Society, said he was deeply perturbed at the attitude that the sea is a desert.

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Laingsburg may have to be rebuilt on a new site

CAPE TOWN — The future of Laingsburg looks grim and serious consideration would have to be given to rebuilding flood - devastated homes elsewhere.

This is the message which came through from the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw, on his return from a visit to the disaster area yesterday.

He was accompanied by all the members of the province's executive committee and representatives of various state departments including police, defence, health, welfare and the treasury.

Mr Louw said that after deliberations with municipal officials it had been decided to ask the central government to establish a "Laingsburg Disaster Committee" which would include not only local community leaders, but also outside experts and representatives of the provincial administration and all government departments.

This committee would work hand in hand with the action committee co-ordinating rescue, recovery and other emergency action.

Mr Louw said that the new Laingsburg committee would have to give serious attention to reconstructing elsewhere those properties which were destroyed. He added that three-quarters of the town's rateable property had either been totally obliterated or rendered uninhabitable.

At a press conference yesterday the Administrator painted a grim picture of the latest crisis situation in Laingsburg.

Schools in the area had been closed indefinitely. The boys' hostel had been damaged beyond repair. The girls' boarding-house could be ready within two weeks if "tons and tons" of sand, slime and sludge could be pushed away by bulldozers.

The school itself had been covered with mud up to the window sills of its second floor. Pupils are being accommodated elsewhere without charge by the Provincial Administration.

Mr Louw pointed out that it was fortunate that the floods came during the day when people were not sleeping and on a Sunday when the hostels were empty.

Disaster Fund has been launched.

Donors should make cheques out to the fund and send them to the Town Clerk's office.

Nationwide fund donations topped R250 000 yesterday as contributions in cash and kind continued to pour in from individuals, organisations, businesses, churches and communities throughout South Africa.

The World Council of Churches has granted R10 000 to help the flood victims.

The secretary general of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Desmond Tutu, confirmed this in Johannesburg yesterday and said the money would be made available to the affected communities through the SACC.

And at Loftus Versfeld rugby ground in Pretoria, the secretary of the Northern Transvaal Rugby Union, Mr Robert Denton, said among the items donated there were three cars, stoves, fridges and furniture.

Members of a Transvaal service club baked 1 000 loaves of bread and sent them to the Cape by air.

The Department of Health, Welfare and Pensions was swamped with telephone calls from organisations seeking authority to collect funds.

Any individual or organisation wishing to obtain authority, as required by law, should telephone Pretoria 283156 or Cape Town 434821. Donations can also be sent direct to the Flood Relief Fund at Pte Bag X63, Pretoria. — DDR-DDC-SAPA.

Mayor's flood fund tops R1000

EAST LONDON — After only two working days since formation, the Mayor's Karoo flood relief fund has collected over R1 000.

By late yesterday afternoon donations totalling R1 214 had been made to the curator of the fund, Mr Sandy Johnston.

Mr Johnston said the R1 000 mark was reached just before lunch.

He also appealed to those who received aid in the 1970 East London floods to donate money to the Karoo relief fund if possible.

"During our floods we received money from all parts of the Republic and further afield. I would like to appeal to those who received to remember what it meant to get help and if they are in a position to donate money then to step forward and donate," he said.

Mr Johnston said there was some confusion over the need to have a letter of authority from the Mayor, Mr Donald Card to collect money for the fund.

He said whip around collections in offices or at sports clubs among friends did not need a letter of authority.

However, street collectors raising money have to have a letter of authority.

All donations for the fund can be handed into Mr Johnston at the Mayor's parlour or posted to P.O. Box 134, East London. A spokesman for the Red Cross said they also receive donations. Blankets, clothes and non-perishable foodstuffs are welcome but money is preferable.

Mr Johnston also

appealed to donors to give their names and addresses with their donations.

"I know many people want to remain anonymous and I can assure them they will remain anonymous, but the fund is state money and I have to be answerable to the state auditor.

"Also the Mayor would like to thank each donor personally by letter," he said.

The Mayor of King William's Town, Mr Eric Weyer has also started a relief fund in the town. The borough council boosted the fund with a R2 000 donation. A spokesman for the municipality said about R400 had already been received from residents. Council.

Nearly all major towns in the Border have started relief funds.

A Queenstown municipal spokesman said they started a fund on Tuesday night and all donations can be sent to the municipality.

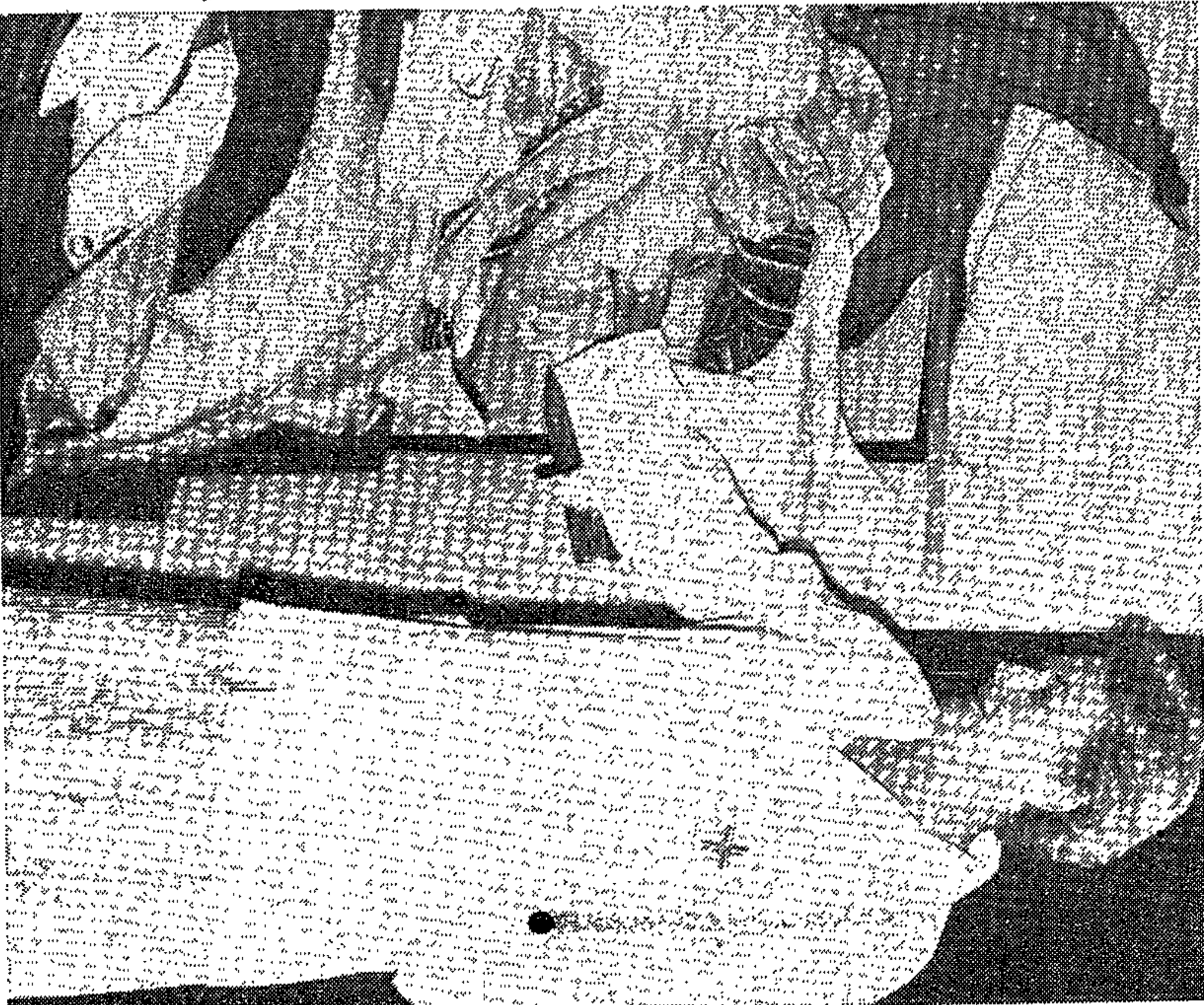
The Grahamstown city council's fund had R500 yesterday morning.

A municipal spokesman for Graaff-Reinet said that it is certain that a fund will be established within the next two days.

The Town Clerk of Stutterheim, Mr Joubert, said they had established a relief fund yesterday. He said it will be difficult to accept contributions other than money.

The Port Alfred Town Council decided unanimously at its meeting on Tuesday to donate R2 000 towards the relief of victims of the Laingsburg flood and a fund to be known as the Laingsburg

A Red Cross worker, Mrs M. Stocks, with contributions to the Karoo flood relief fund.



Soldiers saved 18 stranded on roof

LAINGSBURG. — Almost four days after the flood that wiped out three-quarters of Laingsburg, new stories are still coming to light of people saved from the raging torrent on Sunday night.

A national servicemen, Rifleman Pieter de Wit, 19, of Cape Town, and three colleagues, including his Commanding Officer, Major Chris Hattingh, of Beaufort West, saved 18 people stranded on the roof of a school hostel in the middle of the flood wa-

ters.

Among the people saved was an expectant mother who gave birth to a boy yesterday. Both are reported to be in a good condition.

Rifleman De Wit, Major Hattingh and two other servicemen — Rifleman Andre Wichtman, 18, of Cape Town, and Lance-Corporal J van Rensburg, of the Transvaal, were the first to arrive at Laingsburg on Sunday from their base at Beaufort West.

They saw a group of people trapped

on the roof, screaming for help. They fetched a length of rope from the local police station and Rifleman De Wit volunteered to swim out with the rope tied around his waist.

He kicked a hole through the asbestos roof and the ceiling and helped the group down to the first storey. He climbed back through the roof and swam round the building and tied the end of the rope to a water tank.

He helped the people out through a window on to a sandbank which had

built up against the side of the building.

He asked the men to hold hands and to pass along the women and a two-year-old child through the waters to safety.

The rescued included a number of elderly women.

Rifleman Van Rensburg noticed an old woman clinging to a tree top. He swam out and brought her back to safety. — Sapa

Call for control of flood fund

AN appeal for money rather than goods for victims of the Karoo flood was made last night by the MP for Beaufort West, Mr D J Poggenpoel, in whose constituency Laingsburg falls.

There was a shortage of storage space for all the clothes, bedding and cooking utensils, which were pouring in from all parts of the country, he said. He appealed to people to donate money instead.

Meanwhile money and goods have continued to pour in to help flood victims.

Over R1 million

With the cash total now thought to be over the R1 million mark, a call has been made for the government to appoint an administrator to control the various relief funds for Karoo flood victims.

The appeal for a flood fund administrator was made last night by Mr Brian Bamford.

He said an administrator would be able to consolidate the various relief funds, co-ordinate the collection and receipt of contributions, settle insurance and compensation problems, fire interim aid to the destitute, and work out long term plans for rebuilding and regeneration.

"The people of the Cape Province have always been extremely generous in assisting the victims of natural disasters," he said.

"But past experience, particularly in 1989 after the Tulbach earthquake, has taught that it is essential that an action secretariat be set up immediately."

Donations

Among the donations made yesterday in cash and kind, the Cape Times has been able to confirm are:

- R30 000 from the Pichel group of companies,
- R5 000 donated by Pine-lands municipality,
- R10 000 by Unilever of Durban,
- R64 500 from Natal Red Cross,

- R1 000 from readers of The Mercury,
- R2 700 from East London residents,

- R1 000 from readers of The Mercury,
- R2 700 from East London residents,

- R1 100 from Stutterheim,
- R2 384 from King William's Town,

- 10 000 cans of meat from The Bull Brand food company in Krugersdorp,
- R50 000 each from the city councils of Johannesburg,
- R4 000 from South African Railways workers to a fund to help their colleagues affected by the flood,

Building society

• The 850 offices of the Permanent Building Society have been nominated as collection points for the Disaster Relief Fund: Karoo

• An internal fund-raising effort has been launched by the South African Police for the victims of the Cape floods



Mr Willem Pieterse, left, and Mr Michael Floors carry a soaked chest-of-drawers from their home, which was inches deep in mud yesterday, on the banks of the Gouritz River mouth.

Rivers ravage farmland

Own Correspondent

GOURITZ RIVER MOUTH. — In the aftermath of Sunday's floods, the raging Buffels and Groot rivers have ripped through farmlands from Floriskraal Dam, south of Laingsburg to the Gouritz River Mouth, causing massive stock and crop losses.

Worst-hit are the farming valleys of Ladismith Van Wyksdorp, Herbertsdale, Albertinia, and the Gouritz River Mouth area, where some farmers have lost almost everything.

In the floodwaters which hit the river mouth on Monday afternoon, Mr Elias Joseph, 35, of Albertinia, was drowned.

Police said unidentified bodies had been found. They were those of a coloured woman at Great Brak, two women and a girl at Ladismith, and a coloured youth whose body washed up at Outeniqua Strand.

A coloured woman is still missing from a farm near Ladismith. The farmer, a Mr Brewer, and a labourer were hauled to safety from the swollen Groot River by an Air Force helicopter.

Police said roads were still closed between Calitzdorp and Ladismith and the Gouritz River Mouth and Johnson's Post.

One farmer, Mr Louis van Rensburg, of the farm Die Eiland, has been left with only 3-1/2 hectares of his 292-hectare stock and lucerne farm. He is not insured.

"It hasn't flooded here since 1906," he said.

Other farmers have lost up to 300 sheep and 40 000 vines.

Some have lost all their fencing and their surviving sheep are still stranded on islands.

Many farm-houses and labourers' huts are swamped and staff are still being housed in farm sheds.

Farmers in the Herbertsdale area were expecting more water last night when news came that the sluices at Floriskraal Dam had been reopened to relieve the buildup from the north.

Rumours that this had caused more drownings near Ladismith could not be confirmed by police last night.



A dead sheep washed down from the Laingsburg area, found at the mouth of the Gouritz River.

City supplies and cash for Karoo

Municipal Reporter

THE CAPE Town City Council at its monthly meeting yesterday gave its Exco a blank cheque to make contributions in cash or kind to aid victims of the flood-devastated Karoo "as and when the need becomes apparent."

The Mayor, Mr Louis Kreiner, told the council that besides the R10 000 the City was giving to launch its own flood relief fund, the Administrator had been offered the full resources of the Cape Town City Council and its officials, including its civil defence organization.

Mr Kreiner added that this offer was conveyed simultaneously to the Officer Commanding Western Province Command and to the OC Southern Areas Command.

He also announced that the

Provincial Administration had requested certain supplies yesterday and the City Council agreed to immediately dispatch this urgent consignment of essential requirements by road in its own vehicles under command of the City's civil defence chief, Major R Douglas.

The consignment consisted of 400 refuse bins, 300 pails, 12 power chain saws and 1 000 heavy-duty plastic bags. The total cost was R15 800.

Mr Kreiner said "The Council has decided that the above supplies will be a donation to the people of Laingsburg in addition to its initial cash contribution to the Mayor's flood relief fund, and it has furthermore authorized the Executive Committee to make further contributions in cash or in essential commodities as and when the need becomes apparent."

Concern over motorist

THE family of Mr John Baxter is concerned about his safety as he has not yet reached Johannesburg after leaving Cape Town by car on Sunday afternoon.

Mr Baxter, 29, apparently left for Johannesburg at 3.30 pm on Sunday in a 1979 BMW 730 with the number-plate BNJ 341 T.

Anyone knowing his whereabouts is asked to contact Mr Baxter's mother in Johannesburg at 946-1549, or Mr Jennings in Cape Town at 41-0103.

• Cape Times reporter Stephen Wrottesley said yesterday that he had been given a lift between Laingsburg and Touws River on Monday morning by a man fitting Mr Baxter's description.

The man was one of the last to drive through the Hex River area before the bridge between De Doorns and Worcester

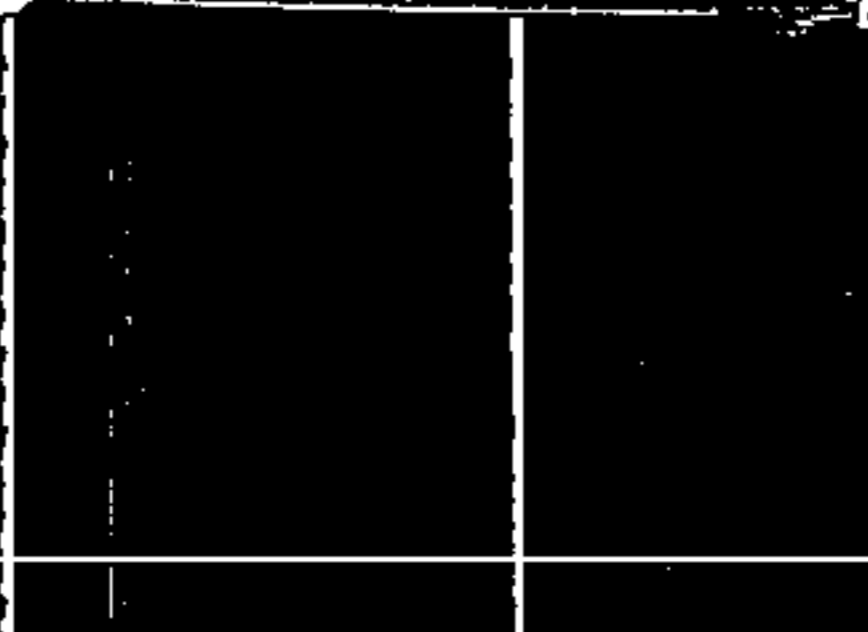
Ban on 'loiterers'

Staff Reporter

LAINGSBURG — Police have taken action to ban "loiterers" from flood-stricken areas after reports of looting.

Captain Eddie Snyman said yesterday all loiterers regardless of race were being turned away from devastated areas in the town.

He said that coloured people could enter the town to go to such facilities as shops and banks but as a precautionary measure "we want the people who don't belong" in devastated areas to stay away. He said this was to prevent any theft of property.



Cape Provincial Institute
of Architects' Prize
For the best student in :-

Sixth Year

P F Dunkley

Helen Gardner Travel Prize

For a student who has

satisfactorily completed

1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.

P A Rappoport

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize

For the best woman student

in third year.

Miss C Tredgold

David Haddon Prize

For the best student of

Architecture (or Quantity

Surveying) in the subject

of Professional Practice.

D H Pryce Lewis

General J B M Hertzog Prize

For the best final year student.

S A Read

Osbourn Prize

For the best work in fourth

year.

D H Pryce Lewis

John Perry Prize

For the best work in

third year.

R A van Rosenfeld.

Argus 29/1/81
Search 58
 (Continued from Page 1)

said: 'I will never come back here again. It will never be the same place. I think it is best that my mother is dead. She would not have wanted to see the place like this.'

Stories of lucky escapes are continuing to emerge.

Kobus Schoeman, 13, was the first in his family to realise that their home and lives were in danger. His father believed him only after going outside and seeing how fast the floodwaters were rising.

His mother was ill. Kobus said his father grabbed her and fled from the house after smashing a hole in the ceiling and clambering on to the roof.

They sat there for six hours.

MANY MISSING

The family was rescued by a doctor who tied a rope to a car and hauled his way towards them. Although none of Kobus's relatives died in the flooding, many of his friends are missing.

The speed at which floodwaters engulfed Laingsburg was evident in 17-year-old Daniel Jacobs's hostel room in the town's high school (his father, the Rev. Danie Jacobs, died while trying to rescue aged residents of the town).

Daniel and other boys fled Koornhof hostel and was stranded on the roof for several hours.

The mud on the second floor lay 20 cm thick. The first floor was covered by a 2 m layer. Daniel was one of the lucky schoolboys. Six of his fellow scholars are missing.

Argus reporter M. e. Hewitt, who has been in the disaster area since the early hours of Monday morning, surprised a looter while wandering through the hostel. The looter fled.

• More flood reports, Pages 4 and 21.

DD 30/4/81 (56)

Laingsburg bodies: hopes fade

LAINGSBURG — By yesterday evening the bodies of 15 flood victims had been recovered, one of them as far away as Mossel Bay and another, at Ladismith, but officials fear the majority of the missing which now totals 95, will never be found under the silt and rubble which is more than three metres deep in most of the town.

Eleven of the recovered bodies have been identified as: Mrs Jeanette Groenewald of Laingsburg, Mr William Henry, Lena le Roux, Kate Peterson of Vryheid, who had been on holiday in the district, Jeanette Koen,

who worked in the local Standard Bank, Mr Piet du Toit, Suzie du Toit, Mr Boy Olivier of Laingsburg old age home, Mr and Mrs Hendrik van Rensburg of Laingsburg, and Mr Piet Rooi.

Two other bodies were identified but next-of-kin have not yet been notified.

Mr and Mrs S. Boces, earlier listed as missing, were found to be alive and well.

At Montagu, seven bodies have been recovered and seven people are still missing.

Meanwhile in Cape Town, the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, said after

a helicopter tour of the stricken area yesterday, that the people of the flood-ravaged Karoo and Southern Cape were dismayed but not beaten.

Mr Botha, accompanied by his wife and the Ministers of internal affairs, health, and the Director of Health Services, visited Laingsburg, Montagu and Robertson and flew over other stricken areas.

The most striking feature of the visit was the total acceptance of their lot by the people.

At the tent town in Laingsburg where the homeless were being housed, Mr Botha made a

snort impromptu speech offering his and the government's sympathy, praising the people for their courage, and promising every assistance.

Meanwhile stories of people miraculously saved are still coming to light.

A national serviceman, Rfn Pieter de Wit, 19, and three colleagues saved 18 people stranded on the roof of a school hostel in the middle of the floodwaters.

Among those saved were elderly women and an expectant mother who gave birth to a boy on Wednesday. Both are in good condition. DDC-SAPA

B de Jong

Third Year

C S Jones

Second Year

J A L Chapman

First Year

National Development Fund
for the Building Industry
Book Prizes
For the best student in each
year of study of the degree
course.

BUILDING

M R I Ness

R Stubbs Award
For the best project in
structure and design.

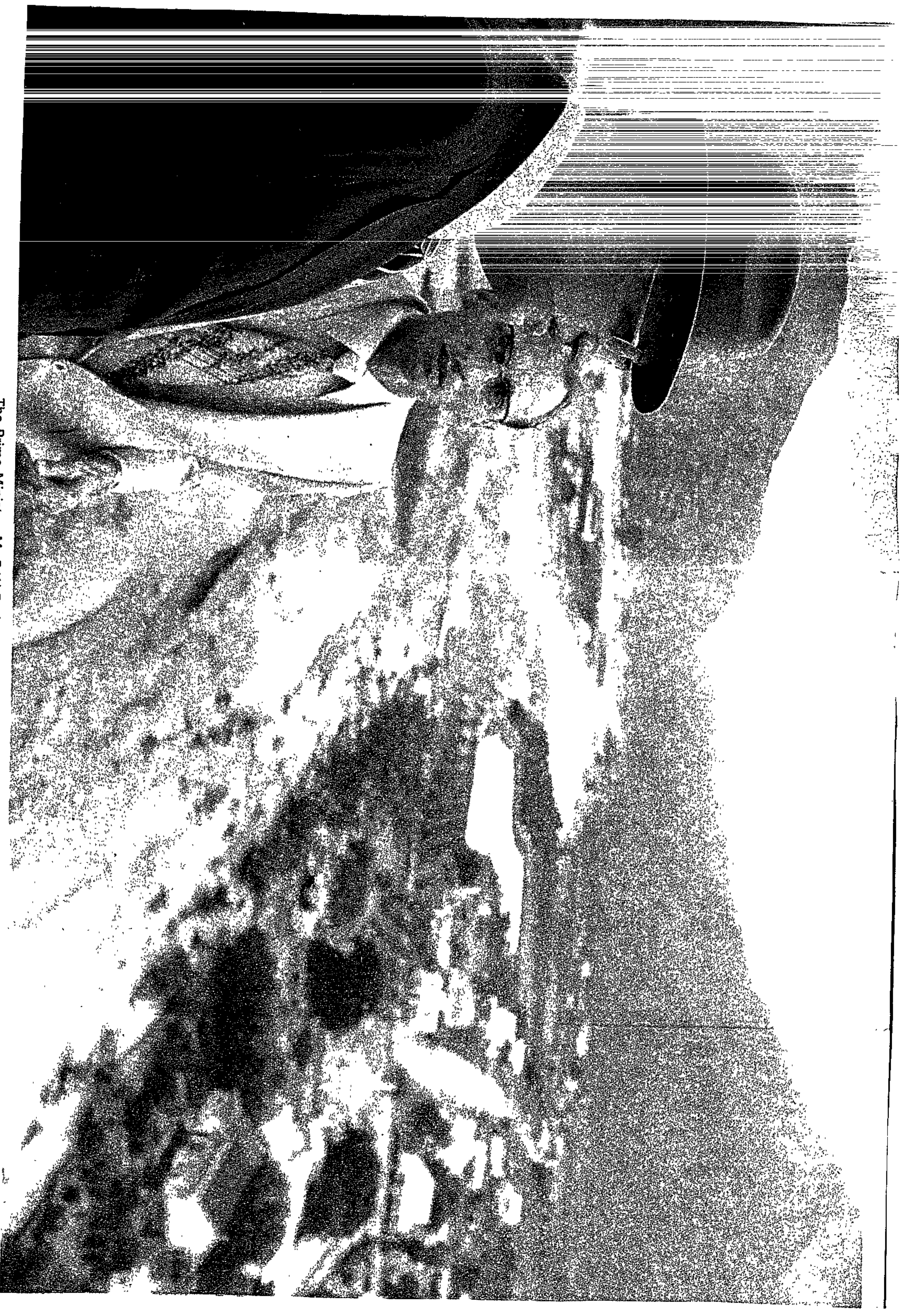
J G Kirkman

S A Brick Association Prize
For the student who has made
best use of bricks in his
design work.

Miss M F J Sandilands

Mrs. Thornton White Prize
For the best work in
first year.

ARCHITECTURE
(Continued)



The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, and the Mayor, Mr Fanie Wahl, inspected the town of Montagu yesterday. Montagu was badly hit by floodwaters, which destroyed a mineral-baths complex and carried away 10 caravans. Mr Botha visited the flood-stricken areas by helicopter yesterday.

'Community is strong'

LAINGSBURG. — A military clinical psychologist in flood-devastated Lainsburg has full confidence that the local community will be able to re-establish itself.

Captain Keith Ventris, the psychologist, and Lieutenant Robin Emsley, a psychiatrist, were among medical personnel flown in to the town as part of the Defence Force's relief effort.

Captain Ventris said in an interview that studies in the United States had shown how communities passed through particular phases after being struck by a major disaster.

These had manifested themselves in Lainsburg.

• The first phase was shock and inertia when people were

almost totally unaware of what had happened. Their actions became reflex and they often went about almost irrelevant tasks. He had seen people digging in the mud for almost useless objects, just sitting around or wandering about aimlessly.

• The second phase was a gradual realization of the full implications of the whole situation, that the town they knew would never be the same again, even though conditions might improve. Reactions to this would vary according to personality types. Despair set in on some, while others became determined at all costs to rebuild. This was the time when people had to be coordinated, when military involvement should diminish and civic involvement should be well established.

Wind turns silt to dust

Staff Reporter

LAINGSBURG. — The search for bodies continued in blazing heat in and around Lainsburg yesterday as a strong breeze turned the town into a dust bowl.

Much of the ton of river silt washed into Lainsburg has turned into fine, powdery dust. Colonel Markus Norfje, Chief of Staff (Operations) of the Defence Force, in Lainsburg said about 200 men from the infantry school, Oudstroom, and the Artillery Air Defence School, Youngsteld, were engaged in searching for bodies in the town.

He said the Defence Force was given indications of likely places where people were last seen. These were given by eye witnesses and survivors of the flood.

Whatever was found was immediately handed over to the police.

Every evening a plan was drawn up for the next day's activities. Yesterday one unit of about 100 men worked below the town's school hostel where the old age home used to be.

Another similar unit worked on the north side of the main street. Meanwhile work continued in the town to repair the shattered infra-structure. More telephone lines have become available and work to clear the main road and to repair bridges is advanced.

The Defence Force installed a temporary water purification plant which was pushing out 10 000 litres in the hour of clean water by late yesterday. Its capacity is expected to reach 30 000 litres in the hour today.

Floods

may cost

insurers

R20 m

By GORDON KLING

THE KAROO flood disaster is estimated to have caused insurable damage of about R20 million and the short-term insurance industry believes the severity of claims against it could lead to an increase in premiums.

It is also becoming increasingly apparent that many people were under-insured.

The old-age home at Lainsburg and its contents, for example, were insured for R100 000, but assessors believe the figure should have been at least R300 000. Another company reported a case of an individual with R4 000 coverage on property worth at least R20 000.

Five reported alive

FIVE people who were on the Lainsburg list of missing have reported alive to Lainsburg police.

They are Mr Hein Diener, Mrs Helena Diener, Mr David Anstey, of the farm Anysberg, and Mr and Mrs S Boes. Meanwhile police yesterday found the bodies of two more victims. The body found yesterday morning appeared to be that of an elderly woman.

Twenty-one people have been rescued or found. The total number of bodies recovered is now 15, 91 people are still unaccounted for.

Even of the recovered bodies have so far been identified and although ages and marital status were not immediately available, they were named as:

Mrs Jeanette Groenewald of Lainsburg, Mr William Henry, Lena le Roux, Kate Peterson of Vryheid, who had been on holiday in the district, Jeanette Koen, who worked in the local Standard Bank, Mr Piet du Toit, Suzie du Toit, Mr Boy Olivier of Lainsburg old age home, Mr and Mrs Hendrik van Rensburg of Lainsburg, and Mr Piet Rooi.

Rough guess

Insurance sources emphasized that the R20-million damage figure was a rough guess encompassing all the flood-hit areas in the Boland, but excluding damage to State property such as roads, railways and bridges which would not have been insured, and also excluding municipal property, which probably was covered.

Companies had loss adjusters and assessors in the field yesterday to handle the enormous increase in claims as rapidly as possible in an effort to alleviate further hardship.

Major loss

"Certainly it has been a major loss in insurance terms," said one industry source.

Margins had been thin for some time and the source believed "rates must harden. It not immediately".

The industry was wryly noting yesterday that the rates war had caused one firm to lose the insurance business for the co-op and the municipality recently because it was not prepared to match the low premiums offered by a competitor.

"We felt pretty bad at the time, but in retrospect we were very lucky," said the head of the group which lost the business. Both policies would show heavy payouts.

'Not as conscious'

The managing director of Santam Insurance Ltd, Mr C J Oosthuizen, said yesterday that he doubled his group was responsible for more than R1-million. He put overall damage at between R15m and R20m.

Mr Oosthuizen said he was surprised at the relatively low insurance coverage in the area and the nature of policies. Computer printouts had led the group initially to believe that it would be in far a much greater payout.

"I can only think that people in the rural areas are not as conscious of the possibility of losses as those in the big urban areas."



Rescue workers return the body of a Laingsburg resident retrieved from the Floriskraal Dam about 17km from the town.

Missing people report safe

From ENRICO KEMP
LAINGSBURG. — Navy divers yesterday recovered the body of an elderly woman from the Floriskraal dam 17 km from the town. This brought to 15 the number of bodies found since Sunday's floods which devastated this Karoo town.

The grim search for bodies trapped under silt and debris continued yesterday at the dam and in the devastated residential suburb on the banks of the Buffels River. Troops worked all day with picks and shovels, but no bodies were found in Laingsburg.

Meanwhile, the official list of missing people yesterday dropped dramatically from 119 to '91 as residents reported missing contacted the police to say they were safe.

The police liaison officer here, Captain Eddie Snyman, said the police had set up a special section to make inquiries and find the next-of-kin of people whose bodies had been found.

Captain Snyman said the police would not tolerate an influx of "sightseers" to Laingsburg. He said the town was a disaster area and did not have accommodation or facilities for visitors who were not involved in the rescue and mopping-up operations. Road-blocks have been set up outside the town prevent sightseers flocking here.

The road through Laingsburg

has now been fully opened, but only emergency traffic is allowed through. Bulldozers have cleared several metres of thick mud which choked the main road.

Air Force helicopters are continuously airlifting food and clothes donated from all over the country to Laingsburg. The helicopters also freighted food and medical equipment to surrounding farms which had been isolated by severed road and rail links. Farm workers who lost their possessions were brought into Laingsburg by helicopter yesterday to fetch food and supplies from the Red Cross stall.

Army tankers yesterday continued to ferry water from boreholes at Koup station, a tiny railway siding about 80 km on the way to Beaufort West. Telephone and postal links to Laingsburg have also been restored.

Flash flood 'worst in SA farming history'

Staff Reporters

THE flash flood in the Karoo was the greatest and most ghastly flood disaster ever to befall agriculture in South Africa, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Pietie du Plessis, said yesterday after visiting the flood-stricken areas of the southern Cape.

In another official visit to the flood-stricken towns in the Karoo and southern Cape yesterday the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, pledged financial and material aid from the province and the government.

Mr Du Plessis said that some of the most valuable and highest-producing irrigation soil in the Republic had washed away down to the rock-bed at places.

Farmers had also suffered great losses in the form of implements and equipment.

In the circumstances, it would be impossible for most of the farmers to resume production in the foreseeable future, either from their own or other financial resources. Financial assistance would therefore have to be provided.

"The government is particularly sympathetic towards the problem of farmers resuming production, and they can therefore accept without hesitation that financial assistance will be provided to enable them to resume as soon as possible," he said.

The Prime Minister, who visited Laingsburg and Montagu, was accompanied by his wife and three other cabinet ministers, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr Chris Heunis; the Minister of Water Affairs, Dr Nak van der Merwe, and the Minister of Health, Social Welfare and Pensions, Dr L A P Munnik, and his wife.

The party arrived in Laingsburg shortly after 11 am aboard a South African Air Force helicopter and were met by the member of Parliament for Beaufort West, Mr Dirk Poggenpoel, and the officers in charge of the army and police operations here, Brigadier Naas-Redelinghuys and Brigadier D K Genis, Divisional Commissioner of Police for the South Western Districts.

Mr Botha and his entourage toured the devastated residential area of Laingsburg, where the flooded river buried people, houses and cars in more than six metres of mud.

Addressing about 150 people at the local rugby field, Mr Botha extended his and government's sympathy to residents who had lost relatives in the floods and assured the town's people that the province and State would provide aid for reconstruction.

"It is our concern to help you in the fullest measure possible. We must now first establish the extent of the damage to determine the method of reconstruction and will then provide finances to help you," he said.

While several women in the audience sobbed openly, Mr Botha said he was "deeply touched by the loss of your dear ones" and paid tribute to people who had died trying to save others from the raging flood.

"I ask you to keep courage and give you the assurance that you can count on our help. We must stand up and look ahead. I wish you the best of luck," Mr Botha said. He thanked the army, police and other rescue units for their help.

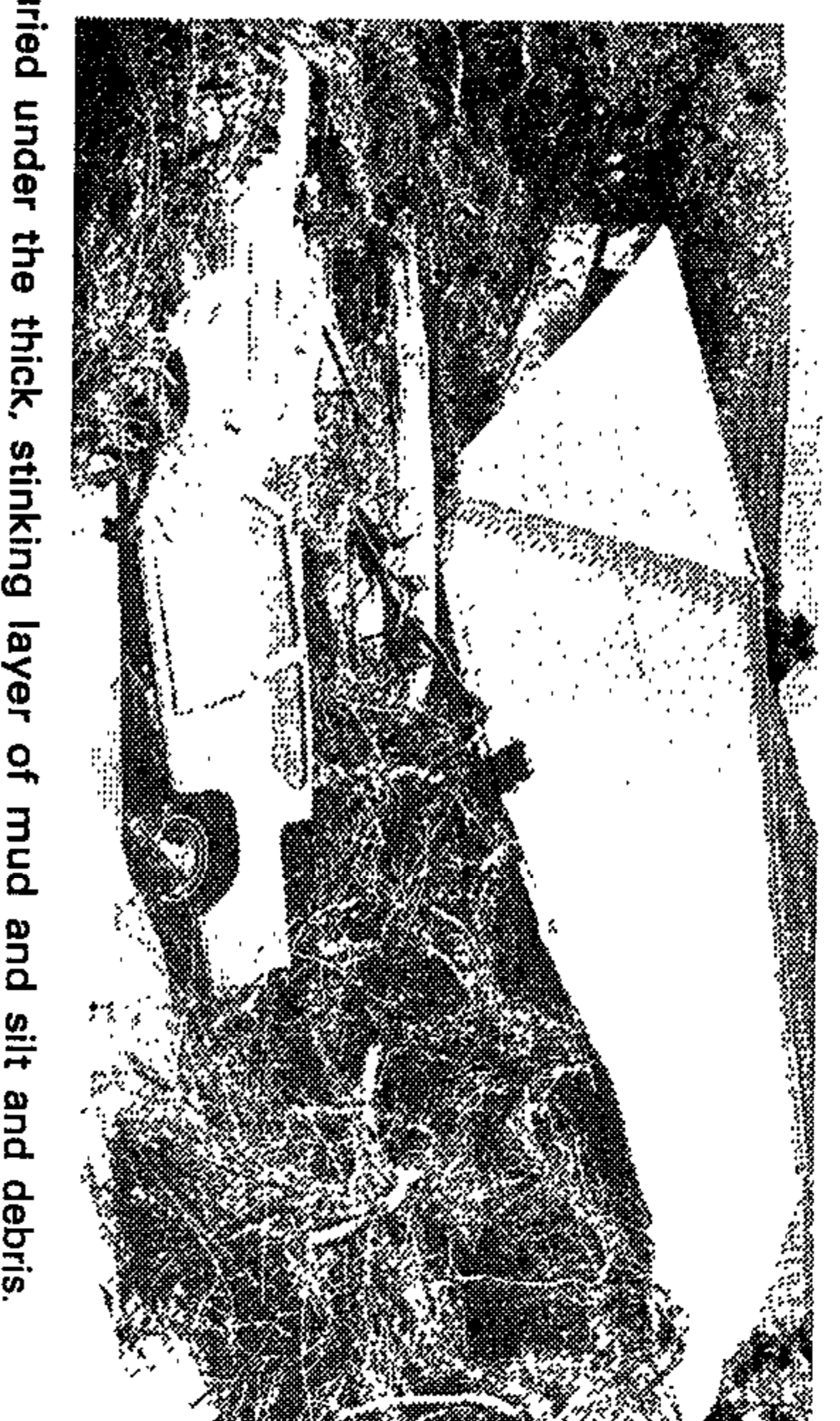
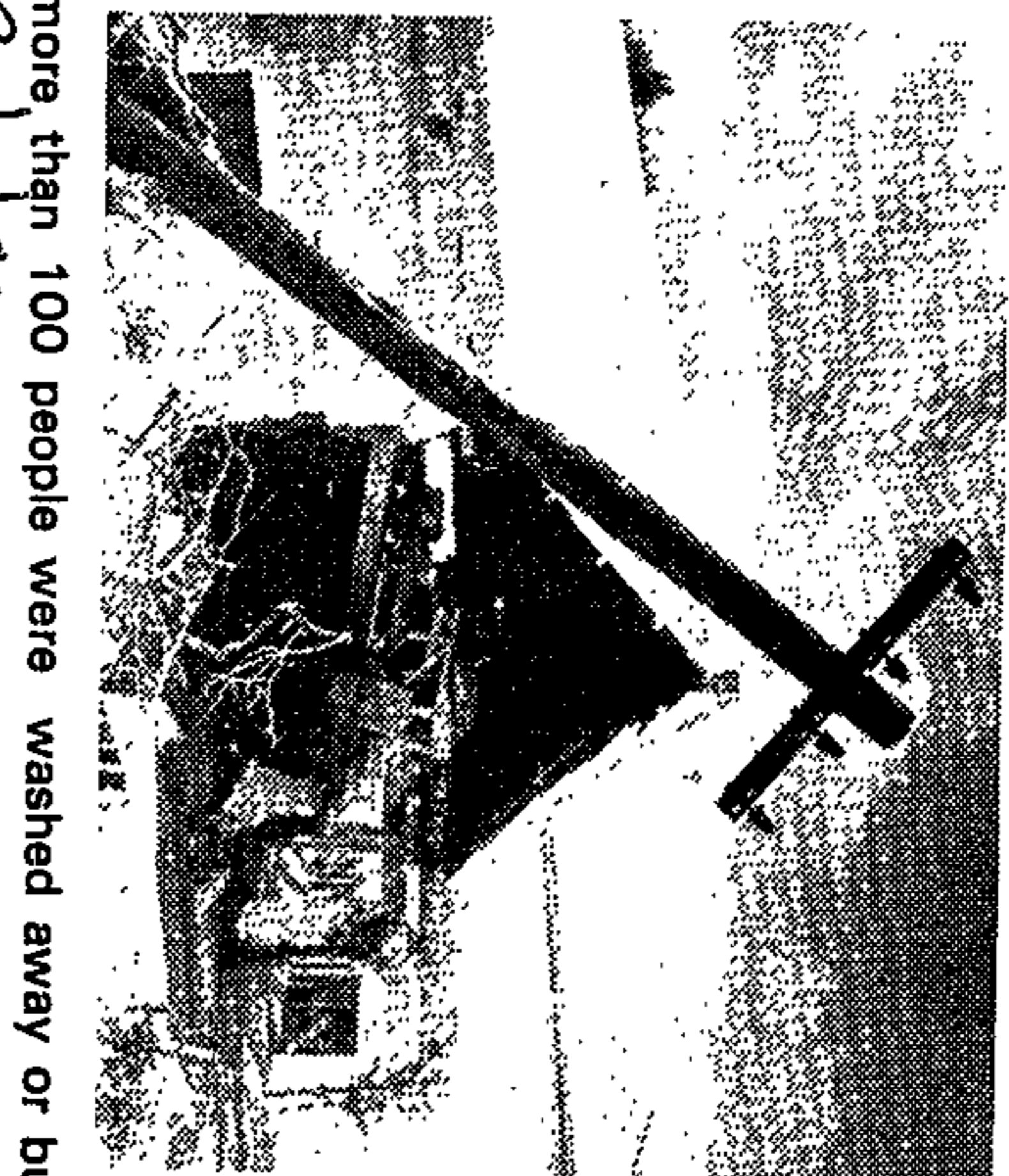
Mr Botha and his party joined in singing the hymn "Praise the Lord" before flying on to Ladismith and Montagu. — Staff Reporter and Sapa

BUILDING

(Continued)

ARCHITECTURE

THE TOWN THAT DIED IN FOUR HOURS



Scenes from the Laingsburg flood disaster. Within four hours more than 100 people were washed away or buried under the thick, stinking layer of mud and silt and debris.

By STEPHEN WROTTSLEY

LAINGSBURG'S 100th birthday present was a 4m-high wall of foaming floodwater which wiped half of the little Karoo town away as effortlessly as a bar-room bully sweeping the counter clean of every glass.

A century ago plots were laid out on the farm Vischkuil, just upstream from the junction of the Buffels and Bobbejaan rivers, and the nascent township named after John Laing, the then commissioner of Crown lands.

By January 25, 1981, it had grown to about 3 000 people. Its 700-odd whites lived mainly along the northern bank of the Buffels, just above the high arches of the railway bridge. The coloured Laingsburgers lived on higher ground behind the town... and the residential segregation spelt death to a huge slice of the town's white population.

Laingsburg was a proud little town. It played an important part in the local wool trade, and proclaimed this by writing the slogan "Dra Wol" (wear wool) in brightly whitewashed stones on a ridge behind the town. It also boasted a large high school because, like all platelayers, the Laingsburgers revere education.

And then, in the space of just four hours, it was almost all gone, torn away by the angry yellow waters of a river gone mad.

Between 2pm and 6pm last Sunday, three-quarters of the town's white residential area was destroyed and more than 100 people were washed away or buried under a thick, stinking layer of mud and silt and debris.

As this is written, only a quarter of the bodies have been recovered. The rest — including pensioners and little children — are still missing without trace.

The search for bodies will continue for a long time to come and may well be forgotten in years to come, but the 48 hours between the start of the heavy rain and the start of a co-ordinated search for survivors will remain always in the minds of those who survived the ordeal or were involved in the rescue operation.

This is a breakdown of the agony visited on Laingsburg. There was a long build-up to the actual flood — so gradual, in fact, that no-one realised what a terrible disaster was looming. Several days before the flood, heavy rain started falling north-north-west of Laingsburg, in an area so notoriously hot and dry that it has acquired the sinister name of Moordeenaarskaroo (Murderer's Karoo).

The rain fell hard and steady — which was an event in itself in the Karoo. Reports of the unusual — and unusual — rain came in, but at Laingsburg itself there were only slight showers.

On Saturday, January 24, particularly heavy rain fell over the whole Cape, especially in the Moordeenaarskaroo

and also over nearby Touws River, which recorded 38mm that afternoon alone. By midnight the stage had been set for disaster. And this is how it happened:

56 PM 3/1/81

Sunday, January 25:

9am: There is still only light rain falling in the town itself, but reports are coming in of roads cut off in surrounding areas. At this stage Laingsburg's residents are not too worried, and at 10am many of them attend the Rev Malan Jacobs' service at the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk.

10am: The service over, churchgoers hear that the Buffels River is overflowing and that Krige Street, the road nearest the river, is covered in water. Ten minutes later there is news that the road to Ladismith, about 95km downriver, has been blocked by floodwaters.

11.15am: The national road between Cape Town and Johannesburg is under water at a bridge over the Bobbejaan River, about 18km out of town. Trucks are still able to cross it, but large trees and branches brought down by the river have washed up against the bridge, resulting in a sort of huge other's dam.

Noon: Water is swirling around the old age home, which houses 32 elderly Laingsburgers (two other residents of the home have gone out to visit family or friends, possibly saving themselves from death). It is obvious that the home is in danger of being cut off altogether and some of the old people are helped on to the roof to keep them away from the rising water.

12.45pm: The Mayor of Laingsburg, Mr J J Ellis, abandons his home in the doomed riverfront area. He is not the only one. It is obvious now that this is not merely a repetition of the flood that inflicted relatively minor damage in February, 1976.

Attempts to rescue the old people — who are now totally cut off by the swirling water — are in full swing. The town's ambulance driver, Mr J du Toit, drives through the water to the home in a light bakkie and manages to bring back 11 of them.

His passengers safe on higher ground, he heads back to the home. By now the current is too strong and the bakkie is swept away, although Mr Du Toit manages to escape. Another foray is made, this time in a 10-ton lorry, but it, too, cannot make the crossing. The remaining 21 oldsters are trapped.

Meanwhile various townspeople are with the aged. Mr Lawrence Hart, owner of the Laingsburg Hotel, is helping to pull the old people through the rafters of the home in order to get them on to the roof. With him, offering assistance and encouragement, is their minister, Mr Jacobs.

On the near-by road bridge over Buffels River a police-

men is helping to safety people who had been stranded on the bridge. He brings several to dry land. Suddenly the current snatches him — and he is not seen alive again.

1.30pm: Mrs A Mans, of Krige Street, wife of the town clerk and local SABC correspondent who has been filing regular reports of the flooding, telephones through her last report to the corporation's Cape Town office. She says she is leaving her home. She leaves... and vanishes.

2pm: The flood strikes with all its fury. A wall of water rushes down the Buffels, and in a few minutes utterly destroys most of the white residential area and severely damages what remains. Houses collapse and are buried under the mud, cars are overturned and roofing sheets are thrown about.

Amidst the chaos, drenched and confused residents flee for safety. Some climb roofs, others shin up poles or trees, which often collapse under the pressure of the water.

Local authorities try vainly to communicate... with the outside world: bridges are cut and roads flooded. Before the telephone lines go down, the mayor, Mr Ellis, calls Cape Town and appeals for helicopter assistance. But he is told the weather at Cape Town is so bad that all aircraft have been grounded.

The spreading floodwaters then silence Laingsburg's last voice, the police station radio. The station itself is untouched, but power lines are swept away and the radio is useless.

The Cape Town Ambulance Service rescue team, Metro, has been contacted, however. Unable to move by air, the team sets off by road to Laingsburg, accompanied by Dr Alan MacMahon of the Emergency Service Centre.

Suddenly the old age home collapses, and many of the elderly and their would-be rescuers are swept into the water, most never to be seen again. One of the lucky ones is Mr Hart, the hotelier. He is swept 15km downriver and is then rescued. He has a broken leg broken and abrasions all over his body.

3pm: By now three-quarters of the residential area is under water. Houses continue to collapse. On one house a young boy clings to a chimney. Suddenly the house disappears and the boy vanishes into the angry torrent. Miraculously, he is found alive next day about 2km downriver, suffering only from abrasions.

3.15pm: A sudden downpour strikes the Moordeenaarskaroo, and within minutes an incredible 200mm of rain falls. The bridge over the Bobbejaan River and some 50m of road on its northern side disappear under an avalanche of water. Labourers working to repair the approach road to Laingsburg down tools and flee for their lives.

Further away a bridge between Worcester and De Doorns is washed out and the Metro rescue team has to

make a detour through Ceres.

5pm: Some power is restored on the northern side of the Laingsburg, and contact is made with police in Oudstroom. They are told of the full extent of the disaster. Immediately a rescue party is organized.

Other police stations are contacted and routes to the town are planned. It is soon apparent that many roads have been washed out, so the town is only accessible from the northern side.

6pm: The flood water starts to subside, and the dazed townspeople begin to assess their situation. Meanwhile the approaching Metro team has temporarily halted its dash to check on the Trans-Karoo Express, trapped between two washaways near Touws River, 90km from Laingsburg.

Metro members walk 3km to the stranded train to see if all is well, then move into Touws River where they are asked to help in the rescue of more than 20 trapped people after the collapse of three farm dams. Unable to reach Laingsburg in any case, the Metro team works through the night, during which more than 100 people have to evacuate their homes or call for rescue.

Monday, January 26

3am: The first policemen start arriving in Laingsburg, where they come face to face with the full, horrifying facts of the disaster: the town is almost destroyed and so far 119 people are thought to be missing.

3am: By now there are at least 30 policemen from outlying towns in Laingsburg. They are led by Brigadier Dirk Gens, Divisional Commissioner of Police for the South Western Districts, his Hason officer, Captain Eddie Snyman, and Captain Daan Blignaut, all of Oudstroom, and Captain S de Kock, from Beaufort West.

5.30am: The Metro team arrives on the Bobbejaan River's southern bank, having completed the rescue operations in Touws River. Now they face a temporarily insoluble problem: because the road bridge is cut, they cannot get their heavy equipment across. The only thing to do is wait for a helicopter — scheduled to leave Cape Town at dawn — to fly them over to Laingsburg.

6.30am: Two policemen cross from the town and tell the Metro team of the full extent of the disaster. At 7am, as the church clock strikes the hour, the first people from the south to enter the town wade the river, which by now is only waist deep. In the party are a Cape Times photographer, Dan Bosman, and a reporter, Stephen Wrottsley.

7.30am: A Frelon helicopter from 30 Squadron, based at Air Force Base Ysterplaat, which had left Cape Town at dawn, arrives and ferries the Metro team into Laingsburg. A co-ordinated search for survivors starts, and with it ends the first and worst phase of the greatest natural disaster to strike the Karoo in modern times.



12-year-old Lynette Ameels in a tearful reunion with her mother Brenda who, together with her husband, were swept 17km down the Buffels River to the Floriskraal Dam

... and the family that shouldn't be alive

By PADDY ATTWELL

MR PAUL Ameels, the manager of the Laingsburg Hotel, hardly shows a sign now of having lived through one of the most incredible experiences in the horror flood.

He has thrown himself back into his work at the hotel as though he had just finished a game of golf.

Only hours after his dramatic rescue on Monday from the Floriskraal Dam, about 17km downstream from Laingsburg, he walked home after being discharged from hospital, holding the hand of a very relieved little daughter.

Mr Ameels was one of the townspeople who battled to rescue some 30 residents of the town's old age home, which was obliterated.

Scores of people are missing as a result of the flood, and scores were

involved in heroic rescues, but it is the destruction of the old age home which remains the single most tragic event of Sunday's flood.

It saw the most loss of life, of both those who were trapped and of those who battled in vain to save them.

Mr Ameels said Mr Willy Destroo, a former mayor of the town, were among the first to arrive at the old age home to rescue the residents.

Mr Destroo He drove a party of elderly people to higher ground in his bakkie and then he and Mr Ameels returned to the home in a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

Those who joined them in the rescue attempt included Mr Destroo's sister, Suzanne, Mrs Brenda Ameels, and the town's NGK minister, the Rev D R Jacobs.

A retired midwife, Sister Van der

Vyver, is also believed to have been one of those who tried to rescue the elderly people.

"When we got to the home the old people did not want to know," Mr Ameels said. "The water began coming down. The windows broke and some of the old people were washed through the building."

The rescue party broke through the ceiling and began pulling residents onto the roof.

"We pulled out about eight to 10 of them. Some were so heavy we had to leave them on the rafters. Then the first house went, then another and another. The houses were all going."

Gallantly helping them was the Rev Jacobs. "He was physically manhandling them, standing on the rafters". It became clear that the old age home would soon start crumpling.

Mr Jacobs gathered those on the roof together and said a prayer. The roof collapsed. Some of those on the roof were thrown into the water. Mr Destroo and his sister climbed onto a water tank. It collapsed, and they were swept away.

Mr and Mrs Ameels and Mr Hart clung onto a tree still rooted in the ground for about an hour. Nearby Mr Jacobs and two youths were also clinging to a tree.

Mr Ameels said he saw a friend, Mr Reg Taylor, swept from the main road bridge into the town. At one stage he climbed onto a wing of the old age home and ran along it "like a monkey" as it crumbled behind him.

Mr Taylor made it to their tree. Mr Jacobs was swept away and is still missing. Mr Ameels said the tree he was

clinging to was uprooted and he and his wife were swept downstream.

"You came up again and everything was on top of you. The waves were about 15 feet high. Everything came down on you — debris, diesel fuel, mud.

"Eventually I passed about 50 ducks and realised I was in Floriskraal Dam. The miracle of Mr Ameels' experience was that when he reached the dam, he noticed his wife — still alive — some 10m away from him.

Mr and Mrs Ameels, Mr Hart and Mr Taylor were all swept down the raging river into the Floriskraal Dam and survived. Many followed the same route and did not.

It is said that some went over the 30m wall of the dam which was overflowing. Some were believed to have been still alive at the time. Apart from tons of debris, it is said that the fast-

flowing river was full of people and animals.

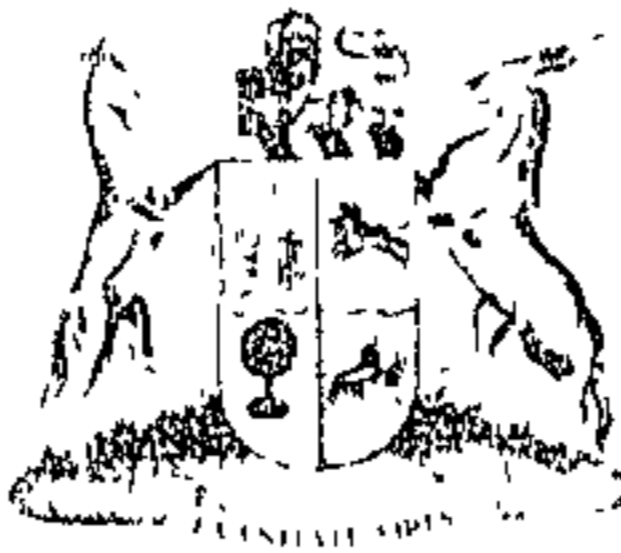
Mr and Mrs Ameels were rescued by helicopter at about midday the next day. Eight other people, including Mr Hart and Mr Taylor, were rescued with them.

In all, 16 people are listed as missing from the old age home, including the acting matron, Mrs Anna Knight, and two servants, known only as Masopie and Nomame. About 13 residents were saved.

Those still missing after joining the gallant battle to save the elderly people are Mr Jacobs, Mr Willy Destroo, and his sister. Sister Van der Vyver, is also listed among the missing.

Mr Destroo's family have resigned themselves to the fact that he and his sister sacrificed their lives. Mr Ameels said of the Mr Jacobs: "If he's gone, he went like a martyr".

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for full text
of Bill
see

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

gazette

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CAPE TOWN, 31 DECEMBER 1980

[No. 7353

KAAPSTAD, 31 DESEMBER 1980

GENERAL NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, WELFARE
AND PENSIONS

The following Bill is published for general information. Any person desiring to offer any comment on the Bill or to submit representations thereon, should kindly submit such comment and representations to the Director General: Health, Welfare and Pensions, Private Bag X63, Pretoria, 0001, on or before 21 January 1981.

Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Amendment Bill

ALGEMENE KENNISGEWING

DEPARTEMENT VAN GESONDHEID, WELSYN
EN PENSIOENE

Die onderstaande Wetsontwerp word vir algemene inligting gepubliseer. Enigiemand wat kommentaar wil lewer of vertoë wil rig moet asseblief sodanige kommentaar of vertoë op of voor 21 Januarie 1981 aan die Direkteur-generaal: Gesondheid, Welsyn en Pensioene, Privaatsak X63, Pretoria, 0001, stuur.

Wysigingswetsontwerp op die Voorkoming van Lugbesoedeling

DD. 30/11/81 (56)

Govt to study river of death

CAPE TOWN — The Government is to undertake an extensive study of the Laingsburg area, focusing on the course of the Buffels River, before providing funds to rebuild the shattered town.

This was announced by the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr P. A. Munnik, in a report on damage wreaked by the floods.

The study will be conducted by the Department of Water Affairs and will be considered with a comprehensive report on the whole town by the Department of Community Development when plans are drawn up.

The study will be an ex-

tensive hydrological investigation looking at factors like the course of the Buffels River and water levels.

Dealing with each flood-stricken area in turn, Dr Munnik said Laingsburg had been the most severely affected.

The town, which had a white population of about 950, was missing about 100 people. Only 16 bodies had been found.

The coloured population was not as badly affected as the whites because of the height of their residential area.

About 75 per cent of the 350 white homes in the town had been destroyed, and about 75 per cent of

the businesses.

In Montagu five whites and nine coloureds were either dead or missing. Sanitation systems were functioning and most road links were open.

The warm baths and caravan park had been washed away and individual houses engulfed.

There had been no loss of life at Robertson.

In Soar about 30 to 40 houses had collapsed. A new economic housing scheme was being planned. Road links were now open.

Individual houses had been damaged at Ashton, and a shop and factory engulfed. There had been no loss of life.

Smaller communities had suffered damage of varying severity but there had been no loss of life.

Many farms had been partly damaged and others totally devastated. Stock losses were high in some areas. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries was gathering information to make proposals.

While road links were not open to all farms, necessary provisions were being provided by helicopter.

Dr Munnik paid tribute to the response of the public, those affected and the help of the military, police and government officials. — DDC.

Aid pours in to Border funds

EAST LONDON — Karoo flood relief funds are gathering momentum in the Border.

East London's mayor's secretary, Mr Sandy Johnston, said he was very impressed.

"East London is living up to its reputation of being sympathetic towards charity. The fund now stands at R4 125,50," he said.

The mayor of Beacon Bay, Mr Cyril Manthe, has also launched a fund which stands at R500.

He said if there were no objections, the municipality would like to contribute

an ambulance fund which was not needed any more and this would add another R982,94.

The town clerk of Grahamstown said a high figure was expected next week.

"Several large institutions have organised collections including the municipality, which has contributed about R300," he said. Money could be sent to the City Treasurer.

The town clerk of Aliwal North, Mr Norton, said a relief fund had been established.

A spokesman for the King William's Town

municipality said R2 500 had been contributed to their fund.

A fund has been established in Dordrecht where a considerable quantity of non-perishable foodstuffs and clothes has been received.

In Stutterheim, two service clubs have contributed R400 each. Clothing will be received at the Town Clerk's office daily from Monday.

The Fort Beaufort Red Cross has opened a relief fund and the local municipality has decided to support that fund rather than set up a separate fund.

With cash flowing in from throughout the country, the total in the national relief fund rose to nearly R2 million yesterday.

This response was described by the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr Munnik as "truly encouraging".

Dr Munnik said that material aid — such as clothing, blankets, and food — and financial donations had been pouring in ever since he approved the establishment of the fund and the first appeals were made. — DDR-DDC.

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize
For the best woman student
in third year.

Helen Gardner Travel Prize
For a student who has
satisfactorily completed
1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.
P A Rappoport

Cape Provincial Institute
of Architects' Prize
For the best student in :-
Sixth Year
P F Dunckley

ARCHITECTURE

FINE ART & ARCHITECTURE

The agony of Lainsburg

DR countless travellers down the years, Lainsburg was a place to stop the car for a cup of coffee and a sandwich and a stretch of the legs to break the tedium of the national road.

The road safety people encouraged this idea. Driving non-stop hour after hour through the Karoo was dangerous, they said, especially in the heat. And they had accident statistics to prove it. Cars collided or went out of control on the arrow-straight highway.

For these travellers, Lainsburg was merely a temporary oasis and they probably had difficulty remembering details afterwards.

But for the people of the town, Lainsburg was home, a close community of plattelanders where you knew everybody and everybody knew you.

Argus
3/1/81
56

To them, the Karoo was no vast barren hurdle on the boring haul between cities but an environment with its own smell, feel and taste, a surrounding with its own character and moods, sometimes benign, sometimes hard. Last weekend, the mood turned unbelievably harsh and the home that the people of Lainsburg knew was destroyed, perhaps forever. Reporters and photographers of Weekend Argus joined the many journalists there to record the agony of this stricken community and the response of their fellow South Africans to their suffering. These are some of their impressions of an unhappy week in an unhappy place. A week that has transformed Lainsburg from a welcome spot to relax for a moment to a landmark where travellers will always recall with awe the disaster of 1981's high summer.

Dominee is dead — pew lies in mud . . .

LAINSBURG. — Dominee Malan Jacobs is dead. His pulpit in the church has been washed away, and mud lies on the pews. Above his pulpit, in Gothic script, stand the words: 'Het Evangelie der Genade Gods' — the Gospel of God's Mercy.

The last chopper of the day takes off from Lainsburg's rugby field at dusk. Troops hang on to the tent poles and the blades churn up a spray of dust and grass, and 65-year-old Oom Koos Groenewald — the town's 'handyman' — stands watching.

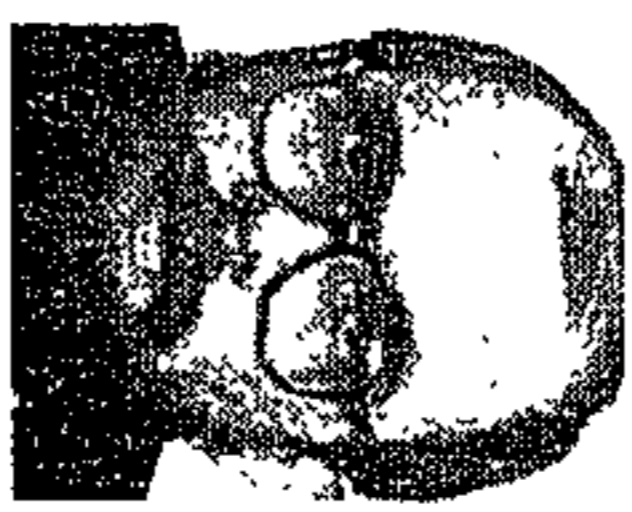
The helicopter banks to the right and heads down a stream, crossing the two level and all but invisible high-tension wires over the devastated Buffels River valley. Ten minutes later, it hovers over a

large plastic bag. Two Navy divers slip and fall as they try to lift the bag. Inside is an elderly white woman — grey, and wearing only slippers. In the acres of driftwood at the dam the deep-sea divers, gas cylinders, bottles of preserved fruit, clothes, wardrobes, chairs, tables.

One gets used to Lainsburg. At the one end of town there is the constant sound of chopper blades; at the other the roar of heavy bulldozers. In the middle there is mud and dust and grief.

On a muddy desk in the floor Karoo sun lies a Bible soaked in water. Everything before Psalm 106 has been torn away. Psalm 106 begins: 'Hallelujah! Loof die Here want Hy is goed, want sy goed-

By
**JOHANN
POTGIETER**



entertainment is tot n ewig.

In a cool alley between a house and a creper-covered wall lies a tapestry of a Renaissance youth with a lute. Nearby is a leather handbag, a soiled photograph of a sheep with a hat on, and a long playing record: 'Tweenty Five Magnificent Moments' — Wheel of Fortune, Jaya Con Dios, Over the Rainbow.

Outside, in Swartberg Street, an army Bedford drone past. About 50 metres above the railway bridge two wreaths lie side by side, purple and white flowers under a plastic dome.

Nearby, a platoon of soldiers from the Quidshoorn Infantry School digs for bodies.

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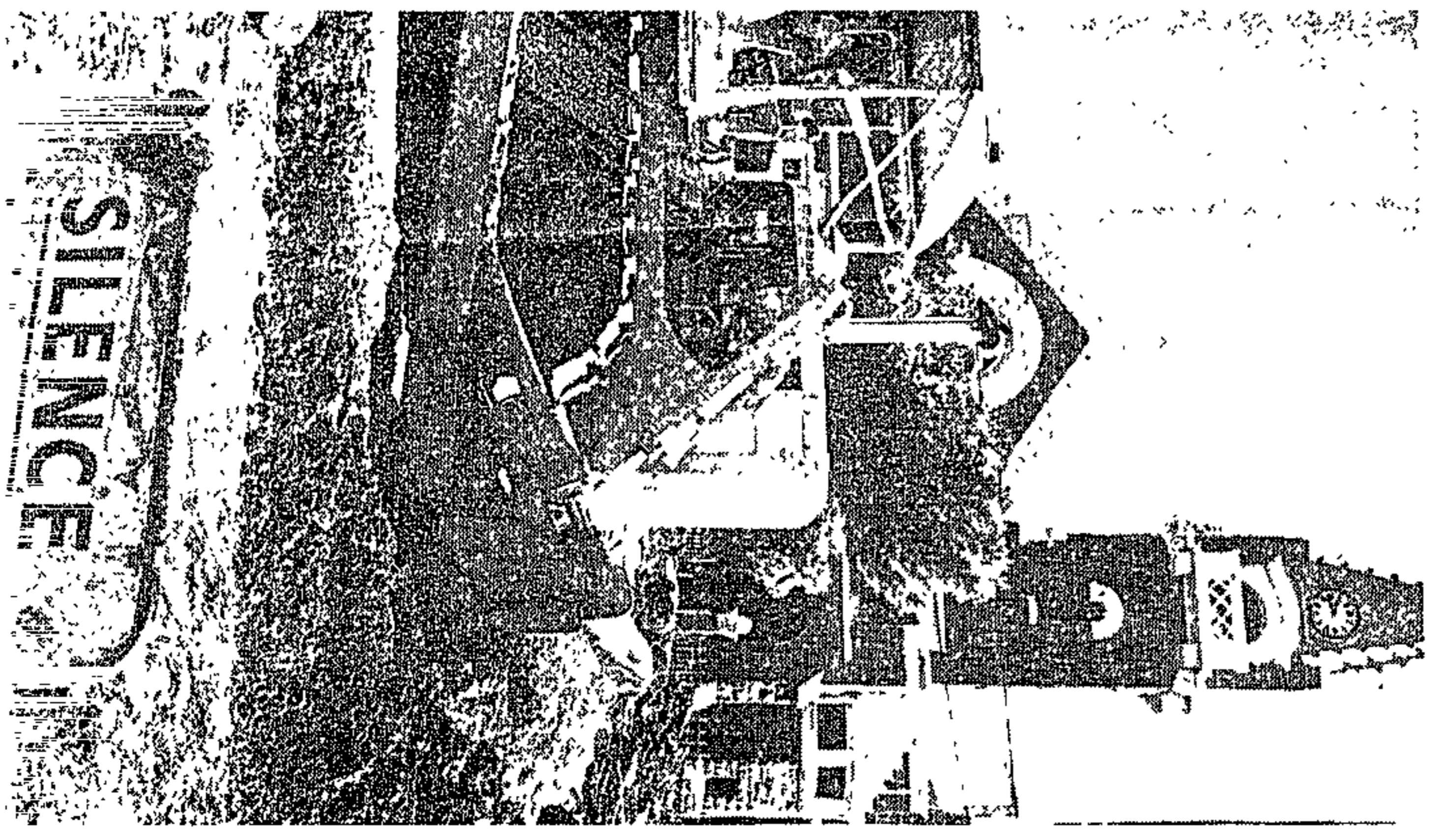


TV REPORTER Charl Pauw has dispersed why he was so emotional while describing the Karoo floods on Monday night. He had mud in his boots. 'There was mud everywhere. We were sinking into it up to our knees and our boots were filled with it. This made walking very difficult and tiring. I was breathless and because the lamps could not be edited by the commentator, it was breathless too. This did not mean that Charl was untouched by the flood disaster. He like every journalist who covered the flood, often had to swallow lumps of emotion.

A town of tents waits

AS an insidious wind whips clouds of dust from dried mud and the blazing sun bakes on their destroyed town, the destitute men, women and children of Lainsburg sit in army tents waiting — for reassurance, for certainty, for a seemingly hopeless future.

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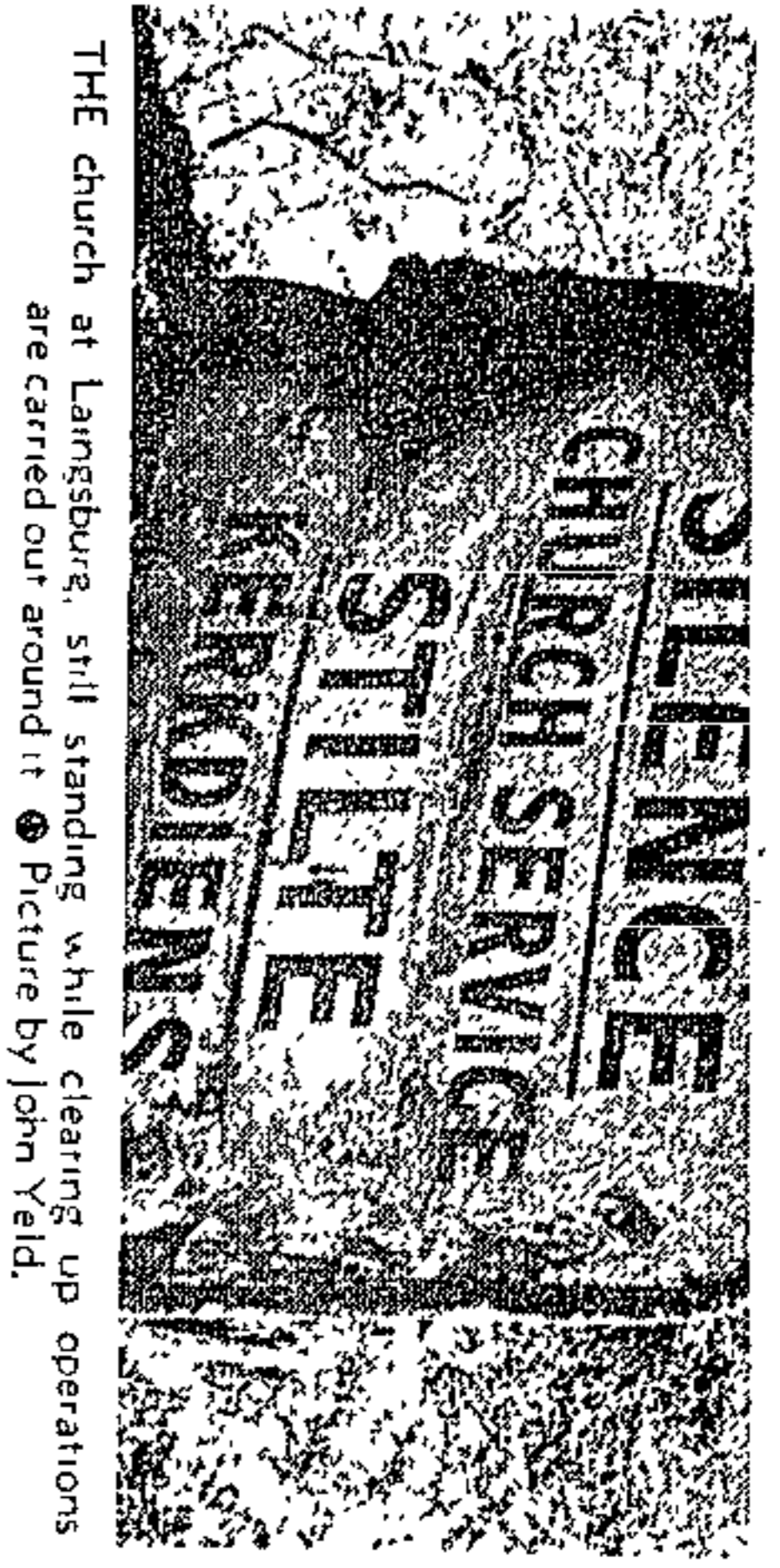


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THE church at Lainsburg, still standing while clearing up operations are carried out around it. Picture by John Yeld.

SCIENCE
CHURCH SERVICE
STILL
HERODIENS

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The clothing is being sorted in a motorcar showroom of a local garage. There are many items lying on the floor and packed in boxes — and more is pouring in.

Destitute coloured families of farms in the vicinity flown to the town by helicopter, queue outside the door to receive their clothes.

A huge pile lying in one corner is totally unusable and will probably be sold at a humble sale to raise money for essential items such as blankets and pillows, says Mrs van Wyk.

The Animal Welfare Society in Cape Town is ready to do everything in its power to help animals in the area.

Flood area the focus

THE Government (Cape Provincial Administration and local authorities) were working feverishly to normalise the flood-damaged Lainsburg area, the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr L. A. P. A. Munnik said yesterday.

Dr Munnik gave an assessment of the damage caused by the floods in a statement yesterday.

In an assessment of the floods, he said relief and emergency work had continued non-stop and essential railway links to the north would probably be opened on Monday.

The national road was partially open for emergency and light traffic.

Water supplies were being taken to the area by road and rail. As soon as the roads were in better condition caravans and mobile homes would be sent in the area to accommodate the homeless.

While four-metre deep silt was being removed with heavy machinery, health inspectors were keeping a close watch on sanitation and hygiene.

Dr Munnik said a committee had been formed to supervise reconstruction work.

Search operations for people reported missing were being continued in selected areas — only 16 bodies had been found.

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Three-quarters of the 350 houses in Lainsburg were destroyed as well as the cemetery.

Nature's 'slight miscalculation'

THE FLOODS which devastated Lainsburg were brought on by a slight miscalculation on nature's part.

According to a meteorologist at the Cape Town Weather Bureau, the weather conditions themselves were quite normal but the rain fell further north-west than usual.

Had it fallen along the coastal belt where the dense vegetation and general topography of the land was suited to heavy rainfall, the disaster would not have occurred.

However Lainsburg, with its semi-desert conditions, sparse vegetation and mountainous surroundings, was unable to provide any natural obstacles to the flow of water to slow its momentum.

The rains were caused by a black south-easter, normal for this time of year.

A South Atlantic high pressure system carrying the moist cold air moved over the interior and converged with a low pressure system carrying moist warm tropical air.

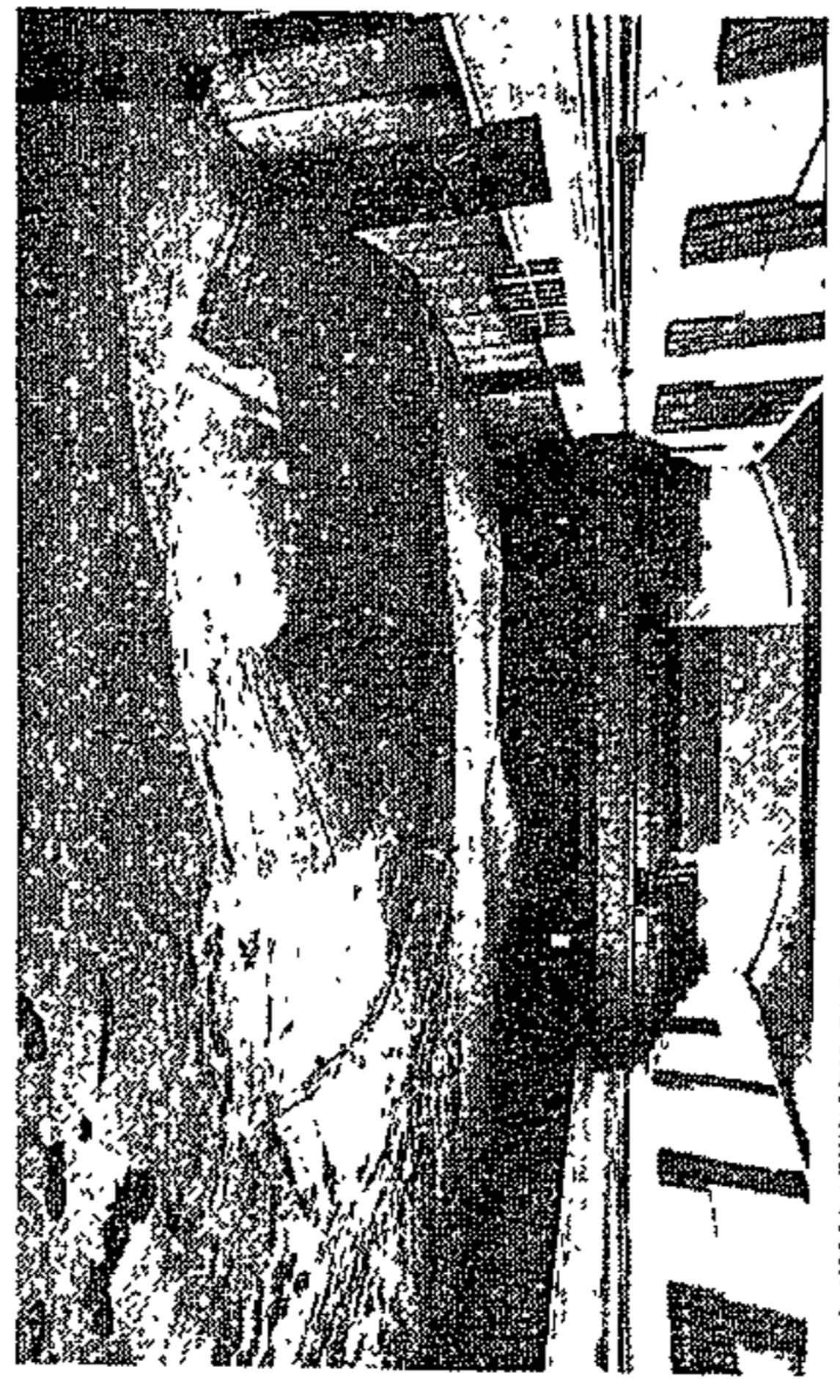
BY CIEL REYNIERSE

The difference in pressure was high but not significantly so, compared with other black south-easters in the past.

Where the systems converged, the temperature dropped from about 35 deg C to 10 deg C and heavy rain fell.

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The rains, which washed away vast amounts of valuable irrigation soil — in places down to bare rock — were forecast by the Weather Bureau but no one could have anticipated the extensive damage which would follow.



A CRATER of mud now fills one of Lainsburg's favourite meeting places, the church hall.

Nearly, a platoon of soldiers from the Gudehoorn Infantry School digs for bodies.

Oom Koos is no longer going to leave the town of his birth. As a child he spent long days in the trees on the river banks, shooting birds with a slingshot.

He heard the news of the disaster in Kempton Park where he was visiting his son. He tried to telephone Lainsburg but could not get through and began driving home on Monday afternoon.

Four o'clock on Tuesday morning, he arrived here and went to his house in Van Biebeck Street. He could not understand it because he was lost in his own town.

Later he found Sluiter in a bush. The cats, he says, have been clambering all over him ever since.

At Nougedacht Farm, far south of the town, two farm children were washed away. At Elim they managed to scramble into a tree and sat tight, ened and weeping.

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At noon the only sound in the river valley below the town is water. Water and Christmas beetles.

Most of the temporary homes are stark and bare. Some have mud soaked chairs, blankets clothing and shoes placed outside. Ironically there is very little water to wash articles in, although this situation is expected to improve.

In each tent there is a story of heroism, horror and fear waiting to be told. Ask the people about the future and they stare blank, without hope. We haven't thought about it. We have made no plans — we don't know what is going to happen to us. We're just taking each day as it comes.

Children play on the camping site playground. They seem to be happy and carefree. Every now and then one comes across a crying woman being comforted by her husband or a friend.

Mr Willem Mostert, his wife and four children aged three to 11 are all grateful that they came out of Sunday's horror flood alive. The children is all an excitement. They still realised what was going on, said Mrs Mostert.

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BY ANN VAN DEN

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WEEKEND ARGUS, JANUARY 31 1981

The agony of Laingsburg

FOR countless travellers down the years, Laingsburg was a place to stop the car for a cup of coffee and a sandwich and a stretch of the legs to break the tedium of the national road.

The road safety people encouraged this idea. Driving non-stop hour after hour through the Karoo was dangerous, they said, especially in the heat. And they had accident statistics to prove it. Cars collided or went out of control on the arrow-straight highway.

For these travellers, Laingsburg was merely a temporary oasis and they probably had difficulty remembering the details afterwards.

But for the people of the town, Laingsburg was home, a close community of plattelanders where you knew everybody and everybody knew you.

To them, the Karoo was no vast barren hurdle on the boring haul between cities but an environment with its own smell, feel and taste, a surrounding with its own character and moods, sometimes benign, sometimes destroyed, perhaps forever.

Last weekend, the mood turned unbelievably harsh and the home that the people of Laingsburg knew was destroyed, perhaps forever.

Reporters and photographers of Weekend Argus joined the many journalists there to record the agony of this stricken community, and the response of their fellow South Africans to their suffering.

These are some of their impressions of an unhappy week in an unhappy place. A week that has transformed Laingsburg from a welcome spot to relax for a moment to a landmark where travellers will always recall with awe the disaster of 1981's high summer.

Argus
31/1/81

56

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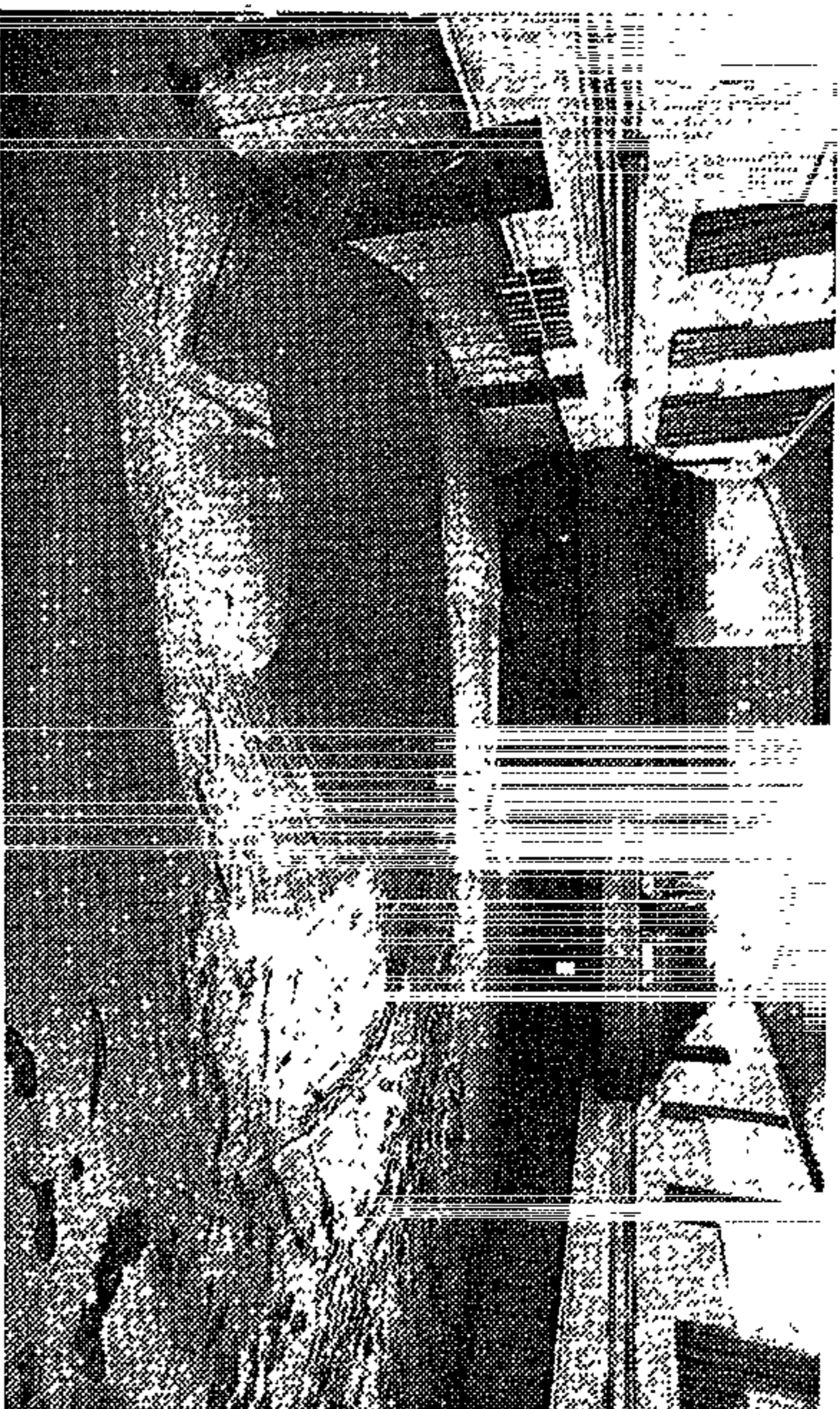
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The rains, which washed away vast amounts of valuable irrigation soil — in places down to bare rock — were forecast by the Weather Bureau but no one could have anticipated the extensive damage which would follow.

● It is likely that much of the flood damage could have been avoided if towns and farms along the Buffels and Gourits River systems had been built above the floodline.

This is the view of Dr Allan Heydorn, head of the estuarine and coastal research unit of the National Research Institute for Oceanology. His department is assessing silt in the sea as a result of the floods.

He said it did not help to investigate areas only under normal conditions. It was necessary to study flood conditions, particularly when the floods were on such an exceptional scale.

Dr Heydorn said his major impression so far was the incredible importance of respecting at least a 50-year floodline in the development of residential areas, industry and agriculture.

The object of the work of the unit was to synthesise information on river mouths and estuaries of the Cape Province, and making recommendations for future planning and conservation.

Dominee is dead — pew lies in mud...

LAINGSBURG. — Dominee Malan Jacobs is dead. His pulpit in the church has been washed away, and mud lies on the pews. Above his pulpit, in Gothic script, stands the words: 'Het Evangelie der Genade Gods' — the Gospel of God's Mercy.

The last chopper of the day takes off from Laingsburg's rugby field at dusk. Troops hang on to the tent poles and the blades churr up a spray of dust and grass, and 65-year-old Oom Kooos Groenewald — the town's 'handyman' — stands watching.

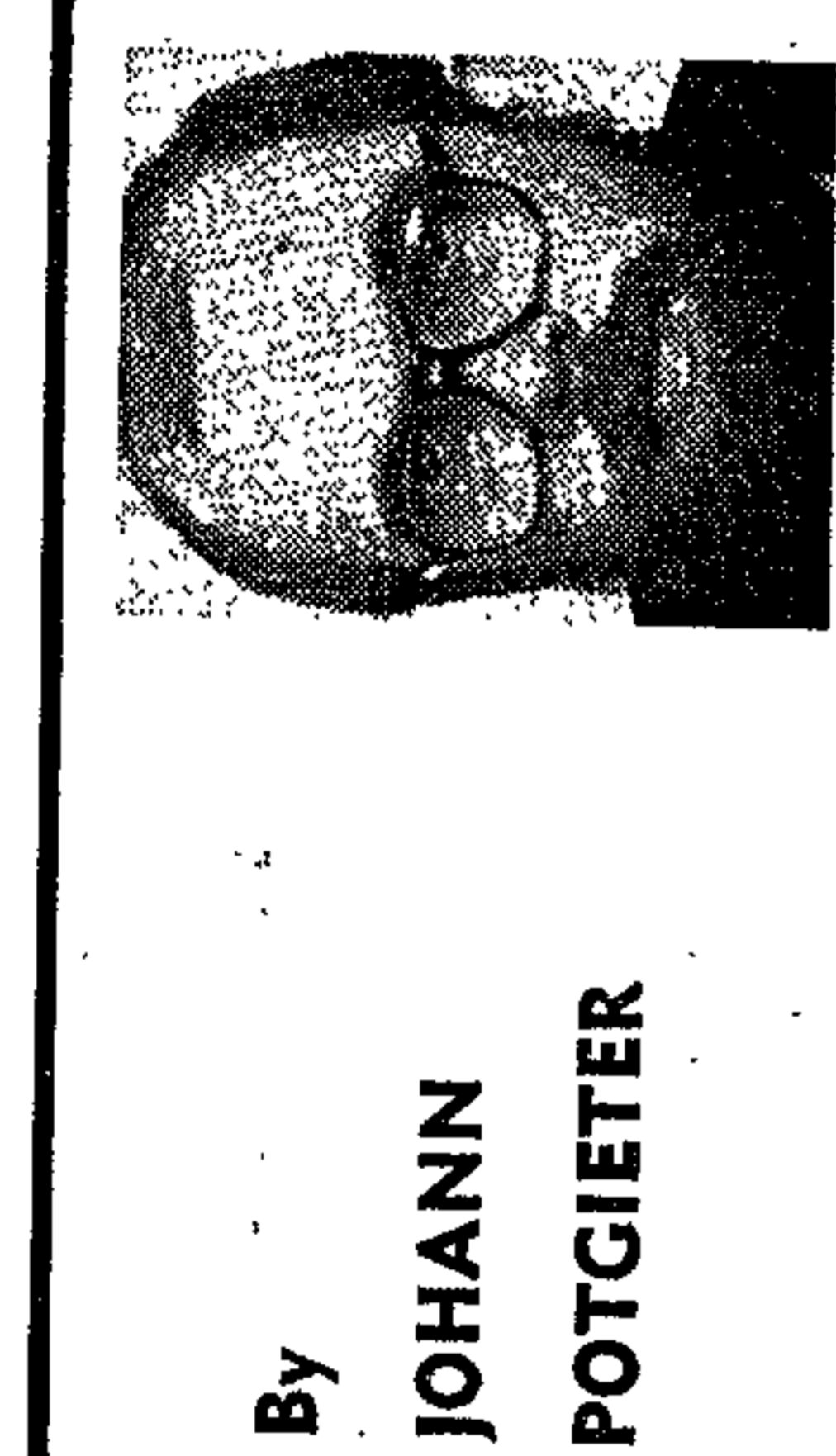
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large plastic bag. Two Navy divers slip and fall as they try to lift the bag. Inside is an elderly white woman — grey, and wearing only slippers.

In the acres of driftwood at the dam lie deepfreezers, gas cylinders, unbroken neon tubes, bottles of preserved fruit, clothes, wardrobes, chairs, tables.

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On a muddy desk in the fierce Karoo sun lies a Bible soaked in water. Everything before Psalm 106 has been torn away. Psalm 106 begins: 'Hallelujah! Loof die Here want Hy is goed, want sy goed-



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At noon the only sound in the river valley below the town is water. Water and Christmas beetles...

Mr Willem Mostert, his wife and four children aged three to 11 are all grateful that they came out of Sunday's horror...

For two days this week an Alsatian dog ran up and down the new river bank on the northern side — his tail down, smelling every bank of driftwood, whimpering, and ignoring the small groups of people standing around in the mud. Later the dog disappeared.

On Thursday, the Prime Minister came to town. After his speech, the residents sang Prys die Here met Blye Galme.

As they sang, more and more of Laingsburg's survivors wept. They stood sobbing, holding one another.

At night trains are shunted on the railway line above the white town, bringing more ash and rocks for the repair of the railway bridge.

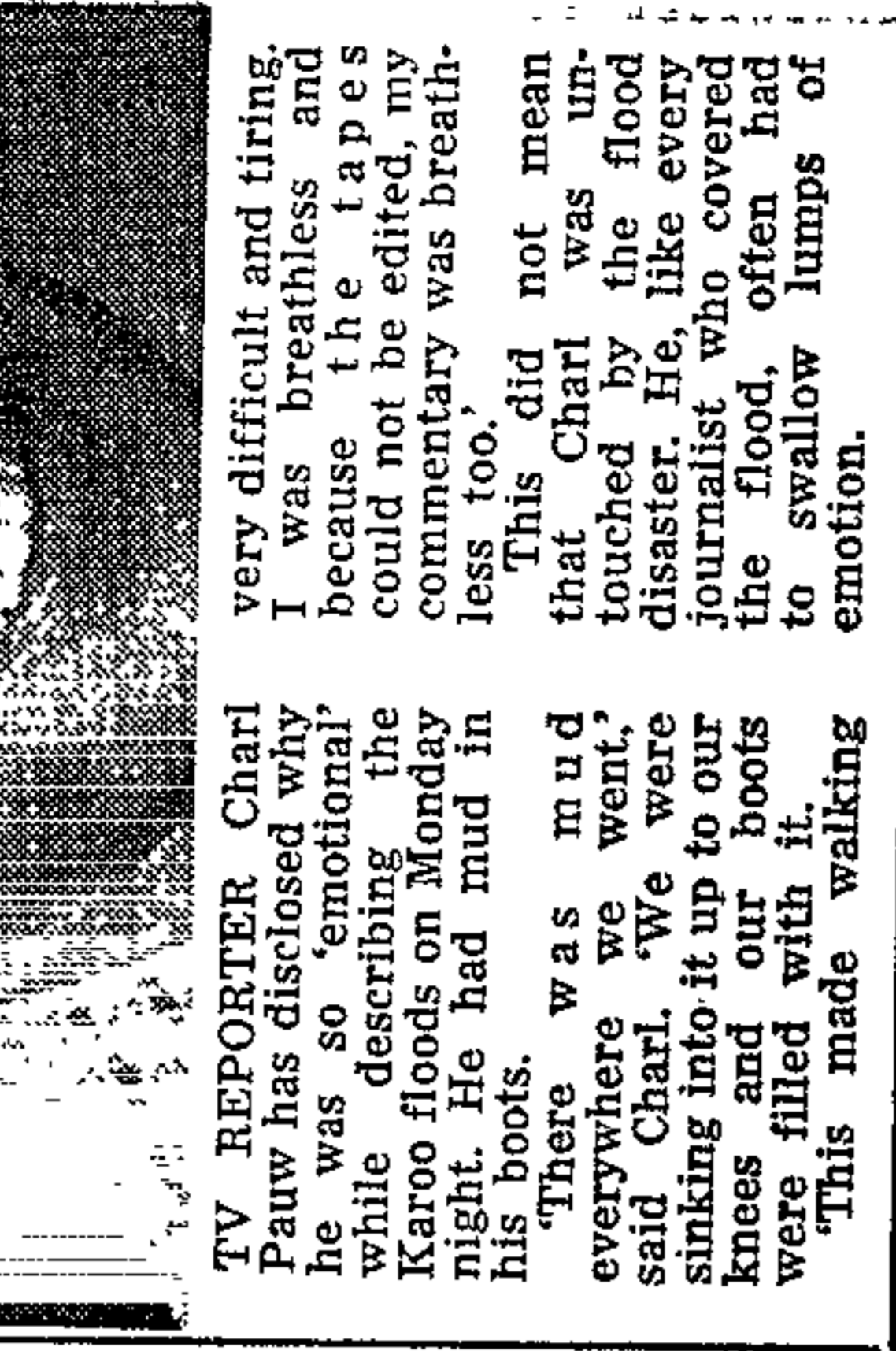
On the hotel verandas groups of soldiers, or police in camouflage uniforms or Pressmen, sit talking until late.

In the tent town at the rugby field the homeless residents sleep uneasily in the army tents.

Buckets of laundry stand in tent corners, beside the small piles of second-hand clothes picked up from a garage showroom downhill.

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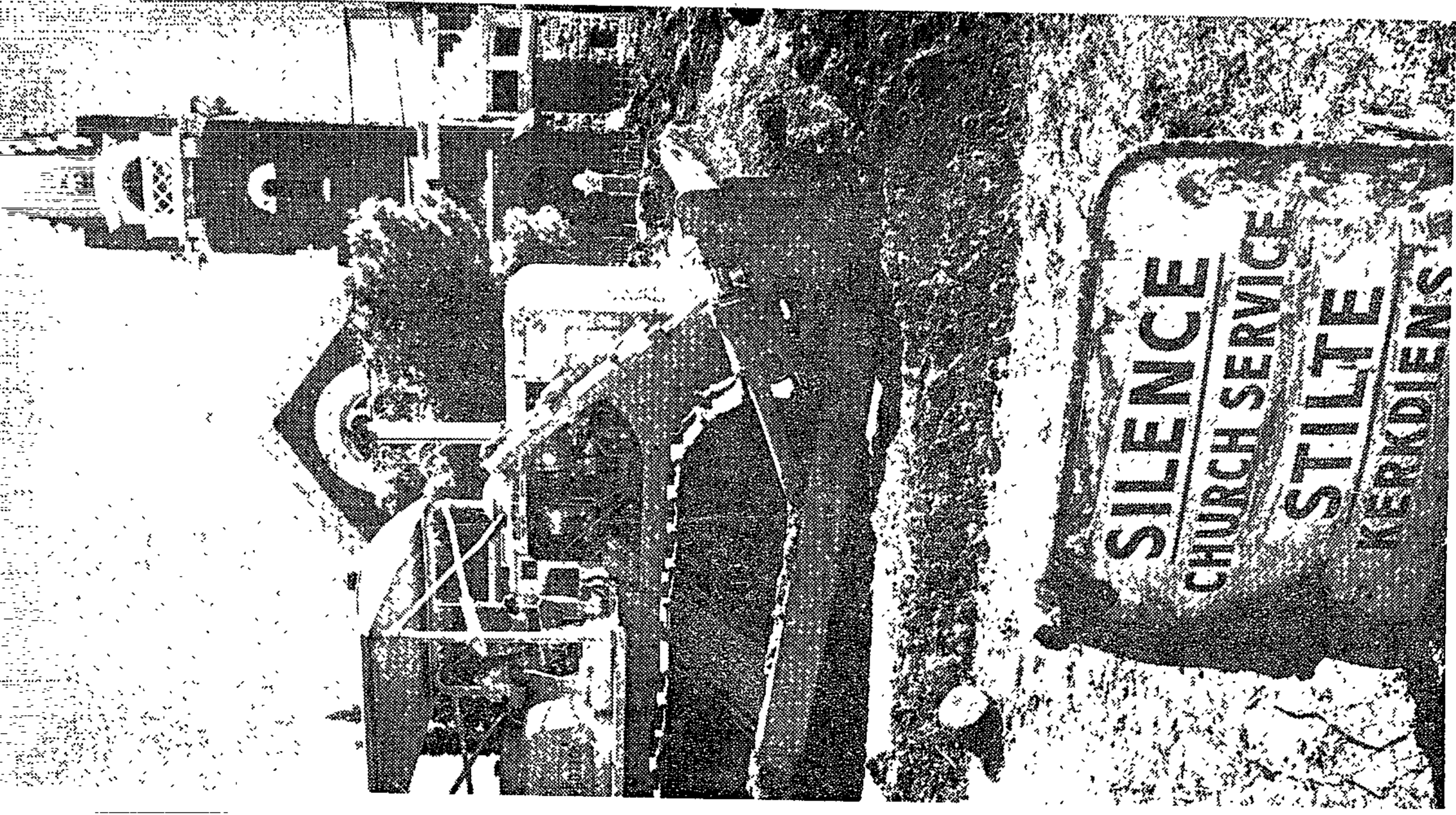
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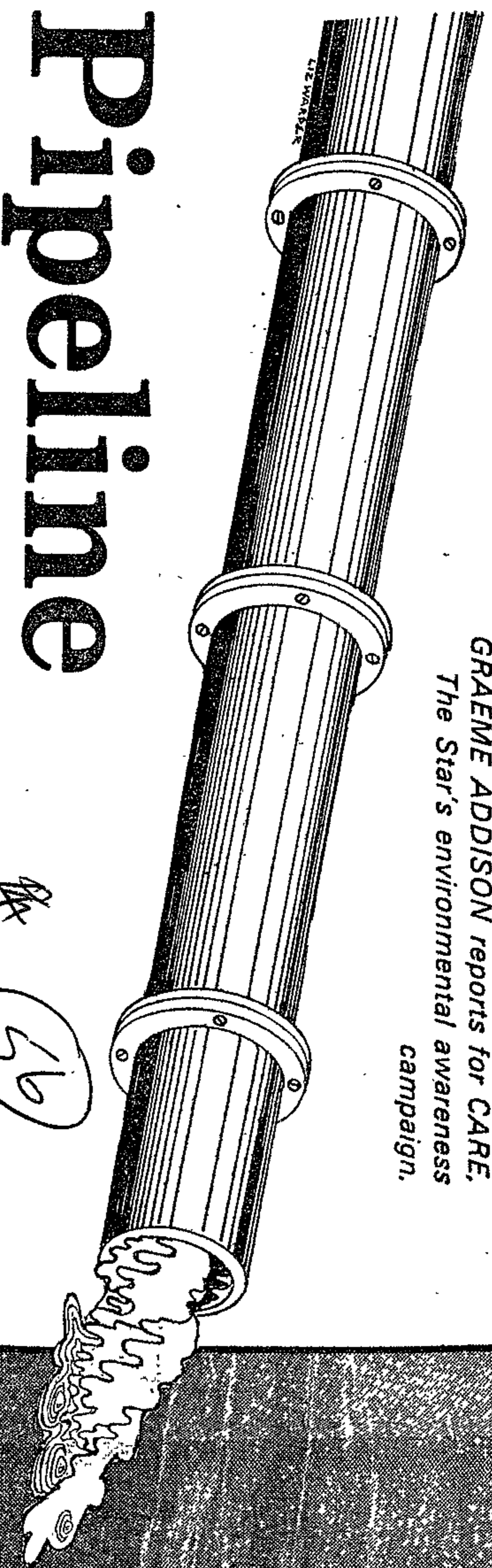
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THE church at Laingsburg, still standing while clearing up operations are carried out around it. Picture by John Yeld.

By ANNAMIA VAN DEN HEEVER

Millions of tons of pollutants may soon be pumped into the sea at Richards Bay — because the Government is desperate to see the area develop industrially. GRAEME ADDISON reports for CARE. The Star's environmental awareness campaign.



Pipeline to disaster

5/2/81
SIPW
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They have called it a "poison pipeline" and a "pipeline to disaster." In reality, the Government's R27-million project to funnel thousands of tons of industrial effluent daily into the sea off Richards Bay is a Pipeline of Ignorance.

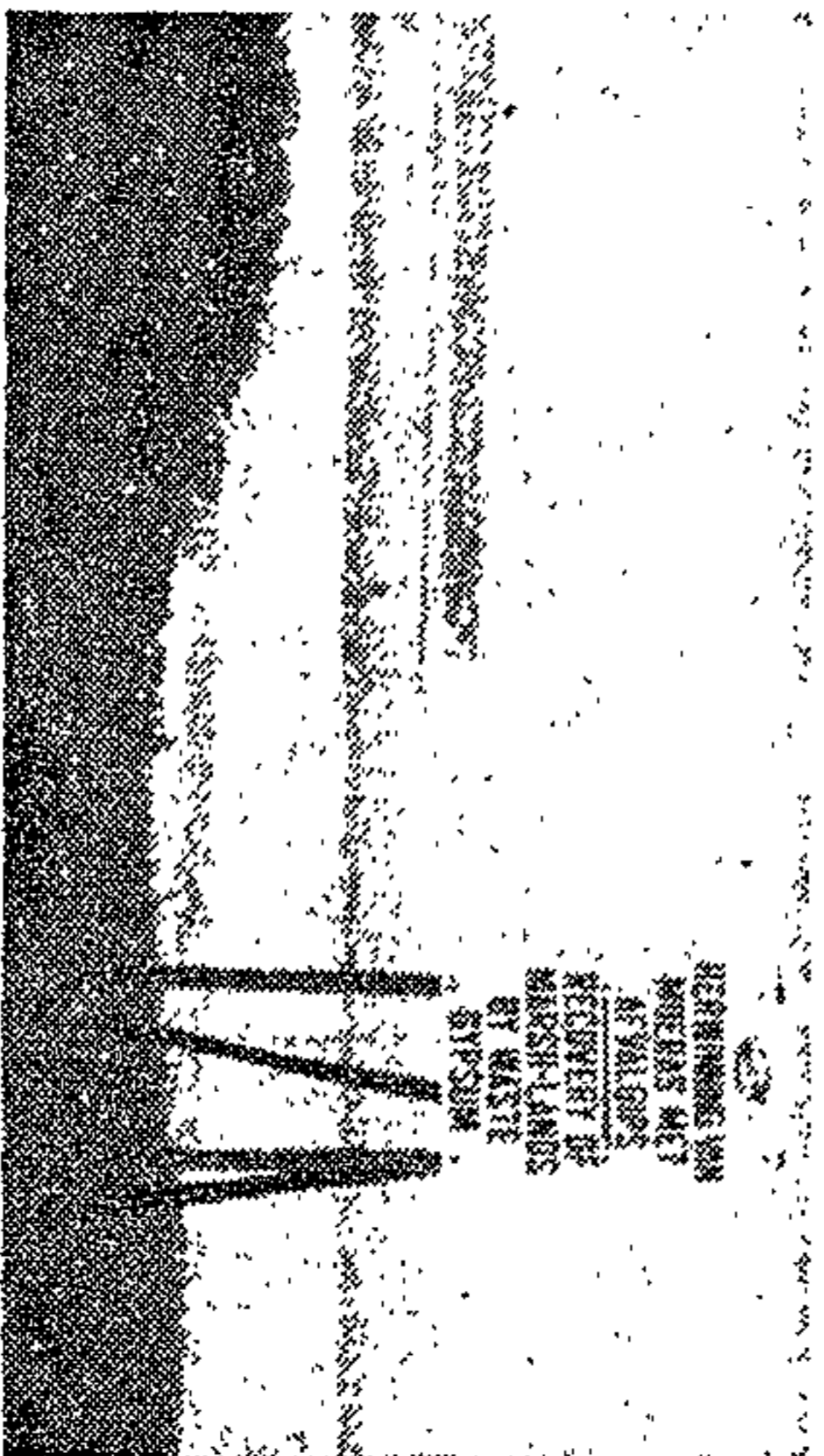
Nobody knows what effects the various effluents will have on the marine ecology of the North Coast.

And this is because nobody — not the Government, nor the business community, nor the scientists charged to investigate the effluents problem — knows what factories will finally come to depend on the pipeline to get rid of their waste-products, or what these products will be.

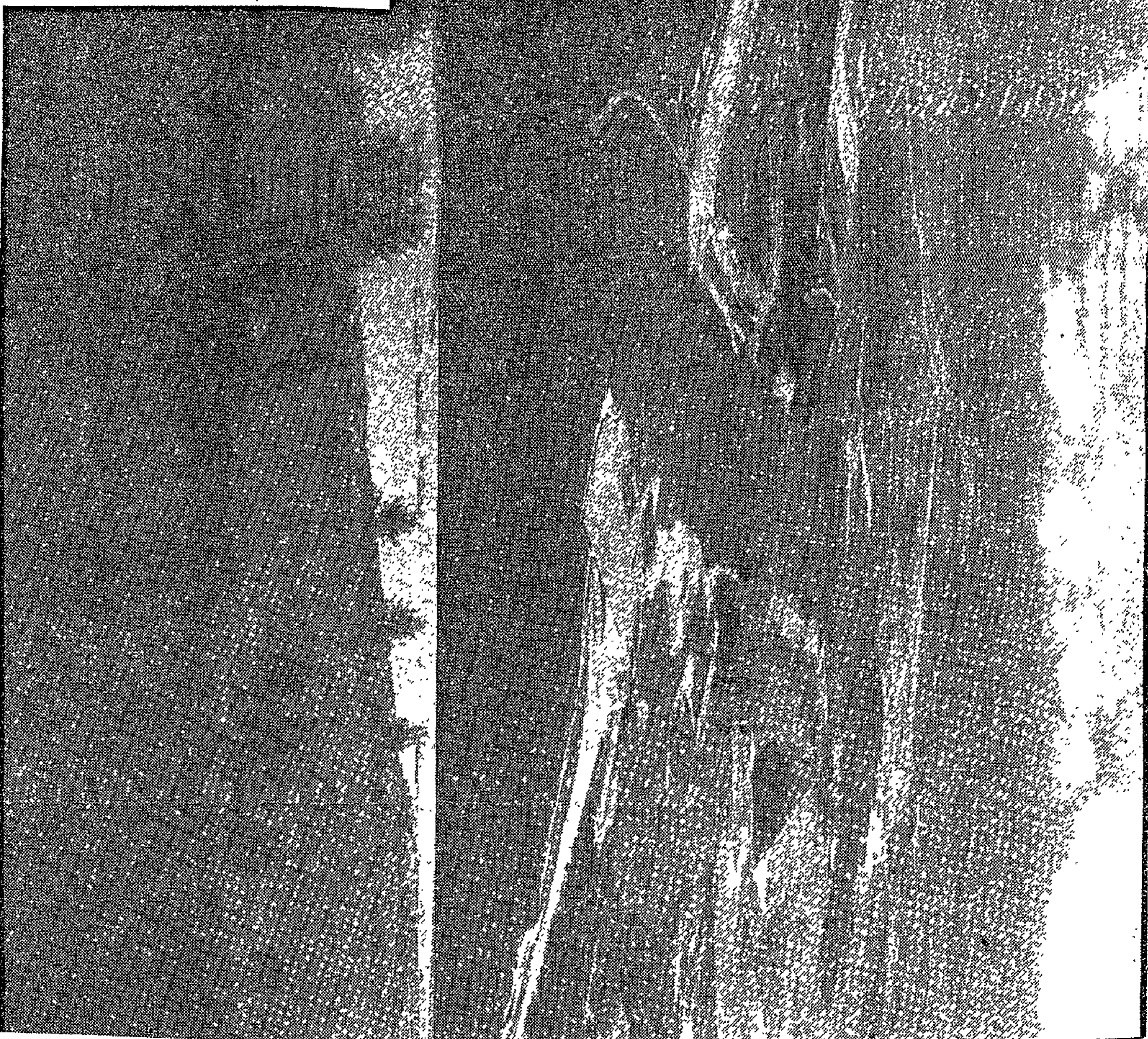
The Government is planning to build the pipeline "on spec" to attract industries to Richards Bay in the knowledge that their wastes can be got rid of cheaply.

How to sell a pollution scheme

This is how to sell a pollution scheme. Triomf Fertiliser's Richards Bay gypsum dump is billed on the hoarding, top, as "Recovery of Marshlands." In reality the dump — which receives an additional 10 000 tons of waste gypsum a day — is killing off the valuable Zululand wetland habitat seen in the picture below.



Richards Bay today. The industrial area begins beyond the right of the picture.



Thus, any new factories that make use of the pipeline — on payment of a fee to the State — will introduce new chemicals into the soupy sludge pouring from the pipeline's mouth, about four km offshore.

All that is known for certain is that Mr Louis Luyt's gigantic Triomf fertiliser manufacturing plant at Richards Bay must dispose of 10 000 tons of gypsum and 83 tons of fluorine a day — wastes that are at present being dumped into an ecologically valuable marshland next to the factory.

For Triomf it is a matter of dumping on land or in the sea, but dumping anyway. It may soon double the scale of its operations if a major international phosphates deal involving the company goes through next month.

News of the plan for a major effluent pipeline broke in December when the Minister of Water Affairs, Dr Nak van der Merwe, addressed a public meeting in Richards Bay. He said the fate of a huge R500-million chemical pulp mill could depend on the existence of the pipeline. This was news indeed for the residents of the area, and for South Africans at large.

It provoked an outcry over Government secrecy.

Conservationists demanded to know details of the tests which Dr van der Merwe said had been going on for some time to determine the effects of the pipeline on the sea. The few details to be disclosed only increased fears that officialdom had not done its

homework properly. Durban's Oceanographic Research Institute — one of the bodies cited by Dr van der Merwe — said it had been given a mere three weeks to prepare its report.

The institute said its report must remain confidential. But it added that it completely rejected the proposed pipeline until an in-depth scientific study had been carried out.

Among other consultants cited by Dr van der Merwe were the National Institute for Water Research, the National Research Institute for Oceanology, and the Sea Fisheries Institute.

Attempts by CARE to obtain the reports of these bodies have failed, although it is understood that concern has been

expressed in these quarters too. Mr Keith Cooper, Natal director of the SA Wildlife Society, says the pipeline presents a clear case for an interdisciplinary scientific study prior to any implementation of the scheme.

But, while uncertainty prevails over the likely contents of the pipeline, no proper study seems feasible.

In addition to the Triomf gypsum and fluorine, the pipeline could carry:

- About 50 000 cubic metres of effluent a day from the proposed R500-million Mondi Paper chemical pulp mill.
- Unknown quantities of effluent from the Alusaf aluminium factory which already operates at the Bay, and which is due to

expand soon with a R200-million potroom plant.

● Petro-chemical effluents from a number

● To inside back page

Water study part of plan to rebuild Laingsburg

By PADDY ATTWELL

THE GOVERNMENT is to study the Laingsburg area, focusing on the course of the Buffels River, before providing funds to rebuild the town, the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr L A P A Munnik, said in a report yesterday on damage caused by Sunday's floods.

The hydrological investigation, by the Department of Water Affairs, will be considered with a report on the whole town by the Department of Community Development. It will look at such factors as the course of the river and water levels.

"The government will then make the necessary funds available to erect new housing, rebuild the infrastructure and place the community in such a position as to become self-sufficient," Dr Munnik said.

Laingsburg, which had a white population of about 950, was missing about 100 people. Only 16 bodies had been found. The coloured population was not as badly affected because of the height of their residential area.

75 pc of white homes destroyed

About 75 percent of the 350 white homes in the town were destroyed, and about 75 percent of businesses. It would no longer be possible to use the graveyard.

The State, aided by the Provincial Administration, local authorities and the private sector, was in top gear to normalize life. Three to four metres of mud covering the town centre was being cleared. Health inspectors were on the alert. The school had been closed for two weeks. Civil authorities were expected to start taking over the town next week.

Excavation to recover bodies continued, but the chances of recovery in the silt, metres deep and covering several sq kms, were slim. Because of the size of the task, machinery would be used. "We have the deepest sympathy for the survivors who have lost loved ones, but I am sure that they understand this decision." Burial regulations were being given attention.

• **Montagu.** Five whites and nine coloured people were dead or missing. Sanitation was functioning and most road links were open. The warm baths and caravan park had been washed away and houses engulfed. The community was repairing and rebuilding.

• **Robertson.** No loss of life. Repair and rebuilding was advanced and emergency road traffic would soon be able to operate.

• **Soar.** About 30 to 40 houses had collapsed. Families were being cared for. A new economic-housing scheme was being planned. Road links were now open.

• **Ashton.** Individual houses damaged. A shop and a factory were engulfed. No loss of life. Roads were being opened.

• **Smaller communities.** Reports of damage but no loss of life. All communities had been visited, chiefly by helicopter, to provide clothing or provisions.

• **Farms.** Many partly damaged, others devastated. Stock losses apparently high in some areas. The Minister of Agriculture would make proposals. Road links were not open to all farms but helicopters were delivering provisions or special items.

Help for flood farmers

Staff Reporter

A CO-ORDINATING committee has been established to make a survey involving about 1 000 farmers in the flood-stricken Boland as part an attempt to assess damage extending over some 2 000 hectares of farmland and enable State assistance.

The secretary of the Western Cape Agriculture Union, Mr Geri Bosch, said the committee would spend the weekend drawing up a questionnaire which would then be circulated.

Heading the committee is Dr J Serfontein, Director of the Winter Rainfall Region. Other members include Mr Bosch and officials of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

It is expected to have the questionnaires in circulation by Monday afternoon, and the results are likely to be available in about two weeks.

Information gained from them will be forwarded to the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Pietie Du Plessis, for the government to decide on appropriate measures of assistance.

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Almost R2 m for flood fund — and still rising

Staff Reporter

DISASTER fund donations moved close to the R2 million mark yesterday.

The Cape Times has donated R10 000 to the relief effort, and the world headquarters of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Washington, DC, United States, and the Trans-Africa Division in Southern Africa have also voted to contribute.

The church conducts a worldwide welfare and disaster organization which has often helped in major catastrophes and works in close co-operation with the International Red Cross.

A special offering to the fund is to be taken in all Seventh-day Adventist churches throughout

the Republic today.

Other donations were

- R80 000 from members of Strategy 80 — a business conference held in Johannesburg.

- R65 000 from city and town councils in Natal.

- R10 000 worth of blankets from the Frame Group of companies.

- R1 000 from the Israeli head of Magen David Adom, a first-aid organization.

- R20 000 from the Port Elizabeth City Council.

- R300 from residents and employees of Moria House, an old-age home at Theunissen in the Free State.

The South African Police has launched an internal fund-raising campaign for victims of the disaster.

Joggers who take part in the Zoo to Constantia Nek run each Sunday at 7 am are asked to bring donations in cash or kind.

Disaster funds

The Disaster Relief Fund:

Cheques can be paid into any Volkskas branch made out to Account No 300 681 580. The address of the head office is Cape Town as Volkskas Ltd, Adderley Street, Cape Town 8 000.

Die Burger Disaster Fund:

Cheques should be made out to Die Burger Disaster Fund, Die Burger, 30 Keerom Street, Cape Town 8 000.

Karoo Flood Relief Fund:

(Established by the Mayor of Cape Town)

Cheques made out to Karoo Flood Relief Fund can be sent to Karoo Flood Relief Fund, City Treasurer, PO Box 655, Cape Town 8 000.

For applications for permission to collect aid, contact 43 4621 Cape Town or 28 58 Pretoria.

SAAF chopper crews unsung flood heroes

Own Correspondent
 LAINGSBURG — The unsung heroes of the mammoth rescue and supply operation here last week are the SAAF helicopter pilots and crews who have maintained air bridges to the flooded areas of the Karoo and Southern Cape.

Last week the SAAF operation tent at the rugby field here controlled nine Alouette III helicopters and at times as many as three Super Frelons from 30 Squadron at Ysterplaat.

Four of the Alouette crews came from 87 Advanced Flying School at Bloemspruit near Bloemfontein, four from 16 Squadron at Port Elizabeth,

and one from 22 Squadron at Ysterplaat. By the weekend communications and roads had been repaired to such an extent that all but two of the Alouettes were withdrawn.

Last week the operations tent authorised an average of 64 missions a day, and pilots recorded an average of nearly five hours flying time a day.

Some of the pilots had had to perform as many as 45 landings a day, either on the dangerous rugby fields surrounded by telephone or power lines, or on isolated farms.

The helicopters have performed varied functions, ranging from passenger and goods transport to hoisting operations for the retrieval of bodies.

usually in the river bed and is the only supply route to the farms. It has been ripped away, and people were standing down there waving blankets to get our attention," he said.

Landings in such places have been emotional experiences.

"These people were so hungry for company that they just could not stop talking. You would go to them and they wouldn't let go. You'd be strapped in with the blades turning, and they'd still be talking," said Captain Gawie Venter of 87 AFS.

On one occasion he found a pregnant woman on a farm 40 km north of here, and told her to get

her things so he could take her to hospital.

"She said she had nothing left, and got in. She is due to give birth this week."

Captain James Eriand, also of 87 AFS, flew two Cape Town brothers to Viskuil Farm. They were convinced their brother, as every one else on the farm, had been wiped out.

"We got there and the damage was pretty bad, but I spotted a woman. 'Where, where?' they said and put their glasses on to see better.

"They couldn't believe their people were safe and I told them to stay for a while. They were picked up late in the afternoon by a supply Frelon."

Workers get trains moving

LAINGSBURG — Nearly 600 railway workers who laboured day and night to repair the railway bridge here reached their objective just before midnight on Saturday — 24 hours ahead of schedule.

A diesel powered ballast train crossed the bridge at midnight and travelled towards Matjiesfontein while electricians began installing overhead power lines from the floodlit embankment.

The first electrically powered trains crossed in the early hours of Sunday and throughout the day goods trains moved towards Cape Town.

At 5.00 pm a passenger train drove across the bridge slowly from the Cape Town side with passengers peering from the windows at the deva-

station below.

Work started hours after the flood and there has been little sleep for the 600 workers since then.

PRIZES

on Medals

Best student in each year, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Year (Bronze Medal)

C Littlewort

Year (Silver Medal)

C Davidson

Year (Gold Medal)

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George Menzies Prize

results of final exams to the best male student in Land Surveying or Engineering.

s Memorial Prize

the student with the highest average work in Engineering

o

Prize

1st year student with the highest average

STAN 2/2/81 (56)

Cloudburst isolates towns and cuts national road

Own Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — Heavy rain in the southern Cape has brought large-scale flooding to many areas and Montagu and Ashton — two of the towns worst hit by floods last week — are again isolated.

Montagu police said that the roads between the town and Touws River and Ashton had been closed. The bridge between Montagu and Barrydale was under water, they said, and the Keinaar and Keisie rivers were strengthening. It was also raining continuously, they said.

The town's fresh water supply had been cut they said.

In a cloudburst over Montagu this morning 100 mm of rain fell — 60 mm in 20 minutes.

In the Villiersdorp area a cloudburst early this morning caused the Bot River to burst its banks, cutting off several towns for a few hours.

The heavy fall closed the national road between Cape Town and Caledon, but it was opened a few hours later after several tons of debris had been cleared away.

The Bot River, fed by heavy rains in its catchment area, flowed over several bridges in the Hermanus-Bot River area.

The gravel road between Bot River and Villiersdorp has been closed to traffic and a portion of the national road between Bot River and Caledon, at Boontjeraal, has been washed away. Traffic flow has not been affected.

Several houses in the low-lying area of the town

were awash.

On the farm Boontjieskraal, which is 100 m from the river, pupils and teachers at the school were cut off when the river came down in flood.

Reports of heavy falls were received from farmers in the Sir Lowry's Pass area and from Hermanus, where 55 mm fell in three hours.

Although no serious damage has been reported from Hermanus, several shops in the town centre were flooded.

The town clerk of Montagu, Mr W du Plessis, said on his return from an inspection tour that the town was isolated.

Farmers in the Bot River area reported this afternoon that the level of the river had subsided markedly.

CHEMICAL

Man dies as flood hits Kombi

Own Correspondent
PIETERMARITZBURG — A man was drowned and two others have not yet been found after flash floodwaters swept their Kombi from a narrow low-level bridge in the Drakensberg late last night.

Four other men escaped from the Kombi as it was washed downstream by the raging torrent.

The party of seven workers, who were employed in the construction of the hydro-electric scheme at Oliviers-Hoek in the Drakensberg, were on their way to the construction site from their homes in Jagersrus, the hydro-electric scheme's village.

Drowned in the swirling waters was Mr F W Marx (30) of 36 Beacon Avenue. Missing are Mr N J Oosthuizen (48) of 177 Main Street and Mr A C Greyling (57) of 202 Ebis Street, all the men are married.

A police spokesman at Ladysmith said that the tragedy took place between 10 pm and 11 pm yesterday but that a report had been received only today.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals
 For the best student
 of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th
 Second Year (Bronze)
 Miss G C Littlewood
 Third Year (Silver)
 Miss N C Davidson
 Fourth Year (Gold)
 P M Salmon
 T J Cumming
 D P Weeks
 J H Rens
 B F McClelland
 Professor George Men
 Awarded on results of
 examinations to the
 student in Land Survey
 Civil Engineering.
 J H Rens

Highway severed in new floods

THE GOURTIZ RIVER in the Southern Cape yesterday claimed two more victims when an Albertina farmer, Mr J H Oosthuizen, and an unidentified farm labourer were swept away by raging floodwaters.

In a day of torrential rain and renewed flooding, Mr Oosthuizen was apparently caught by a wall of water as he drove his tractor through a dry gully.

A Soekor helicopter sent from Mossel Bay recovered his body late yesterday.

No details of the drowning of the labourer were available.

Meanwhile, another of the Southern Cape's main highways — the N2 near Bot River — was severed. Bridges, roads and crops throughout the area were washed away.

Following hard on the heels of last week's disastrous floods, yesterday's flooding hit the towns of Montagu, Ashton, Robertson, Hermanus, Caledon and Bot River, as well as outlying farming areas.

Floodwaters temporarily submerged a number of roads and heavy rains were experienced as far afield as the devastated town of Laingsburg.

By late yesterday the rain had eased and the towns were reported to be out of danger. Work on the extensive damage was under way.

Raging river claims

3/2/88

two ⁵⁶ more victims

Boontjieskraal, Mr U Kersandt, estimated the damage to Caledon Valley farmers at between R60 000 and R70 000. Onion and mielie crops along the Bot River banks were swept away.

Water cut

A private firm was contracted to repair the damage to major roads in the area.

There was also a brief disruption on the Caledon-Villiersdorp road.

The bridge between the east and west sections of Montagu has been washed away by the Keisie River and the town's water supply has been cut. However, a police spokesman

Reports: Jane Arbous, Mathew Murray, Stephen Wrottesley and John van der Linden. Pictures: Dan Bosman and Gill Bruce.

said the situation was under control.

More than 100mm of rain were recorded between Montagu and Barrydale.

All road links between Montagu and Touws River have been severed.

The temporary bridge over the Vink River between Worcester and Robertson was washed away and only light traffic is being allowed to use a bypass which was badly damaged in last week's floods.

Motorists have been warned to stay out of this area.

Villiersdorp also received heavy rain and the nearby Bot River burst its banks.

Several shops in Hermanus were flooded, as well as part of the industrial area

● Seven more bodies were recovered from the muddy waters of the Floriskraal dam yesterday.

According to Captain Eddie Snyman, the South African Police liaison officer at Laingsburg, the search was called off when strong winds made it impossible for the SAAF helicopter

Damage in millions

Agricultural spokesmen said the cloudbursts had dealt a severe blow to the area's fruit crops and millions of rands' damage was estimated.

Soon after thunderstorms broke in the early hours of the morning, the rivers rose rapidly and by midday, many of them had burst their banks.

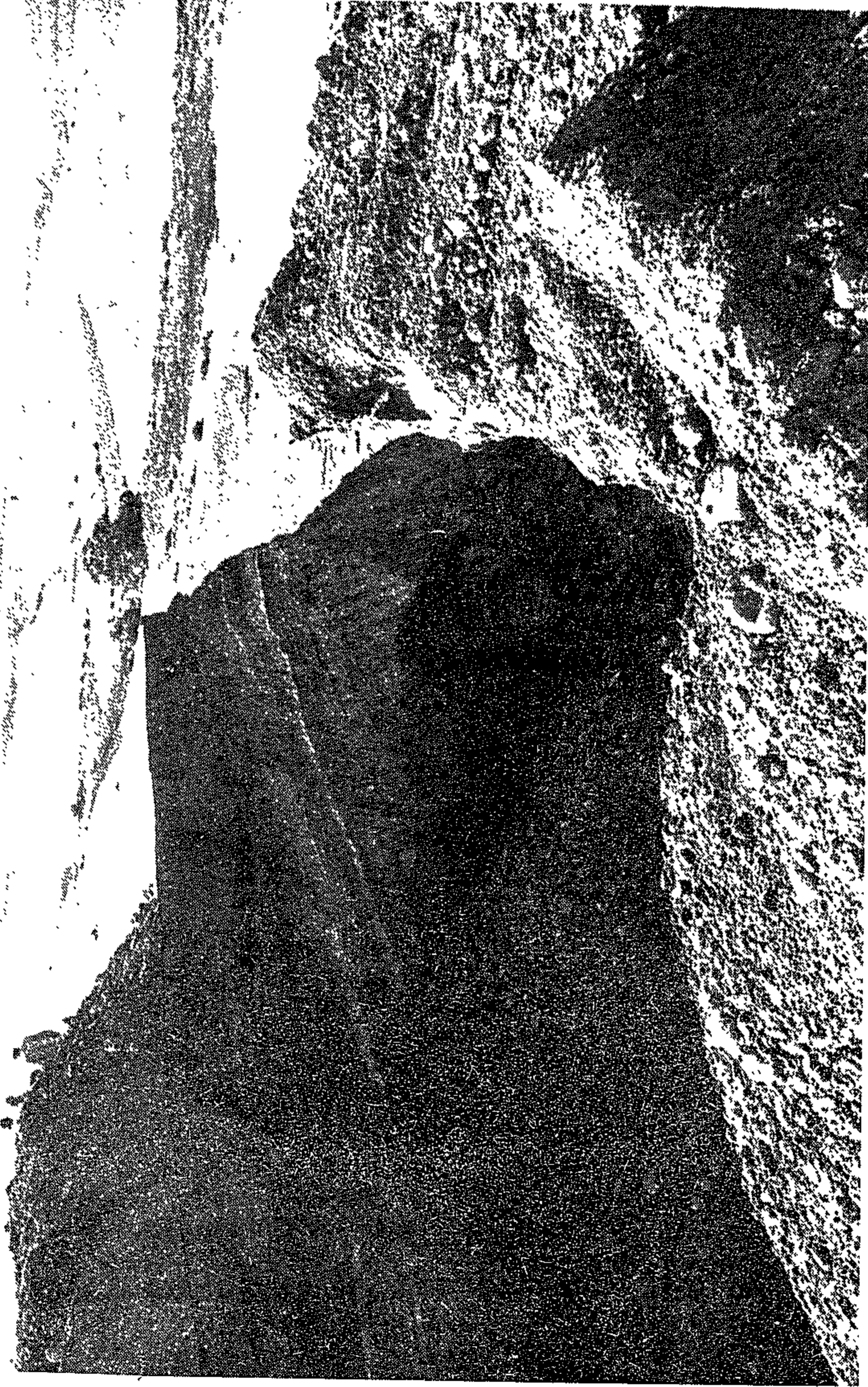
Authorities were placed on standby and they are still watching the situation. Also on standby was Hammet, the radio emergency network co-ordinated from Cape Town.

Worst-hit were the Bot River and Caledon areas, where 70mm of rain fell between 6am and 8am.

A culvert collapsed on the N2 west of Caledon, bringing down a 30-metre embankment. The fall-in occurred at 3pm, and the road was expected to be reopened by early this morning.

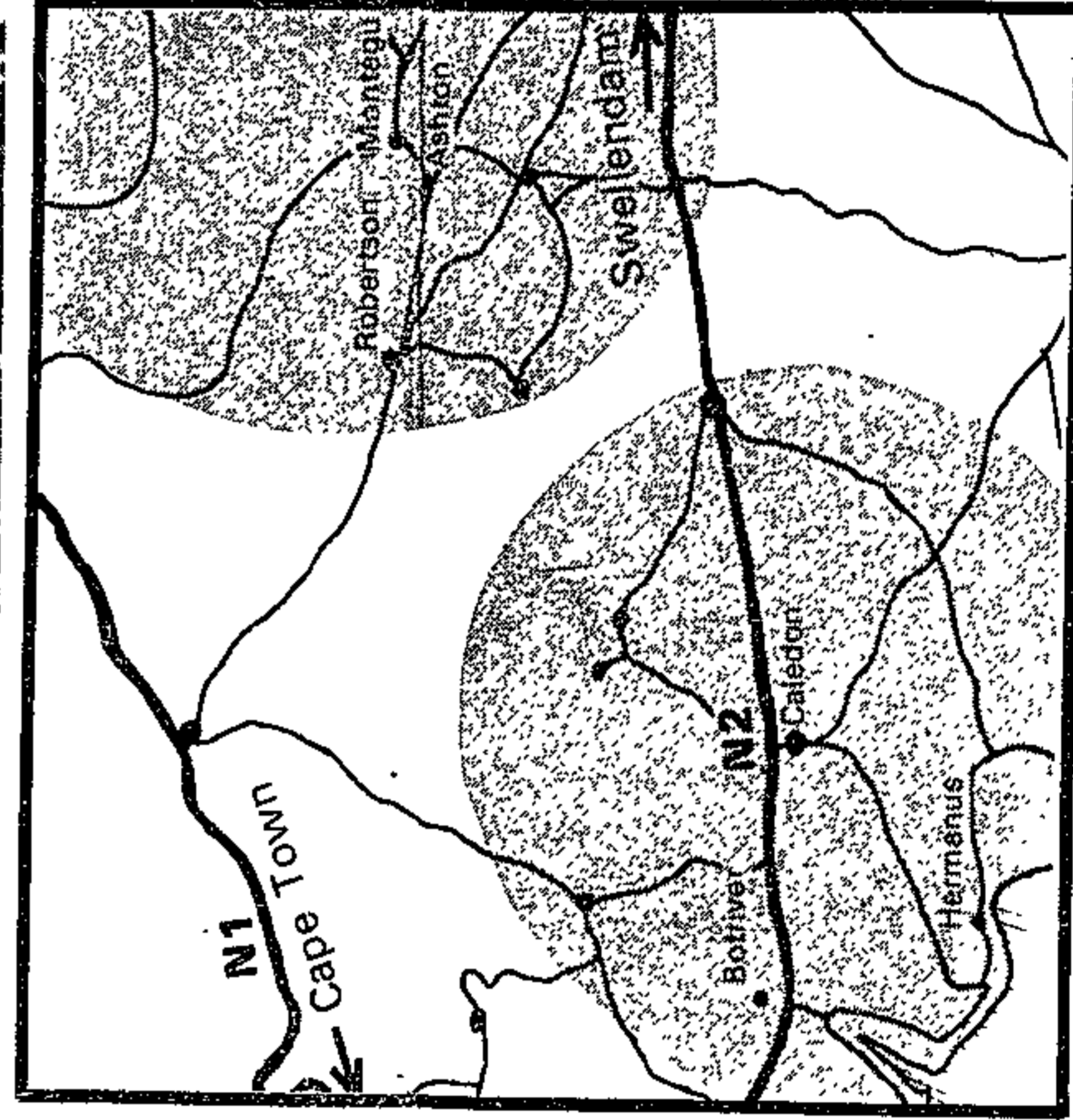
According to the senior assistant administrator of Caledon Divisional Council, Mr A P Erasmus, several houses in low-lying areas were damaged by floodwaters, but the greatest damage was to farmlands.

The freshly ploughed contour fields were badly eroded and farm roads were buried in a layer of clay topsoil washed off the fields. Fences were torn down by the accumulation of debris and a number of water pipes were washed away.



Above: Floodwaters yesterday swept down an embankment alongside the N2 national road at Bot River, carrying with it a 10-metre-wide section of the highway.

Below: All that remained of this farm road bridge near Caledon yesterday was the concrete culvert.



The Cape Times map shows the towns which were battered by rain and floods yesterday. The towns are Bot River, Caledon, Hermanus, Robertson, Ashton and Montagu. Some roads linking the towns have been badly damaged.

Two drown in renewed Cape floods

CAPE TOWN — A farmer and a farm worker were drowned in renewed floods in the Southern Cape yesterday.

New flood alert

▶ from page 1

correspondent reports the main railway line between Tweespruit and Ladybrand has been carried away by floods caused by a heavy cloudburst.

A black boy was killed, nine people were injured and four are missing after a passenger train from Bloemfontein to Durban was derailed near the Leeu river between Marseilles and Westminister early yesterday morning, following a cloudburst in the Platberg area.

Farm roads have disappeared and railway crews are trying to repair the line at Marseilles.

Near Ficksburg extensive damage has been caused by widespread hail. Many fruit farmers have lost their entire crops.

● The destructive floods which have taken 10 more lives might not be over yet.

More thundershowers were expected over most parts of the Transvaal, the Free State, Natal, the eastern Cape interior and coastal area of Natal and the eastern Cape, a Weather Bureau forecaster said in Pretoria today.

The stricken region around Laingsburg, Montagu and Ashton in the south-western Cape, twice hit by devastating floods in the past week, seemed to be in no immediate further danger, he said. Skies had already begun clearing there.

Family now lives in four scrapyards cars

Own Correspondent

LAINGSBURG — One of the most respected residents of the Laingsburg area, 75-year-old Mr Mars van Wyk, a former church elder, now lives in a scrapyards with his family.

Mr Van Wyk lived in a small, protected valley about one km upstream from the town — until a wall of water swept away his home.

This week the family moved into four cars in the scrapyards above the river.

An old bakkie and eight large drums serves for a kitchen enclosure, and Mr

and Mrs van Wyk sleep in a station wagon near a small heap of salvaged furniture.

Miss Christian van Wyk worked for Mr and Mrs Hennis Nel and yesterday the Nel's told her they would like to retain her services even though they now live in a caravan.

The Nel's were away from Laingsburg when the floods struck and had feared that 26-year-old Christina and her family were killed.

Another lucky resident is 13-year-old Peet Martinus, who lived on a farm two km upstream.

He escaped death by

split seconds last Sunday when he managed to run out of the river bed as the wall of water thundered down on him.

Mrs Johanna Marthinus (60) said she was at her pigsty when she heard the terrible noise of the approaching disaster.

She shouted "here comes the river" and then noticed that Peet and three friends were in the two-km wide river bed.

"I shouted and shouted, and Peet and his friends began running. The wall of water was virtually on top of them when they stepped on to dry land at this end."

Towns hit by power failure

EAST LONDON — Heavy thunderstorms lashed the Border area last night and hail was reported in most towns.

East London had a heavy downpour and there were reports of hail and lightning.

Lightning struck the home of Mr Shaun Crony, of Beacon Bay, at about 6.30 pm and smashed the chimney of the house damaging the roof and tiles.

The lightning also blew a large hole in a wall inside the house where it struck an electrical switch.

In Grahamstown, a section of the City Hall was under water and damage was caused to businesses and black houses in lower lying areas. In Uitenhage, flooding of black houses and streets followed a hailstorm when hail as big as golf balls fell.

In the city centre, several stores and a supermarket were also under water yesterday afternoon, but no serious damage was caused.

On the Doornhoek Farm near Pearston, all the windows of a house were shattered by hail. At Hofmeyer gardens and orchards were flooded and telephone lines were cut by heavy rain and wind.

Jo'burg raises R52 000

Johannesburg citizens have donated R52 773 so far for the relief of the Karoo flood victims, said a spokesman for the Mayor's Office today.

Johannesburg's Pells Angels held a street collection on Saturday and raised R4 745. They will present their cheque to the mayor, Mr Carl Venter, tomorrow afternoon.

The Lions Club of South Africa has offered to rebuild the Laingsburg old-age home.

Mr Julian Musikanth, who is heading the

project, said in Cape Town he was confident that the 200 Lions clubs within South Africa would be able to raise the estimated R200 000 needed.

Other donations have come from Imperial Cold Storage, the foods group, which is giving R10 000 to the State President's disaster relief fund.

And the East London City Council has voted to donate R10 000. The mayor, Mr Donald Card, said: "When you consider that we got over R1 million when we had our

floods (in 1970) R10 000 is peanuts.

"It's the least we can do to try to help the victims of the Karoo floods."

● Contributions from individuals and companies can be sent to The Mayor's Disaster Fund, PO Box 1049, Johannesburg 2000.

Cash and clothing should be sent to the Red Cross at PO Box 3266, Johannesburg 2000, or to Red Cross House, 77 de Villiers Street, Johannesburg.

CHEMIC

ROAD OPENED

The road between the two towns through Kopmans Kloof is no longer flooded and traffic is able to pass with care.

Robertson has recorded 300 mm of rain in the past 10 days.

The N2 National road has been closed following the wash away of approaches to a bridge over a minor stream between Caledon and Bot River. The recommended route is through Grabouw and Villiersdorp to Caledon.

The railway line to Bredasdorp is still closed but should be reopened sometime today. The line used mainly for goods traffic was damaged in three places between Bot River and Caledon.

Further rain came to Ladismith and farmers fear the little remaining of their farms might still be washed away.

DAMAGE

In Ashton, the General Manager of the Laingsburg Co-operative Dr J. A. Mouton, said the canning industry would not be able to recover if unassisted from last week's flood disaster. The Government would have to take urgent steps to provide help.

N-plant waste from Koeberg safe — Minister

AROUS 4/2/81

56 55

Parliamentary Staff

THE public could rest assured that extremely strict guidelines would be adhered to when it came to the disposal of nuclear waste from the Koeberg Nuclear power station, Mr F W de Klerk, Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, told the Assembly yesterday.

Replying to the second reading debate on the Atomic Energy Amendment Bill, Mr de Klerk said the problem of disposal of nuclear waste was receiving attention from experts all round the world.

'Many excellent minds are centred on finding final solutions — but the public can rest assured that the interim solutions we have are very safe,' he said.

The question of plans to deal with nuclear waste from the Koeberg plant was raised by Mr Nigel Wood (NRP, Berea).

Mr Wood said the disposal of radioactive nuclear waste was an emotional question. The public had a limited understanding of the consequences of poisoning from such waste.

Nuclear waste was not the type of waste which would break down in a few years — some substances could still be active after 30 000 years.

'MAIN CONCERN VOLUME'

There had been advances in devising methods for the safer disposal of these waste substances, but the main concern was the volume, which was increasing alarmingly. There was still insufficient knowledge concerning the best places and methods for such waste to be contained.

Mr Wood said accidents had occurred as a result of the careless disposal of nuclear waste and with the coming into operation of the Koeberg plant imminent, the public should know what plans the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs had made to deal with the problem.

The Bill was taken through all its stages yesterday with the support of the Opposition.

Naked racism in debate, says PFP

Parliamentary Staff

MR Tian van der Merwe (PFP, Green Point) accused National Party members in the Assembly yesterday of introducing 'naked racism' into the debate on the Sectional Titles Amendment Bill.

He was reacting to questions asked during the debate by Nationalist speakers on whether Progressive Federal Party members were in favour of racially mixed accommodation in blocks of flats.

The issue was raised by Mr Z P le Roux (NP, Pretoria West) who said Mr Alf Widman (PFP, Hillbrow) had applied for coloureds to be accommodated in a block of flats where whites were living.

SCHOOLS

Mr le Roux said the voters were entitled to know whether it was PFP policy that coloured and white people should share the same block of flats. And could blacks also share the block? he asked.

Later in the debate, Mr A T van der Walt (NP, Bellville) continued this line of questioning and wanted to know whether PFP members were also in favour of racially mixed schools.

ARCUS 4/2/81
Survey of farm damage ~~General~~ 56

AN agricultural flood disaster committee has been established to assess the extent of the damage caused by floods in the Western Cape last week.

Serving on the co-ordinating committee are Dr Jozna Serfontein, director of the Winter Rannal Region of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Dr Johan Burger, of the Oenological and Viticultural Research Institute, Dr Piet Marais of the Fruit and Fruit Technology Research Institute, and Dr Gert Bosch of the Western Cape Agricultural Union.

Dr Serfontein said the committee found damage to farms had been extensive in areas hit by recent floods but there was no cause for panic because the Government and private sector were doing all in their power to speed up the restoration programme.

Studies done by extension officers of the various research institutes reported that the areas worst hit bordered rivers such as the Hex, Doring, Dabos, Nuy, Vink, Keisies, Baden, Kogmans-kloof, parts of the Bree, Leeuw, Gamka, Dwyka, Buffels, Groot, Touws,

Huis, Gourits and the Buffelsbaai.

Rough estimates showed that about 1200 farms had been considerably damaged and it was decided by the committee to establish an interviewing schedule to determine the exact losses suffered by farmers in the areas.

About 60 officials of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation had already started with surveys and a complete report on the damage was expected to be released on February 16.

Flood smashed 44 km of line

From a Staff Reporter

LAINGSBURG — About one third of the 144 km railway between Touws River and Ladismith has been destroyed, according to senior railway officials who flew along the Touws River in a SAAF helicopter yesterday.

Press reporters on board were the first to see the devastation in the fertile valley. For more than 40 km the rail line has either disappeared or has mangled in the wide river bed.

Mr W J van Aswegen, Railway Superintendent (Operations) in Cape Town, said after the flight it might not be viable to rebuild the railway.

It carried only three trains a week and as soon as more detailed inspections had been held it would be decided whether the train service would be replaced by a bus service.

Mr Arthur Hoal, a civil engineer accompanying Mr van Aswegen, said it would cost millions and take years to repair the line.

'The damage is a great deal worse than I thought,' Mr Hoal said.

At Bloubaai station, near Mr W A Joubert's farm, Labora, a concrete and steel bridge — one of many — has been washed away.

Concrete staves, reinforced by 25 cm steel bolts,

have been snapped off, and the three 15-ton bridge spans torn away.

One of the spans lies 100 m away; another one 300 m away; the third has not been found.

For more than one kilometre rail lies torn and twisted.

Mr Joubert has lost more than 20 morgen of agricultural land, and the valley in front of his house — once fertile and tree-lined — is now a barren, rocky waste.

R100 000 from PO staff

POST and telecommunications staff throughout South Africa have contributed more than R100 000 to the central fund for the recent flood disaster, the Postmaster General, Mr Henry Bester, said today.

He said the amount might eventually be even

higher as contributions from staff in remote posts and other departmental offices must still be received.

The money would be paid in a lump sum into the flood disaster fund, Mr Bester said.

Barnard's maiden

ARGUS 4/2/81

56



Dr Marius Barnard

speech hailed

Parliamentary Staff

THE new Progressive Federal Party MP for Parktown, Dr Marius Barnard, made his debut in the Assembly yesterday with a plea for the preservation of marine life.

His maiden speech, during the second-reading debate on the Prevention and Combating of the Sea by Oil Bill, clearly impressed members of all parties in the Assembly.

Speaking with quiet confidence, Dr Barnard approached his subject with a modesty and sincerity that immediately won the respect of his audience.

He said he would have liked to speak about his 'first love', which was health, but in a sense pollution of the sea was also a health matter because it concerned the health of the sea.

More measures were needed to protect the delicate food chain of the oceans which were being ravaged by the dumping of millions of tons of poisons every year.

The sea had to be protected, because it would in future be needed as a major source for the world's protein supply.

Dr Barnard said the Bill before the Assembly was a good one, but he asked whether more legislation of this kind was not needed.

Perhaps it was time for South Africans, who loved their land and were prepared to die for it, to cultivate an equally great love for their sea, Dr Barnard said.

Mr J H Heyns (NP, Vasco) who spoke immediately after Dr Barnard, congratulated him on his speech and wished him success in his parliamentary career.

Replying to the debate, the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, said Dr Barnard's maiden speech augured well for his future as a parliamentarian.

It was a speech appreciated by all in the Assembly.

SHIP OWNER LIABLE FOR OIL POLLUTION

ARGUS 4/2/81 56

THE Prevention and Combating of Pollution of the Sea by Oil Bill went through all its stages in the Assembly yesterday.

The Bill makes provisions which incorporate the main principles of the international convention on civic liability in South African law, the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, said.

They include:

- The owner of a ship carrying oil in bulk as cargo is strictly liable, barring certain limited exceptions, for any pollution damage caused by oil which has escaped or been discharged from his ship.
- The owner of such a ship shall be entitled to limit his liability under the convention, unless the incident occurred as a result of the actual fault or privity of the owner.
- The owner of a ship carrying more than 2,000 tons of oil in bulk as cargo shall be required to maintain insurance or other financial security in the sums fixed by applying the limits of liability prescribed in the convention. — Sapa.

JUST

Ship owners liable for pollution damage

5/11/81
4/2/81
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- The owner of a ship carrying oil in bulk as cargo is strictly liable, barring certain limited exceptions, for any pollution damage caused by oil which has escaped or been discharged from his ship.

- The owner of a ship carrying more than 2 000

tons of oil in bulk as cargo shall be required to maintain insurance or other financial security in the sums fixed by applying the limits of liability prescribed in the convention.

Mr Schoeman was asked by the Progressive Federal Party spokesman on Transport, Mr Rupert Lorimer, that the South African National Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCOB) be recompensed for their "often considerable" efforts to save penguins and other birds from the effects of oil pollution.

Mr Schoeman said he would consider giving an annual subsidy to the organisation.

Mr Nigel Wood (NRP

Berea) suggested that the Government consider converting old ships to mechanical oil retrieving vessels which could get to oil slicks quickly and remove the bulk of oil through vacuum systems, thus reducing the need for harmful dispersants and emulsifiers.

Mr Schoeman pointed out that mechanical oil retrieving systems were restricted by weather but that his department would pay attention to the suggestions.

Mr Wood also suggested more research to find less harmful emulsifiers and dispersants as these often did more damage than the oil itself.

The Bill was supported by both opposition parties in all its stages. — Sapa.

New law to control pollution of SA waters

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- The owner of a ship carrying more than 2 000

tons of oil in bulk as cargo shall be required to maintain insurance or other financial security in the sums fixed by applying the limits of liability prescribed in the convention.

● Any claim for compensation for pollution damage may be brought directly against the insurer of the owner's liability.

The Bill also gives the Minister wide powers to deal with pollution and vessels causing or threatening to cause pollution in SA waters.

It prevents ships from entering or leaving South African harbours or seaward installations without certificates proving the vessels have valid insurance or financial security to cover any losses or damage caused by oil pollution originating from them.

The same provision applies to all South African registered ships in foreign waters.

The Minister is also empowered by the Bill to seize and hold any culprit vessel against payments due for damage or loss it may be responsible for through pollution.

He is given further powers to force manufacturers to supply materials required to fight pollution, and to reimburse them later with the costs and a fair percentage of profit to be decided on.

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The foundation's chairman, Mr Kent Durr (NP Maitland), described the extent of the threat of pollution to the bird population, par-

ticularly penguins, along South Africa's coast and Mr Schoeman replied that consideration would be given to an annual subsidy for the organisation.

Mr Nigel Wood (NRP Berea) suggested the Government consider converting old ships to mechanical oil retrieving vessels which could get to oil slicks quickly and remove the bulk of oil through vacuum systems, thus reducing the need for harmful dispersants and emulsifiers.

Mr Schoeman pointed out that mechanical oil retrieving systems were restricted by weather but that his department would pay attention to the suggestions.

Mr Wood also suggested more research to find less harmful emulsifiers and dispersants as these often did more damage than the oil itself.

The Bill was supported by both opposition parties in all its stages. — Sapa.

Corporation Medals

For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Railways has had to implement contingency plans to ferry passengers and essential food supplies in the Cape and Free State, where flooding has damaged rail links.

A SAR spokesman said yesterday that teams of labourers were still working around the clock whenever possible, but repairs were being hampered by continued heavy rain and difficult access to areas where the damage had occurred.

A branch line between Touws River and Ladismith in the Little Karoo, washed away at the time of the Laingsburg disaster, is still not operational, but passengers and essential supplies are being transported by road.

In the Free State teams repaired damage to the line between Bethlehem and Bloemfontein at Marseilles, and the line became operational on Monday night.

• The deputy general manager of Santam, Mr Andries de Swardt, said in Cape Town yesterday that many people in Laingsburg had been hopelessly under-insured and unprepared for the disaster.

His company has had an insurance team in Laingsburg since last Wednesday, and so far they have paid out R650 000 on 50 insurance claims.

"They have lost a great deal," he said.

• The Industrial Development Corporation is forming a short-list of small business concerns needing assistance. The IDC's general manager for the Cape region, Mr FF Pratt, said yesterday that the IDC was concentrating on the Montagu, Robertson, and Ashton areas, although Laingsburg — which had been virtually razed to the ground — had not been excluded.

Rain hampers railways

Search in flood area scaled down

From **STEPHEN WROTTESELEY**

LAINGSBURG. — Search and rescue operations here are being reduced, and by later today only one of the 13 helicopters involved will remain.

Yesterday, members of the Cape Peninsula Ambulance Service rescue team, Metro, left for Cape Town and it is understood that many other people involved will leave soon.

Major "Jinx" Botes, in command of the South African Air Force in the area, said that by today it was probable that only one Alouette helicopter would remain in the area.

At the height of the search and rescue operations a total of nine Alouettes, two Super Frelons, a Wasp and a Puma were working from the makeshift landing ground on the rugby field here.

It was probable that the SAAF operations control room, established in a tent at the side of the landing ground, would be dismantled soon, he said.

National road

Meanwhile, the work on assessing damage and attempts to restore the town to some semblance of normality are continuing. Officials from water, electricity, telephone and road departments have moved into the area in force.

The national road between Cape Town and Johannesburg which runs through the town

will be closed from today, while permanent repairs are made to the bridges damaged by the flood. Only makeshift repairs were made after the disaster.

Attempts are being made to restore the water supply to the town, but one of the problems facing workers is that many supply points are still under silt and might leak if water is pumped into the town.

Work at restoring telephone lines is also proceeding at full speed.

Returned home

Major Botes said yesterday that the SAAF's role in what was happening in the town was being greatly reduced. They were no longer involved in rescue and mercy missions; their role was now one of ferrying officials to inaccessible spots to

During the rescue operations, the helicopters, which came from Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein and Cape Town, made 14 casualty evacuations and recovered 21 bodies.

The helicopters from Port Elizabeth returned to their base last week and on Tuesday two of the Bloemfontein Alouettes returned home.

Major Botes said he could not assess the direct value to the SAAF of the rescue missions, but added that every member of the crews had learned a lot; the helicopters had often to fly in turbulent conditions.

Union to help flood farmers start again

CT 5/2/81
56
S. J. Serfontein
Staff Reporter

A SNAP SURVEY by agricultural extension officers has disclosed that about 1050 farmers in the Southern Cape have been badly hit by the recent floods in the region.

A spokesman for the Western Province Agricultural Union said yesterday that the figure was reached by a compilation of figures from agricultural extension officers in the Karoo, Little Karoo and Boland regions.

Meanwhile, a special committee formed to plan and co-ordinate flood relief for farmers expects to complete

a comprehensive survey of flood damage to farms by the end of next week.

The committee was formed after a visit last week by the minister and deputy minister of agriculture and fisheries to flood-devastated areas.

The chairman of the committee is the director of the winter rainfall agricultural region, Dr J Serfontein. Work began on its comprehensive survey on Monday.

In a statement, the Western Province Agricultural Union assured farmers that everything possible would be done by organized agriculture to

assist farmers, both with their immediate needs and to repair their farms.

The secretary of the union had accompanied the minister and deputy minister of agriculture and fisheries on a visit to devastated areas where discussions with farming representatives had been held.

Topics discussed had included housing needs, links with markets and factories and the provision of feed to isolated animals. These needs were receiving urgent attention.

The South African Agricultural Union appealed to all provincial agri-

cultural unions, co-operatives and agricultural bodies to channel flood relief contributions through the union. The president of the union, Mr Jaap Wilkens, said that the gathering of funds needed the greatest possible co-ordination so that they could be used in the best possible way.

Agricultural bodies could channel their contributions through the union by sending them to P.O Box 1508, Pretoria, 0001.

Inquiries could be made by telephoning the project coordinator, Mr Inus van Rooyen, at Pretoria 28-3491.

Drawing. L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize

For the first year student obtaining the highest average mark.

G L Cragg

CHEMICAL

Hope for students hit by floods

Education Reporter

THE Universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch are concerned that students or prospective students who suffered financial loss as a result of the recent floods may feel their hopes of a university education are doomed.

The public relations officer of UCT, Mr Bob Steyn, said: 'It is our policy that nobody with the right academic qualifications should be deprived of a university education.

'Any student who needs a bursary, scholarship or loan should contact Mrs J Johnston at 69-4351.'

At Stellenbosch existing funds and further endowments will be used for loans and bursaries. Students should contact Mr Rein Botha at Stellenbosch 2222, extension 49.

Aid plans for farms in flood area

56

3-2-81

ARGOS 5/2/81

SOME of the smaller farms in the flooded Karoo have disappeared entirely. Others were so severely damaged by the floods it would take a lifetime to get them into full production again.

This was said today by Mr Jaap Wilkens, chairman of the South African Agricultural Union.

Co-operative societies and other agricultural organisations have been asked to channel contributions to the stricken Karoo through the union.

The greatest part of the damage in what was primarily a farming area was borne by the farmers, Mr Wilkens said.

Contributions to the Agricultural Union Disaster Fund can be sent to P.O. Box 1508, Pretoria. Further inquiries can be obtained from Mr Inus van Rooyen, who is co-ordinating the project. His telephone number is Pretoria 28-3491.

The union will be working closely with the State in this project.

Farmers have also been asked to start on repairs to their farms, but where it was planned to seek State help they should keep a close record of expenditure.

1 000 FARMS

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr P T C du Plessis said today it had been established that about a thousand farms in the south-western Cape suffered losses or damage in last week's disaster and everything possible was being done to speed up assessment of damage.

A Department of Health official, Dr John Reyners, said today that water in all the rivers, dams and reservoirs in areas hit by floods should be regarded as polluted and undrinkable.

No typhoid germs had been found in rivers in these areas but other germs had been found.

Water should be boiled before being consumed or used for cooking.

ROADS

All but one of the damaged roads in the flood-stricken areas have been repaired and re-opened to traffic. However, heavy traffic is still not being allowed on roads which were badly damaged.

The road between Prince Albert Road and Prince Albert will not be re-opened before tomorrow at the earliest.

This morning the road between Touws River and Laingsburg was closed to all traffic except official vehicles and people wanting to attend the memorial service at Laingsburg.

Money, materials boost flood aid

SIGMA Motor Corporation, staff and dealers have collected R101 422 for the Karoo Relief Fund, while Harveytile has promised to give all the roof tiles needed in rebuilding the Laingsburg old age home.

The Sigma collection was decided on during an economic conference, Strategy 80, in Johannesburg last week.

Mr Chris Griffith, chairman, gave R20 000 from the corporation and within half an hour this had been pushed to R80 000 by dealers and personnel.

The next day the figure reached R101 422.

LIONS OFFER

The Harveytile offer goes with the Lions International offer to rebuild the home.

Mr A Buckle, manager of Harveytile in Cape Town, said: 'As soon as the architects have worked out the size we will be able to estimate the value of the materials but it will probably be between R4 000 and R5 000.'

The firm is an operating unit of Abercom Africa.

RDP 5/2/81

Mafikeng mortgage takeover

MMABATHO. — The Bophutha-Tswana Building Society is poised to take over all mortgage bonds and loans in Mafikeng, says the chairman of BBS, Mr Brian Caldecott.

The position of the South African building societies since the incorporation of Mafikeng into BophuthaTswana has been uncertain.

Mr A F V Viljoen, president of the Association of South African Building Societies, confirmed from Johannesburg that a board had been appointed "to look into the position of business in Mafikeng at the time of the incorporation.

Agents of building societies in Mafikeng have been given instructions by their head offices not to handle any new loan applications. — Sapa.

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Iscor plan: more (784) (217) (56) 516x 517lx CARE

The petition to prevent Iscor mining coal in the Kruger National Park closed months ago, but The Star's CARE Campaign continues to receive signatures.

The petition reads: "The Pafuri — the northern part of the Kruger Park — belongs to all

future generations of South Africans just as it has done since the time it was first discovered. We, the undersigned, will never condone its exploitation under any circumstances."

But last September, the Northern Transvaal Regional Planning Advisory Committee, a statutory

body which advises the Government on regional development, came out in favour of the project.

Employment opportunities in the homelands and repopulation of the border areas were cited as reasons for the exploitation.

The committee's chair-

man, Mr Jack Botes, said that Iscor is assured of the "wholehearted support of the Northern Transvaal."

But hundreds of signatures from the Northern Transvaal, have been received protesting against the proposed mining development.

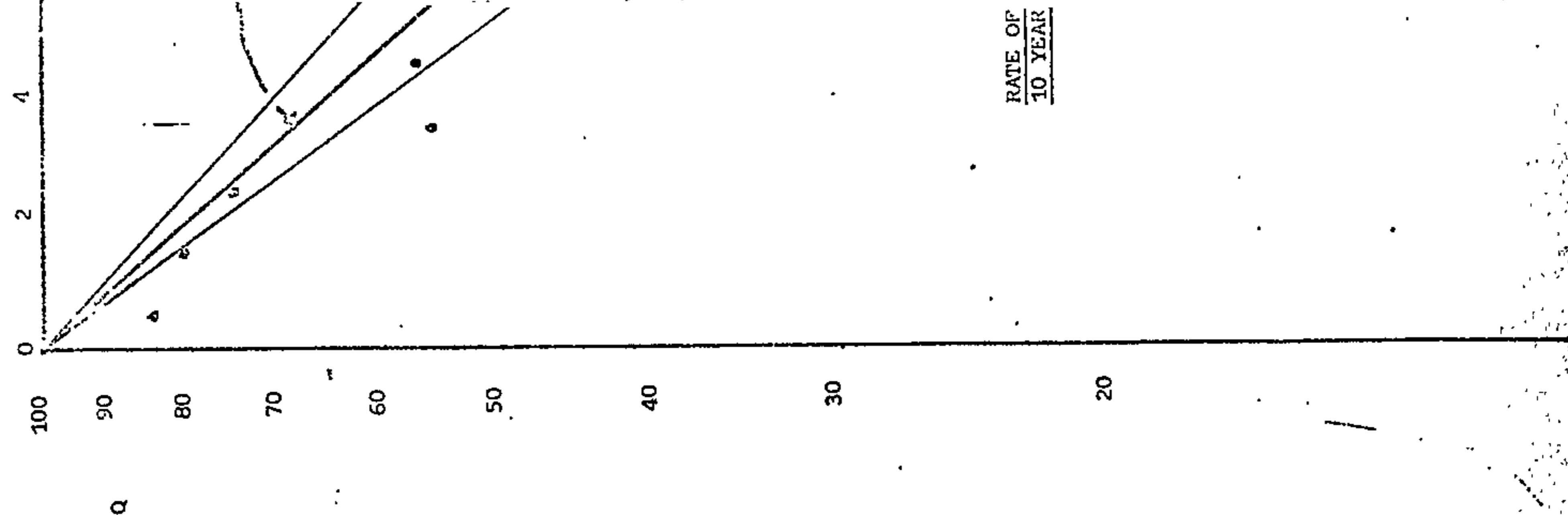
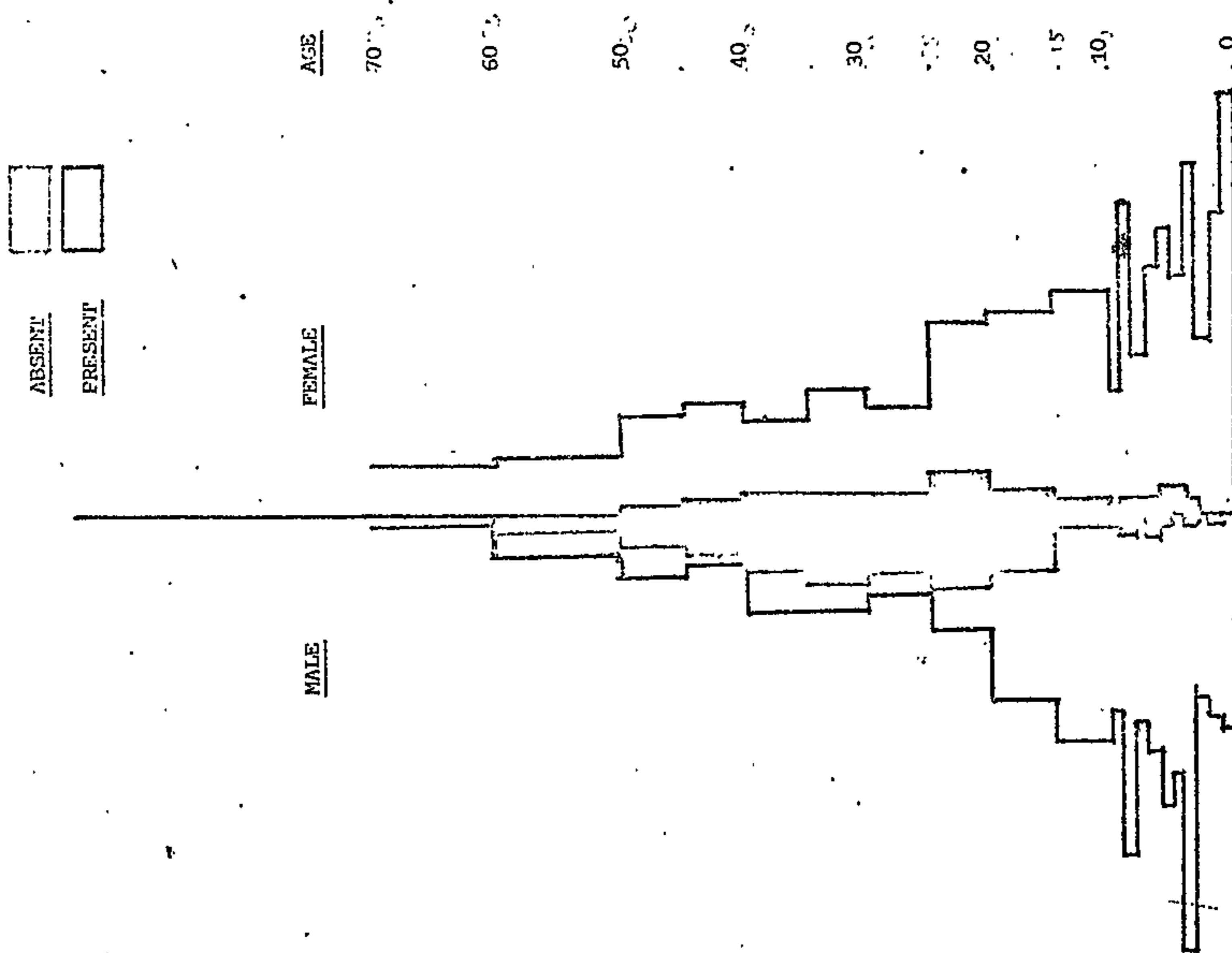


FIGURE 1
POPULATION PYRAMID FOR NT-SHIQO



identify and solve problems and a problem orientation to a case will de-emphasize the role of the super-specialist and emphasize the role of the generalist, thus hopefully, checking the tendency towards super-specialisation.

Mr. Chairman, recently when I looked over my slides with all the wise ideas which I borrowed from the literature available, I was reminded of a feeling of ambivalence which I experienced when I visited the Jefferson Memorial in Washington DC, and realised that the beautiful writings on the wall of the monument which listed the rights of the individual were written by a man who kept slaves!

I believe in what I have told you about the importance of political social and economic factors in health, and I am proud to be a member of the staff of U.C.T. and G.S.H., yet, I live in a country where political and social privileges are limited to one sector of the population. Where the "Have's" and the "Have not's" are distinguished on the basis of the activity of the melanocytes in their skin. I work in a hospital where few, if any, of the doctors believe that they discriminate between one patient or another, but where we can never prove this objectively to ourselves, our students or our patients, until these patients lie side by side in the same ward. I work in a hospital where, contrary to what has been published in the press, most doctors are satisfied with their salaries but are deeply disturbed by the fact that similarly qualified colleagues earn less than they do. I work in a health care system where those in charge have publicly expressed fine ideals for the health of the individual but where the already limited funds are being used to duplicate equipment and resources for ideological reasons. None of these activities in which I am engaged can be said to improve health.

Mr. Chairman, I also work in a University where many academics including myself, wake up too late, and criticize actions when they could possibly have used their influence to prevent these, but didn't because they believe politics should be kept out of medicine. This despite the fact, that health development is "a political and social process".

Mr. Chairman, I have been greatly concerned about what message, I,

as a specialist in diseases of the liver, can give to an audience like this one. The Xhosa word for liver is Isibindi;

'he has a liver' - is Unesibindi; Unesibindi is said of those who have courage. It takes courage to change the emphasis of medical care from cure to prevention, and it takes even more courage to eliminate inequalities of health care especially when these may be influenced by ideology. Nevertheless, Mr. Chairman, I would like to express the wish that all those involved in our health services should qualify for the term UNESIBINDI.

Pipeline may dump 'poisons'

By Graeme Addison

The Government is pursuing plans for a R27-million "poison pipeline" into the sea at Richards Bay.

The controversial pipeline will carry a variety of chemical waste products four km out to sea.

In December the Minister of Water Affairs, Dr Nak van der Merwe, said the pipeline was needed to attract a R500-million Mondi Paper pulp mill to Richards Bay.

Mondi's managing director, Mr. Reg Donner, said in Johannesburg plans for the huge mill had not gone beyond the investigation stage.

The other user of the pipeline may be the Triomf Fertiliser plant which needs to dump 10 000 tons of gypsum and 83 tons of fluorine each day.

● Full report: See Briefing.

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8/2/81

P R E S S S T A T E M E N T

EMBARGO : SUNDAY MIDNIGHT 8 FEBRUARY 1981

THE KNYSNA ELEPHANTS



Various recent reports in the Press on the Knysna elephants have created misleading impressions which the Department would like to correct as follows :

1. The indigenous forests of the Southern Cape and the elephants which inhabit them have been protected and managed on a scientific basis by the Directorate of Forestry and Environmental Conservation, formerly the Department of Forestry, for more than a century.
2. The policy of the Department on regard to the elephants and other fauna occurring in the forests has always been one of strict conservation and the question that has plagued conservationists for a long time is whether the continued survival of the elephants is indeed possible in the limited habitat of the forests in which they dwell.
3. Although the Department naturally welcomes any attempts aimed at ensuring the continued existence of the few remaining elephants and therefore has no objection to the fund-raising campaign referred to in the Press, it must be made clear that the Department itself is not involved in the campaign nor in the manner in which funds so collected are to be spent. It must, however, be pointed out that any impression that may have been given in recent press reports that funds from this campaign will, inter alia, also be used for the preservation of the Knysna forests, is incorrect. The Directorate of

CT
7/2/81
Floods: 'Crucial
phase reached'

Staff Reporter

TOWNS hit by recent floods in the southern Cape now faced the most crucial phase of rehabilitation, three opposition members of the Provincial Council said in a statement released yesterday.

"It is quite clear that the 'first-aid phase' is coming to a close. This phase has been carried out with dedication by all concerned - officials of the municipality, provincial administration, the police, various arms of the defence force and the hundreds of individuals and service organizations. Mr Frank van der Velde, MPC for Wynberg said yesterday.

The three members of the PFP caucus in the Provincial Council, Mr Herbert Hursh, Mr Rupert Hurly and Mr van der Velde investigated flood damage first hand at the weekend and met the Mayor and Town Clerk of Laingsburg, the principal of the local school and the matron and acting secretary of the town's subsidized hospital.

The party also travelled to Montagu to meet the Mayor and the MPC for Swel'endam.

"It became apparent in both areas that the next phase is the most crucial of all, that is the rehabilitation of people who have lost all. There must be plans to rebuild a new town, a new economy and farms.

"The town planners of the province must assist in the re-planning of Laingsburg which will largely have to be rebuilt on a new site. So too, engi-

neers, the sewerage and water purifications experts, electrical reticulation experts and the financial huffins will have to work out ways and means to rebuild a town which has lost some 80 percent of its rates base.

"The Department of Social Welfare, Health and Pensions has the extremely difficult and delicate task of rehabilitating those who at present are stunned, back to normality. The moment the army, Red Cross and others leave is the moment of crisis for these people," said Mr Van der Velde.

"The province must consider taking over full subsidization of the hospital, which is now partly-financed privately," he said.

He emphasized that the problems in Ladismith, Montagu and Ashton were as serious as those of Laingsburg and the public should become aware of the devastation of hundreds of farms which had not only lost their present crops but had lost any form of topsoil on which to plant future crops for decades to come.

"The planning and execution of repair work is most urgent and the Executive Committee of the province should consider waiving lengthy tender procedures under these circumstances, to enable resources of private enterprise to supplement the sterling work carried out at present by the divisional councils and municipalities.

"We as the opposition in the Provincial Council have offered the Administrator, the local MPC and the mayors we visited our support and co-operation with the necessary authorities to make funds available for the rebuilding of the communities shattered by the flood," Mr Van der Velde said.

© Smiles, apathy and plans in Karoo flood town, page 7

Test nets 5 tons of usable rubbish

By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

(56) RDM 11/2/81

MORE than five tons of recyclable refuse was collected last week in Norwood — the Johannesburg suburb chosen to be the guinea-pig for South Africa's first full experiment to reprocess domestic rubbish.

But despite the distribution of pamphlets telling householders their role in the experiment, not all followed the cor-

rect procedure.

Residents should separate refuse which can be recycled — paper, glass, plastics and tins — from other rubbish. These materials should be placed in special green refuse bags which have been distributed to them.

Today the council will collect the usual refuse bin liners with garbage which cannot be recycled. A second truck will collect the special green bags.

A city council spokesman

said that last week there was a 1-in-3 response to the appeal for recyclable material to be put in special bags.

Some people, though, had not separated normal garbage, and some had put garden rubbish in the special bags.

The spokesman said that in an attempt to try to improve the situation, a black anti-litter inspector will visit the area to explain the experiment to domestics.

The experiment will be analysed carefully after 13 weeks, and if there are firm indications that it is succeeding, it will be introduced other areas.

An analysis of domestic refuse has shown that 52% of it can be recycled.

The chairman of the committee handling the experiment, Mr Emil Adler, has disclosed that the value of recyclable solid wastes was about R30-million a year.

PLAN TO BAN COAL STOVES FOR DOMESTIC USE

THE Government intends to ban coal stoves for domestic use in terms of the Atmospheric Pollution Amendment Bill, which went through all its stages in the Assembly yesterday.

Introducing the second reading debate on the Bill, the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik, said only so-called smokeless stoves had been imported and manufactured in the Republic for some years.

It would therefore be a good thing if this situation was

confirmed by banning the conventional stove totally.

It must however be understood that this banning only affects the manufacture and import of household stoves. If dealers still have these stoves in stock, they may still sell them. In the same way people who have conventional stoves may continue to use these in uncontrolled areas.

In order to make the minimum smoke stove acceptable to the user, the performance and durability of certain stoves would have to be improved.

Mr Nigel Wood (NRP, Berea) said there was a contradiction between the Bill and what was happening in South Africa today.

Legislation could be perfect but it would be useless if its intention was not carried through.

The government lacked the manpower and also, perhaps, the intention to carry it through. A great deal should be done to combat pollution, particularly in the cities. — Sapa.

Dr Barnard hits out on pollution



Dr Marius Barnard

DR. MARIUS BARNARD (PFP, Parktown) clashed in the Assembly yesterday with Mr S P Barnard (NP, Langlaagte) on the issue of pollution.

Supporting the second reading of the Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Amendment Bill, Dr Barnard said pollution affected not only the environment but also the health of the population.

He challenged a viewpoint expressed during an earlier debate by Mr S P Barnard who had criticised Opposition speakers for complaining about pollution and damage to the environment that could be caused by a proposed Railway project in the Oribi Gorge area of Natal.

Mr S P Barnard had suggested in the debate on the Railway Construction Bill that people should not worry about pollution when it was brought by development that was in the national interest.

In yesterday's debate, Dr Marius Barnard said the Atmospheric Pollution Pre-

Parliamentary Staff

vention Amendment Bill was aimed at tightening up existing legislation and helping the country to be free of smoke.

He said the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik, who had introduced the Bill, might need 'protection' against some members of his own party.

Dr Barnard asked whether the Minister was satisfied with pollution in Langlaagte as described to the Assembly by Mr S P Barnard.

Mr S P Barnard had said that the people of his constituency were inhaling more smoke than any other people in South Africa, but they were not complaining about railway lines to be built over golf courses.

Dr Marius Barnard said the Bill before the Assembly was important for the protection of South African cities, including Langlaagte.

Reacting to Dr Barnard's speech, Mr S P Barnard said the combating of pollution was important in his view, and this was taken into account in all town planning and in the siting of factories.

Mr Barnard said he himself had fought pollution by starting schemes for the planting of grass on mine dumps of the Witwatersrand to stop pollution by dust.

Development was also important, especially the production of food to keep people alive and the development of natural resources.

APPEALED

During the debate, Dr Marius Barnard appealed to the Minister to investigate pollution at some of the country's hospitals where not only patients but also staff were affected by smoke from chimneys.

The Bill passed all its stages yesterday with the support of all parties in the Assembly.

Germans may help plan KwaZulu's ecological future

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG— West German researchers may become involved in planning a new ecological future for badly neglected parts of the KwaZulu Natal region.

A leading German ecologist Professor Hartmut Biek arrives in South Africa today to investigate the possibility of German post-graduate students attending the Natal University based Institute of Natural Resources (INR) which is taking an in-depth

look at the problems facing the region and possible solutions.

Prof Biek will confer with Prof John Hanks, director of the INR, and will see for himself to what extent German organisations with whom he has contact can provide post-graduate students to assist the INR, a spokesman for the Institute said yesterday.

Prof Biek heads the Council of Environmental Advisors to the West German Government and is

head of the Institute for Agricultural Zoology at Bonn University. He also serves on the World Health Organisation's Expert Panel on Environmental Health.

Initial planning for the INR research which has the blessing of both the KwaZulu and South African governments is progressing well and details of exact areas of operation are expected to be announced within the next two weeks, the spokesman said.

State's R1.2m to aid flood relief

CAPE TOWN — The Cabinet has agreed to provide R1.2 million for State disaster projects to aid the Katoo flood victims.

This was announced yesterday by the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr E. A. P. A. Munnik.

He said the State funds would augment the private donations still pouring in from all over South Africa into the Disaster Relief Fund Sepa reports.

In Malmesbury, the State aid will fund a mobile hospital where the financial director of the Sigma Lumber Corporation, Mr Johan Meyer, handed over a cheque of R101 422 to Dr Burger's disaster fund effort.

Sigma dealers and company staff contributed to the donation.

Dr Munnik said the first "survival stage" of relief operations in the flood-stricken areas had been completed.

Field officers were now surveying the damage caused by the floods in towns and on about 1 200 farms in the stricken districts.

Dr Munnik said the State funds and the private donations would be put to different uses.

At its meeting yesterday, the Cabinet had decided to make available R1.2 million to move

flood victims to Langsburg in order to provide mobile housing units.

Work was being carried out for the mobile homes, and water, electricity and sanitation were being laid out.

For furniture and further equipment would be available from State funds for immediate relief projects.

It had now yet been decided where to place new houses to replace those swept away by the rising Bulwer's River.

The Government and private engineers had already topped out the river's floodline. Future flood-prone areas would not be laid out below the line, Dr Munnik said.

Public contributions to the relief fund would be used to replace the personal possessions of flood victims, including students who had been orphaned or lost their parents' financial support.

Dr Munnik said his department had so far helped 17 students carry on studying after their families lost everything in the floods.

The disaster fund for Langsburg victims launched by Johannesburg's mayor has topped the R10 000 mark. All residents are invited to send money to the fund at P O Box 1049, Johannesburg 2000.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Journalists meet on conservation issues

Conservationists and environmental journalists met in Johannesburg yesterday to co-ordinate action on South Africa's conservation problems. This is the first time environmental reporters from the Press and radio have come together along with non-government organisations to discuss these issues, said Mike Nicol, editor of African Wildlife. The meeting was organised by the Wildlife Society of Southern Africa to explain the society's lives from the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Endangered Wildlife Trust, as well as most of South Africa's major newspapers.

Corporation Medals

For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize

Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize

Awarded to the student with the best classwork in Engineering Drawing.

L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize

For the first year student obtaining the highest average mark.

G L Cragg

Council to advise on conservation

RDM 13/2/81

(56)

THE ASSEMBLY. — A Bill to establish a council to advise the Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation on matters concerning conservation and utilisation of the environment, was published yesterday.

In terms of the Environment Conservation Bill, which has been referred to a select committee after its first reading yesterday, the 30-member Council for the Environment would recommend priorities to the Minister and would advise and co-ordinate the activities of all people engaged in environmental conservation.

The council would be able to appoint technical committees to assist it in the performance of its functions and the Minis-

ter could appoint management committees to advise him on management and development of specific nature areas.

The Bill makes provision for the director-general of the department to summon witnesses in any case being investigated by the council.

Information from such witnesses would not be disclosed and contradictions of this provision would be subject to a fine of not more than R1 000.

The measure would also permit the Minister to draw up regulations to control solid waste disposal and combat and prevent littering and noise pollution, contraventions of which could result in a fine of not more than R500 or six months imprisonment or both. — Sapa

Council for ⁵⁷¹¹² the environment ^(5/2) 13/2/81

Political Correspondent
CAPR TOWN --- The Government has decided to establish a special council for the environment to co-ordinate conservation efforts.

It will have wide-ranging powers, including the right to summon any person to give evidence before it.

Summons will be served in the same manner as a court subpoena and will carry a penalty of up to R1,000 for a refusal to obey it.

According to a Bill published yesterday, the Council for the Environment will consist of up to 30 members appointed at the Minister's discretion.

The council may do anything necessary to achieve its object, clause five of the Environment Conservation Bill states.

The Bill lists 10 specific

objectives, which include:

○ Evidence on any aspect of conserving or using the environment.

○ Recommending priorities.

○ The establishment of institutions for carrying out functions related to the environment.

○ Making recommendations on legislation affecting the environment.

○ Initiating investigations, studies, surveys and research on any aspect of the environment.

The council can, with the Minister's approval, establish one or more technical committees to help it with its functions.

The Minister may appoint a management committee to advise him on the development and management of any nature area according to another clause.

CHEMICAL

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For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

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 B F McClelland

Awarded on results of final examinations to the best male student in Land Surveying or Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

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Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize

Awarded to the

best classwork

Drawing.

L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize

For the first year

obtaining the highest

mark.

G L Cragg

830 more
protest at
park mining

Another 830 signatures
from all over South Africa,
as well as the US, Britain,
Uruguay, Australia and
New Zealand have been
added to the petition
protesting coal mining in
the Kruger Park.

Among a batch de-
livered to The Star's
CARE campaign by the
Wildlife Society this week
were 300 from Newcastle
and hundreds from
Eshowe, Maritzburg, Wit-
bank and Cape Town.

Although the petition
officially closed last June
when CARE took 55,000
to the Minister of Envi-
ronmental Conservation, at
least another 10,000 have
been received since.

CHEMICAL

Nature council will advise

13/2/81
56

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. —

Provision was made in a bill published yesterday for the establishment of a council to advise the Minister of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation on all matters concerning conservation and utilization of the environment.

In terms of the Environment Conservation Bill, which has been referred to a select committee after its first reading on Wednesday, the 30 member Council for the Environment would recommend priorities to the minister and would advise and coordinate the activities of all people engaged in environmental conservation.

The council would be able to appoint technical committees to assist it in the performance of its functions.

CHEMICAL

Witnesses

The bill would also empower the minister to appoint management committees to advise him on the management and development of specific nature areas.

Provision was made in the bill for the director-general of the department to summon witnesses in any case being investigated by the council.

Information obtained from such witnesses would not be disclosed, and contradictions of this provision would be subject to a fine of not more than R1 000.

The measure would also permit the minister to draw up regulations to control solid waste disposal and prevent littering and noise pollution. — Sapa

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Corporation Medals
For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)
Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)
Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

Salmon

Cumming

Weeks

Rens

McClelland

Sor George Menzies Prize
d on results of final

ations to the best male
t in Land Surveying or
Engineering.

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Sacks Memorial Prize

ed to the student with the
classwork in Engineering

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S C I Prize

the first year student
ing the highest average

Cragg



IN THE HOUSE

Fluoridation: ^{CT 14/2/81} ⁽⁵⁶⁾ Govt must decide

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The government would have to decide at some stage about the fluoridation of drinking water, the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik said yesterday.

He was speaking during the second reading debate on the Health Amendment Bill which provides for the addition of substances to water with a view to promoting health.

Both opposition parties supported the bill, but wanted to know whether it had been drafted with the fluoridation of drinking water in mind. Dr Munnik said the arguments for and against would probably never stop.

"In my mind, those who argue for fluoridation possibly have the best argument. We have all the necessary information at hand and will have to study in detail the results of those places overseas where fluoridation has been applied.

"We will have to give the matter of fluoride content the most serious consideration and tie up all the information at hand. A decision will have to be taken at some stage or other."

The bill also provides for subsidies for local authorities instead of refunds for health services provided by them.

The minister said he hoped it would never be necessary to decrease subsidies when the economy was slack and gave the assurance that subsidies would always be sufficient for the purpose for which they were intended.

The bill was taken through all its stages. — Sapa

CHEMICAL

B F McClelland

J H Rens

D P Weeks

T J Cumming

P M Salmon

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

For the best student in each

Corporation Medals

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Bill may
RDM 14/2/81
lead to
fluoride⁽⁵⁶⁾
in water

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. —

The Government would have to decide at some stage about the fluoridation of drinking water, the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik said yesterday.

He was speaking during the Second Reading debate on the Health Amendment Bill which, among other things, provides for the addition of substances to water with a view to promoting health.

Both opposition parties supported the Bill but wanted to know whether it had been drafted with the fluoridation of drinking water in mind.

Dr Munnik said the arguments for and against would probably never stop.

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"We have all the necessary information at hand and will have to study in detail the results of those places overseas where fluoridation has been applied.

"We will have to give the matter of fluoride content the most serious consideration and tie up all the information at hand.

"A decision will have to be taken at some stage or other."

The Bill also provides for subsidies for local authorities instead of refunds for health services provided by them.

The Bill was taken through all its stages. — Sapa.

Pro-conservation stand on whales

CT 16/2/81 (56)

By JANE ARBOUS

IN a strong pro-conservation move, the government has reconsidered its controversial stand against an enhanced protection status for all whales and dolphins.

And it has also dropped plans to have the white rhino protection listing down-graded to allow commercial exploitation.

These two major international issues are to be raised at next week's Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) conference in New Delhi which will be attended by a South African delegation from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

The government has been criticized for its stand on cetaceans (whales and dolphins).

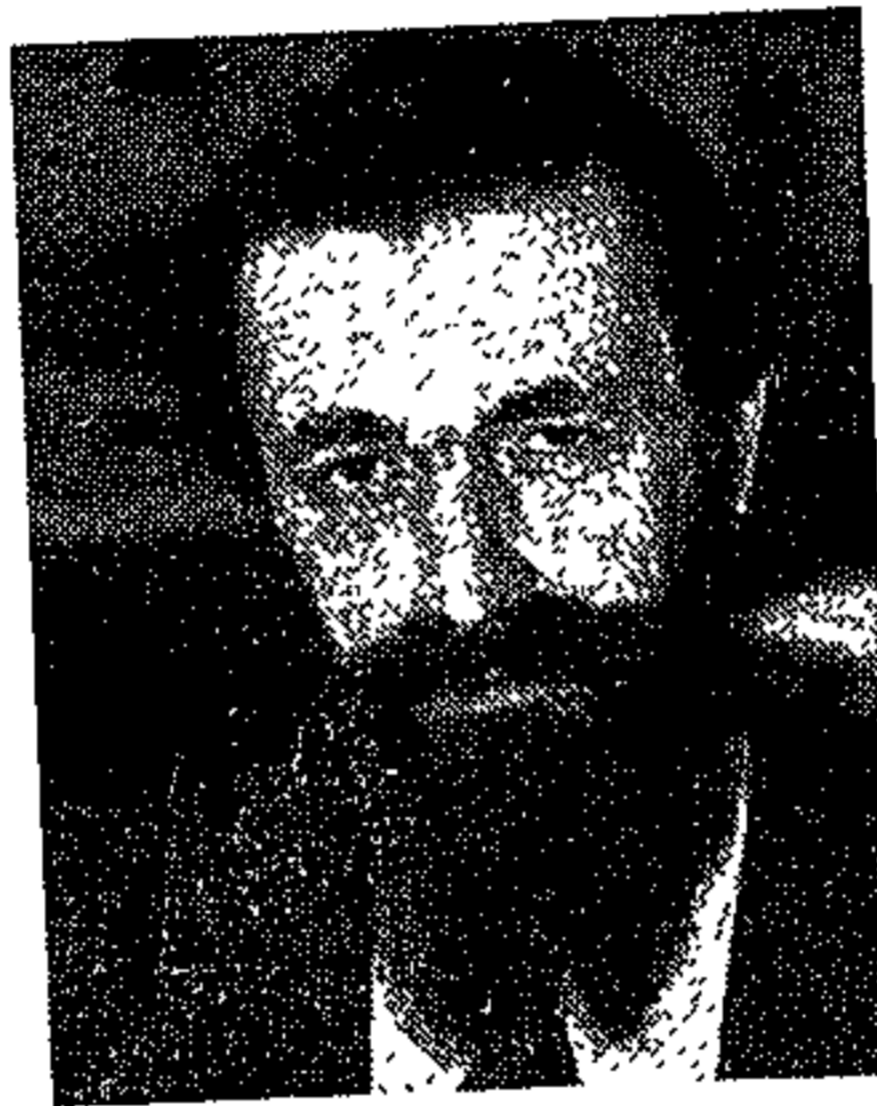
Local conservationists also felt that if South Africa succeeded in having the white rhino populations opened to commercial exploitation, it would lead to wide-scale black-marketing and could spell the end of the rhino in other parts of Africa.

South Africa gave notice late last year of an intention to ask for the listing of the country's white rhino populations — now in a healthy state — to be down-graded to allow trade in rhino horn.

In a letter received at the weekend by the Dolphin Action and Protection Group, Mr H J Grove said on behalf of the Director-General of the department that it had been decided

to withdraw South Africa's proposal for the transfer of the white rhino from Schedule 1, protection of the most endangered species from commercial exploitation, to Schedule 2, ensuring close monitoring of commerce in vulnerable species. The department had also decided to withdraw its reservations regarding the listings of whales and dolphins.

Mr Grove thanked the vice-chairman of the protection group, Mr Nick Carter, for his "enlightening and highly appreciated" comments in a paper which he submitted outlining



Mr Nick Carter

the South African case for withdrawing its reservations on the CITES whale and dolphin listings.

CITES was founded to control and limit trade in species threatened with extinction.

They are listed in two schedules. The first prohibits commercial trading, the second

lists animals which are threatened but not yet endangered. These may be traded only under a strict permit system involving both importing and exporting countries.

Welcoming the decision as "very positive", the secretary of the Dolphin Action and Protection Group, Mrs Nai Rice, said last night that the practical problems for the CITES management authorities were "huge".

South Africa's earlier reservations on whales and dolphins were prompted by "a realistic concern" to ensure that decisions taken for ideal reasons could be made to work in practice. The reservations were consistent at the time with the country's position at the International Whaling Commission, she said.

This recognition of practical problems had led South Africa to withdraw its white rhino proposal, as this would have greatly compounded the problems of international control, she said.

African and Asian countries had shown themselves unable to control commerce in rhino horn.

As an example of the need for a practical approach, South Africa would probably point out not only the existence of widespread illicit international trading in endangered species, but also the fact that many of the 64 countries party to the convention still did not send annual reports of their trade in endangered species.

Shops, homes

56

DD. 18/2/8

were similar genetically and in make-up to a breed of wolf called the silver wolf. He said the dogs were originally guard dogs, used to protect herders from dangers such as wolves.

"The wolf is a natural killer and will hunt down anything, whereas the Alsatian is not by nature a vicious dog," he said.

Mr Wright told of an incident in Umtata about five years ago when it was reported that an Alsatian had savaged a young child. When he investigated, he found it was a half-breed which had

been crossed with an Alsatian.

He said this was a major problem with reports of attacks by Alsatians, as more often than not, it was not the pure Alsatian but a half-breed, which looked similar to the Alsatian.

Mrs Marie Flack, of the SPCA, agreed wholeheartedly, saying Alsatians, who were "lovely trustworthy animals", were blamed for a lot of things.

"Any dog with a long tail, two ears and the right size who attacks someone is called an Alsatian."

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DDR

EAST LONDON — Homes, streets, and a shopping centre were flooded here last night as a heavy downpour continued early this morning.

More than 75 mm of rain fell between 8 pm and midnight and there was no sign of it stopping early today.

Cars stalled in knee-deep water in front of Marina Glen, according to Mr Ivan Thesen, who works at a roadhouse there.

"People were getting out of their cars into 60 cm of water and coming to me to phone for help," he said.

"There's a bloody lot of water down there. It's lapping 5 cm under the benches and doesn't seem able to run away."

Mr Thesen said it was all rainwater and was not the sea breaking over the wall.

On the West Bank cars were stalled when Strand Street was flooded.

Mrs P. Leach of 46 Strand Street, said the water was flowing up to their front door and cars were backing up to find an alternative route.

"If they went through, the water would be up nearly to the top of their windcreens," she said.

Two cars were still stuck at 11 pm.

Mr L. Scharneck, of 13 Strand Street, said the entire backyard of his home was flooded and his garage was under water by 11.30.

Mr Scharneck said there was "a possibility" his house would be flooded as the water had risen to within a couple of centimetres below the verandah.

At midnight firemen were busy at the Oxford Shopping Centre where all the shops on the lower level were flooded. They had two pumps working to clear the water.

Guests at the city's beachfront hotels were treated to romantic candlelit dinners and drinks when a 20-minute power failure cut off the hotels' electricity.

The power failure, which was due to Escom trouble, lasted from about 7.40 pm to 8 pm, said the city's electrical engineer, Mr K. G. Robson. The affected areas were Quigney, Cambridge, Cambridge West, and part of Vincent.

Our well-prepared hotels simply hauled out their emergency supply of candles and carried on with their entertainment business, although music from the bands was stopped.

Queens Hotel said their restaurant stoves worked on gas anyway, so there was no trouble with late or cold dinners.

The Kennaway receptionist said it "was rather exciting" and the hotel was not put out by the power failure at all. — DDR

tness

Mist disrupts fl



By Rob Soutter

Controversy is brewing over a proposal to build a R100-million cement factory and railway line near the beautiful Oribi Gorge in southern Natal.

Public opposition is centred on a proposed railway line which would link the factory with Umhlangeni, near Port Shepstone on the Natal South Coast.

Mr Keith Cooper, director of conservation of the Wildlife Society of southern Africa, said: "The railway is another example of secretive Government planning, showing a

The timeless beauty of the Oribi Gorge is threatened by plans to build a railway and cement factory.

Industry Threatens Oribi

disregard for the public."

The Natal Portland Cement Company announced plans for the factory and railway a month ago — but the railway scheme is already being pushed through Parliament.

This move has by-passed the Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, which has a brief to protect the environment from hazard development.

The proposed railway would cut through

a golf course and a residential area in Umhlangeni.

Following public criticism, the company later announced it would pay for an environmental impact report on the proposed line.

There are, however, fears this will be completed too late, with the line receiving parliamentary approval, rendering the report irrelevant.

Sustained opposition

in Parliament last Thursday forced the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Schoeman — who introduced the Bill — to admit he had made a "stupid decision," and propose an amendment to allow alternative routes for the railway line.

Some conservationists fear the factory will be too close to the Oribi Gorge and may pollute the Umzimkulu River.

Mr Dennis Rowe, managing director of the

company involved, said the factory will be modern, with little noise and no effluent.

Mr Cooper said: "Conservationists are not against development — unless there is planning without thought for the environment."

"In this case, the factory will be of considerable value to the region, as it will provide job opportunities. Furthermore," he said, "there are two other lime quarries in

the area already.

"But with the railway, there has been unnecessary controversy because of secretive planning and disregard for the public interest."

Mr Cooper said: "People are sick of being planned upon. Government departments must make decisions with the public, not over their heads."

"Thumbs up to the cement company for doing the environmental impact report, but this should have been done before the issue went to Parliament, for the railway and the factory site combined, and it should be made public."

Corporation Medals
 For the best student in each
 of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.

Second Year (Bronze Medal)

Miss G C Littlewort

Third Year (Silver Medal)

Miss N C Davidson

Fourth Year (Gold Medal)

P M Salmon

T J Cumming

D P Weeks

J H Rens

B F McClelland

Professor George Menzies Prize
 Awarded on results of final
 examinations to the best male
 student in Land Surveying or
 Civil Engineering.

J H Rens

Sammy Sacks Memorial Prize
 Awarded to the student with the
 best classwork in Engineering
 Drawing.

L Menegaldo

A E & C I Prize
 For the first year student
 obtaining the highest average
 mark.

G L Cragg

R-Day

was

smooth

but

smelly

R10M
 18/2/81
 (56)

By IAN REID

OPERATION 'R-Day' (for Re-
 cycle Day), went off like a
 military operation in Norwood,
 Johannesburg, yesterday morn-
 ing — albeit a rather smelly
 operation

Yesterday morning the first
 fullscale attempt in the Repub-
 lic to recycle domestic refuse
 was mounted by the Johannes-
 burg Municipality. And Nor-
 wood was chosen as the guinea
 pig

Last week, with their normal
 cream-coloured refuse bags,
 householders were given two
 green collection bags in which
 to put their waste paper, glass,
 plastics and tins. And for the
 most part they did just that.
 But yesterday's first run
 showed that some of the house-
 holders appear to be colour
 blind, as some of the green
 container bags held everything,
 but recycling material

However, never say die. At
 least the municipality isn't go-
 ing to say so.

It is planned to run the ex-
 periment for the next 13 weeks
 in Norwood in conjunction with
 the co-ordinating committee
 for the recycling of solid
 wastes, and the private sector.

City engineer Eric Hall said:
 "Even if the scheme is not
 successful, we will not give
 up"

An analysis of domestic re-
 fuse has shown that 52% of it
 can be recycled. And the value
 of recyclable solid wastes runs
 into something like R30-million
 a year. Which isn't hav — or
 trash for that matter.

Yesterday morning, starting
 at 7.30, a 10 ton truck left the
 Norwood depot on its round and
 took in all two-and-a-half loads
 of recyclable material to the
 refuse collection depot.

If the Norwood trial proves a
 success, and after yesterday
 morning's run there seems to
 be very little reason why it
 shouldn't be, then the recycling
 scheme will be introduced to
 other areas in Johannesburg

CHE

Mounting anger in flood wake

Own Correspondent
LAINGSBURG — The 3 000 coloured people here are becoming increasingly angry and bitter at the way they are being treated in the wake of the flood.

They have been barred from the town and are only allowed through to buy food at the local supermarket.

The coloured primary school is continuing classes as normal in comparison to the white schools which are swamped by tons of slush and mud.

Their homes were not washed away as the township lies on high ground behind Laingsburg. However, some have lost children and other family members. Sadly, as one so

often hears here, many of those missing were washed away while trying to rescue others.

One of them was 16-year-old Isaac Gouw who drowned while trying to rescue his grandmother, Mrs Raka Steenkamp.

Some of the coloured people and their relatives were washed away while helping to evacuate white residents.

"Now we have been barred from the town and told by police we may only enter for five minutes to buy food at the supermarket," said Mr Jacob Williams.

"We are not dogs and thieves," said Mr Williams.

● More flood stories on Page 3.

student.

General J B M Hertzog Prize

D H Pryce Lewis

For the best student of
Architecture (or Quantity
Surveying) in the subject
of Professional Practice.

David Haddon Prize

Miss C Tredgold

For the best woman student
in third year.

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize

P A Rappoport

For a student who has
satisfactorily completed
1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.

Helen Gardner Travel Prize

P F Dunckley

Sixth Year

For the best student in :-

Cape Provincial Institute
of Architects' Prize

Telephone lines repaired

PHETORIA.—Telephone lines to exchanges in the flood-stricken areas of the Western Cape had been restored the Post Office said today.

But 2,600 telephones remained out of order and Post Office teams were at work throughout the region making repairs.

All subscribers would probably be reconnected within the next two weeks.

Altogether 372 km. of lines and 60 km of telephone-poles have been destroyed by the flood.

— Sapa.

● Names of the missing — Page 21

Threat to shoot looters

From a Staff Reporter
LAINGSBURG — Some Laingsburg residents have threatened to shoot anyone who loots buildings or homes devastated by Sunday's flood.

And visitors, workers and those not directly involved with the tragedy have been careful not to take anything from the streets.

Although police have received complaints of looting in the village, today the property of the dead and the living was being left alone as the search for bodies continues.

BANK

Mr. J. D. Jordaan, who climbed to the roof of his house when the flood waters came on Sunday, said today: "I must warn these looters that if they come again we will shoot them."

When the waters subsided after the flood Mr. Jordaan saw some people rush into the Standard Bank building looking for money.

"We don't want these people screwing around," said Mr. Jordaan. "They are not concerned with the flood and it does not affect them."

Another resident, who asked not to be identified, said: "We must work together in this town now to restore what we have lost. We cannot allow people to take the little that is left."

The public relations officer for the police in the Southern Cape, Captain Eddie Snyman, said the police did not want people loitering about the town who had not been affected by the flood.

Argus 29/1/81 (56)

Tragedy of search for lost ones

Staff Reporters
THE tragedy of Laingsburg is continuing as relatives from throughout South Africa converge on the town to conduct their own search for missing family members.

Poignant scenes are being played out daily in the mud and debris-strewn streets of this once busy southern Karoo village where at least 150 of its 4 000 residents were believed to have been lost in the weekend's devastating flood.

One of the most moving moments was provided

by Port Elizabeth businessman Mr Kobus Laine, who groped knee-deep in mud for 90 minutes yesterday in a desperate search for his mother.

Mrs Kitty Laine, 68, and her husband, Willy, 72, were last seen alive near the town's post office when the flash flood engulfed them.

'They found my father after he was washed up by floodwater. He died of a heart attack,' Mr Laine told Argus reporters as he dug through thick mud covering the front seat of his parents'

car which had been unearthed by bulldozer from under 2 m of mud.

But Mr Laine's search was in vain — he could not even find the couple's little dog in the kilograms of mud dug out of the vehicle.

WAY HOME

Many of the Laine couple's personal belongings were found in their car and it appeared that they were on their way home when they were struck by the floodwaters.

The boot held a suitcase full of clothes his father's electric razor,

carefully wrapped in a now muddied plastic bag. Inside the car was his mother's vanity case; a bible; a wallet and various other personal belongings.

Mr Laine told The Argus: 'I heard about the flood on Sunday and came here as fast as I could. I never thought that my parents would be dead.'

IN SECONDS

His aunt, Mrs Hester Theron, died within seconds of the flood hitting the town on Sunday.

The Laine couple had

lived in Laingsburg since 1971.

Another up-country resident who arrived to conduct a personal search was Mr Nel Haasbroek of Upington. He, too, was searching for his mother, Mrs Johanna 'Hansie' Haasbroek, 65.

One of the town's best known residents, she lived in the home for the aged which was washed away by raging water.

Mr Haasbroek, who was born in the village,

(Continued on Page 3, col 7)

Pregnant woman rescued by army has baby

Staff Reporter

LAINGSBURG. — A pregnant woman rescued from the hostel roof here last Sunday afternoon gave birth to a child yesterday in the Worcester Hospital, where she was taken after her ordeal.

The woman was in a party of 18 people who were trapped on the roof by the raging flood that devastated Laingsburg this week, and was saved in a most heroic rescue operation.

The hero of the story is 19-year-old Rifleman Peter de Witt, who placed himself at extreme risk according to military sources here.

CHEF

Rifleman de Witt, who comes from Cape Town, is an army chef based at the Beaufort West training base rushed here with Major Christo Hattingh, Lance Corporal J van Rensburg, 19, and Rifleman Andre Wichmann, 18, also of Cape Town.

When they arrived the water was still very high and Rifleman de Witt swam to the hostel with a rope. He attached the rope to the building and sent the men in the party into the water, spaced at regular intervals.

Then the women and children, including the pregnant woman and a two-year-old boy, were passed along the human chain, supported by the rope.

All were rescued.

Rifleman de Witt will be brought back to Laingsburg later today for a demonstration to the Press of the rescue operation.



PORT ELIZABETH businessman Mr Kobus Laine digs through the mud in his parents' motor car in Laingsburg in an attempt to find his mother. Earlier reports indicated that neither of Mr Laine's parents had been found. However, the body of his father was recovered from floodwaters. He had died of a heart attack. A bulldozer unearthed the car from under two metres of silt. (More pictures on Page 21.)

Search goes on

DD 29/1/81

56

for 113 victims

CAPE TOWN — By last night the bodies of 25 flash-flood disaster victims, most of them from Laingsburg, had been found — but 113 others who are known to be missing have not yet been recovered, alive or dead.

Thirteen of the bodies were recovered around Laingsburg, one at Herbertsdale on the Gouritz River, three at Vaalbank, near Ladysmith, and one along the Groot Brak River in the Mossel Bay district.

The remains of seven of the 14 people reported missing at Montagu have been found 20 km away.

A police spokesman at Laingsburg said yesterday although some of the bodies had been taken to Beaufort West, those which had been recently recovered, had been flown to Cape Town by helicopter.

A police list of Laingsburgers known to be dead and missing by yesterday provided

melancholy evidence of the swathe Sunday's flood cut through the little community.

In some cases the names of entire families appear. Many are those of married couples, and elderly people who vanished when the old age home was swept away.

A number of the people on the list are said to be alive, and Captain Eddie Snyman, the police liaison officer, appealed to anyone who is alive and on the list to report personally to the police.

One name was deleted yesterday — that of Mr J. Fourie, who was one of those who gathered yesterday to hear the list read aloud to surviving Laingsburgers.

Among the missing are two members of the Destroo family, one of the town's best-known clans. They were at dinner on Sunday when someone called on Mr Willem Destroo, a prominent local sheep farmer and former mayor, to help to evacuate residents from the flooded old age home.

Accompanied by his sister Suzanne, Mr Destroo drove out in his bakkie without a second thought and helped to bring 11 elderly people to safety. But Mr Destroo and his sister did not return from their mission of mercy.

Witnesses say the raging floodwaters trapped them on the roof of the old age home. They tried to climb on to a water tank, but it collapsed and they were swept away by the powerful current.

"But we were a beagle, his daughter, Mrs Rina Goldberg said yesterday. "We know my father went as he had lived — caring for the sick, the old and the poor of Laingsburg".
Meanwhile, mopping-up

operations were in full swing at Laingsburg yesterday as about 200 national service soldiers from Oudtshoorn set about the grim task of unearthing bodies trapped under several metres of the putrid silt that still cloaks most of the ruined town.

Troops dug through the mud-coated debris of wrecked homes, particularly those in the hardest-hit part — the residential area on the banks of the Buffels River. Seventeen kilometres below Laingsburg two teams of divers hunted in the swollen Floriskraal Dam for bodies. Rescue workers believe that most of the bodies of the drowned people had been swept down into the dam.

Yesterday afternoon the divers had recovered the bodies of an elderly couple.

Laingsburg basked in clear and hot weather yesterday as troops, police and rescue workers worked to restore some form of normality to the town.

A Laingsburg man yesterday described how looters rummaged through houses which had been deserted after Sunday's flood.

The man, who himself lost everything in the flood and who did not wish to be named, said that several of the town's residents had seen the looting but had felt unable to do anything about it.

He said that on Sunday afternoon when many of the houses had already been damaged by the first floods a bus with Transkei number plates stopped near the houses.

"The passengers were like vultures going through people's houses and taking radios, tape recorders and so on.—DDC.
More flood reports,
Page 8.

Prize

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P F Dunckley

Sixth Year

For the best student in :-
of Architects, Prize

Cape Provincial Institute

ARCHITECTURE

FINE ART & ARCHITECTURE

Railways face huge freight backlog

By Kevin Murray and Richard Paris

Thousands of tons of rail freight are building up at major centres throughout South Africa every day in the wake of the Karoo flood disaster.

Railway workers battling to repair the lines washed away in the floods this week are unlikely to restore Cape Town's rail links with the rest of the country before Monday.

And now railway officials have placed a total embargo on perishable goods and livestock going to or coming from Cape Town.

"We simply cannot cope with any fresh produce or livestock at the moment," said a spokesman for the Railways.

On Tuesday the Railways cancelled all train services using the main Johannesburg-Cape Town rail line.

BLOCKED

"Every day thousands of tons of freight are building up at centres throughout the country," said the spokesman.

Most of the freight is for the domestic market, but a fair percentage is destined for overseas markets and could be held up for as much as two weeks.

The spokesman said the backlog — in the Transvaal, Natal, the Orange Free State and SWA/Namibia — could take a week to clear.

The main line to Johannesburg had been washed away in about 21 places by the floods which hit Laingsburg on Sunday. Mr Kobus Loubser, general manager of the Railways, said.

Officials estimated they would need 2 000 trucks of gravel to repair the 230-km portion of damaged track in the Little Karoo.

REPAIRS

A huge repair workforce was doing shift work around the clock to effect repairs as quickly as possible.

Estimates are at this stage that the line will be partially opened this weekend.

Cargo was moving to towns where the line is broken, from the Reef and from Cape Town, but that is as far as it could go, said the spokesman.

The embargo on livestock and fresh produce would have little effect on meat and produce markets around the country, spokesmen for these industries said today.

The Post Office announced today telegrams to some towns in the stricken area would be delayed indefinitely, Sapa reports.

Lines were being tested continuously and people in the affected towns would be informed as soon as the service was restored.

Woman has baby after flood rescue

LAINGSBURG — A pregnant woman rescued from the hostel roof here on Sunday afternoon yesterday gave birth to a child in the Worcester hospital where she was taken after her ordeal.

The woman was with 18 other people who were trapped on the roof by the raging flood.

She was saved in one of the most heroic rescue operations yet staged.

The hero of the story is Rifleman Peter de Witt, (19) of Cape Town, who "placed himself at extreme risk" according to military sources here. He is an army chef based at the Beaufort West training base.

Digging in the mud for mother's body

STAR 29/1/81 (56)

Own Correspondent

LAINGSBURG — A Port Elizabeth businessman, Mr Kobus Laine, stood knee deep in mud for an hour and a half yesterday, digging for his mother's body.

Mrs Kitty Laine and her husband Willy were among the 150 victims of Sunday's devastating flood which brought grief-stricken families flocking to Laingsburg from all over South Africa.

While police were still announcing the names of the missing and the dead, Mr Laine was frantically trying to establish whether his mother was in her car which had been partially unearthed by a bulldozer under 2 m of mud.

HEART ATTACK

Willy Laine (72) and his wife (68) were last seen alive near the Laingsburg Post Office when the flood came roaring down the Buffels River valley.

"They found my father after he had been washed up by the flood. He said died of a heart attack," Mr Laine told me as he groped through the mud in the front seat of his parents' car.

Mr Laine's search was in vain, and hopes that he might at least find his

parents' little dog came to nothing as the car was emptied of mud by police and volunteer helpers.

Everything else was in the vehicle, however, including Mrs Laine's shoe, and it seemed that she and her husband had been on their way out of Laingsburg when their car was swept away.

In the boot was a travelling case full of

clothes.

Mr Laine pulled out his father's electric razor, wrapped neatly in a mud-died plastic bag. His mother's vanity case, a bible, a wallet and various personal belongings were also found.

The couple had been in Laingsburg since 1971. They disappeared together with Kobus Laine's aunt, Hesther Theron.

Looters warned they will be shot

Own Correspondent

LAINGSBURG — Some Laingsburg residents have threatened to shoot anyone who loots buildings or homes devastated by Sunday's flood.

And visitors, workers and those not directly involved with the tragedy have been careful not to take anything from the streets.

Although police received complaints of looting in the village today, belongings of the dead and the living were being left alone as the search for bodies continued.

Mr J D Jordaan who climbed to the roof of his house when the flood waters came on Sunday

said today: "I must warn these looters that if they come again we will shoot them."

When the waters subsided after the flood Mr Jordaan saw some people rush into the Standard Bank building looking for money that had been swept away.

"We don't want these people scrounging around," said Mr Jordaan.

"They are not concerned with the flood and it does not affect them."

"We must work together in this town now to restore what we have lost," one woman said. "We cannot allow people to take the little that is left."

Mop-up teams swing into action

MONTAGU — The big mop-up is continuing in the flood-stricken districts of Montagu, Robertson and Ashton.

Escom and Post Office teams worked virtually through the night to restore smashed power lines and to reconnect telephone lines.

At Ashton, which bore the brunt of the weekend floods, police, assisted by Defence Force units, have so far dug up seven bodies. Seven residents were still unaccounted for yesterday.

The town remained without power and telephone services.

The 9 km stretch of road between Montagu and Ashton was still closed to traffic yesterday afternoon. Visitors to Montagu had to make a 160 km detour to reach the town.

Railway gangs were working at full speed to repair sections of lines between Worcester and Ashton.

Salvation Army groups were still arriving at

Laingsburg yesterday afternoon, amid a rush by the public from all over SA to aid the flood victims.

CROPS RUINED

More than 15 000 ha of prime farmland has disappeared in the once fertile Gouritz Valley.

The overflowing Touws and Buffels Rivers poured millions of tons of mud and sand into the Gouritz Valley, leaving deposits of up to six metres on lucerne, wheat and sweet-corn crops.

When the Gouritz River poured through its famous gorge — it was spanned by the highest Victorian trestle bridge in South Africa — its water rose an incredible 20 m before swamping 10 000 ha of irrigated farmland and grazing in the Voëlvlei basin.

Last night vast stretches of irrigated lucerne and other crops were still under water and large flocks of sheep were cut off on islands, without grazing. — Sapa.

Animals remembered

Own Correspondent

In the midst of the human suffering in the Karoo floods, a Pretoria society has turned its attention to the plight of animals in the devastated area.

The animal Anti-cruelty League in Pretoria is the first in the country to launch a disaster fund for the stricken animals of the flooded regions.

Money can be sent direct to the Disaster Emergency Fund Karoo via the Senior Manager, Volkskas, Adderley Street, Cape Town, and all funds sent for the animal victims will be used for this purpose. The fund is Government controlled.

Some start to smile through the tears

Own Correspondent
LAINGSBURG — People here are starting to smile again as their devastated village is being restored to some semblance of normality.

In the local bars which are closed during the daily church services held at 6 pm, people are starting to laugh over a couple of drinks, but others are huddled together in a corner of the room, crying.

There was a reunion on a helicopter yesterday when Mr Lodiwikus Erasmus and his family were picked up on their stranded farm where they have been since Sunday.

DESTROYED

On board were other farmers and there was joy in their faces as they embraced.

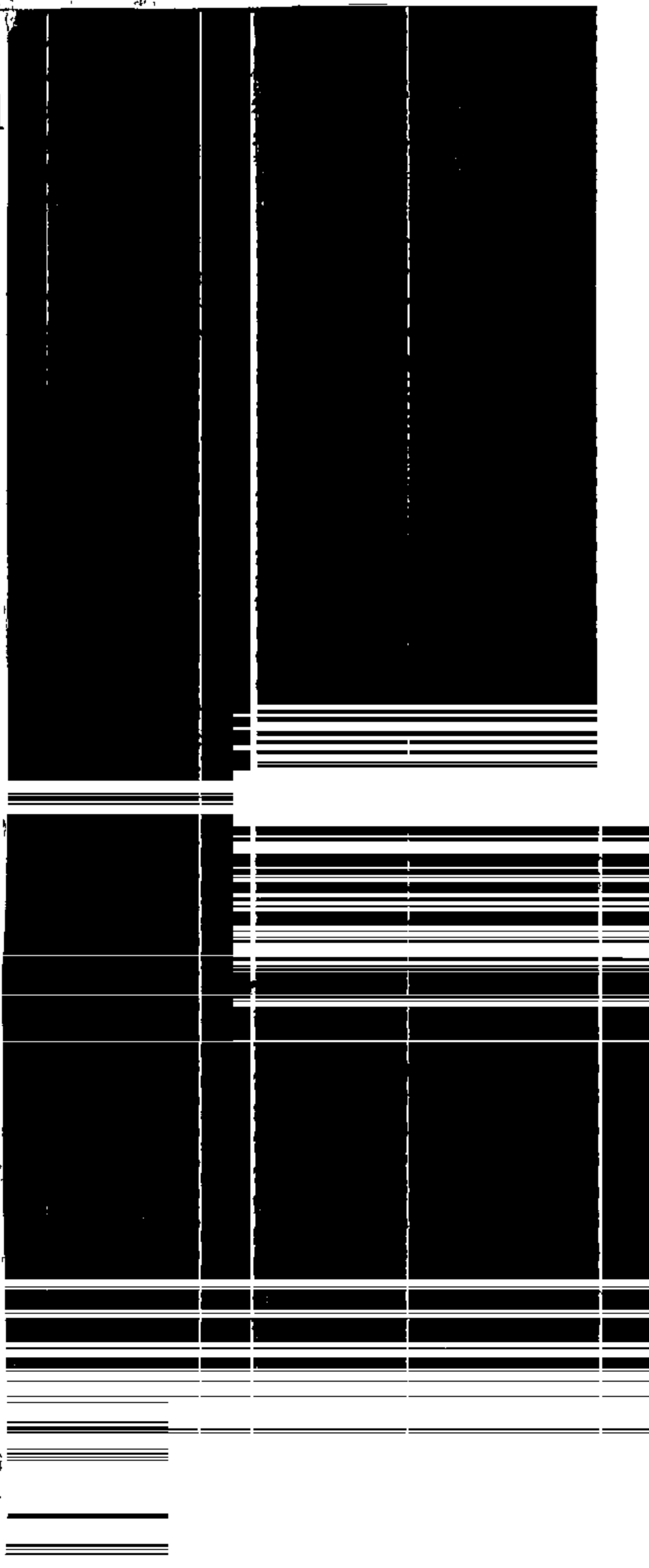
Mr Erasmus said his fruit crop had been destroyed.

Another farmer on the helicopter, Mr Hendrik Botes, lost his mother Mrs Nonnie Botes. She was one of the old age home residents who were swept away.

Mr Botes had left his farm on foot to get to Laingsburg. He crossed the swollen Buffels River in a small boat.

A farmer in a car found him and brought him into Laingsburg where he heard about his mother.

Relief work in Laingsburg is continuing. Emergency supplies and clothing are pouring in from all over South Africa.



Flood heroes saluted

57c 28/1/64

His Lainsburg hotel has become a refuge for shaken and homeless people who have lost everything but the clothes they wear. He is supplying clothes, food and drink free.

Mr Hart went back to his hotel from hospital late yesterday with a broken leg and abrasions after being swept 15 km down the Buffels River.

He spent an hour on Sunday pulling five elderly people through the rafters of the town's old-age home as the floodwaters swirled around them.

With him was a central figure in the flood drama who is being hailed as one of the town's dead heroes.

By Iain Macdonald and Sapa

Aid for the people of Lainsburg is pouring in from all parts of the country.

Individuals, firms, organisations, town councils and the Government have rallied to help the people whose town has virtually died.

Response to the Government's Disaster Relief Fund, set up yesterday to help victims of the Karoo floods was "immediate and overwhelming" according to a spokesman.

PRAYERS

He was dominee Malan Jacobs who knelt in prayer with people on the roof of the old age home shortly before it collapsed under floodwaters.

A resident, Aletha van Rensburg said: "Dominee Jacobs is a real hero in this town today. He always put others before himself."

Dominee Jacobs assisted in pulling the old people on to the roof. He then led the group in prayers as houses surrounding the old-age home started collapsing under the floodwaters.

"He was totally oblivious of his own safety," said Mr Hart. "He asked God to have the faith in us as we had had in Him all our lives."

"Then the old-age home collapsed and it was every man for himself."

A tale of heroism concerns a black man whom residents know only as George. He ran backwards and forwards from the Floriskraal dam to various points of safety ferrying survivors on his back right through Sunday night and Monday.

"This man deserves a gold medal," Mr Hart said. "So too does Mr Colenso van Wyk, a father, who at great risk to his own safety spent Sunday and Monday rescuing people from drowning in the dam."

Mr Hart like most of the surviving residents of Lainsburg was still in a numb with shock but thankful to be alive today. "It just wasn't my time," he said.

SA rallies to the aid of a dying Lainsburg

57c 28/1/64

to a Government spokesman in Cape Town today. More than R80 000 had already been subscribed and contributions were pouring in.

A special Disaster Relief Fund has been set up by the Department of Health to co-ordinate relief measures.

City Council yesterday agreed at its monthly meeting to a grant of R50 000.

Isacor has decided to give R25 000, a spokesman for the corporation said in Pretoria today.

Dr Kris Jooste, chief commissioner of the First Aid League, said yesterday the league would contribute R10 000 relief aid for the Lainsburg area.

The Cape Natal Shipping Line has offered to contribute five percent of all sea freight collected during the next 30 days on cargo shipped from Cape Town to Durban and Port Elizabeth.

R10 000 has been given by The Argus in Cape Town to the Disaster Fund in response to an appeal by the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw.

The mayor of Randfontein, Mr Jimmy Kitshing, has started a chain of fund-raising events. His own pocket The Mayor's fund with R1 000 from his own pocket. The Town Council has also donated R1 000.

CONCLID BETWEEN THE PROJECT

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Fixed Assets	Current Assets	Liabilities	Current Liabilities
Land & buildings Plant Equipment Head-office vehicles	Cash Contracts in progress Retention Inventory Trade debtors Loan levy	Site plant and v Site equipment,	Accounts payable Subcontractors payable Bank overdraft Provisions for tax & others Long-term loans Owners' equity

hundred of funds had poured in. Many local firms made out large cheques.

The Bethel Round Table yesterday asked all townfolk to give household goods to the flood victims.

Noordwes-Kooperasie, an agricultural co-operative with headquarters at Lelieburg, has donated R10 000.

SA RALLIES TO THE AID OF A DYING LAINSBURG

The SA Vroue Federasie has also launched a relief operation. And the Dr R. Ventter, has appealed to all members and all women's organisations in the Transvaal to combine forces in an emergency operation.

This of food, sweets and chocolates are urgently needed, the organisation said and those who want to help can telephone Mrs B. J. Behr in Pretoria at (012) 26-9855, or at (012) 646-333 or (012) 57-3366 after hours.

An emergency fund has been established by the mayor of Rustenburg, Dr J. J. Nel.

The South African Council of Churches has given R5 000.

Members of the Gold of Beem Round Table Club of Beem, rolled up their sleeves and worked throughout last night for Lainsburg families.

The multifunctional Rank Xerox, has given R1 000 for the victims.

The people of Beers collected about R1 000 in the past two hours.

The fund launched by the Northern Transvaal Rugby Union has received two second-hand cars.

Family of eight died in Cape floods

S-TAR
28/1/81
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Own Correspondent
A Montagu family of eight may have been killed by the raging flood that devastated the Kesie River Valley early this week.

It is believed the entire Scheepers family, who lived in Brown Street, were swept away with their house when "the wall of water as high as a tree" thundered down the valley. So far police have found the bodies of Mr Johannes Scheepers and three of his children, aged 11, seven and four. The bodies were found more than 10 km downstream beyond Ashton.

Police have also found the bodies of two white women and two white children — one of them a three year old boy — and a total of five whites have been reported missing so far.

Two of the women were holidaying in a caravan at the warm baths complex on the Touws River side of the village when the flood struck, washing away 10 caravans, and annihilating the complex.

Mr Amos van Zyl, manager of the municipal facility was one of the few who saw the disastrous

Relief fund warning

Individual contributions to the disaster fund for the relief of the people of Laingsburg can be sent to: Disaster Relief Fund, Private Bag X63, Pretoria.

A spokesman for the Director of Fund Raising has warned that companies who wish to collect as a body on behalf of the flood victims should telephone the directorate at 012-283156, or 012-393111 to receive a fundraising number and the necessary authority to collect.

The spokesman said companies could collect while a number was being posted to them. See Page 3 for details of relief effort.

flood approaching down the broad Kesie Valley, bringing with it trees, debris and megatons of silt that had fallen from the Koo and Wabooms mountains.

"The river broke its banks earlier in the afternoon and just after five the first flash flood came. We went out and parked our cars closer to the building and then this 4m wall of water suddenly came thundering towards us."

"I saw it crash through the caravan park and then it struck the abutment block and tore it away."

"The next minute water and branches and rocks burst through the windows of the hotel and the caravans and cars rolled down the river," he said.

The water and debris rushed through the lounge and the dining room 2 metres deep and yesterday the cash register was dug from more than 1 metre of mud inside the building.

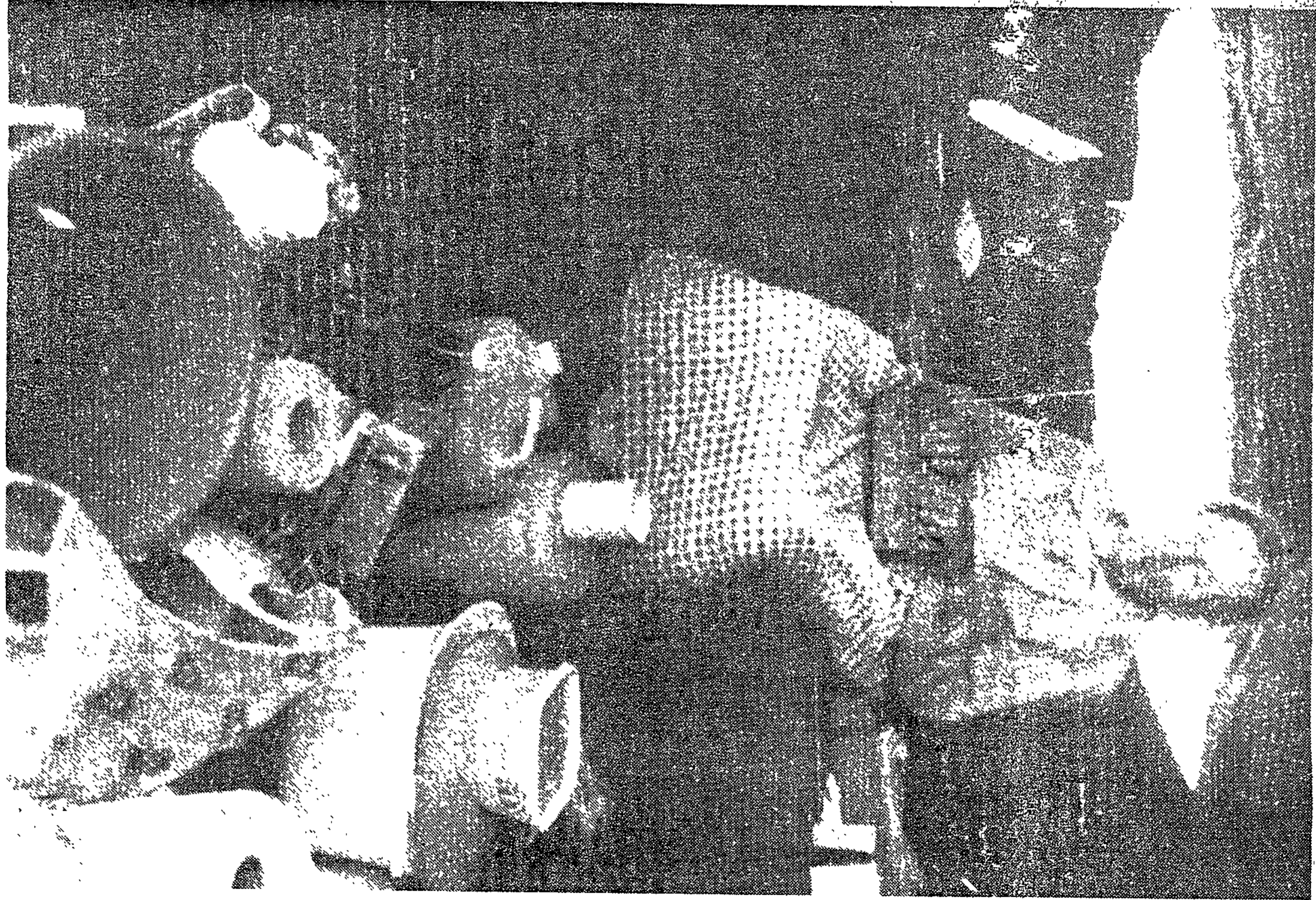
Virtually nothing remains of the complex, once the proudest possession of the Montagu municipality.

Laingsburg started counting her own heroes and digging for her dead today as help poured in from all over South Africa.

While the death toll is now expected to be at least 150 with more than 130 bodies either buried in mud or drowned — the bewildered town's spirit was being held together by the courage of half a dozen men.

Three swimming pools and the entire warm baths building have vanished, and banks of mud now cover the landscaped gardens. The complex was a "write off" according to insurance brokers.

At the bridge with its bent H-frames and torn concrete, a white man and his child had been washed away while trying to cross in a car — watched by the man's wife. To Page 3, Col 1



Clutching her only possession, a transistor radio, this 90-year-old woman survived the deluge at Laingsburg — but the pain of the terror-filled hours among the swirling floodwaters is written deep on her wrinkled face. More than anyone, she depicts the full horror of the tragedy which overcame a group of the town's old-age pensioners, many of whom were washed off the roof of the old age home and drowned.

'Set to become a ghost town'

Own Correspondent and Sapa

The devastated Karoo village of Laingsburg looks set to become a ghost town. Survivors are talking of a "great trek" to other areas, as few want to build destroyed houses and houses.

Laingsburg, they say, can never be restored. People are talking of making a new start in other towns and Beaufort West looks like the town most likely to be called on to absorb the refugees.

"There is no use staying here. It will take months to clear up everything and our property is now not worth 10 cents," said one flood survivor now housed in the tent village at the rugby fields.

Miss Linda Jordaan (23) said her parents no longer wanted to remain. Manageress of the Grand Hotel, Mrs Jenny Hart, said the "future" looked bleak.

Laingsburg before the flood was already dormant — now with businesses destroyed and no industry in the town — the death knell has sounded.

The remaining three businesses in the town and the two hotels may not be able to survive financially.

Mr Janie Zietsman, a farmer in the Alberta district said damage must amount to "millions and millions of rand. We lost our sheep, our lands, our implements, our irrigation pumps — everything — and a number of houses were damaged."

A Maritime Command aircraft has been asked to keep a special watch for a big "oil slick" sighted off the Knysna coast early today. Anti-pollution experts said they were almost positive the slick was made up of debris flushed down to the sea by the flood-swollen rivers.

EDITORIAL OPINION

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Laingsburg disaster

South Africa's fickle weather has been in capricious mood. After subjecting vast tracts of the country to scorching drought for months, it has now inundated some of these same areas with devastating floods.

The story of Laingsburg, at the western end of the Great Karoo, and some towns across the mountains in the Little Karoo, is horrifying.

Homes have been washed away, roads and bridges destroyed, perhaps as many as 200 people killed, and crops and livestock lost. The damage will run into millions of rands.

The authorities have been quick to react. Rescue teams are working round the clock, doing their utmost to bring food and shelter, to aid the injured and the bereaved and perform the gruesome duty of locating bodies buried in mud and tangled in the debris of collapsed homes and trees washed down swollen rivers.

The government has declared the worst-afflicted towns as disaster areas. We trust that this foreshadows rapid action by the appropriate departments to get on with the work of restoration and rehabilitation.

Let there be no red tape. Funds will be needed and a Parliament in session is able — and we are sure, willing —

to vote any supplementary sums that are called for.

We welcome, too, public expressions of oneness in this time of calamity by public figures like the Mayor of East London, Mr Card, who has called for support for an East London Laingsburg fund. The amount of money raised measured against what will be needed, might be small, but that is not important.

What is important is the demonstration to the people of Laingsburg and the other afflicted areas that all South Africa is thinking of them and is anxious to help in this moment of agony.

Two other points. The first is that the disaster of Laingsburg is bizarre proof that, notwithstanding our technological marvels for weather forecasting, we cannot always be warned in time. A national organisation to deal with such calamities must always be at the ready.

The second is that Government should look again at the repeated warnings given by ecologists against the danger of building homes, even townships, on flood plains. This is open defiance of nature — with consequences which, sooner or later, are inevitable.

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize
For the best...

P A Rappoport

For the best student in :-
1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.

Helen Gardner Travel Prize
For a student who has

P F Dunckley

Sixth Year

Cape Provincial Institute
of Architects' Prize
For the best student in :-

ARCHITECTURE

FINE ART & ARCHITECTURE

Operation mop-up

CAPE TOWN — Operations to clear up the devastation caused by floods in the Karoo and Southern Cape went ahead at "full-steam" yesterday.

About 30 bodies have been found, while it is feared as many as 200 people might have died.

At Laingsburg, where most of the damage was caused, at least 150 people were still missing and damage to the town is estimated at R12 million.

A landing place for helicopters has been established near the town, and a rugby field has been turned into a camping site for people left roofless. Various local service organisations have taken charge of the destitute.

Bulldozers are busy scraping away the 3 m deep layer of mud from Laingsburg's Main Street. Traffic police have put a cordon around the business centre to prevent looting.

Meanwhile, a military convoy of 27 vehicles has left Cape Town for the town with kitchen units,

water tanks, toilets, washing-up facilities and other conveniences.

One of the inhabitants of the town, Mr Josef Lerus said yesterday he had drifted about 15 km down the swollen Buffels River clinging to a 50 kg gas bottle.

He said he clung to the bottle and prayed most of the time during his ordeal.

Six bulldozers are being used to remove the mud and rubble in the town. The Cape Administration and private contractors are also assisting with equipment.

Fifteen bodies have been recovered from the mud at Laingsburg and navy divers will soon inspect the Floris Kraal Dam about 20 km from the town, where the bodies of more victims are expected to be found. Two policemen are among the victims.

Other known deaths are nine people in Ashton, near Robertson, washed away by the flooded Kogmans River; eight people in the flooding of the Keisie River at Montagu; and two in flooding near Beaufort West — beside the 22 or 23 old peo-

ple swept away from the old age home in Laingsburg.

The question is now being asked whether Laingsburg will rise again.

Lorries, bakkies and cars, heavily laden with furniture can be seen leaving on the eastward route out of the town. Many of them may not return.

A senior medical spokesman at the tent town was not optimistic.

"People believe the town is finished, those I've spoken to but they have to make a new life somewhere else."

The mayor of the stricken town, Mr J. J. Ellis, had a different view however. "You were speaking to the people of the past, not the future. We are going to build a new town in the same place. People can't move away, the church is here, their belongings are here. The people will stay."

The medical officer said that there are few totally helpless people. "It was all or nothing in the flood," he said.

"People don't know where to go or what to do. They just sit there looking

numb. All the people I spoke to were still dazed.

"Wives and children are being taken out of the town — we have had many offers of accommodation from outlying areas, but I feel a lot of them will not be back."

A civil defence worker, Mrs S. A. Conradie, is more optimistic. "Ons is boere en ons staan waar ons staan," she said.

"In three weeks the school will be open and in a month business will be underway again."

The Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr Danie Steyn, who flew by helicopter to the town yesterday said: "Although the situation is catastrophic and the houses beyond repair, the government will restore people to the position they were in before the flood."

Some 11 bodies have been found at the Floris Kraal Dam.

The dam, which was nearly empty before last weekend, overflowed at one stage and its sluices had to be opened. The dam has a wall about 26 m high and the main body of water behind it stretches back for 7 km. — SAPA-DDC.

Editorial opinion, page 10.

Aid pours in for victims

CAPE TOWN — National response to the government's disaster relief fund set up yesterday to help victims of the Karoo floods was "immediate and overwhelming" according to a government spokesman, with more than R60 000 already subscribed and further amounts in cash and kind pouring in by the hour.

Government and other welfare agencies moved quickly in the wake of the disaster news from Laingsburg and other areas, and by noon had set up organised relief collection and supply points.

The Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, announced that a cabinet committee under the chairmanship of the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr L. Munnik, had been formed to give urgent attention to the needs of the disaster areas.

In a statement issued after the first meeting of the committee yesterday, Dr Munnik said a team of experts in liaison with the state department involved had already begun an assessment of loss and damage.

Several Border towns have also started relief funds and offered help for the victims of flood-devastated Laingsburg.

A ten year memory of flooding lingers on and East Londoners are opening up their hearts and wallets to help the flood devastated areas.

The destruction of Laingsburg by torrential rainstorms has evoked

sympathy from city residents who have responded rapidly to the city's Karoo flood relief fund.

Up to yesterday afternoon R210 from 13 donors had been received by the Mayor's secretary, Mr Sandy Johnston, who is in charge of the relief fund.

Both Mr Johnston and the Border office of the South African Red Cross Society report they have received numerous queries.

The Red Cross is accepting donations of cash and gifts in kind and say they would welcome blankets and clothing.

Checkers supermarkets are also collecting cash for flood relief.

Two volunteers who offered to help collect money for the Mayor's relief fund, Mrs S. W. Alberts, of 15 Grogan Street, Amalinda, and Mr N. V. Krull, a member of the Berlin Advisory Board of Agbro, Berlin, have been given letters of authority from the Mayor, Mr Donald Card, to collect money for the fund.

The fund has been registered with the National Disaster Fund in Pretoria and all donations to the local fund will be paid into a special account in Cape Town.

Mr Johnston said cheques to the fund should be made out to the City Treasurer and marked Mayor's Karoo flood relief fund.

Mr Johnston added that he expected many more donations today as cheques start coming in. — DDR



A Laingsburg woman, after slipping and sliding through the mud of the Main Street stops at a puddle to clean her shoes.



A bulldozer digs deep into the thousands of tons of silt that covers Laingsburg.

DD. 28/1/81 (56)

Mothers and babies swept away

LAINGSBURG — Two mothers with their babies, both under two years old, were seen by eyewitnesses desperately hanging on to lamp posts in the Main Street here as the floods hit this Karoo town on Sunday afternoon.

Children on the roof of the school hostel, including Deon van der Colff, who is in Std. 2, told yesterday how they saw people and animals being swept along the streets without being able to help.

The two mothers and their babies, who have not been identified, are on the missing persons list.

Deon, 12, said teachers at the Laingsburg School told them to break through the ceiling and climb on to the roof when the water was up to the windows on the first floor at about 5 p.m. on Sunday.

All the children gathered on the roof, but one youngster is still missing. He apparently went to the old age home to assist with the rescue operation there — 21 of the 30 elderly are still unaccounted for.

The houses on five streets were completely swept away and the debris and trees, some topped with cars or caravans four metres in the air, are the only evidence that it had been a residential area.

A total of 250 police and Defence Force members are taking part in the mop-up operations under the control of Brigadier D. K. Genis, the divisional commissioner of police for the South Western Districts.

The raging floods caught Laingsburg residents completely unawares.

The mayor, Mr Koos Ellis, said yesterday: "In 1971 and 1976, as well as six weeks ago, the houses nearest the Buffels Rivier were flooded after heavy rains. But we did not regard it as very serious and the water subsided within a few hours.

"On Sunday, the weather followed the same pattern. It started raining on Friday, just a gentle drizzle, but on Saturday the water started pouring down and by 6 p.m. I measured about 50 mm. The rain never stopped during Saturday night and on Sunday the level had increased to about 65 mm.

"At 8 a.m. I noticed that the water was running stronger and at 1 p.m. the houses nearest the river were flooded — the same as six weeks ago.

"But this time the level did not drop and at 2 p.m. houses in De Villiers and Krige Streets were full of water, and in another half an hour the houses in Meiring Street were also flooded.

"We then decided to take the people out of the old age home which was closest to the river and definitely in danger.

"Only one rescue attempt in a bakkie was possible, however. About eight residents were removed and when the driver returned for a second lot, Laingsburg was suddenly flooded from the north.

"Water came streaming down the town's streets and it was immediately decided to ask for help from Ysterplaat. But because of the stormy weather, they could not help us.

"We then contacted Oudtshoorn, but before they could reply the switchboard operators had to evacuate their building.

"By 6 p.m. the water was at its peak. It gushed through the town and just took away everything in its path.

No official list of the dead and missing has yet been released, but Mr Ellis said a number of prominent citizens were still missing.

Among them were the deputy mayor, Mr F. C. Smith, and a former mayor, Mr F. W. Destroo, who were serving council members.

Mr Ellis said most of the 12 bodies so far recovered were found in the region of Floriskraal Dam, a distance of 17 km from here.

"One of the people missing, presumed drowned, in floodwaters which struck Montagu at the weekend, is Colonel Johan "Jurie" van Rooyen, a former head of the Railway Police in the Eastern Cape.

He left his home by car on Sunday night to warn caravanners at a caravan park where he was manager.

He did not return home.

Col Van Rooyen, who was born in Somerset East and educated at Gill College, joined the Railway Police in 1938.

During World War II he served in the Eighth Brigade in North Africa and Italy from May 1941 to April 1944. — SAPA-DDC.

Jo'burg is to test recycling of rubbish

RDM 28/1/81

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By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

THE first fullscale attempt in South Africa to recycle domestic refuse will be launched in Johannesburg next week.

In a 13-week experiment to test whether recycling will be practicable householders in Norwood will be asked to separate certain domestic refuse from the rest.

The chairman of the city council's health and environmental committee, Major Danie Opperman, said yesterday that he had high hopes the scheme would be a success, and appealed to the suburb's residents to throw their weight behind the project.

Householders will today receive their normal council refuse bags — and two extra green ones for materials which might possibly be recyclable.

They will be asked to put paper, glass, plastics and tins into the two green containers, and the rest of their rubbish into the usual refuse bin liners.

Next Wednesday — the nor-

mal collection day in Norwood — the council will collect the ordinary refuse bags, and a second truck will collect the green bags.

The experiment is being conducted jointly by the council, the Co-ordinating Committee for the Recycling of Solid Wastes, and the private sector.

Maj Opperman — who launched the publicity campaign yesterday for the project — said Norwood had been chosen for the experiment because it was a compact suburb and close to a refuse collection depot.

He also believed the people of Norwood — a popular area in Johannesburg — would participate in the project.

The results of the scheme will be monitored regularly and residents will be given a feedback on its success.

After 13 weeks, the experiment will be carefully analysed, and if there are firm indications that the scheme can be practicable in Johannesburg it will be continued and intro-

duced in other areas.

Johannesburg's city engineer, Mr Eric Hall, said that if the scheme was not successful "we won't give up".

"Our approach is that we should not waste valuable material," said Mr Hall.

An analysis of domestic refuse has shown that 52% of it can be recycled.

The chairman of the committee to co-ordinate the recycling Mr Emil Adler, said yesterday that the value of recyclable solid wastes was about R30-million a year.

Once the recyclable goods have been collected, they will be taken to a central point and sorted out manually.

The experiment could not be conducted under the present refuse collection system because recyclable materials would be contaminated by waste which rots.

Maj Opperman said the success of the project depended largely on the support and participation of the public.

LAINGSBURG

THE death toll in the flood-devastated Karoo and Southern Cape has risen to 30 and there are fears that the total could reach 200.

In Laingsburg, worst hit by the weekend's freak floods, members of the military continued to pour in to aid in the search for survivors and bodies, and a start was made on the mammoth task of clearing the tons of mud, which in some places is roof high.

South African Railways has cancelled all train services using the main Johannesburg/Cape Town line until Friday.

In Cape Town, it was announced that the State President, Mr Marais Viljoen, had set up a relief fund for the flood-stricken

areas, while the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, had appointed a Cabinet committee to assess the damage.

About 30 bodies were recovered by yesterday and at least 150 are still missing. Some of the bodies were found in the Floris Kraal Dam — 17km from Laingsburg.

They included the body of the two-year-old son of a policeman who disappeared during the flood. Another policeman was swept away while trying to help people who were too scared to move from the Burfels River bridge when water started flowing over it.

The Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr Danie Steyn, who flew over Laingsburg in a helicopter yesterday, said: "Although the situation is catastrophic and the houses beyond repair, the Government will restore people to the position they were in before the flood."

But the town's mayor, Mr J J Ellis, said: "We are hopeful. We have courage. But it is doubtful if out of this chaos we can build a town."

A landing place for helicopters has been established near the town, and a rugby field has been turned into a camping site for people left homeless. Various local service organisations have taken charge of the destitute.

A military convoy of 27 vehicles left from Cape Town yesterday with kitchen units, water tanks, toilets, washing-up facilities and other conveniences.

Meanwhile JEREMY BROOKS reports that the weekend rains disrupted road, rail, radio and telephone communications right across the country and repair crews have mounted an enormous effort to re-establish links.

Railways Officials estimated that they would need more than 2 000 trucks of gravel alone to repair the 230-km portion of damaged track in the Little Karoo.

An SAR spokesman said the cancellation of train services also included all goods trains and the Railways was no longer accepting livestock or perishable goods which had to be railed to the affected areas.

He said technicians working round the clock had managed to open the line from Mossel Bay as far as Riversdale, and a bus service from Cape Town to Riversdale had been introduced as an emergency measure.

Passengers should contact their nearest reservation offices for full refunds. Other passengers, such as those on the Blue Trains and the Trans-Karoo Expresses, would be flown to their destinations.

A South African Airways spokesman said SAA would do everything in its power to accommodate passengers who had to fly instead of travel by rail. An extra flight from Cape Town had been made on Monday night and other flights were being re-routed where possible.

In another development yesterday, the Post Office made an urgent appeal to the Air Force for helicopters to drop supplies of diesel fuel at isolated microwave transmitter stations.

These stations, which are used for long-distance communication, have been drawing power from their own generators after their Escorn supply was disrupted.

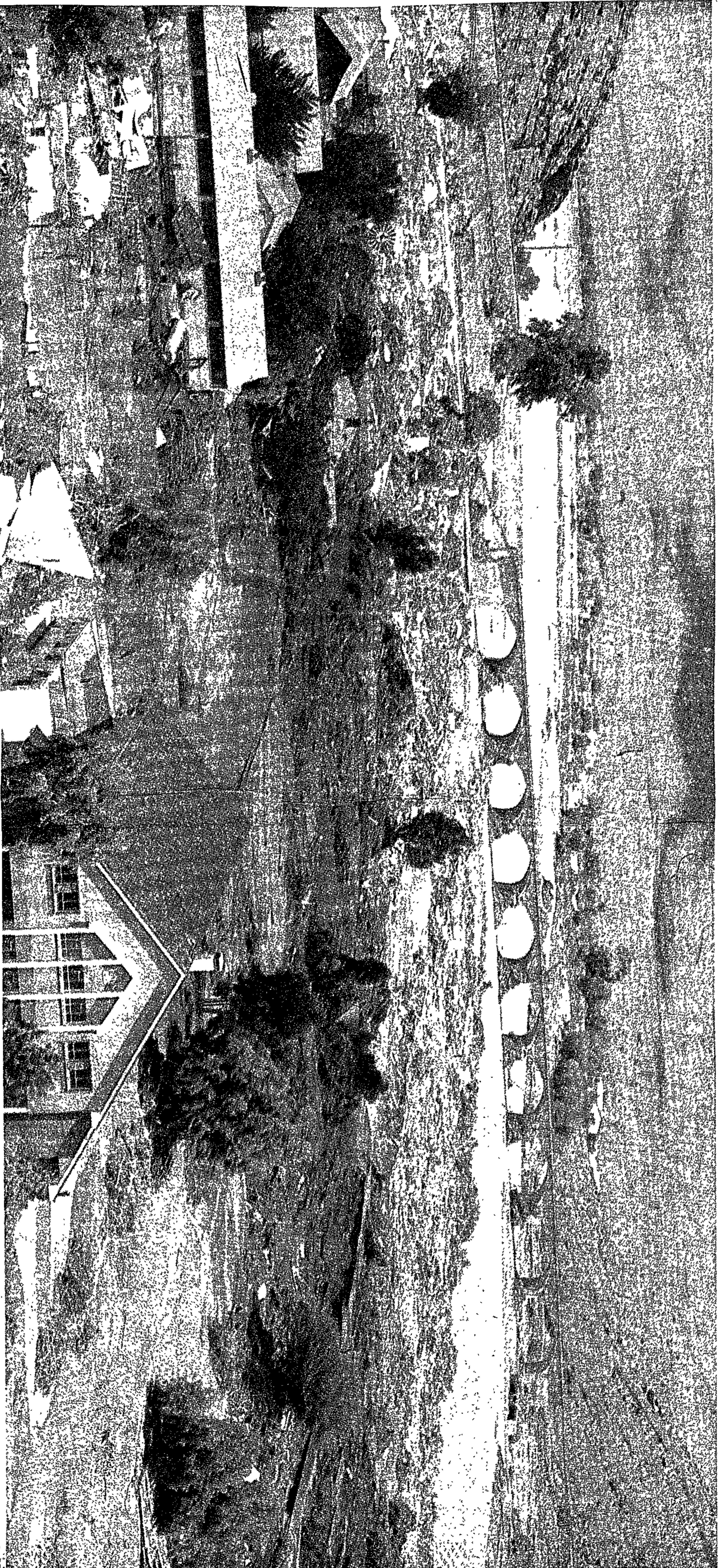
Telephone lines were cut in the Cape, Orange Free State, and the Transvaal.

Links in the Cape which were affected were those between Worcester and Robertson, George and Knysna, George and Mossel Bay, and Mossel Bay and Albertina. A few lines to Laingsburg had been restored but all calls had to be booked and subscribers were unable to use direct dialling, a Post office spokesman said.

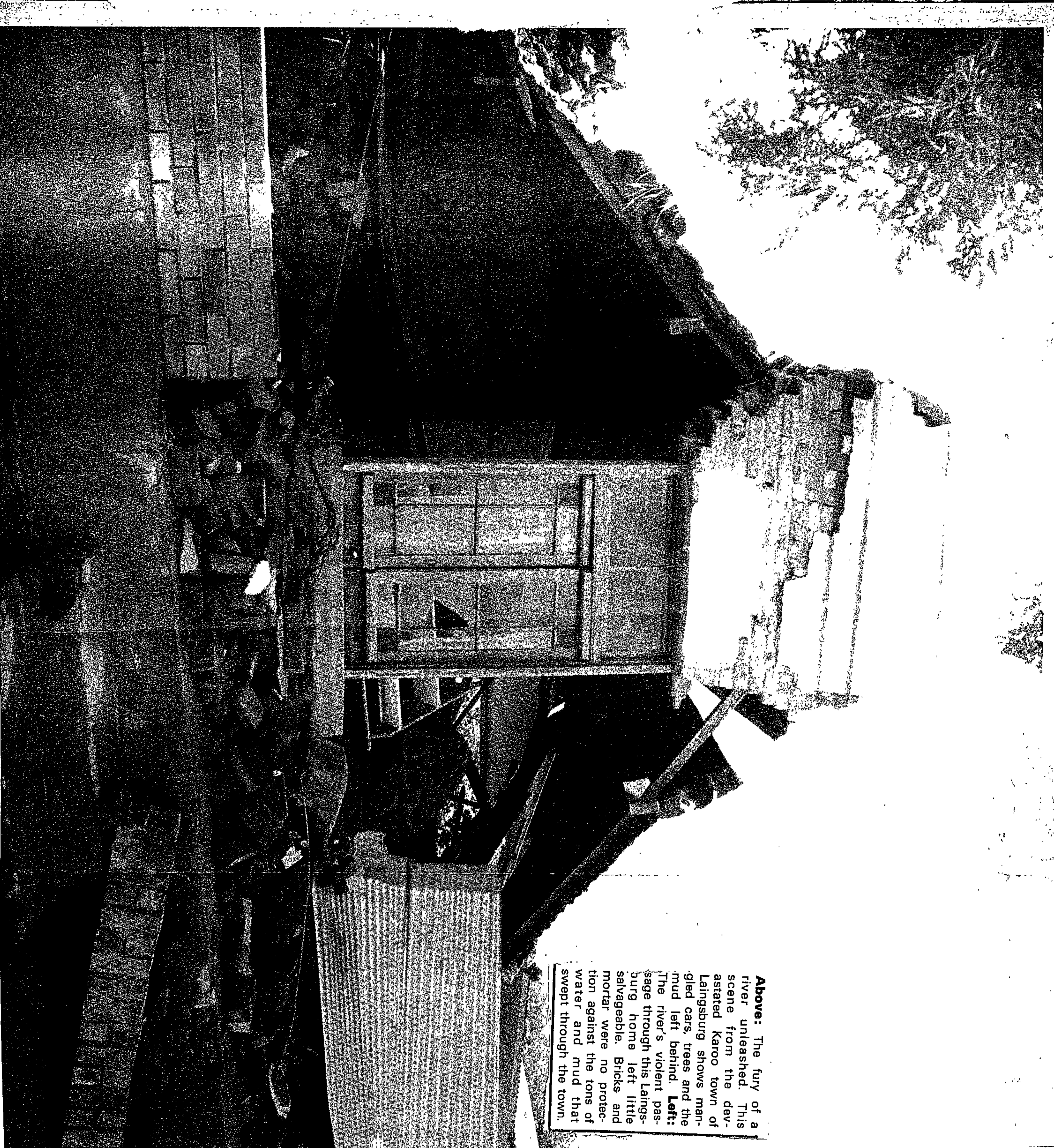
In the Eastern Transvaal, weather disrupted the main lines between Sabie and Burke's Luck, Sabie and Graskop, and Graskop and Nelspruit.

The spokesman said that feedback reports on how repairs were progressing were almost impossible to get as the various work teams were unable to communicate with each other and head office. — Sapa, Own Correspondent.

30 flood deaths — ⁽⁵⁶⁾
281181
RBM
big clean-up starts



An aerial view of all that remains of the Laingsburg suburb that borders the Buffalo River. This suburb was almost totally devastated in the flood.



Above: The fury of a river unleashed. This scene from the devastated Karoo town of Laingsburg shows mangled cars, trees and the mud left behind. **Left:** The river's violent passage through this Laingsburg home left little salvageable. Bricks and mortar were no protection against the tons of water and mud that swept through the town.

Aug 27/1/81

Disaster 56

fund set up in city

A DISASTER relief fund, with a central office in Cape Town, has been set up to help the flood victims in Laingsburg.

of livelihood have simply been washed away.

'I know the Cape will support this fund to the hilt.'

Dr J Raubenheimer, regional representative of the Department of Health, Welfare and Pensions, said the government fund had automatically come into operation in terms of the Fund Raising Act when the area was pronounced a disaster area by the State President last night.

● Tollgate Holdings has made a donation of R10 000

Contributions in funds or goods could be sent to the Disaster Fund's local office at PO Box 131, or 48 Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town.

PLEA FOR HELP

The Cape Town branch of the Save the Children Fund (WD 850), is appealing for childrens blankets and clothes, tinned and powdered milk and baby food, to be distributed in the stricken areas by the Red Cross.

Contributors should phone Mrs R Wilson (71-6954) or deliver the articles to 36 Tennant Road, Kenilworth, or 4 Mariendahl Road, Rondebosch.

The Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, today gave his unconditional support to the Disaster Fund.

'I appeal to the people of the Cape to give all the help they can,' he said.

'Apart from the deaths in the area, families have lost everything they have. And in some farming areas the farmer's means

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Sixth Year

For the best student in :-
of Architects' Prize
Cape Provincial Institute

ARCHITECTURE

Argus 27/1/81 (56)

Stranded Suzanne just kept singing in the rain

Argus Correspondent
PRETORIA. — A blind student marooned in the floods kept her spirits high with a song.
 Miss Suzanne Holland, 19, said today that she left Cape Town at the weekend on the Trans-Karoo express after a holiday.

At Touws River, at about 3.10 pm, the train came to a halt with 'water all around us.'
 Most people would be nervous in a situation like that but not Suzanne — a former student at Worcester School for the Blind.
 'I became bored eventually, so I got up and introduced myself to

the other passengers and that way we became friends,' she said.
 Suzanne and another passenger played the guitar and sang, keeping the people entertained.
 A day later, the lines were repaired and they returned to Cape Town. She flew back home.

Cheerful and outgoing, she is a third-year student at the University of Pretoria where she is majoring in languages.
 She taught herself to play the guitar at school.
 'Unfortunately, I never learned to play classical guitar,' she said.

Cabinet talks on stricken areas

Political Correspondent
 A CABINET committee, chaired by the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr L A P A Munnik, met in Cape Town today to discuss relief measures for the flood-stricken Western Cape and Karoo areas.
 The meeting was attended by the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, the Minister of Community Development, Mr S F Kotze, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr P T C du Plessis, the Minister of Water Affairs, Dr C V van der Merwe and the Deputy Minister of Finance, Dr D W Steyn. The Director General of Health, Dr J de Beer, was also present. Today's Cabinet meeting was also to deal with the disaster.

The Government decided last night to declare the Laingsburg, Touws River, Ladismith and Montague districts as disaster areas.

This means that State and private assistance can be expedited and better co-ordinated.

This was decided after a helicopter visit to the areas by General Malan and Dr Munnik.

Phones fixed

POST OFFICE teams working around the clock, have repaired telephone lines in the flooded areas of the Southern Cape.

However, communication is still limited and the public relations officer of the Cape Town post office has requested the public not to dial direct to the following towns: Laingsburg, Ashton, Bonnievale, Montagu, Barrydale and Ladismith.

Flood reconstruction 'regardless of cost'

Provincial Reporter
 THE Cape Provincial Administration will pour millions of rands into the Cape disaster areas to restore essential provincial services 'regardless of cost' the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw, said today.
 Mr Louw said the disaster damage was so great

Farmers to help flood victims

Argus Correspondent
PAARL. — Organised agriculture is urgently trying to determine the extent of agricultural damages in the flood-stricken areas in the Western Cape, according to a joint statement by the presidents of the SA Agricultural Union, Mr Jaap Wilkens, and the Western Cape Agricultural Union, Mr Giel Malherbe.
 As soon as the extent and nature of the damage has been determined, the necessary steps will be taken to assist needy farmers.

The investigation is hampered by defective communication but everything is being done to act as quickly as possible.

It is important for agriculture to put in every effort to ensure that farmers will be put back into production soon, it was stated.

The matter is being handled at the office of the Western Cape Agricultural Union in Paarl by the secretary Mr Gert Bosch.

that the financial cost of restoring services was beyond the province's capabilities.

'But we will do it, and find the money later,' Mr Louw promised.

The Administrator had discussions last night with the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, and the Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Munnik.

CO-OPERATION

'In dealing with this disaster, we will need the closest co-operation between all concerned,' he said.

'This is not a case where one debates the cost and then acts. We have already taken action, we will restore services, and later we will go to the Government and ask for financial assistance.'

Mr Louw who planned to visit the disaster districts personally today, said Laingsburg's school and hostel had been closed 'for an indefinite period' and all boarders had been sent home.

UNBELIEVABLE

'The disaster in Laingsburg is unbelievable,' Mr Louw said. 'The other area badly hit is Robertson, and there it is the farmers who have suffered the greatest losses.'

Mr Louw said three major road construction teams and all available equipment were moved from Kraaifontein, Barrydale and Beaufort West yesterday to the disaster scene to begin restoring road communications initially on a temporary basis.

Triamic, a private construction company on contract to rebuild a road near Laingsburg, was also diverted to the disaster area.

Referring to what he described as 'enormous costs' — 60 km of tarred



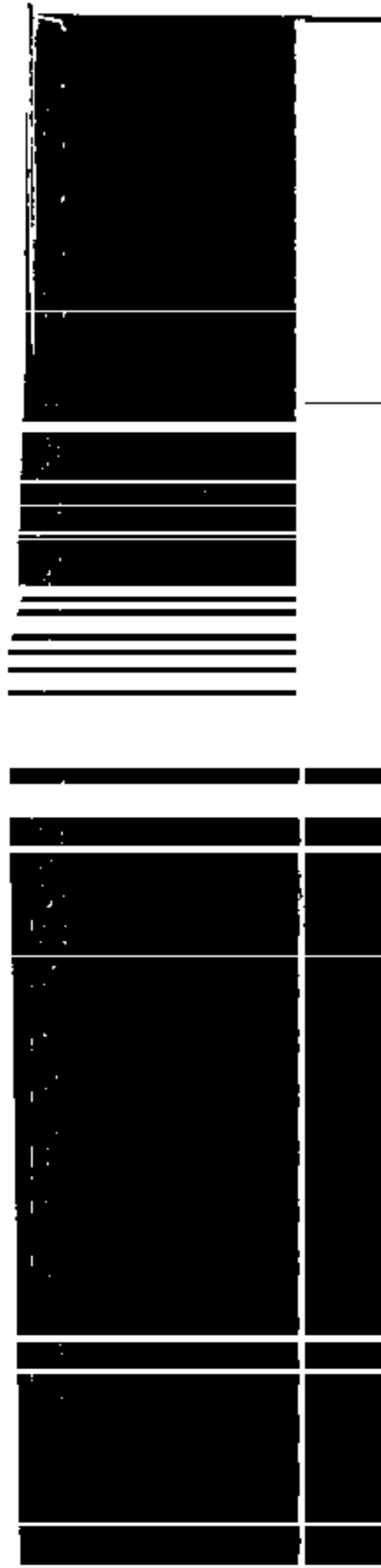
Mr Gene Louw

mates to the Provincial Council next month, and possibly in preparing the May budget for 1981-82.

Mr Raymond Ackerman, managing director of the Pick-n-Pay supermarket chain, said today his group was sending R10 000 worth of food to the flood stricken areas.

The food consisted of mealie meal, corned meat, coffee, tea, condensed milk, canned vegetables, sugar and soups.

A spokesman for the Department of Social Welfare said that inquiries about assistance or supplies that may be needed in the disaster areas could be made at the regional offices of the department in Cape Town (Telephone 43-4621).



Laingsburg counts its dead and missing

STAR 27/1/81 (56)

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The death toll in what is possibly South Africa's worst natural disaster is now 100 as the southern Karoo emerges from the ravages of weekend flooding. But fears are that it could rise beyond the 200 mark as the full extent of the flooding becomes known.

A Cabinet committee under the chairmanship of the Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions, Dr L A P A Munnik, met in Cape Town today to discuss relief measures.

Rescue workers including the army, police, air force and civilians, have so far recovered 12 bodies from the devastation around Laingsburg and Montagu, but they say that most flood victims will never be found and may be concealed under tons of mud.

Relief work in the area moved into top gear yesterday as swollen rivers, fed by 300 mm of rain, subsided, leaving a trail of destruction.

Areas that had once housed a large part of Laingsburg's 4 000 residents were swept away by tons of water and debris. The only tangible signs that the areas were once populated were stark foundations poking out of the mud.

It was these areas that suffered mostly the terrible toll of life. Twenty-one residents of Laingsburg's new old age home are feared dead after a wall of water rushed through the premises on Sunday afternoon and evening.

Several would-be rescuers were also drowned as residents of the home watched helplessly.

Many of the town's older residents clung desperately to roofs and chimney stacks for six hours on Sunday and the early hours of Monday morning, but had to watch as rescuers were swamped by continuing waves of water.

The confirmed death toll to date includes:

- Fifteen bodies recovered from the mud in Laingsburg and 21 residents of the old-age home.

- A further nine people died in Ashton, washed away when the Kogmans River came down in flood.

- Similarly, in Montagu eight people drowned in the flood at Kesie River and two people died in swirling



Mrs Brenda Ameels (32), wife of the owner of the Laingsburg Hotel, is wheeled from a SAAF helicopter. With her are her two children, Nadin (13) and Marie (10). They were reunited with their mother and father when the helicopter found the parents exhausted but alive after they were washed 17 km down the Buffels River.

They said prayers as water mounted

Own Correspondent

LAINGSBURG — Mr Paul Ameel, relaxing in his Laingsburg hotel today, told how he and his wife were rescued after a 24-hour ordeal.

"The old age home began to flood at 1 pm. I knew my wife was inside helping, so I got on to the roof with the dominee and we decided to break through the ceiling."

The people inside, all in the attic, were neck-high in water.

"We managed to get all except four on to the roof. Then we sat and the dominee gave a prayer service."

"We watched the first house go, then the second, third and fourth. Then a man floated towards us. He managed to get on to the roof."

"Then, as he walked on the roof, it broke up."

"We had a truss and by then we were in raging waters. There was a concrete water-tower near us, so Willy and Suzanne, Destroo grabbed it but they have not been seen since."

"It could have fallen on top of them. Then something said to me, 'go for the tree, let the rafter go.' The water was moving at a helluva lick."

"My wife, hanging on to the tree, was being dragged under. So we helped her."

"We stayed in the tree two hours to get our energy back. Then our tree collapsed and we moved away from it as soon as we could."

"I lost contact with everyone. I was sucked under water at the railway bridge. I thought that was it."

"I held my breath and kicked hard, then I found a log and hung to it in the five-metre waves."

Mr Ameel started to pray. And when he saw tens of ducks swimming past, he knew he was in the dam.

Then his wife came past and said "I can stand" and they collapsed on the sand.

It got dark and they slept, then decided to walk. They arrived at the caravans at about midnight, staying there until rescued yesterday. Mrs Ameel is well, but still in hospital.

Toll could top 200 after towns hit by to

Disaster in the

CAPE TOWN—The government has declared the worst-hit areas of the floods in the Karoo and Western Cape disaster areas.

Water curbs may go

EAST LONDON — Water restrictions in the city may be lifted soon following the weekend's heavy rain.

Bridle Drift dam, the city's major water reservoir, has shot up by nearly three metres since Saturday and is now 62 per cent full.

The works committee of the city council is expected to discuss the lifting of restrictions this week following a request by the Mayor, Mr Donald Card.

Restrictions were imposed four months ago when the Bridle Drift dam was 60 per cent full.

But when restrictions were imposed, King William's Town was having serious water supply problems with Maden Dam drying up and Houkhrantz Dam dropping to below 30 per cent capacity. Now they're all full.

King William's Town was drawing water from Laining Dam, and East London imposed the restrictions to avoid the possibility of also having to use Laining Dam.

Yesterday alone Bridle Drift rose by just under half a metre.

Last night Mr Card told councillors that as all the dams to the north were full and more water was flowing into Bridle Drift, the works committee should review restrictions this week. — DDR

DD. 27/11/81 (56)

Reports filtered through last night of at least 150 people dead or missing with fears that the toll could top 200.

A government spokesman said in Cape Town last night Lainsburg, Touws River, Ladismith and Montagu had been declared disaster areas after the Ministers of Defence and Health had flown over the areas in a helicopter yesterday.

With chaos reigning in the flooded areas and communications disrupted, it was impossible to obtain an official death toll last night. But the "torrents of death" which flashed down rivers swollen beyond capacity in next to no time by the downpour, caught many unawares and flattened everything in their path. Damage runs into many millions of rands.

Police at Lainsburg said last night the names of more than 140 missing people had been reported to them.

Five bodies have been found in the area so far, while at Ashton, near Robertson, nine people were drowned when the Kogmans River surged over its banks.

At Montagu at least four people were drowned and four more are known to be missing after 200 mm of rain turned the Keissie River into a killer.

At Beaufort West the floods claimed the lives of at least two people.

Police probed the sodden ruins for more bodies as fears mounted that possible survivors faced disaster in a cold

Lainsburg night.

Rescue workers also toiled to keep the ill and homeless alive.

Among the leading members of the town still missing are the dominee, the town clerk's wife and the postmaster. The town clerk's wife and the dominee were apparently last seen trying to rescue some of the trapped pensioners before their old age home was engulfed in water. A total of 21 elderly people are believed to have died.

More than 100 police and army reinforcements moved into Lainsburg last night.

Of the missing found, 12 were discovered near the Forest Kraal Dam, about 14 km from Lainsburg.

Others found: a young boy last seen clutching a chimney during the flood and a couple who were recovered from a spot some 3 km from the town.

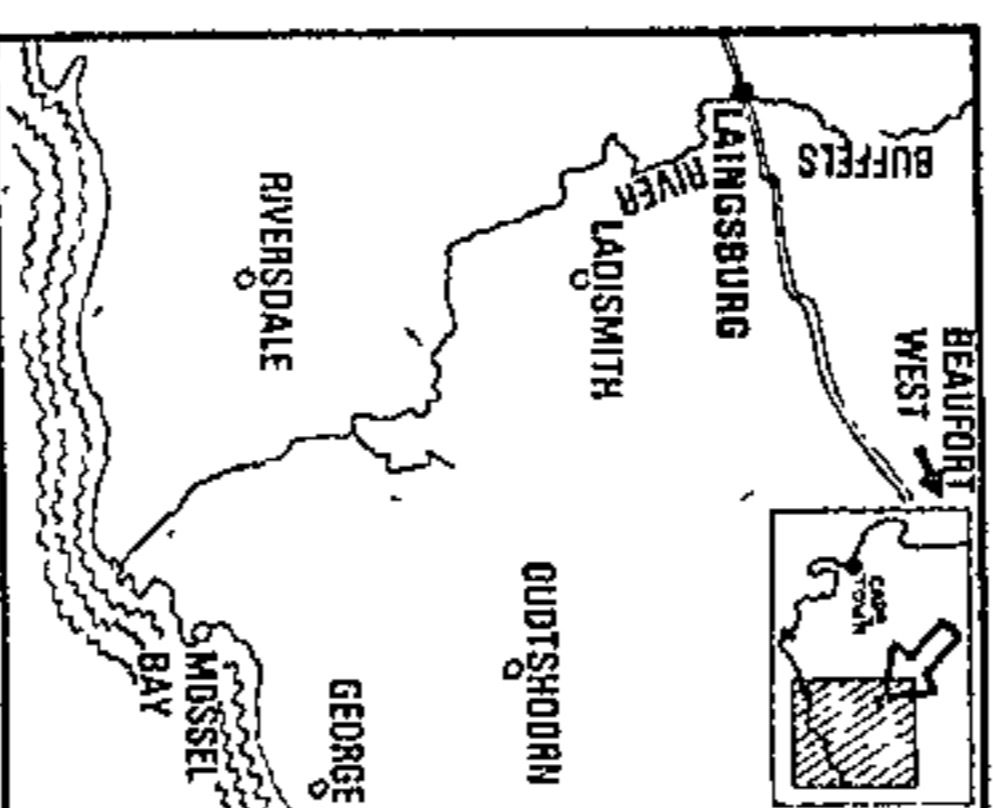
None of the three were injured.

The Administrator of the Cape, Mr Eugene Louw, said last night the flash flood, which almost destroyed Lainsburg, badly damaged Touwsriver and laid waste thousands of hectares of farming land, had killed more people than any other disaster in the region's history.

The disaster ran its deadly course when heavy rains in the aptly-named Moordenaars Karoo pumped so much water into the Buffels River that it burst its banks. Then

several other rivers flooded as well to assault areas not in the Buffels' path.

Yesterday the Inspector of Police for the South Western Districts, Colonel H. Morkel, said it was too early to speculate on the number of dead. The water and mud destroyed more than 200 houses and flooded seven-eighths of the town.



More pictures reports on 13

He said the water was slowly subsiding and work had already begun to open the silted-up homes in search of bodies.

The business centre of the town has been cordoned off to prevent looting as people trudged some accessible streets to recover what articles they could

By late yesterday afternoon only one of the Provincial Ad-maintenance and construction teams had managed to gain access to Lainsburg.

An engineer reported that the road approaching Lainsburg was 3 m deep in mud. Some gravel has been removed near Touwsriver, but bulldozers and scrapers sent out early yesterday morning had been unable to get anywhere near the worst-hit areas.

By late yesterday afternoon Lainsburg was still two-thirds under water, and residents of villages elsewhere along the banks of the Buffels River had evacuated their homes.

Flood damage news came from other towns in the area:

In Calitzdorp, a police spokesman said several ostriches had been swept away by the swollen Gama River and a number of homes near the banks had been destroyed.

In Albertinia, a police spokesman said all the people on the banks of the raging Guoritz River and near the river mouth had been warned of the danger, and most of them were evacuated from the area.

Two people, Mr Ismael George and Miss Katarina Joseph, were rescued from an island in the Guoritz River by a helicopter.

The spokesman said the river carried with it several head of cattle and sheep, and one man had reported seeing 27 head of cattle floating past a point within a five-minute period. — DDC.

rents of death

Karoo

Black south easter blamed

CAPE TOWN.— The driving rains and disastrous floods that hit the Southern Cape and Karoo were caused by a "black" south-easter that came in from the sea, not to be confused with the usual Cape Town south-easter, which is dry and warm.

The black south-easter is cloudy and wet — providing light relief for some in the way of gentle

falls while spelling disaster for others by floods.

The wind was created by low pressure over the central Karoo and a high pressure spreading over the South Atlantic.

There was a clockwise movement in the low pressure area in the interior and an anti-clockwise movement in the high pressure region over the ocean.

This clockwise circulation in the low pressure area caused a build-up of clouds over the interior which brought heavy rain, showers and thundershowers.

Because of the unusual weather conditions the Weather Bureau yesterday issued a review of the situation.

The bureau said further rain or thundershowers

could be expected over most of the country.

The coastal low situated at Cape Town would move to the south-east coast today, causing thundershowers to occur and fog patches over south-western and south-east coasts and fog patches over south-western and southern coasts overnight. — SAPA.

2 survive 20 km river ordeal

LAINGSBURG — A husband and wife, Paul and Brenda Amiels, who were both swept off the roof of the town's old age home on Sunday, were yesterday found together and safe 20 km downstream by a South African Air Force rescue helicopter.

Ten others were found safe but exhausted at the same spot.

The amazing story of the Amiels' rescue was recounted by photographer Stewart Coleman who was with the rescue helicopter.

"When the flood waters started to rise on Sunday Paul and Brenda, who manage the Laingsburg Hotel, apparently went to the old age home to try to help the residents escape.

"With water already swirling through the

ground floor of the home, they helped as many as they could to reach the attic where they broke through the roof.

"By the time they began hauling the old people through the hole in the roof the river had rushed through the home, drowning those too infirm to reach the roof.

"On the roof, many old people, unable to hold on, were washed off and eventually, as the water rose even higher, Paul and Brenda were themselves washed into the raging torrent.

Brenda was swept into a rubber tree which she clung to till it was uprooted. Still clinging to the tree she was swept 20 km downstream.

"Wet and exhausted, she managed to reach the

bank and then saw another tree with her husband Paul clinging to it.

"The river's pace had slackened at the spot because of a dam being built and it was a worker on the dam site who first spotted them and called for help."

Mr and Mrs Amiels and eight others were ferried to the town hospital in Laingsburg where they were reunited with their four overjoyed children who had believed they would never see their parents again.

The eight others rescued yesterday were: Mr Reg Taylor, Mr Andries van Wyk, Marietta Lingsel, Mr Wouter Jordaan, Mr Clive Taylor, Mr Antonie Potes, Mr Barry van Niekerk and Mr Bertus Conradie. — DDC.

Laingsburg is shattered

LAINGSBURG — Laingsburg is shattered. That is the only word to describe what I saw yesterday afternoon when I circled over it in an SAAF Dakota.

On the ridge above the town its name is still brightly and proudly picked out in whitewashed stones, with the slogan "dra wol" (wear wool). But there is nothing proud or bright left about the little town below as it struggles to come to terms with the greatest disaster in its history.

To reach Laingsburg from Cape Town you have to go by helicopter, or wade across the greedy, swollen sweep of the Buffels River. There is no other way.

The road bridge stands like a concrete ship at anchor in the middle of the vast yellow belly of the Buffels, its approaches on both sides completely washed away.

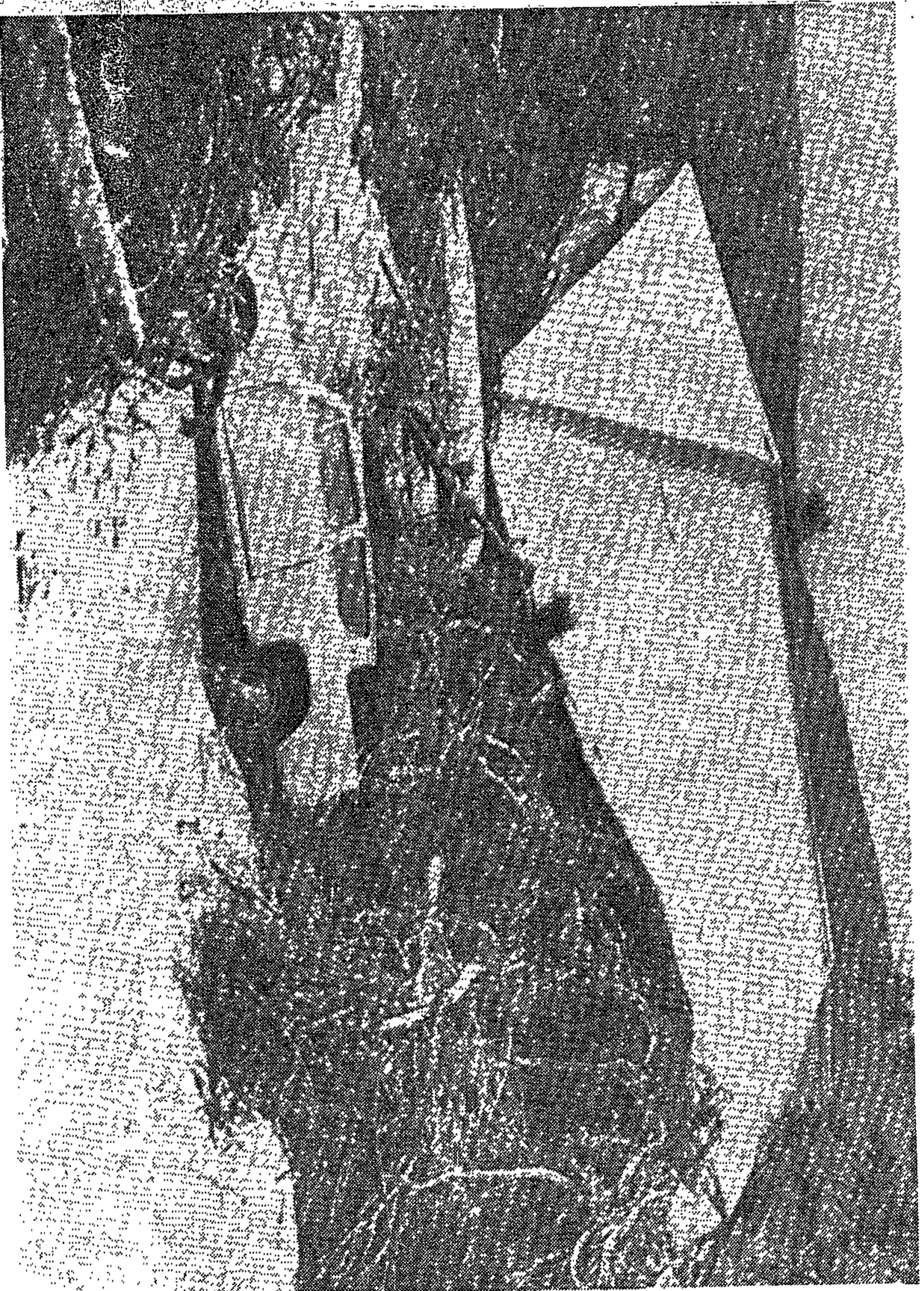
A few hundred metres downstream from it stands the rail bridge, similarly cut off, its only ties with the banks on either side are sagging sets of rails, festooned with driftwood and other debris brought down by the Buffels as it smashed the approaches away.

One corner of the little town is totally destroyed, its houses reduced to little more than fragments of corrugated iron and broken baulks of wood, half-buried in a sea of mud. The destruction stops abruptly at the river's edge, where part of it obviously disappeared into the all-powerful floodwaters.

The damage is less in the centre of Laingsburg, but it is still awesome. In places the earth streets have been enlarged into huge ovals, the roof of a large house lies flat on the ground, the walls beneath it collapsed or swept away. The roof of another house collapses drunkenly earthwards at one corner, because the wall which held it up is gone.

Outside Laingsburg itself the destruction is almost as widespread. The Buffels is distended, like a python after a heavy meal. Everywhere its waters have carved great arcs out of what was once secure dry riverbank. Plantations are submerged in places and completely washed away elsewhere.

It is almost unbelievable that this could happen in one or two short days. But that's the way it happened at the weekend in the Karoo, where people usually complain not of too much water, but too little. — DDC.



A car lies abandoned and half-buried in silt among uprooted trees. Behind is Lainesburg's school roof which was carried away by the floodwaters.

Cape rail lines closed

CAPE TOWN — Flood damage yesterday forced South African Railways to place an embargo on all main line traffic from the Western Cape to points north of Touws River, and from the north to destinations south of Beaufort West.

The SAR's public relations officer, Mr E. du Plessis, urged anyone planning to use trains for travel or freight to consult the railways.

"We don't expect the line to be open for the next few days but it's difficult to be more specific than that."

It was too early to make cost estimates of the damage.

Damage was extensive on the main line at Matroosberg, Laingsburg, Hex River, Kleinstad, Orchard and Prince Albert Road.

Hundreds of metres of track were either washed away, or left suspended in mid-air after torrents of water dislodged the ballast beneath.

Road and rail bridges were either submerged or destroyed, and rock falls made other portions of track inaccessible. No damage to rolling stock was reported.

Track was also washed away in about six places on the Mossel Bay line between Worcester and Robertson, and a minor bridge had been washed out on the Ladismith branch line.

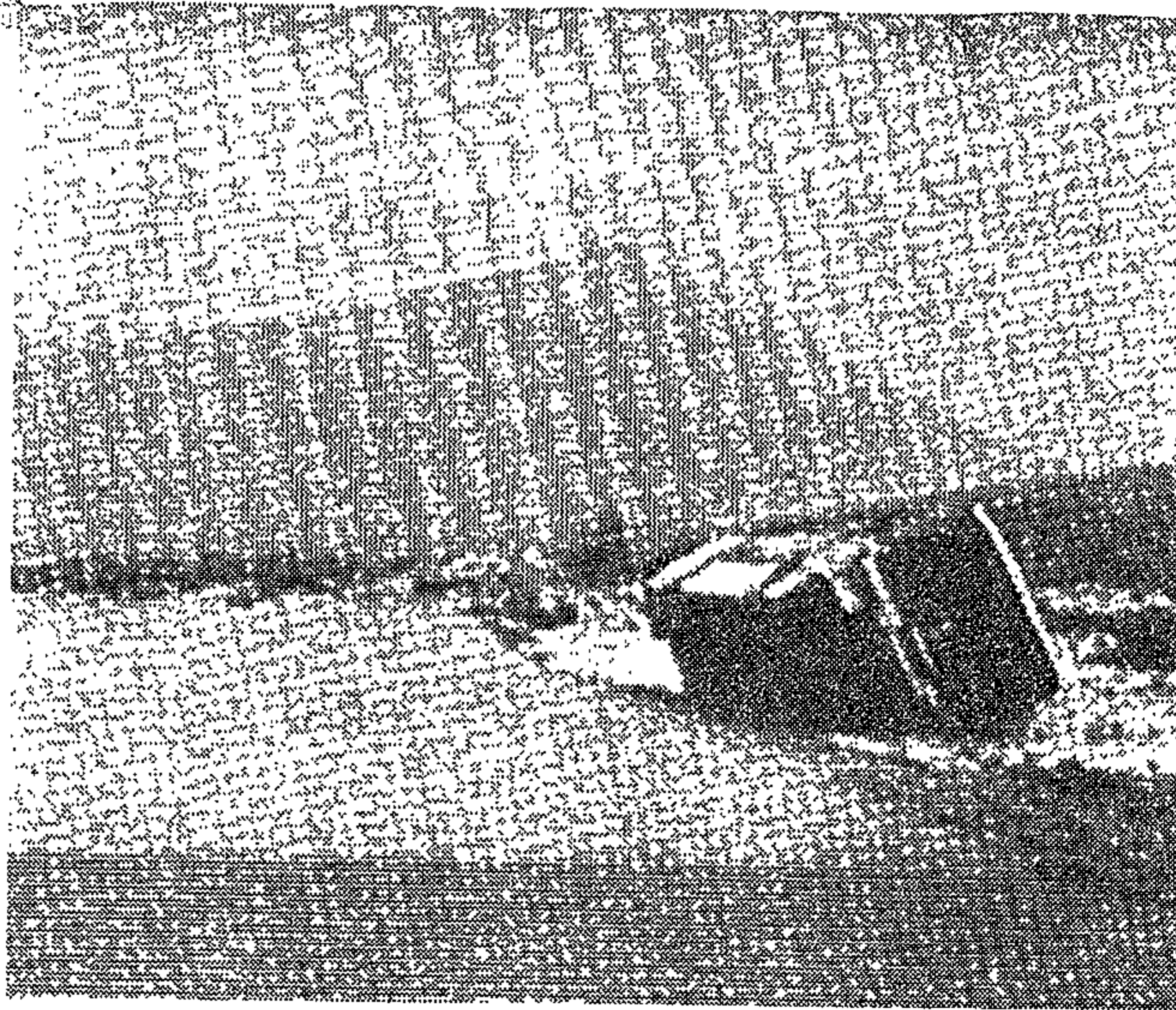
Passenger trains from East London to Cape Town have been cancelled until further notice because of the damage at Laingsburg. A railways spokesman said people booked on Cape Town trains could have their money refunded.

More rain could be expected, according to the weather bureau, but the railways believed the situation had stabilised and further damage was not expected.

A railways spokesman announced yesterday that rescue and maintenance teams, which had been poised for hours, were able to set to work at about 10 am.

"We have launched a massive effort to keep disruption of services to a minimum."

He said two passenger trains had been stranded: an East London/Cape Town train, stuck at Zwarts, and the Cape Town/Port Elizabeth train which was left standing at Worcester. — DDC-DDR.



An Umtata-bound bus on its side after being swept off a bridge near Laingsburg.

Battered towns mop up

PORT ELIZABETH — Mopping up operations were under way in several southern Cape towns yesterday as the picture emerged of the damage caused by the weekend's wind and driving rain.

Municipal workers were still busy trying to clear the road from George to Pacaltsdorp, where the wind had toppled 80 of a long avenue of pine trees across the roadway.

Parts of George, where hundreds of trees were felled by the storm, were blacked out at the weekend, but power was

restored by yesterday afternoon.

Trees also cut telephone and electricity lines to the Wilderness, where a hotel was briefly flooded at the weekend. Power was expected to be restored within two days.

At Knysna labourers worked throughout Sunday to clear fallen trees across the national road near the town.

Plettenberg Bay was blacked out when falling trees brought down the Escom electricity supply line. Power was restored at 2 pm yesterday.

At Herold's Bay, where holiday homes are perched precariously on a cliffside, one home was in danger of collapsing onto another immediately below it after a concrete retaining wall collapsed, bringing down tons of rubble.

At Great Brak River a travelling fairground was completely swamped.

A spokesman for the Port Elizabeth electrical engineer's office said the city had had remarkably few problems over the weekend. A number of telephone lines were still down yesterday. — DDC.

Hope for record crop

JOHANNESBURG — The recent widespread rain which has brought welcome relief to farmers in most parts of the country has renewed optimism of another record crop this year.

According to a South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) survey, good rains have fallen over most parts of the country during the past few days.

"The good rains intensify the hope that we will produce another record crop this year," Mr Chris Cilliers, director of the union, said in Pretoria.

yesterday.

There was also increased optimism of a record maize crop, he said.

However, Mr Cilliers was concerned about the drought in the Northern Cape for the past four years.

"In parts of the Northern Cape, particularly the pasture districts areas in the central, southern and south-western areas, there is not much improvement.

"These areas are experiencing the most serious drought in many years. If no additional rain is received, the veld will

deteriorate even further," he said.

Mr P. C. du Plooy, secretary for the Transvaal Agricultural Union, said yesterday no areas in the Transvaal were drought stricken.

According to the SAAU the Lowveld area generally received little rain at the weekend, but good rains were received recently and maize crops are expected to be good.

There is a possibility that the tobacco crop will be lower compared to last year as the plants received too much rain in the planting stage. — DDC.

Govt assurance on aid for flood victims

THE ASSEMBLY — The Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, assured the Assembly yesterday that the government had set in motion emergency measures to aid people in the disaster-stricken areas of the Karoo and the South Western Cape.

In a statement, Mr Botha said emergency medical supplies, food, tents, beds and other emergency supplies were being flown to Laingsburg.

Helicopters had been commandeered to the flooded areas and the Minister of Police had ordered police reinforcements from all over South Africa to render assistance.

The Minister of Health Welfare and Pensions, Dr L. A. Munnik, was waiting for communications between Cape Town and Laingsburg to be repaired.

to establish what further assistance was needed.

He and other members of the cabinet had inspected the flooded areas by helicopter yesterday.

Mr Botha, on behalf of the government, expressed his condolences with all those affected by the floods.

The Leader of the Opposition, Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, associated himself and his party with Mr Botha's remarks and thanked the authorities for their speedy action.

The Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, pledged "the most sympathetic approach" by the Cape Provincial Administration to the needs of the storm disaster area.

As administrator, he expressed his sympathy with those families and communities who had lost relatives and friends in the disaster.

Mr Louw said civil defence and the South African Defence Force were already working in conjunction with local authorities to provide immediate relief where it was needed.

"We have special provision in our budget for unexpected emergency situations, and while the funds set aside for 1980-81 have been almost exhausted, largely as a result of the recent drought, my executive committee and I will make a special endeavour to give all the assistance we can."

The immediate restoration of road and bridge communications was a priority. If necessary this would be done temporarily until permanent repairs could be made.

"When local authorities have surveyed the situation, as we in the provincial administration

are doing as well, we will consider any representations they care to make to us for help," Mr Louw said.

Mr Louw said that with the help of Escom, a radio link had been established between the provincial administration, the Cape Peninsula's Metro emergency service and the Defence Force.

Many doctors and nurses were on standby in hospitals to leave for the devastated areas at short notice.

Landing sites for helicopters had been prepared at the hospitals at Caledon and Worcester, and the same was being done at other hospitals in the region.

He said a survey had been made of all available hospital beds and he was confident that the injured could be accommodated. — SAPA.

Blow for grape crop

CAPE TOWN — Western Cape and Boland grape crops have been severely hit by torrential rain at the weekend.

Flooding has caused millions of rands damage in some areas and there is danger of widespread fungus disease in others.

Freak floods severely damaged the grape crop in the De Doorn area, according to farmers.

The secretary of the Western Cape Agricultural Union, Mr Gert Bosch, said the table grape export crop had been all but lost as the heavy rain and damp weather was causing the grapes to burst. Vineyards in the Hex River Valley were also flooded. — SAPA.

EL's Laingsburg fund

EAST LONDON — The mayor of East London, Mr Donald Card, announced here last night that he intends starting a fund for the victims of the flood that devastated Laingsburg.

About 100 people died and scores of people were left homeless after a flood destroyed a big part of the town yesterday.

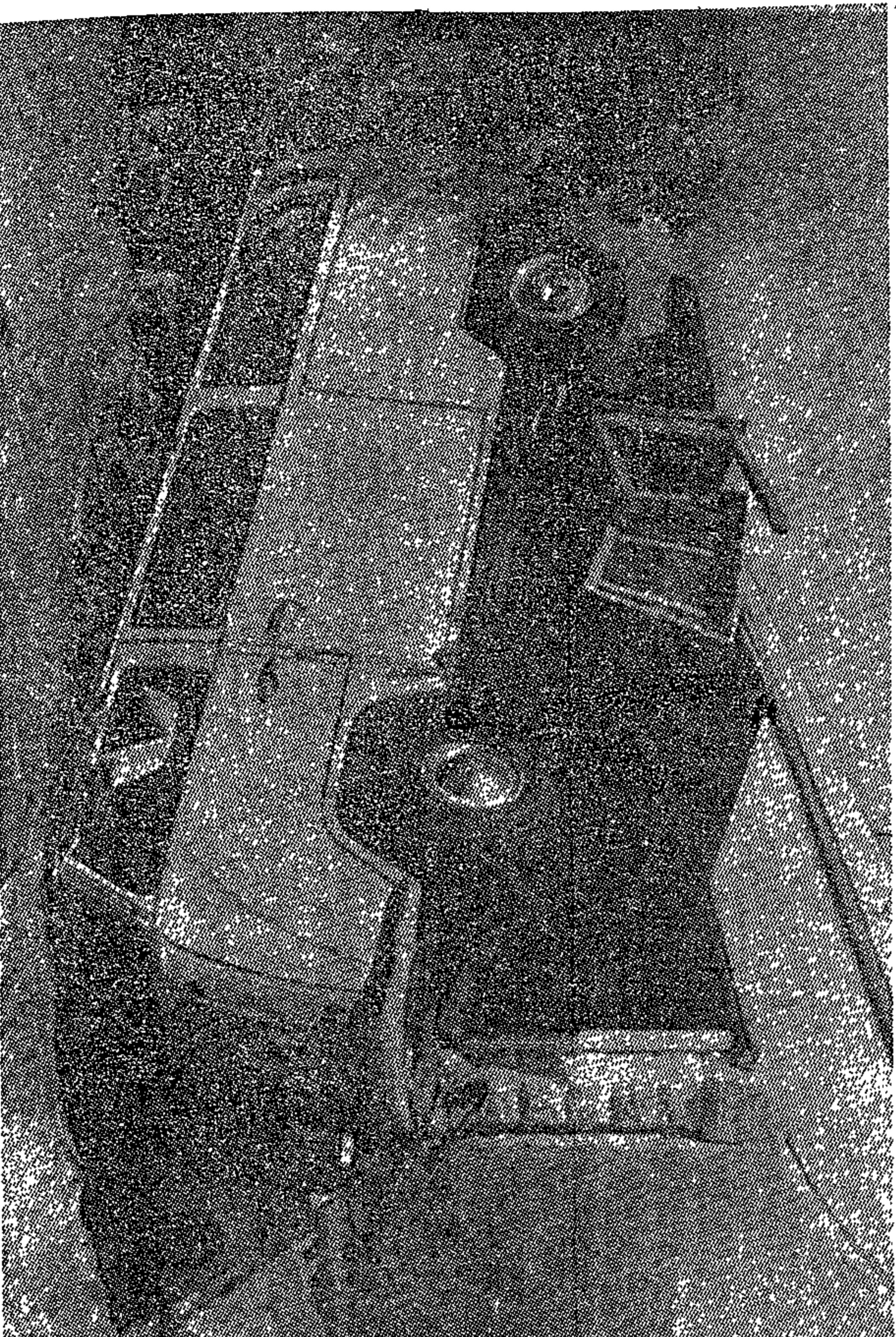
Mr Card said he felt that

East London had to do something to help. He said people who wanted to donate money could pay their donations to his secretary, Mr S. Johnston at the Mayor's Parlour or send it by post to P. O. Box 134, East London, care of Mr Johnston.

Mr Card said the money collected would be paid over to the victims on behalf of East London.



Trucks embedded in the mass of up-rooted trees and rubble swept down by the swollen Keisise River in Montagu



An overturned Kombi covered with household belongings tells the story of the fury of the flood that flattened Laingsburg.

Drought eased. . . but some areas need more

27112

EAST LONDON — The heavy rains that fell over many parts of the Border and Eastern Cape at the weekend brought a welcome relief to most areas but officials were full of cautious optimism about the lifting of water restrictions in some towns.

One town that will almost certainly see the end of water restrictions in operation since last night is King William's Town where the Laings, Madsen and Rookkrantz Dams are overflowing.

The restrictions were eased last week when the use of hoses for gardens was allowed.

In East London the post-

tion has also improved with the Bridle Drift Dam reported to be 62 per cent full yesterday and the Nahoon Dam up from 23 per cent on Friday to about 50 per cent yesterday.

The City Engineer here, Mr G. B. Kappie, said the rain had been "very helpful". He said the catchment area had had good rain and the situation looked good.

"We will be watching the situation with interest in the next few days. A committee meets regularly to discuss and review the water restrictions," he said.

The area to have received the heaviest rain in the

Border seems to be Kei Mouth where figures ranging between 250 and 350mm have been reported but in many instances readings were reported to have been inaccurate as many gauges overflowed after a heavy downpour on Saturday.

The Kei River was flowing strongly on Sunday but the pace was down yesterday and most of the floodwaters on Sunday appeared to have come from streams flowing into the river near its mouth.

Stutterheim had more than 175 mm of rain at the weekend. A 10 km stretch of the Gravel Road between the town and Catcart was closed to

traffic yesterday but late last night a police spokesman in Stutterheim said it was open again.

Fences on the farm of Mr D. van Pletzen in the Jamestown district were washed away after a dam burst following a storm.

A dam also burst on Mr J. Gerber's farm, Ja Motte, in the Molteno district.

Mr Gerber said the dam had been empty for some time and the damage was probably caused by the fact that too much water flowed into it within an hour.

He said he was happy about the rain and that the damage to the dam was not serious.

The town of Molteno did not have much rain, however, the town clerk reported 45 mm of rain.

He said the water position had been critical for some time and much money had been spent on boring for useful boreholes.

Sterkstroom's water position had improved tremendously and was now "good", a spokesman for the town clerk's office said.

In Indwe the water position was still not good although 51.5mm fell during the weekend.

The veld was still in

"bad shape", a farmer said but hoped the weekend's rain would improve grazing.

"Nice rain" had fallen in Somerset East and 54 mm was recorded in the catchment area. Restrictions were lifted last November and the water position in the town was now good.

Grahamstown's Howiesons' Poort Dam was up "by a foot", the deputy town clerk said yesterday and it was not likely the minor restrictions on the use of hoses would be lifted.

The Thomson Dam supplying water to Elliot was overflowing and had been full before the weekend's rains. It was still cloudy and overcast yesterday and more rain was expected.

Cradock, which gets its water from the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam, has no water problems but the veld was still bad and the 18 mm rain recorded at the weekend would go a long way towards improving the grazing. More was still needed.

Dortrecht which has been applying restrictions since last April got 62 mm and it was still overcast yesterday.

Barkly East "could do with more rain which is needed desperately", a spokesman for the town clerk said.

The rainfall for the weekend was 20 mm.

Alice and Keiskammahoek had more than 50mm each. Alice had water restrictions last year but cancelled them when Fort Hare University closed at the end of the year.

Water, which is pumped from the Tyume River, is in good supply.

Little rain fell in Adelaide which has had water restrictions since last October but the local dam had been affected by water flowing from the Koenap River. There were some intermittent showers yesterday.

Peddie, which at one time was one of the driest areas in the Ciskei, had 50

mm of rain.

An earlier report that some farmers were cut off in the Berlin district was not confirmed.

An official of the farmers' association in the district, Mr J. Page, said he was not aware of any farmers cut off.

The secretary of the Divisional Council of the Kafraria, Mr L. Daubermann, said roads in the area were all in fair condition after the rain.

Soft soaking rains fell in many parts of Transkei and 80mm was recorded in Port St John's.

At Queenstown the level of the Bongo Dam rose 10 cm as a result of the weekend rain but

Transkei bus swept off bridge

UMTATA — Several Transkeian school children were among the passengers travelling in a bus which was swept away on Sunday night in the floods at Laingsburg.

No-one was injured in the accident which occurred on the Buffels River bridge. Some 50 people were on the bus, travelling from Cape Town to Umtata.

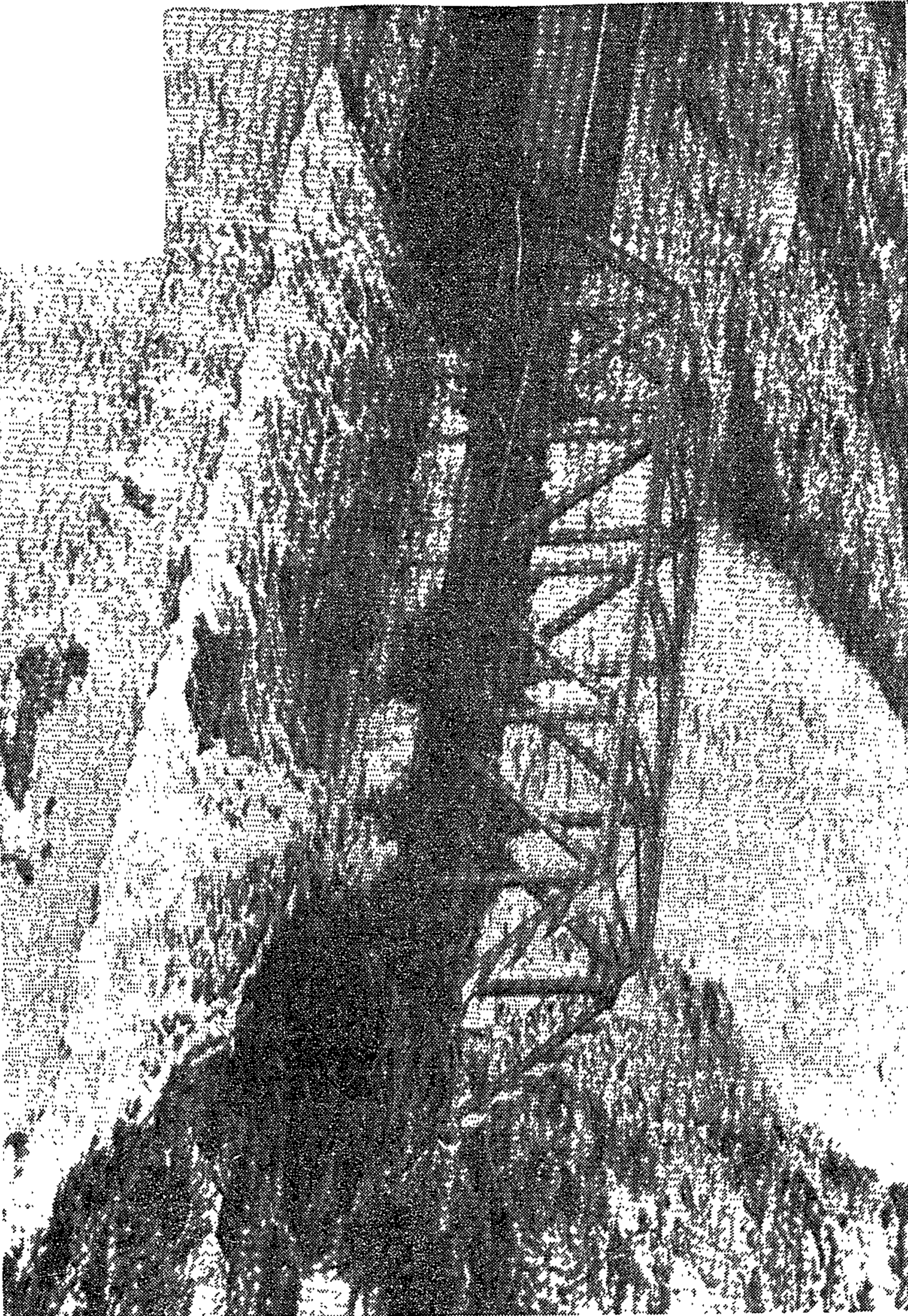
A spokesman for the bus company said alternative transport had been arranged for the stranded passengers. He said the bus was only slightly damaged.

Meanwhile, about 30 buses en route from Cape Town to Transkei have had to turn back because roads in the Laingsburg area are impassable. — DDR

The station manager at the Ben Schoeman airport, Mr B. Townsend, said passengers on flights SA 611 and SA 412 which did not land on Sunday were all accommodated on later flights. He said the situation was normal with flight SA 600 having to bypass Port Elizabeth and disembark its passengers in East London yesterday.

An Automobile Association spokesman said the only road which had been closed as a result of the rain was the 10 km gravel deviation between Stutterheim and Catcart.

A spokesman for the post office in East London said not much damage had been reported in view of the rainfall. He said about 300 Baysville, 200 West Bank and 100 North End subscribers were without telephones yesterday. Telex lines in these areas were also out of order yesterday. — DDR



Debris washed up by the Keisje River blocks one of the bridges connecting Montagu and Robertson.

Minor traffic snags hit Border

EAST LONDON — Transport and communication in the Border area was not seriously affected despite heavy rainfall reports this weekend.

The assistant port captain, Capt Vosloo, said the harbour was closed on Sunday due to rough seas, strong winds and a heavy swell. He said southerly winds caused big swells to run into the harbour which made shipping movements unsafe.

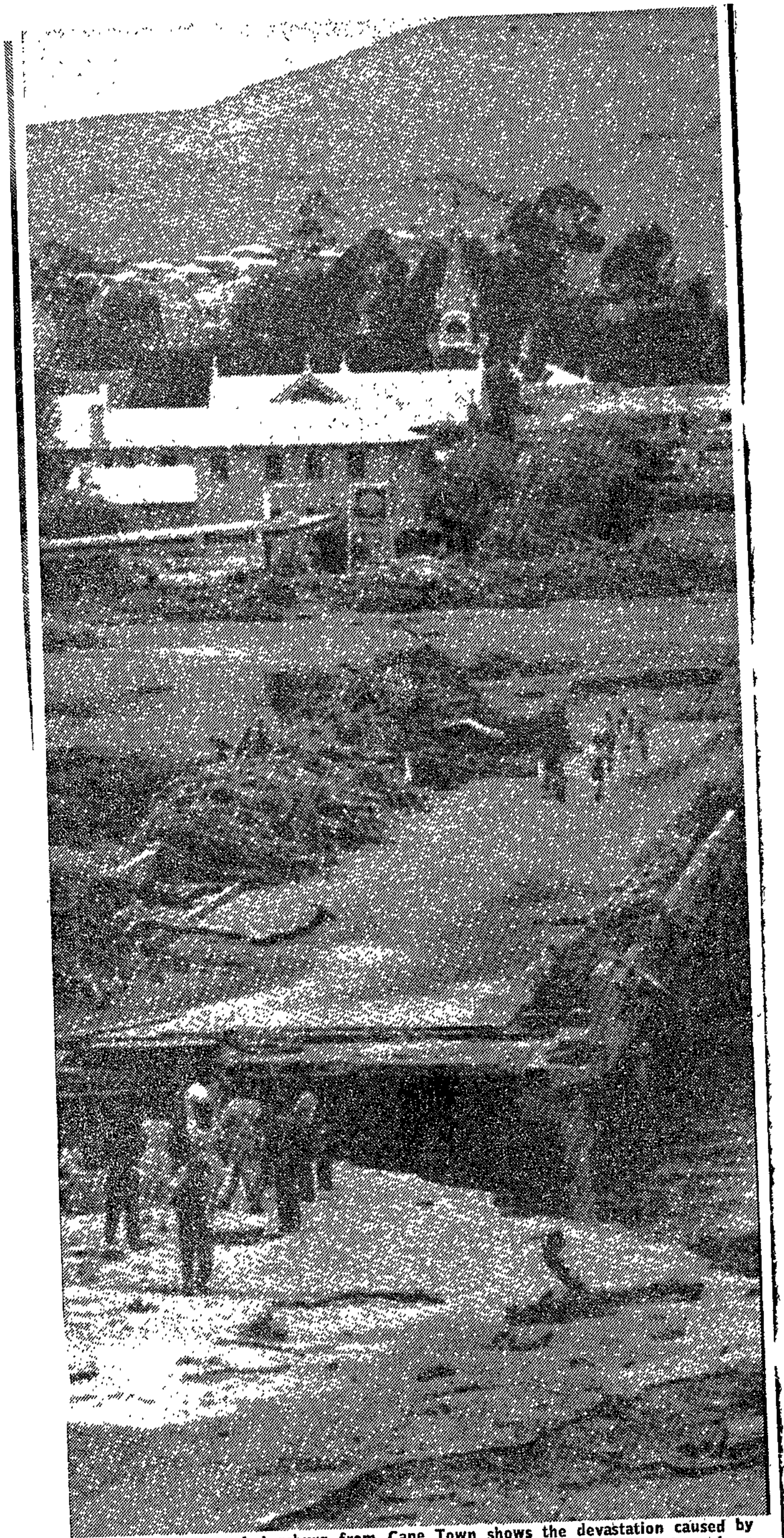
Capt Vosloo said there had been no fear of the Buffalo River flooding as this only happens when the Bridle Drift Dam overflows. He said the sea had calmed down unusually quickly and shipping was back to normal.

Although a steady stream was running into the dam, more rain was needed in the catchment area, according to the town engineer, Mr John Crawford.

Yesterday afternoon there was more heavy rain in the town unaccompanied by thunder and lightning.

At Brds River, one of the areas most severely hit by the drought, 76 mm fell on Saturday and a further 5 mm on Sunday night.

Whitesea received 30 mm during the weekend and a constant light rain was falling yesterday with a further 6 mm being recorded by lunchtime. — DDR



The entrance to Laingsburg from Cape Town shows the devastation caused by the flash flood. The main road and bridge over the Buffels River have been severely damaged.

ENVIRONMENT

1 JAN. 1981 — 28 Feb. 1981

Bitumen pollutes Durban harbour

Mercury Reporter

BITUMEN flowed from a damaged tanker and polluted parts of Durban Bay yesterday.

The black sludge found its way into the silt canal along drains from the premises of African Bitumen Emulsions a few kilometres away in Jacobs. A trailer which was

Nm 1/1/81 (56)
standing in the yard fell over on Tuesday night and the tanker containing bitumen was damaged. It flowed along furrows and drains into the Umhlatuzana canal and into the bay.

The bitumen, which solidifies in water, formed a black mass in the canal but an eas-

terly wind prevented it from spreading to other parts of the bay. Had the wind been south-westerly, a larger part of the bay would have been polluted.

The water at the Bluff Yacht Club was polluted and some yachts were blackened by the bitumen.

Durban's Port Pollution Officer, Mr Keith Plummer, said workers spent the whole of yesterday cleaning up the mess. He said the bitumen had to be removed from the water with hessian sacks. The pollution was unlikely to affect marine life.

A spokesman for the Port Captain's office said the cost of the clean-up would have to be borne by whoever was responsible for the pollution.

The Rear-Commodore of the Bluff Yacht Club, Mr Andrew Graham, told the Mercury that scores of yachts belonging to members of the club had been tarnished, and irate members would insist that their craft be cleaned by those responsible.

Public could lose fight to stop Kruger Park mining

The public could well lose its fight to save Kruger Park from being mined for coal, the Wildlife Society has warned.

In a special edition of African Wildlife, the society says that while the public waits for reaction to a 60 000-signature petition against the mining, organised by the society and The Star's CARE campaign, "a major campaign" has been mounted — by industry to influence politicians.

Iscor wants to prospect a 100 sq km area of the Pafuri, in the north of the park, with a view to mining it for coking coal for blast furnaces.

The special report contains an ecological report on the threatened area by Dr Ken Tinley and a report which the society submitted to the Government committee of inquiry on the matter.

The committee has yet to report.

"Regrettably, there is no coal technologist or ecologist on the committee," says the society. "It is also regrettable that it is not a commission and cannot subpoena people to give evidence."

"It is also worrying that it is under no obligation to make its findings public."

The society believes that conservationists have their backs to the wall.

The society, backed by a committee of mining engineers, geologists and other scientists, accuses industry of telling half truths and using rumour to boost their case.

"Iscor built its blast furnaces without considering the available reserves. One can only hope its present plans do not include the current type of smelting ovens which will become useless when coking coal runs out."

Deadline for berg rezoning extended

Pietermaritzburg Bureau

THE deadline for objections against the Town and Regional Planning Commission's controversial plans for rezoning of land in the Cathkin Peak area has been extended for a month.

A spokesman for the commission said yesterday that the final date for objections against the scheme, which caused a storm of protest when owners found part of their land could be rezoned for purely conservation purposes, had been changed from January 31 to March 2.

Mr R. O. Pearse, author of a book on the Berg and chairman of the Drakensberg Property Owners' Association, said yesterday the commission had also agreed to a public hearing on the proposals which would take place after objections had been lodged. No date or venue had yet been arranged.

He was pleased, he said, that the commission had agreed on a new deadline as it would enable all the affected landowners time to study and consider the plan for the area.

'Many of our members live in the Transvaal and only have

holiday cottages here, so it will give us more time to arrange things,' Mr Pearse said.

The plans to have the Cathkin Peak area rezoned as part of a conservation plan first came to landowners' attention in December.

They found that land they had previously used for agricultural purposes could be rezoned as 'special conservation' areas and they would no longer be able to use it.

Some landowners sought legal opinion.

9/1/81 (56)

'Vital' to save the ^{Argus} ^{12/1/81} elephants 56

Environment Reporter

THE Knysna elephants form a vital link in the ecological balance of the Knysna forests which are a top priority conservation area, says the Western Cape branch of the Wildlife Society.

Emphasising the importance of the Knysna forest biome, the only large coastal forest found in South Africa, and a relic of what was once huge forests spreading right down the eastern and southern coasts, the society says it is vital to save the last few elephants to keep the eco-system intact.

Mr Ed Chantler, chairman of the conservation sub-committee of the branch said today that he had just completed a hike through the forests and was deeply impressed with the conservation value of the area.

RICH BIOME

'We must conserve the forests. They are an incredibly rich biome, and the elephants are an integral part of the forest.'

Historically, Mr Chantler believes the elephants always inhabited the forest.

The society plans to launch an intensive awareness campaign aimed not only at its members but at the public.

'We must make the public understand how important the Knysna elephants are and how important their forest is. Without the forest the Knysna elephants could not exist. We have to save the elephants but for their continued existence we must also secure the well-being of the entire forest' said Mr Chantler.

FUND

The Endangered Wildlife Trust has begun a fund, the Knysna Elephant Fund to raise money to help to save the elephants.

The Knysna Town Council has given R250 to the Knysna Elephant Fund, and has written to Mr Clive Waller, director of the Endangered Wildlife Trust saying that it will give him every assistance possible to help to save the last few elephants.

Contributions to the fund can be made to: The Knysna Elephant Fund, c/o The Endangered Wildlife Trust, P.O. Box 615, Pedfordview, 2008, Transvaal, or can be sent through The Argus, Box 56, Cape Town. Contributions sent through the Elephant Fund,

Legal action would be welcome — MPC

RDM 13/1/81 (S6)

By JOUBERT MALHERBE
Pretoria Bureau

THE Nationalist MPC for Barberton, Mr Henk van Rooyen, said yesterday he would welcome it if legal steps were taken against him because he would be able to use the courts to answer publicly all charges concerning his involvement in three alleged illegal hunting incidents.

Mr Van Rooyen also said that if farmers were not given more right to cull wild animals endangering their livestock, a clash between them and the Department of Nature Conservation would be inevitable.

It has been alleged that on three separate occasions last year Mr Van Rooyen authorised hunters to shoot a hippo, a buffalo and a lion on a farm in the Komatipoort district.

Mr Van Rooyen has repeatedly denied being involved in the shooting of the buffalo.

He also denied selling hippo meat to a local butcher.

He said yesterday he had not heard from the office of the Attorney-General, and that it was not yet clear whether he would be charged as a result of his alleged involvement in the incidents.

"All I want to say at this stage is that my conduct was always guided by my concern for nature conservation and for the welfare of the people of the Komatipoort district," he said.

Mr Van Rooyen said it was not true several people in the Department of Nature Conservation were unhappy about his continued membership of the Administration's Advisory Board for Nature Conservation.

He said as far as he was concerned the only person who was "unhappy" was Mr Peter Milstein, a senior official in the department.

Mr Milstein was prejudging the case, he said.

"I had the necessary permits to authorise the shooting of a

lion and a hippo. These were handed to me personally by nature conservation officials," he said.

He confirmed he was currently considering discussions with provincial authorities about the possibility of altering existing legislation concerning the right of farmers to cull animals that had become a nuisance.

Mr Van Rooyen said cattle farmers on the western border of the Kruger National Park often had to contend with carnivores that escaped from the reserve.

He warned that a clash between farmers and the Department of Nature Conservation was inevitable if the culling regulations were not altered.

"Under current legislation farmers have virtually to go on their knees and beg for a permit to cull the odd buffalo or lion that is a nuisance," he said.

ARCHITECTURE
(Continued)

Mrs. Thornton White Prize
For the best work in
first year.
Miss M F J Sandilands

S A Brick Association Prize
For the student who has made
best use of bricks in his
design work.
J G Kirkman

R Stubbs Award
For the best project in
structure and design.
M R I Ness

National Development Fund
For the Building Industry
Book Prizes
For the best student in each
year of study of the degree
course.

First Year
J A L Chapman

Second Year
C S Jones

Third Year
B de Jong

Fourth Year
R W Kohne

George Strachan Prize
For the best final year
student of the degree course.
R W Kohne

LTA Prize
For the best student obtaining
a first class pass for a
dissertation in Building
Management.
S F Richardson

SA's new
gas find
the
best yet

Own Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — South
Africa's latest gas strike
off the southern coast is
by far the most valuable
find in the 14-year search
— a seabed well which
has been proved to have a
daily yield of 1.6-million
cu m worth about
R80-million a year.

This was disclosed
today by the managing
director of the Southern
Oil Exploration Corpora-
tion, Dr Piet van Zyl, who
said the discovery com-
pared favourably with
many overseas finds.

The importance of the
strike, made 60 km south
of Mossel Bay, can be
gauged against the peak
daily production of
7.3-million cu m from 19
holes in the highly rated
West Sole field in the
North Sea.

Dr van Zyl said: "Un-
fortunately the American
rig Sedco K is pro-
grammed to move to a
new site east of its present
position, so it will pro-
bably be about a year
before we know what the
reserves are."

Soekor's tests also
revealed that the well off
Mossel Bay could produce
1 200 barrels of oil a day.

The previous best re-
sults obtained in the off-
shore oil probe were made
by the drilling ship Glo-
mar Sirtee off Plettenberg
Bay in 1969.

The floating drilling rig
discovered a gas field
with a proven reserve of
1 400-million cu m which,
at prices quoted in the
international oil and gas
industry's publication,
Petroleum Economist,
would be worth about
R2 000-million.

R27m pois

NM 14/1/81

Controversial scheme to go to Parliament



A **CONTROVERSIAL** proposal to build a R27-million pipeline at Richards Bay to disperse poisonous industrial effluent into the sea will be considered by Parliament during the coming session.

The Government has already indicated it may take on the job of dispersing effluent from the proposed R500 million Mondi Pulp Mill at Richards Bay and from existing plants, including the Triomf fertiliser factory.

There are fears that supporters of the pipeline proposal are trying to have the scheme rushed before Parliament before effective opposition can be mustered. A White Paper will be presented to Parliament soon.

A report prepared at short notice by the Oceanographic Research Institute in Durban rejects the pipeline proposal until an in-depth scientific study has been carried out. This view is shared by other authoritative bodies in Natal.

It is proposed that 10 000 tons of gypsum a day, of which 1 500 tons would accumulate on the seabed, would be fed into the pipeline by Triomf.

It has been established that the accumulation of solid gypsum at the Triomf plant is becoming acute, although a spokesman said yesterday further land, which needed to be reclaimed, had been made available.

The proposed pulp mill will produce about 50 000 m³ of effluent a day.

The research institute's report found that high fluorine levels would kill sea life in a localised area around the pipeline.

It was proposed that 83

By
**BLAKE
WILKINS**

tons of fluorine a day be discharged into the sea.

Gypsum would settle over a 1,5km² area of the seabed surrounding the outlet and gypsum particles in the water would cause harm to certain sea life.

Effluent could affect the Tugela Bank where commercial fishing for prawns, lobster and langoustine was carried out. Fish of various species are also caught there.

Prof Alan Bowmaker of the Oceanographic Research Institute said the report was confidential and declined to comment on the matter.

● See also Page 2

On pipeline

Plan to dump^{DD} effluent^{14/1/81} in sea⁵⁶

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The proposed pulp mill will produce about 50 000 cubic metres of effluent per day.

The ORI report found that high fluorine levels would kill sealife in a localised area around the mooted pipeline. It was proposed 83 tons of fluorine per day be discharged into the sea. —
DDC.

NM 14/1/81 (56)

Strict clamp on Matatiele water supplies

Mercury Reporter

THE southern Natal town of Matatiele has begun a programme to conserve its water supply after its dam reached an all-time low of 15 percent full this week.

For the 12 500 population it means using less water, and stricter controls have been introduced.

In a notice to residents, Town Clerk Ramez Sorour has warned that watering of gardens,

sports fields and washing of motor vehicles by any means, as well as the use of hosepipes for any purposes, are prohibited.

He warned that any person who contravened these restrictions would be liable to prosecution.

Local garage owner Mrs Munnie Neave said yesterday: 'In the spirit of water conservation we have stopped washing all vehicles until the situation eases.'

KDM 15/1/81

Pipeline poser put to Parliament

56

'Mail' Correspondent

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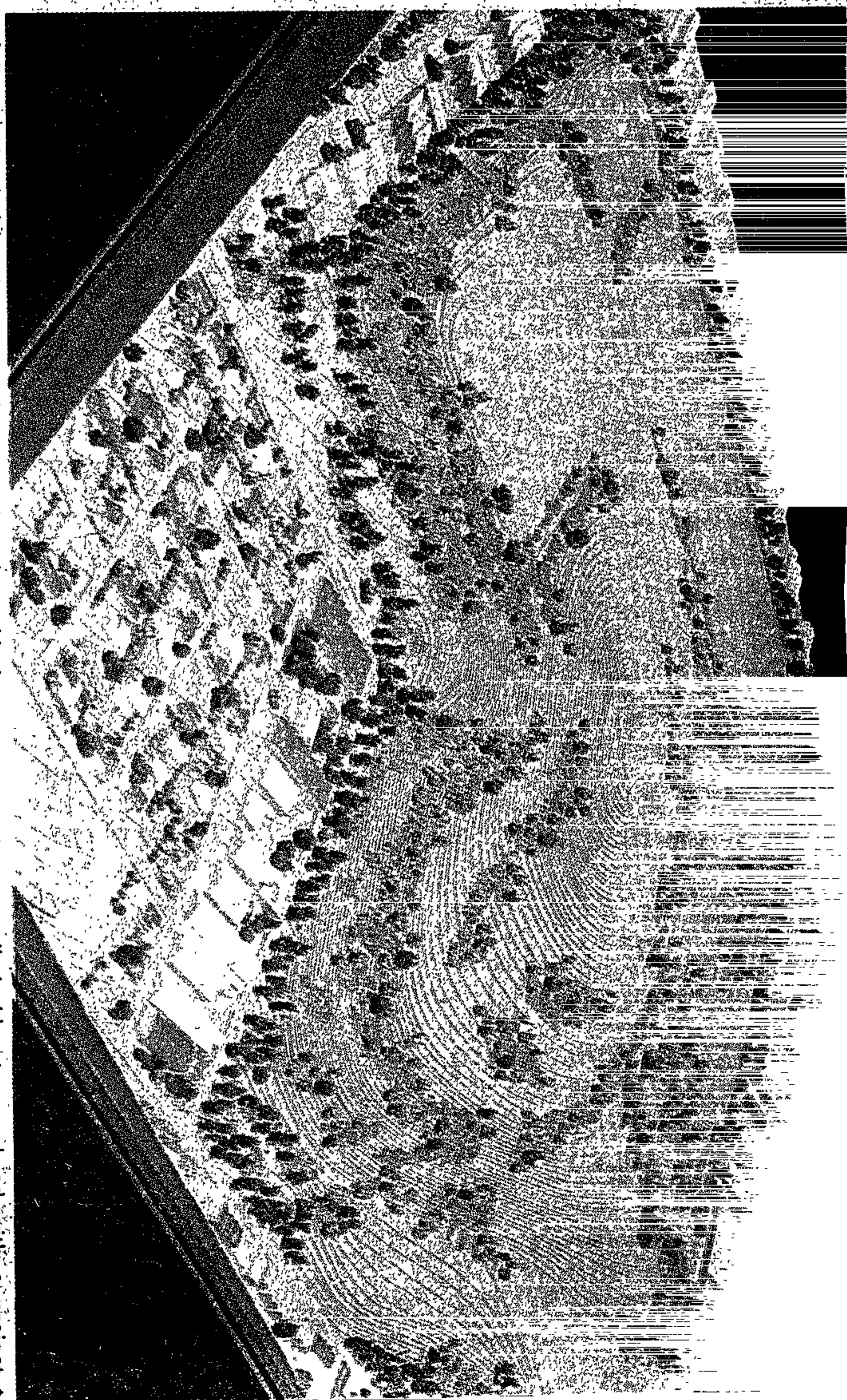
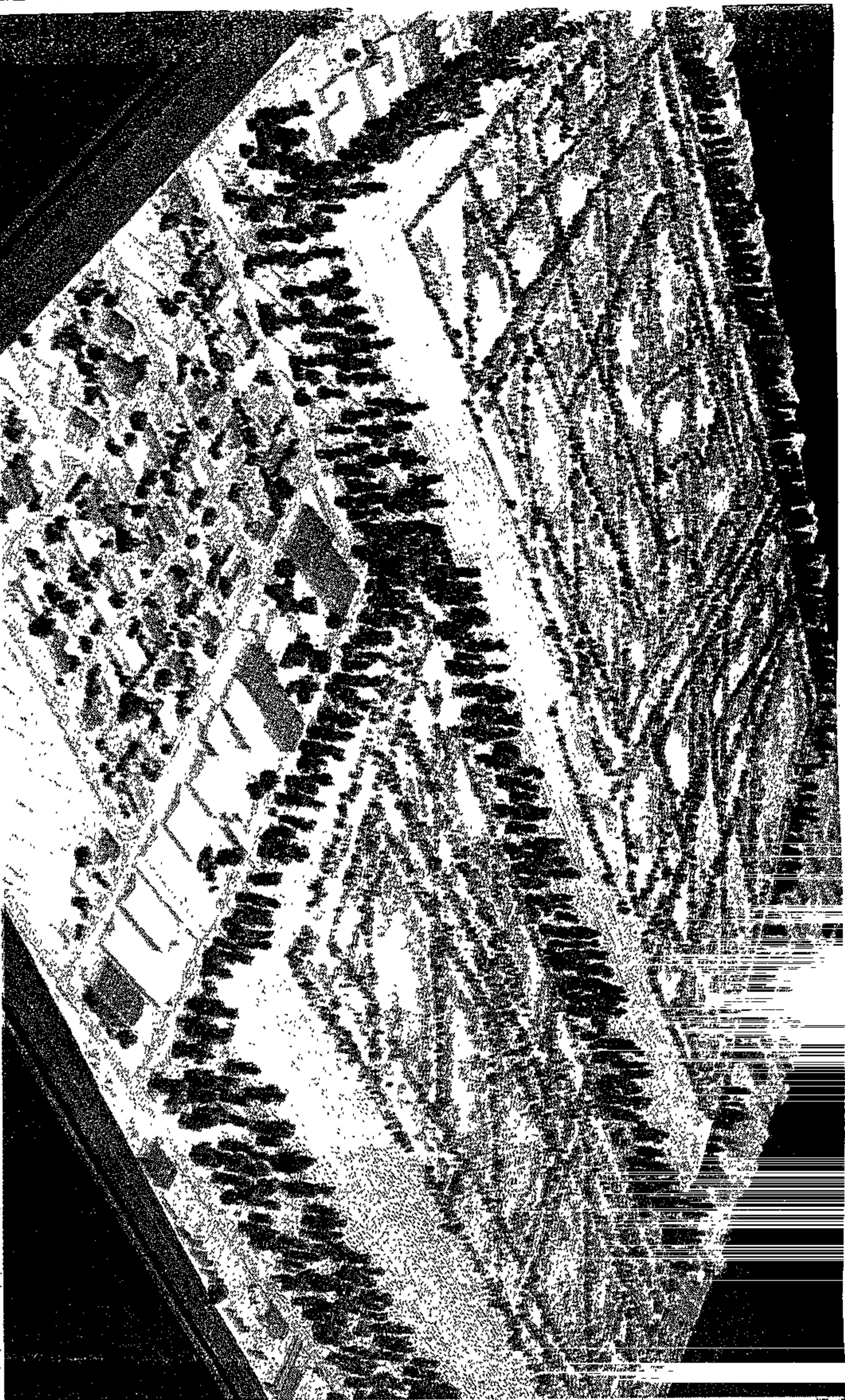
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It was proposed that 83 tons of fluorine be discharged into the sea daily.

The ORI report found that high fluorine levels would kill sealife in a localised area around the mooted pipeline.

Gypsum would settle over 1,5sq km of the seabed surrounding the outlet and gypsum particles in the water would harm certain sea life.

The report said effluent could also affect the Tugela Bank, where there was commercial fishing.



Johannesburg's Southdale slimes dam as it looks now, left, could be transformed into a picturesque park, right, with a water feature, golf and tennis facilities, and even a ski slope, if the city council decides to go ahead with a project to beautify the wasteland. The public is now being asked to express its opinions on the matter. If the park scheme gets the go ahead and proves a success, similar transformations could be undertaken at slimes dams all along the Reef.

HOW THE FACE OF THE WITWATERSRAND COULD BE DRASTICALLY CHANGED

Plan to transform slimes to parkland

By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

THE Johannesburg City Council is working on a scheme to transform a huge slimes dam south of the city into lush parkland, which might include a water feature and other public attractions.

The scheme was approved in principle yesterday by the council's health and environmental committee, which also agreed that the public should now be consulted on the project.

If the scheme gets the go ahead, it offers a success where there is a good chance that the Johannesburg City Council's example will be followed at other slimes dams.

Slimes dams all along the Reef, Johannesburg, would change the face of the Witwatersrand, where barren slimes dams have become ugly monuments to the Reef's mining history.

Yesterday, the chairman of the council's health and environmental committee, Major Danie Opperman, lifted the wraps on the proposed plans for the Southdale slimes dam.

It is surrounded by parts of Robertsham, Christville, West Turfheim and Southdale and covers an area of 108ha.

"As an experiment we decided to appoint experts to see if there is a good chance that the slimes dams, which are dormant, unproductive areas, could be used to improve Johannesburg."

Involved in the project were the City Engineer, the council's Town Planning Branch, the Parks Department, the Cleansing Branch and private consultants, who were appointed to investigate the concept in March last year.

Major Opperman and the city's deputy chief town planner, Miss Nola Green, said yesterday the idea was unique in South Africa — and probably in the world.

He said the cost of transforming the Southdale slimes dam into a parkland would not be exorbitant.

It is possible that if the project goes ahead, water features, a massive golf course, tennis facilities, a trim-park and even a ski slope will form part of the park.

On a model showing the proposed transformation of the slimes dam, provision has been made for a ski slope.

But Mr Opperman said the public — including the Federation of Southern Ratepayers Associations — would be consulted on the proposals before any decisions were taken.

He said that if the city council proved that such a scheme could be successful, there were a number of slimes dams and other wasted areas on the Reef which might be suitable for further parks.

Similar transformations could be undertaken at slimes dams all along the Reef.

RDM 15/1/81

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The report said effluent could also affect the Tugela Bank, where there was commercial fishing.

R52 million hotel plan for Berg criticised

NM
16/1/81
ⓧ

Pietermaritzburg Bureau

A PLAN by a Pretoria businessman to spend R52 million building Africa's highest hotel and casino complex in the scenic Ampitheatre area of the Drakensberg has run into severe criticism from conservationists.

The proposed hotel, Mr Francois Bester said earlier this week, would consist of a hotel on the QwaQwa side of the Drakensberg with a casino sited just inside the Lesotho border.

Landing strips for aircraft, a sports complex and camping area would also be constructed to serve the hotel, he said.

Ferrying customers to Africa's highest hotel would be two cableways — one running from Witsieshoek in QwaQwa and another from the Royal Natal National Park in the Ampitheatre.

The Natal Parks Board said they would never support any project which was 'designed to aggravate the already serious over utilisation of the fragile environment at the top of the Ampitheatre above the Royal Natal National Park.'

'Insofar as the proposed hotel and cablecar are concerned, the board would vigorously oppose anything which would impinge on the scenery of the park,' a spokesman said.

Renowned conservationist Ian Player said no matter where the proposed hotel was sited in the Ampitheatre it would be bound to have an impact on the environment.

'You can't stop development, but is this the best way to benefit the people of QwaQwa?' he asked.

With casinos available in Transkei and Bophuthatswana, and with many hotels already operating in the Drakensberg, it would be difficult to make the hotel a paying proposition, he said.

The money could be better spent on projects which would have more benefit for the population of QwaQwa as a whole, he said.

WATER

Science Correspondent

16/1/81
THERE was not enough time allowed for ocean surveys carried out last year into the proposed effluent pipeline at Richards Bay.

It was the opinion of a spokesman for the National Institute for Oceanology, speaking from Stellenbosch yesterday.

The institute was commissioned to carry out a feasibility study on the pipeline for the Government.

'The surveys we did were of the rate at which gypsum discharged will settle out and also of general hydrographic conditions in the sea off Richards Bay. But we were rushed over the dispersion tests which tell us just what will happen to the effluent after discharge.'

'We need a minimum of 15 months to carry out such surveys, so that there is an overlap of seasons. We were required to carry out the Richards Bay ones entirely during 1980.'

'We don't like being rushed. Environmental impact work cannot be done in a hurry,' he said.

'Not cut and dried'

ORMANDE POLLOK

CAPE TOWN—The Richards Bay pipeline was not a 'cut and dried' matter, Mr J F Otto, Director-General of Water Affairs, Forestry and Conservation, said yesterday.

He said in the face of rising protest by conservationists at the possibility of an 11th effluent outlet on the Natal coast, that he was not even sure if the matter would be settled by Parliament this session.

'I can assure you that we do not regard the sea simply as a dumping ground and there is no certainty about the pipeline yet.'

It was being considered as a possible means of overcoming a looming pollution problem created on land by existing factories.

Asked specifically about the settling rates of gypsum, the spokesman pointed out that the work of his institute was done directly for a client and was confidential.

A Durban firm of consulting engineers was contacted but a spokesman there said that his firm was in the same position.

The client was the Department of Water Affairs, who have suggested the construction of the pipeline.

But it is known from published reports of the CSIR that sea conditions off the coast at Richards Bay are very different from those off Durban, where the idea of a sludge disposal pipeline has received wide scientific acceptance.

Outfall

The Durban outfall discharges into swiftly flowing water more than 50 m deep where good mixing and dispersal will result.

At the suggested Richards Bay discharge point the sea is only about 20 m deep and the currents are much less powerful. This means that dispersal will not be as efficient.

Assurance

Mr Otto gave the assurance that strict control measures would be employed on the pipeline, which would be at the disposal of all factories in the area.

'Pre-treatment of all effluent going through the pipe will be a prerequisite. We are not just going to allow dirty poison to be pumped into the sea.'

One of the major considerations in making a decision was whether sea pollution would be worse than the pollution already happening.

Preliminary surveys had indicated that between 100 and 150 ha of seabed — which was not particularly rich in sea life — could be affected. But all environmental aspects were being weighed against each other.

Asked why the Government, and not the factories which would use the pipeline, was going to pay for the multi-million-rand scheme, he said it was because it would be regarded as a regional facility.

'Naturally, anyone using the pipeline will have to pay. The pipeline would have vast economic advantages and save millions of rands compared with treating and dumping waste products on land.'

He referred specifically to the already extensive dumps of the Triomf factory which he said could present a major environmental problem in the future.

A Durban scientist who preferred not to be named suggested that the irreversible disposal of the gypsum effluent with its content of fluoride, copper and other materials might turn out to be a big economic mistake.

Just as the gold mine dumps on the Rand were now being exploited so might other wastes of today be exploited in the future.

A Mercury reporter writes that the Administrator of Natal, Mr Stoffel Botha, and a member of the Executive Committee, Mr Dering Stainbank, will meet the Minister of Water Affairs, Dr Nak van der Merwe, in Cape Town on January 26 to discuss the Richards Bay pipeline.

Declined

Mr Stainbank, who is MEC for the Natal Parks Board, declined to comment on the pipeline and its effect on the environment until after the meeting with the minister.

According to Dr G G Cillie, director of the CSIR's National Institute of Water Research, if the pipeline is built it will be monitored rigorously for three years.

Meanwhile, two chemistry lecturers at the University of Natal, who did not wish to be named, have claimed that fluoride and gypsum would kill sea life.

A suggestion put forward by the Bluff Anti-Rates and Anti-Pollution Committee yesterday was that the Government should establish a transport fleet to take the gypsum to the Transvaal where it should be dumped down disused mine shafts.

IS YOUR FRONT GARDEN ABOUT TO BECOME A PWV 3 EXIT RAMP?

Unrolling the concrete carpet across Jo'burg

RDM (56) 19/11/81

Another big freeway near Johannesburg was given the go-ahead last week, creating a wave of public anger. The road will pass through Randburg, destroying a river park and part of a plush residential area. City Editor SEAN O'CONNOR looks at some of the other freeway plans which have made the Johannesburg metropolitan area the centre of motorway controversy in South Africa.

LIVING near parks, river trails and undeveloped ridges is becoming more of a risk than a blessing.

In Johannesburg and many surrounding Reef towns, these rare open spaces have proved eventually to be islands of social distress.

Like magnets, these undeveloped expanses attract the attention of planners and engineers, seeking a path of least resistance for large-scale motorways.

And although the history of freeway-building in South Africa is relatively recent, thousands of urban dwellers can testify to the dreaded drawbacks of living in the shadow of multi-lane motorways.

For others, the situation has been much worse — their homes were situated where the parks and river trails ended.

In their quest to cater for future traffic needs in and around Johannesburg's rapidly expanding metropolitan area, planners have illustrated time and again their use of urban open spaces for freeways and major arterials.

This apparent strategy — clearly aimed at keeping to a minimum the destruction of blocks of flats and business nodes — is perhaps understandable.

In the last week, Transvaal provincial planners demonstrated this tactic once again when details of a new freeway in Randburg were disclosed by the Rand Daily Mail.

Not only does the freeway — part of the PWV3 road — destroy a valuable river park in Ferndale, but it also destroys part of one of the town's plush suburbs.

Now, this proposed desecration of the environment and the destruction of homes has turned this freeway into yet another controversial milestone in the Witwatersrand's short but fiery history of motorway development.

Ever since details were disclosed nearly 20 years ago about the M1 — the road which heralded the arrival of the motorway era in Johannesburg — almost every subsequent major Witwatersrand freeway has incurred the wrath of the public.

Some motorways were accepted as being vitally necessary, but they were sharply criticised for smashing through old, historic suburbs. Others were attacked for their destruction and unhealthy impact on the nearby environment.

Then there were those that were labelled as being unnecessary and too costly.

In the past decade, there have been at least five key roads in the Johannesburg metropolitan area which have resulted in prolonged public protests.

Through the late 60s and early 70s, the criticism was directed at the M1, but the protests were disorganised and were lodged by isolated groups of residents who found their properties being adversely affected by the freeway.

At the time, a major criticism against the road was its destruction of several historic buildings in Parktown and the destructive effect it would have on the environment along its route through the city's northern suburbs.

More recently, and long after its completion in 1974, the M1 has been criticised by observers of transportation planning for not relieving traffic congestion.

It is argued that Oxford Road and Jan Smuts Avenue — two of the main routes to the northern suburbs before the M1 was built — are still congested at peak periods.

Some critics claim too that the philosophy behind the M1 was wrong. It had increased the number of people using cars and had stunted the development of a swift, efficient public transport service.

However, it is widely acknowledged that the M1 is exceptionally well designed, takes up a minimum amount of land and provides a vital and direct link with Pretoria.

It has also scored points for skirting around the edge of the city centre, instead of leading traffic directly into the CBD.

While all attention was focused on the gradual completion of the M1 in the early 70s, a dark foreboding shadow in the form of the "monster" M6 freeway loomed over Johannesburg.

But one of the final nails in the coffin of the M6 probably came in October, 1979, when the province abandoned plans for a 4km stretch of the notorious PWV10 freeway to pass through Quellerina and Bergbron, Roodepoort.

Instead, plans were made for this short section of freeway on the West Rand to lead into Fourteenth Road, Fairlands. At the time, this move was widely interpreted as being confirmation of the death of the M6.

This was because the PWV10, before its course was altered to pass through Fairlands, was originally designed to link up with the M6.

Last June there was a final sigh of relief when an application for office rights on the route of the M6 gained official support.

Often referred to as the Godfather of the M6 because of its logical link up with the "monster" of northern Johannesburg, the proposed PWV10 sliced its way through Weltevreden in Roodepoort to the Johannesburg municipal boundary.

Plans for the freeway have not been shelved but the protests have subsided for the time being, partly because of its altered course as it approaches Johannesburg and partly because the road now appears on transportation grid maps as a low-priority 50-year project.

Two years ago, a massive campaign was launched to mobilise public opinion against the PWV10 and what appeared to be its inevitable link up with the M6.

A provincial road, the PWV10 was not far behind the M6 in its ability to create public uproar.

But then events took an unexpected turn when the Transvaal Roads Department, seeing no harm in the exercise, sent out letters to homeowners along the proposed route of the freeway, asking them for comments.

This was before the alteration of the 4km section, when its proposed path still took it through the developed areas of Quellerina, Bergbron and Northcliff Extension 20.

This part of the route had never been publicised before and when the roar went up from angry residents who received the province's letters, the provincial decision makers were clearly shaken.

In an attempt to undo the damage, the province sent out another batch of letters that read: "We kindly request you to ignore all previous letters and wish to apologise for any inconvenience."

The letter explained that the plans were intended only for the eyes of potential township developers along the PWV10 route, west of the Western Bypass.

Then, late in 1979, the province announced it had altered the route and that the freeway would no longer pass through the beautiful Quellerina ridge to Newlands boundary.

The province said it had established that Fourteenth Avenue, Fairlands, had sufficient road reserve for the construction of a four-lane facility and, in all probability, the PWV10 would be connected to this street.

At the time, the Roads Department's chief planning engineer, Mr T L Kruger, conceded that outraged protest from Quellerina homeowners might have helped to spur the alteration.

Then there was the plan to build a highway through the Rivonia village in Sandton.

This scheme also culminated in a protracted public protest which went on for nearly seven years.

The fight against the road began in 1970 when the project, already adopted by the Sandton Town Council and approved by the provincial authorities, was publicised showing a choice of three routes through Rivonia.

A group of concerned residents wanted the highway to bypass the village to the east but seven years later, the road was given the go-ahead by the Sandton Town Council.

Now included in the Jomet programme, the road is designed to separate through-traffic and shopping traffic, linking Rivonia Road with an interchange feeding Sandton from the Western Bypass.

During the lengthy wrangle over the highway's proposed path, 13 different routes were investigated, notching up a bill of about R50 000 in engineering consultants' fees.

The road is likely to cost nearly R5-million and its route will result in the expropriation of about 15 houses and six flats.

Nearly 200m wide — and four and half times bigger than the M1 — the M6 was to have four lanes in each direction, plus a wide central median to cater for buses or a rapid rail system.

The M6, probably the most controversial planning proposal to hit the city in the past decade, slashed across Johannesburg from east to west, either destroying or adversely affecting at least nine Johannesburg landmarks.

They included the King Edward School in Houghton, St John's College nearby, the Johannesburg Country Club in Auckland Park, the ridge above The Wilds nature reserve, the Westdene Dam, the historic "Hazeldene Hall" in Parktown, the Observatory Golf Course and several other parks, including the Pieter Roos Park alongside Empire Road.

The fight against the M6 — which was contained in the Johannesburg city engineer's master transport plan published in 1970 — was led primarily by Mrs Flo Bird, outspoken secretary of the Parktown Association, who says it was only early last year that her organisation received a categorical assurance that plans for the M6 had been dropped.

The fiery public baptism which the M6 plans received was followed by a mounting chorus of denials that the road would be built. These denials were greeted by public scepticism and on several occasions, the Johannesburg City Council was given a ferocious tongue lashing by irate residents' organisations.

The matter even reached Cabinet level when in 1979, the then Minister of Transport, Mr S L Muller, said he had been informed "that members of the Johannesburg management committee have apparently stated there is no possibility of the M6 being built". He made this statement in reply to a letter from the MP for Houghton, Mrs Helen Suzman.

Finally, the most recent transportation development in the metropolitan area to antagonise the public was the Administrator's recent declaration of a section of the PWV3 road through Randburg.

The freeway, wider than the M1 motorway in one section, crosses the Western Bypass in Randburg at an interchange which will swallow several smallholdings in Meadowhurst and destroy part of Bryanston Extension 3.

On the other side of the bypass, the road is channelled into a river park in Ferndale.

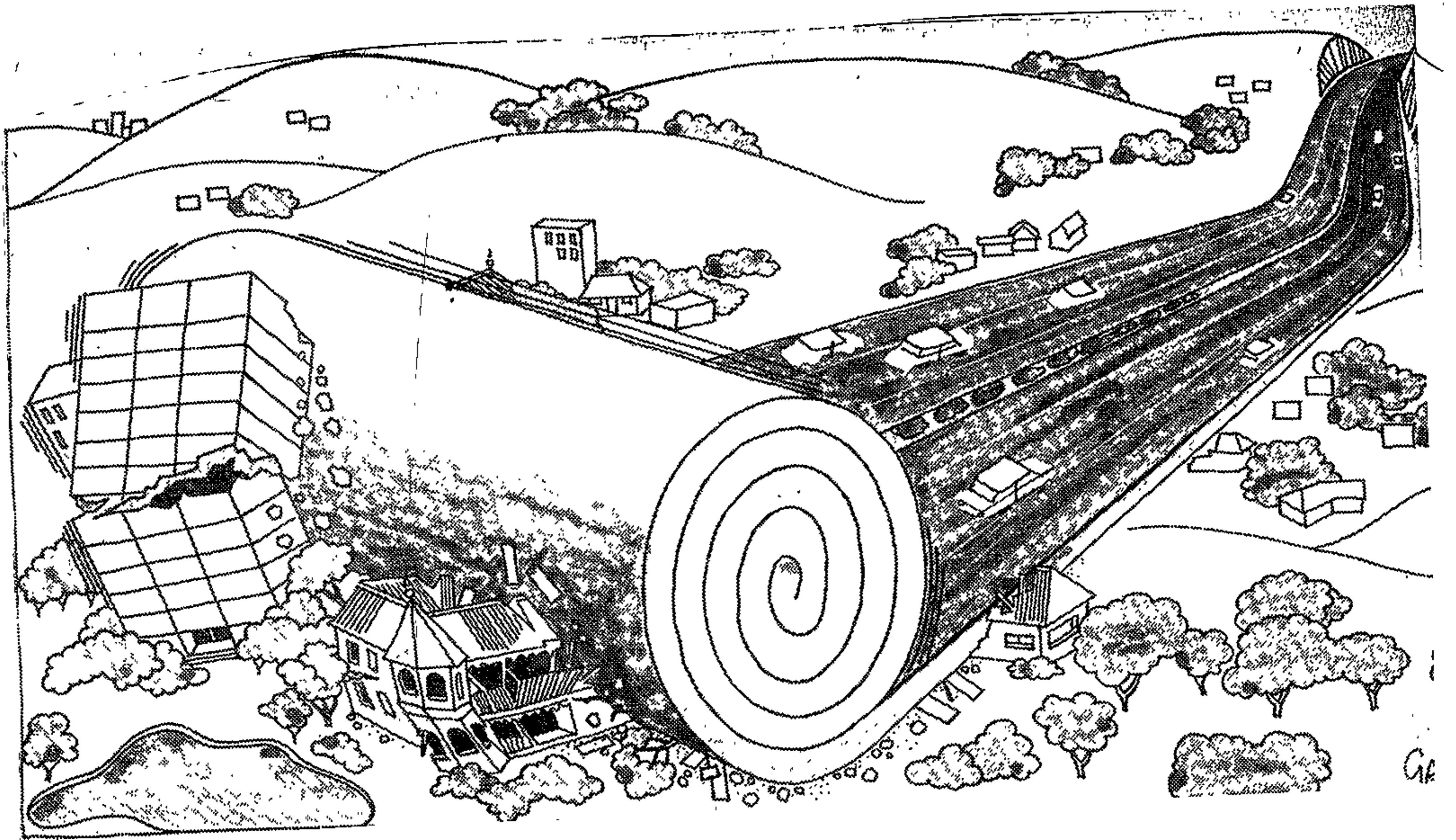
For nearly three years, Mrs Pat van Rensburg, MPC for Bryanston and a Randburg town councillor, spearheaded the public's fight against this freeway.

She gave the province a petition signed by 700 residents protesting against the road and raised the matter on a number of occasions in Provincial Council sessions.

The province maintains there is a need for a regional link between the Johannesburg metropolitan area and new growth centres near Rustenburg and Brits. It also believes the route will be required to cater for 90 000 vehicles a day by the year 2000.

Last week, Mrs Van Rensburg and the Johannesburg Metropolitan Action Group, Jomag — which was born out of the public outcry over the PWV10 through Roodepoort — vowed to continue their fight against the Randburg freeway.

And, because there are intricate provincial and metropolitan road grid plans still suspended over the Witwatersrand and the metropolitan area to cater for projected traffic needs, the protest by Mrs Van Rensburg and Jomag is almost certain to be just one of the many in years to come.



56

DEPARTEMENT VAN WATERWESE
BOSBOU EN OMGEWINGSBEWARING
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS
FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
STAND VAN DAMME STATE OF RESERVOIRS

19/1/81

WEEKLIKSE - WEEKLY STAND STATE	Maandelikse - Monthly stand met state with datum date	Netto V. V. V Net F. S. C. $10^6 m^3$	Netto - Net Water in Dam $10^6 m^3$	% van netto V V V % of net F S C		
				Verlede Jaar Last Year	Verlede Week Last Week	Op - On 19/1
1		2	3	4	5	6
WES - WESTERN TRANSVAAL						
1	BOSPOORT	18,8	15,5	87	83	82
2	BUFFELSPOORT	10,3	4,27	66	42	41
3	HANS STRIJDOM	156,7	∅ 159,2		100+	100+
4	HARTBEESPOORT	185,5	173,2	97	94	93
5	KLEIN MARICO	8,01	7,78	100+	99	97
6	KLIPVOOR	43,8	∅ 44,0	100+	100+	100+
7	KOSTER	11,2	4,78	63	44	43
8	KROMELLENBOOG	9,93	9,12	99	93	92
9	LINDLEY'S POORT	14,2	12,7	71	91	90
10	MARICO BOSVELD	27,9	27,7	100+	100+	99
11	OLIFANTSNEK	14,2	4,62	53	33	33
12	ROODEPLAAT	42,1	41,8	100+	100	99
13	VAALKOP	55,3	54,2	87	100-	98
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		597,9	556,2	92	94	93
	Bierspruit 1/12/80	4,05	2,35	83		58
	Bon Accord 1/12/80	6,46	6,46+	100+		100+
	Combrink 8/12/80	0,953	0,764	69		80
	Donkerpoort 31/12/80	3,42	3,16	77		92
	Rietvlei 5/1/80	12,0	10,0	89		83
	Swartruggens 3/12/80	0,486	0,532	100+		100+
	Warmbad 2/12/80	0,616	0,623	71		100+
NOORD - NORTHERN TRANSVAAL						
14	ALBASINI	25,6	19,5	89	74	76
15	DOORNDRAAI	46,9	∅ 48,8	64	100+	100+
16	EBENEZER	67,3	∅ 67,8+	100+	100+	100+
17	GLEN ALPINE	22,0	∅ 22,7	23	100+	100+
18	LUPHEPHE) NWANEDZI)	19,4	∅ 20,6	75	96	100+
19	MAGOEBASKLOOF	5,58	∅ 5,76	100+	100+	100+
20	NJELELE	57,4	54,9	85	87	96
21	FANIE BOTHA	158,7	∅ 161,5	77	100+	100+
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		402,9	394,3	78	96	98
	Dap Naude 30/12/80	2,08	2,04	97		98
	Merensky 1/1/81	1,31	1,27	100		97
	Vergelegen 1/1/81	0,254	0,248	100+		97

19/1/81

1	2	3	4	5	6
<u>VAALRIVIER - RIVER</u>					
41 ALLEMANSKRAAL	174,3	42,9	54	25	25
42 BLOEMHOF	1 273,0	549,3	43	45	43
43 BOSKOP	20,5	∅ 20,7	100+	100+	100+
44 DOUGLAS	17,2	11,6	48	75	68
45 ERFENIS	224,1	63,1	50	29	28
46 GROOTDRAAI	(359,9)	(146,8)	(28)	(41)	(41)
47 KALKFONTEIN	321,8	11,4	16	4	4
48 KOPPIES	41,2	18,8	35	44	46
49 KRUGERSDRIFT	78,0	2,42	2	15	3
50 RUSTFONTEIN	75,4	15,2x	45	20	20x
51 SAULSPOORT	18,8	15,5x	98	82	82x
52 SPITSKOP	61,3	27,0	39	45	44
53 STERKFONTEIN	1 203,3	516,2	41	43	43
54 TIERPOORT	34,5	0,001	4	1x	0
55 VAALDAM	2 190,6	1705,4	81	78	78
56 VAALHARTS	51,2	40,7	82	79	79
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL	5 785,2	3040,0	56	53	53
Elandskuil Gerrands 3/12/80	1,40	0,651	86		47
Klerkskraal 1/1/81	8,68	8,72	100+		100+
Klipdrift 28/11/80	13,7	10,3	70		75
Loch Athlone 3/12/80	3,74	1,53	96		41
Menin 1/11/80	0,826	0,511	92		62
Potchefstroom 1/1/81	2,11	1,97	100+		94
Rietspruit					
Roodepoort 1/1/81	1,05	0,767	50		73
Schweizer-Reneke 5/1/81	5,29	5,02	19		95
Weltevreden 1/1/81	1,88	0,421	16		22

1	2	3	4	5	6
<u>SUID-KAAP - SOUTHERN CAPE</u>					
79	BEERVLEI	89,3	0	0	0
80	FLORISKRAAL	58,7	18,4	19	35
81	GAMKAPOORT	46,9	22,3	28	48
82	HARTEBEESTKUIL	6,61	1,76	42	28
83	KAMMANASSIE	36,3	2,11	11	7
84	KROMRIVIER (CHURCHILL)	33,3	19,1	78	59
85	LOERIE	3,92	2,03	100+	59
86	MIERTJESKRAAL	1,53	0,850	47	56
87	OUKLOOF	4,50	0,205	6	4
88	PAUL SAUER	131,8	92,6	89	72
89	PRINSRIVIER	2,23	1,92	0	94
90	STOMPDRIFT	57,3	6,11	7	14
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		472,4	167,4	38	37
Bellair 1/1/81		11,1	2,42	7	22
Calitzdorp 1/12/80		4,98	1,77	56	35
Ernest Robertson 1/12/80		0,422	0,421	82	100-
Gamka 1/1/81		1,75	0,781	84	45
Koos Raubenheimer 1/12/80		9,26	5,11	73	55
Leeugamka 3/12/80		14,5	10,4	39	72
Swart River 22/12/80		0,720	0,721	93	100+
<u>OOS KAAP - EASTERN CAPE</u>					
91	BRIDLE DRIFT	75,7	34,9	86	47
92	DOORNRIVIER	22,5	12,3	71	55
93	ELANDSDRIFT	12,5	3,50	39	28
94	GRASSRIDGE	57,7	27,2	33	47
95	GROENDAL	11,8	8,93	90	77
96	KATRIVIER	26,1	6,20	77	25
97	KOMMANDODRIF)	97,2	6,63	39	8
98	LAKE ARTHUR)	21,7	21,6	98	100
99	LUBISI	157,9	25,0*	33*	16*
100	MENTZ	192,5	93,0	44	56
101	NAHOON	22,1	1,45	78	7
102	ROOIKRANS	5,40	2,93	76	53
103	VAN RYNEVELDSPAS	46,7	1,22	2	3
104	WATERDOWN	38,2	9,92	78	28
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		788,0	254,8	48	35
Bulkrivier 1/1/81		0,821	0,742	71	90
Gubu 1/1/81		8,77	6,29	97	72
Howisonspoort 1/1/81		0,883	0,745	88	84
Jameson 1/1/81		0,575	0,221	87	38
Milner 1/1/81		0,255	0,173	80	68
Ncora 4/11/81		161,7	157,2	99	97
New Years 17/12/81		4,66	3,47	92	74
Sandrivier 1/1/81		2,67	2,49	96	93
Settlers 1/1/81		4,02	0,419	88	10
		0,428			
Vanstadens (Lower) 1/12/80		0,322	0,322	100	100
Vanstadens (Upper) 1/12/80		0,143	0,143	100	100

Mining at Noordhoek

(56) Argus 21/1/81

Opposed

Divisional Council Reporter

RESERVES of kaolin in the Noordhoek Valley are so vast that if mining is allowed it could continue for 150 years, destroying the valley as a tourist attraction, the Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Cape has warned.

The vice-chairman of the Co-ordinating Council, Dr A V Hall, has written to the office of the Prime Minister pointing out that noise from mining would go on from 7 am to 5 pm in the summer tourist season in the present tranquil amphitheatre.

His letter, a copy of which was considered by the Works Committee of the Divisional Council of the Cape yesterday repeats an earlier request for an environmental impact assessment to be made before any licence to mine is granted.

BRACKENFELL

Pointing out that there is a kaolin deposit of great promise at Brackenfell, Dr Hall suggests that alternative mining sites must be explored with far greater thoroughness before defiling the superb natural beauty and peace of the Noordhoek amphitheatre.

These last qualities are as much a natural resource, especially near a city, as an industrial mineral and I am sure all agree we must share the same policy of wise use for today and the future.

Dr Hall's letter ends: 'On present evidence, my council stands completely opposed to the proposals for mining at Noordhoek.'

ASSESSMENT

In an interim statement, pending an environmental assessment report, Dr Hall told the Divisional Council yesterday that about one-fifth of the lower slopes and floor of the Noordhoek Valley were underlain by mineable kaolin.

With 14 to 17-million tons of mineable kaolin, Noordhoek is an enticing prize indeed, when seen solely in financial terms, he went on.

Mining could continue for an estimated 150 years at Noordhoek at the proposed ultimate rate.

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ARCHITECTURE

Town Clerk was kept in the dark over sludge

267
N/M
23/1/81

Mercury Reporter

DURBAN Town Clerk Gordon Haygarth did not know until December that Durban's sludge-dumping experiment had begun on October 20.

He said yesterday he had been under the impression that the operation would begin this month — an impression he conveyed to the Mercury as early as last November.

On November 18 the council authorised City Engineer Don Macleod to speak about sludge disposal at a conference in London at the end of next September.

Earlier, while the matter was being discussed at committee level, Mr Haygarth told the Mercury the experiment would have been in operation for nine months by the time Mr Macleod attended the

conference.

This week, the Mercury asked Mr Haygarth and Mayor Sybil Hotz specifically whether the project could begin before the public meeting scheduled for February 14.

They gave no indication that it had begun already. Later, Mr Haygarth said they had needed time to consider a suitable reply.

The fact that the experiment had been under way since October 20 became known to the public — and to many councillors — only after the Mayor issued a statement the following day.

The statement focused on public debate over a suggestion that the Minister of Water Affairs might issue a special permit for the project before February 14.

The assistant chief engineer in the Department of Water Affairs' pollution-control division, Mr A Zungel, was reported to have said a permit was expected to be issued about mid-February.

This angered the Anti-Rates Committee. It warned the council there had been 'hotheaded talk' about the pipeline.

Then the Mayor disclosed that the experiment had been in progress for three months already and that she and senior officials would seek clarification from the Minister of Water Affairs over the alleged necessity for a special permit.

Our Science Correspondent writes that recent scientific surveys show that the condition of the sea at Durban's beaches has remained unchanged in spite of

the sludge experiment, according to Dr Colin Mackenzie, Medical Officer of Health for the city. This was also confirmed by a scientist of the National Institute for Water Research, who said that his full report would be available in February.

Dr Mackenzie also said that there was only the most remote possibility of anyone contracting cholera while bathing on one of Durban's beaches. 'One could swallow perhaps quarter of a million cholera bugs and probably not get the disease.'

'The chances of such a concentration getting back to the beaches are very slim but not impossible, since the cholera bug can survive in seawater for up to 40 days.'

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ATURE

The people speak out on sludge-in-the-sea

'Take Durban's council to court'

SB (56) JEA NM ad/10

Mercury Reporter

PEOPLE spoke out strongly yesterday against Durban's sludge-in-the-sea operations and one said that if it could be proved it had been done without authorisation, the City Council should be prosecuted.

A random survey along Durban's beachfront showed that most people were not prepared to accept the introduction of raw sewage into the sea until all evidence for and against the scheme had been made public.

Mr David Maughan-Brown, a University of Natal lecturer from Pietermaritzburg, said if it could be proved that pumping had commenced without proper authority, the council should be prosecuted.

He did not like the idea of the sea being used as a refuse dump. 'It's the public's right to know how the ecology of the sea is being affected.'

Klerksdorp housewife Mrs A D Louw said she and her husband had planned to retire in Durban. 'But since reading about the pipeline and the sewage, I don't think we're so keen any more.'

Two Witwatersrand University students said they did not mind the sewage as long as 'we can't see it'.

'I mean, I wouldn't like to see things floating in the water,' said psychology student Heather Segal, 20.

Local surfer and Natal University drama student Deon Bosman said he thought the council's behaviour 'abhorrent'.

'It's about time we had a City Council that represented the wishes of the people, especially those people who use the sea,' he said.

A first-time visitor to Durban, Mr Paul Clark of Zimbabwe, said: 'My wife and I love Durban, but I don't think we'll come back if the sea becomes unhygienic.'

Durban publicity director Terry Toohey: 'They're playing ducks and drakes with a R350 million tourist industry. Durban is committed to being a tourist centre, and this type of publicity is harmful.'



HEATHER Segal, left, and Jackie Tannenbaum, students at the University of the Witwatersrand, said they were not against sewage being pumped into the sea — provided they couldn't see it. 'I wouldn't like to see things floating in the water,' commented Heather.

PAUL Clarke of Zimbabwe: 'You'd think they would want to protect the sea at all costs.'



FAR LEFT: Deon Bosman, a local surfer who feels a change is needed in the Durban City Council, commented: 'I think their action is completely underhand. Notice how they kept quiet until after the holiday season.'

CENTRE: Mrs A D Louw, a visitor from Klerksdorp who would like to retire to Durban — but who may change her mind because of the sludge-in-the-sea — said: 'Why can't they use the same methods they use in the Transvaal to get rid of their rubbish?'

LEFT: Mr David Maughan-Brown, a University of Natal lecturer from Pietermaritzburg, believes there may be grounds for taking the City Council to court. He said: 'If I thought sewage was washing up on to the beach, I certainly would not swim.'

Town Clerk was kept in the dark over sludge

18/1/30
 15
 16

Mercury Reporter

DURBAN Town Clerk Gordon Haygarth did not know until December that Durban's sludge-dumping experiment had begun on October 20.

He said yesterday he had been under the impression that the operation would begin this month — an impression he conveyed to the Mercury as early as last November.

On November 18 the council authorised City Engineer Don Macleod to speak about sludge disposal at a conference in London at the end of next September.

Earlier, while the matter was being discussed at committee level, Mr Haygarth told the Mercury the experiment would have been in operation for nine months by the time Mr Macleod attended the

conference.

This week, the Mercury asked Mr Haygarth and Mayor Sybil Hotz specifically whether the project could begin before the public meeting scheduled for February 14.

They gave no indication that it had begun already. Later, Mr Haygarth said they had needed time to consider a suitable reply.

The fact that the experiment had been under way since October 20 became known to the public — and to many councillors — only after the Mayor issued a statement the following day.

The statement focused on public debate over a suggestion that the Minister of Water Affairs might issue a special permit for the project before February 14.

The assistant chief engineer in the Department of Water Affairs' pollution-control division, Mr A Zuncel, was reported to have said a permit was expected to be issued about mid-February.

This angered the Anti-Rates Committee. It warned the council there had been "hotheaded talk" about the pipeline.

Then the Mayor disclosed that the experiment had been in progress for three months already and that she and senior officials would seek clarification from the Minister of Water Affairs over the alleged necessity for a special permit.

Our Science Correspondent writes that recent scientific surveys show that the condition of the sea at Durban's beaches has remained unchanged in spite of

the sludge experiment, according to Dr Collin Mackenzie, Medical Officer of Health for the city. This was also confirmed by a scientist of the National Institute for Water Research, who said that his full report would be available in February.

Dr Mackenzie also said that there was only the most remote possibility of anyone contracting cholera while bathing on one of Durban's beaches. "One could swallow perhaps quarter of a million cholera bugs and probably not get the disease."

"The chances of such a concentration getting back to the beaches are very slim but not impossible, since the cholera bug can survive in seawater for up to 40 days."

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STURE

Sludge in the sea RDM 23/1/81 Durban ROW (56)

DURBAN. — An announcement that Durban's sludge-in-the-sea experiment has already begun has created a storm of protest and demands for an immediate city council election.

But Dr K A Murray of the Department of Water Affairs said in Pretoria his department was not aware of the start of the experiment — despite the fact that the project was controlled by a steering committee on which his department was represented.

Durban's mayor, Mrs Sybil Hotz, announced last night that the pumping of sewage sludge into the sea started in October.

She promised a public hearing if there was sufficient opposition at next month's public meeting.

Mrs Hotz said she had first heard that the experiment was under way "a few days ago during council recess". Her announcement was to clear up any existing confusion.

She said the February 24 public meeting would "very definitely" go ahead and the latest turn of events would in no way prejudice the meeting.

Dr Murray, who is chief hydrologist for pollution control, said the pumping of sewage sludge was contrary to the agreement between the various bodies concerned.

Mr Keith van der Wat, chairman of Durban's Bluff-based anti-rates committee, yesterday called for an immediate council election.

"I feel that it is imperative that an election is called right now. It's obvious this city is being run by officials and not by our elected representatives. It seems that they are usurping not only the authority of the council, but also that of the Department of Water Affairs. And they are really only employees."

Mr Peter Mansfield, a member of the council's management committee, said: "If the experiment has started, all hell is going to break loose. The project has been handled badly from the start, but this is total disaster."

"How dare the city engineer proceed before the public has been given a fair hearing and before a permit has been issued by the Department of Water Affairs?"

S F Richardson
Management.
dissertation in Building
a first class pass for
For the best student obtain
LTA Prize

R W Kohne
student of the degree course
For the best final year
George Strachan Prize

R W Kohne
Fourth Year

B de Jong
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Building Industri
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M R I Ness

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For the best project in
R Stubbs Award

J G Kirkman

design work.
best use of bricks in
For the student who has
S A Brick Association

Miss M F J Sandilands

first year.
For the best work in
Mrs. Thornton White P

Meanwhile, a Durban city councillor, Mr Pieter Breytenbach, is organising a petition among his colleagues to force a council meeting within a week.

A new councillor, Mr Neville Herrington, said he was taken by surprise.

He said he was not told about the experiment and knew of several other councillors who had not been told either. "Furthermore, the public was not told," he said.

Mr W. Oliff of the CSIR's National Institute for Water Research, which is under contract to monitor the experiment, said he was aware that the discharge of sewage had started last year.

A preliminary survey had been carried out prior to the starting of the experiment and one follow-up survey had already been made. — Sapa.

BUILDING

(Continued)
ARCHITECTURE

SA facing whale of a lobby

Argus 24/1/87 3rd line (56)

SOUTH AFRICA will be hardpressed to continue defending its stand supporting commercial whaling if Russia joins the anti-whaling lobby at the next meeting of the International Whaling Commission in a few months' time, say many conservationists.

Now, nearly a year after South Africa attracted howls of derision over its refusal to join a move for a moratorium on whaling, Russia has announced it is suspending commercial whaling. As the number of people dependent on commercial whaling decreases, the worldwide clamour to

cease the cruel harvest mounts.

Many observers at the IWC believed South Africa's decision to support the whaling lobby led by Japan and Russia was prompted by political considerations and South Africa's trade links with Japan.

One of the supporting arguments for this view was South Africa's abstention from voting on a

proposal recommended by the scientific advisory committee that no Pacific sperm whales be hunted this year.

Scientists have pointed out that if South Africa felt there was not enough evidence available to make up its mind, it should have voted against hunting the whales, and not abstained.

The South African delegation has not answered this.

One of the reasons advanced for voting

against a moratorium on whaling was that Japan would resign from the IWC and simply continue whaling without control.

PRESSURE

Russia's suspension of its whaling fleet will add considerably to the international pressure against Japan and will go a long way to negating the possibility of Japan withdrawing from the IWC.

Rumour in conservation circles is that Mr Louis Botha, a Department of Sea Fisheries scientist, has been earmarked to replace Dr Garth Newman, who has left to work in Australia, as the head of South Africa's deputation to the IWC.

Mr Botha's credentials are impeccable, and although he is not specifically an expert on whaling, his good judgment is beyond question.

D H Pryce Lewis

For the best student of
Architecture (or Quantity
Surveying) in the subject
of Professional Practice.

David Haddon Prize

Miss C Tredgold

For the best woman student
in third year.

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize

P A Rappoport

For a student who has
satisfactorily completed
1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.

Helen Gardner Travel Prize

P F Dunkley

Sixth Year

For the best student in :-
of Architects' Prize

Cape Provincial Institute

ARCHITECTURE

'Secret' pumping of sewage sludge

S. Express 25/1/81

Sunday Express Reporter

56

A TOP conservationist has demanded the resignation of Durban's city engineer after he admitted pumping sewage sludge into the sea for three months without telling the mayor or the Medical Officer of Health.

Mrs Sybil Hotz, the mayor, said ~~his~~ week she first heard about the experiment "a few days ago during the council recess".

The city's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Colin Mackenzie, was also unaware that the sludge experiment had begun.

"I was astonished when I heard about it. It was the first I knew about it," he said.

Other councillors, including a member of the management committee, are furious.

Councillor Neil Herrington said he was taken by surprise by the mayor's announcement.

"I don't believe I was among those informed that the experiment had already started. We were clearly given to understand that no sludge would be pumped into the sea before a permit was issued.

"I was not told about the experiment and know several other councillors who were not told either. Furthermore, the public was not told either."

Management committee member Peter Mansfield was outraged at the disclosure.

"The project has been handled badly from the start — but this is total disaster. How dare the city engineer proceed before the public has been given a fair hearing?"

These councillors and ratepayers' spokesmen have demanded a public meeting on the sludge on February 24, and the mayor has backed them.

But the city engineer, Mr Don Macleod, is sticking to his guns. He'll stop pumping only for the management committee. In a report to the committee this Friday, he says sludge is still being pumped out to sea.

He adds that he'll stop until the February 24 meeting if the committee tells him to.

Management committee chairman Mr MacLennan is stoutly defending Mr Macleod, and says there might have been a misunderstanding.

Mr Macleod had told the committee, said Mr MacLennan, that he was closing the central sewage works in October for annual maintenance and that would be a good time to start the pumping experiment.

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ARCHITECTURE

Let the people decide

S. Tribune By INGRID STEWART (56) 58
2/1/80

A MEMBER of Durban's management committee, Peter Mansfield, has called for an immediate public referendum on the sludge-into-the-sea experiment as the only democratic way to resolve Durban's "sludgegate" crisis.

"The City Engineer's action in proceeding with controversial sludge in the sea scheme without a Government permit and without informing the Council or the public has created an atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust. Under the circumstances there is no way that Council debate can now resolve the issue to the satisfaction of all. The Council must either scrap the scheme or hold a referendum," Councillor Mansfield said.

"Let those in favour of the scheme campaign in favour and those against campaign against and let us all accept the result. The planned public meeting on February 24 will provide a useful pre-referendum forum for the public to air their views."

Excellent

Mayor Sybil Hotz welcomed the idea. She said: "It's an excellent idea. The whole thing has been badly handled from the beginning. A referendum might help to clear things up. If people by an overwhelming majority want the project stopped, then we must review the whole situation and shut down the whole experiment."

Meanwhile the Bluff's Anti-Rates, Anti-Pollution and Conservation Committee has called for the resignation of Don Macleod, the city engineer, for starting the experiment without public consent, and of the mayor, Mrs Sybil Hotz, whom they have accused of covering up the fact that the experiment had already started despite assurances that nothing would be done until after the public meeting on February 24.

Must go

"The City Engineer must go, we must get rid of him," an angry Keith van der Wat, chairman of the committee, told the Tribune. "By starting the experiment without telling anyone shows he holds us in utter contempt. And how can the city's first citizen, the mayor, say she knew nothing about it. It is impossible that the city engineer, who is not an elected official, could go ahead without her consent."

"I believe they planned to present us with a fait accompli at the public meeting. They have been deceitful and dishonest."

"And how can the City Engineer go ahead without the necessary permit from the Department of Water Affairs?" Mr van der Wat said.

His committee had written to the department requesting that the permit be withheld until after the public meeting. The department's reply has now been circulated to all city councillors for discussion at Wednesday's meeting.

It reads as follows: "A letter has been received from the city engineer requesting an amendment to the corporation's permit to enable the experiment sponsored by the Water Research Commission to take place over a period of two years."

"The application has not as yet been processed and has to be referred to a number of consultative bodies including the SABS, the Department of Health, Welfare and Pensions and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries."

"Some time will elapse before a submission can be made to the Minister. Therefore the question of withholding the issue of the permit until after February 24 does not arise."

The letter is dated December 19, 1980.

Legal advice

Bluff councillor, Dick Burgess, is considering taking legal advice on the issue, depending on the outcome of Wednesday's meeting.

"If necessary I will get a court order to stop the experiment. Seven thousand people in my ward signed a petition against the experiment. They have a right to be heard."

Mayor Sybil Hotz has vehemently denied that she was involved in any cover-up.

"As soon as I heard the experiment had started, I immediately issued a Press statement because I believed the public had a right to know. I would never have issued the statement if I wanted to cover the whole thing up. My concern was that the public should be fully aware of what was going on."

City engineer Macleod: 'I'll hide nothing'

DURBAN city engineer, Don Macleod this week took the Sunday Tribune to the Bluff sewage disposal works where the controversial sludge-into-the-sea experiment is well under way — to prove he has nothing to hide.

The treatment plant, where up until October 20 the sludge was reduced to ashes, is now inoperative. It is quiet now where the noise of the burners, blowers and centrifuges once forced workmen to wear ear-muffs. And those workmen have been transferred to other sections of the department.

"This section is closed down each year for a few weeks for routine maintenance," Mr Macleod said. "When we closed it in October last year it seemed logical to start the experiment then."

Despite what anyone says, Mr Macleod is confident he has "all the authority I need" to continue with the experiment. The sludge is now pumped back into the pipeline where it mixes with the settled effluent and is pumped out to sea about six kilometres from the coast.

Previously sludge was being pumped out at the rate of two milligrams in every litre of settled effluent. Now it goes out at the rate of 5.5-million milligrams in every litre. But, says Mr Macleod, the total amount of sludge pumped out every day is still well below the amount allowed by the Department of Water Affairs in his existing permit.

"Under our existing permit we are allowed to pump out 29 000 kilograms of solid effluent (sludge) each day. Now we are pumping out about 87 per cent of that, although the concentration is higher."

Why, then, does the Department of Water Affairs demand a new permit for the experiment?

"I've been fighting with them about this for months. As far as I'm concerned I am complying with the spirit of our existing permit." He has applied for a new permit to "keep them happy."

• The recommendation to stop the experiment temporarily will be debated by the Management Committee on Tuesday and the full city council at a special meeting on Wednesday.

Council image 'is in tatters'

THE IMAGE of the Durban City Council has plunged to an all-time low as anger continues to build over the sludge-in-the-sea experiment.

Several councillors openly admitted this week that their image was in tatters and said there was an urgent need for them to win back the confidence of the people.

One councillor went so far as to say that many people now regarded the council as "nothing but a bureaucratic and inept" body.

They said there was a communications breakdown not only between the council and the Press but also between councillors and officials.

Referring to the communications breakdown between councillors and officials, some councillors said the officials did not always fully inform them about contentious issues.

The disclosure this week that the sludge-in-the-sea experiment was already underway was given as an example of this.

Some councillors said it had been done without their knowledge.

Mayor Mrs Sybil Hotz said the controversy over the sludge issue had contributed largely to the council's public relations problems.

"It is for this reason that we have commissioned a firm of public relations consultants to look into our public relations problems. I believe only good can come of this because the council's image has not been good recently."

Civic leaders said that by going ahead with the pumping of sludge into the sea without first waiting for the outcome of the public meeting in February, the council had shown no respect for ratepayers.

Mr Keith van der Wat, chairman of the Bluff-based Anti-rates and Anti-pollution Committees, described the council's image as one of incompetence.

"Despite the public outcry against sludge being pumped into the sea, they have still gone ahead with the experiment. The sea is our future source of food and they are destroying it."

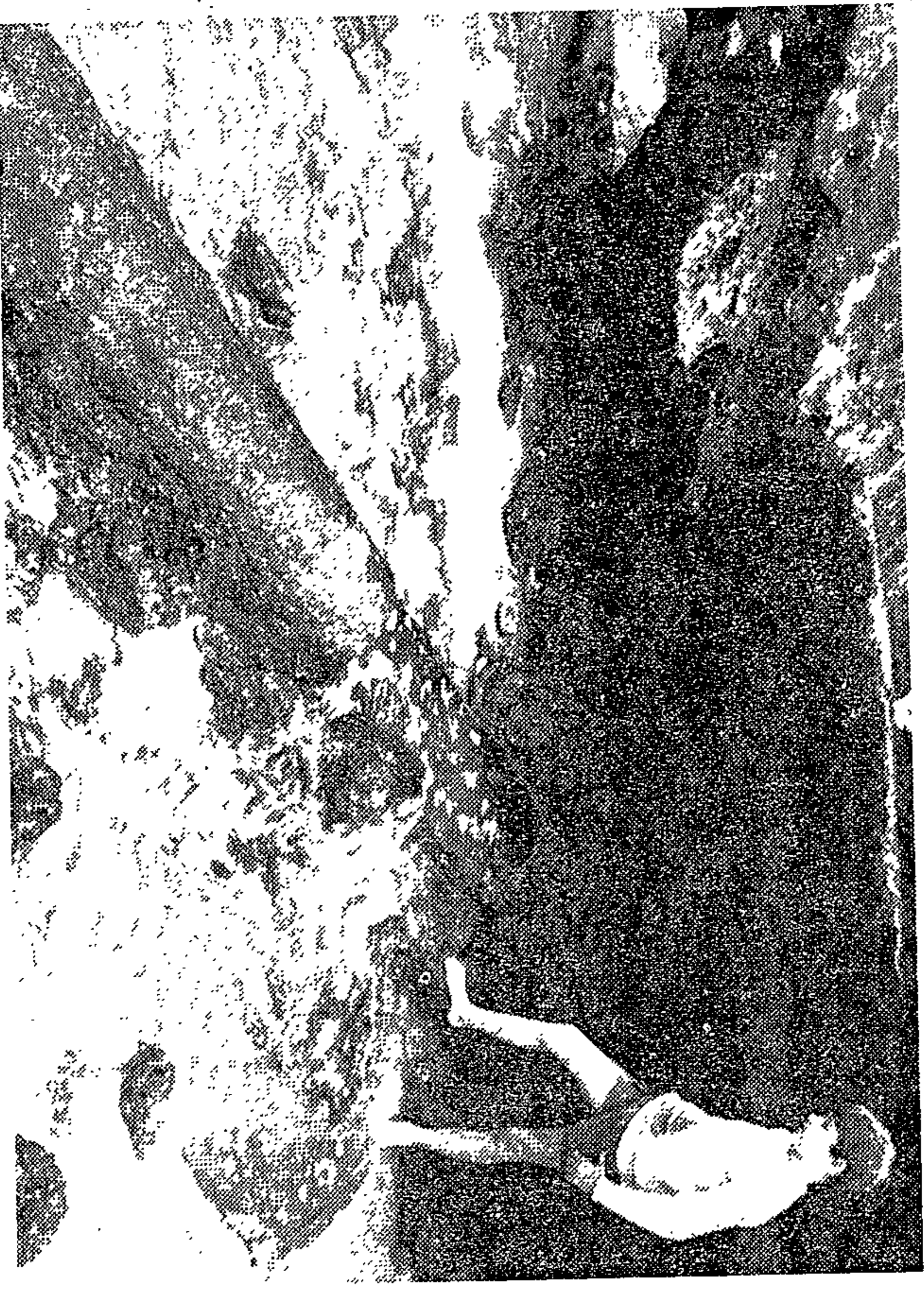
The man who has been given the task of improving the Durban Council's image is Mr Brian Gibson, a former journalist.

DOCTORS ^(S6) WARN: EAST LONDON BEACHES ARE A HEALTH HAZARD

This place STINKS!



Snorkling at Mermaids Pool, where particles of sewage are often seen in the water and sometimes wash up on the beach



East London schoolboy, Adrian Gower, watches sewage spill from a broken pipe after heavy swells

S. Tribune 25/1



EAST London's major swimming beaches are polluted to a degree probably unrivalled in South Africa.

Eleven and a half million litres of sewage a day is pumped into the surf midway between the city's two major beaches, the Nahoon and the Eastern, and the pollution is a serious health hazard, according to many of the city's doctors.

The City Engineer, who conducts regular bacteriological tests of the water, refuses to release the results to the Sunday Tribune. "The figures do not lend themselves to general assessment," he says.

The tests regularly show, however, the presence of faecal coli — the indicator of pollution by sewage.

Despite the pollution a record crowd of about 15 000 holidaymakers flooded the city this Christmas to swim in what locals refer to as "diltied sewage".

Most were unaware of the pollution except when the wind blew from the wrong direction. They did not know it was a health hazard.

Many went fishing with their families in the attractive Bats Cave area — unaware that untreated sewage was bubbling out onto the rocks and into the sea nearby.

Toilet paper

When I visited the area shortly before Christmas a Benoni fisherman and his four children were standing knee-deep in the waves. He had heard there was a discharge pipe somewhere nearby but because the wind was from the east he could not smell it.

His children said there were "pieces of toilet paper and things" on the rocks.

Less than 100 metres away, in the next cove, the sea was stained brown-black as the sewage flowed into the waves. The water's surface was a

covered with scum... much of it human excreta. There were no signs warning that it was unsafe to swim or paddle in the muck, despite the fact the area is easily accessible. It is midway along a popular hike on the sandstone cliffs between the Nahoon and Eastern beaches.

Eighteen years ago an East London doctor told the municipality the sea at the Eastern Orient and Nahoon beaches was "unfit to bathe or paddle in".

Private bacteriological tests showed that faecal coli levels in the water made it "unfit for human habitation" on all of the beaches for 365 days a year, he said this week.

No action

He handed his results to the municipality, but no action was taken.

Seven years later, also after private tests by a pathologist, a local pharmacist, Mr John Rattray, took the matter up with the Minister of Water Affairs.

"As laid down by the Department it was permissible to have two of these coliform per 100 cc in drinking water and 10 in river or swimming water," he said.

His tests showed between 11 and 1 800 parts per 100cc in samples from all the beaches.

As a keen sturdiver and official of the South African Underwater Union, he had noticed underwater changes off East London's beaches caused by contamination.

"I travelled overseas and saw how they solved this type of problem. I thought they would do the same here," he said.

The then Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Fanie Botha, told him things were happening, but they took time.

"Since then virtually nothing has been done. A sewage works would have cost R400 000 in 1965 or R2 million in 1969, Mr Rattray said. Today's estimate for

treating sewage discharged at Bats Cave is R25 million, taking into account the interest the municipality would have to pay on a loan for the work.

Even if the envisaged scheme were put into operation tomorrow, it would be at least six years before it could be built.

East London ratepayers would have to pay and that's the dilemma the city council would have to face. It can give the go-ahead for a treatment works — adding about 20 percent to rates which already rank with the highest in the country — or it can do what it has been doing for years and ignore the problem while it draws up alternative plans and has more tests and studies done to see which plan is the best.

If it opts for the first alternative, the municipality may miss out on a Government subsidy for sewage treatment works which has been recommended and which may come into effect within the next few years.

If it opts for the second, it could jeopardise the lucrative tourist trade — the city's largest industry.

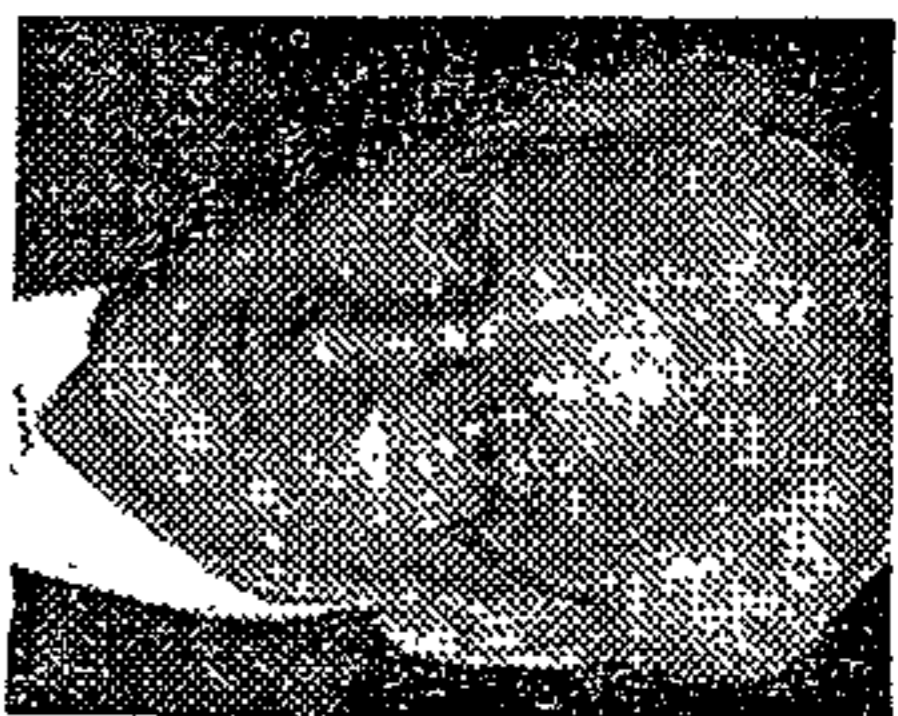
Physical problems at the discharge site, however, have put the engineers department in a no-win situation. If the wind blows from the west, the sewage pollutes Nahoon Beach and one of the world's premier surfing spots, Nahoon Reef. If it blows from the east, it pollutes the Eastern Beach immediately adjacent to the city's holiday hotels.

The Orient Beach has its own problems with pollution from the Buffalo River and the harbour.

Debatable

City Engineer Graham Keppie insists the pollution is only serious in bad conditions and says it's debatable whether it is a health hazard to bathers.

"There are beaches overseas where the pollution is much more serious. People don't bathe for the



City Engineer, Graham Keppie... he refused to disclose pollution levels.

purpose of ingesting seawater," he said.

The city's surfers, paddlers, skindivers and bathers don't drink the water they swim in, but they insist it causes serious ear and stomach infections and sepsis in wounds.

Doctors agree. "My practice had 10 patients in here today with ear infections," said one during the height of the holiday season.

Floating

All the patients had been swimming and had not been aware of the dangers of infection at East London's beaches.

Surfers, paddlers and skindivers all blame the sewage for ear and stomach infections.

"I get an infection every six weeks or so," said former South African Paddling Association president Pat Kay.

"We had a paddleski contest at Nahoon Reef in December. The guys saw whole turds floating in the sea."

Surfers were becoming increasingly disillusioned that nothing was being done about the discharge. It was wrecking one of the world's premier surfing spots, they said. "We had the world amateur championships there in 1978 and what do you think they thought of it," he said.

The reef or point, where most of the surfing is done, is about a kilometre from the two sewage outlet pipes discharging waste at Bats Cave. But Mr Kay said, pollution was often worse around the

corner at the popular Nahoon Beach.

Mr Keppie says the sewage is contained in an area near Bats Cave by eddy currents, but this is hotly disputed by surfers.

"If comes around the corner like a brown tide," said a Nahoon Reef surfer. "From there it is carried towards the beach by a strong rip tide."

SA spearfishing record holder Whitney Ridge says he can put on a mask and virtually any day find "bits and pieces" when diving off Mermaid's Pool (between Nahoon Reef and the beach).

"Ten years ago we could dive on 10 or 15 days a month. Now the sea is never clean and we are lucky if we can dive four days a month," he said.

He often found bits of sewage close inshore and was sometimes washed up on the beach.

East London's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Johan van Heerden, can't do anything about the pollution.

"It is handled solely by the engineering department," he said.

He said the system was "crazy", but couldn't alter it.

Stalled

He said it was definitely a health hazard to pump raw sewage on to the beach where anybody could come into contact with it.

He said a treatment works should have been set up years ago, but the city council had "stalled and stalled". "It is remarkable that

56

we have had no typhoid or similar diseases from it," he said.

"Cholera organisms can survive in seawater for up to two weeks," he said.

He confirmed that there had been one case of typhoid and another of suspected typhoid reported in the city during November — both believed to have been caused by pollution of the blind river at the Eastern Beach.

This pollution did not come from sewage discharged at sea, however, but from inland.

There are signs warning people it is unsafe to swim in this river.

Another East London doctor says he fears an outbreak of infective hepatitis, a viral liver disease, could occur.

In 1960 about 10 000 people in East London contracted polio and he was sure the sea pollution had played a major role in spreading the disease. "My four children all had it," he said.

Pressure

The chief of pollution control at the Department of Water Affairs, Mr Hendrik Best, said his department laid down standards with which any municipality had to comply. East London complied with these, he said.

It is known, however, that department officials visited East London two years ago and applied pressure on the municipality to provide a sewage works.

"We are laying down a time-limit for all people to meet," said Mr Best.

He was not willing to disclose details of the bacterial counts obtained by Mr Keppie's department.

These counts have also been given to the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, which recently studied the effects of sewage pollution on the inter-tidal zone at East London.

The CSIR says pollution at East London is worse than at any other beaches in the Eastern Cape or Natal.

It is comparable to the worst pollution found near Durban — at Umhass and sometimes in the Umgeni River, but both of these sources are far from bathing beaches and the pollution is diluted to negligible quantities by the time it does reach any beaches.

The pollution immediately adjacent to the outlet pipes at Bats Cave is far higher than at any of the Natal sources.

CSIR man Dr Allan Connel described conditions at Bats Cave and at the Hood Point outlet on East London's West Bank as "disgusting". "We found solids at beaches where anybody

could go and the surf would either spread to the west or east, depending on the wind," he said.

The CSIR did disclose that of 110 samples taken at East London's beaches by the city engineer's department 10 showed faecal coli counts of greater than 1 000 parts per 100 cc.

They stressed there were no standards laid down for what could be considered safe for swimming.

The faecal coli count on Durban beaches is usually under 10 parts per 100 cc — a level considered exceptionally good by the CSIR and Durban health officials.

GIANT CEMENT FACTORY AND RAIL YARDS SET TO SCAR ONE OF NATAL'S FAMOUS SCENIC VIEWS

GOUGING OUT THE GORGE

GRAVAM ADDISON reports on a new threat to the environment

NATAL's famous Oribi Gorge may soon overlook a giant cement factory and railway marshalling yards.

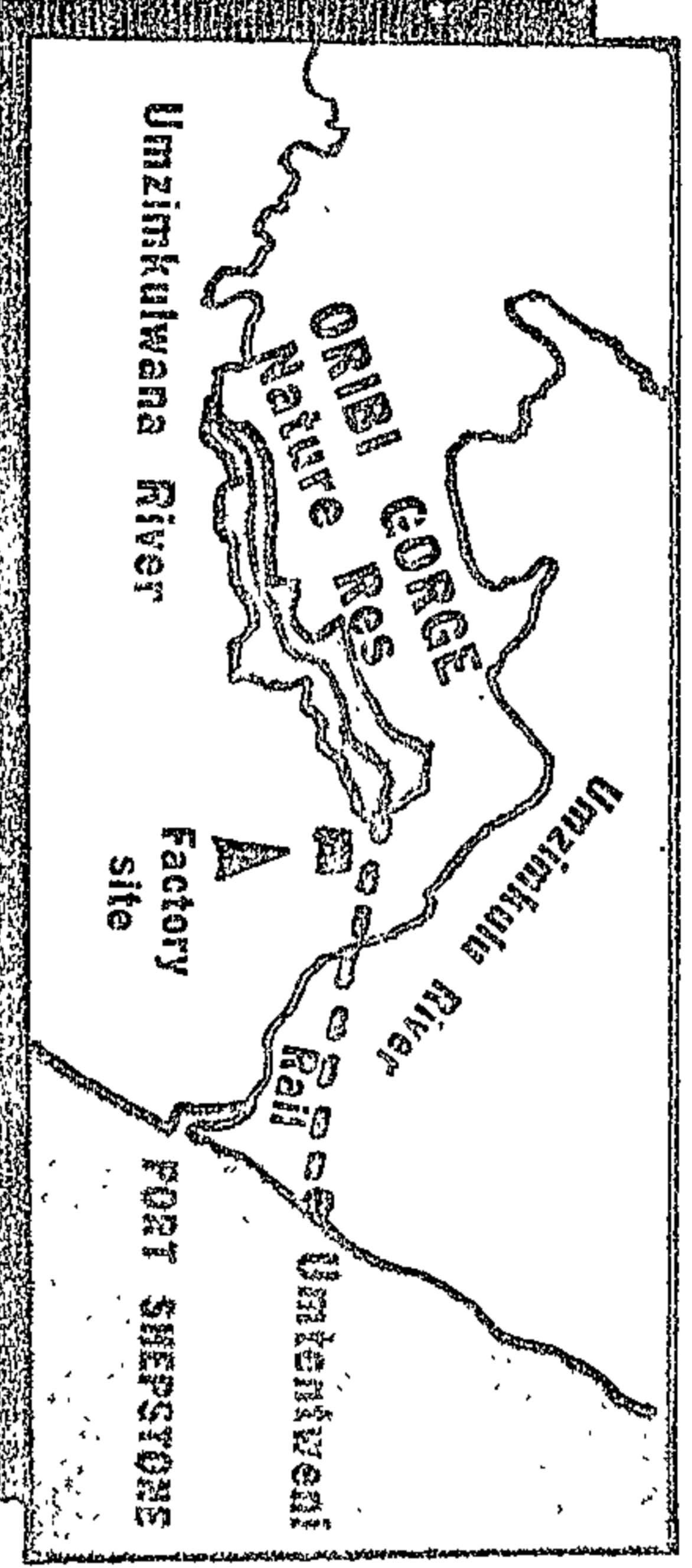
The scheme is being rushed ahead by railway planners despite the fact that the Province has still to give its approval. In Durban this week I saw plans for the railway, which is to include several tunnels and two bridges.

If the railway goes through, the spectacular cliffs of Oribi Gorge will echo to the sound of blasting as several cement-making companies gauge limestone out of the mountainsides.

The key issue is whether plans now being prepared for the Durban-based Natal Portland Cement company will be accepted by the provincial authorities.

This company announced a fortnight ago that it proposed to build a R100-million cement factory at Simons on the banks of

S. Whare 25/1/81



The new railway line will bring dust and din to the verge of Oribi Gorge nature reserve

the Umzimkulwana River. Later a spokesman added that the company would pay for an environmental impact study of the area.

Conservationists are concerned that both Oribi Gorge with its scenery, forests and wildlife, and the basin of the Umzimkulwana River could be polluted and permanently

harmed by the cement industry. They concede that the industry will bring thousands of jobs to people in the surrounding hills bordering on a section of KwaZulu.

Dennis Rowe, managing director of Natal Portland Cement, said the new factory site had been chosen because of the large deposits of limestone there.

"It will be a very modern factory with no effluents and little noise," he said. The factory and railway marshalling yards to contain up to 150 rail trucks will be built within one kilometre of the Natal

Parks nature reserve in Oribi Gorge. The site is directly overlooked by Baboon's Castle. A 16 kilometre railway line costing about R20 million is to be built from Umhlangeni up the Umzimkulwana valley to the foot of the gorge. It is understood that the

Railways have given their guarantee to the line, which means it is almost certain to go ahead with full official backing.

Yet the Natal Provincial Administration has not decided whether to accept the cement factory scheme or reject it.

Plans have still to be considered formally by the Town and Regional Planning Commission, whose brief is to protect the environment.

Decision

It is not known when the commission will give its decision. Meanwhile, the cement company is making definite plans to start rail-laying 2 000 tons of clinker a day down the new line.

If the line is to be ready by then, construction will have to begin in the very near future, say Railway planners.

Keith Cooper, director of the South African Wildlife Society, said this week that the merits of the cement factory would have to be considered against the possible damage it could do.

He warned against a rush decision. "Conservationists aren't against economic development on principle — far from it," he said. "But we believe that conservation objectives should be built into every major project of this kind."

He said it was vital that an environmental impact study be carried out and published for public discussion before any lasting decisions were taken by the authorities.

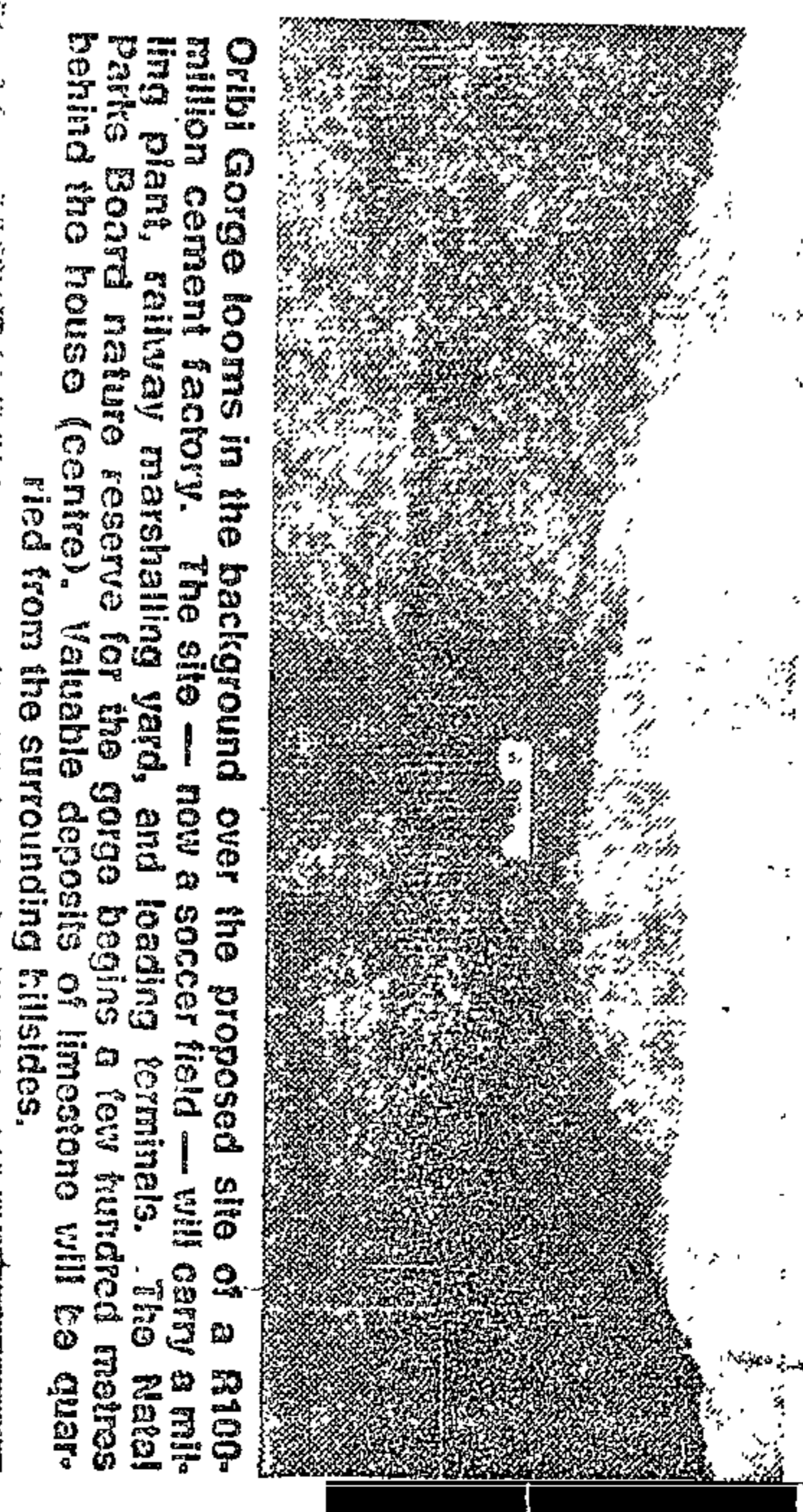
Two lime milling companies already operate in the Oribi area and there are fears that the whole Umzimkulwana valley could become a vast open-cast limestone mine.

Expand

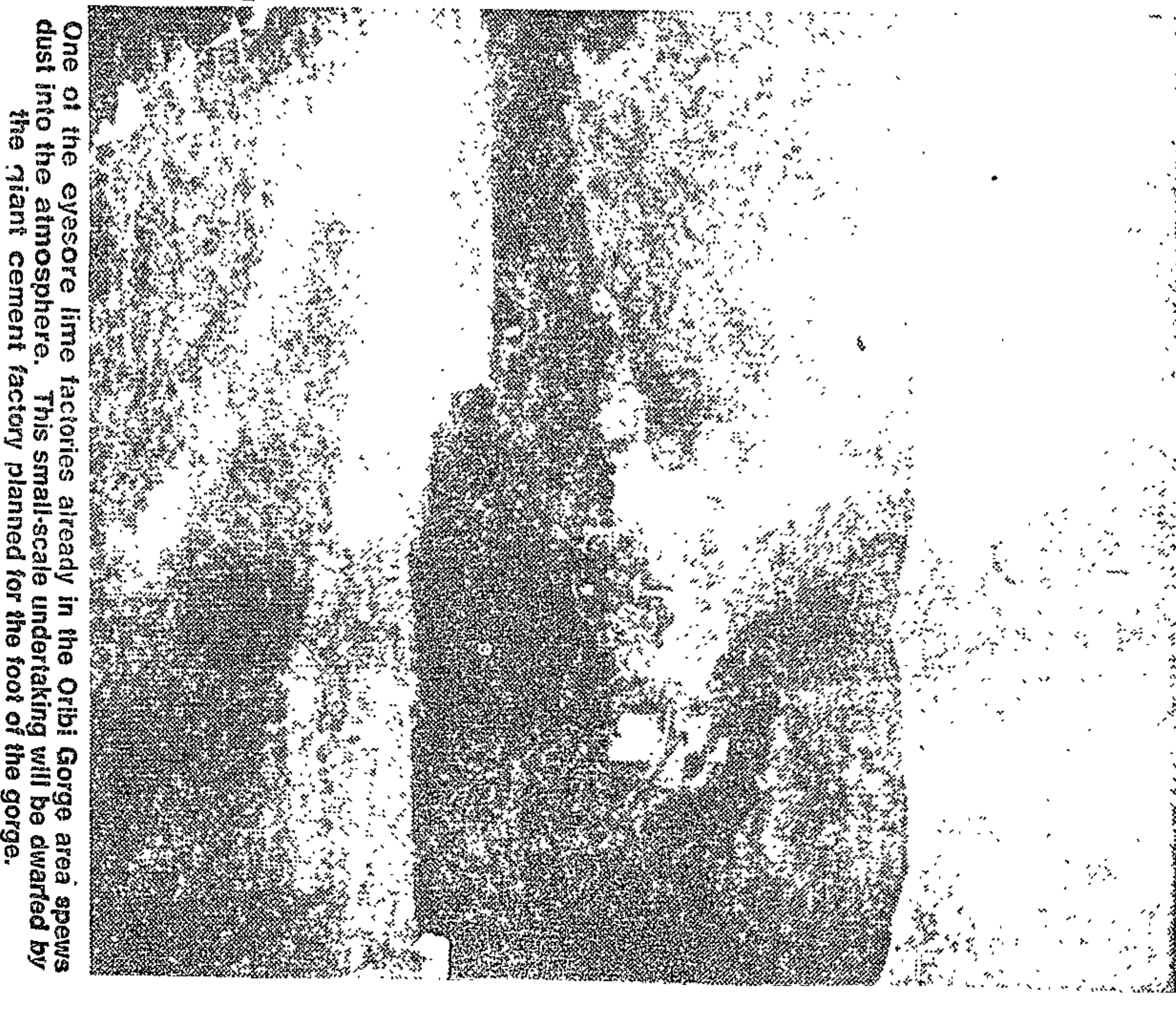
Both Oribi Limestone and Umzimkulwana Limestone will probably expand their operations in response to the presence of the railhead.

These relatively small-scale operations run unsightly milling plants. These can be seen from the Oribi Gorge road, throwing clouds of limestone dust into the atmosphere.

Natal Portland Cement will be opening its own quarries on the mountain slopes. Says one lover of the area: "Get to know Oribi Gorge before they mine it."



Oribi Gorge looms in the background over the proposed site of a R100-million cement factory. The site — now a soccer field — will carry a milling plant, railway marshalling yard, and loading terminals. The Natal Parks Board nature reserve for the gorge begins a few hundred metres behind the house (centre). Valuable deposits of limestone will be quarried from the surrounding hillsides.



One of the eyesore lime factories already in the Oribi Gorge area spews dust into the atmosphere. This small-scale undertaking will be dwarfed by the giant cement factory planned for the foot of the gorge.

The local branch of the Chartered Institute of Transport will be holding their monthly meeting at the Queens Hotel tomorrow at 5.30pm.

Guest speaker is Mr John Midgeley, SAA's regional manager in East London and he will talk on 'Computerisation and development of civil aviation'.

On Wednesday the Ndmf is holding an all-day seminar on 'A planned

with lighting, including municipal and consulting engineers.

Worry control

Some sound advice on worrying in a comprehensive article on managing the most important risk of all in a recent issue of Portfolio, Journal of the Robert Enthoven Nebicon group, a group active in insurance and related fields.

The author is Thomas Hallett, director of risk

ly was coined by one of golf's all-time greats, the legendary Walter Hagen.

The full quote revealing the philosopher inside the golfer is: 'You're only here for a short visit. Don't



DAVID DENISON

aircraft could reduce transport costs by as much as 40 per cent.

Next time you are out at the airport just imagine one of the 727s cut off immediately behind the pilot's cockpit and no fuselage behind it—simply a flat bed on which trucks could be driven on and strapped down.

In other words, the cargo would be exposed to the elements.

Sounds a bit far-fetched, says Jock, but, nevertheless, if Lockheed are considering this new innovation then it must be feasible.

Pertinent point

Pertinent point from a recent issue of the newsletter distributed by The Shareholders' Association of South Africa talking about advisory companies offering unsolicited portfolio management advice.

Says the newsletter: 'A member has brought to our attention one such company whose fees seem to be a little high after South African

A disastrous flood has cut off road, rail and telephone links to the Karoo town of Laingsburg, leaving dozens of people homeless. The pensioners are trapped in a home outside the town and yesterday a Metro emergency unit left for the marooned town from Cape Town by road, after South African

CAPE TOWN — Thirty old age pensioners were trapped in a home and several families left homeless as driving rain battered parts of the Cape yesterday.

DD 26/1/81

(56)

Cape Floods narrow

Osbourn Prize
For the best work in fourth year.
D H Pryce Lewis
John Perry Prize
For the best work in third year.
R A van Rosenfeld.





A ruined house and a car which was parked in the adjacent garage are covered in debris and branches, illustrating the fury of the flood waters which hit the unsuspecting Karoo town of Laingsburg.

LAINGSBURG—One of the survivors of yesterday's disaster flood in Laingsburg clung for six hours to a chimney before he was rescued, while a 14-year-old boy was swept for five km in the raging torrent as he desperately clung to a plank.

The Laingsburg hospital was crowded with shock victims. People sat on rugs on floors. Many did not speak, but those who did considered themselves lucky to be alive.

By mid-day a bulldozer was clearing debris at the swept-away bridge and laying a make-shift road in order to make Laingsburg passable for traffic. It is expected routes to the town will be open in three days.

The swollen Buffels river has largely subsided and people were able to walk across the muddy wastes.

One of those being treated for shock at the Laingsburg hospital is Mr Japie de Villiers — a resident and former mayor — who clung for six hours to the chimney of his house before he was rescued. He described the ordeal as the most terrifying of his life.

Louis Erasmus, 14, was helping evacuate

A town in shock binds its wounds

STAR 27/1/81 (56)

residents of the old age home when he was swept away by the raging waters. For 5 km he clung to a plank before he managed to climb to safety.

Today he is being treated for minor cuts and shock by the over-worked hospital staff.

Two other lucky ones were Kevin Graham and Lois McDermott, who were trapped on the roof of their house which, they said, was falling apart underneath them.

Kevin tied hose-pipe between himself and Lois before they were washed into the flood. They were fortunate enough to reach safety after being caught in a fallen tree.

Mr Louis Zikmann, of Beaufort West, watched as floodwaters swept away a large truck with three people clinging

desperately to the roof. Others were swept off the bridges destroyed in the floods.

"I can't believe that yesterday there were houses here and now there is nothing. It was all like a terrible nightmare," he said.

One of the last people to cross the bridge before the swollen Buffels River smashed it apart, was Mrs Elise Muldowney, of Worcester. She and her family had travelled to help relations in the town after they heard of the floods.

"I saw houses collapsing and people sliding off roofs into the water. I can't believe it has all happened," she said.

Residents of the evacuated old age home, many of whom were being quartered in the hospital, said their rescue had gone

smoothly and calmly. They praised the "heroic" work of the rescue team.

Only five of the more than 119 people reported missing yesterday have been located. One was an NGK minister, Dominee Jacobs who was found in a large pool of water.

Two other missing people are police divers who were swept away while trying to free trapped truck passengers.

Rescue workers at Laingsburg Hospital are in radio contact with the police station in the centre of town.

Sergeant Johnny Muldowney said that many people had approached him and asked for any news of their missing relatives.

One missing is Andries van Wyk, a Stellenbosch dental student, whose mother Beth is helping at the

hospital. Mrs van Wyk had high hopes that her son was safe "as he was a strong swimmer."

On first impression it seems that almost three-quarters of Laingsburg was destroyed. All major routes into the town were swept away and the floodwaters in some places were almost a kilometre wide.

Torrents had risen over bridges which are now mangled pieces of concrete and iron.

Trees and bushes were scattered throughout, and telegraph poles had been buckled like matchsticks.

Fourteen South African Air Force helicopters, 120 policemen, 500 troops and members of the SA Red Cross and civil defence organisations have combined in what is

believed to be the biggest relief operation ever organised to aid victims of ravaged areas.

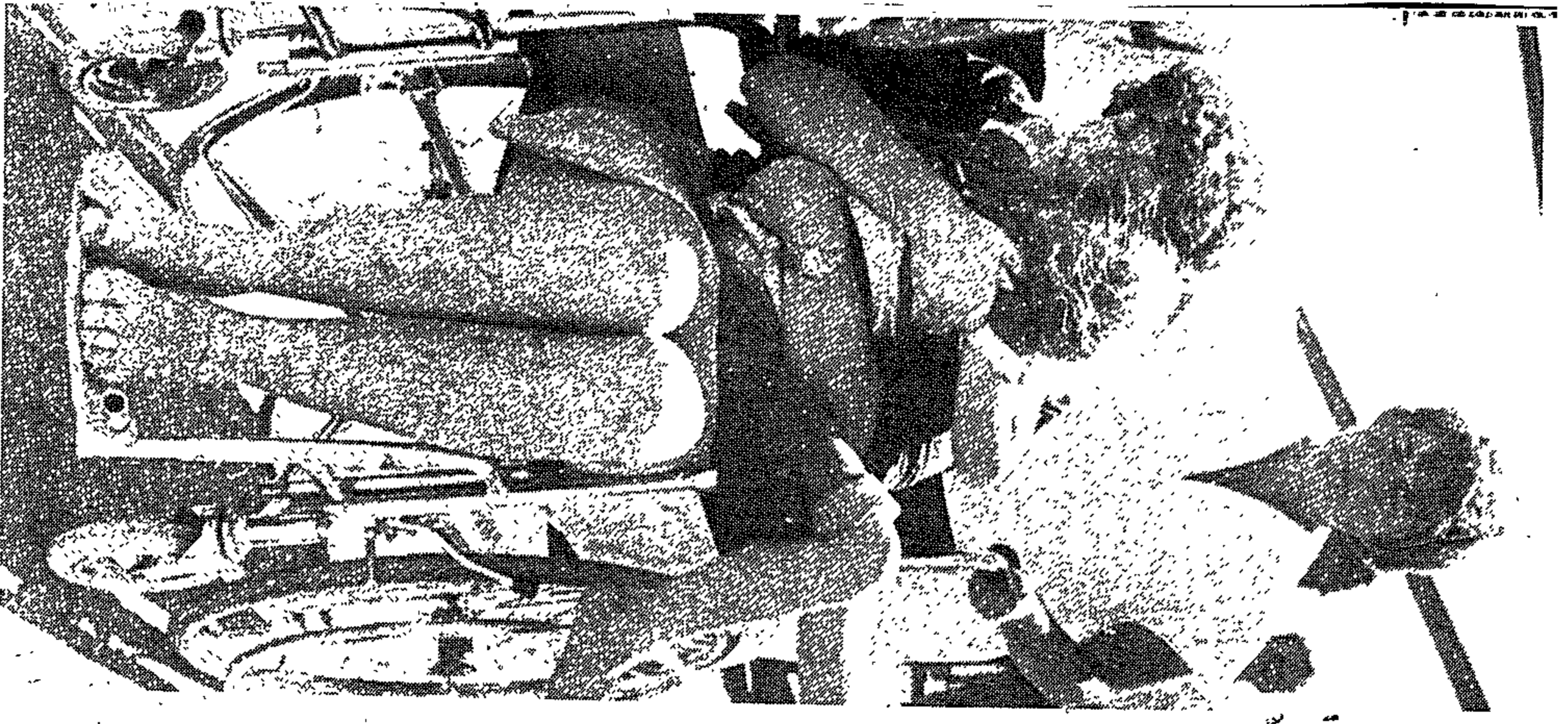
A Southern Air Command spokesman said that Alouette and Super Frelon helicopters from Port Elizabeth, Bloemfontein and Cape Town were involved in the rescue operation. They had also been aided by two private machines.

A Republican helicopter rescued six mountaineers trapped near Wolseley. Helicopters are also searching for six people posted missing at Montagu.

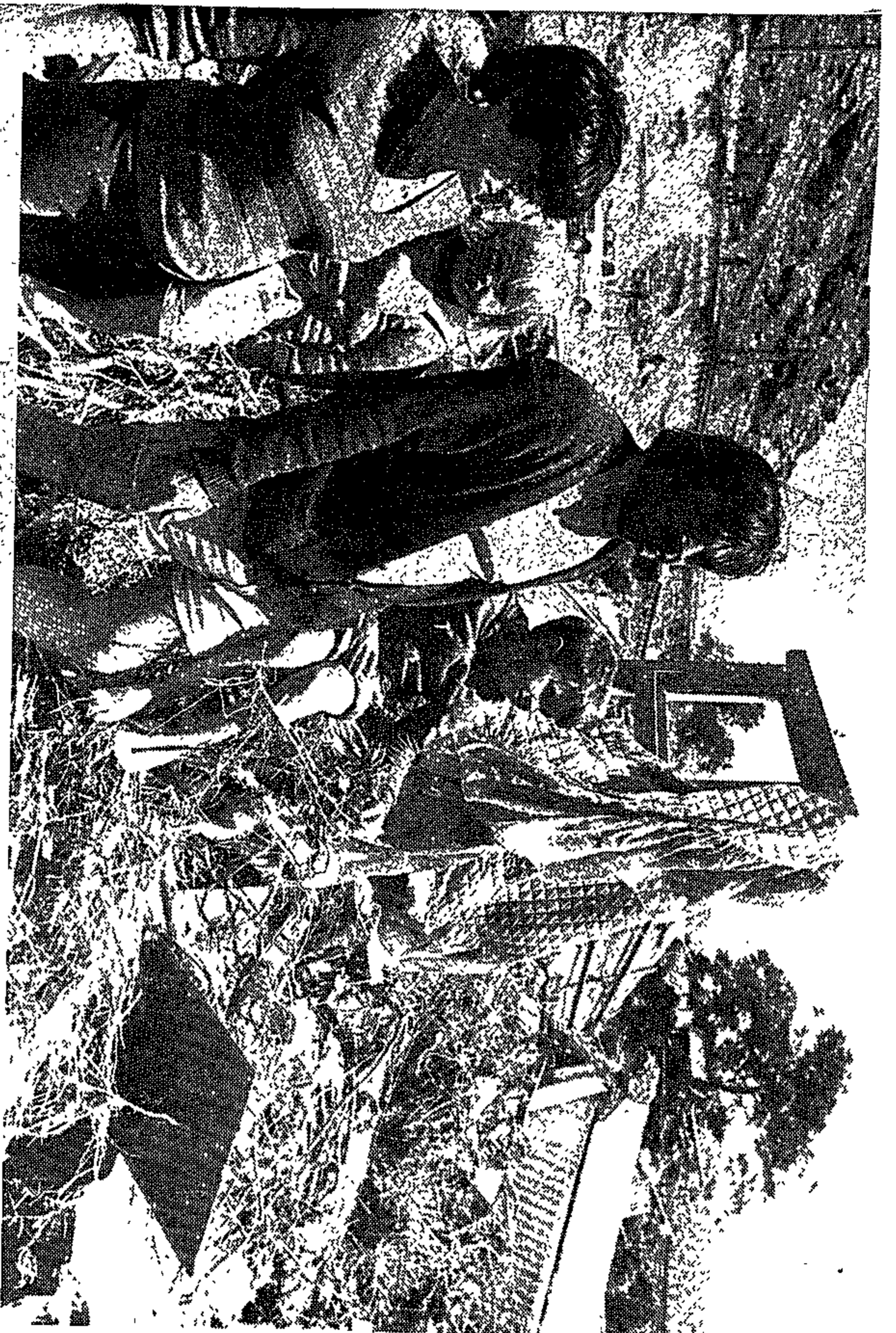
All civil defence units and members of the Salvation Army in Cape Town have been placed on standby and landing strips have been set up at hospitals in Worcester and Caledon to accommodate relief aircraft.

In addition hundreds of troops, medical orderlies, doctors and nurses are on standby in the Western Province Command area in readiness to move to the flooded areas.

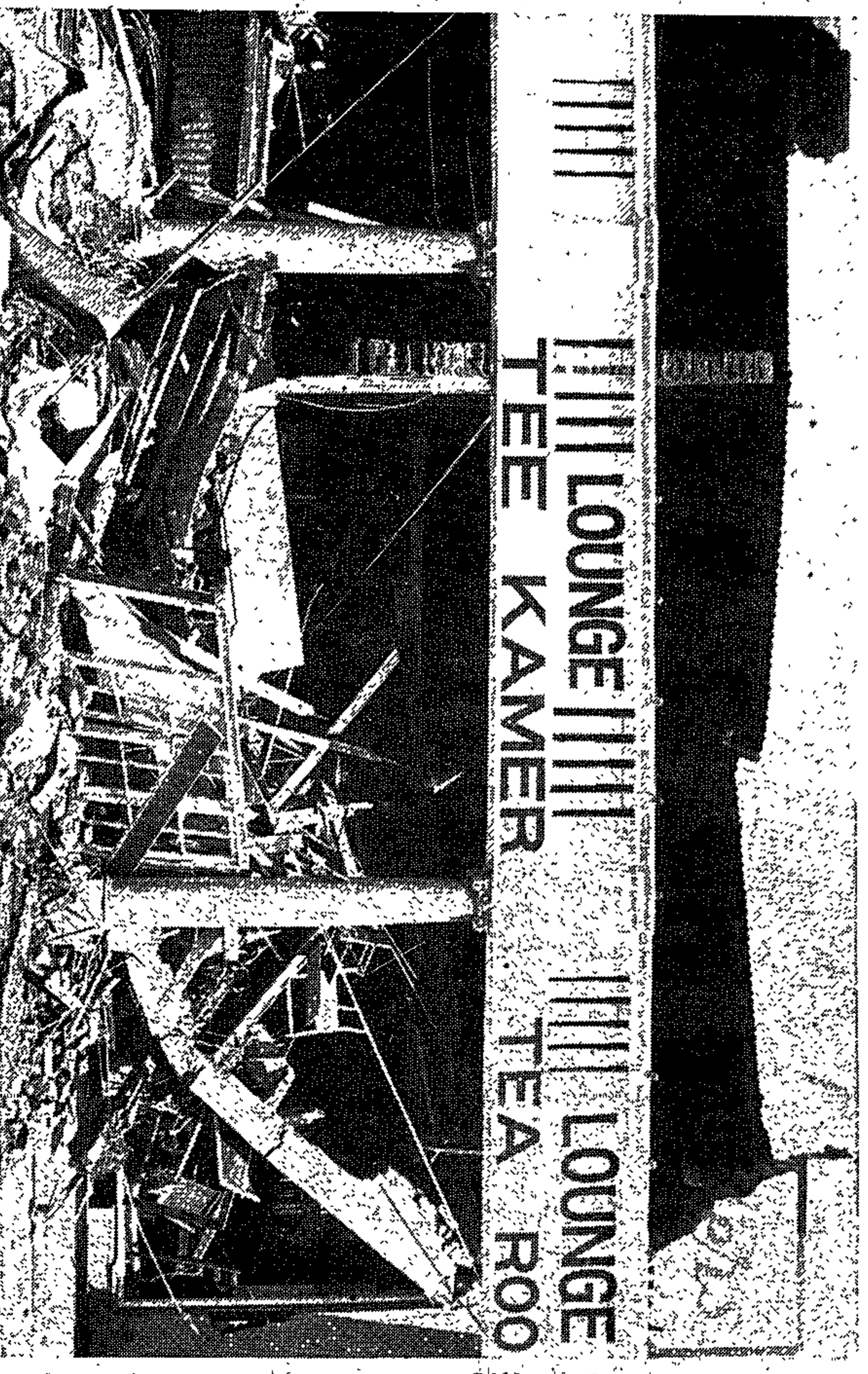
Heavy earth moving machinery and road repairing equipment is waiting to converge on the disaster area as soon as the water subsides sufficiently.



Mother and child are wheeled away by rescuers at Laingsburg yesterday.



The Muller family of Laingsburg survey the remains of their home.



All that is left of a restaurant in Laingsburg.

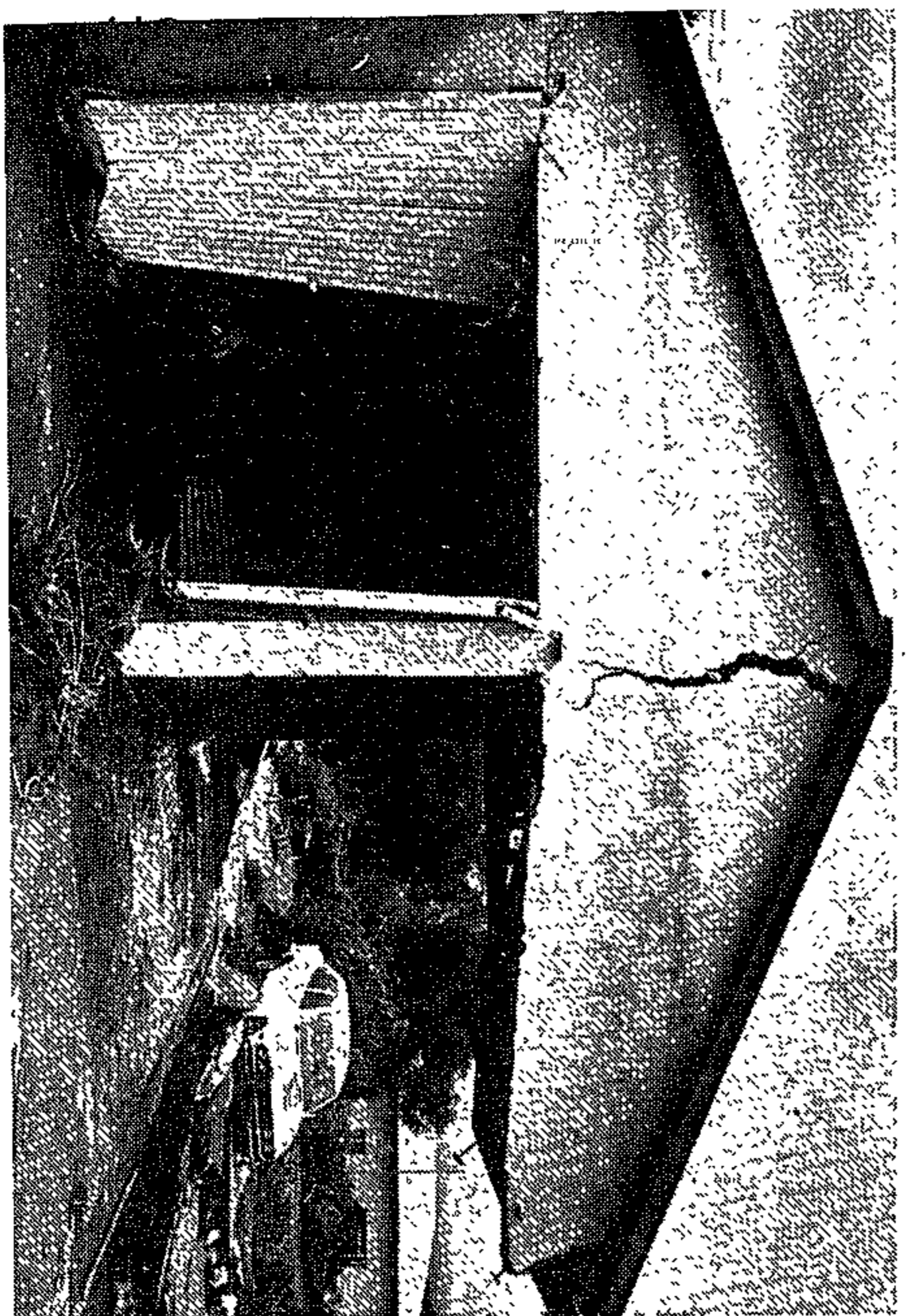


A road bridge over the Keisje River just outside Montagu was swept away.

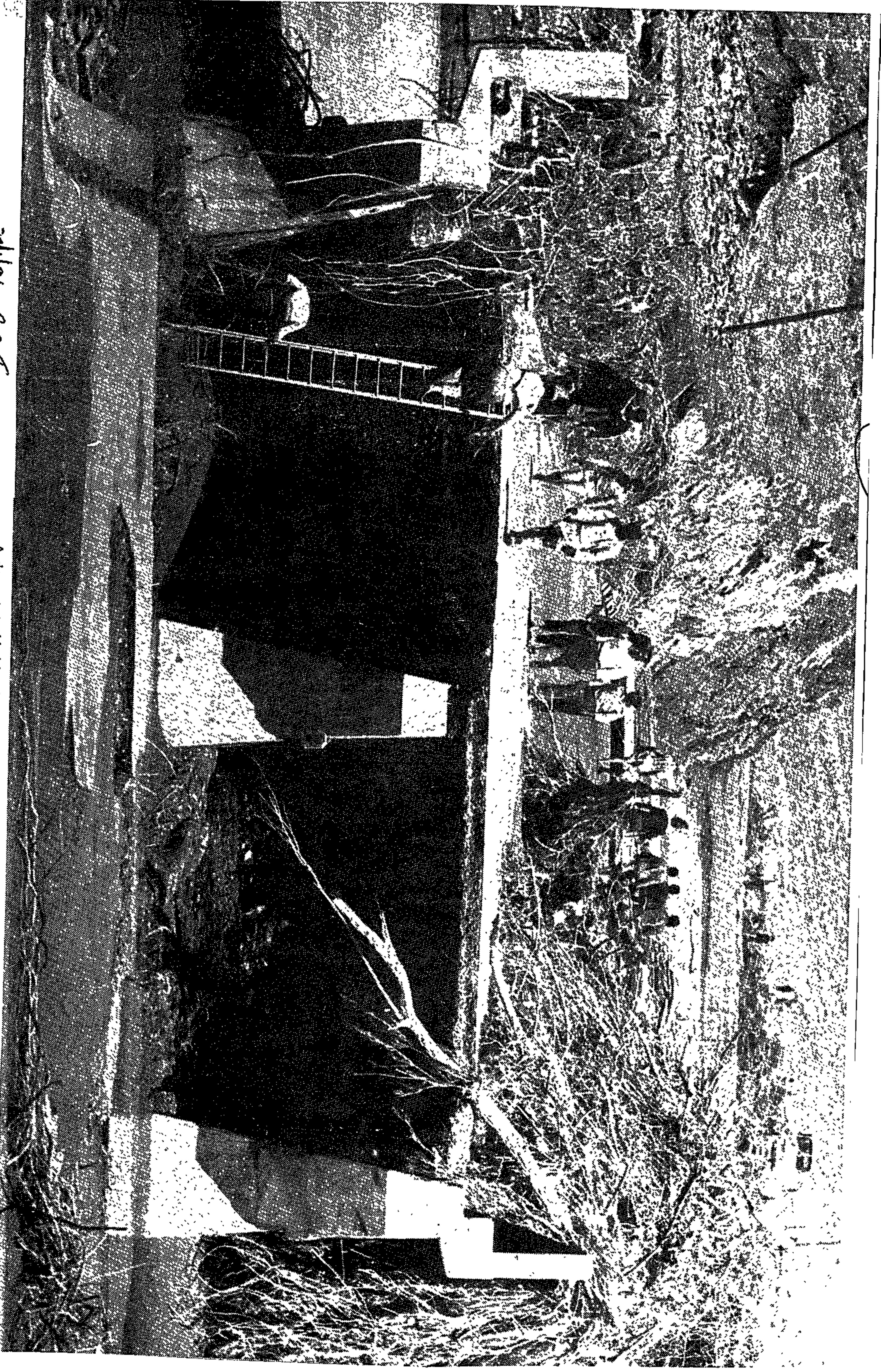
Scenes from the devastated Karoo



An expensive German car which was overturned by floodwaters in Laingsburg



The remains of a Laingsburg building.



A devastated bridge just outside Laingsburg.

2/11/81 Cape Times

State declares disaster areas

JOHANNESBURG. — The government has declared disaster areas the worst-hit regions of the floods in the Karoo and Western Cape, as reports gave figures of at least 150 people dead or missing, with fears that the toll could top 200.

A government spokesman said in Cape Town last night that Laingsburg, Touws River, Ladismith and Montagu had been declared disaster areas after the Ministers of Defence and Health had flown over the areas in a helicopter yesterday.

With chaos reigning in the flooded areas and communications disrupted, it was impossible to obtain an official death toll last night, but the "torrents of death" which flashed down rivers swollen beyond capacity in next to no time by the downpour, caught many unawares and flattened everything in their path.

Damage runs into many millions of rands.

Police at Laingsburg said last night the names of more than 140 missing people had been reported to them.

SABC radio news reported that 15 bodies had been found in the area so far, while at Ashton near Robertson nine people had been drowned when the Kogmans River surged over its banks.

At Montagu, at least four people were drowned and four more are known to be missing after 200 mm of rain had turned the Keisie River into a killer.

At Beaufort West the floods claimed the lives of at least two people, a woman and her baby.

And as the floodwaters began subsiding at Laingsburg last night, baring the full extent of the devastation — at least three-quarters of the town has been wiped out or extensively damaged — farmers in the Vredendal area, far to the north-west near the Atlantic coast, were warned to evacuate their farms along the Breede, Olifants and Doring rivers for fear of floods there.

Back at Laingsburg, three would-be rescuers who were themselves washed away by the raging waters, have been found alive. Mr Lawrence Hart and Mr and Mrs Paul Ameels, who were swept away while trying to help evacuate residents from the old-age home, which was later wiped off the face of the earth, were found kilometres away where they finally managed to escape from the churning flood.

A former Mayor of Laingsburg, Mr Willem Destroo, and his sister Susan, who were also assisting at the old-age home, are among those still missing.

With road and rail links in the affected areas cut in numerous

**Reports by Stephen Wrottesley,
Paddy Attwell, Henry Harington
and Sapa. Pictures by John
Rubython, Dan Bosman, Clarence
Muller and Stewart Coleman**

places by washaways, the Railways administration has prohibited the transportation of passengers, baggage, parcels, livestock and perishables to the disaster areas. The prohibition affects all areas between Touws River and Beaufort West.

Towns and villages where the railway line has been washed away include Matroosberg, Laingsburg, Prince Albert, Luttig, Koetskop, Orchard, Hex River and Kleinstraat.

The line between Worcester and Robertson has been washed away in six places, and so has a railway bridge near Ladismith.

The Administrator, Mr Eugene Louw, said last night that Sunday's floods had killed more people than any other disaster in the region's history and caused losses estimated at many millions of rands.

The disaster at Laingsburg started its deadly course when heavy rains in the aptly-named Moordenaars Karoo pumped so much water into the Buffels River that it burst its banks. Then several other rivers also flooded to assault areas not in the path of the Buffels.

Apart from flood damage, the unnaturally heavy weekend rain will cost the agricultural sectors many millions more in the Boland, southern Cape and Karoo, with vineyards in the Hex River Valley submerged and this year's promising table grape

export crop bursting on the vine.

Yesterday the Inspector of Police for the South Western Districts, Colonel H Morkel, said it was too early to speculate on the number of dead at Laingsburg, as it could not be established how many people were in the area when the floodwaters struck.

Colonel Morkel said 30 Boland policemen had arrived to help with the cleaning-up operations and a further 80 men under command of Colonel Hans van Rooyen had landed at Oudtshoorn from Pretoria about 3 pm yesterday.

He said the water was slowly subsiding and work had already begun to open the silted-up homes in search of bodies.

In Montagu the bodies of a woman, a four-year-old boy and a man were recovered, and last night police were still searching for three men and a woman reported lost after the heavy rains.

In Albertinia a police spokesman said all the people on the banks of the raging Gouritz River and near the river mouth had been warned of the danger, and most had been evacuated.

Both the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, and the Administrator, Mr Eugene Louw, pledged yesterday to do everything in their power for the flood victims and to repair the massive damage.

In the Assembly, Mr Botha gave the assurance that the government had set in motion emergency measures to aid people in the disaster-stricken areas.

The Leader of the Opposition, Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, associated himself and his party with these remarks.

Mr Louw yesterday offered unlimited Administration financial help to restore services in flood-devastated areas. At a press conference he said everything possible would be done, "irrespective of cost".

Mr Louw said provincial authorities had established that the floods were the area's worst in 80 years. The following emergency measures had been taken by the Provincial Administration:

- All doctors, nurses and other medical personnel in the area had been put on a three-minute stand-by.

- Extra hospital beds had been made available in Caledon and Worcester and nurses and matrons in Cape Town were on stand-by to be airlifted by SAAF helicopters if necessary.

- Volunteer groups such as the Red Cross had moved to the area with blankets and hot soup, and the South African Defence Force, working in collaboration with the Province, was co-ordinating the rescue mission.

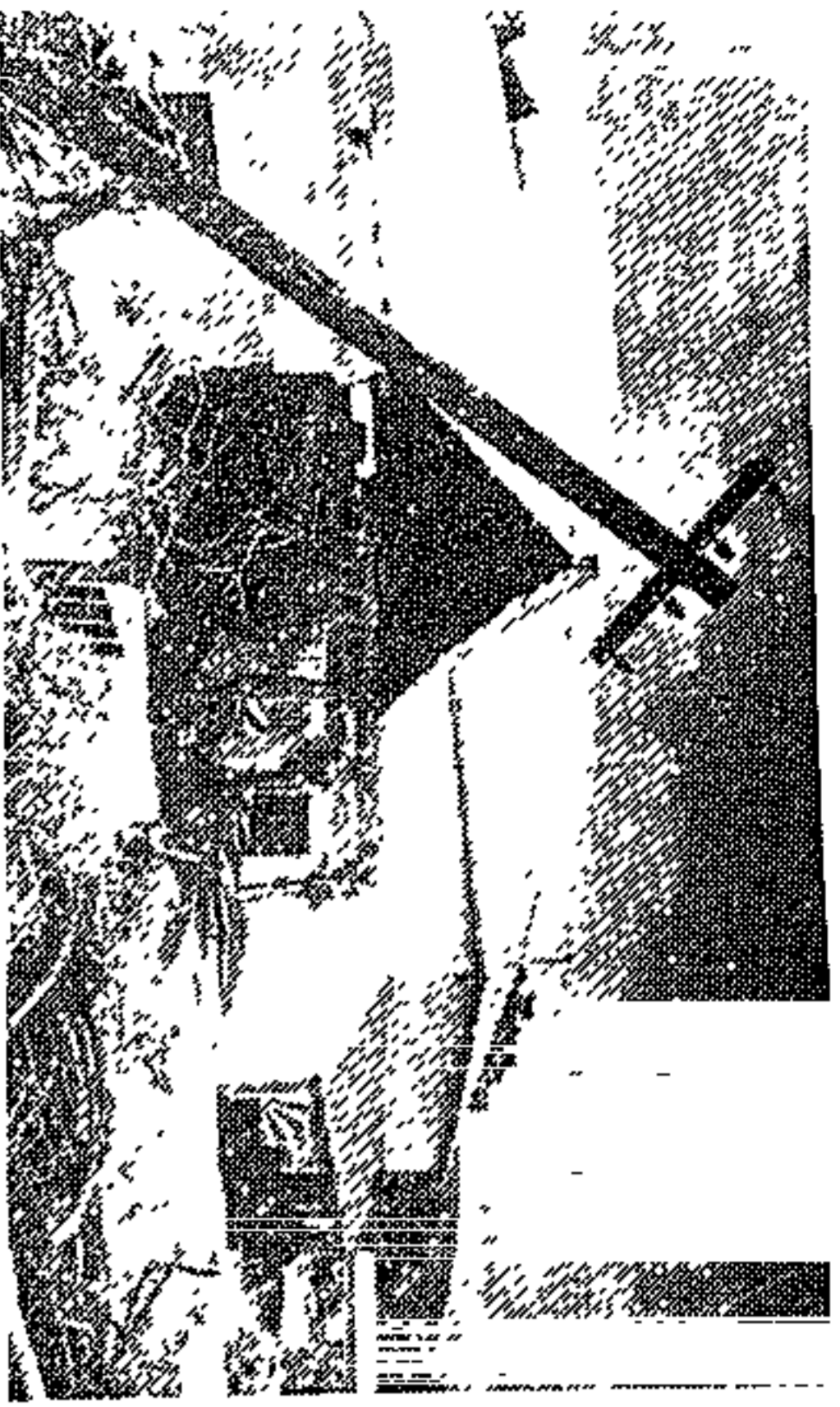
- Blankets and stretchers were being flown by helicopter from

**Gold shares dive
on JSE, page 2
No-confidence
debate, page 6**

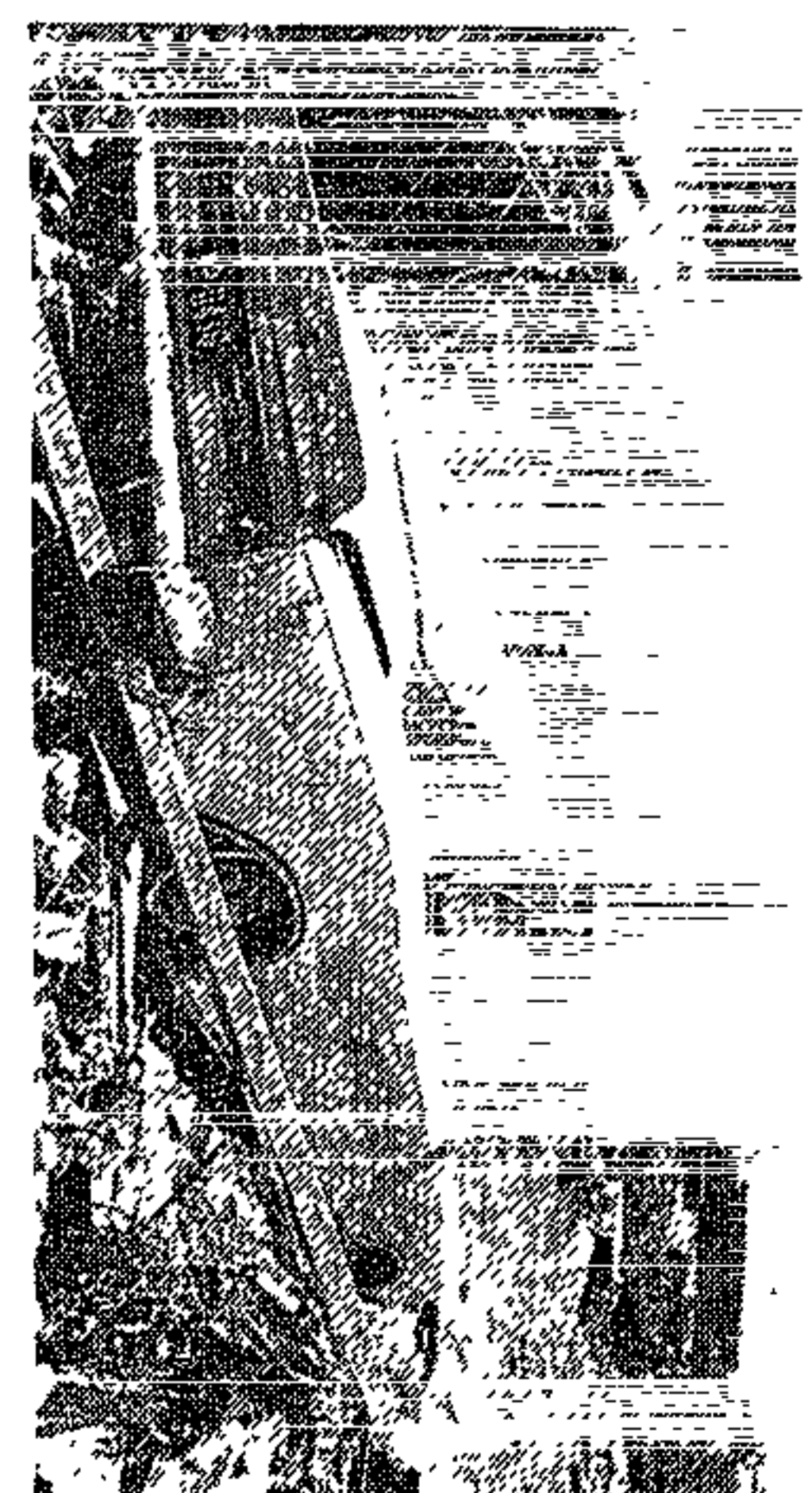
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To page 2



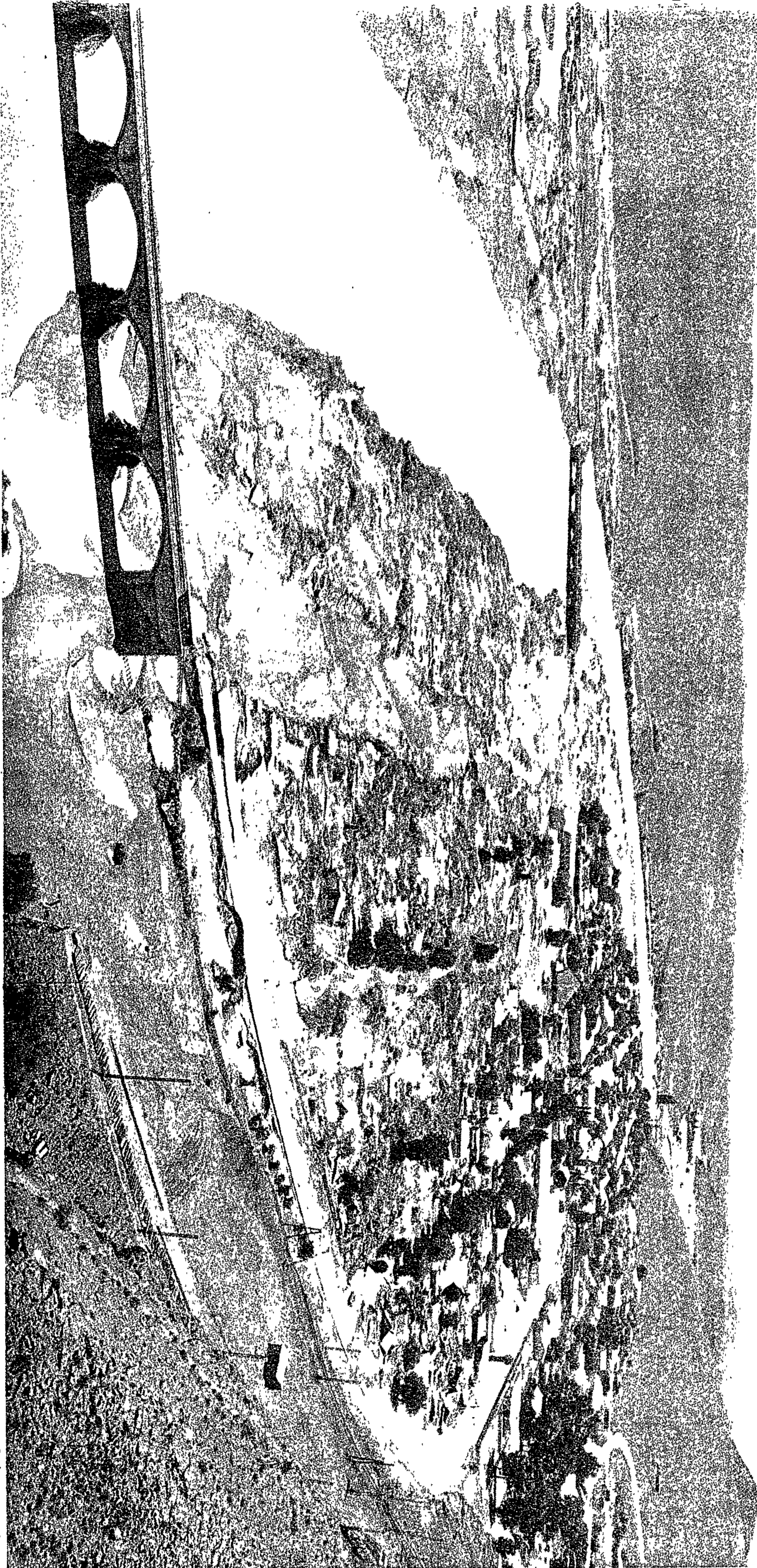


More flood pictures and reports on pages 2, 3, 4, 5



Laingsburg's devastation

CT 27/1/81 (56)



Reunited yesterday after the floods — Mrs Brenda Ameels and her daughter, Lynette, 12.

Washed 20km downstream — to meet again

LAINGSBURG. — Of the stories of heroism, survival and sacrifice in Laingsburg, few are as dramatic and tragic as the destruction of the local old-age home.

The home, housing some 34 elderly people, was one of the many buildings destroyed in the town's most densely-populated area.

Still missing late yesterday was the town's Ned Geret Kerk minister, the Rev Mr Jacobs, who battled till the last moment to pull residents on to the roof.

He disappeared into the raging torrent with two youths. An unconfirmed report said his two companions had since been recovered alive.

Other heroes of the tragedy included a number of townspeople, some of whom were successful, who struggled to

drive through the flood water to reach the home and return dry land.

Paul and Brenda Ameel who were swept off the roof the home on Sunday, were yesterday found together a safe 20km downstream by South African Air Force rescue helicopter.

Ten others were found safe but exhausted at the same spot.

The amazing story of the Ameels' rescue was recounted by Cape Times photographer

Mud and debris show where the normally placid Buffels River cut a path of destruction through Laingsburg on Sunday in one of the worst

Newscolour: 1/1/81

ARCHITEC

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To page 2 **B**

Reports by: HENRY HARINGTON, YAZIED FAKIER, STEPHEN WROTTESELEY, WILLEM STEENKAMP, DEBI CLEVELAND

DISASTROUS FLOODS hit the Southern Cape yesterday, washing away road, rail and telephone links with at least two towns in the Boland and the Karoo.

Dozens of people were reported to have been evacuated from their homes in Lainsburg and about 30 old-age pensioners were reported to have been trapped in a home outside the town.

Road, rail and telephone links to Robertson in the Boland were also said to have been cut. A passenger train was believed late last night to have been marooned near Matroosberg.

A Railway's spokesman said the line had been washed away on both sides of the train. Lines had also been washed away between Worcester, Robertson, Wellington and De Doorns. The railway line through Lainsburg was closed.

Early this morning Cape Town's Metro emergency service, which had set off for Lainsburg, had still got no further than Touws River, where they were reported to have begun rescuing people trapped in homes along the river itself.

All yesterday afternoon two helicopters of 30 squadron SAAR stood by at Cape Town's Air Force Base Ysterplaat ready for instant take-off to the Lainsburg area. However, the weather was so bad that no flights were ordered.

It was believed last night that attempts were being made from the big army base in Oudshoorn, headquarters of Southern Cape Command, but no success had been reported.

The Buffels River in Lainsburg was reported to be a raging torrent and the situation is serious, with houses, schools, an old-age home flooded and farm dam walls broken.

It was reported that the rising water level in much of Lainsburg was popping underground petrol tanks. Reports of vehicles washed away include that of an expensive German car in Sutherland and a bus between Lainsburg and Touws River.

The Railway's reported that 3 km of ballast had washed away on a main line track between Worcester and Touws River and a rail bridge outside Lainsburg was in danger.

Early today Du Toit's Kloof Pass was closed to traffic except for that to Worcester and Rawsonville. Meanwhile, a provincial traffic spokesman warned motorists heading for inland towns to use the Gouda route even though the Balm's Kloof Pass was open.

Drivers of heavy vehicles were told to use the Gouda route only. The Franschoek Pass was also closed after a rock-fall. The coastal road was still open early today, but the spokesman again warned motorists to inquire about alternative routes.

Motorists proceeding to Johannesburg were urged to use the Ceres, Sutherland, Fraserburg, Beaufort-West route. The national road outside De Doorns was closed because part of the Brooke River bridge about 18 km outside the town had been washed away. Several farm dams were reported to have burst.

Labourers' houses evacuated

Severe flooding was reported in the Hex River Valley where labourers on at least one farm were said to have been evacuated from their homes.

The traffic section of the Provincial Administration reported that the road between Worcester and Robertson had been closed.

The train service between the towns had also been suspended. The citizen band emergency network REACT last night set up a radio contact point in Worcester.

For emergency messages REACT can be contacted at Worcester ☎ 20467. Calls to and from Worcester can be made by contacting Miss E. Groenewald at ☎ 22867/8 between 8 am and 5 pm and Mr David Kaiser at ☎ 20467 between 5 pm and 8 am.

Worcester's telephone code is 0231. Calls from Robertson can be made by contacting the family at ☎ 3326. Calls to Robertson can be made by contacting the Robertson police station at ☎ 2251. Robertson's code is 0235L.

Heavy rains and strong winds were reported from Bredasdorp and Caledon. The soft rains which fell in Swellendam, Ladismith, Oudshoorn and Mossel Bay were welcomed.

Flood hawoc hits Boland, Karoo towns

CT 26/1/81

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Heavy rains close Cape airports

Own Correspondent
PORT ELIZABETH. — Driving rain, accompanied by massive seas, lashed the southern Cape coast at the weekend, while more gentle falls brought much-needed relief to drought-stricken farmers in the east Cape interior.

At Plettenberg Bay, where huge breakers were battering the Rabberg peninsula, the airport has been closed and the nearby Blou River has burst its banks, flooding adjacent farmlands.

Mossel Bay harbour was reported to have been closed and George was said to be without electricity. A landslide closed the road between George and

Victoria Bay.
A spokesman for the Wilderness Hotel said the ground floor had been flooded, causing damage estimated at R100 000.

The spokesman said the lounge, dining room, reception area, passages and 45 guest

rooms had been affected. The water was 1/2 m deep and it was possible that the hotel would be closed.

Rain started falling at Plettenberg Bay on Friday morning and by midday yesterday

145 mm had fallen. Friday was also the last day on which flights could land or take off from the airport's waterlogged runway.

Passengers were taken to Port Elizabeth or George by bus, but yesterday the George airport was closed. East London Airport was also closed yesterday afternoon and flights were redirected to Port Elizabeth.

The rain was much more welcome in the Alexandria district, where dairy farmer Mr Paul Howarth described it as 'absolutely magnificent'. Since Friday evening about 73 mm had fallen — the best rain in 14 months.

Towns black out as power fails

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To page 3 **A**

Staff Reporter

DRIVING rain with high-speed winds last night flooded substations and ripped down pylons, leaving Boland and Karoo towns without power. The area east of Worcester was worst-hit.

An Escom spokesman said power lines and sub-stations had stood up well to the wind but rain had interrupted the power. Flooding of Lainsburg sub-station left the Karoo town in darkness.

The Vink River next to the town, reported to be flowing strongly, washed away seven power pylons feeding Ashton sub-station. Considerable dam-

age was caused, the spokesman said. Another pylon between Worcester and Robertson was washed away.

Worcester has its own power supply, but Robertson, Ashton, Montagu, Barrydale and Swellendam were left without power.

A power line across the Bree River was also damaged and cut off the power supply to Villiersdorp.

Escom repair teams were expected to restore power by late this afternoon. Flooding, broken bridges, and road washaways were making it difficult for them to reach affected pylons and sub-stations.

Flood reports by Michael Hewitt, Brigid Ibell, Robin Parker, Tosca Marchio and Tim O'Hagan.

AS the death toll in the Laingsburg flood disaster rises steadily, rescue workers in the stricken town are going about the grim business of clearing up.

The task is complicated by the rubble of destroyed dwellings, the uprooted trees and wrecked vehicles which fill the metres-deep layers of mud like the ingredients of some horrible plum pudding.

Rescue workers in the flood devastated area have so far recovered 37 bodies from the mud and slime. In addition to the 15 found at Laingsburg yesterday, a further nine bodies were recovered today. Nine bodies were found at Robertson and four at Montagu.

Many victims, however, will never be found, buried forever under the mud.

Arduous task

Eleven SAAF helicopters are continuing to search for survivors as relief teams begin the arduous task of accommodating the homeless and caring for the injured.

SADF medical teams are also in the area. The teams include psychologists who will aid survivors with problems that may have surfaced in the hours of terror when the flood was at its peak.

A spokesman for Red Cross said four emergency teams had been sent to the stricken areas to render whatever assistance they could. The teams included six fully qualified nursing sisters who had been specially trained in civil emergencies.

Destruction

The spokesman added that apart from funds received from people all over the Republic, Red Cross had also received a large number of inquiries about missing persons.

He said the organisation would be getting in contact with relatives as soon as communications in the devastated areas improved.

Relief work in the area moved into top gear yesterday as swollen rivers, fed by 300 mm of rain, subsided, leaving a trail of destruction.

Areas that had once housed a goodly part of

(Continued on Page 3, col 6)

Argus gives R10 000

IN response to the appeal by the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw, for relief for Karoo flood victims, The Argus today gave R10 000 to the Disaster Fund which has come into operation under the Fund Raising Act. (See Page 3.)

Roads

Still blocked

THE Automobile Association reported at noon today that Laingsburg and Ladismith were still cut off.

The Beaufort West-Worcester road is closed to through-traffic. The alternative route to Cape Town is via Melrningspoort, Oudtshoorn, Mossel Bay or George, then Heidelberg and Swellendam.

Other roads closed: Huis River Pass between

Ladismith and Calitzdorp; between Prince Albert and Prince Albert Road and Prince Albert and Leuwagankka; Ashton-Montagu and the roads between Ceres and Calvinia, and Ceres and Sutherland. The only access to Montagu is via Swellendam and Barrydale. The Cape Town-Wor-

(Continued on Page 3, col 6)

Countdown to disaster

THIS was the countdown to disaster at Laingsburg on Sunday.

11 am — First reports of inaccessible roads on farms in the surrounding districts filter through to Laingsburg, where it has been raining since Friday.

12 am — Many of the town's residents attend morning service at the Ned Geref Kerk, whose minister, Mr. M. Jacobs, was drowned in a dam later that day.

10.50 am — Church ends and word spreads quickly that Krige Street, nearest the Buffels River, is under flood.

11 am — Road to Ladismith blocked.

11.5 am — National road to Cape Town under water at bridges near town. Some heavy trucks getting through.

Noon — Old age home in Krige Street flooded. Rescuers getting the aged on the roof.

1.30 pm — Flood waters on two sides of the town. Van Riebeeck and Swartberg streets under water.

2 pm — Old-age home washed away. Some rescuers swept into water.

2-3 pm — Floodwater rises 15 m above normal level of Buffels River. Vast area of town under water and most residents have evacuated homes. Some trapped on roofs, in trees and on bridges.

3.15 pm — Deluge at Moordenaars Karoo, 15 km away. More than 200 mm of rain falls in minutes.

3 pm onwards — Flood spreads. Many of the trapped washed from perches by violent tide.

5 pm — Police tell Oudtshoorn of disaster. Helicopters at Ysterplaat on standby.

5.15 — Second cloudburst.

7 pm — Last houses evacuated.



MRS. BRENDA AMEELS, 32, wife of the owner of the Laingsburg Hotel, is wheeled from a SAAF helicopter. With her are her daughters, Nadine, 13, and Marie, 10. They were reunited with their mother and father after the helicopter found the parents exhausted but alive. They had been washed 17 km down the Buffels River.

By Brigid Ibell
LAINGSBURG — The owner of the Laingsburg Hotel, Mr. Paul Ameel, today recounted to The Argus his 24-hour ordeal in the raging Buffels River on Sunday after trying to rescue residents from a home for the aged.
 "The old age home began to flood at 1 pm on Sunday," he said. "I knew my wife was inside helping so I climbed on to the roof with the dome and we decided to break through the ceiling."
 "We knew at that stage the people inside were trapped. They were all in the attic, neck high in water."
 "We got all except four on to the main roof truss. Then we sat and the dominee led a prayer service."
HOUSES WENT
 "We watched the first house go, then the second, third and fourth. Then a man floated towards us. He managed to get up on the roof. As he walked along the roof it broke up."
 "My wife screamed that we should stick together. We had one of the trusses. By then we were in raging waters."
 "There was a concrete water lower near us and so Willy and Suzanne Destroo grabbed it. They have not been seen since. (Mr Destroo is a former Mayor of Laingsburg.)
 "Then something said to me 'Go for the tree, let the truss go.' The
 (Continued on Page 3, col 7)

Victim of a river's wrath IN DREAMTOWN

GRIM SNAKES IN TOWN

APR 27/1/80

56

BDM 27/1/81 (56)

Nature centre planned for Greater Soweto

By HARRY MASHABELA

THE National Environmental Awareness Council, which is committed to beautifying Greater Soweto and to cleaning up the townships, is now planning the establishment of a R200 000 "nature education centre" in Naledi, Soweto, to teach blacks about flora and fauna.

Both the South African Nature Foundation and the Keep

South Africa Tidy Association are helping the council in its plans for the centre.

The centre, which will be fenced, will contain some wild animals and birds — blesbok, antelope, impala and ostrich will be some of the inhabitants. A trained game ranger will be the caretaker.

One large pond or several small ponds will be dug to pro-

vide drinking water for the animals.

In addition, a museum and lecture room are to be erected at the centre, which will occupy 15ha of land around the ridge overlooking Protea, south-west of Naledi.

Mr Japhta Lekgetho, director of the council, Mr Frans Stroebel, director of the South African Nature Foundation, Mr Errol Smith, projects manager of

the Keep South Africa Tidy Association, and a landscape architect, Mr Willem van Riet, toured the site yesterday.

Mr Stroebel said the idea was to keep the centre, which he described as the first of its kind in the country, as natural as possible, with people barred from feeding the animals.

"This centre will be of enormous value to pupils, especially the high school pupils, and we

will make sure they make it their responsibility to keep the area clean," Mr Lekgetho said.

He said he believed the centre would be invaluable, not only to students or pupils, but to the entire black community.

"It is likely to be a centre of attraction for both young and old. Not only from Soweto, but from other urban areas as well," he said.

ARCHITECTURE

FINE ART & ARCHITECTURE

Cape Provincial Institute
of Architects' Prize

For the best student in :-

Sixth Year

P F Duncckley

Helen Gardner Travel Prize

For a student who has

satisfactorily completed

1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.

P A Rappoport

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize

For the best woman student

in third year.

Miss C Tredgold

David Haddon Prize

For the best student of

Architecture (or Quantity

Surveying) in the subject

of Professional Practice.

D H Pryce Lewis

General J B M Hertzog Prize

For the best final year student.

S A Read

Osbourne Prize

For the best work in fourth

year.

D H Pryce Lewis

John Perry Prize

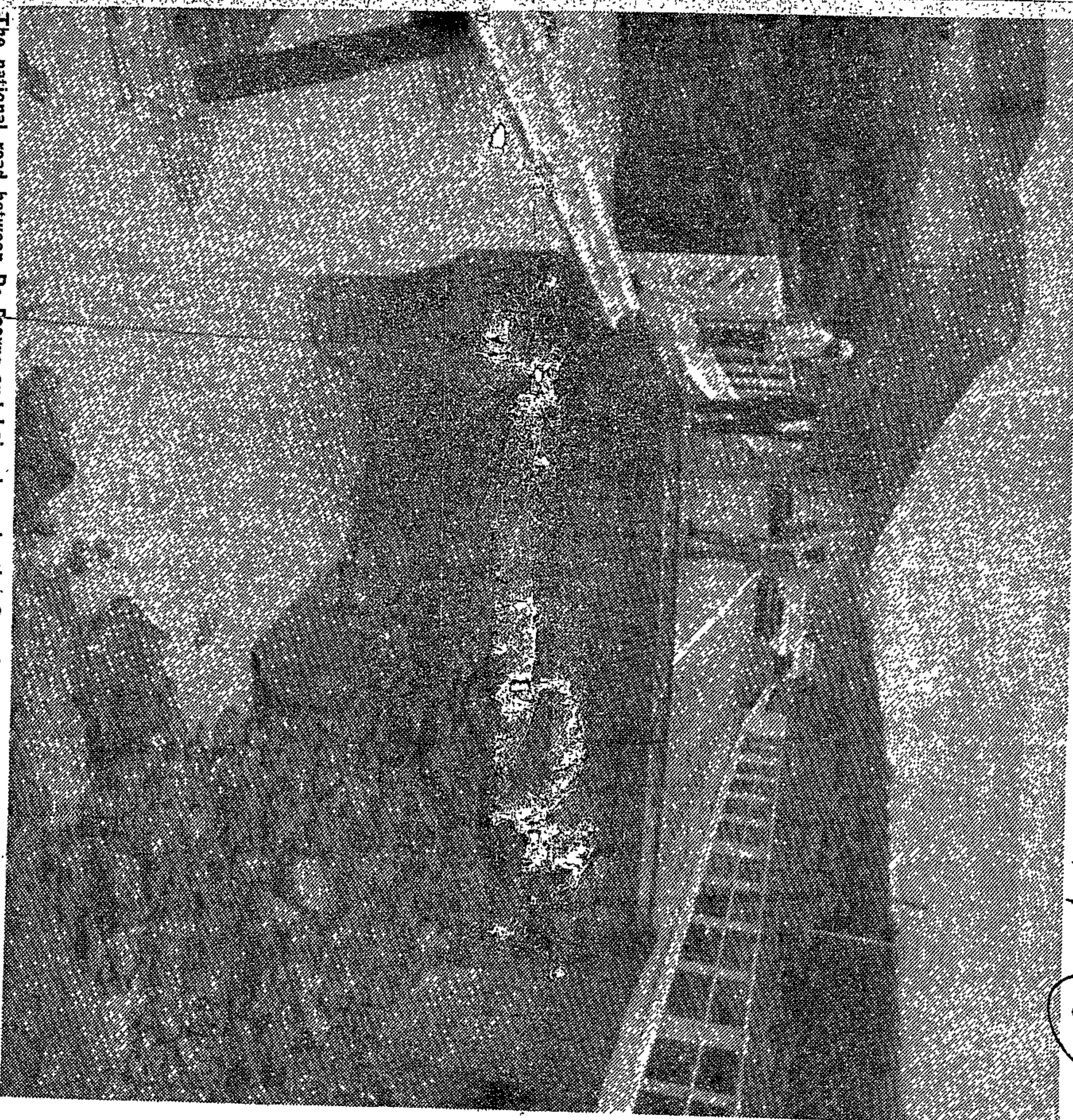
For the best work in

third year.

R A van Rosenveld.

200 feared dead in floods

5 MAR 26/1/81 56



The national road between De Doorns and Lainsburg in the Cape has been breached in several places by floods that washed away bridge yesterday afternoon. This bridge was between De Doorns and Touws River. Several towns in the area have been isolated.

More than 200 people are feared drowned and hundreds are homeless after raging floods devastated much of the Cape in one of the worst natural disasters in South Africa's history.

Two Cabinet Ministers — the Minister of Defence, General Malan, and the Minister of Health, Dr Munnik, overflew the stricken area by helicopter today to survey the damage.

They are to report back to the Government.

The Prime Minister, Mr Botha, is expected to make a statement today at the start of the 1981 parliamentary session.

Worst hit are Ladismith, Lainsburg and Montagu, where dozens of people were swept away in swirling floodwaters and others drowned during rescue attempts.

The Buffels River — responsible for most of the damage — cut a swathe from Ladismith to Lainsburg, washing away whole farms.

Evacuated

Communications have been entirely disrupted. Most of the main rail system in the Eastern Cape and the Karoo has been washed away along a 230 km stretch of line, cutting Cape Town off from the rest of the country.

Driving rain with high-speed winds last night flooded electricly substations and ripped down pylons, leaving Bolland and Karoo towns without power.

The national road to Cape Town has been cut in several places by floodwater and bridges have been washed away.

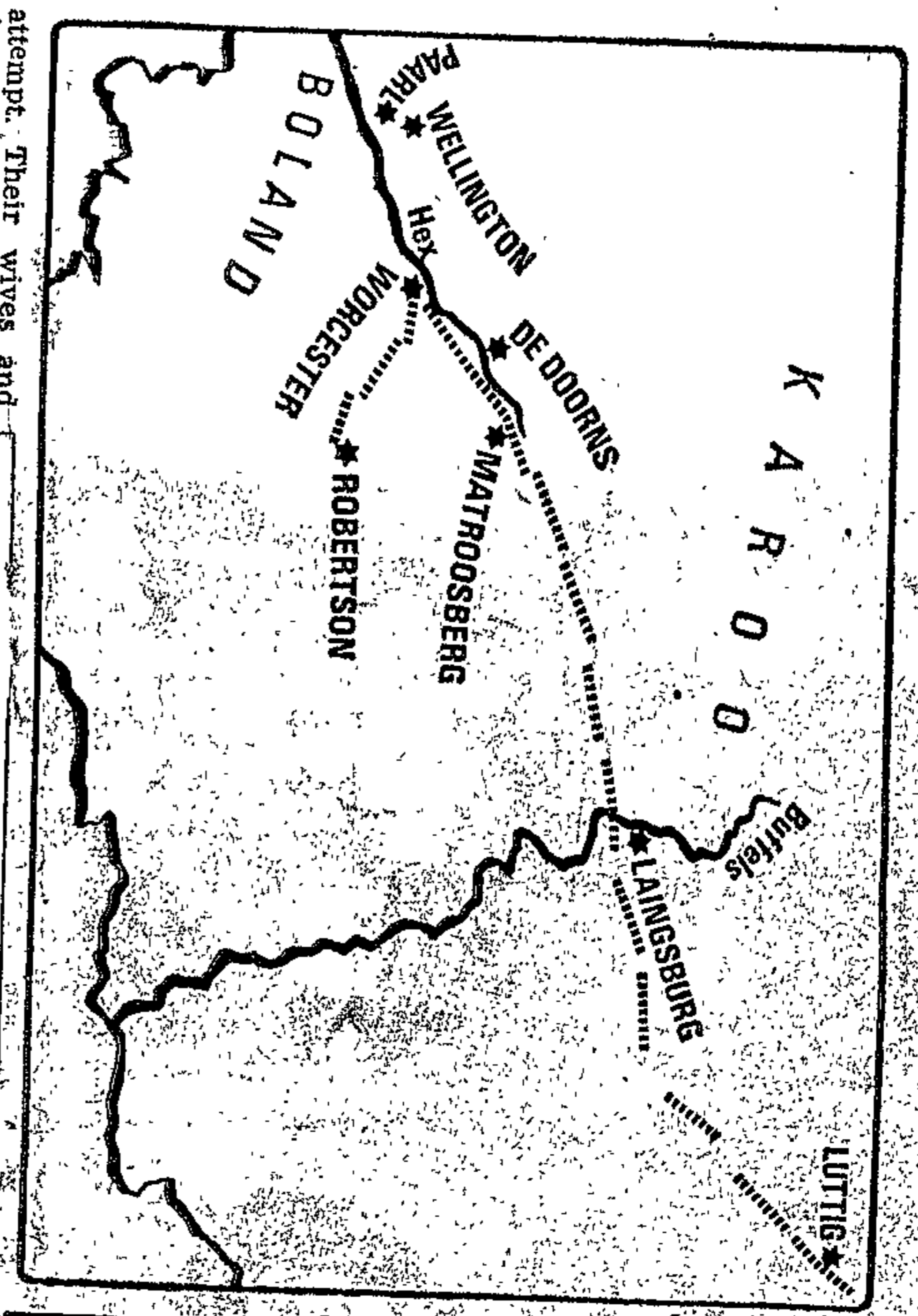
Lainsburg in the Karoo was hit by a wall of water about 4 pm yesterday.

All contact with the town was broken after 4 am today.

The last call was from a sobbing young woman who told police in Cape Town the town was under water.

Several bodies have since been found, but more than 100 residents are still missing.

Confirmed dead so far are: ● Two policemen. One was washed off a bridge in his car. The other drowned during a rescue



attempt. Their wives and three children also died.

● A busload of Transkeians who were washed into the river.

An emergency centre has been set up at the Lainsburg police station and two platoons of Southern Cape Command at Oudshoorn are on their way to the town with food for 500 people, tents and medical supplies.

Helicopters

Five Super Frelon helicopters raced to the scene early today from Metro — the Cape Town-based emergency rescue service.

Civil Defence organisations, the Defence Force and local authorities are joining forces in the relief effort.

At Montagu and Worcester police were called in to rescue farmers stranded by floodwaters but were unable to get through.

Three people who were washed away near Montagu have been confirmed dead.

The Gouritz River fed by the Buffels is estimated to be 400 m wide and 20 m deep — drowning stock in its raging waters.

At George, gale force winds along the Garden Route felled telephone poles, power cables and trees and sent mudslides into dozens of homes.

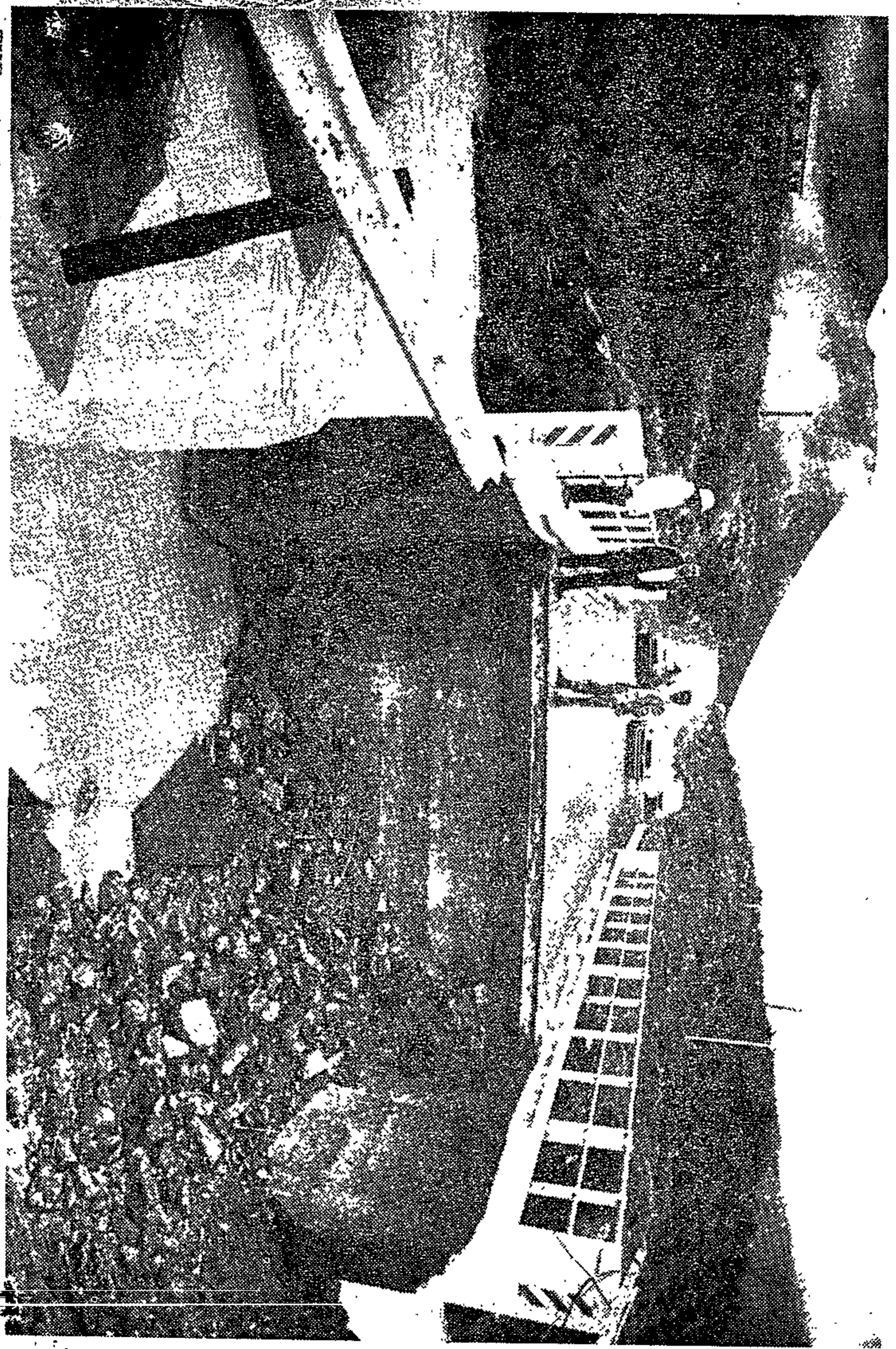
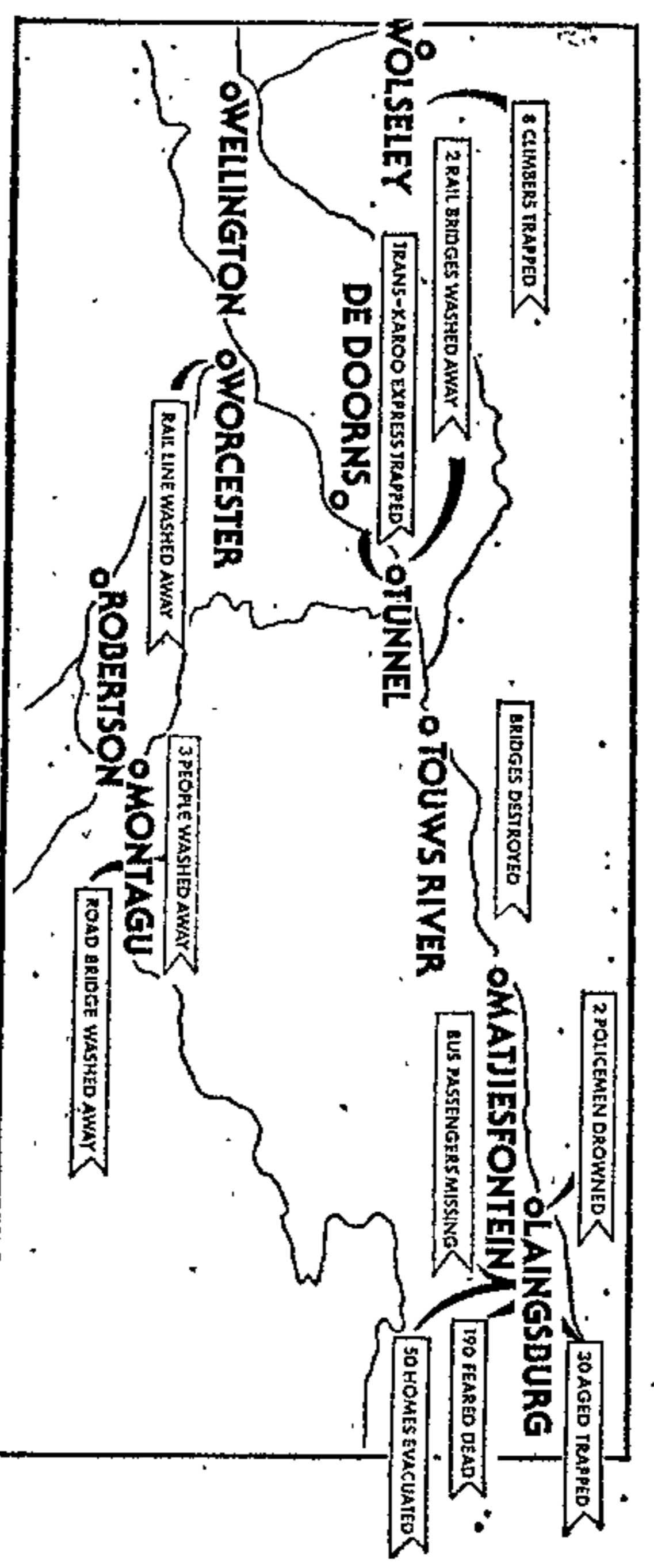
Water mains were severed and the area is without water supplies. The Wilderness Hotel

190 DEBAARD IN THE DEATH Karoo, Boland

Angelo 26/1/81 (56)

SWOLLEN rivers and raging floodwaters have left a trail of devastation through the southern Karoo and Boland and more than 190 people are feared drowned.

Confirmed deaths in what is believed to be the worst flooding ever to hit the area between Worcester and Lainsburg include two policemen, one of whom died trying to rescue passengers from a packed bus washed into the river near near Lainsburg. Three other people disappeared in swirling waters near Montagu.



THE national road between De Doorns and Lainsburg has been breached at several places after floods washed away bridges late yesterday. This is all that remains of a bridge between De Doorns and Towns River. Several towns in the area are isolated.

Ministers

The Minister of Defence, General Magnus of Malan, and Minister of Health, Dr L A P A Yunnik, flew on an inspection tour of the flood-devastated areas today.

The two Cabinet Ministers left Cape Town at mid-morning for a flight by light helicopter over the area. They will report back to the Government on the situation. The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, was expected to make a statement in the House this afternoon when the 1981 session of Parliament got underway with the traditional no-confidence debate.

Final count

Meanwhile reports from Boland police indicate a steadily rising death toll which could top the 200 mark at the final count. Most deaths occurred in the Ladismith-Lainburg-Montagu area where people were swept away in swirling floodwaters.

Some were involved in trying to rescue others when they were drowned. First eye-witness reports of the extent of the devastation came from 30 Squadron helicopter pilots Major Jos de Waal and Major C G du Toit. The Ysterplaat-based airman flew their Super Lynx helicopters over Lainburg at 9.09 am.

They said that the bottom half of the town had been washed away by the flooding Buffels River and the position was bad.

Deaths

Confirmed deaths so far include:

- Two policemen (one's car was washed off a bridge, while the other drowned during a rescue attempt);
- Their wives and three children, feared drowned in the raging Buffels River;
- A busload of Transkeians who are all feared dead after their bus was washed into the river, near Lainburg; and
- Three people who were washed away in swirling floodwaters, near Montagu.

The Divisional Inspector of Police, South Western Districts, Colonel Herman Morikel, said today that a number of bodies had been recovered from the floodwaters, but thick mud was hampering operations. A massive rescue operation is underway in an effort to ease the plight of

(Continued on Page 3, col 2)

Pledge of sympathy, help — Louw

rescues trapped climbers

Provincial Reporter

THE Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, today pledged "his most sympathetic approach" by the Cape Provincial Administration to the needs of the Southern Karoo-Boland storm disaster area.

As Administrator, he expressed his sympathy with those families and communities who had lost relatives and friends in the storm disaster.

"We in the Cape are one with them in their grief," he said.

"I also express my deepest sympathy to all who suffered material loss, and first reports indicate that this has been heavy."

DEFENCE FORCE

"The Provincial Administration will make immediate surveys of the material damage and we will decide on what help can be offered."

Mr Louw said Civil Defence and the South African Defence Force were already working in conjunction with local authorities to provide immediate



MR GENE LOUW — We are one with them in their grief.

relief where it was needed.

"The task of my administration is mainly to restore services such as road, bridge, water and sewerage services to the disaster-stricken area."

"Within the Province's sphere of activity, I can assure local authorities affected by this disaster of (Continued on Page 3, col 5)

Black south-easter to blame. —

Page 3.

Trains grind to halt — roads impassable

THE Railways has cancelled all main-line trains running from Cape Town until at least 9 pm tomorrow because of flood damage.

A railway spokesman said today that this included the 9 pm train to Johannesburg tomorrow night.

A train running at the same times as the normal Port Elizabeth train will be run as far as Worcester and at 6.15 pm today the train which normally runs to De Aar will take local passengers as far as Touws River.

The spokesman added that inspectors were still

assessing the damage in flooded areas.

A special inquiry office has been set up so that passengers can obtain the latest information on the running of trains. Its number is 218-2991.

Several passenger trains, including the north and south-bound Trans-Karoo expresses, have been trapped between washaways.

Railway operating staff said all maintenance and repair crews had been called out, but it was likely to be two to three days before temporary re-

Boland Bureau

WOLSELEY. — Eight young Cape Townians were rescued from the Witeles between Wolseley and Ceres today following a weekend in which they were trapped by incessant rain and the flooding Witeles River.

An Air Force Alouette helicopter flew three sorties into the Skurweberg valley this morning after a motorist had picked up the exhausted Mr Tom Ferris, 34, beside the road.

Mr Ferris told The Argus the party of 10 people arrived in the valley between Wolseley and Ceres late on Friday, and started their walk up the Witeles the following morning.

TURNED BACK

When it began raining that afternoon Mr Ivor Bussio, 22, turned back but the rest of the party bivouacked beside the Witeles River.

Mr Ferris, a Scot who has served in the British Army's Special Air Services, said he had never (Continued on Page 3, col 6)

pairs could be effected and services resumed.

The Trans-Karoo Express which left Cape Town for Johannesburg yesterday is stranded near Tunnel Station outside De Doorns, with bridges washed away in front of it and behind it.

Roads in the area are impassable and it is impossible to get buses to the train.

A train which should have arrived in Cape Town from Umtata early today is trapped near Walsbary at Leeuwvlei, a few days before temporary re-

City tug races to yacht

to yacht

Shipping Reporter

THE Saffmarine salvage tug John Ross raced from Cape Town harbour today to answer a storm-battered yacht 30 miles south-west of the city.

Port authorities picked up the call from Rosie II. A Court helicopter serving a ship in the bay was also diverted to look for the yacht after distress flares were seen.

The Rosie II is a 7 m French sloop which left Durban on January 16

The south-bound Trans-Karoo Express, which should have arrived in Cape Town this afternoon, is at De Aar and two other passenger trains — one from Johannesburg and one from De Aar — have been brought to a standstill.

The passenger train which left Cape Town for Port Elizabeth has been brought to a halt between Worcester and Riversdale.

Passenger units that should have left Cape Town for Umtata via Leeuwvlei, a few days before temporary re-

(Continued on Page 3, col 4)

Grapes hit by torrent — danger of disease

Staff Reporters

WESTERN CAPE and Boland grape crops have been severely hit by torrential rain at the weekend. Flooding has caused millions of rands damage in some areas and there is danger of widespread fungus disease in others.

Freak floods severely damaged the grape crop in the De Doorns area, according to farmers. They said they had never seen such rain for 80 years.

It is feared that the Alphonse grapes, due to be harvested this week, will be ruined. Mrs C Germishuys of the Arbeid Adelt farm in De Doorns estimated that the damage ran into millions of rands for farmers in De Doorns.

HARVEST

A spokesman for KWV said today farmers were due to start harvesting in the Wellington area this morning and the rain would delay the harvest. Severe damage to crops in the Worcester area were expected because of the flooding of the Breede River. In the Stellenbosch and Paarl areas there was an increase in the chance of the spread of patrilus rot, of which there was already some sign in these areas.

Fights delayed

SEVERAL air flights have been delayed by low cloud over the coastal regions. SA 169 to Umtata overflew to Port Elizabeth from Johannesburg. It later flew to East London where passengers were taken by bus to Umtata.

Two later flights — one from Port Elizabeth via East London to Johannesburg and one from Durban via East London to Cape Town overflew East London. The flights to George's P W Botha airport have been cancelled. Three other flights have

Black south-easter to blame

THE driving rains and disastrous floods that hit the Southern Cape yesterday were caused by a 'black' south-easter that came in from the sea.

The conditions should not be confused with the usual Cape Town south-easter which is dry and warm.

The black south-easter is cloudy and moist — providing light relief for some in the way of gentle falls while spelling disaster for others by floods.

The sequence of events that precipitated its arrival began with low pressure developing over the central Karoo and high pressure

spreading over the South Atlantic.

There is a clockwise movement in the low pressure area in the interior and an anti-clockwise movement in the high pressure region over the ocean.

The sea air finally reaches the coast bearing its moist air from the ocean and moves around the

coastline.

This clockwise circulation in the low pressure area causes more and more moist air over the interior and clouds develop over a wide range of altitude.

The clouds are accompanied by heavy rain or showers as well as thunder showers.

Flood devastation

(Continued from page 1) people on the flood ravaged area.

The Cape Town based emergency rescue service, Metro, raced to the area: Five Super Frelon helicopters from Cape Town flew off in the early hours of today. Part of the rescue team includes 30 policemen who have been flown in. Tents, mattresses provisions and medical supplies for about 500 people are on their way from the Infantry School at Oudtshoorn.

No respite

There was no respite for the areas last night as high winds urged the river on and it came down in waves fed by 150 mm of rain. Substations in the entire Boland and Southern Karoo areas hit by flooding were under water and pylons felled.

Towns without power included Laingsburg, Ashton, Ladismith, Robertson, Montagu, Barrydale, Swellendam and Villiersdorp.

Court helicopters had flown in Escom teams today and it was hoped power would be restored this afternoon.

Millions

Local authorities in the areas worst hit by the floodwaters say damage, when finally accounted, will run into millions of rands.

The Buffels River, which was responsible for most damage, cut a swathe from Ladismith to Laingsburg and entire farms are said to have been washed away.

Rail and road links as well as communication links with the flood area are virtually non-existent and it will be some time before the full extent of damage is known.

Many residents of Laingsburg and Montagu spent last night perched on the

roofs of their houses in driving rain. Beneath them were rushing floodwaters.

A wall of water cut through the centre of the town — population 4 000 — and 50 aged people were trapped in their home on the town's outskirts. The Cape Town based emergency rescue service, Metro, had so far rescued 20 of them.

SA Air Force

For many in Montagu and Laingsburg the only hope of rescue lay with the South African Air Force which had despatched Super Frelon helicopters from 30 Squadron. Ysterplaat to the area.

The Laingsberg school was also under water and more than 50 houses have been evacuated.

Along the Garden Route the worst hit area is Wilderness where thousands of rands damage has been reported. Several hotels on the town's lagoon were evacuated after floodwater breached the bar at the mouth sending a wall of water rushing downstream. Houses on the lagoon banks were also flooded.

A wall of water poured through the Wilderness Hotel at 4 am today and collected in the sunken reception areas. Damage is estimated by manager, Mr D Roscoe, at well over R100 000.

Accompanying winds along the Garden Route felled telephone poles, power cables and trees and compounded damage by sending mud slides into several homes. Ironically the area is without piped water after the mains were severed.

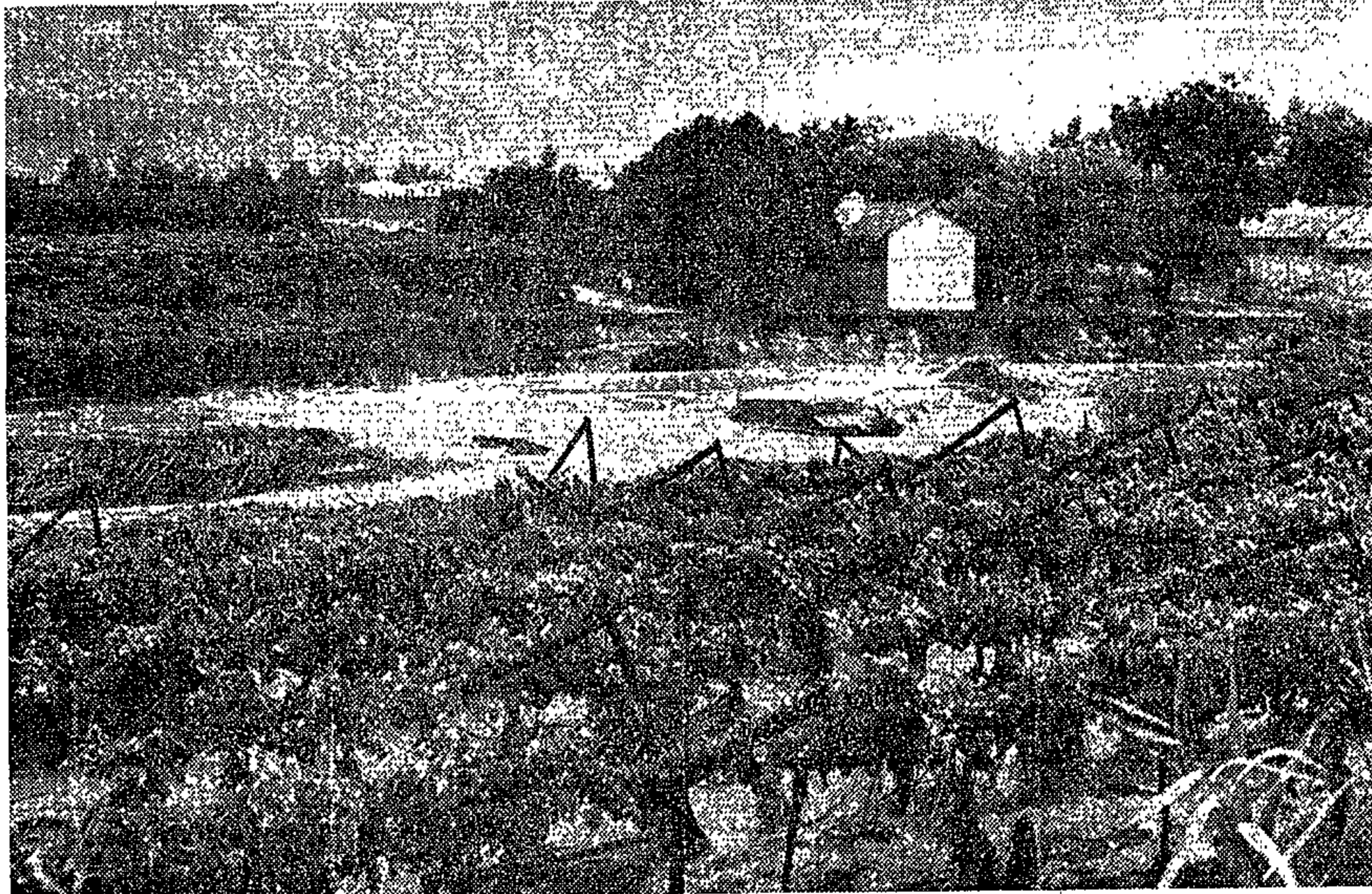
At the nearby resort of Victoria Bay east of George holiday stragglers were cut off by a mud slide and at the corresponding resort west of the town, Herold's Bay mud and rocks burst retaining walls demolishing at least one of the holiday houses built on the cliff side.

Although no casualties have been reported several men travelling in a mini-bus had a narrow escape when they left

their vehicle to clear trees blocking the road. Seconds later a large tree collapsed demolishing their vehicle. So far 244 mm of rain has fallen in the area — it has a mean average for January of 70 mm.

In Ladismith, where it has been raining since Friday, 125 mm of rain has been recorded. The Hoekoe River is in flood and several orchards have been washed away.

In the nearby township of Zoar, Mrs Grietjie Williams and her seven-year-old grandson, Marcel, were buried under rubble when their home collapsed under the onslaught of heavy rains. Several other walls of rough stone in the township also collapsed.



RUSHING floodwaters sliced a deep, muddy channel through this vineyard near De Doorns. Hundreds of vines were washed away.

Power cut in Cape Standstill

WIDESPREAD areas of the Western Cape, Boland, Karoo and the Southern Cape coastal belt were without electricity today because of a power failure caused by floods and gale-force winds.

Escom repair crews have gone out and several others are standing by in Johannesburg to fly to the Cape if needed.

Escom spokesmen said it was hoped to restore power to some of the districts today but impassable roads and other drawbacks will make it impossible to reach some of the trouble spots.

Worst hit is the Hex River Valley where nine giant pylons holding the overhead supply lines have been ripped up on the banks of Vink River.

Towns affected by this break include Robertson, Ashton, Montagu, Barrydale and Swellendam.

The electricity supply to the Knysna-Plettenberg Bay areas and the Sutherland-Laingsberg district was also knocked out.

Villiersdorp is without power and Darling's electricity sub-station was put out of action by lightning.

(Continued from page 1)

Town last night are still in the city.

Blue Train passengers are to be flown to the Reef in special aircraft.

The goods train service has been brought to a halt.

Winds of up to 100 km/h tore across Table Bay yesterday, disrupting shipping.

A section of a warehouse roof was ripped off and a foreign trawler was wrenched from its moorings.

Mossel Bay was closed to shipping.

Louw pledge

(Continued from page 1)

the most sympathetic hearing to any representations they may make for assistance once a survey of the extent of the damage has been made.

'We have special provision in our budget for unexpected emergency situations, and while the funds set aside for 1980-81 have been almost exhausted, largely as a result of the recent drought, my executive committee and I will make a special endeavour to give all the assistance we can.'

Mr Louw said the immediate restoration of road and bridge communications was a priority. If necessary, this would be done on a temporary basis until permanent repairs could be made.

'When local authorities have surveyed the situation, as we in the Provincial Administration are doing as well, we will consider any representations they care to make to us for help,' Mr Louw said.

RESCUE

(Continued from Page 1)

encountered conditions like these.

In the mountains the women were 'walking around in bra and panties, they did not have the clothes to wear in that weather, and everything else was soaking wet,' Mr Ferri said.

'There was just solid rain all the time and by sunset on Saturday, the water had reached our bivvy. The nine of us began moving higher, and I split off from the rest of the party,' Mr Ferri said.

RIPPED AWAY

'I took my pack off to use for buoyancy but the current just ripped it away from me and I was torn 60 m down the river before I touched solid ground on this side.'

The eight who were rescued today were Mr Jeff Krastin, Miss Glennis Krastin, Mr Sebastian Knoetzer, Mrs Marion Knoetze, Miss Francesca Knoetze, Mr Raymond Holloway, Miss Maureen Link and Mr Anthony Knight.

1	2	3	4	5	6
<u>SUID-KAAP - SOUTHERN CAPE</u>					
79	BEERVLEI	89,3	0	4	0
80	FLORISKRAAL	58,7	∅ 58,7*	15	31
81	GAMKAPOORT	46,9	∅ 46,9+	25	48
82	HARTEBEESTKUIL	6,61	5,35	42	27
83	KAMMANASSIE	36,3	2,15	11	6
84	KROMRIVIER (CHURCHILL)	33,3	19,4	77	57
85	LOERIE	3,92	3,06	100+	52
86	MIERTJESKRAAL	1,55	∅ 1,58	30	55
87	OUKLOOF	4,50	0,205	4	5
88	PAUL SAUER	131,8	88,3	89	70
89	PRINSRIVIER	2,23	- *	0	86
90	STOMPDRIFT	57,3	5,72	12	11
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		472,4	231,4	39	35
Bellair 1/1/81		11,1	2,42	7	
Calitzdorp 1/12/80		4,98	1,77	56	
Ernest Robertson 1/12/80		0,422	0,421	82	
Gamka 1/1/81		1,75	0,781	84	
Koos Raubenheimer 1/12/80		9,26	5,11	73	
Leeugamka 24/1/81		14,5	11,25	39	
Swart River 22/12/80		0,720	0,721	93	
<u>OOS KAAP - EASTERN CAPE</u>					
91	BRIDLE DRIFT	75,7	45,3	85	46
92	DOORNRIVIER	22,5	12,4	76	54
93	ELANDSDRIFT	12,5	3,38	41	28
94	GRASSRIDGE	57,7	24,3	46	47
95	GROENDAL	11,8	10,2	90	76
96	KATRIVIER	26,1	6,67	75	24
97	KOMMANDODRIF)		5,63	39	7
98	LAKE ARTHUR)	97,2			
98	LAING	21,7	21,7	100	100-
99	LUBISI	157,9	25,0*	29	16*
99	MENTZ	192,5	92,7	44	48
99	NAHOON	22,1	6,16	76	7
99	ROOIKRANS	5,40	∅ 5,50	76	54
99	VAN RYNEVELDSPAS	46,7	1,17	2	3
99	WATERDOWN	38,2	9,50	77	26
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		788,0	269,5	48	32
Bulkrivier 1/1/81		0,821	0,742	71	
Gubu 1/1/81		8,77	6,29	97	
Howisonspoort 1/1/81		0,883	0,745	88	
Jameson 1/1/81		0,575	0,221	87	
Milner 1/1/81		0,255	0,173	80	
Ncora 4/11/81		161,7	157,2	99	
New Years 17/12/81		4,66	3,47	92	
Sandrivier 1/1/81		2,67	2,49	96	
Settlers 1/1/81		4,02	0,419	88	
Vanstadens (Lower) 1/12/80		0,428			
Vanstadens (Upper) 1/12/80		0,322	0,322	100	
		0,143	0,143	100	

26/1/81

1	2	3	4	5	6	
<u>NATAL</u>						
105	ALBERT FALLS	292,8	112,9	70	39	39
106	CHELMSFORD	83,1	57,6	82	68	69
107	CRAIGIE BURN	25,1	25,1	89	100	100
108	DRIEL	18,3	∅ 18,5	100+	99	100+
109	GOEDERTROUW					
110	HAZELMERE	22,3	∅ 22,4	98	95	100+
111	HLUHLUWE	28,9	8,65	35	25	30
112						
113	MIDMAR	177,7	120,4	91	67	68
114	NAGLE	23,2	22,3	98	96	96
115	SPIOENKOP	281,8	∅ 283,3*	100+	100+	100+*
116	WAGENDRIFT	59,9	∅ 61,0	100	97	100+
117	WOODSTOCK					
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		1 013,1	729,3	86	71	72
Eshowe 2/12/80		0,901	0,369	57		41
Gilbert Lyles 27/10/80		0,955	0,955+	84		100+
Nungwan 27/10/80		2,18	2,14	97		98
Ungababa 1/12/80		1,28	1,29	100+		100+
GROOTTOTAAL - GRAND TOTAL		20 285,2	11766,6	68	58	58

Verlede jaar - last year Verlede week - last week

TOTALE V. V. V. VAN DAMME
TOTAL F. S. C. OF DAMS

20393,9

20285,2

Damme wat vir die weeklikse verslag gebruik word, verskyn in HOOFLETTERS (Kolom 1) en slegs die word in die totale gebruik. Reservoirs used for weekly data are shown in CAPITAL LETTERS (Column 1) and only these are used for the totals.

- V V V - Volle voorraad vermoë
F S C - Full supply capacity
* - Jongste beskikbare inligting - Latest available information.
∅ - Die voorraad bo die V V V (100%+) is nie in ag geneem nie en slegs die V V V is gebruik om die subtotale van 'n opvanggebied te bepaal.
The storage above F S C (100%+) was not taken into account and only the F S C was used to obtain the sub totals for a catchment.
() - Weggelaat uit die totale
Omitted from the totals

Uitgereik deur die Inligtingsdiens van Suid-Afrika op versoek van die Departement van Waterwese, Bosbou en Omgewingsbewaring, Pretoria
Issued by the Information Service of South Africa at the request of the Department of Water Affairs, Forestry and Environmental Conservation, Pretoria
op/on 28/1/81

26/1/81

4

1	2	3	4	5	6	
<u>ORANJERIVIER - ORANGE RIVER</u>						
57	ARMENIA	14,5	4,78	72	28	33
58	BOEGOEBERG	21,1	Ø 21,3	100+	100+	100+
59	EGMONT	9,78	2,29	65	21	23
60	HENDRIK VERWOERD	5 670,3	2981,4	80	53	53
61	LE ROUX P. K	3 236,6	2020,6	82	63	62
62	SMARTT SYNDICATE	98,0	0,093	0	1	1
63	WELBEDACHT	56,0	0,124	16	41	0
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		9 106,3	5030,4	79	56	55
	Bethulie 1/12/80	1,99	0,954	12		20
	Leeubos 1/11/80	0,708	0	0		0
	Rooiberg 8/12/80	2,94	0	0		0
	Victoria West 2/12/80	3,66	0,021	1		1
<u>WES KAAP - WESTERN CAPE</u>						
64	BRANDVLEI	95,3	65,2	44	72	68
65	BUFFELSJAGT	5,21	Ø 6,37	100	98	100+
66	CLANWILLIAM	121,4	102,2	65	88	84
67	DUIVENHOKS	5,68	Ø 6,09	100	98	100+
68	EIKENHOF	22,1	Ø 24,5	79	96	100+
69	ELANDSKLOOF	11,3	Ø 11,3+	80	98	100+
70	KORENTE - VETTE	8,48	Ø 8,98	85	93	100+
71	KWAGGASKLOOF	52,4	31,5	51	60	60
72	LAKENVALLEY	10,3	4,68	29	20	45
73	MISVERSTAND	6,10	Ø 6,43	79	100	100+
74	ROODE ELS BERG	8,20	Ø 8,26	21	92	100+
75	STEENBRAS	33,7	27,0	64	73	80
76	THEEWATERSKLOOF	480,2	92,4	10	16	19
77	VOELVLEI	164,1	125,7	70	81	77
78	WENMERSHOEK	58,5	49,2	69	83	84
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		1 083,0	565,0	40	52	52
	Bulshoek 1/1/81	5,27	4,96	70		94
	Calvinia 1/12/80	0,844	0,203	9		24
	Ceres 1/1/81	0,323	0,298	95		92
	Keerom 1/12/80	8,40	2,36	45		28
	Klipberg 1/12/80	1,98	0	10		0
	Moordkuil 1/12/80	1,38	0,675	37		49
	Pietersfontein 4/12/80	2,52	0,340	0		13
	Poortjeskloof 1/12/80	10,4	0,093	21		1
	Stettynskloof 1/1/81	4,78	6,00+	100+		100+

26/1/81

1	2	3	4	5	6
<u>VAALRIVIER - RIVER</u>					
41 ALLEMANSKRAAL	174,3	42,8	53	25	25
42 BLOEMHOF	1 273,0	541,3	42	43	43
43 BOSKOP	20,5	∅ 21,2	100+	100+	100+
44 DOUGLAS	17,2	13,5	59	68	78
45 ERFENIS	224,1	69,5	49	28	31
46 GROOTDRAAI	(359,9)	(150,3)	(36)	(41)	(42)
47 KALKFONTEIN	321,8	12,6	15	4	4
48 KOPPIES	41,2	33,7	35	46	82
49 KRUGERSDRIFT	78,0	2,42x	3	3	3x
50 RUSTFONTEIN	75,4	15,3	45	20	20
51 SAULSPOORT	18,8	15,6x	100+	83	83x
52 SPITSKOP	61,3	26,0	-	44	42
53 STERKFONTEIN	1 203,3	516,2x	42	43	43x
54 TIERPOORT	34,5	0,001x	4	0	0x
55 VAALDAM	2 190,6	1733,5	85	78	79
56 VAALHARTS	51,2	42,9	84	79	84
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL	5 785,2	3085,8	57	53	53
Elandskuil Gerrands 3/12/80	1,40	0,651	86		47
Klerkskraal 1/1/81	8,68	8,72	100+		100+
Klipdrift 28/11/80	13,7	10,3	70		75
Loch Athlone 3/12/80	3,74	1,53	96		41
Menin 1/11/80	0,826	0,511	92		62
Potchefstroom 1/1/81	2,11	1,97	100+		94
Rietspruit					
Roodepoort 1/1/81	1,05	0,767	50		73
Schweizer-Reneke 5/1/81	5,29	5,02	19		95
Weltevreden 1/1/81	1,88	0,421	16		22

26/1/81

1	2	3	4	5	6
<u>OOS - EASTERN TRANSVAAL</u>					
22 BLYDE	55,1	∅ 55,8	100+	100+	100+
23 BRONKHORSTSPRUIT	57,6	∅ 59,0	100+	100	100+
24 BUFFELKLOOF	5,27	∅ 5,31	100+	100+	100+
25 DA GAMA	13,6	11,0	41	75	81
26 JERICHO	59,7	26,7	53	44	45
27 VYGEBOOM	79,2	∅ 79,7	100+	100+	100+
28 KLASERIE	5,76	∅ 5,84	68	100+	100+
29 KLIPKOPJE) LANGEMERE)	15,9	6,68x	18	42	42x
30 LOSKOP	348,1	338,5	29	94	97
31 MORGENSTOND	44,5	25,6	50	58	57
32 NOOITGEDACHT	79,3	59,3	45	75	75
33 NUWE DORINGPOORT	109,1	106,2	73	92	97
34 OHRIGSTAD	13,2	11,6	27	86	87
35 PONGOLAPOORT	(2 500,6)	(191,9)	(5)	(7)	(8)
36 RONDEBOSCH	46,6	44,4	67	95	95
37 ROOIKRAAL	2,09	1,17	100+	59	56
38 RUST DE WINTER	28,1	24,7	50	87	88
39 WESTOE	59,6	14,1	43	24	24
40 WITKLIP	13,7	∅ 13,9	100+	100	100+
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL	11 036,4	886,6	55	84	86
Mapochs 9/12/80	0,504	0,370	100+		73
Phalaborwa 1/12/80	5,60	5,51	71		98
Primkop 1/1/81	2,05	2,07	99		100+
Roodepoort 1/1/81	1,27	1,38	100+		100+
Tonteldoos 1/1/81	0,174	0,175	100+		100+
Vlugkraal 1/1/81	0,429	0,428	99		100-

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DEPARTEMENT VAN WATERWESE
 BOSBOU EN OMGEWINGSBEWARING
 DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS
 FORESTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
 STAND VAN DAMME STATE OF RESERVOIRS

26/1/81

WEEKLIKSE - WEEKLY STAND STATE	Maandelikse - Monthly stand met state with datum date	Netto V. V. V Net F. S. C. 10 ⁶ m ³	Netto - Net Water in Dam 10 ⁶ m ³	% van netto V V V % of net F S C		
				Verlede Jaar Last Year	Verlede Week Last Week	Op - on 26/1/81
1		2	3	4	5	6
WES - WESTERN TRANSVAAL						
1	BOSPOORT	18,8	16,9	89	82	90
2	BUFFELSPOORT	10,3	4,83	70	41	47
3	HANS STRIJDOM	156,7	Ø 159,0		100 +	100 +
4	HARTBEESPOORT	185,5	177,7	97	93	96
5	KLEIN MARICO	8,01	Ø 8,42	100 +	97	100 +
6	KLIPVOOR	43,8	Ø 44,4	100 +	100 +	100 +
7	KOSTER	11,2	6,90	63	43	61
8	KROMELLENBOOG	9,93	Ø 10,5	100	92	100 +
9	LINDLEY'S POORT	14,2	Ø 16,2	72	90	100 +
10	MARICO BOSVELD	27,9	Ø 29,1 +	100 +	99	100 +
11	OLIFANTSNEK	14,2	4,62 *	51	33	33 *
12	ROODEPLAAT	42,1	Ø 42,6	100 +	99	100 +
13	VAALKOP	55,3	Ø 58,2	89	98	100 +
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		597,9	568,9	93	93	95
	Bierspruit 1/12/80	4,05	2,35	83		58
	Bon Accord 6/1/81	6,46	6,46 +	100 +		100 +
	Combrink 8/12/80	0,953	0,764	69		80
	Donkerpoort 14/1/81	3,42	2,68	77		78
	Rietvlei 5/1/80	12,0	10,0	89		83
	Swartruggens 3/12/80	0,486	0,532	100 +		100 -
	Warmbad 2/12/80	0,616	0,623	71		100 -
NOORD - NORTHERN TRANSVAAL						
14	ALBASINI	25,6	22,4	90	76	87
15	DOORNDRAAI	46,9	Ø 47,5	70	100 +	100 +
16	EBENEZER	67,3	Ø 67,8 +	100 +	100 +	100 +
17	GLEN ALPINE	22,0	Ø 22,9	38	100 +	100 +
18	LUPHEPHE) NWANEDZI)	19,4	Ø 19,6	76	100 +	100 +
19	MAGOEBASKLOOF	5,58	Ø 5,65	100 +	100 +	100 +
20	NJELELE	57,4	Ø 58,5	85	96	100 +
21	FANIE BOTHA	158,7	Ø 161,9	79	100 +	100 +
SUBTOTAAL - SUB TOTAL		402,9	399,7	81	98	99
	Dap Naude 30/12/80	2,08	2,04	97		98
	Merensky 1/1/81	1,31	1,27	100		97
	Vergelegen 1/1/81	0,254	0,248	100 +		97