

HOUSING & HOSTEL - T. V. L.

(1991)

JANUARY —

MARCH.

Civics group pledges to go on targeting councils

B1 Day 3/1/94

CIVICS Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday vowed to continue its "highly successful" campaign to force councillors to resign, because negotiations between the ANC and government had not had any effect on the day-to-day lives of South Africans.

Cast said in a statement yesterday the acid test of the success of talks between the ANC and government was the effect on the day-to-day lives of the majority of the people.

There was still a serious crisis of homelessness, housing and unemployment and the greater part of the land was still in the hands of a minority.

"Little or nothing has changed to improve the living conditions and standards of our people."

Cast also said defence

EDYTH BULBRING

committees would be formed to protect residents from state-related violence and other forms of crime.

It reserved the right to mobilise people as long as apartheid was alive and their day-to-day lives remained unchanged.

Disrupted

The organisation also believed the actions of the people brought about the changes that had occurred, and it would ensure their continued participation in the process of change through mass action.

President F W de Klerk's claim that local government was being disrupted through mass action sounded hollow, the statement said.

It was Cast's contention

that local government was disrupted when government forced its "puppets" on to people. Cast believed it was beginning to normalise local government by pressurising councillors and management committee members to resign.

The organisation's campaign in this regard had been very successful and it would be intensified until all resigned.

The statement said Cast had no reason to have confidence in the police force, given its past record of atrocities and its collusion with state-related vigilantes.

It insisted that the 10 000 policemen to be deployed to combat crime be accountable to the people, and that all details related to their deployment be made available to local civic structures.

Cast reaffirms commitment to mass action

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal in a New Year's message yesterday reiterated its commitment to mass action and vowed to step up its campaign to force black councillors to resign (127)

Responding to State President FW de Klerk's New Year message calling for an end to mass action, Cast assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia said: "We reserve the right to mobilise our people to mass action so long as apartheid is alive and people's day-to-day lives remain unchanged."

"We also believe that the actions of our people have brought about the change that has occurred and we will ensure their continued participation in the process of change through mass action."

Cast added that President de Klerk's claim that local government was being disrupted through mass action "sounds hollow." *so we feel 3/1/91*

"It is our contention that local government was disrupted when the state forced their puppets onto our people and we believe we are now beginning to normalise local government by pressurising councillors and management committee members to resign."

Sapa

Agreement to end rent boycott is close

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Atteridgeville, Saldusville Residents' Organisation (Asro) are on the verge of securing an agreement which could end the townships' rent boycott.

Recently appointed township administrator Ernie Jacobson said yesterday he and Asro representatives met on Christmas Eve and agreed "in principle" that the boycott should end as soon as possible.

He said a provisional target date for the ending of the boycott had been set, but would not disclose when the boycott would officially finish.

All parties involved would meet today to discuss the rent and service tariff levels to

MATTHEW CURTIN

be paid in the future, how rent arrears would be repaid, and the future expansion of services.

Jacobson was appointed administrator last year after the Atteridgeville Town Council resigned under pressure from local residents.

Asro acting general secretary Simon Tshidi could not be contacted for comment.

Attempts to resolve the boycott last year collapsed with the cancellation of a meeting scheduled for December 20 between Jacobson, the TPA and Asro.

12/11/79
13:10 am

(123)

Ultimatum over Tokoza

Star 4/11/91 power cut

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

The East Rand Civic Association (Erca) has appealed to East Rand industrialists to intervene in the power cut in Tokoza by the Alberton municipality, failing which the consumer boycott in Alberton will spread to other East Rand towns.

In a press statement Erca said: "As the majority in any society consists of the working classes, we believe that big capital in the whole East Rand cannot be allowed to plead innocence, while their workers who create massive wealth for them are subjected to such hardships

"We appeal, therefore, to business organisations such as the East Rand Industrialists' Association to intervene immediately in the matter so that the consumer boycott of Alberton does not spread to all East Rand towns"

The statement said Erca would also be forced to revoke all agreements and interim agreements if power were not restored at Tokoza.

Erca said it would no longer recognise mediators appointed by the TPA in matters where negotiations on civic matters were at issue.

"As far as we are concerned, the appointment of mediators can never be a task for just one party but must be done jointly by both contending bodies," the statement said

Officials of the TPA could not be reached for comment



SCA fights rise in rapes

ISAAC MOGASE

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THE Soweto Civic Association is organising an anti-crime conference to stamp out the escalating crime rate in the township following a spate of gang rapes

SCA president Mr Isaac Mogase said: "It is high time Soweto residents stand up to fight hooliganism and barbaric acts in the community."

The call for the conference follows the gang rape of a pregnant woman at a Zola high school on New Year's Day. *Sowetan 4/1/91*

Mogase said discussions were already under way with various organisations in the community, including businessmen, to stamp out the high crime rate in Soweto.

The woman from Phokeng near Rustenburg was visiting a cousin when she was picked up by four men at a taxi rank and taken to Zola high school, where she was gang raped for six hours and left naked and penniless as the assailants took her clothes, shoes and R43 cash

Soweto police liaison officer Captain Joseph Ngobeni confirmed the incident and said a charge of rape was laid at the Jabulani police station. He said no arrests had yet been made and that investigations were continuing.

The SCA has already taken some steps to address gang rapes with the establishment of a group attending to gang rape issues

The group was responsible for the apprehension of youths who had gang raped 10 girls at the Bethanie Salvation Army Home two weeks ago.

Chairman of the Phomolong Civic Association, Mr Sammy Sisulu has taken charge of rape complaints and was handling about five cases.

Sisulu said his civic association was particularly concerned at the increasing number of rapes.

His brief is to follow up on residents' complaints and liaise with police so that the crime gets reported and the necessary steps taken to arrest culprits

He said some rape victims were reluctant to report the crime - *Sapa*.

Thokoza protest at Alberton offices

SUSAN RUSSELL

ABOUT 30 members of the Thokoza Civic Association staged a sit-in at the Alberton Town Council offices yesterday, demanding the immediate reconnection of electricity to the East Rand township.

Power supplies to the township were cut at the beginning of December after residents failed to resume electricity payments. *5/10am 4/1/91*

When the TCA delegation arrived at the council offices in the Alberton Civic Centre shortly after noon yesterday, chairman Sam Ntuli told acting town clerk Willem

● Picture: Page 2

(127)

Meyer that the delegation members would remain on the premises until the town council met them to discuss their demands.

However, the TCA delegation left the building during the afternoon after management committee chairman Johan van der Merwe, who is on leave, arrived to talk to the group. It was agreed to hold a meeting this afternoon.

Van der Merwe said the meeting would be attended by himself, the town clerk, Eskom, the Thokoza Town Council and the civic association.

In addition to the resumption of the electricity supply, the TCA is also demanding that the Alberton Town Council immediately resume negotiations on electricity payments.

□ To Page 2

Thokoza

5/10am 4/1/91

It also wants the creation of a single municipal body for Alberton and Thokoza

When the delegation arrived at the reception area of the town clerk's office, it was told Meyer would not see it without an appointment

Some minutes after Ntuli and the rest of the group seated themselves on the floor, Meyer emerged from his office and told the delegation it should leave

However, after speaking to Ntuli, Meyer led the group to a nearby auditorium where he agreed to listen to the demands

Meyer said he would convey the demands to the council, but said Van der Merwe and the other councillors were on holiday

Ntuli and the group refused to leave

(127)

□ From Page 1

until the meeting had taken place Meyer then agreed to try to locate Van der Merwe

Thokoza owes R1,7m in arrear electricity payments plus four months' interest

Van der Merwe said if the TCA could come up with some commitment which was acceptable to the council, then it would certainly consider reconnecting power supplies

"There is no way we will tolerate sit-ins," he added

Meanwhile, Sapa reports that residents of Syathuthuka near Belfast will hold a protest march today to demand the reconnection of electricity switched off in November

Services talks held

PROGRESS was made at a high-level meeting in Alberton on the East Rand on Friday afternoon, aimed at having power and water supplies to nearby Thokoza reconnected.

This was confirmed by Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) chairman Sam Ntuli, who declined to give further details as the meeting will be resumed tomorrow.

"Negotiations are going well," he said.

Representatives of the TCA, Alberton Town Council, Thokoza Council, Eskom, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Alberton Industries Association met after

about 30 TCA members staged a sit-in at Alberton Town Council offices on Thursday, demanding the immediate restoration of services to the township. (127)

Electricity to Thokoza was switched off early last month after an agreement for residents to pay a flat rate for service charges broke down. - Sapa

Progress made in Thokoza power talks

PROGRESS was made at a high-level meeting in Alberton on the East Rand on Friday afternoon, concerning the reconnection of power and water supply to nearby Thokoza township.

Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) chairman Sam Ntuli confirmed negotiations were going well but declined to give further details as the meeting was to be resumed today.

Representatives of the TCA, the Alberton Town Council, the Thokoza council, Eskom, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Alberton Indus-

tries Association met after about 30 TCA members staged a sit-in at the Alberton Town Council offices on Thursday, demanding the immediate restoration of services to the township.

Electricity to Thokoza was switched off at the beginning of December, after an earlier agreement for residents to pay a flat rate for service charges broke down.

The East Rand township reportedly owes R1,7m in electricity payments plus four months' interest — Sapa

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Sapa 7/11/91

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2005/7 8

MF&E

Tokoza electricity talks go on

Sowetan 8/1/77
PARTIES involved in attempting to negotiate an end to the month-long Thokoza township electricity cut-off remained tightlipped yesterday on progress being made in the talks.

Thokoza Civic Association chairman Sam Ntuli said the talks, which started on Friday, would resume yesterday afternoon but would not elaborate, explaining that all involved had agreed not to divulge details.

A spokesman for Eskom, one of the negotiating parties, attributed the secrecy to "sensitive issues" and would also not discuss the matter.

Representatives of the Alberton Town Council,

(127)
the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Alberton Industries Association and the Thokoza Council are also involved in the negotiations.

The East Rand township's power supply was cut early in December, apparently because the Thokoza Council is R1.7 million in arrears on electricity payments.

Ntuli said the black consumer boycott of Alberton's white-owned shops, called to protest the electricity cut-off as well as to demand one non-racial town council, would continue regardless of whether the electricity supply was restored to Thokoza or not. - Sapa



Conscientious objector Francois Krige is turned away from the military assembly point in Cape Town where he was due to report for service yesterday. Army authorities have now told him he must report to the base at Potchefstroom or face possible prosecution. Picture REUTER

More objectors to defy call-ups

A METHODIST minister and a conscientious objector who recently returned from exile will defy their military call-ups tomorrow, while two other returned exiles will refuse to comply with their conscription orders in July.

Minister Alan Storey, son of Methodist bishop Peter Storey, will fail to report at the Nasrec Showgrounds for his national service at the 8th SA Infantry unit in Upington.

Storey, 22, has already informed the SA Defence Force through his lawyers that he will not be reporting for his call-up.

Nan Cross, a spokesman for the Alan Storey Support Group, said yesterday Storey's stand was based on his Christian commitment to non-violent action.

An SADF spokesman said Storey's failure to report for his call-up would be a contravention of the Defence Act and he could then be charged.

Although Storey had informed the SADF that he would not report for duty, he would be liable for prosecution only once he had actually broken the law by not reporting, he said.

EDYTH BULBRING

Despite the changing political climate, nothing had changed with regard to conscientious objectors as the Defence Act was on the statute books which stated that all white males between the ages of 17 and 55 were liable for military service. If charged, Storey could face up to six years' imprisonment despite the reduction of national service to one year, Cross said.

However, after a recent Appellate Division ruling, magistrates are now not obliged to hand down the mandatory sentence of six years and could use their discretion. Although Storey could qualify to go before the Board for Religious Objection, he had rejected this option as he felt it would give him an unfair advantage over other conscientious objectors, Cross said.

She added that while changes had been initiated in almost every other aspect of government, defence policy

appeared impervious to change.

Three conscientious objectors, Francois Krige, Fritz Joubert and Gerald O'Sullivan, who returned to SA from exile in December after leaving to avoid conscription have received call-ups for this year.

Cross said Joubert and O'Sullivan would defy their July call-ups.

Sapa reports that Krige, 22, planned to report to the Danie Theron combat school in Potchefstroom tomorrow and declare his refusal to serve in the SA Defence Force, his attorney said yesterday.

He was turned away from the Wingfield camp yesterday after a senior officer told him the camp was only a staging point for conscripts to be transported elsewhere.

"Mr Krige was told the SADF would only take legal action on Wednesday," said the attorney. "He will, however, be going to Potchefstroom, where he will tell the SADF of his refusal to serve."

Krige has cited political reasons for refusing to serve.

Thokoza residents 'misled' on electricity issue

THE Thokoza Civic Association was misleading residents by urging them to pay R50 each to have electricity restored to the township, the Alberton Town Council said yesterday.

The council said much larger payments would be necessary.

Alberton management committee chairman Johann van der Merwe said yesterday his council, which supplied the township, disconnected the power supply last month as the Thokoza Town Council had been unable

THEO RAWANA

to pay R1.8m in arrears.

Talks between the two councils, the TPA, the civic association and the Alberton Industries' Association had made progress in exploring ways to reinstate Thokoza's power supply, he said in a statement.

Urban affairs consultant Nigel Mandy said civic association members had told residents power would be reconnected if each made a R50

payment to the Thokoza council. He quoted Van der Merwe as saying larger payments would be necessary.

Meanwhile, Atteridgeville township administrator Ernie Jacobson said his township's power supply would not be disconnected as the issue of the rent boycott was still being negotiated.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation and the TPA had reached agreement "in principle" on ending the boycott.

sjw 9/1/91

Power cut in Toekomsrus

By Glen Elsas
West Rand Bureau

(127)

The electricity supply to about 1,300 houses in Toekomsrus, Randfontein, was cut yesterday after the refusal by residents to pay electricity accounts.

Randfontein town clerk Louw Brits said special concessions had been made at the end of October to assist those still in arrears with their payments.

"We arranged with the residents that if they paid their accounts by November 7, we would grant them a period of nine months in which to settle their outstanding debt.

"Since our negotiations the rate at which the accounts were paid has slackened and we have now been forced to cut electrical supplies to those houses where no payment has been made," Mr Brits said.

He said accounts would have to be settled in full before supplies would be restored.

Boycott of Alberton shops begins to bite

THERE was a marked scarcity of shoppers in Alberton yesterday as the boycott launched by residents of nearby Thokoza township began to bite

Boycott "enforcers" have reportedly started forcing shoppers to return goods bought from white-owned shops in the town. Yesterday only a few black people were seen in the new shopping centre in Alberton's Voortrekker Road.

The Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) launched a total boycott of white-owned business last month in support of demands for clarity on money residents agreed to

by day 9/11/91
THEO RAWANA

pay for services in September and October. Despite paying R70 a month for the two months, residents are currently without water or electricity.

The services were cut off by the Alberton Town Council in November when payments stopped.

Thokoza is R1.8m in arrears in electricity payments.

The TCA, the Alberton Town Council, the Thokoza Town Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration are currently

involved in negotiations to resolve the township rent boycott.

TCA president Sam Ntuli has demanded that the Alberton council should investigate Thokoza's finances.

The TCA has also demanded that Alberton start talks on the implementation of one nonracial council for the two areas.

Alberton shop owners approached yesterday would not comment on the boycott, but the few black shoppers and some shop assistants said trading had plummeted since last week.

● See Page 2

Protestors 'removed'⁽¹²⁷⁾ from Thokoza offices

THE arrest of at least 18 sit-in demonstrators at the Thokoza town council offices yesterday prompted the UDF-aligned Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) to call on government and Eskom to intervene in services boycott talks

The demonstrators, including Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) president Sam Ntuli and Catholic priest Father Peter began the sit-in on Monday to protest against the cut-off of electricity to the township by Alberton Town Council.

It was reported earlier that 20 people were held, but Witwatersrand police liaison officer Capt Piet van Deventer said yesterday police arrested 18 people for trespassing, all of whom were released after being given a warning

TCA central committee member Sidney Ramogase said the people were picked up by police and later released after they refused Thokoza town clerk Herman Combrinck's request to vacate the premises, reports Sapa.

Combrinck said they had not been arrested but "assisted" out of the chamber.

The TCA, Thokoza town council, Alberton Town Council and Alberton Industries' Association are involved in talks to work out a way of repaying R1,8m Thokoza owes the Alberton municipality

In a statement yesterday Cast president

THEO RAWANA

Moses Mayekiso urged Alberton to switch on the lights while negotiations for an acceptable payment formula continued.

Cast would mobilise "the highest disciplined support if the Thokoza residents' demands are not met". That might include a meeting with Eskom or Provincial Affairs Minister Hernus Kriel.

Cast had been informed that Thokoza residents had started paying for electricity and could not understand why the lights were not switched on, Mayekiso said.

Earlier Alberton accused the TCA of misleading local residents by urging them to pay R50 each to have electricity restored to the township. The council said much larger payments were required.

Combrinck said last night that he had met Ntuli to arrange another meeting.

Sapa reports that Paarl municipality yesterday cut off electricity supplies to Mbekweni township. Town clerk Hennie Liebenberg said R120 000 was outstanding. Fees were also outstanding for water, but that supply would not be cut off.

SABC radio reported that Randfontein municipality planned to cut power supplies to 1 400 of Toekomrus's 1 880 houses. About R1m was outstanding from people who refused to pay their accounts, Randfontein town clerk Louw Brits said.

**BY ORDER OF
THE BORED**

Protesters removed by police

Sowetan 127
9/1/91

AT least 10 members of the Tokoza Civic Association, who were staging a sit-in protest at the council offices, were yesterday told by police to leave the premises.

East Rand police liaison officer Captain Ida van Zweel said police had been told by the Tokoza Town Council to ask TCA members to get out of the offices.

She said no arrests were made.

However, Mr Duma Nkosi of the TCA said the 10 protesters, including their president Mr Sam Ntuli and Father Hawthorpe of the local Roman Catholic Church, were taken to the police station but it was not known if they had been arrested.

The sit-in started on Monday to protest against electricity cuts which began in December.

By DON SEOKANE

Many residents paid the R40 interim flat rate yesterday in an attempt to have their power switched back on.

Before the sit-in was interrupted, Ntuli accused the council of not honouring the agreement it had reached with TCA. He said since last Friday residents had been paying the interim rate.

Ntuli ruled out any possibility of the consumer boycott of Alberton's white shops being ended before negotiations with the Alberton Town Council.

Thokoza electricity payment not agreed to yet, says council

THEO RAWANA

THOKOZA residents paid R95 631 in two days this week to have electricity restored to their homes, but the power stayed off as the local civic association became embroiled in a dispute with authorities over what was required to turn the lights back on.

The Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) told residents authorities had agreed the electricity supply would be restored if they paid an interim rate of R40 each.

The TPA meanwhile announced it would no longer engage in talks with the TCA, saying it and the Alberton Town Council — which is the bulk power supplier to Thokoza — had never agreed to the R40 monthly rate.

The East Rand township, which owes Alberton R1,8m, has been without power since early December.

The other parties to the talks are the Thokoza Town Council, the Alberton Industries Association and Eskom.

D 10 am 10/11/91 · Lack of faith (127)

Thokoza Town Clerk Herman Combrinck said yesterday 2 964 residents had paid a total of R95 631.

Urban affairs consultant Nigel Mandy, a facilitator at the talks, said the TPA had told him that in view of the TCA's call to residents it was stopping all negotiations with the association which had shown lack of faith.

"But the TPA said it was concerned about the situation in Thokoza and would consult with the other parties to work out a solution to the problem," Mandy said.

However, Sapa reports that TCA president Sam Ntuli yesterday called for an independent and impartial mediator. Ntuli said Mandy was unacceptable to the TCA.

WILSON ZWANE reports that residents of Toekomsrus on the West Rand would not pay their electricity accounts until their grievances had been addressed, a local residents' spokesman said yesterday.

The statement by Toekomsrus Crisis Committee (TCC) spokesman Thomas Luthers came in the wake of the Randfontein Town Council's decision to cut power to non-paying Toekomsrus residents from Tuesday.

Randfontein town clerk Lou Brits said power to 1 350 houses would be cut. Power to about 1 000 houses had already been cut.

Luthers said "If we capitulate now and start paying for services it will mean that the boycott has been a futile exercise. The primary reason for the boycott, which is the unreasonably high electricity bills, will have to be addressed before we consider paying our accounts."

Sporadic

Asked if his committee was contemplating any action against the Randfontein council, Luthers said there were "some actions in the pipeline . . . but as a starter, we have instructed our attorneys to arrange an urgent meeting with the Randfontein town council."

Brits said his council was prepared to negotiate with the TCC on resolving the boycott.

Sapa reports the TCC claimed there were sporadic running battles between police and local youths yesterday. TCC official Oscar Oliphant said police were seen chasing youths attempting to prevent Randfontein Town Council workers from cutting off power.

West Rand police liaison officer Capt Henriette Bester denied the allegations that there were clashes between the police and residents. "The only incident was the throwing of stones at the municipal workers who were cutting off electricity," Bester said.

Meanwhile a mass meeting was expected to be held in Toekomsrus last night.

TPA pulls out of ^{Sowetan} Tokoza rent talks ¹²⁷ 11/11/91

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has withdrawn from rent and electricity supply talks because the Tokoza Civic Association has divulged "sensitive material" to the Press

TPA spokesman Mr Piet Wilkens yesterday confirmed that TPA has pulled out and said a statement would be issued later

Tokoza Civic Association president Mr Sam Ntuli said he could not keep residents "in the dark".

He said although the TPA has not officially in-

By DON SEOKANE

formed TCA of their withdrawal, he believed that Tokoza residents had a right to know what was happening

Ntuli added that the consumer boycott of white businesses in Alberton would continue until the Alberton Town Council agreed to negotiations

Earlier this week, members of the TCA staged a 15-hour sit-in at Tokoza council offices to protest the continued blackout of the township

Mr Whyte, who stood for the NP in the Berea municipal by-

Zulu king refuses to meet Tambo

By Kaizer Nyatumba
Political Staff

Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini has apparently snubbed ANC president Oliver Tambo by refusing to meet him this weekend, according to unconfirmed reports.

Mr Tambo, who returned to South Africa towards the end of December after spending three decades in exile, will address a rally at Kings Park Stadium in Durban on Sunday.

Unconfirmed reports said ANC chief of intelligence and southern Natal chairman Jacob Zuma, said to have accompanied KwaZulu Chief Minister and Inkatha Freedom Party president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi to see King Zwelithini on Monday, tried to arrange a meeting between the Zulu king and Mr Tambo this weekend.

King Zwelithini refused, outlining previous discourtesies of the ANC in denying him an audience.

...for more than 90 days in prison for civil debt

Power cut cripples Tokoza businessmen

By Thabo Leshilo

Tokoza businessmen are facing financial disaster — the result of the month-long electricity cut by the Alberton Town Council.

Electricity supply to the township was discontinued in December following a rent and services boycott which left residents owing the council R1.7 million for electricity.

Ike Mdlalose, vice-chairman

...found unharmed in the company of Mr Jurgens

Power cut cripples Tokoza businessmen

of the Tokoza Chamber of Commerce and shopowner, has even stopped selling perishables and goods which need refrigeration.

He estimated that some shopowners had lost up to 95 percent in returns on perishables because of the electricity cut.

Another resident, Nomvula Dlamini, who also runs a nursery school at her home, said she could no longer buy food in bulk for the nursery school and her family.

...control his sexual preferences

Power cut cripples Tokoza businessmen

Tokoza administrator Gert Muller said residents would now have to pay between R200 and R250 for services after the breakdown of talks between the Tokoza Civic Association and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA).

The TPA withdrew from the negotiations on the services issue on Wednesday after the TCA leaked sensitive information about the negotiations to the press.

HÄGAR the Horrible

By Dik Browne



...the commonest

apt Trans 127

January 11 1991 5

200

TPA behind in housing

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA — The Transvaal Provincial Administration will by the end of next year provide only 60% of the estimated 210 000 sites currently needed to house more than one million squatters on the Witwatersrand.

This is subject to availability of funds, a TPA official said yesterday

He said his department's statistics showed that by the end of November last year, there were 209 848 "squatter" structures in the East Rand, Johannesburg, Vaal and West Rand regions. They are occupied by people who earn less than R650 a month per family

Jouberton faces service cuts

KLERKSDORP Town Council yesterday announced it would stop supplying power to neighbouring Jouberton.

Town clerk J L Muller said yesterday the Jouberton township had run up a R626 000 electricity, water and sewerage bill in three months.

Klerksdorp would cut these services to the township on Tuesday. A council statement said water supply would be reduced to the point at which the load on sewerage pump stations was relieved.

Electricity would be restored after the township had settled its debt.

Randfontein municipality began cutting power to 1 350 non-paying residents in nearby Toekomsrus on Tuesday, Randfontein town clerk Lou Brits said.

Toekomsrus residents, who are about R1m in arrears in their payments to the Randfontein Town Council, have resolved to maintain the rent and services boycott until arrears are scrapped and interim flat rates are introduced.

Toekomsrus Crisis Committee spokesman Thomas Luthers said the resolution was taken at a mass meeting in the township on Wednesday.

Brits said the demand for the scrapping of arrears and the introduction of an interim rate had been rejected by his council.

THEO RAWANA and
WILSON ZWANE

"But we are prepared to negotiate with the crisis committee on how to resolve the boycott," he said. (127)

Meanwhile, the East Rand Civic Association (ERCA) warned of plans for an East Rand consumer boycott if a settlement of the Thokoza blackout was not achieved by next Friday, Sapa reports.

The ERCA said yesterday it would discuss the boycott with its communities.

It was to hold an urgent meeting with the Transvaal Provincial Administration's (TPA's) East Rand directorate on Monday, ERCA chairman Albert Tleane said.

Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso said yesterday his organisation was trying to re-engage the TPA in talks with the Thokoza Civic Association (TCA).

Cast's move followed the TPA's announcement it was terminating negotiations with the TCA because it felt the organisation had acted in bad faith by promising Thokoza residents that power would be restored on interim payments that were much lower than the bulk supplier, Alberton Town Council, required.

1 048 blacks enrol at open schools

A TOTAL of 1 048 black pupils enrolled at 34 former white provincial schools in Johannesburg and Pretoria which opened their doors to all races at the start of the new term on Wednesday.

This figure is expected to rise. A Transvaal Education Department (TED) spokesman yesterday said only 25 black pupils were enrolled at Pretoria schools, and the remaining 1 023 were in Johannesburg.

Of the 1 048 total, 269 were attending high schools and 779 were at primary schools.

He said the TED was still getting inquiries about admitting black children to

"open" provincial schools

The TED expected more white provincial schools to open their doors this year.

By January 22, when Cape schools begin, 205 out of about 2 000 white provincial schools countrywide will be non-racial.

Meanwhile, the Pan Africanist Students' Organisation (Paso) yesterday called on black pupils not to enrol at white schools, saying the opening of these institutions to other races was a liberal ploy to suppress the militancy of black children.

It said it was futile for black pupils to enrol at white schools, because the education there was designed for white communities, and not blacks — Sapa

1 048 blacks enrol at open schools

Alberton business halved as talks stall 127

Business in the East Rand town of Alberton has plummeted by up to half since a consumer boycott was declared by the Thokoza Civic Association (TCA).

Yunuf Karolia, secretary of the Alberton Traders and Professionals Association (ATPA), told Saturday Star that the hardest hit of the city's traders were those who had stocked up on school uniforms

He said his association still cherished hopes that a solution would be found to end the boycott

"Our members are definitely feeling the effects of the boycott. We are also hoping that our association, together with the industrialists, can play a role in resolving the crisis, as we did with the last consumer boycott we had," Mr Karolia said.

ATPA said it accepted that a consumer boycott was the only avenue Thokoza residents had to voice their grievances. Mr Karo-

lia said "We realise that we are not the targets of the boycott, although we do suffer in the process. We'd like to see an amicable settlement."

A meeting was envisaged at which traders would formulate a different approach on the matter.

However, the TCA has vowed to intensify the five-day-old consumer boycott in Alberton, after the Transvaal Provincial Administration withdrew from talks aimed at ending the rent boycott in the township.

Mr Gert de Jager of the TPA said the TPA pulled out of talks because the TCA acted in bad faith by breaching an agreement reached at a meeting concerning tariffs to be paid by Thokoza residents.

The implications of the TPA withdrawal meant that Thokoza residents would now have to foot the bill in total for electricity and other services, Mr Gert Muller, the adminis-

JOVIAL RANTAO

trator of Thokoza, warned

In his reaction, Sam Ntuli, TCA chairman, said he did not understand why the TPA pulled out of the talks, which he said were at an advanced stage.

He said the TCA was left with no option but to intensify the consumer boycott in an effort to pressurise the TPA back to the negotiation table.

However, Mr Ntuli said, even if the TPA returned to the talks, the consumer boycott would continue because "our other demands have not been met."

The TCA's other demands are for the reconnection of electricity to the township and the merger of the Thokoza and Alberton town councils for "one council for one city."

Mr Ntuli further accused the TPA of bad faith. He said the TCA had

told residents to resume paying rent of R40 and "people started paying on Monday already, and now this."

Mr de Jager said the TCA was told that R40 was totally inadequate.

"In a breach of this agreement, and quite untruthfully, Thokoza residents were informed that they each had to pay R40 and the power supply would be reconnected," Mr de Jager said.



Water cut sparks ¹²⁷ stayaway

13/11/91
ETHANDUKUK-HANYA township was without water for three days this week after the Conservative-controlled Piet Retief Town Council cut off supplies because of payment arrears

caption
The water supply was restored after the civic association called for a stayaway and appealed to the major employers in the area to intervene with the town council.

Water to the township's 20 000 inhabitants was cut off without warning on Monday afternoon. People were forced to get water from the river that borders the township.

Several people were arrested by police on Wednesday while travelling around the township in a minibus with a loud-hailer, announcing a public meeting to discuss the cut-off. A spokesman for the civic association claims police fired a tear-gas canister directly into the minibus. The arrested people were released after being detained for a few hours.

Residents maintain they have been paying for water but that the local council has not been paying the township's water account to the Piet Retief council. The arrears stand at almost R50 000.

Appeal for clarity on talks to end boycott in Thokoza

Booy 14/1/91
THE Alberton Industries Association (AIA) has called on parties engaged in talks to resolve Thokoza township's rent and service charges boycott to clear the confusion which marred the talks last week. (127)

The association, which draws its labour from the township and has been attending the negotiations as an observer, urged the parties to work for an accord that would benefit the township's residents. (942)

Parties to the talks were the Thokoza Civic Association (TCA), Alberton and Thokoza town councils, Eskom and the TPA, which has said it would not talk to the TCA.

Electricity supply has been cut off to the township, which owes Alberton Town Council R1,8m. This triggered a violent situation which has claimed hundreds of lives

Confusion reigned last week after the TCA announced that a meeting held on January 4 had agreed that electricity would be restored on payment of R40 — against the R70 Alberton was demanding.

Residents paid R95 000 in two days but power was not reconnected.

The TPA and the Thokoza and Alberton councils denied there had been agreement and the TCA then also denied it.

The TPA subsequently announced it was terminating talks with the TCA, alleging the association had broken an undertaking not to make announcements

The AIA said it was concerned at the parties' inability to reach any accord that

THEO RAWANA

would normalise the situation in Thokoza.

Statements by both parties confused and frustrated residents who had already been subjected to unacceptable living conditions, the association said.

"Such conditions must not be allowed to continue and the AIA urges all parties to negotiate in good faith, so as to reach agreement which places the best interests of the residents of Thokoza above all other considerations," AIA said

AIA spokesman Noel Kent said his organisation sought a stable workforce "We have found it difficult running our operations during this period," he said.

Sapa reported on Friday the Thokoza council was to approach the TPA for bridging finance to cover its R1,833m debt in electricity arrears.

Thokoza Town Clerk Gert Muller said residents must pay between R200 and R209 a household a month to cover running services accounts for electricity, water, refuse removal and sewage treatment

Of this amount R107 would go towards the payment of electricity, he said.

Sapa said the East Rand Civic Associations warned of a full-scale East Rand consumer boycott if a settlement was not reached before the end of this week

Muller stressed communication between the council and all residents' groups would continue.

Township calls for MK's help growing louder

B/day 15/1/91
PROMINENT civic association figures involved in forming township self-defence units said yesterday the ANC was coming under growing pressure to deploy its military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) to protect black communities

Soweto Civic Association (SCA) acting publicity secretary Patrick Lephunya and Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso said in interviews that grassroots calls for a visible MK presence in townships were reaching fever pitch

They made their comments after the weekendkilling of 38 people at Sebokeng outside Vereeniging and a promise by ANC president Oliver Tambo that the organisation would form defence structures in ANC zones as a matter of urgency.

Misconceptions

Both Mayekiso and Lephunya referred to the ANC's decision at its recent consultative conference to mandate MK to play a "facilitative role" in the formation of defence committees

However, an ANC spokesman cautioned against heightened expectations of MK playing an overt military role

He said the organisation would clear up misconceptions and spell out just what it meant at a series of regional meetings

What the organisation had in mind was increased vigilance and information collection, he said

But the civic leaders said grassroots structures were calling for a

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PATRICK BULGER

formalisation of the ANC's role in setting up and running defence committees.

"We in the organisations would like MK to defend the townships," Mayekiso said

Lephunya, whose organisation's members recently arrested and handed over to police 10 men who allegedly raped girls at a Soweto Salvation Army home, said the township communities were looking to the ANC for further protection against violence

"The ANC cannot ignore the continual loss of life and the destruction of property in the townships

"The ANC call for defence units is based on the fact that the violence in the townships is not an ordinary gangster-type violence.

"It is a violence that could be state-driven, right-wing driven or orchestrated by people who want to upset the state of negotiations," he said

In the branches of the ANC pressure on the ANC to deploy MK units in the townships had emerged on numerous occasions

"People have said the ANC is abrogating its responsibility to defend its people against violence," said Lephunya

Clarifying the ANC's call for defence units, an ANC spokesman said MK cadres were already visiting township communities and instructing them in the formation of proactive defence units.

The formation of defence units was, however, primarily a political rather than a military task.

Alberton business down 80% claim

THEO RAWANA

TURNOVER in Alberton shops has plummeted 80% since residents of neighbouring Thokoza township launched a consumer boycott last month, the Alberton Traders' and Professionals' Association said yesterday. Traders' Association secretary Yunus Karolia described the situation as "unreal".

"I have been through boycotts before — the last one between June and September — but nothing has ever been like this," he said.

"Our members are reporting business as being 10% to 20% of normal turnover, and some are talking of closing down. One shopkeeper decided to close shop and went on holiday, saying there was no point in staying open. When he reopened this morning, he found the situation had not changed."

Karolia said some traders closed early last Saturday as they saw no point in staying open.

The boycott was called by the Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) after the Alberton town council cut off electricity supplies to the township.

But Alberton management committee chairman Johan van der Merwe said the boycott was not working and its effect was negligible. "I was in town last Saturday and the Kombi taxis were pouring into town, and black people were seen loaded with purchases."

The boycott is also in support of demands for a single tax base for the two areas and an examination of Thokoza

Town Council's financial affairs. The TCA is engaged in talks with the Thokoza and Alberton councils, Eskom, the TPA and the Alberton Industries' Association.

But the negotiations have been plagued by frequent deadlocks and breakdowns, with the latest resulting in the TPA announcing it was terminating talks with the TCA.

Karolia said the traders' association was trying to get the Alberton council and the TCA to get talks going.

Meanwhile, Jouberton township residents yesterday started an indefinite consumer boycott of Klerksdorp business after the town's council announced it would cut off electricity and reduce water supplies to their township this morning. Jouberton is R626 000 in arrears in its payments to Klerksdorp.

Jouberton Civic Association spokesman Howard Yawa said other demands were for the release of four civic leaders and the easing of an alleged police clampdown.

And Vosloorus Town Council warned yesterday the supply of essential services would be reduced and discontinued if residents did not pay.

Randfontein town clerk L M Brits appealed to Toekomsrus residents to pay the R1 657 674 rent and services debt to his council.

Three of the five members of the Toekomsrus management committee had resigned and an election would have to be held, he said in a statement.

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Township's water supply cut by CP

Star 16/1/91

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By Montshiwa Moroke

The Conservative Party town council of Klerksdorp, which has been switching off in phases the electricity supply to its black township, Jouberton, yesterday cut off the water supply

This is the second time in four months the council has applied these tough measures in answer to the residents' rent boycott.

The cut-off of these essential services came on the second day of a consumer boycott of businesses in the Western Transvaal town called by the Jouberton Civic Association.

A similar boycott has been called for in neighbouring Stilfontein and another is set to begin in Orkney.

Residents said water to their homes was cut off at about 11 am. They said the most serious aspect of the water cut was that toilets could not flush. Although meetings had been

held and pamphlets distributed in the township, some residents were caught unawares and have not stored water.

When reporters arrived in the township, many residents had been queueing for hours in the scorching sun at a manhole at the entrance to the township. The queue was so slow at the trickling pipe that some people decided to go to the nearby Tshepong Hospital where they hoped to fill their buckets.

Others affected by the cut-offs are those staying in shacks and the men's hostel.

Henry Moleme, chairman of the local civic association, said he did not think his organisation and the town council had reached a deadlock to the extent that it warranted such drastic measures as depriving people of necessities such as water.

Mr Moleme said his association was willing to resume negotiations that broke down after the council had acted "in bad faith". They had invited the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal to send representatives when talks resumed with the council and the TPA.

One of the causes of the consumer boycott had been the detention last month of Mr Moleme and three other executive members of the association: George Molaioa (treasurer), Tshidiso Ntaopane (secretary) and Solly Rasmeni (education officer).

They were all released on Friday after being on hunger strike for 13 days.

Most black workers at lunchtime yesterday bought from shops owned by Indian traders in a section of Klerksdorp.

Boycott spreads after Klerksdorp cuts power

8/Day 16/1/91
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THE Klerksdorp town council yesterday carried out its threat to cut electricity and drastically reduce water supplies to the township of Jouberton.

Klerksdorp Town Clerk J L Muller said last week his council had resolved to suspend the supply of bulk electricity to Jouberton from yesterday, while the water supply would be reduced to certain hours a day.

He said Jouberton's service charge payments were R626 000 in arrears.

Sewerage

"Bulk supply of electricity to Jouberton will be cut off until such time as the Jouberton Town Council will be able to meet its obligations towards the Klerksdorp Town Council."

"Water supply to Jouberton will not be interrupted but will be drastically reduced, to such an extent that the load on the sewerage pump stations is relieved," Muller said.

Jouberton residents started an indefinite consumer boycott of Klerksdorp businesses on Monday.

Jouberton Civic Association spokesman Howard Yawa said the boycott was prompted by supply cut-offs. But residents were also demanding the release of four civic

THEO RAWANA

leaders and an end to an alleged police clampdown.

Sapa reports from Klerksdorp that about 2 500 more people from Kanana near Orkney reportedly joined the consumer boycott yesterday in solidarity with Jouberton residents.

Jouberton Consumer Boycott Coordinating Committee sources said the Kanana residents had started boycotting the tiny business district of Orkney yesterday, as well as Klerksdorp businesses.

Klerksdorp is where township residents usually do the bulk of their shopping.

In addition to demanding the release of local detainees, the township residents are also demanding the dismantling of Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging training centres in certain parts of the western Transvaal and the unconditional restoration of power supplies.

Klerksdorp Chamber of Commerce spokesman R A Brady said the business community was doing all in its power to "bring people together".

Sapa also reports that the Civics Association of the Southern Trans-

vaal (Cast) said yesterday it was paying special attention to threatened services cuts in the East Rand township of Vosloorus.

On Monday Vosloorus Town Clerk George Prinsloo raised the possibility of discontinuing or reducing essential services in the township if residents failed to pay their bills.

Cast general secretary Sam Ntuli said the township's rent and service charges payment dilemma was receiving serious attention, and that a plan of action to address the matter was being formulated within Cast ranks.

Meters

The Vosloorus Town Council and the local civic association deadlocked on the matter of the rent boycott in November last year.

Prinsloo said yesterday Vosloorus residents owed R23m and should be paying something while the council was repairing the township's meters.

He said the township owed Eskom a total of R6,3m.

Asked how much the council expected residents to pay since there was a deadlock, Prinsloo said the R104 a month they were paying before the breakdown in talks should apply.

Star 16/1/91

Residents fear hotel may be sold to ANC

By Esmaré van der
Merwe
Political Reporter (127)

Distressed residents of La Rosa Hotel in Berea, Johannesburg, have claimed that the ANC intends to buy the 16-floor residential hotel, a development which they say will leave them homeless.

Residents telephoned The Star this week to say they believed the hotel might soon be sold to the ANC after visits to the Abel Road building last week by ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela, internal leader Walter Sisulu, Winnie

Mandela and others

The ANC has been considering options to buy commercial and residential properties in Johannesburg to set up offices and to accommodate returning exiles and officials.

A spokesman for the owner of the La Rosa Hotel, Finansbank, said yesterday the banking group was not involved in negotiations with the ANC.

One resident, who did not want to be named, said, "Berea is becoming another Soweto as it is. It is disgusting that the bank wants to sell this hotel to the ANC."

Campaign to break council

Sowetan 17/1/9

~~21/8~~
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THE Mamelodi Civic Association will step up its campaign against the township's council following uncertainty over the resignation of nine councillors in December.

Addressing a Press conference yesterday, MCA chairman Mr Lazarus Muzwayeni said that in spite of a joint resignation letter, individual resignation letters of the nine councillors had not reached the council or the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Muzwayeni said the general council of the MCA, which met earlier this week, resolved to step up the campaign for the resignation of all councillors.

This is in line with the December resolution taken by the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal.

Own Correspondent

He said the campaign would include the isolation of families and businesses of the councillors, the dumping of refuse at the houses of the councillors and the consumer boycott of their businesses.

"We will also embark on marches and hand petitions to the Transvaal Provincial Administration and other relevant departments to force the councillors to resign.

"This is a non-violent protest action against the present system of local government and we hope that they will accordingly resign".

Both the town clerk, Mr JP Nel, and the TPA have confirmed that they had not yet received official resignation letters from the councillors.

No interest in hotel 127

ANC spokeswoman Gill Marcus yesterday denied the organisation had any intention to buy the La Rosa hotel in Berea. *Sowetan 17/11/91*

Tenants of the building were concerned when they saw deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela, internal leader Mr Walter Sisulu, Mrs Winnie Mandela and several other ANC members visit the hotel last week.

The residents feared the building would be used to house returning exiles and officials and that they would be evicted

Marcus denied the claim. She said if the ANC was to consider buying the building, it would take tenants' feelings into account

"We will not be in the position of being landlords," she said. - *Sapa*.

Rent boycott called off in Atteridgeville

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Saulsville 17/1/91

THE nine-month rent boycott in Atteridgeville has been called off and the local council has cancelled the R20 million debt and withdrawn all court action against residents.

Administrator of the township Dr E Jacobson

By SONTI MASEKO

said he was "glad to announce" that the boycott had ended and added that disconnected essential services would resume immediately

The council and the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation

reached agreement early this week

Asro chairman Dr Abie Nkomo said in terms of the agreement residents had to start paying rent in March.

He said the re-solution of the boycott was a victory for Asro, particularly that the debt had been written off

Talks on power cuts end in deadlock

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^{South 17/11 - 23/11/91}
NEGOTIATIONS between the Thokoza Civic Association (TCA) and Escom over outstanding electricity payments have ended in deadlock.

According to TCA chairperson, Mr Sam Ntuh, meetings are expected to resume with the Escom management next week in an attempt to break the impasse

Last week 22 TCA members were arrested at a sit-in at the Thokoza Town

Council offices demanding a switch-on of the lights in the township

They were released without being charged

The Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) pledged support for the plight of the Thokoza residents

According to a statement released by Cast president Mr Moses Mayekiso, last week, the switch-on of electricity to the township "cannot be linked to millions of rands payments first"



Moses Mayekiso

At the time of going to press, Escom could not be reached for comment.



WORLD MEDIA PUBLICATION

THE FORSDICK HAS A NEW

444-1310

Forsdicks SANDTON

THEO RAWANA

THE Atteridgeville Town Council had agreed to write off R22,5m owed by Atteridgeville and Saulsville residents, ending the nine-month-old rent and service charge boycott in the Pretoria townships, it emerged yesterday.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) and Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson on Monday reached an accord under which debts accumulated since April last year were to be written off.

The parties said in a joint statement that households, hostel dwellers, businesses and other concerns would start paying interim rates of

- Hostel dwellers — R15 a month,
- Households — R50;

R22m written off in rent boycott accord

- "Small" business — R60; and
- "Big" business — R150.

"Further negotiations will commence immediately on monetary matters, transfer of (rented) houses to tenants and availability of land," the statement said.

Jacobson, who was appointed administrator of the townships after the local council collapsed late last year, said: "I am glad we have this agreement and can now start the wheels turning."

Several other townships in the Transvaal such as Thokoza near Alberton, Jouberton near Klerksdorp and Toekomsrus near Randfontein are still embroiled in disputes with bulk-suppliers and the TPA over rent and service charge debts

To Page 2

Boycott

Jouberton near Klerksdorp and Toekomsrus near Randfontein are still embroiled in disputes with bulk-suppliers and the TPA over rent and service charge debts

Sapa reports a negotiated settlement seemed remote as the boycott of white business in Klerksdorp by residents of Jouberton and neighbouring villages entered its third day yesterday.

The boycott was in protest against power cuts and reduction of water supplies to Jouberton

From Page 1

Klerksdorp town clerk A J Swanepoel said his council was not in a position to negotiate directly with the civic association, because that would be sidestepping the Jouberton Town Council

But Jouberton Civic Association spokesman Henry Moleme said the civic association was not prepared to hold talks with the Jouberton council, because the latter was almost near collapse as three of its remaining five councillors had made public their intention to resign on January 31.



Stilfontein (127)

boycott over

power cut

Staff Reporter *Star* 18/11/91

The Khuma Action Committee has called an indefinite consumer boycott of white businesses in Stilfontein, near Potchefstroom, in retaliation for the switch-off of electricity to Khuma township by the Stilfontein Town Council.

The consumer boycott started on Monday.

Residents' demands included the immediate restoration of electricity and the opening of halls, libraries, swimming pools and other facilities in Stilfontein to all people, spokesman for the Khuma Action Committee Walter Sehurutse said yesterday.

The council was, however, adamant that the power would not be switched on unless Khuma residents stopped the rent boycott which started in June, town clerk Nokkie van Vuuren said.

"This is an unfair boycott because the Khuma residents had six months to pay their electricity bill which has accumulated to R500 000," said Mr van Vuuren.

tioner shall not represent conflicting or competing interests without the express concern of those involved without a full disclosure of such interests to all involved" Sub-section 2.4 says that an accredited member "shall not accept payment either in cash or kind in connection with those services from any other source without the express consent of his employer or client"

It is known that the Public Relations Institute of Southern Africa (Prisa), of which Vorster is a member, has been keeping a close watch on developments between the SABC and IBC and on Vorster's involvement

Meanwhile, the SABC's payment of SwFr41 000 (R84 000) to IBC for the placement of various ads is still outstanding. The FM has also reported that publication of a pre-paid R80 000 Transnet ad intended for the current edition of the trade and industry's who's who was delayed and it will only appear in the next edition.

Ofenheimer told the FM that his attorneys were told by the SABC's legal department that in the light of the Transnet experience payment has been withheld

"I do not understand this," said Ofenheimer. "Harmse personally signed the deal. I expect them (the SABC) to honour their obligations"

Eddie Botha

providing decent accommodation are being stymied by stormwater drains that don't function and flood new homes, or piles of rotting garbage next to brand new houses

The Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) has discussed the matter with the authorities but apparently to little avail. It has held several clean-ups of its own, the last early last year at a cost to the civic of R88 000, primarily for the hire of front-end loaders to remove the rubbish. However, Obed Bapela of the ACO says they lacked the time and funds to collect all the garbage

Bapela says garbage collection takes place once a week in Alexandra though not all areas are serviced because of rutted roads and trenches dug across some roads for the laying of electrical cables. Garbage bags are not distributed in the township and anything not placed in specific bins — which the ACO says are too few — is not collected. For the rest, a construction company comes into the township regularly and pushes all leftover garbage into huge, fly-buzzing piles on street corners

On Thursday this week the ACO will meet the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the Rand Water Board and Eskom to find ways of ending the boycott. However, neither side has yet submitted proposals of what it considers would be a reasonable rate of payment.

Cas Coovadia of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) says more townships are now paying for services than those that are not. Civic associations are pressing for electricity to be supplied direct to township authorities because they are now channelled through adjoining municipalities, increasing the cost.

Eskom is in favour of a system whereby it will supply direct to townships, but the barrier to this appears to be the provincial authorities, who are reluctant to move away from the existing system.

Coovadia says residents also want to pay a flat rate for electricity until meters are repaired. He says residents who have been paying service charges have been discouraged by a lack of improvement in services and upgrading, with piles of garbage remaining and roads still untarred and rutted.

Cast will hold a major meeting with the TPA and relevant authorities next month — a date has yet to be fixed — to discuss the crisis. "We will be discussing the issue of flat rates and affordable tariffs — and how an affordable tariff can be arrived at, among other issues," Coovadia says

"We want a situation where solutions arrived at can be applied to all townships, not the present situation where negotiations are continuing all the time at different levels with the various townships. There needs to be a quicker solution to problems," Coovadia says

The people of Alexandra do not presumably enjoy living in filth. It remains unclear how many of them would be willing to resume payment for services if this were not such a politically fraught issue

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

127

DOWN THE DRAIN

Alexandra township — that sinkhole of liberal hopes — is once again floundering under the weight of garbage. Despite a R200m upgrading project, sewers spill their effluent into the streets, new stormwater drains don't work and the roads remain possibly the most rutted of any township in the country. FM 18/1/91

The situation in Alexandra is echoed in countless townships across the Transvaal. Alex, however, is situated between Kew, Wynberg and Marlboro, surrounded by Sandton and Johannesburg, and its situation so close to affluent white areas is a constant reminder of the malaise of the townships. The authorities blame extensive rent boycotts while residents blame apartheid policies — which either refused to recognise the existence of communities or left them under threat of removal and reluctant to improve their homes or streets

After the 1976 Soweto uprising, the then West Rand Administration Board began curtailing services and it was only after intense lobbying that the Alexandra area was given a reprieve from the threat of forced removal. The population was then estimated at 45 000, today the same small area houses about 180 000-200 000 people with a rapidly growing squatter population.

Ian Bernhardt, of the Alexandra Development Foundation — a private-sector initiative which has built 177 affordable houses in the past four years — says its efforts at

Electricity rates showdown

City Press 20/1/91
By DAN DHLAMINI

A TIT-for-tat situation has developed in Western Transvaal's Klerksdorp and Stilfontein, where electricity supply to the townships has been suspended and water supplied only on a limited scale.

Residents of Khuma near Stilfontein and Jouberton outside Klerksdorp, who have been boycotting rent since last year, have now retaliated by calling a boycott of

white-owned businesses.

In Khuma, residents are demanding the immediate reconnection of electricity and water supplies, suspended two weeks ago.

Jouberton Civic Association chairman Henry Moleme said a meeting with the KTC has been arranged and would probably take place next week.

Town treasurer J de Lange told *City Press* that Jouberton residents owed his council more than R600 000 and electricity would be restored only if they paid up.

Stilfontein clerk N van Vuuren said Khuma resi-

dents' electricity bill had accumulated to over R500 000 and the council would reconnect only if they paid up.

Businesses have been hard hit since the boycott began on Monday.

Political comment and newsbills by K Sibya, headlines and sub-editing by K Naidoo, both of 2 Herb Street, New Doornfontein, Johannesburg.

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Civics 'too closely identified with ANC'

Blom 21/11/91

THE civic association movement was attempting to shake off its identification with "congress-orientated" organisations including the ANC in a bid to attract more supporters, said Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia

Coovadia said in an interview the involvement of civic associations in political issues had led to them being identified with the congress movement, particularly the ANC

"The civic association movement was formed by concerned groupings, with the logistical assistance from the congress movement, particularly from the UDF. These structures were formed to tackle civic issues, such as housing, education, transport and general living conditions in the townships.

"But as the civics were formed when organisations such as the ANC were still banned, they were then forced to play a political role. After all, civic issues are closely linked with political ones

"In the process, however, the civic issues took a back seat to political ones and the civic association movement was identified with the congress movement"

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WILSON ZWANE

This was a stumbling block to the civics' aim of articulating grassroots problems faced by all township residents as certain sections felt they were not represented, Coovadia said.

"Now that previously banned organisations have been unbanned, the civics can concentrate on civic issues. To do so they will need the participation of all township residents. That is why we are trying to divest ourselves of our congress-orientated background.

"It is not that we are not proud of our congress-orientated background. On the contrary. But the civics cannot claim to be mass-based if they are only open to the ANC," Coovadia said.

The civic association movement emerged in the early 1980's and its formation was mandated by the people, Coovadia said.

He said there were plans in the pipeline to hold a national consultative conference of civic associations in the near future to discuss the possible launching of a national civic body.

Bloom 21/11/91

Toekomsrus wants talks

WILSON ZWANE *127*

THE Toekomsrus Crisis Committee (TCC) yesterday accused the Randfontein town council of delaying negotiations aimed at resolving the rent and services boycott in the West Rand township

TCC spokesman Thomas Luthers said his organisation had been told 10 days ago that the Randfontein town council had decided to meet them, but had so far set no date and venue

Town council spokesmen could not be reached for comment yesterday

About 75% (1 350) of the township's houses have been without electricity for 12 days following Randfontein's decision to cut power to non-paying residents.

Toekomsrus residents owe R1m in arrears in payments to the Randfontein municipality

Houghton fight may go to court

By Shirley Woodgate

(127)
Houghton residents plan to go to court to test Townships Board approval for a massive office park on 31 residential stands, said local city councillor Claire Quail.

The board's decision to allow insurance and property giant Sanlam to go ahead with the development of "Houghton Isle" has been labelled "scandalous" by Mrs Quail who believes residents have a strong case on which to base their continued fight

Stev 24/1/91
"No reasons need be furnished for the board's ruling which is final, with no appeal allowed in terms of the removal of Restrictions Act

"Our last recourse is to law and we have approached Johannesburg's management committee for support," she said.

A further shock for 10 of the 31 homeowners who dug in and refused to sell their properties to Sanlam, was the prospect that the remaining householders would be overlooked by five and six storey office blocks.

The permissible bulk would also cause insoluble traffic problems since Houghton Drive could not be widened to provide the necessary two lanes as The Wilds on either side was a national monument, Mrs Quail said

"You cannot tell me that is good planning. It is lousy planning and it is time the authorities took note.

"The board has set a precedent not only for the rest of Houghton but places like Saxonwold which border on major arterial roads."

Groups row over street guards

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20/11/91
By ISMAIL
LAGARDIEN

A ROW is brewing between the PAC and the ANC over street committees, which have been used frequently by the ANC and its affiliates.

The ANC reacted strongly to a statement by the PAC's Mr Benny Alexander in the media yesterday that his organisation would this year embark on a "programme of action to rid the black townships of street committees".

The ANC's Youth League demanded an explanation from Alexander and that he explain further what he meant by fighting street committees.

Power

"Street committees have turned out to be the most democratic form of mass participation in decision-making in our communities.

"The heroic struggles that have been waged by our people against dummy structures in the townships and villages have been co-ordinated by these rudimentary organs of people's power.

"It is as a result of this that these committees have become the focus of state repression," the ANC Youth League said in a statement yesterday.

Plan to act against councils

127
Sowetan
23/1/91

A TOP anti-apartheid activist yesterday said no immediate action was planned against white local authorities although they were regarded as illegitimate.

Mr Cas Coovadia, deputy secretary general of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal, said all racially-based local government structures were illegitimate.

He said discussions were in progress with white local authorities to explore interim measures to replace present systems

"We do not want to create chaos and anarchy. But if they become intransigent or obstacles to reform, then we will take action," Coovadia said.

He also spoke out against Indian, coloured and black local

authorities, whom he said were impeding "medium and long-term solutions in the townships".

"Our strategies are dictated by the situation in the townships."

Coovadia said the mass action campaign to force all Indian and coloured city- and town councillors to resign would continue.

Letters, petitions, mass meetings, marches and boycotts would be used, he said.

Last week the South Western Management Committee laid charges of intimidation against seven members of the Eldorado Park Civic Association who called for committee members to resign - *Sowetan Correspondent*

Vosloorus residents face power cut-off

Bl Day 23/1/91 *127*

THE Vosloorus Town Council has threatened to cut off electricity supplies to its residents next Tuesday

Town Clerk George Prinsloo, who said last week the residents were R23m in arrears, said yesterday consumers had not responded positively to appeals for payment.

"The provision of electricity services in an area will be resumed only when, according to meters read, more than 50% of the residents ... have paid their current accounts for the month concerned," Prinsloo said in a statement

"Electricity supply to non-payers will then be discontinued on an individual basis," Prinsloo said. Termination or curtailment of other services for which payment had not been received was also being considered.

Prinsloo said last week the township owed Eskom R6,3m. There has been a rent and service charges boycott in the township since July.

Vosloorus Civic Association spokesman Keith Montsisi said he was surprised that Prinsloo had made such an announcement after they had held talks last week and arranged for further talks this morning, which would include the Vos-

THEO RAWANA

loorus town treasurer and management committee

Montsisi said "It appears that the town clerk speaks with two tongues and is negotiating in bad faith. He arranges a meeting for today and then tries to intimidate the residents into paying through the Press

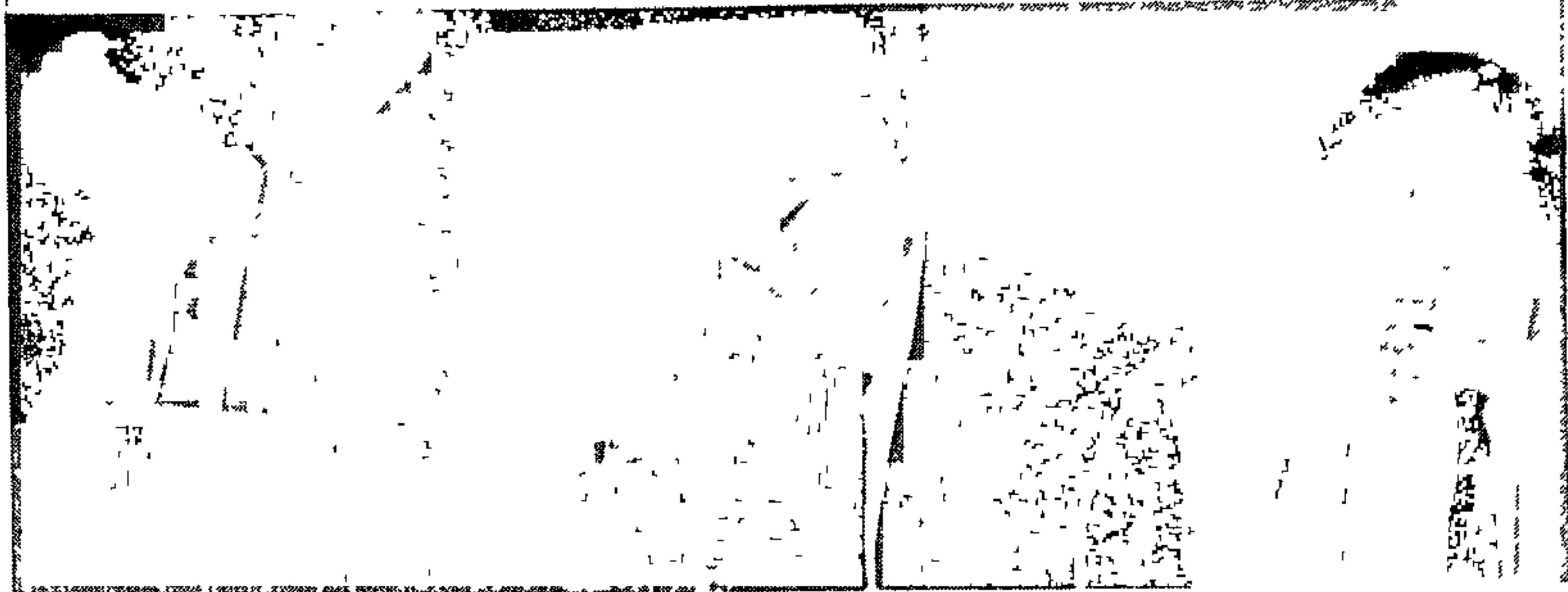
"When he calls on people to pay, he should tell them how much and what tariffs have been agreed to, because he knows the current tariffs have been rejected by the residents.

"The last mayor and the present one have gone on record to say the meters were running too fast, far in excess of what the people should be paying."

Montsisi said the people insisted that money paid should be monitored by a committee appointed by the civic association and the council.

"People want payment to be directly to Eskom for electricity, the Rand Water Board for water and Boksburg Town Council for other services."

The civic association had suggested a flat rate of R50 a month for two months for electricity, water, sewerage and sewage removal



Central Witwatersrand RSC chairman John Griffiths is flanked by council vice-chairman Jan Burger, left, and CE Len de Wet at yesterday's meeting. Picture CATHERINE ROSS

Bridging deal for Greater Soweto extended

THE Central Witwatersrand RSC and Eskom have agreed to extend their bridging finance arrangements for Greater Soweto by a further two months.

The council approved a motion at its monthly meeting yesterday that bridging finance arrangements for services and electricity in Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville be agreed to despite the fact that the payment performance standards set after the signing of the Greater Soweto Accord in September had not been met.

The RSC had granted the three councils R154m bridging finance and they were expected to show a counter performance in their payments after the accord, which ended a five-year

THEO RAWANA

boycott and wrote off R516m in rent and service payment arrears.

Wits RSC chairman John Griffiths said: "Payments received do show a marked improvement and willingness to pay, and the late delivery of accounts for October and November did contribute to the problem.

"Bearing in mind the encouraging tendency reflected in the payments, it is considered advisable to extend the period of attainment of the performance standards on which the RSC and Eskom have made their voluntary assistance conditional"

Urban affairs consultant Nigel Mandy said payments remained low in Alexandra, which was not party to

the accord.

"There, some organisations are applying pressure on consumers to continue the boycott. Nevertheless, because current negotiations in Alexandra are promising, it has been decided to extend the period of the bridging finance arrangements there as well," said Mandy.

The council also approved the upgrading of the computerised billing system for the Greater Soweto and Alexandra councils at a capital cost of R1,2m.

A further R20 364 a month would be used for operating and maintenance expenses. Computer company ITS would be appointed to install and supervise the additional computer equipment.

8/10 day 23/1/81

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Alexandra group backs legalised people's courts

WILSON ZWANE

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (Aco) would negotiate with government for the legalisation of people's courts, Aco president Moses Mayekiso said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Mayekiso said the "negative" reaction of Alexandra residents to the "white" judiciary and concerns about the escalation of crime in the township had prompted his organisation to resolve to establish community-oriented courts.

He was speaking at a Press conference called to announce Aco's programme of action — Operation Khanyisa.

"These community courts will follow democratic principles and, unlike kangaroo courts which were often constituted at the whim of individuals, will be controlled by a body of adults and follow the rules laid down by the community.

"We will negotiate with government for the legalisation of these community courts and we will approach the law faculty at Wits University to help us train people who will be involved in these courts," he said.

Alexandra lawyers would also be used in the people's courts, Mayekiso said.

Mayekiso also announced negotiations for the joint ownership with Putco of a new bus company, the Alexandra People's Bus Company, were at an advanced stage.

The community, including taxi associations, had undertaken to raise R250 000 towards the joint venture, he said, adding that the new bus company was expected to start operating on March 1.

Vosloorus residents face power cut-off

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THEO RAWANA

loorus town treasurer and management committee.

Montsisi said. "It appears that the town clerk speaks with two tongues and is negotiating in bad faith. He arranges a meeting for today and then tries to intimidate the residents into paying through the Press.

"When he calls on people to pay, he should tell them how much and what tariffs have been agreed to, because he knows the current tariffs have been rejected by the residents.

"The last mayor and the present one have gone on record to say the meters were running too fast, far in excess of what the people should be paying."

Montsisi said the people insisted that money paid should be monitored by a committee appointed by the civic association and the council.

"People want payment to be directly to Eskom for electricity, the Rand Water Board for water and Boksburg Town Council for other services."

The civic association had suggested a flat rate of R50 a month for two months for electricity, water, sewerage and sewage removal.

Public defenders to launch 'experiment'

PRETORIA — The Legal Aid Board would appoint 10 public defenders to represent "indigent accused" appearing in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Courts from June 1 in an experiment in public defence, board chairman Mr Justice Eloff said yesterday.

He said a steering committee had been set up to monitor the system, which would operate for two years. It would initially be confined to Johannesburg's lower courts.

It was hoped the public defender system would help many of the more than 80% of people who now appeared in court undefended.

Public defenders would initially appear only for people charged with serious criminal offences. The board has provided R2,5m — Sapa.

Part five in

'Amend Act to stop town planning abuse'

Her 24/1/91.
By Shirley Woodgate
and Jacqueline Myburgh

Shortcomings in the Removal of Restrictions Act made the amendment of this law a matter of urgency, particularly in the light of the recent Townships Board ruling in the case of the "Houghton Isle", said Johannesburg councillor Claire Quail

Her claim follows the board's approval last week of Sanlam's rezoning application to build 72 000 sq m of offices on 21 of a block of 31 residential stands bought for the R200 million development in Upper Houghton.

The Upper Houghton Residents' Association has threatened to go to court over the plan.

Residents, planners and politicians oppose the planned development.

Three main areas of the Removal of Restrictions Act have been attacked by the Parktown Association: the unsatisfactory procedure, the

127
attitude of planning authorities to title restrictions and the absence of principles of law in the application of the Act

The legislation was not only inequitable and open to abuse but failed to distinguish town planning issues from property rights, and undermined the devolution of power to local authorities, the association claimed

Democratic Party MP for Houghton, Tony Leon has also condemned the approval of the rezoning application.

Sanlam has assured the public that they will not build on Houghton Island until the property market and the economy in general improves.

The general manager of Sanlam Properties, Dolf Muller, said building would start only once tenants had been found for the office park

Sanlam would also be negotiating with the City Council regarding traffic problems.

Cast slams crackdown on council campaign

810am 24/11/91

THE Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday slated the launch of a government crackdown on campaigns against racially defined councils

WILSON ZWANE

an undemocratic and unrepresentative structures, cannot be construed as intimidation," Coovadia said

Cast said its campaign could not be construed as being intimidatory

He said if government interpreted the campaign for the resignation of black, coloured and Indian councillors as intimidation, then "it is saying that it is not prepared to heed the demands of the majority"

Law and Order deputy Minister Johan Scheepers this week launched a "top priority" crackdown to counter what he described as vicious intimidation

Scheepers said police saw mass action aimed at, among other things, the destruction of local government authorities, as nothing less than mass intimidation (127) (203)

The intensified, orchestrated campaign of mass intimidation had reached intolerable levels for the police and the community, Scheepers said

Coovadia said police should "concentrate on curbing criminal and vigilante activities rather than curbing legitimate people's campaigns" (127)

Cast assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia said in Johannesburg a peaceful campaign for the collapse of racially based local authorities was disciplined and could not be construed as intimidation

"We must reiterate that we believe our mass action campaign to be our democratic right and we know that it has been a disciplined one," Coovadia said

"A peaceful campaign, which has the participation of the majority of people who have borne the brunt of

Doornkop squatting sites

810am 24/11/91

WILSON ZWANE (21)

COUNCILS in the Greater Soweto area will select from scores of homeless people those who will be allocated squatting sites at Doornkop, west of Soweto

The plan was decided upon at a meeting of the Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville councils on January 18, spokesman Simon Mkhize said yesterday

He said the councils would get names for the pool, from which the allocations would be made, from organisations in their areas. Selections would be made and successful applicants' names forwarded to the TPA for a final decision. Squatters and families whose incomes are less than R600 a month qualify for sites

He said the factory had military guards logical warfare production Iraq air defences but knocking out had made "great headway" in elimi- detected baby milk, was associated with



Residents on E Rand in boycott move

Staff Reporter *Shw 25/1/91*

The East Rand faces a consumer boycott from February 5 unless electricity is restored to Tokoza

East Rand Civic Associations (ERCA), including Tokoza, Tembisa and Vosloorus, decided on Wednesday to boycott white businesses until electricity is restored.

ERCA chairman Albert Tleane said the date had been chosen to allow time for "democratic formations" to be consulted

"To speed up the normalisation of electricity in Tokoza, the civics also resolved to hold a big march in Alberton on February 13"

The actions were aimed at "insubordinate authorities in townships such as Tembisa and Vosloorus"

Power was cut last month

HOUSES FOR THE HOMELESS

THE councils of Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville are in the process of allocating houses in Doornkop for scores of homeless people.

The plan was described by the greater Soweto councils as a democratic breakthrough.

The move was mooted and ratified at a meeting this month, a joint statement from the councils said this week. *Open 27/1/91*

Individual councils have invited interested persons and organisations to submit names of those who need homes.

Once the information has been collated and processed, potential candidates will be invited to council meetings.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration will then make the final decision as to which candidates qualify for sites.

Those who qualify are squatters and families whose total household incomes are less than R600 a month.

Preference will be given to squatters recommended by councils and their applications will be treated as a priority. — Sapa

BLACK Americans have denounced the disproportionate number of their race serving in the Gulf War, according to a report in the *Times of New York*

"The US seems always to be getting into fights to protect white Europeans and expecting the blacks to do the dying," the report quoted a protester as saying during the recent Martin Luther King birthday celebrations in New York

Widow of the late civil rights leader, Coretta Scott King, also attacked President Bush and called for an immediate ceasefire.

Invoking her late husband's message of peace, she said "Let us be clear that we are not fighting for democracy. The real hostages in the war were black American schoolchildren

Racial make-up of troops slated

at about 35 to 40 percent"

The report also stated that as in every big battle since the civil war, black and peace organisations are criticising the disparity in the racial make-up of the forces. Blacks account for 12 percent of the US population, yet constitute 21 percent of the American Gulf contingent and 28 percent of the army. Hispanic and native Americans (Indians) are also disproportionately represented

The belief that the Gulf is a poor man's war has been strengthened by figures which show,



Coretta Scott King has called for a ceasefire.

and the poor and homeless. The war has accentuated the divisions between black and white Americans

"While opinion polls say up to 90 percent of whites support the decision to fight, the figure among blacks hovers

for example, that no chief executive of the country's top 20 corporations have any children in the desert, the *Times* said

A number of politicians have been cautiously suggesting a return to conscription, but without the clauses that allowed so many middle-class Americans to avoid Vietnam service.

Across the country, families of black servicemen are struggling with conflicting emotions of pride and injustice, said the *Times*

The father of an army medic from Seattle, Johnnie Williams, was quoted as saying: "I'm proud of him joining the service. But what really hurts me is that it's not really a just cause. How can they all fight together over there, and then be segregated over here."

Townships still without power

By DAN DHLAMINI *City Press* 27/1/91 (127)

SEVERAL black townships in the Transvaal have been without electricity since early this month, because their bills have not been paid.

Eskom spokesman Johan du Plessis told *City Press* that only 56 of Transvaal's black local authorities bought electricity directly from Eskom.

He said the rest had contracts with white town councils to buy electricity on their behalf from Eskom.

Du Plessis said Eskom has not cut or suspended electricity supplies to any of the 56 black townships despite the fact that nearly half of them were in arrears.

"Eskom has already issued summonses to 17 of the defaulters, four of which have had judgments against them, but we have not taken steps yet. Another four black local authorities will soon get summonses," he said.

■ See Page 6

Sub-station a threat to kids

By LULAMA LUTI

(Press 27/11/91)

THREE Soweto children have been injured by high-voltage shocks while playing with an electricity control box, which was ripped open at the height of the rent and electricity boycott three years ago.

Yet a Soweto City Council electricity department spokesman says the council cannot afford to replace the broken doors and the sub-station has been switched off and is no danger to anyone.

The latest victim of the Emndeni Extension sub-station is four-year-old Karabo Motloung, who is in Baragwanath Hospital's intensive care unit and needs a spine operation and a skin-graft. His distraught mother,

Martha Motloung, a labourer at a brush firm in Newclare, said doctors told her that Karabo would have to undergo an operation on his spinal cord and that he would also need a skin-graft.

According to a neighbour, Annah Zulu, Karabo was playing near the sub-station with her three grandchildren when the accident happened.

"One of the children came running and told me that Karabo was dead. I quickly went outside and found him lying still. It appeared as if he was not breathing."

She said that when Karabo came to, he cried and was in a lot of pain as his chest, hands

(127)

and face were severely burnt. He was rushed to Emndeni clinic where he was transferred to Baragwanath. His condition has been described as serious.

Zulu said her grandchildren Portia, 8, and Phumzile, 10, were injured by shocks from the sub-station in December 1989 and the scars had not completely healed.

A spokesman for Soweto City Council's electricity department, who refused to give his name, said: "The mini-station has been switched off completely. It is not a danger to children.

"The council does not have money to replace these doors because people have not been paying rent."



Portia (left) and Phumzile, who still have the scars left by electric shocks from the open sub-station behind them.

Row looming over lights switch-off

By MARTIN NTSOENGOE

A SERIOUS confrontation is looming between the CP-controlled Randfontein Town Council and Toekomsrus residents over the switching off of electricity in the township.

Randfontein Town Council is presently repairing power stations, sub-stations and electricity poles damaged by angry youths after lights were switched off on January 8.

Toekomsrus Crisis Committee (TCC) said the problem would remain because after the repairs the council would switch on for those who had paid and switch off for those owing.

TCC said this may lead to further sabotage and the council would be held responsible for any losses.

Toekomsrus is so far the only "coloured" township known to be boycotting rent, an exercise which has so far been associated with black townships like Soweto, Vosloorus and Katlehong. The Toekomsrus boycott has been going for the past five months.

Trouble started when lights of people who boycotted rent and electricity were switched off and those of people who had paid were left on.

Angry youths went on the rampage and damaged power stations and electric poles, subsequently plunging the entire township into darkness.

The TCC feels that at the repairs will have no meaning unless Randfontein Town Council meets the community's demands which include:

- The resignation of the entire management committee. So far, only three have resigned and two have refused.

- That the council should employ people who can read meters properly.

- The resignation of the superinten-

More sabotage threatened as equipment is repaired

dent

- The transfer of old houses to tenants who have long been staying in them and have been paying rent.

- That a non-racial body be appointed to administer affairs of both Randfontein Town Council and Toekomsrus township.

- That there should be an agreement on a flat rate for all services in the township.

TCC alleges that a private company contracted by Randfontein Town Council to remove refuse charged residents R8 a month and the council had added another R7,90 to make it R15,90, thereby netting the council R17 000 profit a month.

TCC's public relations officer, Oscar Olifant, said when they discovered the council was charging more, they com-

plained

"When the council failed to reply to our letter, we confronted the town clerk, who told us the R17 000 was used for administration.

"We pay rent and service charges and there is no need for administration fees. TCC wants the money to be used for developing our township and not Randfontein town," Olifant said.

He also alleges that Toekomsrus pensioners pay R12 for refuse removal, whereas their white counterparts pay only R4,59 for the same service.

Randfontein town clerk Lou Britz denied the TCC allegations, but admitted Randfontein Council did make a profit of R17 000 from the refuse removal.

He said Toekomsrus had its own account, separate from that of Randfontein. "We have to maintain the swimming pool, hall, stadium, roads and refuse dumps," he said.

Britz said his council spent R138 000 a year to maintain Toekomsrus.

He also denied Toekomsrus pensioners paid more than white pensioners.

"When I tried to explain to them how the R17 000 was used, they refused and told me they did not need a lecture," Britz said.

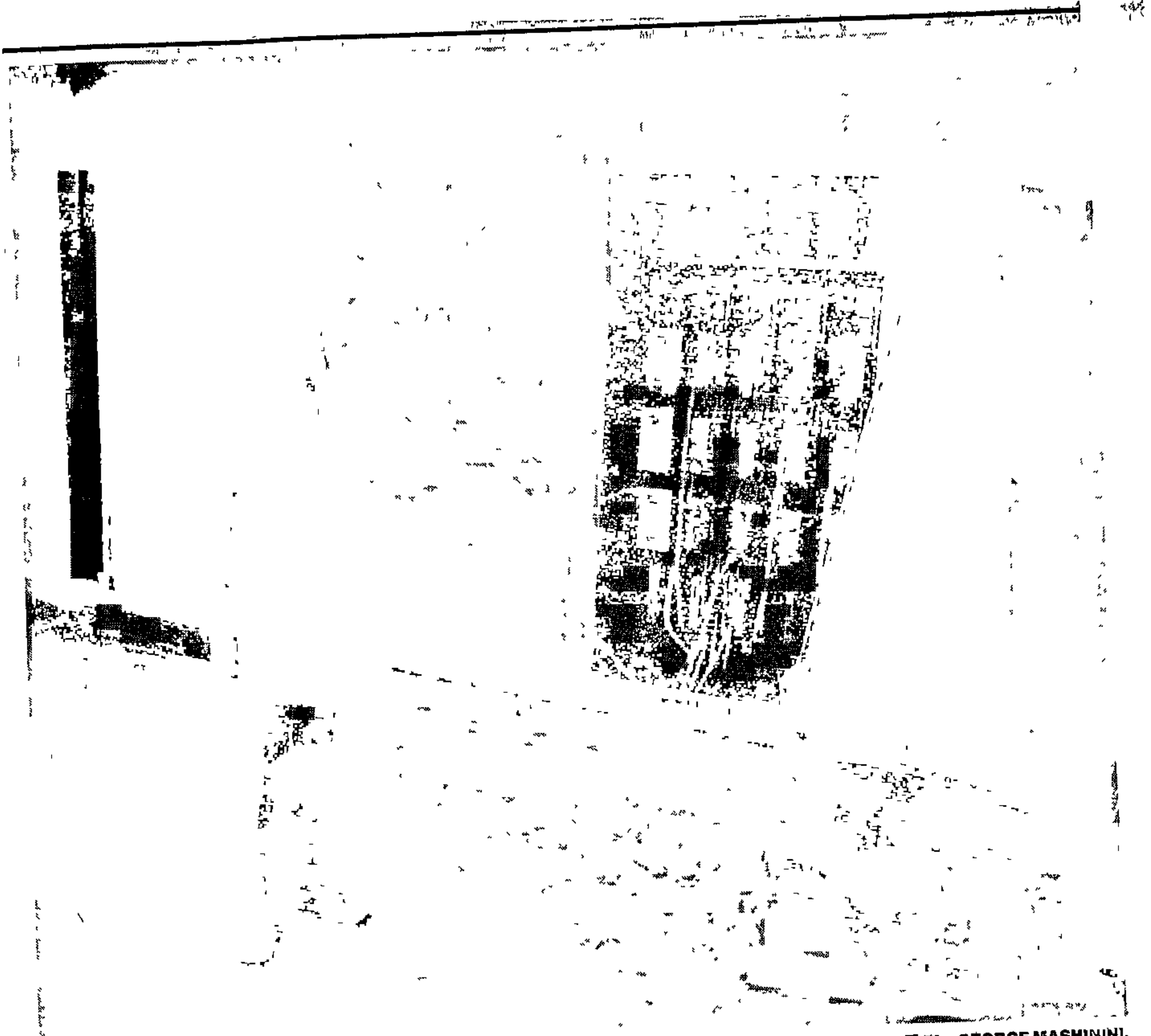


Oscar Olifant... there is no need for administration fees.

C/press

27/1/91

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A young girl points to an electricity box destroyed by youths angry over power cuts. ■ Pic: GEORGE MASHININI.

Power cut-off threat a 'disaster recipe'

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By SANDILE MEMELA

THE threat to switch off electricity in Vosloorus until more than half the people have paid their rent arrears is a recipe for conflict, Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA) publicity secretary Keith Motsisi said this week. Tuesday is D-Day for residents to pay their rent or face a blackout. The council has warned that if the rent boycott continues it will be forced to cut off services like electricity, water, and refuse removal to the township.

Motsisi said the VCA was extending a hand of friendship to the council to review the issue of rent before steps were taken. Following a meeting this week, Eskom has undertaken to urge the Transvaal Provincial Administration to rescind their decision to black out the area.

Motsisi said a delegation from Eskom under the leadership of a D van Wyk has offered to act as a facilitator to revive talks on the issue that ended in stalemate last November. "A switch-off would be a recipe for disaster. The people are willing to pay for essential services but will not give money for the maintenance of apartheid and its structures," said Motsisi.

"The community is keen to resolve the deadlock. However, before that can be done we demand the resignation of councillors and most of the redundant staff that get fat salaries for doing nothing. We demand immediate attention is paid to the root causes of the boycott before there can be any peace in the area."

- Improper meter reading by the council
- Faulty meters and High service charges

Boycott begins to bite in the Golden Triangle

By DAN DHLAMINI

CP Press 27/11/91

THE Western Transvaal Golden Triangle - Klerksdorp, Orkney and Stilfontein - has started to feel the pinch of the three-week-old consumer boycott organised by disgruntled black residents.

Residents of Khuma and Jouberton say they embarked on the boycott of white businesses in a bid to force the white town councils to reconnect their electricity, which was cut off more than three weeks ago.

Residents have also tabled a number of demands which, if met, could lead to the lifting of the consumer boycott which has crippled the Golden Triangle.

Khuma Action Committee (KAC) spokesman Walter Sehurutshe said the demands included opening of public amenities to all races, repairing of streets in Khuma and admission of black pupils at Stilfontein's white schools.

Sehurutshe said Khuma residents had never boycotted rent as claimed by the Stilfontein Town Council.

He said residents had been paying a

flat rate of R30 a month after reaching an agreement with the council.

He said the KAC had rejected offers by traders in town to pay their bulk electricity bill in return for lifting the boycott.

"We have a number of other demands besides the reconnection of electricity which the CP-controlled town council must meet before we consider lifting the boycott," said Sehurutshe.

He said the KAC was aware that the council wanted to block deliveries to the township next week in order to force residents to buy in town.

This was, however, denied by Stilfontein mayor Danie Jongh, who said he had arranged a meeting between his management committee and businessmen tomorrow night at which the consumer boycott would be top of the agenda.

Jouberton and Khuma are said to owe Klerksdorp and Stilfontein more than R1.5-million in electricity arrears.

Jouberton Civic Association (JCA) chairman Henry Moleme said his association had asked the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) to intervene following the Klerksdorp council's refusal to meet the JCA.

Westvaal Chamber of Business spokesman lawyer Bobby Reddy told *City Press* businesses in Klerksdorp, Stilfontein and Orkney had been seriously affected by the consumer boycott.

Meanwhile, the KAC has announced a meeting at 2.30pm today to discuss the question of rent and to consider the problems of residents since the consumer boycott started.

(127)

Melville *Star* awaits action 28/11/91 from council

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Melville residents are waiting to see whether Johannesburg City Council honours promises regarding the widening of Main Road before deciding whether to protest against the construction.

Architect and urban planner Bannie Britz, who lives in the suburb, said the local rate-payers' association had said residents would support the plan to widen the road under certain conditions.

These included a generous pavement on either side of the road, trees planted down the middle of the road and parking in a garage or behind the shops if spaces on the road have to be done away with.

He said residents had not been able to obtain plans for the road yet, and would reserve judgment until they knew for sure what the council intended to do.

Association chairman Wendy Potgieter said that the widening of the road was essential, since planned construction on the intersection of Barry Hertzog Avenue and Empire Road at the end of the year would result in the diversion of traffic through Melville.



day with rescuing on Tel injured in ure REUTER

VOSLOORUS residents face power black-out

THEO RAWANA

VOSLOORUS residents faced an electricity cut-off this morning, town clerk George Prinsloo said yesterday.

Prinsloo said residents, who were R26m in arrears, had not responded to earlier appeals to pay their accounts while solutions to the six-month-old rent and services boycott were being worked out.

The Vosloorus council last week appealed to residents to pay at least 50% of the current backlog, to enable it to maintain essential services, Prinsloo said.

He said sewerage blockages in the township were on the increase. "All manner of heavy objects — including cattle hides, bricks and stones — have been thrown into manholes resulting in blockages."

He said the council had tried to clear the blockages but they kept recurring.

Vosloorus Civic Association spokesman Keith Montsisi condemned the council's decision to cut electricity.

Resolved

"Considering the fact that the council has admitted that the electricity metering devices were faulty and running up abnormally fast, recording amounts not actually consumed, we now ask how much should we pay?"

Montsisi said the council was buying electricity at 9,2c a unit and selling it at 21,26c for the first 30 units and 11,28c after that.

He said a residents' meeting resolved on Sunday that the boycott should continue until the council had addressed grievances lodged with it a year ago.

Montsisi said councillors had said in random discussions they did not know about the decision announced by Prinsloo.

He said the door was open for the reopening of negotiations but only if the authorities did not impose themselves

"We have seen what has happened in other areas during darkness and have also noted with concern unwritten agreement arrived at between the civics and the authorities in areas like Thokoza and Katlehong, where people were tricked into rushing to pay R40, only for electricity not to be reinstated."

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Blackout as Vosloorus power is cut

By SONTI MASEKO

THE Vosloorus Council has suspended the electricity supply to the township, causing a complete blackout in the area yesterday

Sowetan 30/11/91

Town clerk Mr George Prinsloo said yesterday the council had to act because it owed Eskom R6,3 million and residents were still not providing the income since they embarked on a rent boycott in June last year.

He said less than 10 percent of the residents had paid rent this month.

Arrears

Power would only be reinstated once more than 50 percent of the residents had paid their outstanding accounts. It would then be discontinued to residents who were in arrears, Prinsloo said.

The power cut was yesterday condemned by the Vosloorus Civic Association

VCA spokesman Mr Keith Montsitsi said while residents wanted to pay for basic services, they were not prepared to pay for the salaries and

comfort of "redundant, over-staffed and under-utilised councils". (127)

"The Government created black local authorities and that is their baby. The people are not prepared to pay for the maintenance of apartheid structures."

He said residents had resolved at a meeting on Sunday to continue the boycott until their grievances were met.

Armed Actstop units to protect tenants

By Sheemaaz Bulbulia

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Defending his dwelling a Johannesburg flat resident, armed with a wooden plank, prepares to repel any vigilantes who might enter the building. Actstop hopes to have armed defence units operational by March. Picture: Alf Kumalo

Actstop was forming armed defence units in more than 40 of the city's buildings after vigilante attacks on tenants and the failure of police to provide minimum protection, the organisation's publicity secretary Cas Coovadia said yesterday.

Mr Coovadia told The Star that defence units in 41 of the 71 buildings, organised by Actstop would be fully operative by March.

The decision to form armed defence structures was a response to periodic attacks waged against tenants and Actstop members.

A spokesman for the SAP in Pretoria, Major Reg Crewe yesterday said the police would not allow any vigilante groups to operate. People who used firearms and force would have to act within the law or suffer the consequences, he said.

Mr Coovadia said key Actstop activists, who have already been identified, would form the core of the defence units in each of the 41 buildings, and would carry only licensed weapons.

"Actstop had not instructed the defence units on the type of arms they should carry, except that the weapons must be licensed.

"Previously the aggressors were armed. We won't be breaking any laws. The defence teams are all trained and disciplined activists," he said.

Defence members had been instructed not to take the law into their hands but to hand those responsible over to the police.

The defence units would maintain a low-profile, Mr Coovadia explained.

"They won't be roaming the buildings in military garb. The units will only be activated in case of an attack." *SKW 30/1/91*

A communications network linking the buildings had already been established. Tenants had also been advised to buy whistles to alert other tenants, the defence units and the police.

Operation Clean-up (127)

By DANIEL MAINE

THE Diepmeadow Council has set aside R200 000 for cleaning unsightly heaps of refuse.

Dubbed 'Operation Clean-up', the two-week project includes the hiring of 30 tipper trucks, four front-end loaders and 100 casual labourers.

In addition, the council will provide every Diepmeadow family with a refuse bin.

Bins are to be emptied twice a week.

A statement by the council said people should no longer discard refuse in the open.

"Incidents of storm-water drains getting blocked and possible outbreaks of diseases will be greatly reduced," the statement said.

The money was provided by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

12/11/71
3/11/71
20/11/71

NO MORE WAITING

(127) FIM 112/91



Cas Coovadia is a key figure in the controversial Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast). He defends the organisation's legitimacy and its stand on mass action.

Cast was launched on September 15 1990. There were 39 civic associations at its first congress, from the southern and western Transvaal. A process of consultation and planning for over a year preceded the launch. The executive committee of the organisation was elected at the launch and elections were conducted by three independent people. The membership of Cast presently includes 55 civic associations.

Cast aims to play a central role in ridding our country of the vestiges of apartheid, because we are convinced that the maintenance of apartheid militates against improvement in the lives of the majority of our people. We see our role as involving ordinary people in determining their lives, from their day-to-day lives to participating in the development and building of a new SA.

Some agencies have questioned whether Cast is representative and whether its formation was democratic. We must explain how local civic associations are formed. The process usually begins when concerned people in a community identify problems and moot the idea of a "civic". Such people get together and consult with existing structures. A meeting of residents is then called to which every resident is invited. Such a meeting then decides whether a civic should be launched. If the decision is positive, a date is identified and all residents informed.

The civic is then launched and its executive elected by residents at that meeting. A constitution would also be presented for discussion at such a meeting and adopted by residents if there are no major problems.

The executive is then mandated to work by streets to form street committees in which

residents participate and other democratic structures are formed, depending on the size of the township and other conditions. Regular meetings of street committees, other structures and the executive are held for reporting back and securing mandates.

Cast was formed by civics that came about as a result of such democratic processes. We are also willing to test whether we are representative in front of residents of townships that have civics affiliated to Cast.

We have come under severe criticism from some quarters for having initiated a programme for the intensification of mass action. These quarters are of the opinion that such action is unnecessary because the government and the ANC are talking about change and also because F W de Klerk has initiated substantial changes.

We concede that significant change has occurred. But we must point out that apartheid is still on the statute books and various levels of government continue to attempt to enforce the "legitimacy" of undemocratic, unrepresentative and racially based structures. We must also point out that very little, if anything, has changed to affect the daily lives of the majority of our people and that is of major concern to us, as a civic body.

Mass action is a tried and tested tactic of struggle and is regarded as part of any democracy worldwide. This tactic has been probably the single most effective pressure that has brought the apartheid government to the table. We consider this tactic as a way in which to involve ordinary people in our communities in the process of change. We thus reserve the right to continue such action as long as our people demand such action — certainly so long as the lives of our people on the ground do not change for the better.

Another accusation has been that Cast's campaign for the resignation of racially based local government structures has led to intimidation and violence. A lot of capital has been made of statistics published by the SA Institute of Race Relations about deaths of councillors and so on.

Firstly, these statistics refer to a period

before the formation of Cast. Secondly, we do not know of a single case of proven intimidation or violence as a result of the campaign. Also, we must emphasise that any potential for violence is as a result of the State forcing unwanted structures on to people and of the corruption and oppression that such structures have caused. We do not consider the use of peaceful mass pressure — particularly in the absence of democratic and representative nonracial government — to be intimidation. We consider instead the enforcement by the State of such structures on to our people to be intimidation.

The Cast campaign to rid our people of black councillors and coloured and Indian management committee members has been very successful. We will continue the campaign until government sees sense and removes these racially based structures totally.

However, we also have to look at a replacement for these structures in order to ensure the administration of townships. We believe that interim structures are needed until final constitutional models for local government are agreed upon.

We have put forward two possible models. One is the appointment of an impartial administrator, after discussion between the local civic and the regional or local white authority. Another could be a committee of capable people from the community and the white authorities.

Other models could be looked at during the process of negotiations at local level. We are confident that the replacement of councillors and management committee members by such interim structures will go a long way towards resolving many of the crises in townships.

We must also clarify that we do not see civics playing the role of administering townships or governing. We believe civics must remain independent of government and political organisations, since we represent residents, irrespective of political affiliation. We also believe civics can play the role of "watchdog" over local government to ensure democracy.



Klerksdorp offers a deal on services

THEO RAWANA (127)

THE Klerksdorp Town Council has appealed to residents of neighbouring Jouberton township, on whom it has slapped a services cut, to resume paying rent and services charges.

Klerksdorp, which is owed R626 000 by the Jouberton Town Council, switched off electricity and reduced water supply to a trickle earlier this month.

The council said yesterday it was prepared to resume supplying bulk services if residents started paying.

It said the problems which existed in the past, resulting in the residents not paying their accounts, had been partially resolved.

Meanwhile, the Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA), the Vosloorus Chamber of Commerce, Cosatu, Nactu and other organisations have called on the local council to restore electricity to its residents and accept a R50 interim payment.

Residents have been without electricity since Tuesday when the council cut off supply because they were R26m in arrears with their rent and services charges payments.

The organisations said a meeting on Wednesday had resolved that the TPA and the Vosloorus Town Council, which had allegedly walked out of a meeting, should resume negotiations. B10AM (129)

Sapa reports the town council said yesterday electricity had been restored to two sections of Vosloorus after residents agreed to pay their current accounts.

Affluence a distant dream for most blacks

127

Soweto 11/29/91

AMID the squalor of Soweto, 19-year-old Siphon dreams about a life of luxury.

"I wonder what it is like to live in Sandton," the black youth said about the wealthy town

"I think the whites would be angry if they knew a black man was living next door," Siphon said with a smile

Black expectations and white fears have been heightened dramatically by South Africa's year-old reform process and are putting the search for racial peace under mounting strain.

President FW de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela are under pressure to persuade their followers to trust reform rather than repression or revolution.

De Klerk is due to announce further reforms of apartheid at the opening of parliament today, continuing a process he began last year by freeing Mandela from jail, legalising black politics and starting negotiations with anti-apartheid forces.

Hysteria

But with black warfare ravaging townships and paramilitary pro-apartheid extremists sowing hysteria among whites, many commentators say prospects for peaceful change are gloomy

"Anarchy spills wider by the day," said the *Sunday Times*.

"The shallow euphoria of a year ago has dissipated; in its place there is now a hint of despair."

Blacks, who outnumber whites by five to one, live in tribal reserves in the countryside or in spartan townships on the edge of white cities. Most whites live in affluent European-style suburbs

Blacks have flocked to the cities in recent years, often housing themselves in shanty towns where crime and unemployment have become rife.

Some rightist whites have reacted violently, whipping or beating blacks who use amenities once reserved for whites

"The fear we have is of an avalanche, where an ignorant ma-



...jority will take us into a black period of chaos," a white caller named Reg told a radio phone-in programme.

Soweto social workers say warfare among black political rivals is so intense that increasing numbers of youths do not expect to live long and turn to crime to grab what they can.

Siphon, who spends his days at Inkanyezi Youth Club amid the

beyond our reach are now attainable. We can now make choices in our lives. But many feel the process is not moving fast enough," Gama said.

Blacks did not want to live in townships because the conditions were starkly inadequate compared with white areas

"It's like looking at A and B," she said "A is glittering, while B is just mud and overcrowding"

"Transport is poor, so we get up early in the morning and get home very late at night. It interferes with family life"

But even basic amenities may be too much to expect

realistic expectations and calls for creative responses," Sacob director-general Raymond Parsons said

But many political analysts say business must play the main role in allaying black mistrust of white intentions.

"If the economy doesn't change gears immediately, the doors of hell will be opened," said political analyst Wimpie de Klerk.

"The key to political success lies in the immediate and dramatic improvement of the quality of life of the black masses," said De Klerk, who is the president's brother.

He said black support for the reform process would collapse unless there were concrete improvements in their lives - township amenities, wages, transport - during 1991.

Boiling

"The pressure cooker of expectations is boiling," said Rand Afrikaans University professor Nina Overton

Opinion polls show blacks, though angry about township poverty, are optimistic about the future of race relations while whites are gloomy

"Whites have more to lose from reform. Blacks have more to gain," Overton said.

The prospect of having a black neighbour makes most whites uneasy and a good many furious.

"The prevailing emotion among whites is fear," novelist Nadine Gordimer told a literary symposium

"(It is) fear of retribution for all that has been done to blacks by whites' forefathers; for all that the whites themselves have done by their own actions and for their own silence, their turning away with closed eyes," she said

"I believe we must create material justice before we can hope to eliminate the kind of violence that has become a tragic habit in South Africa," Gordimer said. - Sapa-Reuter



All townships lack the most basic amenities.

squalor and gang violence of a Moroka North slum, said a trip from Soweto to Johannesburg's bright lights was a major outing for which funds were saved days in advance.

There, amid glittering city skyscrapers, Sandton's Californian lifestyle seems tantalisingly close, but for impoverished blacks such affluence will remain a world apart.

Social worker Jane Gama said for most township folk the most urgent need was for basic amenities - tarred roads, street lighting, hot running water and regular refuse removal

"Things that previously were

Business leaders say there is not enough money to extend even proper housing and sewerage to all 28 million blacks, a third of whom live in shacks.

"The expectations of black people are high and are exercising tremendous pressure on the fabric of society," wrote Harry Schwartz, the ambassador-designate to Washington

The South African Chamber of Business said it would cost the equivalent of 20 billion dollars to create immediate parity for blacks and whites in health, education, housing and social services

"The sheer magnitude of this challenge cautions against un-

LEFT IN THE DARK

Electricity blackouts have hit several Transvaal black townships because of the ongoing rent boycott.

lights for almost two months, Vosloorus switched off on January 29, while Atteridgeville and Mamelodi townships, near Pretoria averted being blacked out by paying-up on Saturday

Other townships that have had electricity cuts are Jouberton, near Klerksdorp, and Toekomsrus, near Randfontein

Reasons for the boycott appear to revolve primarily around disputes over amounts residents must pay to the white municipalities which provide the electricity

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) feels the amounts being charged are too high and residents cannot afford to pay them.

It said residents were at times paying as much as R200 a month for electricity

Last year after a protracted four-year rent and service boycott in Soweto the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) wrote off the arrears

According to Cast the TPA had suffered tremendous losses from the Soweto boycott and was forced to break the stalemate by writing off the amounts

But in other Transvaal townships which were engaged in similar boycotts to Soweto their arrears were not written off

Cast sees unfairness in writing off arrears in one area and not the other as all black townships experience the same problems

Transvaal MEC for Local Government, Mr Oulas van Zyl, says he cannot understand why there are boycotts when people can sit down and negotiate about their problems

Game

He says Cast has never approached him or his department since the beginning of the year. A meeting that was scheduled with senior officials of his department was abandoned as Cast officials did not turn up

"I don't know what game they are playing. We are always ready to talk to them," he said

Referring to the impending switch-off in Mamelodi and Atteridgeville, Van Zyl said he understood that there are millions of rands being owed by residents

He said Atteridgeville's administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, and the local civic association reached an agreement earlier this month.

He said TPA cannot approve the agreement as it did not take into account various factors.

Services

By LANGA SKOSANA

would be sufficient to cover everything, while it would not be the case at all and would result in certain services being suspended as a matter of course "

Van Zyl also raised the role of the civic association coming to an agreement with the administration

He felt the TPA could not raise the status of the Atteridgeville Civic Association to that of being a major body with whom discussions and negotiations could be held in future. He said this could not be done at the expense of black councillors

Parties

"A well-known policy of the TPA is its preparedness to negotiate with all interested parties, but not at the cost of elected councils or councillors," he said

Some white municipalities seem to follow this policy but are unhappy at having to do business with civic associations whom they believe negotiate in bad faith

They say agreements

Township residents hit by electricity cuts

127

Sowetan
11/2/91.



Township in darkness...This is how Tokoza and Vosloorus townships on the East Rand look like since they were blacked out. A similar fate awaits Atteridgeville and Mamelodi townships in Pretoria which face a blackout today.

that have been in progress in the East Rand and Stilfontein in the Western Transvaal will be intensified. The Tokoza consumer boycott, will within two weeks be extended to all towns on the East Rand

"Consultation will start immediately with all Cast affiliates in Southern and Western Transvaal with a view to having a regional consumer boycott

* A letter has been sent to Mr Herman Kriel, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, requesting a meeting in Johannesburg within three days

Some residents whose townships have been blacked out are fuming. They feel they are pawns in the power game played by the civic associations

and the authorities

An irritated Tokoza resident, who wanted to remain anonymous, said he believed many people were prepared to pay to get their electricity back

"Many of us are afraid to speak up against the civics because you can get marked and your house is burnt

Quiet

"There are businessmen, lawyers, nurses and doctors in our townships who understand that you cannot use services without paying for them. But these people keep quiet and watch helplessly," he said

However another felt the boycott should continue because blacks have been cheated for far too long

In Vosloorus some residents have expressed a willingness to pay - and some have been paying small amounts - but say they are disillusioned because their lights are not switched on in spite of the payment.

One said the Government has promised a bright new South Africa but leaves its citizens in darkness

A spokesman of the Vosloorus civic association, Mr Keith Montsisi said the reason residents embarked on a boycott in his township was to protest at the high electricity bills, faulty metering of electricity and water, blocked sewers and inadequate infrastructure in the township

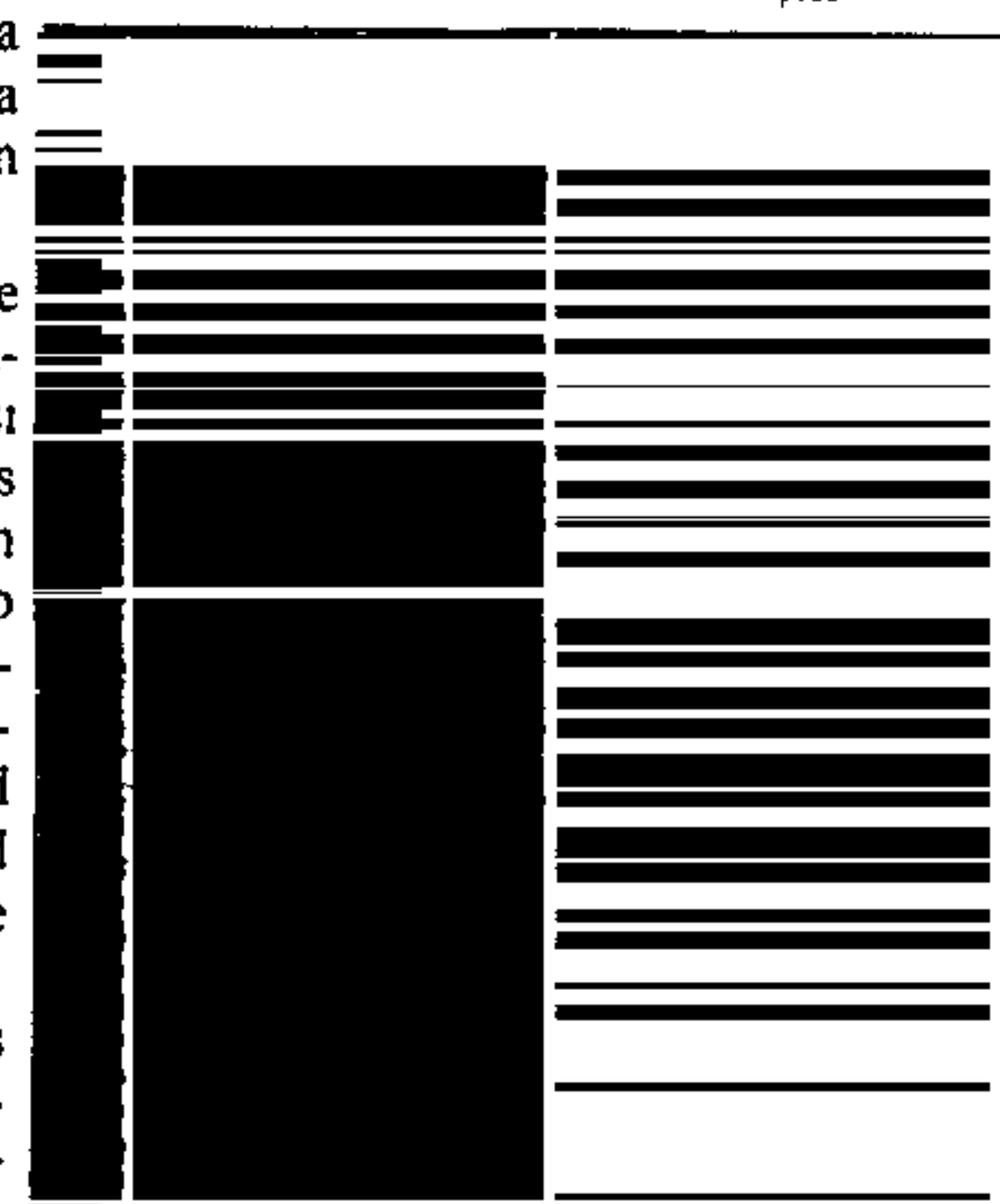
He said the authorities were insincere in accepting the low payment for

electricity while keeping the lights off

"Why do they say R50 is little but accept it backdoor," he asked

He called on the authorities to stop the bluff and negotiate properly with the residents

Angry residents in Tokoza are complaining that they cannot use their electricity gadgets, while pupils say they are experiencing hardship by studying by candlelight. Businessmen say the power cuts have ruined them



Boycott may extend to banks and bonds

RESIDENTS of townships hit by electricity cut-offs might withdraw their accounts from banks and embark on bond boycotts, Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Sam Ntuli said at the weekend

Ntuli said representatives from Thokoza (near Alberton), Vosloorus (Boksburg), Toekomsrus (Randfontein), Jouberton (Klerksdorp) and townships as far west as Orkney and Stilfontein, would meet in Johannesburg tomorrow

Ntuli said "Tuesday's meeting might decide on what has already become a general feeling among residents that residents in affected areas should withdraw

their accounts from banks

"A decision might also be taken to go on bond boycotts, to force the banks to intervene in the seemingly endless feuds"

He added that the civic leaders were expected to go to the TPA offices in Pretoria after the meeting, and a letter had been written to MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl, requesting that he receive the delegation

Ntuli rejected a report that residents of two sections of Vosloorus had broken the rent boycott and their power supply had

been restored

As the boycott of Alberton businesses entered its second month at the weekend, the Alberton Traders and Professionals Association (ATPA) and the Alberton Industries Association concluded a plan to bring about an end to the action

The boycott followed a breakdown in talks between the Thokoza Civic Association, the Alberton Town Council, the Thokoza Town Council and the TPA

The two business organisations have formed a business forum, which, according to ATPA secretary Yunus Karolia, has sent a memorandum to a "higher authority" to get talks going again

THEO RAWANA

Boycott 4/11/91.

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East Rand boycotts threatened 127

By Shehnaaz Bulbulia 70

Civic organisations in East Rand townships have threatened a consumer boycott this week if the Transvaal Provincial Administration and white local authorities do not address their grievances. *Spw 5/2/91*

Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia said financial institutions in Alber-

ton, Germiston, Springs and Boksburg would also be hit by the boycott

Civic organisations at Khuma, Stilfontein, and Jouberton in the western Transvaal, Toekomsrus on the West Rand, and Atteridgeville, Pretoria, which have also been hit by power and water cuts, are to meet tomorrow to discuss the possibility of extending the boycott.

East Rand residents have threatened to with-

draw their accounts from financial institutions in the area and not to pay their February bond instalments

The decision to boycott comes after a breakdown in negotiations three weeks ago between the Tokoza Civic Association and the TPA, which demanded a monthly flat rate of R40

Vosloorus was hit by power and water cuts at the weekend, Mr Coovadia added.

Townships of Pretoria head for new cut-offs

Star 5/2/91.

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by Norman Chandler
Pretoria Bureau

A row has broken out in Pretoria over a Transvaal Provincial Administration refusal to accept a three-week-old agreement reached between the administrator of Atteridgeville and the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) to write-off millions of rands in service charges.

And, in a new move, the TPA's MEC in charge of Local Government, Olaus van Zyl, yesterday indicated that Pretoria City Council might again have to cut electricity supplies to Atteridgeville — and possibly also to Mamelodi township — because of non-payment of charges.

Power was cut to the two areas on September

26 last year and restored after negotiations involving the Regional Services Council took place

The threat of a new cut was confirmed yesterday by a Council spokesman, who said that the management committee would discuss the matter at a meeting later today

Pretoria is owed R5,5 million by the two councils — more than R3 million by Atteridgeville.

Asro said in a statement yesterday that it was "appalled" by the attitude of the TPA

"As the agreement has been entered into with a senior official duly appointed by the TPA in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act, it is legally binding on both parties.

"Our lawyers are studying the legal variables involved in this matter before we decide on our next moves"

Dr Jacobson, who runs

Atteridgeville in place of the council which resigned late last year, reached agreement with Asro in mid-January in a bid to end the impasse which has dogged relations with Pretoria City Council for several months

The TPA, which yesterday declined further comment, said in its initial statement that it had not been party to the agreement nor participated in any discussions.

"After the conclusion of the agreement, Dr Jacobson held several discussions with TPA officials and myself

"The TPA wishes to state clearly that it is in favour of negotiations in order to address the various problems in residential areas and at local authorities," Mr van Zyl said.

The TPA standpoint was that approval of tariffs and the writing-off of bad debts was its responsibility

● Mamelodi City Council last night urged residents to pay their water and electricity accounts to avoid a cut-off

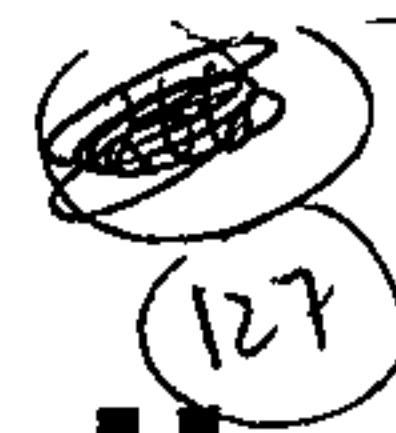
It said that a letter from the Pretoria City Council regarding sewerage, electricity and water accounts had been received. The total amount owing was R3,5 million

"Following the announcement by the TPA that bridging finance would no longer be made available to the Council, it was agreed between the Council and the Mamelodi Peoples' Delegation that arrears accumulated up to June 1990 would be frozen on the proviso that current accounts from July 1990 were paid promptly.

"As matters stand, the Council would be left with no choice but to take drastic steps against people who failed to honour that arrangement.."

Civic groups to act against white councils

Sowetan 5/2/91.



CIVIC organisations of eight Transvaal townships hit by power and water cuts are to form a coordinated strategy to pressurise white local authorities to address their problems.

This was confirmed yesterday by the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal assistant general secretary Mr Cas Coovadia.

He said a meeting would be held in Johannesburg tomorrow to for-

mulate such a strategy, between Cast, the Toekomsrus Crisis Committee, the Atteridgeville Residents Association, and the civic associations of Tokoza, Vosloorus, Jouberton, Stilfontein and Khuma

Service cuts, as well as attitudes of white municipalities, would be discussed but he stressed that Cast was "definitely still prepared to talk to the local authorities and the Transvaal Provincial Ad-

ministration"

He said negotiations between Cast and the TPA about the reconnection of services to townships were, in principle, still on track

"The TPA said they would send us a few dates for meetings in February. We are waiting for these dates," Coovadia added

According to Cast general secretary Mr Sam Ntuli there was a strong possibility that residents

of affected townships might withdraw their accounts from banks and embark on bond boycotts

He said residents were currently discussing this option but a final decision in this regard would be taken at tomorrow's meeting.

Ntuli's family members were injured late on Saturday night when assailants lobbed two hand-grenades into his Tokoza home - Sapa

NEWS IN BRIEF

Trevor Tutu in court

THE cost of a four-hour flight delay and the rescheduling of five SAA flights after an incident involving Trevor Tutu was estimated at R27 770 in the East London Regional Court yesterday.

Tutu has pleaded not guilty to charges of contravening the Civil Aviation Act and crimen injuria. He is alleged to have caused a flight delay after he told airport officials there was "something" on board the plane he was travelling on, leading to a three-hour bomb-search of the plane. The trial continues today.

Call for hit squad probe

THE National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) yesterday challenged government to reopen investigations into the alleged existence of police hit squads or face growing community rejection of the security forces.

The union was reacting to a weekend bomb attack on the house of Civics Association of Transvaal (Cast) general-secretary Sam Ntuli.

Britain's reserves up

BRITAIN's official reserves rose an underlying \$46m in January from December, the UK Treasury said in London yesterday.

This follows an underlying fall of \$225m in December.

UK retail sales increase

UK RETAIL sales volume rose a revised 1,8% in December from November and was down 0,7% from December 1989, the UK Central Statistical Office said in London yesterday.

Industrial output firms

WESTERN German industrial production gained by 0,8% in December from November and was up 5,7% from a year earlier, the Economics Ministry said in Frankfurt yesterday.

REPORTS Business Day Reporter,
Own Correspondent, AP-DJ

World Bank bets on SA for success

KEVIN DAVIE

THE World Bank sees SA as its possible success story in Africa, and is assigning more manpower to its study here than it originally intended.

Development Bank CE Simon Brand says the World Bank has realised that SA, with its considerable resources, represents a chance for its policies to succeed "They see a good chance of things working here, of showing results

"They are looking very hard to show success in Africa," he says.

This year the World Bank will begin a formal study of SA, which will represent the first real contact the world's primary development agency has had with SA in 25 years.

The bank investigation will be an economic study to provide itself with basic data on SA.

Brand says he believes SA will get World Bank loans in the future, "but not this year or the next". He suggests that SA has a lot to gain from an improved relationship with the bank. Much of mainstream government development thinking now mirrors policies which agencies such as the World Bank employ worldwide.

Brand says in the SA political debate it will be possible to show policy is not tailored to protecting vested interests, but simply reflects the outside opinion of bodies such as the World Bank which have considerable experience in the field.

Many other development agencies are visiting SA. There has been constant traffic from the development arms of most Western countries, including Germany and Sweden.

"They're generally scouting the territory, looking at available capacity and where they can contribute." He says the notion that all development finance is going to Eastern Europe is incorrect.

"It's becoming more and more clear that there are major problems with most of Eastern Europe."

An indication of SA's improving relationship with the capital markets of Europe is the intention of the Development Bank to raise foreign loans this year.

While the amounts will not be large, the exercise will be to re-establish links with these markets.

Elderly whites living in fear ⁽¹²⁷⁾ study

TANIA LEVY

MOST elderly white people living in and around Hillbrow feel their safety and quality of life have deteriorated with the influx of black people into the area, a Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) study has found.

Of the 300 people surveyed, 40% had been "victimised" in the past three years and 90% were scared of being robbed, assaulted or threatened.

HSRC researchers Monica Ferreira and Sheila Rip found that more than 80% of the residents of Hillbrow, Joubert Park and central Johannesburg felt the area had deteriorated in the past three years and the reason most frequently given was that it had

become multiracial.

More than half the respondents felt the most serious problem in the area was "the bad element moving in". This was followed by an increase in crime, particularly muggings. Littering and unhygienic, overcrowded living conditions also rated highly.

In their report, Ferreira and Rip propose more policing of the area to enhance the safety of elderly residents. Other solutions include encouraging interaction with neighbours.

The report will be presented to Johannesburg mayor Willie Janse van Rensburg today.

October manufacturing creeps up

MARCIA KLEIN

TOTAL manufacturing production in October 1990 increased for the first time since February 1990, according to the latest figures issued by the Central Statistical Service (CSS).

The figures show that manufacturing production in October 1990 increased by 1,1% compared with October 1989.

However, SA Chamber of Business economist Keith Lockwood said yesterday that the increase in production was not an indication that conditions had improved as the longer-term outlook was still negative.

He said October was generally a month when most of the production for December sales was carried out.

In terms of year-on-year growth, the only reason October's figures would be higher was the strength of domestic demand for consumer items, as most spending in December

tended to be consumer-related

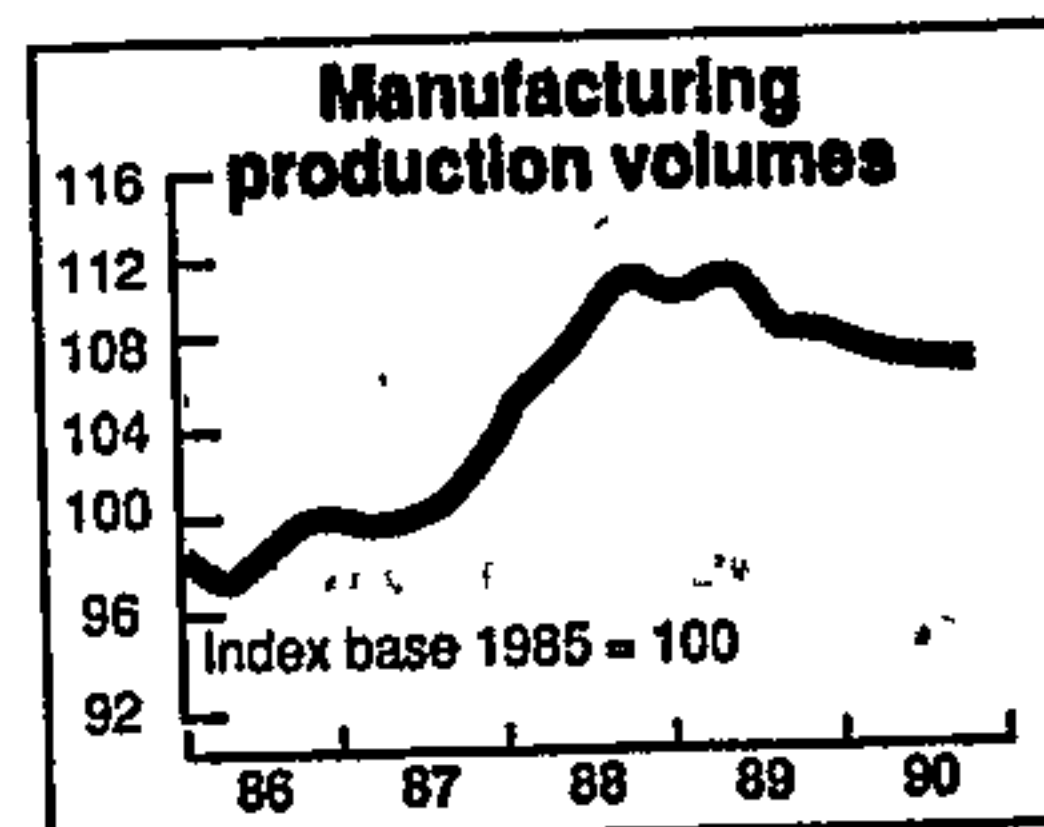
The CSS said 15 of the 27 major manufacturing groups showed an increase in production, with the largest increases being recorded by beverages, tobacco products, other chemical products, rubber products and glass industries.

The value of sales of manufacturing for October 1990 showed an 11,4% increase over October 1989, with the largest contributors to growth being food, other chemical products, metal products and electrical machinery.

Actual sales of R44,58bn for the August to October 1990 quarter were 9,4% up on October 1989, while seasonally adjusted sales of R41,96bn for August to October 1990 were 0,1% up on the previous quarter.

The Bank of Lisbon Economic Focus said growth in the manufacturing sector over the last decade had been sluggish at 0,7%.

Between January and August 1990 employment in the manufacturing sector had decreased by 3% in line with a 3% fall in output over the same period.



Graphic: LEE EMERTON Source: CSS

Residents told to adhere to rent and services agreement

8 Day 5/2/91
ATTERIDGEVILLE's civic association yesterday urged its supporters to stick to an agreement on rent and services payments which was overruled by the TPA at the weekend

The Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) said residents should continue to honour last month's agreement in terms of which the township's R22,5m rent and services debt was written off

MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl announced at the weekend that the TPA had effectively overruled the agreement between Asro and Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson as being "financially unaccountable".

Asro chairman Abe Nkomo described Van Zyl's announcement as a "stab in the residents' backs" and called for his immediate resignation

"Any attempt by Van Zyl to nullify that agreement is totally irresponsible and we can only see this as a mischievous attempt on Van Zyl's part to fuel unrest, conflict and upheaval," he added

After the agreement, Asro held a meeting with Jacobson to discuss how the settlement was going to be

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WILSON ZWANE
and LINDEN BIRNS

implemented.

At that meeting two TPA officials were present but did not make any objections, another Asro spokesman, Reeves Mabitsi, said "As far as Asro is concerned the agreement is legally binding as it was entered into with a senior official duly appointed by the TPA in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act"

Van Zyl said if the interim rates were approved, income would be less than 30% of the actual costs of rendering services

Meanwhile, civic organisations of eight Transvaal townships hit by power and water cuts are to form a co-ordinated strategy to press white local authorities into addressing their problems, reports Sapa.

Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) assistant general secretary Cas Coovadia said a meeting between Cast, the Toekomsrus Crisis Committee, Asro, and the civic associations of Thokoza, Vosloorus, Khuma, Stilfontein and Jouberton would be held in Johannesburg tomorrow

Service ⁽¹²⁷⁾ charges *shw 3/2/91* disputed

Staff Reporter

The Vaal Civic Association (VCA) has disputed the service charges set by the Lekoa Town Council and called for an intensification of the rent boycott

The town council said last week that a fixed interim service charge of R41 for services excluding electricity had been agreed to by "interested organisations".

It was agreed that all the parties would be consulted first, VCA spokesman Sthembiso Radebe said.

Other parties are the Evaton Town Council, Vanderbijlpark Town Council, Vereeniging Town Council and Eskom.

Residents were to pay electricity and water charges in October only, said Mr Radebe. Those with electricity were to pay R55,50 and those without R23,50.

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E* REEERMIION

Council threatens to cut electricity to townships

Pretoria Correspondent

The Pretoria City Council has announced it will cut the bulk supply of electricity to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi on Monday if satisfactory arrangements for payment of their arrear accounts are not made before that day

This comes after the council had said contracts for bulk supplies would be cancelled if payment on arrear accounts was not made before January 25

Star 6/2/91 -
The council said in a statement yesterday that its arrangement with the two councils was clearly that the contracts could be terminated without any further notice in the event of non-payment

Atteridgeville's electricity and water accounts were now two months in arrears to the amounts of R1,2 million and R621 200. The town's sewerage account of R391 123 represented arrears of three months

On January 25, Mamelodi paid R500 000 of its R2,1 million electricity account and on Feb-

ruary 4 paid R488 493 of its water account of R945 961

The council said the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation's agreement to pay R50 per household, between R60 and R160 per business, and R15 per hostel resident a month to the Atteridgeville City Council in future, was "unsatisfactory"

This would bring in capital of only R800 000 a month — too small to pay Atteridgeville's expenditures, which did not include electricity costs of R697 352 a month

Townships could lose power

Sowetan 6/2/91

THE Pretoria City Council yesterday said electricity supplies to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi would be cut off at 6am on Monday because the townships owed it about R3 million.

Management committee chairman Mr James Leach said in a statement yesterday that the townships' councils were supposed to pay their arrears by January 25.

He said that Atteridgeville is two months in arrears, owing R1,8 million. Mamelodi paid nearly R1 million on January 25, but owes almost another million rands.

Mamelodi town clerk Mr JP Nel said in a statement yesterday that drastic action was going to be taken against rent defaulters.

"I appeal to residents to come forward and pay their

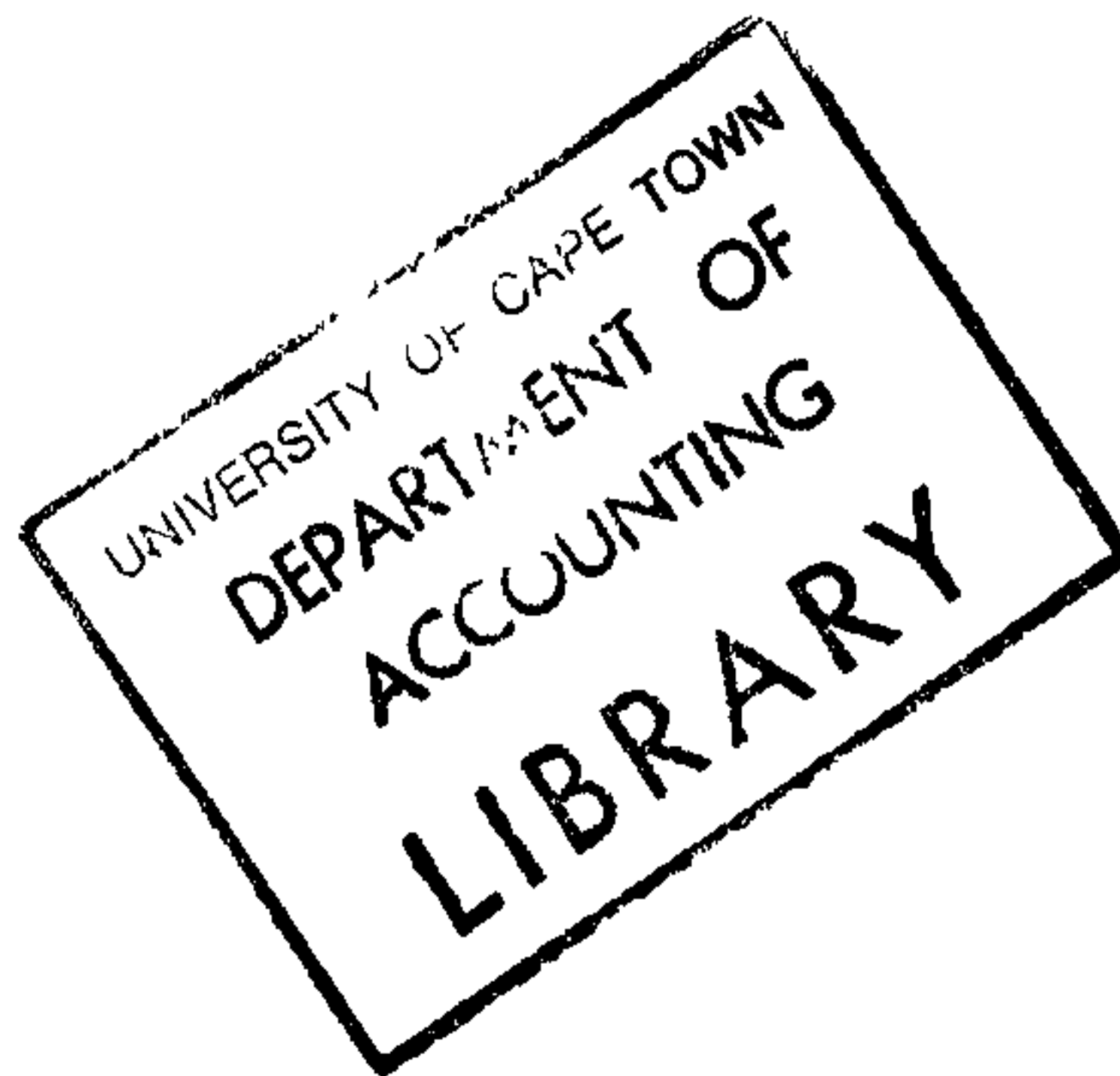
By MONK NKOMO

rent and avoid a possible power cut by the city council of Pretoria, which has already notified us that the amount we owe it could lead to such an action at any time," Nel said.

Atteridgeville acting town clerk Mr Daan Mouton made a similar appeal and urged residents to start paying the mostly interim flat rate of R50 a house.

Electricity supplies to both townships were cut last September following a rent boycott in those areas.

After intensive negotiations between the local civic bodies and the authorities, the boycott was called off.



Lekoa civic group rejects rent demand

Sowetan 5/2/91. (127)

A CONFRONTATION is looming between the Lekoa Town Council and the Vaal Civic Association over a compromise in the seven-year rent controversy.

The council has demanded that residents pay R41 a month, about half the amount that it was charging before a boycott began in 1984.

The VCA has advised residents not to pay the R41 rent while the council has threatened to disconnect power supplies to those who refuse to heed its call.

The affected townships are: Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela and Refenkgotso.

The council has ad-

By IKE MOTSAPI

vised residents that they are expected to pay the stipulated amount starting on February 15.

A council application has been made to the Transvaal administrator for his formal approval to write off the arrears of households accumulated during the boycott.

Council administrator Mr Jaap Joubert had announced that the VCA and other groups involved in negotiations agreed to the new rent. VCA treasurer Mr Jacob Phahlanyane denied this.

He said: "I want to point out that the council is actually implying that it had spoken to us and that we had agreed to residents paying R41 a month when in fact that is not so.

"We last spoke to the council and the Transvaal Provincial Council before October last year.

"At that time no agreement was reached regarding the matter.

"The TPA and the Lekoa Town Council have now violated the terms of our agreement, that only the VCA and no other organisations will negotiate on behalf of the Vaal community.

"It was also agreed that no press releases and statements should be made without consulting the other parties in the negotiating team.

Those parties are: the VCA, Evaton Town Council, Lekoa Town Council, Vereeniging Town Council, Eskom and the Vanderbijlpark Town Council.

Threat to cut power supply

PRETORIA — The Pretoria City Council yesterday threatened to cut off bulk power supplies to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi if they did not give guarantees by Monday to pay their service arrears. (127)

Speaking at a Press conference in Pretoria, management committee chairman James Leach said Atteridgeville and Mamelodi were expected to give such an undertaking or their contracts would lapse.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation yesterday warned the council not to undermine an agreement entered into by itself and Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson which required residents to start paying certain rates at the beginning of March.

THEO RAWANA reports that the Klerksdorp Town Council has agreed to meet the Jouberton Civic Association today for preliminary talks aimed at restarting negotiations on the area's boycotts and other issues.

— Sapa. b/w 6/2/91

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Talks falter and black township lights go out

BOYCOTT chaos looms

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

White local authorities face widespread consumer boycotts following township electricity cuts and a breakdown of negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and local authorities in certain areas

The ANC yesterday described the possible withdrawal of power supplies from Pretoria's Atteridgeville and Mamelodi townships as a recipe for violence and a move which could perpetuate the rent boycotts.

Civic association leaders from Pretoria, the East Rand and the Vaal Triangle threatened, after a meeting in Johannesburg last night, to stage a regional consumer boycott in the southern and western Transvaal if Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs Hennis Kriel did not meet them within 72 hours to discuss grievances.

Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) assistant general secretary Cas Coovadia said "Intransigent white local authorities behave in a way which impedes negotiations. We can't vote them out, so they will face action."

● Negotiations have broken down in Tokoza and Vosloorus on the East Rand after electricity was cut.

● Atteridgeville and Mamelodi face power cuts on Monday after warnings by the Pretoria City Council that payments were due.

● The Lekoa Town Council has threatened to cut power to Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela and Refekgotso after the Vaal Civic Association called for an intensification of the rent boycott.

Steamrolling

● East Rand civic associations have threatened to extend the consumer boycott

● Alberton and Kempton Park have already been affected by the boycott and Pietersburg is also threatened with boycott action

● ANC members from Vosloorus yesterday staged a sit-in at the TPA's Germiston offices to force authorities to resume negotiations

Mr Coovadia admitted that negotiations were going badly and there was little progress outside the Johannesburg metropolitan area

He has accused the TPA of steamrolling "weaker" civics into agreements

MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said none of the civics had raised their grievances with him.

The TPA was doing its best, he added, but it had to be realistic.

"We provide bridging finance and paid out R130 million last year

"But if the people can't pay service rates, where must the money come from?"

Move to end ER rent crisis

Sowetan 7/2/91 (127)

COMMUNITY organisations in Vosloorus have called on the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the local council to resume negotiations with the Vosloorus Civic Association in order to resolve the rent crisis.

The plea was made after the Vosloorus Town Council switched off lights in the township last Tuesday.

VCA publicity secretary Mr Keith Montsitsi said the aim of such negotiations would be to resolve the on-going rent crisis.

The talks broke down

By NKOPANE
MAKOBANE

last November when officials of the TPA walked out of a meeting.

They staged the walk-out after the council refused to accept an interim payment of R50 offered by residents.

Montsitsi said the organisations which called for the talks to be resumed included the Vosloorus Chamber of Commerce, Nactu, Cosatu, the Azanian National Youth Unity, the Inter-denominational Af-

rican Ministers Association of South Africa, African Womens Organisation, the PAC and ANC.

The meeting, held on January 30, resolved that the council should accept the R50 interim payment offer.

It was also resolved that the council should immediately restore the electricity supply.

In addition, it was decided that should the council fail to respond to these demands, the residents would continue with the rent boycott and pickets to force it to the negotiating table.

ster 3/2/91.
**100 evicted
tenants back
in filthy flats**

Staff Reporter (127)

About 100 tenants of Pueblo Court in Kotze Street, Hillbrow, moved back into the filthy building after being evicted by the landlord yesterday

According to tenants, Frans du Toit, son of the landlord and caretaker of the 75-room building, came around on Friday giving them verbal notice.

Some doors were damaged, and tenants said Mr du Toit had kicked them in yesterday when he told them to get out

One tenant said he had given wide-ranging reasons that the Government wanted to buy the building, that people had died there, that the health department wanted it evacuated and that it was to be demolished

When The Star visited the building yesterday, a dank, heavy smell of old urine hung over it. There was rubbish in the corridors and the lifts did not work.

Mr du Toit said Pueblo Court was not fit for human habitation and he had received four notices this year from the Department of Health

He said there was no choice but to heed the department's warnings to upgrade the building "It is obvious people cannot live in these conditions while renovations are under way," he said

He said all tenants had had their initial deposits refunded "even those who were in arrears with their rent"

Once the building was fully renovated, tenants would be allowed to move back. And in future there would be tighter control over the building



Health hazard . . . one of the tenants of Pueblo Court, Hillbrow, sorts through the rubbish that litters the corridors of the run-down building. Picture: Herbert Mabuza

Dobsonville warns

of electricity cut

By Montshiwa Moroke

Dobsonville residents have until tomorrow to pay their electricity accounts, or have their lights disconnected on Monday, the acting town clerk, Tony Roux, said yesterday.

This is the third township under a black local authority to have been given this warning this week.

On Tuesday, the Pretoria City Council warned it would cut the bulk supply of electricity to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi on Monday if satisfactory arrangements for payments of arrears were not made.

Yesterday, Daan Mouton, Atteridgeville's acting town clerk said the

council would open its offices tomorrow between 8 am and 12 noon to enable residents to pay accounts.

The ANC has described the threat to cut the power supply to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi as "a perfect recipe for violence".

In Dobsonville, Mr Roux said residents had been informed by letters sent to individual tenants who had not paid their accounts.

Mr Roux said January had been a bad month with only 40 percent of tenants paying their bills. Before the boycott started the council was receiving 45 percent of payments. This increased slightly after the Soweto Accord was signed last August.

SAW 8/2/91

127

BUSINESS

Open areas ¹²⁷ if you can afford it

FLAT rentals are set to soar as demand increases while the market shrinks.

The envisaged influx of blacks into formerly white areas with the scrapping of the Group Areas Act is set to push up demand. More importantly, the rental hike will be due to the continued shortage of rented accommodation as property investors shy away from this sector because of poor returns.

A major player in the market, Standard Bank Properties, has set a policy of divesting from residential property — selling rented residential properties to buyers who will convert them to sectional title.

Recently the group sold a 964-unit complex in Bedfordview, on the East Rand, to Investec Property Group for R90-million in what was the biggest residential property transaction yet in South Africa. This sale will put further pressure on up-market rentals since Investec has a policy of acquiring rental buildings and converting them to sectional title.

Average rentals in the Hillbrow-Berea-Joubert Park areas range from R350 to R450 for bachelor flats. In up-market areas such as Killarney rentals are about 30 percent higher.

Investec subsidiary I Kuper director Sam Hackner believes although demand won't increase too much, it will nevertheless be adequate to push up rentals.

"In the inner-city areas like Hillbrow and Berea, black people who want to live there are already there. One advantage of the Act's scrapping is that it will stop unscrupulous landlords from exploiting people. Pressure may also be taken off the already grey areas as black

The scrapping of the Group Areas Act and a shrinking market are putting upward pressure on flat rentals. Although they will soon be able to do so legally, many blacks may be unable to afford to move to 'white' areas, reports

MONDLI MAKHANYA

people will be able to rent accommodation wherever they want."

He said the selling of flats would be made much easier because "in the past financial institutions were unwilling to lend money to people buying in these areas. But when the Group Areas Act has been scrapped the element of uncertainty will be greatly reduced."

JH Isaacs residential property director Peter Holling believes there will be a general increase in rentals both in lower- and upper-market areas. He says the continued sale of rental residential buildings is bound to exacerbate an already hard-pressed market.

"There is a trend towards sectional title and this is irreversible. The returns from rentals are too poor for a number of reasons," says Holling.

He cites rent control as the main reason for the poor returns and the resultant reluctance of developers to move into this industry.

In many buildings tenants' committees have refused to pay the rent demanded by the landlord and have opted for that recommended by the Rent Board. Landlords often complain that as a result of this, they are unable to break even, hence their inability to maintain buildings. A vicious circle arises when tenants refuse to accept rent increases on the pretext that the building is not well looked after.

"It takes years for a building to yield a



Inner-city flatland ... the cost of rented accommodation is set to soar

return. For instance, a building built 15 years ago would only be showing a return of six or seven percent this year. A classic example is the Ponte building in Berea which, built in 1970, was the last building to be built in the area for rental purposes. This building is still losing money and has been changing hands at a remarkable rate because nobody wants to keep it," says Holling.

Anglo American Property Services (Ampros) MD Gerald Leisner, whose company owns Highpoint in Hillbrow and manages Darragh House in central Johannesburg, does not foresee a flood of blacks into the inner city as this has already happened regardless of the Act.

"Black people began moving into town long ago when it was still illegal and there is nothing that will further encourage movement into town. Also, there is

simply no accommodation for people to move into," says Leisner.

There will, however, be a slight increase in demand and this will create a lot of problems because "although there is tremendous demand for rented accommodation, developers are not interested in this market because it is generally not profitable."

Highpoint and Darragh House are profitable and, unlike in other buildings in Hillbrow and the inner city, tenants' committees were there to liaise with the owners and not to coordinate rentals. Ampros experiences few problems in its buildings, says Leisner.

"The main problem in our buildings is overcrowding. The consequence of having too many people in one flat is that it puts great pressure on services"

Investec MD Marc Wainer says he expects the shortage of rented accommodation to increase in the near future — which will be accompanied by increased rentals. "Political changes and demographic movements will create an enormous demand for medium-priced accommodation and rentals will increase substantially, but particularly in higher-quality suburbs," he says.

According to I Kuper's Sam Hackner, where the company has acquired property in order to convert to sectional title, about 40 percent of tenants have accepted the option to buy.

Hackner says for rental accommodation to become profitable rents would have to increase by 50 percent.

Holling agreed, saying in buildings with 40 flats the owner usually had to pay R1 500 a month for water in excess of what the tenants had paid. Electricity charges are usually passed on to the tenant.

Overcrowding is also a problem facing JHI as it puts pressure on the plumbing — "which not only affects the building but the whole suburb".

While it will be possible, as Wainer points out, for owners of sectional title properties to relet their flats this will further increase rentals. This is because a single flat costs more to run than a whole block per unit.

With the rentals set to increase, the issue of affordability will come into play and determine whether there is actually a flood of black people into town. A recent study done in Cape Town among a coloured community showed that while 50 percent of that community would have liked to move to nearby white areas only three percent would be able to afford such a move.

Why the 'civics' are angry

IN his speech to Parliament, President F W de Klerk gave the green light for mixed town and city councils to be set up before a new constitution was put in place.

This was heralded as positive encouragement for bodies such as the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber (JMC). Yet townships in Pretoria, the East Rand and the Vaal Triangle have threatened a regional consumer boycott which could cripple up to 25 towns and impede negotiations for new non-racial, democratic local government structures.

The townships' civic associations blame the Transvaal Provincial Administration for setting flat rates for services which they (the civic associations) claim the communities can't pay. They also accuse white local authorities of cutting services while negotiations are in progress.

The TPA says if flat rates are not paid, there will not be sufficient funds to prevent services being cut.

There appears to be a breakdown in communication between the authorities and the civic associations. This could derail the negotiation process in local government.

Cas Coovadia is the assis-

tant general secretary of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast).

He accuses town councils such as Klerksdorp of being obstructive to negotiations by cutting power to black areas.

But Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl holds Klerksdorp up as a shining example as one of the first white local authorities to take over complete administration of a township.

According to Mr Coovadia, the civic associations have lost faith in the TPA and have asked Hennis Kriel, Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, to intervene or consumer boycotts will be intensified.

Mr van Zyl says none of the civic associations have come to him with problems. He says there is no need for boycotts and mass action because the State President has said a new local government system was on the cards.

On Wednesday, Cast held a meeting to form a strategy to pressure intransigent white local authorities and the TPA to address the power cuts.

Consumer boycotts in progress on the East Rand and Stulfontein in western Transvaal will be intensified and the Tokoza consumer boycott

in the transitional period and said Cast would rather resolve the situation than revert to rent and consumer boycotts.

"We are not going to accept a different set of values for Soweto. There must be uniform negotiations and agreements. I would appeal to the TPA and white local authorities to put the lights back on and talk."

Mr van Zyl said the civic associations should tell him where the money would come from to pay for electricity.

"We are doing our best, but we must be realistic — it is not a reluctance and an unwillingness on our side. We agree the communities are not viable. We pay bridging finance because they are not viable."

"They (black communities) have been paying two-thirds of the real cost (of services) for years. There is no money to make up the balance."

Mr van Zyl said some white local authorities were reluctant to become involved in negotiations with the TPA and black townships.

Khehla Shubane, local government analyst for the Centre for Policy Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, agrees that the TPA hoped the Soweto Accord

would have a domino effect in other areas.

"In the political scheme of things those other townships do not occupy the same position as Soweto. They are not a political threat like Soweto was, as viewed by the TPA."

He warned that organisations such as Cast had to be seen to have exhausted all avenues of negotiation before resorting to consumer boycotts.

"If Cast goes ahead with its campaign, it will be projected as the villain in the reform process at local government level."

Mr Shubane said the publicity around such a campaign should be handled with care, or it would be dismissed as a knee-jerk reaction and be of no help to negotiations.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said the civic associations should recognise black and white councils for what they were.

"No sooner did the civics sign agreements with the (black) councils, than they asked for their resignations. Why did they sign the Soweto Accord if they do not accept their legitimacy?"

"If we disappear, who are they (the civics) going to negotiate with?" he asked. □

Municipal Reporter LOUISE BURGERS examines the reasons behind the looming consumer boycotts.

in Alberton will be extended to all towns on the East Rand within two weeks. Cast will also consult its affiliates in the southern and western Transvaal regarding a regional consumer boycott.

Mr Coovadia says the TPA has adopted a confrontational attitude in negotiations with townships other than Soweto.

"We have told the TPA that if they continue, they will be back to square one in three to four months' time. Communities can't pay and the boycotts will resume."

"The TPA bent over backwards to conclude an agreement in Soweto because, in our understanding, they felt that if they could come to a favourable agreement with the Soweto People's Delegation they could remove Soweto from the centre of the struggle."

Mr Coovadia agreed that negotiations were necessary

... Linda Ballade on a low

Boycott could blanket white business on the Witwatersrand

WHITE-OWNED businesses throughout the Witwatersrand, including Johannesburg, could soon be the target of blanket consumer boycotts in protest against electricity being cut to various townships.

Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) vice-president Kgabiso Mosunkutu said the organisation's protest campaign could be extended throughout the region, starting with Greater Johannesburg.

This came shortly after a Cast meeting decided on Wednesday to extend the current boycott affecting Alberton to the whole of the East Rand.

The meeting, attended by representatives from the East Rand, Pretoria and the Vaal Triangle, also demanded a meeting with Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hennis Kriel within three days.

Mosunkutu said a threat by the Dobsonville Town Council to cut off electricity to residents who failed to pay their accounts by Monday could precipitate the mass action.

Mosunkutu said Dobsonville and other Soweto townships were not keeping to the terms of the Soweto Accord, which wrote off R516m in

THEO RAWANA

rent and services debt. He held that no proper electricity accounts were being sent to residents.

"If Dobsonville cuts electricity supply it will trigger off the anger of the people and we may have a situation similar to the one in the East Rand," he said.

Signatory

East Rand townships including Thokoza, Vosloorus, Katlehong, KwaThema, Duduza and Themibisa have decided to extend a boycott of Alberton businesses to the whole of the East Rand.

Dobsonville, together with Diepsmeadow and Soweto city councils, is a signatory to the Soweto Accord.

In terms of the accord, a composite flat rate of R55 per month was to be paid for September.

From October, until affordable tariffs had been established, a monthly account would consist of a miscellaneous rate of R23, plus a metered electricity charge, with a ceiling of R72 a month.

Dobsonville acting town clerk Tony Roux said yesterday only 40% of the residents were paying.

Roux said his council would cut power only to residents who failed to pay and not to the whole township — as is the case with Thokoza.

Meanwhile, East Rand townships residents will march in Alberton tomorrow morning and hand over a memorandum to the town council.

They have not been allowed into the centre of town, but the council will receive their memo at the Heidelberg Street intersection.

Mosunkutu said of the Soweto situation "Faced with officials who did not adhere to the Soweto Accord, an inter-branch meeting of the Soweto Civic Association will assess the situation tonight and make a decision on our adhering to the accord."

Thokoza and Vosloorus have reached a deadlock in their talks with their local white councils and the TPA. Power supplies has been cut, while the Pretoria townships of Mamelodi and Atteridgeville are currently facing a cut-off by bulk supplier Pretoria.

Tembisa plans a mass protest

Sowetan 8/21 ep1

127

TEMBISA mayor Mr Solomon More has invited the ANC and PAC to a Press conference tomorrow as the township's residents prepare to demonstrate against the local council.

More called the conference to deal with issues relating to the four-year-old rent boycott in the township.

The residents instead resolved at a meeting to

stage a placard demonstration outside the council offices to highlight their demand that all councillors in the township should resign.

Resign

In a statement issued on Wednesday, the Tembisa Residents Association said they would spurn the conference and intensify their campaign to force councillors to resign.

"The invitation to the conference (by the mayor) was viewed as a sly and desperate ploy by the mayor and his council to avoid a strong call made by the community on them to resign," it said.

"Residents will demonstrate with placards around the township on the day of the Press conference," the statement added.- Sapa.

Late bid to avert electricity cuts 127

THE Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents Organisation was yesterday locked in crucial talks with white local authorities in a last-ditch effort to avert the cutting of electricity supplies on Monday.

A three-man Asro delegation met Mr Olaus van Zyl, MEC in charge of local government, and the Administrator of At-

Sowetan 8/2/91
By MONK NKOMO

teridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, yesterday morning to discuss ways of avoiding another power cut supply to the township.

The Pretoria City Council announced on Tuesday that supplies to both Atteridgeville and Mamelodi would be discontinued at 6am on

Monday because of large amounts owed to it by the two councils

Sowetan established that yesterday's meeting between Asro and the Administrator centred on the establishment of a Community Trust Fund and an undertaking by the civic association and the Atteridgeville Council that they would pay the arrears.

Reliable sources said both parties had agreed in principle to establish the fund in which residents would contribute R5 a house a month for the development of the township and to guard against any financial shortfalls

A similar agreement exists in Soweto

Both Asro and the Mamelodi Civic Association have warned of mass action, including a consumer boycott of white businesses, should electricity supplies be cut on Monday.

A spokesman for the MCA, Mr Lasarus Mzwayine, refuted a report in yesterday's

Sowetan that they had appealed to residents to start paying rent.

There was a typographical error, caused by the mixing of statements made by the civic association and Mr Daan Mouton, Atteridgeville's acting town clerk who had made this appeal.

The Mamelodi Council, in an attempt to stop the imminent power cut, yesterday appealed to residents to pay rent.

The offices will be opened from 8am to 4pm on Saturday to enable consumers to pay their accounts, Mr JP Nel, the town clerk, said.

Blackout averted in Pretoria townships

127

Star 11/2/91
The threatened cut in electricity to Atteridgeville and Mamelodi has been averted.

The Pretoria City Council said power would not be cut off today as planned because Mamelodi's mayor, SS Mokone, had paid arrears of R1 664 325 on Friday to the city council.

There are still, however, arrears to be paid for water (R457 468) and sewage (R891 247).

Atteridgeville's administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, obtained R500 000 to pay the city council as a down payment on the outstanding

amount of R623 485. The remainder has to be paid by Friday.

● Lekoa Town Council has warned it will take action against Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela and Refekgotso because of arrears.

Already without electricity are Vosloorus, Tokoza and Jouberton (Klerksdorp), while plateland townships such as Carolina's Silobela (also without water) and Bethal's eMzinoni have had no power for months — Pretoria and Highveld Bureaus.

● Power, cry unions —
Page 11.

Attempt to resolve Tembisa boycott fails

Sowetan 11/2/91

127

A CONFERENCE called by the Tembisa mayor to find a solution to the township's R7 million electricity debt failed 'dismally' on Saturday, with only 50 people attending.

Mayor Solomon More earlier this week invited political and community organisations to attend the conference in an effort to resolve the four-year-old services boycott.

He also planned to set up a special committee to represent Tembisa residents at the negotiating forum established by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The meeting's failure

follows a call by the Tembisa ANC branch for the boycott of the conference.

An urgent ANC meeting on Thursday, attended by the PAC, Cosatu, women and youth organisations, rejected Mr More's invitation and reiterated the communities rejection of black local authorities.

It also endorsed a call of the Tembisa Residents' Organisation for the resignation of town councillors, reaffirming the ANC as the people's only authentic representative.

ANC Tembisa branch secretary Mr Mathole Motshekga said the boycott of the mayor's conference was a clear reflection of residents' rejection of black local

authorities.

"Residents will settle for nothing less than non-racial and democratic local government structures," he said.

Motshekga said residents had seen through present manoeuvres by town councils backed by the TPA to amend or reform apartheid structures rather than dismantling them completely.

As the previous meeting between the mayor and the Tembisa Residents' Organisation had ended in deadlock, More was clearly trying to undermine the residents organisation, he claimed.

The ANC believed the conference was the first step in the implementation of the Thornhill Commission of Inquiry report, which was endorsed by Parliament.

The commission was to investigate a uniform system of local government for a new South Africa.

Mr Justice Chris Thornhill's commission recommended the setting up of a local government negotiation forum comprising the TPA, Eskom, Water Boards, town councils, political and community organisations.

The object of these negotiations would be to establish local authorities in various parts of the country.

"This approach is calculated to fragment the right of the people as a whole to decide future forms of local government and to endorse the government's idea of 'own' community life, which would entrench apartheid in new forms at local level," said Motshekga.

"The government will use these forums for consultation with the community to lend credibility to its efforts to amend apartheid," he said.

Sapa

Services rate ⁽¹²⁷⁾ ~~128~~ proposal rejected

Sowetan 11/2/91

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration on Saturday rejected a proposed flat services rate for Atteridgeville

In a statement released in Pretoria, the TPA said the proposal was neither workable nor in the interests of Atteridgeville residents.

It urged Atteridgeville administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson and the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Association to renegotiate, saying the suggested R50 monthly

rate per household would not be enough to cover the costs of services rendered

If this rate was paid, the council's income would only be R750 000 per month, whereas at least R2,8 million is needed each month to run the town, the TPA said

A deficit of R1,3 million per month would therefore accumulate over water, electricity and sewerage services alone.

- SABC radio news -

reports that the council currently owes R2,16 million to the Pretoria city council because of non-payment by consumers

The TPA added that it had no say in the proposal, which also stipulated amnesty for arrears

In addition, it argued that much confusion would result amongst residents if they paid the agreed rates under the impression that it was sufficient to pay for the costs of services - Sapa



About 2 000 people from Tokoza and Vosloorus marched to the Alberton council offices on Saturday demanding the restoration of electricity to affected East Rand townships.
Pic MBUZENI ZULU

2 000 protest power cuts

Sowetan 11/2/91 (127) *MBZ*

AS 2 000 people protested township power cuts on Saturday, the East Rand Civic Associations reiterated its readiness to resume talks.

The protestors marched to the Alberton council to present a memorandum tabling the East Rand communities' demands.

Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal secretary-general Mr Sam Ntuli said after the march that the protestors raised the strongest outcry when they realised that a traffic

DON SEOKANE

official was dispatched to receive the memorandum.

Ntuli said they had expected a town clerk or someone more knowledgeable about town councils to receive the memorandum

He said that the sending of a traffic official spoke "volumes about the attitude of the Alberton council".

The memorandum stated that the East Rand town council continued to exert their weight forcibly by committing barbaric acts such as failing to provide water and electricity.

Restored

"We believe that if electricity supply could be restored to the affected townships, it would be in the interests of every-

one," the memorandum said

"It is the only peaceful way in which the rent-boycott impasse could be resolved."

Tokoza township has been without electricity since last December

A consumer boycott of white-owned business in Alberton was introduced to pressurise the Alberton council to negotiate the power cuts

Dobsonville (127) electricity to be cut from today

Sowetan 11/2/91
THE Dobsonville city council has said it plans to interrupt the electricity supply to residents from today if they do not comply with the terms of the Soweto Accord.

The accord, signed in August last year to bring an end to the five-year rent boycott in Greater Soweto, has shown mixed results.

Diepmeadow residents have been responding positively, but Soweto and Dobsonville residents are behind on their payments

A spokesman for the Diepmeadow city council said more than 50 percent of residents have been paying the agreed upon flat services rate

"It is a considerable improvement compared with the period before the accord was signed," the spokesman said.

The Soweto city council said that there was a major improvement immediately after the signing of the accord, but that payment has dropped off in the past two months

Similarly, Dobsonville town clerk Mr Tony Roux there was a good response after the power supply was cut for a few days in December, but that payments had slowed again - *Sapa*

Ratepayers in Jo'burg get warning

Municipal Reporter

Ratepayers who fail to pay overdue water and electricity accounts in Johannesburg will face stern action from the City Treasurer's department

Services will be cut without further notice and will not be reconnected before a deposit of twice the average monthly charge is paid as well as the total amount outstanding

Residents have also been warned not to pay anyone collecting money at homes. Accounts should be paid at municipal buildings and an official receipt should be asked for if the account is not paid by cheque.

For further information, ratepayers can phone 491-8911 and ask to speak to the accountant dealing with their suburb

Piet 'Skiet' resumes his hunger strike

812 am 12/21/91
PRETORIA — A spokesman for Correctional Services confirmed last night that Orde Boerevolk leader Piet "Skiet" Rudolph had resumed his hunger strike at Pretoria Central Prison.

"It can be confirmed that Mr Rudolph has not been taking solid foods since February 11. It does occur from time to time that prisoners refuse to take meals for shorter or longer periods. Prisoners

who refuse to eat are warned of the adverse effect and they are treated strictly in accordance with the internationally accepted guidelines pertaining to the handling of such prisoners."

The spokesman said all awaiting-trial prisoners were treated alike.

Rudolph had said he was resuming his hunger strike to protest against his treatment by government. — Sapa.

D-day looms for power cuts

RESIDENTS of two Pretoria townships have until Friday to pay more than R1,5m or face electricity switch-offs.

Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson said yesterday residents of Atteridgeville and Saulsville should pay their latest accounts on Friday to avoid switch-offs
812 am 12/21/91

Jacobson said power would have been cut yesterday had the Atteridgeville council not diverted R500 000 from "another department to pay a portion of the overdue electricity account to the Pretoria municipality"

Atteridge owes Pretoria about R1,7m

He said the reason why he was appealing to residents to pay their latest accounts, and not interim rates agreed on with the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro), was to generate a higher cash inflow.

"The interim rates cannot raise enough cash to avoid the electricity switch-offs," he said.

The TPA recently overruled interim

WILSON ZWANE

rates Jacobson negotiated with Asro

127
He said a meeting between himself and Asro, scheduled for yesterday, had been postponed until next week.

Asro secretary Reaves Mabitsi said his organisation postponed the meeting because its executive committee members were unable to attend.

Meanwhile, Mamelodi mayor Simon "Drie" Mokone has appealed to residents to make a "concerted effort" to pay their accounts "faithfully and punctually to avoid unpleasant consequences"

"About 50% of the residents paid their accounts last month and as a result of irregular payments and non-payments for services we owe the Pretoria City Council about R2,8m

"Should the situation not improve there will be a danger of power cuts"

The Mamelodi council paid R1,6m to the Pretoria City Council last Friday, thereby averting an electricity cut, also threatened for yesterday

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New talks to save Bekkersdal peace

THE ANC and Inkatha yesterday pledged to try to save a peace pact in Bekkersdal township, where violence erupted again at the weekend.

A fresh round of talks were to be held last night to review the situation after fighting on Saturday night killed an Inkatha supporter, the ANC said.

Inkatha alleged yesterday that thousands of ANC supporters, armed with an assortment of weapons, attacked mourners returning from a funeral of a member

of the ANC. A police vehicle was damaged by stone-throwers in Kraaifontein near Cape Town. One man was arrested and a member of the SAP slightly injured in the incident.

Inkatha West Rand secretary, Ronnie Mamoepa said in a statement yesterday.

ANC regional spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said in a statement yesterday.

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Council hostels to get R120m facelift

THE Johannesburg City Council will spend R120m on a programme to upgrade hostels and provide family housing for its 12 000 employees, housing director Ken Cunningham-Scott said yesterday.

Cunningham-Scott could not say when the scheme would be completed, saying this depended on land becoming available.

He said a recent survey among the workers (including those employed in Randburg), showed that the majority preferred the dormitory system, which provided for eight to 10 workers sharing one dormitory in the council's 15 hostels.

But since about 30% of the workers would prefer family housing — and indications were that more would also want this in future — the council had started identifying land for this form of accommodation, Cunningham-Scott said.

Land next to Soweto's Power Park had already been earmarked for this purpose, he added.

Cunningham-Scott said most employees qualified for the council's housing subsidy.

In the past three years R2,4m had been spent on upgrading mostly hostel recreational facilities. A scheme to accommodate visiting wives at all hostels had proved very popular since it started four years ago.

About R2,8m would be needed for 89 houses at Olifantsville farm.

"It is the council's goal to eventually convert all hostels into (single-quarters) bachelor-type units in order to provide more privacy and a higher standard of living for the residents," it said.

"This can possibly be attributed to the high standard of accommodation, good social and recreational facilities and protection available to all residents," it said.

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THEO RAWANA

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Power cuts talks

12/29/91

By DON SEOKANE

THE Civics Association of Southern Transvaal meets the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hermus Kriel, today to negotiate the restoring of electricity in townships affected by blackouts.

Cast secretary-general Mr Sam Ntuli said the meeting would focus on all affected townships in the West Rand and East Rand.

Efforts to resolve the rent boycott and restore electricity to Tokoza failed last month when Transvaal Provincial Administration delegates walked out of a meeting.

They accused the Tokoza Civic Association of disclosing sensitive information to the Press.

Residents in townships affected by the blackout have retaliated by boycotting white-owned businesses in their neighbouring towns.

Ntuli said the boycott of Alberton businesses would continue and consultations were still in progress to extend the boycott to all East Rand towns.

CAST holds sit-in after talks with Minister fail

By Norman Chandler
Pretoria Bureau 13/2/91

Seven members of a Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal delegation yesterday staged a 90-minute sit-in at the offices of Provincial Affairs, Planning and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel.

The sit-in took place after talks between CAST and Mr Kriel broke down over the question of a moratorium being declared on outstanding electricity charges owed by black local authorities.

Led by vice-chairman Kgabiso Mosunkutu, the seven eventually left a room adjoining Mr Kriel's office after police asked them to do so.

The president of CAST, Moses Mayekiso, earlier left the conference room

The drama began when Mr Kriel said he did not have authority to order a four-month moratorium on payments for electricity charges.

Mr Kriel said at a news conference that he had made a counter-offer for 75 percent of the electricity arrears to be paid in order for power to be reconnected in many townships and for the remainder of the debt to be negotiated.

Told

He also told them there was no reason to maintain the pressure on black councillors.

"Unfortunately, I was pressed for time and we agreed to meet again on February 19."

The seven then announced the sit-in

At 5 pm yesterday, se-

curity officials locked the building. Police arrived soon after, and after negotiations the occupation of the room was ended peacefully.

At a CAST press conference last night, Mr Mayekiso said he did not believe the Government did not have the money for bridging finance.

Mr Mayekiso added that the TPA had a negative approach to negotiations, especially to the issue of people paying Eskom directly for electricity, instead of paying the council.

Negotiations between the Pretoria City Council and the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) received a setback when a meeting planned for yesterday was cancelled.

Hartbeespoort development ¹²⁷ ^{SW 13/2/91} stuns residents

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Major industrial development and pleasure resorts planned for the Hartbeespoort Dam basin have shocked residents who have vowed to fight an attempt by the Kosmos municipality to encourage development

The Kosmos village council has applied to extend its boundaries west of the dam by incorporating several farms to attract developments such as townhouses, low-density cottages, upmarket hotels and retirement villages

Though agreeing it would be unacceptable to permit economic activity that could affect the sensitive nature of the area surrounding the dam, the municipality did not preclude the establishment of "clean" industries such as laboratories and computer, pharmaceutical and other high-tech companies

'Capital web'

The municipality has undertaken to create a development structure that could serve as a "capital web" to attract investment from developers

Entertainer Jeremy Taylor, a resident in neighbour-

ing Broederstroom, accused the Kosmos municipality of trying to steamroll residents

"Certain people want to turn the area into a playground. They just want to make money out of the area — they don't have to live here. The damage it's going to do to the area is incalculable"

He and Chris Martinus, the chairman of the Broederstroom Residents Action Committee, believe a redevelopment policy for the region should be drawn up.

Mr Martinus said objections to the Kosmos application were being lodged and a public meeting would be held on February 28

Fresh air

"They apparently want to create an industrial area. This is frightening for residents who want to preserve the rural character"

Action committee secretary Beverly Balusik said the region was a breath of fresh air they did not want to lose

"We have a nature reserve on the banks of the Hartbeespoort Dam, a Cape vulture colony, a bird park and Iron Age sites. We are very concerned as to how this is going to affect the environment.

"This is a very special area. We cannot allow our cultural, historical and environmental heritage to be destroyed"

Civic leaders in govt office sit-in after talks fail

LEADERS of the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) staged a sit-in at the Planning, Provincial and National Housing Department building in Pretoria after talks with Minister Hernus Kriel broke down yesterday

The meeting, held to discuss issues ranging from township electricity cuts to the one-city, one-council concept, deadlocked when Kriel refused to suspend electricity cut-offs in the region for four months, Kriel told a news conference later

He said Cast president Moses Mayekiso, who he described as "a most reasonable man", was one of three people who left the building at 5 pm after eight Cast representatives declared they would occupy the first floor of the building "They said they did not like my attitude on the issue of electricity cut-offs"

Kriel said Cast vice president Kgabiso Mosunkuthu spearheaded the sit-in Also involved was general secretary Sam Ntuli

THEO RAWANA

He agreed that arrears must be paid over a long period and that these payments should go towards the development of the community.

TANIA LEVY reports Mayekiso told a news conference last night the four Cast executive members and four civic association representatives would remain in Kriel's office until he gave an undertaking that power cuts would be discontinued while negotiations continued in the next three or four months

Mayekiso said Cast rejected Kriel's promise that electricity and water supplies would be switched on again once consumers resumed payments

Mayekiso said the meeting with Kriel had not been a total failure as consensus had been reached on the need to negotiate single non-racial governments and on the involvement of civic associations in future township development.

Working group set up to probe community courts

WILSON ZWANE (17)

JUSTICE Department officials and members of the Alexandra Civic Association (ACO) have agreed to set up a joint working group to investigate the possible creation of community courts in the township.

Justice Ministry spokesman Maj Elsa Jones said it had been decided to establish the working group at a meeting between Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and delegates from ACO and the Resource Group, an organisation of legal experts, in Cape Town this week.

"Proposals emanating from the group's discussions will be considered by the minister in due course," Jones said.

ACO official Richard Mdaakane said the group would get going "soon after all the parties concerned have chosen their delegates".

Jones said the proposals put forward by ACO president Moses Mayekiso had much in common with government initiatives aimed at making "the administration of justice accessible to people of all levels".

Mayekiso recently said the proposed community courts would involve trained people who would resolve community disputes through mediation, arbitration and negotiation.

They would not be like the discredited kangaroo courts which were often constituted at the whim of an individual, Mayekiso said. And residents would not be coerced into using these courts.

The Resource Group, which was formed by the Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (Nadel), would train people involved in the courts in the mechanisms of mediation, arbitration and negotiation.

Fare rise to aid rail revamp

SUBURBAN rail fares will increase by 10% on April 1 in order to help finance a major multimillion-rand overhaul of railway security and facilities.

Transport, Public Works and Land Affairs Minister George Bartlett announced the increase in Parliament yesterday.

Spoornet marketing GM Koos Meyer said the increased revenue would be used for a general upgrading of passenger safety and services at all Metro (suburban line) stations over a five-year period.

Stations in the PWV area, Durban, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London would benefit.

"The major improvements we are looking at are in passenger safety and general security. We have an agreement with the SAP whereby we provide the infrastructure - items like secure fencing and charge-office installation - which they

LINDEN BIRNS

will then man," he said.

Other items to be repaired, upgraded or installed include platform lighting, benches, ablution facilities and roofing.

The programme would cost "many millions" over the next five years, he said.

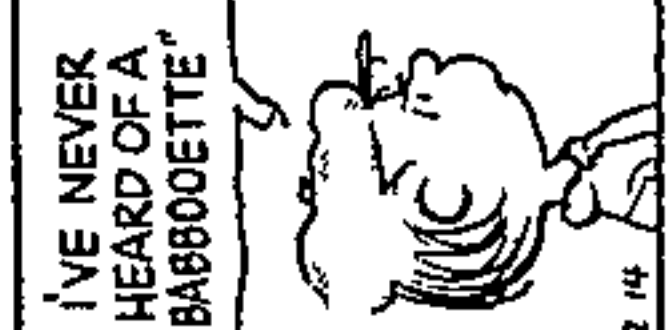
Work had already begun at stations in Benoni, Katlehong and Soweto, while 60 to 80 stations on the Reef and in the Cape would receive attention in the new financial year, Meyer said.

Spoornet is also planning to install a new electronic fare collection and ticket dispensing system to replace obsolete electro-mechanical machines currently in use.

The fare increase is the second in five months with the most recent increase of 9% occurring in November last year.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



Standard Bank Investment Corporation Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

(Registered bank controlling company) (Reg No 69/1712R/06)

Townships power to be cut

THE Diepmeadow and Kagiso local authorities have warned residents to expect power cuts over the next two days because of maintenance and repair work.

Diepmeadow PRO Mr Paul Mashimi said the

cuts would begin at 8am until 1pm in Diepkloof, Diepkloof Extension and a section of Baragwanath Hospital on Thursday only. *Sowetan*

13/2/91
He said he had already informed the hospital

about the cuts. (127)

Kagiso town clerk Mr H A M van Rensburg said the switch-off would start at 7.30am until 4pm today due to the maintenance of the main substation by Eskom. - *Sowetan Reporter*

2 told to quit flat after complaints from tenants

By Susan Smuts

Skw 12/2/91

The ANC and Actstop have been called in to fight a threatened Group Areas Act eviction in Yeoville, Johannesburg, — just days after President de Klerk said the law was on the way out.

Ursula and Lorraine Williams, of Glenton Court, were told on Monday last week they would have to vacate their flat immediately as the caretaker had received complaints from other tenants about coloured and Indian people living in the block.

The sisters, who are classified coloured, and an Indian tenant in another flat in the same building received letters the next day telling them to move out immediately.

Ursula Williams said her letter had made no reference to race.

It said they were illegal tenants as the lessee did not live in the flat. It also said the notice was irrevocable.

"On Wednesday, Lorraine and I went with Mike Westcott, who signed the lease, to the agents for the building, J H Isaacs

"We spoke to Mrs R Conradie, who said that if the caretaker could confirm that Mike lived in the flat, he could stay,

but that Lorraine and I would still have to leave," said Ms Williams

"That day, a woman came to look at our flat. We told her we were not moving, but she insisted on looking at it."

She said the caretaker had come to look for Mr Westcott, and even after he had found him at the flat, refused to believe he lived there.

Spokesman for the Yeoville ANC Bruce Gillespie said the organisation had sent a letter protesting against the action to the caretaker and the agents.

The Yeoville ANC would try to arrange a meeting with the parties to resolve the issue amicably.

However, Mr Gillespie said this was not an isolated case, and the ANC would take firm action if racial evictions continued.

"We will not tolerate Group Areas evictions. We will oppose them wherever they manifest themselves.

"It is ironic that Mr Isaacs has been quoted in the press and on the BBC as saying he is pleased the Group Areas Act is on the way out."

Mrs Conradie said she could not speak to the press.

A Katz, spokesman for J H Isaacs, would only be available on Monday, she said.

Cast prepares for further talks with Kriel

THEO RAWANA

127

TALKS between the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) and Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel will continue next week despite the deadlock which resulted in a Cast sit-in after a meeting between the parties on Tuesday.

Cast president Moses Mayekiso yesterday described Tuesday's talks as being fruitful, despite them ending in a short "sit-in" by some Cast members after Kriel refused to declare a four-month moratorium on electricity supply cuts to townships.

Mayekiso said Cast would seek a man-

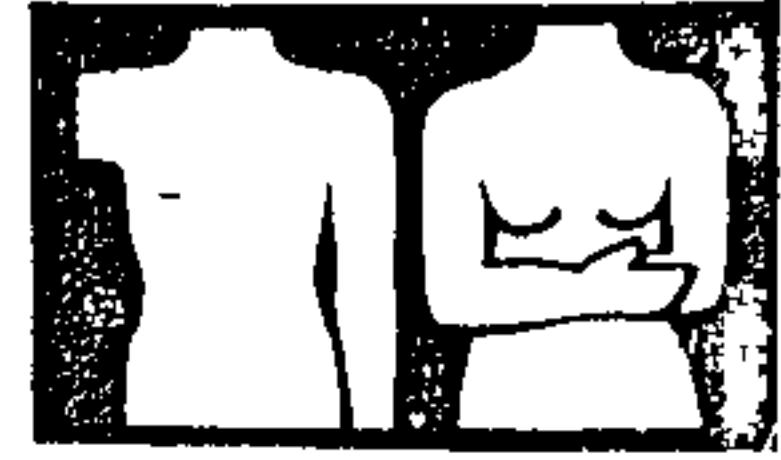
date on issues discussed on Tuesday for further talks with Kriel on February 19.

Among the issues discussed were community participation in township development programmes, separate accounts for electricity and sewerage and a proposal that arrears be repaid over a long period.

Mayekiso said the Alexandra Civic Association, of which he is president, was to hold talks with the Sandton City Council and surrounding areas on February 26 on the question of a single tax base.

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KNOW YOUR BODY



Health in the city

New Nation
(Leamy Nation)
15/2-21/2/91

127

Urbanisation: An historical perspective

In this article, the first in our new series on Health in the City, we will be looking at the history of urbanisation. The word urbanisation comes from the Latin word for city (urbis). When we talk about urbanisation we mean the process whereby cities develop. During this process large numbers of rural people come to live in the city. These people then live an urban (city) life. Urban living often creates a number of health problems. The Health in the City articles will examine these problems, how they come about and what we can do to combat them.

Apartheid capitalism has resulted in a particular pattern of urban development. Distinct residential areas have been allocated for different race groups, with the white areas being better developed than the black areas.

The process has not, however, been without its contradictions for the ruling bloc. Furthermore, the black majority resisted urbanisation policies in a variety of ways. This article traces the historical development of urbanisation in South Africa with specific references to these contradictions and also outlines areas of resistance.

The mining industry

Urbanisation began on a large scale with the development of the mining industry. A large amount of unskilled labour was required but at this stage African societies still had relatively easy access to land and were not willing to work on the mines.

The Chamber of Mines responded by sending agents into the rural areas to recruit labour. Mineowners made workers sign contracts and housed them in policed compounds to ensure they remained on the mines for longer periods. The colonial governments and Boer republics introduced hut, poll and labour taxes. These taxes had to be paid in cash, forcing increasing numbers of Africans into the labour market. Pass laws were introduced to restrict people to their area of work.

The majority of Africans, however, worked as wage labourers only as long as was necessary to meet their cash needs and then returned home, despite attempts to keep them on the mines. In other words, they became migrant labourers initially out of choice.

By the 1900s, most of the land in South Africa was owned by whites but many of the African families who lived on white-owned land still produced their own crops and sold what they did not need.

The developing capitalist farming sector required both land and labour and was opposed to Africans producing their own crops. Small-scale Afrikaans farmers, threatened by competition from African farmers, favoured a restriction on the number of Africans per farm in the hope of obtaining labour. Mine-owners began to recognise that a migrant labour force could be more advantageous to them than a permanent urban workforce. They encouraged the establishment of African "reserves" because migrant labourers could be paid low wages, just enough for their



own needs, as long as their families still had access to land for subsistence farming. All these interests are represented in the 1913 Land Act.

Over the following decades, Africans were dispossessed of their remaining land and forced into overcrowded and rapidly deteriorating "reserves" where it became increasingly impossible to survive. As a result, more people were forced to seek permanent employment in the cities (urban areas).

Segregation

Other than the compounds for mineworkers, there was little formal accommodation for African workers in the urban areas. Workers stayed in multiracial slums, informal shack settlements and backyard shacks on white properties. Health conditions were poor and bubonic plague, smallpox, TB and influenza spread through overcrowded areas. The authorities feared that these diseases would spread to more affluent white areas. There was also an increasing militancy among African urban residents. These factors contributed to a situation where Africans were only tolerated in urban areas if their labour was required. Their status was that of visitors or "temporary sojourners".

The Urban Areas Act of 1923 provided for the clearance of mixed residential areas and the creation of separate "locations" for Africans. This was largely to prevent solidarity within the working class developing across racial divisions. Africans were further restricted in that they could not own property in the urban areas and their right to trade was limited.

Local government

The act also provided for a system of local government along segregated lines. African townships were administered by white local authorities. Africans were however, expected to finance the townships themselves. Each white municipality had a Native Revenue Account, the income of which was obtained from sorghum beer production and sales, fines and rents. This was the sole source of revenue for the development of housing and infrastructure as well as the provision of basic services in the townships. As the rate of urbanisation escalated, this revenue became increasingly inadequate to meet township needs.

The Urban areas also controlled the rate of urbanisation by restricting the number of Africans in urban areas according to the availability of work. Arrival in an urban area had to be reported, employment of Africans had to be registered and those unable to find jobs were to leave within 14 days. These regulations were applied systematically for the first time in 1938. Pass laws, which were developed to force Africans into urban areas to provide labour, were thus used for the restriction of their numbers in these very areas.

National Party rule

During World War 2 the rapid expansion of industry and the subsequent severe labour shortage resulted in the suspension of influx control enforcement and a massive influx of Africans to the city.

Large industrialists saw an increased need for a skilled and permanent African labour force. The National Party, however, campaigned for the 1948 elections around the issue of "oorstroming" (flooding). An emerging Afrikaner capitalist class was still dependent on cheap, rather than skilled, labour. White workers were threatened by competition in the labour market and white farmers were losing labour because they paid wages well below those in the urban areas. They all had an interest in preventing the establishment of a permanent skilled labour force.

On coming into power the Nationalists tightened influx control legislation and the state machinery started to enforce it ruthlessly. Under the 'Section 10' provisions Africans not born in an urban area were denied the right to live there unless they had lived there continuously for 15 years or worked for the same employer for 10 years. The maximum time allowed in urban areas was reduced from 14 days to 72 hours. Passes were to be introduced to women for the first time and all Africans had to carry passes at all times. Pass laws were a major focus of resistance in the 1950s but defiance was accompanied by harsh state repression.

This article has been adapted from Critical Health, 28 October 1989. You can subscribe to Critical Health by writing to PO Box 16250, Doornfontein 2028.

Return to the 'Dark City' days

By WALLY MBHELE

u/May 15/2-21/2/91
ON Monday Jabulani Mthembu really felt the electricity switch-off in Vosloorus township on the East Rand. He missed Nelson Mandela's televised speech on the first anniversary of his release because his television had become an ornament in his lounge.

Mthembu, who lives in a posh four-roomed house in the elite section of Rockville, recently bought a hi-fi stereo system. It too is useless in the blackout. So is his fridge that he used to stock up with meat for the family for the month.

Mthembu puts a brave face on the changes in lifestyle that have been necessitated by the shut-off. "It's worth it and is part of the struggle," he says. "As long as the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) refuses to negotiate in good faith with the civic association, we would rather remain without electricity forever."

Talks between the Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA) and the TPA deadlocked last year, with the civic offering to pay a flat rate of R50 a month, while the TPA stuck to R60.

A VCA spokesman, Keith Montsitsi, says they do not regard talks as having collapsed and are prepared to continue negotiations. He says a letter was written to the Vosloorus council this week advising it to negotiate or face united mass action.

Business in the township, where electricity was cut off two weeks ago, has been brought to a standstill. The most common items on sale in the shops are candles and paraffin. Residents used to the luxury of modern stoves are back to pumping Primus stoves for cooking and boiling water, taking

them back to the old days of "dark cities".

Residents say they go to bed as early as 8.30 pm, waking early in the morning to boil water for bathing. (127) (128)

There are still those who try to keep the spirit of the boycott burning with slogans such as "Phambili nge Primus stove, phambili" (Forward with the Primus stove).

At Zandi's Tavern, which usually sparkles with sounds of disco music, proprietor Zandi Pooe has decided to close down. He tried operating for a while with a generator but it was too costly.

"It's very tough," says Pooe, who is facing financial ruin. "Entertaining people is important to me and to the people who spend their free time here. Many people must be missing this place and I feel very sad when I think of what this has done to them."

Many shopkeepers and businessmen had electricity disconnected from their shops despite the fact that they were paying for their business services. Angry bottle store and supermarket owner TW Thulwane is one of these. "This thing is going to kill our business," he said. "I've already lost R2-3 000 in food that went rotten in the fridges."

Thulwane says he can no longer make the fish and chips which attracted pupils of the nearby Dithomo and Naheng schools.

"I tried to go and negotiate this dilemma with the council but I was told to go and tell the people to pay rent," he says.

When it became dark, it was difficult to take notes so I had to leave the township. Mthembu offered a candle and said: "With this faint light, we are going to win at the end of the day."

Plunging townships into darkness is no solution

127
15/2 - 21/2/91

Eskom

BLACK consumers have legitimate grievances over the quality of supply and management of electricity in certain townships and cutting their electricity off is not the way to address these demands or get people to pay up, says Eskom spokesman Johan du Plessis

As the country's supplier of electricity, Eskom has been drawn into the middle of the battles raging over electricity boycotts and cut-offs in black townships

Though this is a seemingly inappropriate role for a public utility, Eskom increasingly views itself as an agent of social change, tied to the realisation that electricity can be a major factor in socio-economic development.

Du Plessis says the corporation is avowedly non-political but that there has to be a solution to the political problems in the townships before Eskom can be an efficient supplier to its customers.

He says that many of the grievances raised by the civics are legitimate. "The civics want to oust the town councillors, they see them as incompetent and corrupt. I would say, as far as my experience goes, there is substance to what they say. "The quality of supply to many townships is poor. They have frequent interruptions, the net-

An Eskom spokesman acknowledges to **PHILLIP VAN NIEKERK** that the quality of electricity supply to black townships is far from ideal, and that consumers have legitimate grievances

works are dated and the management of the supply is not good

"Then there is the question of billing. People know that their meters aren't read and they also know that when they are read, they aren't always done accurately. A guy goes away from his home, switches off all the electricity for a month, and still gets a bill of R500 when he gets back. That's not the exception.

"If the civics asked only that the billing must be correct and fair and as well managed as it is in the white towns, it would be difficult for some black local authorities to comply."

Du Plessis claims that Eskom is apolitical. "We just want to get our product to our customers. We cannot solve the political issues. The politicians must do that. However, we can make a contribution to solving the problems which relate

to the quality of supply."

He has been sitting in on the negotiations between the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) and believes that many of the problems encountered could be resolved through centralised bargaining.

"You can't have literally dozens of towns throughout the country negotiating locally to try to find a way out of the problem Natal, the Cape Province and the Orange Free State may be handling the problems completely differently.

"Unless we take a central approach, say this is how we are going to move and take civics along with it, you aren't going to find a solution."

Du Plessis believes cutting electricity is not the best way of getting people to pay. "We have not cut electricity to one town. Our stance is still not to do so, firstly because legitimate grievances relating to the quality of the supply should rather be resolved before you can ask people to pay.

"If you cut to a whole town, you also cut those individuals who have been paying all along — often 20 to 30 percent of the total residents. "The third major problem is that you also cut

supply to essential services, for instance to hospitals. You cut supplies to the electric pumps for the sewage. In places like Thokoza where the electricity has been cut, the sewage runs around in the road and creates a health problem.

"You cut the street lighting, and that creates a safety problem at night. When you cut electricity, it triggers violence and damage, and we don't want to be party to that.

"In any case, once you've cut, people carry on. They are prepared to go to the inconvenience of using alternatives to energy rather than succumbing to political pressure. At the end of the day you have not resolved the basic problems.

"People in the townships know they must pay for electricity, and they are prepared to do so — it is in their interests to have electricity."

Du Plessis says that Eskom believes that the existing system of supplying electricity to people is not the most efficient. "There are investigations underway to overcome this problem. Minister Dawe de Vilhiers requested an investigation into the matter — and the National Energy Council is preparing a report which is due out in April."

Communities are rent apart in the political battle for power where electricity is the weapon used by both the civics and the unwanted councillors

By JO-ANNE COLLINGS
15/2-21/2/91
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The struggle for power

Neither the carrot nor the stick has worked over the last six months to bring an end to the form of political protest.

Carrot took the form of an enticing model of successful negotiations, epitomised by the Soweto Accord. This was signed in August by the and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) made unprecedented concessions to residents such as the writing off of rent arrears and use to transfer the title of rented houses to landing tenants. Residents were bound to metered rate for electricity and a flat rate for services.

A variety of reasons, the Soweto Accord it been easily replicable. It is questionable whether the accord is the expected returns in service payments within Soweto. This week the Dobsonville council — which administers part of Greater City — announced it was about to cut electricity supplies to individuals who failed to pay bills. It is understood that only about 50 of the service bill is being realised.

Carrot was dangled last year, taking the form of switch-offs of electricity and water supply to ensure boycotting townships punitive nature of the cut-offs was never used by any of the authorities concerned. It was argued that financial considerations to provide "bridging finance", channelled through the provinces, the bankrupt township could not pay the suppliers of services, in cases the supplier was Eskom and in the adjacent white municipality.

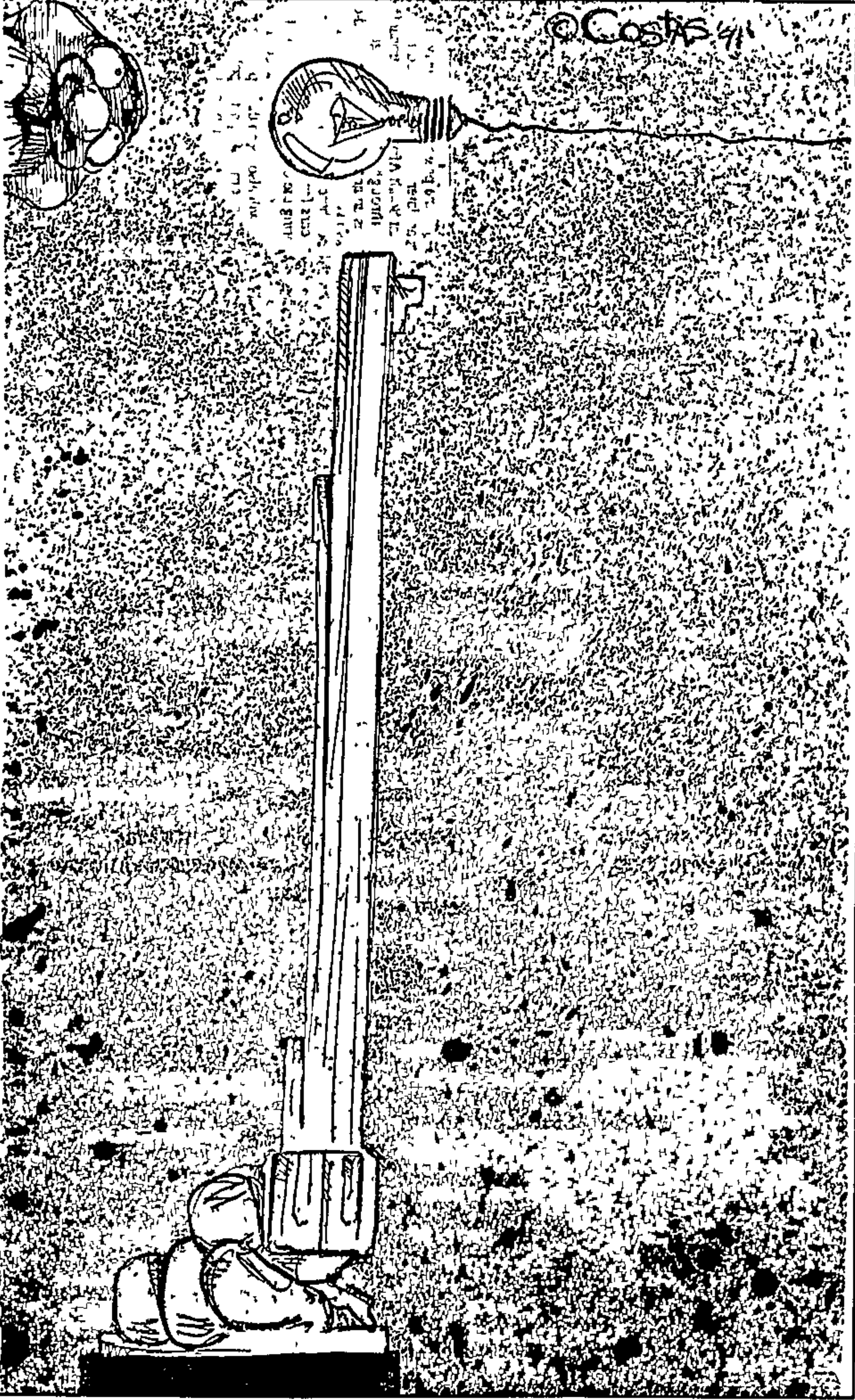
Service cuts were intended to be a warning to other areas or if they were seen as a means to an end to negotiations on the boycotts, this intention has not been generally re-

Overall picture that confronts the observer in a few areas negotiations have proceeded in a few areas and have yielded settlements varying concessions on the future payment of services and improvements to the administration of accounts.

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point that residents felt that they were getting something worthwhile in return for their money. The Soweto boycott, launched in 1986, gave rise to research which carefully documented how Sowetans paid more for inferior services than their counterparts in Johannesburg suburbs paid for fully functional servicing. It also argued that this was due to the fact that householders in Johannesburg's suburbs were subsidised by rates borne by the city's business sector. While Sowetans worked for these businesses and spent their earnings in Johannesburg, they received no benefit by way of subsidies. In effect, the residents of Soweto were supporting residents of comfortable Johannesburg suburbs.

From this report, commissioned by the SPD, came additional boycott demands: a single tax base for township and town, and the creation of single, non-racial municipalities predicated on the dissolution of the various racially-based councils in the area.

The extent to which these demands have gained ground in the past year is reflected in De Klerk's announcement during the opening of parliament that the first racially integrated "municipal" government structures would be constituted (on a voluntary basis) at municipal level.

The Bill enabling the creation of these structures is expected to go before parliament next month. That the new structures are likely to be superimposed on the old racial foundations is suggested by the fact that the legislation will simultaneously extend the period of office of existing councils. It remains to be seen whether this will prove acceptable in the townships, where councillors and council workers are hated as much for their incompetence and not-infrequent corruption as for their role in unworkable structures.

It also remains to be seen whether these structures will be fitted for the considerable redistributive role they would need to play in order to meet popular expectations.

It is, after all, a question of sharing resources that underlies satisfying the demands of boycotting township residents. Civic spokesmen have stated time and again that their constituencies are prepared to pay for services. But the rates must be within their means, they must bear some relation to the standard of services provided — and service payments must not be divertible to pay the running costs of discredited township councils.

These criteria imply that resources must be ploughed into the townships — even before "municipal" structures are on the cards — to make negotiations viable. This in essence was the demand put by Cast to Planning and Local Government Affairs Minister Hennis Kriel this week, when it urged the government to reinstate bridging finance for a period of several months. The minister rejected even this very temporary form of material intervention by the central state. His counterproposal was that residents in townships affected by service cuts should come up with 75 percent of the monthly bill — following which electricity would be restored and negotiations resumed.

talks have broken down. In Atteridgeville an agreement was struck after the service cuts set in motion a spiral of violence and death. Once agreed, various agreements have broken down because of the inability or unwillingness of one or other party to stick to the terms. Apart from the Dobsonville case referred to above, in the Parys township of Tlhabole the

inability of residents to meet their repayment schedule led to a precipitate re-interruption of services by the white municipality. In Atteridgeville, on the other hand, the belated realisation by the ITA that the negotiated flat-rate payments were un-economic and would not cover the total services bill led to the province reneging on the agreement.

The terms of the agreements vary considerably. Few townships have been able to secure the writing off of arrears which was granted in Soweto. In some cases the repayment of arrears has simply been suspended, in others a part repayment is built into the monthly flat-rate payment negotiated by the civics and the authorities.

Not are the flat-rate payments anything like uniform. According to Cas Coovadia of the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast), they range from about R40 to R90 a month. In many cases the cutting off of services has

provoked retaliatory consumer boycotts of white shops — as in Parys, Klerksdorp, Bloemfontein and Sullfontein. The variable response to the crisis of service provision in the townships has its roots in the central government's policy on local government — which has been one of abdication and refusal to adopt coherent, affirmative action to redress the distortions which apartheid imposed on local government.

President Fw de Klerk's recent announcement of legislation to facilitate voluntary joint administration by black and white municipalities does not promise decisive central government intervention in local government in months to come.

As a result of the laissez faire approach of central government, the outcome of the battles around service provision is dictated by the relative power of local forces — the civic associations, on the one hand and the ill-

The struggle for power

Communities are rent apart in the political battle for power where electricity is the weapon used by both the civics and the unwanted

By JO-ANNE COLLINGS
15/2-21/2/91

In the Transvaal alone, rent and service boycotts persist in 52 out of 82 black local authorities, according to Transvaal Provincial Administration representative Magda du Toit.

Neither the carrot nor the stick has worked over the last six months to bring an end to this form of political protest. The carrot took the form of an enticing model of successful negotiations, epitomised by the Soweto Accord. This was signed in August by the TPA and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) and it made unprecedented concessions to tenants, such as the writing off of rent arrears and promise to transfer the title of rented houses to longstanding tenants. Residents were bound to a metered rate for electricity and a flat rate for other services.

For a variety of reasons, the Soweto Accord has not been easily replicable. Indeed, it is questionable whether the accord is giving the expected returns in service payments on within Soweto. This week the Dobsonville Council — which administers part of Greater Soweto — announced it was about to cut off electricity supplies to individuals who failed to pay their bills. It is understood that only about 50 percent of the service bill is being realised.

The carrot was dangled last year, taking the form of switch-offs of electricity and water supplies to punish boycotting townships. The punitive nature of the cut-offs was never needed by any of the authorities concerned. Instead it was argued that financial considerations had no other option, that when the government used to provide "bridging finance", channelled through the provinces, the bankrupt township councils could not pay the suppliers of services. Some cases the supplier was Eskom and in others the adjacent white municipality.

If the service cuts were intended to be a warning to other areas or if they were seen as a means to force an early result to negotiations on the boycotts, this intention has not been generally realised.

The overall picture that confronts the observer chaotic. In a few areas negotiations have preceded service cuts and have yielded settlements during varying concessions on the future payment of services and improvements to the administration of accounts. In some areas, service cuts have paralleled negotiations — and the outcomes have been predictable. In Thokoza and Vosloorus, for instance,

point that residents felt that they were getting something worthwhile in return for their money. The Soweto boycott, launched in 1986, gave rise to research which carefully documented how Sowetians paid more for inferior services than their counterparts in Johannesburg suburbs paid for fully functional servicing. It also argued that this was due to the fact that householders in Johannesburg's suburbs were subsidised by rate borne by the city's business sector. While Sowetians worked for these businesses and spent the earnings in Johannesburg, they received no benefit by way of subsidies. In effect, the residents of Soweto were supporting residents of comfortable Johannesburg suburbs.

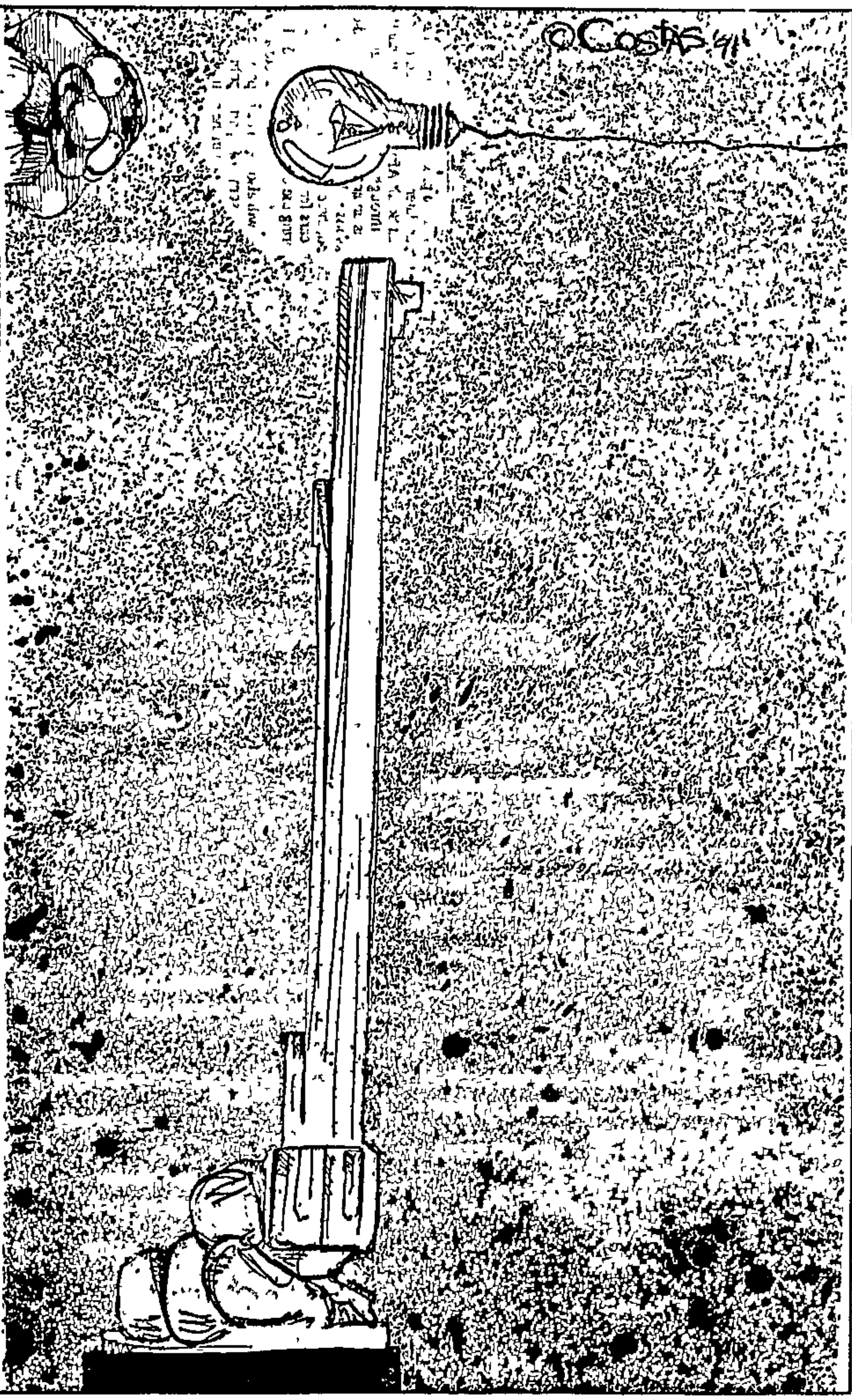
From this report, commissioned by the SPT came additional boycott demands: a single base for township and town, and the creation of single, non-racial municipalities predicated on the dissolution of the various racially-based councils in the area. The extent to which these demands have gained ground in the past year is reflected in De Klerk's announcement during the opening of parliament that the first racially integrated "interim" governmental structures would be constituted (on a voluntary basis) at municipal level.

The Bill enabling the creation of these structures is expected to go before parliament next month. That the new structures are likely to be supported on the old racial foundations is suggested by the fact that the legislation will simultaneously extend the period of office of existing councils, remains to be seen whether this will prove acceptable in the townships, where councillors and council workers are hated as much for their competence and not-infrequent corruption as for their role in unworkable structures. It also remains to be seen whether these structures will be filled for the considerable restrictive role they would need to play in order to meet popular expectations.

It is, after all, a question of sharing resources that underlies satisfying the demands of boycotting township residents. Civic spokesmen have stated time and again that their constituents are prepared to pay for services. But the rates must be within their means, they must bear some relation to the standard of services provided — at service payments must not be divertible to the running costs of discredited township councils.

These criteria imply that resources must be ploughed into the townships — even before "interim" structures are on the cards — to make negotiations viable. This in essence was the demand put by Cast to Planning and Local Government Affairs Minister Hennis Kriel the week, when it urged the government to reinstate bridging finance for a period of several months. The minister rejected even this very temporary form of material intervention by the central state. His counterproposal was that residents in townships affected by service cuts should come with 75 percent of the monthly bill — followed by which electricity would be restored and negotiations resumed.

Responses to this ultimatum may vary from township to township. But it is probable that later negotiations do not secure tangible benefits — such as a reasonable flat-rate payment, and alternative administration of electricity accounts — residents will simply retreat into non-payment, into the household budget, without service-charges to which they have become accustomed.



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President F.W. de Klerk's recent announcement of legislation to facilitate voluntary joint administration by black and white municipalities does not promise decisive central government intervention in local government in months to come.

local authorities, on the other — rather than by notions of good urban administration, designed to manage the apartheid legacy.

Cast's Coovadia, for instance, ventures the opinion that it is "debatable" how townships are selected for electricity cuts "but our assessment is that where there are no strong civics they are switching off". At present in the Transvaal no more than half-a-dozen townships have electricity cuts and reduced water supplies/waste collection.

The abandonment of negotiations to the uncertainties of local power play diminishes the chances that the actual grievances behind the boycotts will be resolved.

The boycotts were motivated by both political and economic considerations. From their inception in the mid-1980s they typically included demands for the resignation of "puppet" township councillors, for affordable housing, and for

Hillbrow flat dwellers on the streets

Staff Reporter

127
1/5/91

Twenty families were in dire straits yesterday after being evicted from Granada flats in Hillbrow, Johannesburg.

Some of the families said they had not been given notice. They did not know where they would spend the night nor what would happen to their furniture.

Tenants were at work yesterday when neighbours informed them that their flats had been unlocked and workers were ready to remove the furniture.

Residents said Actstop was dealing with the matter.

Eviction started at 8 am yesterday when two families were told they had to clear the flat and find other accommodation.

Workers in the service of a Mr Venter, the owner of the building, last night carried out furniture from other units and placed it on the pavement.

Tenants told The Star the reason for their eviction was a decision taken by the tenants' committee to pay only half their rentals because of the unsatisfactory condition of the flats.

They said efforts were made to get Mr Venter to their meetings but he had declined.

One woman, the first to be evicted, said she was awakened yesterday morning by a knock on the door.

"We were told to clear our flat immediately or else Mr Venter's workers would clear it," she said.

Another said "The conditions in my flat are appalling. My rent is exorbitant.

"Two months ago some of the tenants decided they would only pay half the rent."

Residents claimed they pay between R500 and R600 for a unit, but said some pay up to R1 000.



Alexandra mayor Prince Mokoena after yesterday's meeting between his town council, the TPA and the Alexandra Civic Organisation.

Picture CATHERINE ROSS

Rent boycott accord near

WILSON ZWANE

127
THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO), the Alexandra Town Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) are expected to sign an agreement next week aimed at ending the five-year rent and services' boycott in the township.

The parties met for about six hours yesterday at the Alexandra Town Council's offices.

After the meeting, the TPA, ACO and the council refused to comment on progress made.

However, a source close to the council said the refusal by the parties to comment should not be understood to mean there were impediments to the signing of the accord.

6/Jan 15/2/91
It was expected the agreement, once signed, would make provisions for the scrapping of about R11m arrears and the introduction of interim monthly rates.

"A joint statement will be issued next week when the agreement is signed," the source said.

Tenants queue to pay as rent boycott ends

Sowetan 15/2/91.
By **MONK NKOMO**

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents flocked in large numbers to the local municipal offices yesterday to pay rent for the first time since

the rent boycott started last April.

Scores of people paid the interim basic service charge of R50 a month a house reflected on the February accounts which were delivered to resi-

dents on Wednesday

Local town clerk, Mr Daan Mouton, said a large number of people reported at the offices in the morning to pay rent.

The positive response followed threats by the Pretoria City Council that

power supplies would be cut unless the Atteridgeville Council paid the outstanding sum of R123 000 - for electricity only - by today

Administrator of Atteridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, said he was optimistic they would raise the amount and avoid the power cuts.

Jacobson added that they owed the Pretoria City Council R1,2 million for bulk services supplied.

He appealed to residents to try and pay their arrears as from October last year.

The boycott ended last month after all Atteridgeville's councillors resigned.

The Administrator and the Atteridgeville and Sautsville Residents Organisation signed an agreement in which residents were requested to pay an interim flat rate of R50 a month.

This agreement was, however, rejected by the Transvaal Provincial Administration which submitted that the rates were far too low to run the township.

Jacobson said yesterday he would hold a meeting with Asro officials next Tuesday to determine a long-term financial arrangement.

Meanwhile, Mouton said the municipal offices would be opened until 7pm during the week and until noon on Saturdays to allow consumers to pay their service charges.

(127)

Workers 'lose' cash

By DAN DHLAMINI (127)

THE dispute between Klerksdorp Council and Jouberton residents, which resulted in electricity and water cuts in the township and the subsequent boycott of white businesses, has now shifted to include council employees

Workers of Jouberton Town Council, which collapsed last week, claim exorbitant amounts were deducted from their salaries to pay their rent and service charge arrears without their consent

The angry workers,

who are members of the South African Municipal Workers' Union, claim they only realised this on Wednesday when they received their January salaries

Meeting washed out 127

A DOWNPOUR yesterday washed out a mass meeting concerning the rent crisis in Mamelodi.

Sowetan 18/2/91

Residents in Mamelodi, near Pretoria, have been boycotting rent and other ser-

vice charges since the early 1980s.

Mr Pasty Malefo of the Mamelodi Civic Association, which organised the meeting, said another gathering would be held soon to also propose a flat rent rate for residents. - *Sapa* -

Special account to pay for water, sewerage, lights

Star 20/2/99
A specific account for services is to be created with local authorities and all money received will be used for services only, Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Hennis Kriel has announced.

It will not be used for councillors' allowances. (127)

In a statement released after a meeting yesterday between Mr Kriel, the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal and senior Government officials, he said the Government accepted the principle proposed by CAST of "one-city one tax-base". He reiterated, however, that arrears would not be written off.

The Government would create a fund at each local authority, using the money for the benefit of all the area's inhabitants. The money would be used to pay for water first, then sewerage, refuse removal and finally electricity.

Plan to protest 'high rentals' in Mamelodi 127

THE Mamelodi Civic Association is planning a march to the local council offices to protest against "high rents" and demand the resignation of councillors.

Maca's chairman, Mr Lazarus Muzwayine, said yesterday this resolution was taken at a public meeting at the community hall on Sunday morning.

Another public meeting is scheduled to be

Sawetam 20/2/91
By MONK NKOMO

held within two weeks to set the date for the march, Muzwayine said.

Services

He said residents were concerned about the "high rents" and resolved to pay a flat rate of R50 a month for essential services.

The average monthly

rent, according to Muzwayine, is R100.

He added that residents would also discuss the possibility of squatters occupying unoccupied land in the township.

This decision will be taken because the local council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration were reluctant to provide extra land to ease the acute housing shortage, he said.

CAST, (127) Kriel talks 8/21/291 end in deadlock

By Mark Suzman

A two-hour meeting on Tuesday night between executive members of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) and the National Housing Minister, Hernus Kriel, had failed to resolve the electricity crisis in Transvaal townships, CAST said.

Speaking at a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, CAST general secretary Sam Ntuli announced that the meeting had agreed on:

- Community involvement in development.
- The concept of "one city, one tax base"
- An undertaking that CAST will have input into an Act to regulate interim local government initiatives.

However, on the crucial issue of electricity cutoffs the two sides remained deadlocked.

CAST demanded that all arrears be written off and proposed a one-month moratorium on cutoffs, financed by the Government, during which a flat rate could be negotiated.

But Mr Kriel insisted that 75 percent of the current bill be paid off before electricity supplies are resumed.

However, according to CAST president Moses Mayekiso the demand fails to take into account Government responsibility for the lack of township services in the past.

Living without harassment

9/21/91 (127) (127)

The abandoning this week of all prosecutions under the Group Areas Act marks a historic moment. But more importantly, it marks the end of great suffering. HELEN GRANGE reports

A GREAT sigh of relief must have resounded through South Africa's grey suburbs yesterday — where thousands of people have been legally harassed for years because of the spot they chose to live.

On the Witwatersrand, many "non-white" people living in "white" suburbs were still waiting for word on the state of prosecution proceedings against them under the Group Areas Act.

To those who have fallen victim to the Act, the announcement by Minister of Justice Kobie Coetsee this week that all prosecutions under its provisions have been stopped has at least removed the most worrying obstacle in the way of the Act's abolition in Parliament.

Fred Samuel, a long-suffering resident of Homestead Park, was particularly relieved yesterday to hear that the third prosecution against him since he moved to the "white" suburb would be dropped.

Distrustful

He had been waiting since a court appearance last February — the month State President F.W. de Klerk announced apartheid was on its way out — to hear from the Attorney General on what had been decided.

Mr Samuel, distrustful of the Government's statements last year, is still not entirely at ease with this week's news, however.

"Yes, a load is now off my shoulders. I have been plagued for years by the authorities — charging me, dropping charges and then charging me again."

"But now I have to pose the question: how am I going to get my house under my own family's name," he said.

There were several families living in Homestead Park, Mayfair and Pageview who would be pondering the same question.

"Most of us have already paid transfer fees to get our homes registered under the names of white nominees. Do we now have to pay transfer fees again to register our houses under our own names and secondly, do we have to wait until the Group Areas Act is formally scrapped before we can go about this?" asked Mr Samuel.

Mr Samuel said he was still sceptical about the Government's intentions in regard to these questions.

"While the Group Areas Act may be scrapped, there may be other strategies up the Government's sleeve to conserve white areas. We are still feeling in limbo," he said.

Anwar Mentoor, who moved from Lenasia to Pageview last year, said he was grateful for the fact that he was now free from potential prosecution.

"When I came here, I realised problems could arise, but I decided to live with that. Although



Free at last — a resident of Pageview, a community paralysed by uncertainty under the Group Areas Act, ponders a future free of it.

I have never had a problem, it has come as a real assurance to me that I can continue living here without harassment."

A number of Indian families had moved into Pageview over recent months in anticipation of the pending political breakthrough.

"We will now be looking forward to owning our own homes," Mr Mentoor said.

Pageview, the focus of huge controversy in the past, has seen about 12 000 people evicted over 30 years, according to Ebrahim Kharsany of the Save Pageview Association.

Evicted

A demoralised community, torn apart by continued State intervention over its racial mix, Pageview has finally broken through the legal barriers it has fought against for decades.

Mr Kharsany said yesterday the real break for Pageview happened some time ago, when it was clear the State would not pursue a legal suite aimed at having the remaining 67 Indian families evicted, following new political developments in the country.

"But obviously we are happy about this week's decision to

stop prosecutions and there is a great sense of expectation in the community about the future," said Mr Kharsany.

He anticipates a return by many of Pageview's former residents and is calling for the suburb to be restored.

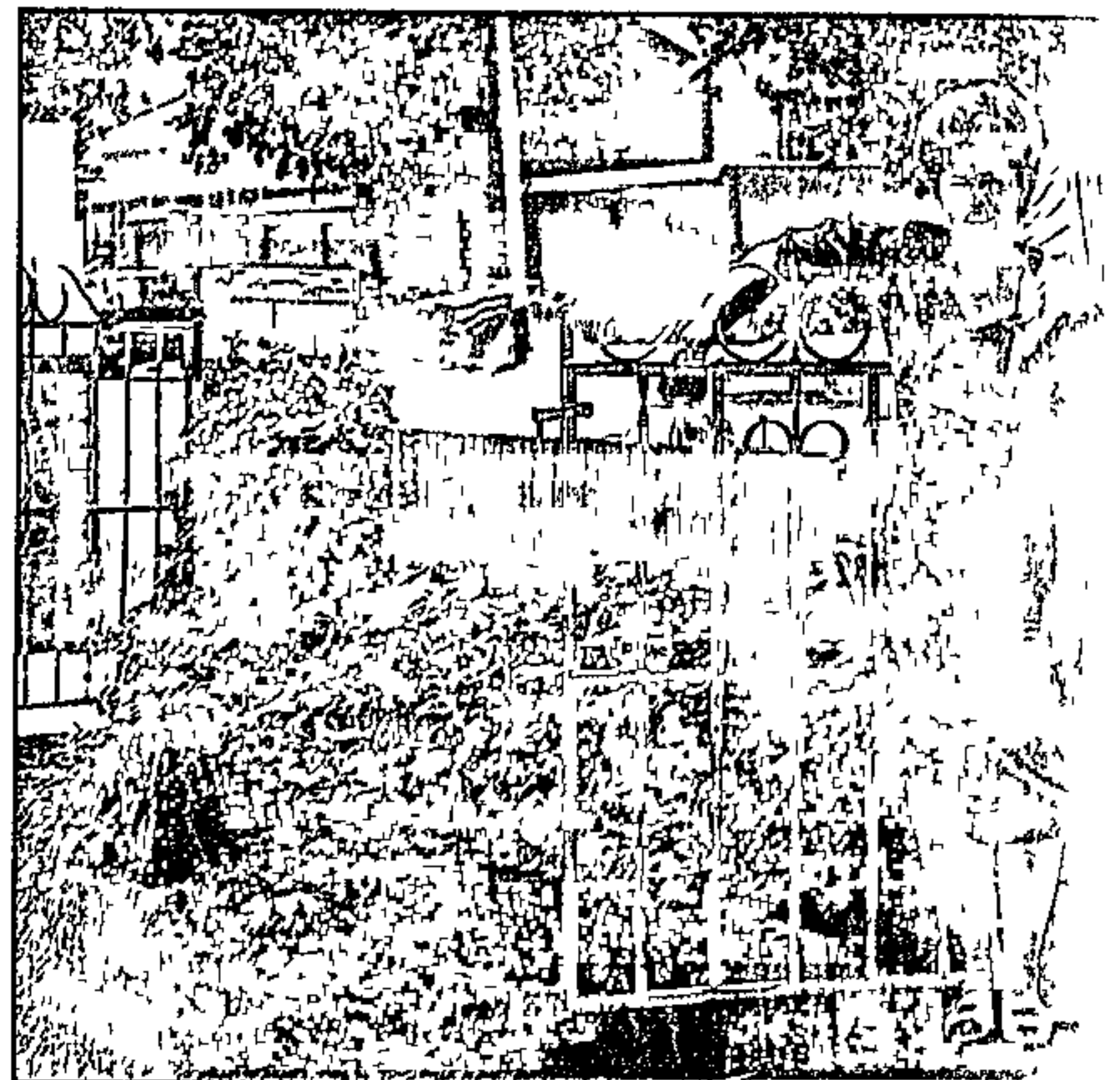
"I also think the residents who have suffered for so long should now be given the opportunity to own their homes and be granted subsidies to extend and improve. After all these years, they should now have the security of tenure," he said.

Pageview, he added, could become the first model of an attractive, harmonious non-racial community.

Although the suffering that the Group Areas Act has brought to thousands will take time to forget, the commitment the Government has shown to its final abolition has been warmly welcomed.

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Relief — The abandonment of prosecutions under the Group Areas Act in Homestead Park, are "out of the clutches of..."

without harassment



resident of Pageview, a community paralysed by uncertainty under the Group Areas Act, ponders a future free of prosecution

Pictures Karen Stander

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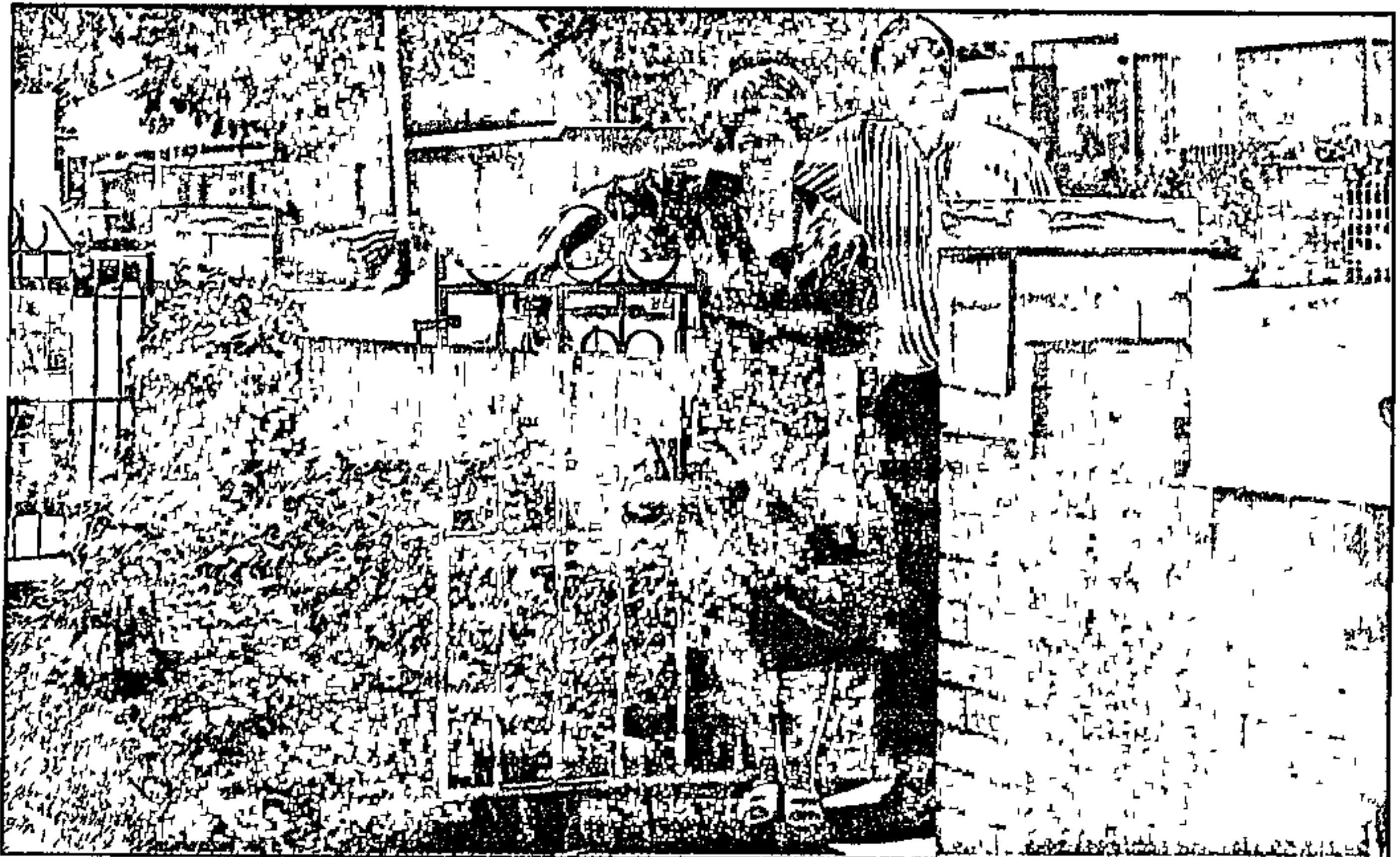
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Relief The abandonment of prosecutions under the Group Areas Act means that Fred Samuel and his wife Brenda, of Homestead Park, are "out of the clutches of the court at last"

10.01

said there was little doubt in his mind that the accident happened on April 1 but the question was whether the state had proved its case against the two.

Defence counsel submitted Nani's prior condition coupled with the possibility that he hit his head against the wall of the moving police van could have led to his death.

Residents will not pay⁽¹²⁾ councillors, govt pledges

WILSON ZWANE

BLACK councillors would not be paid by township residents, Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel told the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) this week after a two-hour meeting with Cast on Tuesday, Kriel said a specific account would be created for services such as water, sewerage, refuse removal and electricity.

"The allowances of councillors will not be paid out of this account. Government will undertake to use the present bridging finance system to cover these costs," he said.

Cast president Moses Mayekiso welcomed the creation of the "specific" account.

In another development, the Alexandra Civic Organisation, the Transvaal

Provincial Administration and the Alexandra Town Council failed to sign an agreement aimed at ending a five-year rent and services boycott in Alexandra when they met yesterday.

A source said they were on the verge of consensus but there were a couple "of hiccups such as the issue of the far east bank land which had to be overcome"

The parties are expected to meet again next week.

Jews 'might p

TANIA

ISRAEL should not underestimate paying for its so-called "admission" conflict, Soviet Jewry camp said in a statement released on a visit to SA.

After the war, Israel might make concessions that could lead to independence, he said.

"Let us be careful to dist

Council to be tough over rent arrears

(127)
Sowetan
21/2/91.

THE Mamelodi Council has threatened to take "drastic measures" including legal action against rent defaulters, mayor Mr Simon Mokone said yesterday.

In a hard-hitting statement, Mokone said the council, which is experiencing financial difficulties, could no longer tolerate the situation

"As a result of the grave financial situation in which the council finds itself, the council will be left with no option but to take drastic action against defaulters, such as cutting off lights and handing over the culprits to attorneys," Mokone said. He added that the

council had resorted to harsh measures because the Pretoria City Council, which supplies vital services to the township, had now adopted a policy of "no payment, no service".

The Pretoria City Council has threatened to cut power supplies to the township unless arrears for services are paid.

Appeal

Mokone appealed to residents to pay and said those experiencing problems over payments should report to the local municipal offices

He also announced that the council had budgeted R5 million for roads and R3,5 million for stormwater drainage during the next financial year

Referring to the state of roads in the township, Mokone said the council would have to dig deeper into its "depleted resources" to find the means to repair them

"Road repairs are underway and we appeal to local motorists to exercise patience while the project is in progress," he said.

Group Areas may go — but black tenants will still face harassment

By WALLY MBHELE

THE scrapping of the Group Areas Act (GAA) will mean a blow to racist landlords — and may herald a new war between tenants and landlords in Johannesburg's grey areas.

Civic organisations point out that the mere abolition of the Act will mean little if not accompanied by legislation that protects tenants from exploitative rentals "and other forms of harassment and intimidation from unscrupulous landlords".

Many tenants *The Weekly Mail* spoke to this week expressed fear that, in order to bar blacks from moving into previously "whites only" buildings, they are going to experience unaffordably high rentals, exposing them to evictions.

And last night, a coalition of organisations, including the African National Congress, Actstop and the Yeoville Residents' Organisation (YRO), launched a campaign in Yeoville to resist racism, evictions and high rentals in white residential areas.

YRO executive member Lydia Konke expressed fears that the scrapping of the GAA will mean nothing to many homeless blacks, because they would still be charged far higher rentals than their white neighbours.

Konke says many blacks are still unable to buy flats in Yeoville and those who do survive only through the tactic of "close co-operation" — where-

by a sympathetic white buys a flat and then passes it on to a black, who stays there as if he had rented it from the white.

This system, according to Konke, has its flaws because if the person who has bought for you decides to take it, the law is on his side.

Konke foresees a situation where rentals could double as soon as blacks are allowed into "whites only" flats.

"That's going to be the only way of getting rid of blacks," she says.

However, she says, "blacks need shelter and all the money they earn will have to go to rent payments".

A related problem is the removal of services as soon as blacks move into buildings.

Konke says there were security guards in some buildings before blacks moved in but immediately they were allowed to stay in those buildings, security guards were removed and many whites consequently left the buildings.

"This is done deliberately to discredit us," she says.

Actstop publicity secretary Cas Coovadia this week appealed to the government to ensure the scrapping of the GAA will be of significance to the majority of the people who have suffered under this legislation.

Coovadia said the demise of the Act must be accompanied by some form of

rent control to ensure affordable rentals for flats occupied by people in the inner city area.

"Standards must be revised to account for changed residential patterns in the city to ensure adequate health and safety, but must not exclude people from residence in the city," Coovadia said.

"Because of the present conditions, the city council will have to look at its by-laws and revise them against racist landlords."

Most estate agencies *The Weekly Mail* contacted this week refused to comment on the issue, saying they'll do what the owners tell them to do. Some had no hesitation in sticking to their Group Areas guns.

A typical case is of a white man vacating his flat at Harley Gardens in Yeoville, and wanting a black friend to take over the flat. He was told by an official of the estate agent, Landsec, that blacks would not be allowed to occupy flats in the building even if the GAA was going.

Peter Neithan of Landsec said: "Our position is that we don't allow blacks in our buildings, but if owners say we must allow them, we will."

On hearing that the GAA was about to go, one Yeoville landlord told his white tenants: "Blacks want to live in white areas and I will charge them for that privilege."

township developers JCI Property Services, believes it has addressed the major fears of local residents and will consult them on certain aspects of the scheme

There was an outcry nearly two years ago (*Property* March 10 1989) when plans to develop and sell 31 cluster houses on the fringe of the golf course first emerged.

So angry was Lower Houghton Ratepayers' Association that it threatened to take the club to court to block the scheme. Its main concern was the undesirable environmental impact of high-density housing on the neighbourhood and the knock-on effect that it would have on property values

Protesters claimed the proposals contravened the suburb's density and coverage limitations as set out in the Houghton density policy drawn up in the mid-Seventies. The minimum stand size under the plan is 1 500 m²

However, JCI's Chris Spiers believes the latest proposals address residents' fears. Permission has now been granted for the club to subdivide a section of its land into 17, 2 800 m² "residential one" (free-standing with one dwelling) parcels of land. The stands are expected to sell for about R350 000 each.

Spiers adds that a contract has been placed with Top-turf & Associates to reroute the course's 15th and 16th holes to make way for the subdivision. The subdivision will take

place only once the new holes are playable (probably in July), though selling might start earlier.

He notes that care is being taken to minimise the impact of the development on its frontage with Third Street in Lower Houghton. JCI has called in a landscape architect to consult on the project. "In proceeding with this scheme we have undertaken to liaise closely with the golf club and the Lower Houghton Ratepayers' Association," he says.

According to Spiers, official approval has been given for the concept. Now a subdivision plan must be drafted and submitted to the various authorities for approval. He expects this to take between six and eight weeks.

City councillor Clive Gilbert, who was initially involved in the campaign against allowing cluster housing in Houghton, welcomes the revised plans as a victory for local residents.

"It is definitely an improvement on the original project.

"Hopefully, with the back-up of JCI and the club the new development won't be an environmental blight. People in the area are being hit by an onslaught of applications for subdivisions, requests to run businesses from home and office park developments. There is a whole change of property usage in the area."

RESIDENTIAL FM 22/2/91 (127)
PAR FOR THE COURSE

Houghton Golf Club is going ahead with a controversial plan to carve up a part of its course for housing.

However, the club's partner in the project,

Violence still deterring foreign investors

WARNINGS that violence and political instability would continue to deter foreign investment and trade were sounded yesterday by the Taiwanese embassy and a top-level British trade delegation.

Taiwanese embassy spokesman Albert Liu said incentives for foreign investment in SA had been largely offset by township instability and increasing disharmony in management-labour relations.

"Violence, stayaways, strikes and the like can easily scare off foreign investment," Liu said in a statement.

He said in addition to internal unrest, productivity of most SA workers left much

Business Day Reporter

to be desired. It was hoped labour unions would also begin to express their concern to these problems and work together with management towards a solution.

Meanwhile UK SA Trade Association (Uksata) chairman Sir Keith Stuart told a Press briefing in Johannesburg yesterday that, following the lifting of the EC ban on new investment, British businesses would seek to boost exports to SA, but only if the internal security situation improved.

Investors, he said, were still awaiting

greater clarity on SA's future economic structure before investing.

Stuart is leading a six-member Uksata delegation which is in SA to reinforce links with the SA business community and identify trade and investment opportunities.

He said problems in the Middle East and the UK recession were helping to make the SA market attractive.

"If sanctions and boycotts were ever in the past a disincentive to your salespeople in the UK market, I would urge them now to go all out in the UK market. I think they will be pleased with the results," he said.

Picture: Page 3

11/12/79
61/219

HOSTELS

BETTER FOUNDATION

Inkatha will soon begin negotiations with government for more land to accommodate hostel dwellers in low-cost housing. The Zulu-based party also wants to press for the conversion of existing hostels into apartments.

Themba Khoza, Inkatha youth brigade head in the Transvaal, tells the *FM* that Inkatha has already approached some companies about erecting dwellings costing less than R12 000 a house. "These houses will help not only hostel people, but they are our priority."

Hundreds of hostel dwellers lost their accommodation during the violence that raged in Reef townships during the second half of last year. Some hostels were demolished by township residents. The violence also served to focus attention on the dismal living conditions in overcrowded, unhygienic and dilapidated hostels.

Khoza, noting that not all hostel dwellers want to bring their families to the Reef, says, "We want hostels to be upgraded in such a way that they allow privacy, have only one person to a room and perhaps have joint kitchens and bathrooms."

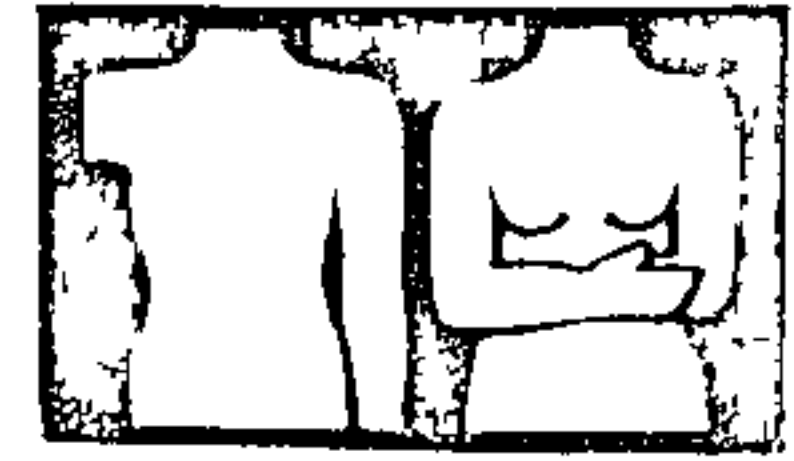
He says that already discussions have begun with some local authorities and once

talks have been held with government, help from the private sector will be sought. "Hostel people were paying rent, while township residents were boycotting rent payments — and yet hostel people have been neglected. We will put up very strong resistance to any township that tries to destroy hostels."

Khoza says Inkatha is also promoting contact between hostel men and township residents to try to mend the divisions that have existed for years between the two communities. "Hostel dwellers were trapped by political jackals who forced them to fight, to achieve political objectives of making the country ungovernable."

Charlene Smith

KNOW YOUR BODY



Hillbrow residents who have been evicted from their flats

Health in the city

New Nation (Leahy Nation) 22/2 - 28/2/91

(127)

Last week we looked at the history of urbanisation in South Africa. In this article we will look at the unhealthy conditions which many black tenants in the Johannesburg city centre have to endure

Actstop is an organisation campaigning for thousands of 'illegals' battling for low cost accommodation in Johannesburg. The biggest challenge at present is to improve the quality of life in city centres and other areas. To this end Actstop has helped tenants form flat committees which discuss the various problems faced by black tenants living in the city centre. Health has become a major concern as more and more people move into the cities with their children.

Actstop has set up a working committee with organisations like the South African Health Workers Congress (SAHWCO) and the National Medical and Dental Council (Namda). The aim of the committee is to investigate the quality of life and the physical condition of buildings in and around Johannesburg.

Tenants have become increasingly aware that if they do not do something about the dilapidated and rundown buildings that they live in, the landlords certainly won't.

"It is up to us to fight for the right to a just and equitable society and to fight for the right to bring our children up in a healthy environment," said one of the tenants on the committee.

Evictions and poor maintenance are health hazards

Actstop has had some dealings with the Johannesburg City Health Department where complaints about conditions of buildings are usually reported. The health department can only act against flat owners if they violate any municipal by-laws. They do, however, have the power to declare a building a slum and have it shut down and the

people moved out. This only serves to make the housing shortage worse.

Dr Nicky Padayachee of the Johannesburg City Health Department says that in all his years of office, he has no knowledge of any building in Johannesburg being declared a slum. We would much rather impress on the owner to fix up the premises and to do so in a way as to allow the people to remain in the building.

More conservative residents of Johannesburg claim the influx of black people into the city centre increases infectious diseases. However, the increasing number of black people making their home in Johannesburg has not caused any notable increase in infectious diseases, and this is backed up by the city's Health Department.

Dr Padayachee says however that there is every likelihood that there has been a notable increase in social diseases such as alcohol abuse, wife battering, child abuse and sexually transmitted diseases. This is not just a feature of the influx of black people into the city centre, but rather a symptom of inner cities worldwide and also of massive unemployment.

In the interests of public health, flat owners should be required to provide for the maintenance of buildings and facilities. Poor maintenance of buildings has caused many problems. At Export House in Bree Street, a seven-year old boy climbed into a lift shaft and was crushed to death.

Often tenants are without flushing toilets for weeks on end and have to resort to the age-old bucket system. Actstop believes it is nothing short of a miracle that there have actually been no serious outbreaks of disease in some of the buildings they are involved in.

Evictions can also cause health problems because no alternative accommodation is provided and families are left on the pavement with their possessions. Evictions often happen during the winter and families are left on the street in the freezing weather.

Access to medical facilities

One of the major concerns of black people living in the inner city is access to medical facilities. There is no provincial hospital in the Johannesburg city centre that has a prenatal and paediatric facility for black inner city dwellers. The nearest hospital for these facilities is Baragwanath's Hospital in Soweto which is at least 20 kilometres away.

Many tenants living in Johannesburg are unaware that Hillbrow Hospital does not offer these facilities. One tenant resident said that she had a hospital behind her and one diagonally across the road. I just assumed in an emergency (she is seven months pregnant) that they would take me to the nearest one.

Living conditions and apartheid

Actstop believes that the authorities, far from alleviating the problem, have actually made it worse with the creation of "grey areas" which will only lead to more overcrowding and a decline in the standard of health. Apartheid has caused a housing shortage and a lack of education and health facilities for the majority of the population. It is only through the abolition of the Group Areas Act and all other discriminatory laws that the tremendous demand for black housing will abate and living conditions improve.

This article has been adapted from an article written by a member of Actstop for the October 1989 issue of Critical Health. You can subscribe to Critical Health by writing to PO Box 16250, Doornfontein 2028.

Permprop plans R30-m housing development

By MONDLI MAKHANYA
 W/Mail 22/2 = 28/2/91

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THE SA Perm's property development arm, Permprop, is developing a housing complex on the East Rand targeted specifically at middle- to lower-income earners — those who can afford houses priced at R15 000 to R35 000.

Permprop MD Phillip Chilton-Jones says the R30-million project — which is likely to reach completion in early 1993 — will be built on a 160 ha plot of land in the Vosloorus township. The first stage of the development, to be known as Mfundo Park, will consist of medium-priced houses costing R35 000 and lower.

The "semi-village" environment will have grass areas which will serve as recreation areas and also as access roads to be used only by residents. These will link to gravel roads which will in turn feed tar roads.

The use of grass and gravel, says Chilton-Jones, will enable Permprop to greatly reduce the cost of providing the area with all the necessary services and this saving will be passed on to the consumer.

He said Permprop hoped to build a school and lease it to the Department of Education and Training. No commercial sites have been zoned for the area as it is close to shopping complexes.

Chilton-Jones concedes that this scheme of housing may still not be affordable for many people.

A possible solution could be the building of houses costing R10 000 but no financial institution would grant bonds for homes that cheap.

"Some mechanism will have to be found to help finance the purchase of houses of less than R12 000," he says.

He feels that the lower end of the market — which is also the biggest — is badly neglected by developers in favour of lucrative upper bracket housing. Most developers and financial institutions are unwilling to move into this area because of the risk involved.

"We feel we have been very brave to go into an area where nobody has ventured. Other developers just aren't interested. Financial institutions are hesitant to come in because, among other things, there is the threat of bond boycotts. Unless they are assured of the support of the communities the situation will remain the way it is," says Chilton Jones.

He stresses that there is little developers can do

to persuade financial institutions to grant bonds to their clients.

"Our function is simply to build and not to seek bonds for people. Our relationship with the Perm is an arm's-length one and although we are a subsidiary this does not guarantee our clients bond from the Perm."

He points out that the availability of land was not so much of a problem as the availability of finance.

He adds Permprop will soon enter discussions with the Independent Development Trust about the possibility of a portion of the R2-billion which it had been granted by government being released now for the financing of the project.

He says Permprop intends encouraging other developers to follow suit by moving into low-income housing and "there has been some interest shown".

"The lower end of the market is profitable but it entails a lot of difficulties. No one should believe it may be a quick way of getting rich — although there is a possibility of this at the end of the day. It takes up a lot of time and also takes a long time to bear profits."

He says Permprop is willing to sell land to people who wanted to build houses for less than R10 000.

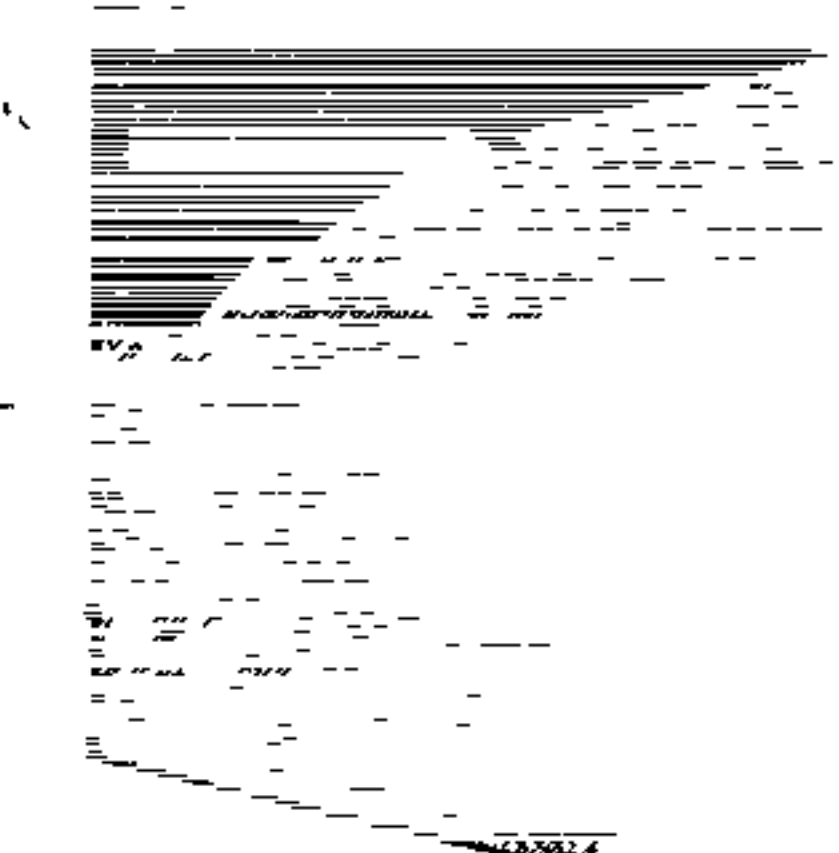
He also backs formal squatting, which has been advocated by some as a possible solution to the housing crisis, provided it is orderly.

"We might go into some co-operation with the South African Housing Trust on this one. We will be prepared to allocate land for this and we will thus avail people with a shelter over their heads."

"What might also be needed is that we be selective on the provision of services in order to cut costs. Perhaps it will entail providing electricity to every home but only providing centralised water sources."

He does not believe that the scrapping of the Group Areas Act would alleviate the housing shortage.

"I don't see the movement of people from upper-market areas in townships affecting the situation of lower-income people in any way because they just could not afford it. Overcrowding is going to continue in the foreseeable future as people continue to move to the urban areas," says Chilton-Jones.



FACTS I

WHAT do the embassies of Britain, America, France, Switzerland, Japan and Spain have in common with the South African Police, the Department of Development Aid and the Department of Education and Training? Along with the institution, the New York Times, the Inkatha, the ANC, the United Nations, BBC, Voice of America, ABC, CBS and every major university in South Africa all are subscribers to the SA Barometer.

SA Barometer is an independent fortnightly journal which since 1987 has provided access to topical statistics and source material, a day-to-day record of important

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Talks fail, now Cast calls for action

(127)

Sowetan
22/2/91

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal is to intensify its mass action campaign after its meeting with the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs failed to resolve the electricity crisis.

Cast assistant general secretary Mr Gas Coovadia yesterday said Mr Hernus Kriel insisted during the meeting that 75 percent of the electricity arrears must be paid before power could be restored in the affected townships.

Coovadia said Cast had proposed that the Government should finance services for a month, during which a joint committee could determine an affordable flat rate.

By DON SEOKANE

Coovadia said Kriel rejected the proposal.

However, agreement in principle was reached on the "one city, one tax base" concept and on the creation of separate accounts into which service payments would be made once the problem had been resolved.

Meanwhile, the electricity and water supply to Munsieville, Krugersdorp, will be discontinued on March 4 if the rent boycott continues.

Munsieville town clerk Mr Ryaan van Vuuren said night soil removal services would also not be rendered.

Munsieville owes Krugersdorp Council more than R90 000.

Bid to raise Hillbrow's standards

THE Hillbrow National Party and Inkatha Freedom Party in Johannesburg have formed a working group to address problems in Hillbrow and upgrade living standards

The two political parties agreed to form a working committee to liaise with residents, landlords, the Johannesburg City Council and Government bodies.

Conflict

The emphasis of the talks between the two parties was on the upliftment and constructive management of the Hillbrow area, particularly in relation to living conditions and environmental standards

Hillbrow NP chairman Darryl Swanepoel said solutions could not be found for an area from the perspective of only part of the community

"With Inkatha we have managed to

LOUISE BURGERS
Municipal Reporter

sit down and work out problems and possible solutions. We will also try to involve other organisations in the discussions, but it is pointless working with groups which are in conflict with us"

The group will also liaise with police to address security in Hillbrow.

Actstop chairman Mohammed Dangor rejected the moves by the two parties as "opportunistic" and called on the NP to first apologise to the residents of Johannesburg before trying to find solutions to the problems they created

"Clearly those who are responsible for the problems cannot, by the stroke of a pen, become part of the solution," he said

Star 2/2/91

127

Doornkop's people

want to go home

CP/100 24/2/91

'Sign just

a ploy

to keep

us off

our land'

By LEN KALANE

WARNING SIGNS about "unexploded bombs" have been put up by police to prevent a dispossessed community from venturing on to Eastern Transvaal land they want to reclaim.

The scattered community was uprooted from Doornkop near Middelburg during a government relocation operation in 1974.

They planned to hold a prayer meeting at an ancestral graveyard near their land today to "pray for courage from our ancestors to help us reclaim our land".

But police have warned against this, claiming the gathering would have "political undertones".

Abey Malomo, a co-ordinator of the Homecoming Organisation (HO), which organised the meeting, said it was impossible to stop the scattered community from assembling.

"The police notice came too late. We expect people from as far as Sekukhuneland. We don't have efficient enough communication lines to stop them from coming at such short notice."

As a compromise, Malomo said they would get the people to gather for a brief moment, tell them about the ban and get them to leave immediately.

"We will then have to formulate new strategies in our battle to reclaim Doornkop."

He said the meeting's aim had been to mobilise their displaced community into a united front to reclaim Doornkop.

The community is presently scattered throughout the homeland of Lebowa; Motetema near Groblersdal; Leeufontein near Marble Hall; Praktiseer near Burgersfort; and at Nebō and Mhluzi near Middelburg. Others live in the PWV area.

The HO was established last October after the government announced its intention to repeal the Land Acts.

Doornkop was forcibly taken from them and they had the right to claim it back in the spirit of the new South Africa, Malomo said. "We have waited patiently for the past 16 years."

Among those buried at the graveyard is king Seth Kgalema Ramawube, the head of the tribe who bought the land on behalf of his people from a farmer, Klaus Joubert, after the Anglo-Boer War in 1902.

But police say the land is now private property and "trespassers will be prosecuted". They put up signs on the disputed land, saying the area was an SAP shooting range.

But Molema said this surprised him. The land has been empty since 1974 and the warning signs only appeared about two weeks ago.

"We suspect this to be a ploy to give a new dimension to the whole thing," he said.

But Eastern Transvaal's regional commissioner of police, Maj-Gen Robbie Robinson, has warned people not to return to Doornkop.

"Should a dispute arise as to the ownership of the land, this should be settled by means of the existing legal framework."

Pay up or services will suffer - RSC

Municipal Reporter

The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has warned black communities that if they do not pay the minimum charges negotiated in rent agreements, they will be back to square one with mounting arrears and deteriorating services.

CWRSC chairman John Griffiths said he was disappointed that many township residents were not even meeting the interim charges for services as stipulated in the Soweto Accord and other rent agreements in the region.

According to an agreement negotiated in October, the CWRSC agreed to step in and provide bridging finance to Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Alexandra.

"On March 31 we will withdraw as we will have fulfilled our side of the agreement," Mr. Griffiths said.

"We don't have funds freely available - we have had to take loans of up to R60 million to enable us to meet our commitments.

"One of the conditions we set was that interim charges would have to be addressed and realistic tariffs determined.

"The situation is most disappointing, especially where electricity is concerned. The CWRSC agreed to fund one-third of the unit cost of electricity during the interim period, while residents are only paying 25 percent of the total bill.

"This obviously leads to a situation where cut-offs have to take place - and must for those people who are not paying."

Mr Griffiths said rent talks had not been in vain.

"There is a response, but it is not good enough. The quality of services will deteriorate and that will lead to cuts and then the same conditions will prevail as before. It is going to be up to the communities."

Soweto civic steps up campaign

B/day 26/2/91 (127)
THE Soweto Civic Association (SCA) is to intensify the campaign against black councillors, step up occupation of vacant land by homeless people and embark on an anti-privatisation drive.

Outlining the resolutions of a three-day conference held in Soweto at the weekend, SCA general secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday the "crush apartheid structures" campaign would start with a march to the office of the Soweto City Council on March 23.

"Realising that the existing local authorities are designed on an apartheid racism structure and do not serve the needs of the whole people, the SCA has

THEO RAWANA

resolved to intensify the campaign by isolating councillors' businesses, educating the community on local structures and electing campaign committees in all branches," Lephunya said.

The SCA would step-up occupation of unused land by homeless people to put pressure on government and "conglomerates" to speed up their housing schemes.

The SCA realised that government was adamant on privatising hospitals, schools, municipal services, post offices, railways and electricity which would leave the economy in the hands of a few

"The SCA will embark on an anti-privatisation drive which will start with a signature campaign.

"Branches will be mobilised to adopt and run their essential services," said Lephunya.

The SCA would convene an anti-crime conference within six weeks and defence committees would be established in all SCA areas to prevent vandalism of schools and other property.

Lephunya said the SCA endorsed the back-to-school campaign led by the Soweto Education Co-ordinating Committee (SECC) and would make this education organisation an associate member of the SCA.

Widespread boycott threatened

By Abel Mushi *Star 27/2/91*

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) has threatened to call for large-scale blanket consumer boycotts of white-owned businesses in East Rand and Witwatersrand towns, including Johannesburg and Pretoria, if their problems are not addressed.

CAST assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia said yesterday his organisation would decide on March 9 and 10 what action to take after their meeting with the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs Hernus Kriel last week had failed to yield results.

The Minister had been asked to help settle a rent services dispute with the TPA.

Meanwhile a boycott is con-

tinuing in Klerksdorp in the Western Transvaal and organisers are claiming successes in Alberton, Germiston and Kempton Park on the East Rand.

Westvaal Chamber of Commerce spokesman Bobby Brady said yesterday that NP-controlled Klerksdorp was still the target of a consumer boycott, while that in nearby CP-controlled Orkney and Stilfontein have been suspended.

Spokesman for the ANC-affiliated consumer boycott committee in the area, Howard Yawa, said yesterday they were to hold a meeting with the Klerksdorp Town Council last night to discuss the boycott.

The Klerksdorp Town Council switched off electricity and had Jouberton township's water supply rationed from January

15 after residents embarked on a rent and services boycott.

The chairman of the East Rand Civic Association, Ali Tleane, told The Star yesterday that on February 5 his organisation called for a consumer boycott of all East Rand towns after the Alberton, Vosloorus, and Kempton Park councils had failed to reconnect electricity to Tokoza, parts of Vosloorus and Tembisa townships.

Although they did not succeed in other East Rand towns, Mr Tleane said the boycott was about 90 percent effective in Alberton, and 60 and 50 percent effective in Kempton Park and Germiston respectively.

However, president of the Kempton Park Chamber of Commerce Gavin Peterson said he was not aware there was a boycott.

Occupy all unused land, group urges

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Sowetan 27/2/91

THE Soweto Civic Association is to step up its campaign to urge people to occupy unused land in an effort to alleviate the housing shortage in the townships.

SCA spokesman Mr Pat Lephunya said people who had no houses should build on land that was not being used. Empty houses should also be occupied.

The UDF launched the campaign in April last year and the SCA

resolved at its weekend annual general meeting to intensify it.

Lephunya said the SCA would not seek permission from the Government to embark on campaigns to benefit the homeless.

March

Government and big business would also be pressured to play a meaningful role in alleviating the housing shortage, Lephunya said

The SCA also decided

on a "crush apartheid structures" campaign which will begin with a march to the council offices on March 23.

This would focus councillors who the organisation intends to isolate.

An anti-crime conference is to be convened by the organisation to deal with the rising crime in Soweto as the police were not interested in resolving the crime in the township, Lephunya said. - *Sowetan Reporter*

Occupy all unused land, group urges

127

Sowetan 27/4/91

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An anti-crime conference is to be convened by the organisation to deal with the rising crime in Soweto as the police were not interested in resolving crime in the township, Lephunya said. - *Sowetan Reporter*

Alex bid to have arrears written off

Sowetan 28/2/91

127

RESIDENTS of Alexandra Township may be reprieved over rent arrears if an agreement reached between three groups yesterday is approved by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The Alexandra Civic Organisation, TPA and the Alexandra Council agreed to recommend to the Transvaal Administrator that rent arrears be written off.

Negotiations between the three parties were almost disrupted when more than 100 protesters

stormed the council chambers demanding the immediate resignation of Alexandra mayor Mr Prince Mokoena and the four remaining councillors.

However, two ACO delegates, Mr Zondile Mayekiso and Mr Thomas Mdakane, pleaded with the protesters not to disrupt the negotiations.

The parties agreed to recommend to the Administrator that:

- * Residents pay for services,
- * Arrears be written off;
- * Rented houses be

transferred to the people,
* Hostels be upgraded and converted into family units;

* The area known as the "Far East Bank" be transferred to a land trust administered by representatives of Alexandra residents.

The parties agreed that in the event of any disputes arising, every effort should be made to resolve such problems through negotiations.

A joint Press conference will be held within the next few days to announce the Administrator's reply - *Sowetan Correspondent.*

Govt considers selling back Pageview homes

PATRICK BULGER

(127) GOVERNMENT is considering selling back homes expropriated under the Group Areas Act to their former owners at "bargain basement prices".

Representatives of the Save Pageview Association will meet Department of Local Government, Housing and Works officials today to discuss the issue.

The homes were expropriated for an average of R3 000 under the Act which will be abolished soon. Indians are still occupying the homes.

Association secretary Ebrahim Kharsany said yesterday a case could be made for government assistance in other areas from which people had been evicted under the Act. B/D 07/13/91.

"Families forcibly evicted from their homes and businesses suffered a great deal of hardship in that they were moved into new areas which lacked an infrastructure in terms of hospitals, schools, police stations and social amenities. Businessmen suffered huge losses," Kharsany said.

While he welcomed the imminent scrapping of the Act, Kharsany said government could assist by reconstructing houses, business centres, temples and cinemas demolished when people were moved.

Government could also sell back expropriated land at prices paid when they were expropriated.

- (3) what total amount has been or is to be paid out by the State in respect of expenses peculiar to the formation, functioning and hearings of this board,
- (4) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B224E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING: *Haswell 1/3/91*

- (1) (a) 8
(b) 111
- (2) (a) and (b)

Mr H Kruger (Chairman) R243 671,72
Mr J H du Raan R22 048,28
Mr A S Cassim R21 229,67
Mr A F Fouché R23 817,03
Mr M J Khumalo R19 772,18
Mr E A Fechardt R20 411,33
Mr J W A E Walters R22 635,18
Mr R W Whiteley R21 854,28

- (3) R739 541,44
- (4) 12 February 1991

Indian housing: statistics

81 Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing,†

- (1) Whether his Department has any statistics with regard to Indian housing and numbers in Laudium and Claudius, if not, why not, if so, (a) what is the total backlog in respect of housing units for Indians in (i) Laudium and (ii) Claudius and (b) what is the estimated rate at which the Indian population in Pretoria is increasing, *Haswell 1/3/91*.
- (2) whether a Black squatter problem is being experienced in Lotus Gardens, if so, what

- (a) is the (i) nature and (ii) extent thereof and (b) steps does the Government envisage to eliminate the said problem? *Haswell 1/3/91* B256E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING: *1/2/7*

- (1) No This is an own affairs matter which is the responsibility of the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Delegates
- (2) No.

- (a)(i), (ii) and (b) fall away

Lotus Gardens: services

88 Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing,†

- (1) What total amount has been spent to date on the development of services for Lotus Gardens, a new Indian residential area west of Pretoria, *(12/7)*
- (2) (a) how many building plots will there be in total in this residential area, (b) in how many phases is the residential area being developed and (c) how many plots are at present ready to be built upon,
- (3) how many residential units is it estimated can be erected in Lotus Gardens;
- (4) in respect of what date is this information furnished? *Haswell 1/3/91* B255E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

This is an own affairs matter and is the responsibility of the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Delegates

INTERPELLATIONS UNDER NAME OF MEMBER

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Gerber, Mr A—
Own Affairs
Education and Culture, 36

Haswell, Mr R F—
General Affairs
Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, 65

Herandien, Mr C B—
Own Affairs
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Landers, Mr L T—
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Leon, Mr A J—
Own Affairs
Education and Culture, 109

Panday, Mr K—
General Affairs
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Penaar, Mr C H—
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General Affairs
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National civics grouping expected before year's end

(127)
8/Day 5/3/91

THEO RAWANA

A NATIONAL civic organisation would be formed before the end of the year, Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso said yesterday.

Mayekiso was speaking after it was announced at a Johannesburg media conference that the UDF would be disbanded.

He said a steering committee was preparing for a consultative conference to be held some time this month.

"That conference will prepare for the launch of a national body before the end of the year," Mayekiso said.

UDF national publicity secretary Patrick Lekota told the media conference plans for the formation of a national civic organisation, independent of party affiliation, were well under way.

The decision to disband the UDF was taken at a National General Council meeting in KwaNdebele at the weekend, where 364 delegates from eight regions decided to dissolve the UDF by August 20.

National secretary Poppo Molefe said after the dissolution of the UDF there might be a need to co-ordinate its affiliates, but the organisation had not seriously

explored that question.

He said "We sought instead to encourage affiliates of the UDF to discuss this issue within their own ranks and between themselves, to look at the form and content of such a movement. If they feel it is not necessary, they will not set it up."

UDF co-president Albertina Sisulu said the decision was taken after the UDF felt it had fulfilled the major purposes for which it was founded.

Lekota said although the UDF was dissolving, its affiliates would remain in place, organising around bread-and-butter issues.

UDF leaders would continue their work in civic and other structures.

Molefe said the process of building a national civic organisation had started and an interim organisation had already been set up. This body would co-ordinate countryside civic organisations and would encourage their presence where such bodies did not exist.

● Comment Page 10

New questions

Equal social pensions

*1 Mr E W TRENJ asked the Minister of National Health ~~_____~~ 5/3/91

- (1) Whether, with effect from the date of repeal of the Population Registration Act, No 30 of 1950, equal social pensions will be paid to all South African citizens, regardless of their current race classification, if not, why not, if so,
- (2) whether any contingency plans have been made to give effect to this change in policy, if so, (a) what plans and (b) what is estimated will it cost in total to implement this policy in the current financial year?

B238E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

- (1) Social pensions are not payable in terms of the provisions of the Population Registration Act,
- (2) falls away

Certain person false passport

*2 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Law and Order

- (1) Whether the South African Police have received information and/or complaints to the effect that a certain person, particulars of whom have been furnished to the Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, is or was in possession of a South African passport allegedly describing him falsely as Chris Alexander, if so, (a) what is the name of this person and (b) what steps have been taken in regard to the matter,

- (2) whether the Police conducted and/or are conducting investigations into the alleged illegal activities of this person, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant particulars,

- (3) whether a certain hotel, the name of which has been furnished to the South African Police, has been identified by the Police as an establishment where illegal activities have been taking place, if so, what steps have been taken in this regard,

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

- (4) whether the Commissioner of Police has ordered members of the Police Force to desist from assisting a Johannesburg newspaper in making further enquiries about the person in question, if so, why?

B244E

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

- (1) No
- (a) Alexander Kavouras
- (b) Falls away

- (2) Yes, investigation was instituted and he is Marais

- (3) Yes, various arrests were effected in respect of prostitution at and in the vicinity of the hotel

- (4) No, an officer of the South African Police was originally approached for assistance after which he granted an interview to the specific newspaper. No information at the disposal of the South African Police was furnished to the newspaper

After it had become apparent during the Media Council proceedings in progress between the person referred to and the newspaper that a civil suit could result therefrom and that the South African Police could become involved in such a suit if it furnished any information at its disposal to any of the parties, the officer was instructed not to furnish any such information to either the parties or the Media Council

†Adv C D DE JAGER Mr Speaker, arising out of this reply and the arrest for suspected prostitution, can the hon the Minister inform us what Government's policy is in respect of prostitution, that is to say, whether or not it is going to legalise it? [Interjections]

†The ACTING SPEAKER Order!

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER Mr Speaker, I am surprised that the hon member for Bethal, whom I know very well, should be interested in a matter such as this

Soweto: taxpayers ~~_____~~ 5/3/91
 *3 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Finance † ~~_____~~ 127

- (1) How many taxpayers in Soweto are registered with his Department,

- (2) whether any of these taxpayers are in arrears with the payment of tax, if so, (a) how many and (b) for what average period, (127) ~~_____~~ 5/3/91

- (3) whether any action has been or is being taken against these persons, if not, why not, if so, what action?

~~_____~~ 5/3/91 B262E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (Dr Heuvel)

The Commissioner for Inland Revenue retains statistics of taxpayers only in magisterial districts, and accordingly separate statistics in respect of Soweto, which forms part of the Johannesburg magisterial district, are not available

However, I wish to assure the hon member that all taxpayers, irrespective of race, receive impartial treatment from the Department of Finance and that active steps are taken against any taxpayer who is in arrears with the payment of tax

Diepkloof Prison prisoners injured

*4 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services ~~_____~~

- (1) Whether any prisoners were injured by warders at Diepkloof Prison on or about 1 February 1991, if so, (a) how many and (b) what was the nature of their injuries,
- (2) whether any action has been taken against the warders involved, if not, why not, if so, what action?

~~_____~~ 5/3/91 B296E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

- (1) On 1 February 1991 prisoners who were detained in cell A19 participated in a demonstration upon the unlocking of their cell to allegedly voice their dissatisfaction regarding complaints and requests which had not been dealt with to their satisfaction. In the process a document containing their grievances was handed to the section officer. The prisoners concerned were thereafter again locked up in their cell following which they became

riotous in dealing with the latter situation which, inter alia, necessitated the removal of agitators from the cell, some of the prisoners sustained injuries. Once the ringleaders had been removed from the communal cell, order was restored and attention could be given to individual complaints and where justified, problems were solved ~~_____~~ 5/3/91

- (a) Eight (8)
- (b) Swellings, bruises, abrasions and lacerations. Injured prisoners received the necessary attention and have since then recovered

- (2) In line with general prevailing policy this incident was immediately investigated by the Head of the Prison and a report was submitted to the Commanding Officer who dealt with it suitably in terms of his powers and authority. Complaints of alleged assault were taken up with the South African Police, Mondeor, for the necessary investigation and for justice to take its usual course (CR numbers 244/02/91 and 245/02/91 refer). Depending on the outcome of this process suitable further steps will be taken, where justified

SAP promotion of communism

*5 Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Law and Order † ~~_____~~

Whether the South African Police are at present investigating any case of contravention of the prohibition on promoting communism in South Africa, if so, (a) against what persons or organisations and (b) what progress has been made with these investigations, if not, why not? ~~_____~~ 5/3/91 B299E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

No, because as far as can be ascertained, no complaints of this nature were reported to the South African Police

†Adv J J S PRINSLOO Mr Speaker, arising from the reply of the hon the Deputy Minister, is it public knowledge that the SA Communist Party was openly re-organised in South Africa at a public occasion and that the SA Police were aware of that formation and of the activities of

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Water price in PWV to increase by 11,5%

THE cost of water in the PWV area will increase by 11,5% on April 1, the Rand Water Board announced yesterday.

Rand Water Board CE Vincent Bath said the tariff for industries, mines and municipalities would rise by 6,41c a kilolitre from 55,75c/kil to 62,16c/kil. Water to households outside municipal areas would increase by 10,82c/kil from 94,07c/kil to 104,89c/kil.

Bath said the board was able to limit its tariff increases to well below the inflation rate because of the relatively small in-

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THEO RAWANA

creases in electricity tariffs announced early this year.

Planned capital expenditure levels, which gave rise to a relatively small increase in loan costs, also helped, he said.

A Sacob spokesman said the rise would have an effect on production costs of large users.

The total cost of raw water the Rand Water Board bought from the Department

of Water Affairs from April 1 would be 21,20c/kil. "Included in this amount is a levy of 7c/kil to provide finance for the construction of the portion of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project for which SA is responsible," Bath said.

No provision had been made in the latest tariff to absorb the increase in the levy which becomes effective on October 1.

Bath said the increase was expected to be 3c/kil and the Rand Water Board would adjust its water tariffs at that time.

Power cuts high on Cast's council agenda

ARBITRARY electricity switch-offs in black townships would be high on the agenda when the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) held its general council in Johannesburg this weekend, Cast general secretary Sam Ntuli said yesterday.

The general council would be attended by two representatives from each of the 65 civic associations affiliated to Cast.

"We will be focusing on issues that have affected our people on the ground. These issues include the elec-

31024 7/3/91
 WILSON ZWANE
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 tricity switch-offs and our campaign for the resignation of black councillors," he said.

Meanwhile, Katlehong mayor MacDonald Mohlana said power to the township would be cut at the end of the month if residents did not pay the interim rates agreed upon by his council, the Katlehong Civic Association (KCA) and the Katlehong Chamber of Commerce and Industries last May.

In terms of the agreement, households with electricity should pay R50 a month.

Mohlana said he would appeal to residents at a public meeting on Sunday to pay the flat rates.

Asked if he was aware that the KCA had also called for a mass meeting on the same day, Mohlana said "That is the civic's strategy, to disrupt whatever we are doing."

KCA official Ken Moetsisa said its meeting, which was called to "clarify rent-related issues", would go ahead.

First group of exiles to return today

LUSAKA — Excitement and jubilation have gripped the first group of exiles who return home today in a chartered Zambia Airways aircraft after an absence of more than 20 years from SA.

The ANC's spokesman in Zambia Tom Sebina said in Lusaka yesterday that many exiles had been worried and uncertain about their indemnity.

"This is because the SA government has been dragging its feet unnecessarily in implementing the decision of the repatriation exercise. Everyone wants to return home as soon as possible," Sebina said.

However, an SA Justice Department spokesman said yesterday government had granted 2 560 indemnities to ANC exiles who wished to return to SA.

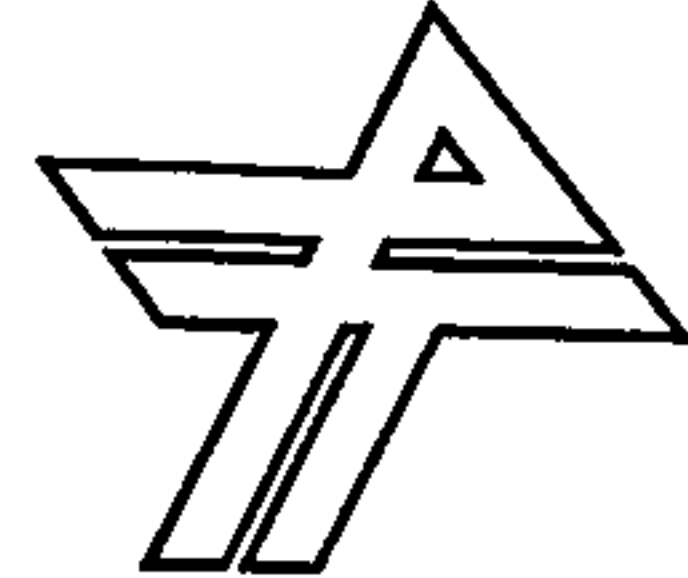
Only 4 832 exiles had applied for indemnity, he said.

Sebina said as far as the ANC was concerned, all its 2 000 cadres in Zambia had been documented and everyone would have left Zambia by the end of April.

Sebina could not rule out the possibility that exiles in Uganda, Tanzania and Angola would first stop over in Zambia before flying to Johannesburg.

He said today's departure would be marked by a ceremony to be presided over by the Zambian government and ANC officials.

The next, larger, group of exiles leaves Zambia on March 14.



TRADEHOLD LIMITED

(Registration number 77/02046/06)
 ("Tradehold")

Distribution of assets

Equity instrument holders of Tradehold and Tradegro are advised that consideration is being given to distributing the assets of Tradegro and Tradehold. The distribution, if implemented, will simplify and streamline the corporate structure of the group and could have an effect on the market prices of the respective equity instruments.

It is contemplated that Tradehold and Tradegro after the payment of all liabilities will distribute to their respective equity instrument holders Tradegro's surplus cash resources and certain investments.

After the distribution the name of Tradegro will be changed to Tradehold.

Equity instrument holders are accordingly advised to contact their respective advisers for details of the distribution conditions.

Johannesburg
 7 March 1991

Corporate consultant

DMB

DMB Securities Limited
 (Registration number 89/02377/06)

Sponsoring brokers

Davis Borkum Hare

Davis Borkum Hare & Co Inc.
 (Registration number 72/09126/21)
 (Member of The Johannesburg Stock Exchange)

Merchant bank

SENBANK
 CORPORATE BANK

A division of Bankorp Limited
 (Registration number 54/01539/06)
 (Registered bank)

GH **George Huysam**
 & Partners, Incorporated

(Registration number 76/00464/21)
 (Member of The Johannesburg Stock Exchange)

Atteridgeville faces big switch off

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Sowetan
7/3/91

ATTERIDGEVILLE and its neighbouring township, could be plunged into darkness on Monday unless they settle their arrear electricity accounts totalling R2,5 million by noon tomorrow.

This warning was issued yesterday by Dr Pieter Smith, chairman of the management committee of the City Council of Pretoria.

Smith said in a statement that Atteridgeville

By **MONK NKOMO**

and Mamelodi owed his council R3 million and R3,2 million respectively.

Demand

"Both city councils failed to make payments on or before February 25 in respect of these accounts, and up to now no satisfactory arrangements

have been made with the city council of Pretoria for such payment", Smith said

He added that both councils were written letters of demand on Tuesday requesting them to settle their overdue bulk electricity supply accounts of R1,4 million (Atteridgeville) and R1 089 million (Mamelodi) before noon tomorrow.

Higher rents,

burial fees

Sovetan 7/3/91

for township

HOSTEL dwellers at Emjindini township in Barberton will have their rents increased from R10 to R33,65 a month.

The proposed tariff increases was published on Tuesday by the local town committee

Singles

People living in single quarters will now pay R10 a month

Non-residents of this platteland township who will have burial fees in-

Rates

The proposed tariff increases for people 12 years of age and above For under 12s, the cost will rise from R18 to R27

The burial fees of residents will be increased from R12 to R18 for people who are 12 years and above, and from R6 to R9 for under 12s.

Although residents will pay a flat rate of R7,50 and R3,50 for electricity and water respec-

Objections

People who wish to object to the proposed tariff increases are requested to do so by writing to the chief executive officer J J Snyman at the town committee offices of Emjindini - *Sovetan Correspondent*

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Detained KD needs operation

THE Transkei's former state president, Chief KD Matanzima, currently in detention, is in urgent need of an operation to remove kidney stones, according to a medical report released by a consultant surgeon on Tuesday *Sovetan 7/3/91*.

Dr A B Nganwa-Bagumah said in his report that as Matanzima had undergone several kidney operations, an open operation would be hazardous and he should therefore be transferred to a medical centre equipped with the proper facilities

Nganwa-Bagumah, who is from Umtata General Hospital was one of five doctors, selected by the Government and the Matanzima family to examine Matanzima, after the family recently complained that he had missed an appointment for an operation on February 6 because of his detention

State doctors present at the examination were a psychiatrist from Durban, Dr Angelo Lasich, a psychiatrist from the Umzimkulu Hospital, Dr Ephraim Ssekabembe, and an Umtata physician, Dr Monwabisi Goxwana

The head of the CID, Gen Richmond Mankahla, said on Tuesday he could not comment on the physical well-being of Matanzima, as a report had not yet been received by the physicians selected by the government to examine him.

Matanzima was released from his first detention on January 26 after a Supreme Court judge ruled that his continued detention was unlawful

He was later redetained under Section 47 of the Public Security Act for interrogation on his alleged involvement in last November's abortive coup - *Sapa*

Prayer service marks fatal shootings

By ALINAH DUBE

BOPHUTHATSWANA residents held a prayer service yesterday to mark the first anniversary of the shootings which left 11 people dead in Garankuwa, organisers said yesterday in Pretoria

Organisers decided on the participation of schoolchildren despite a pledge by political organisations that they be excluded from future political campaigns

The decision was taken during a stayaway to demand a constituent assembly

Releasing details at a Press briefing were Kganare Lefoka and Mr Malose Lehobye, both of the anti-Bophuthatswana

Co-ordinating Committee Lefoka said the ANC, PAC and Azapo presented papers at the event which took place at the Medunsa sports centre

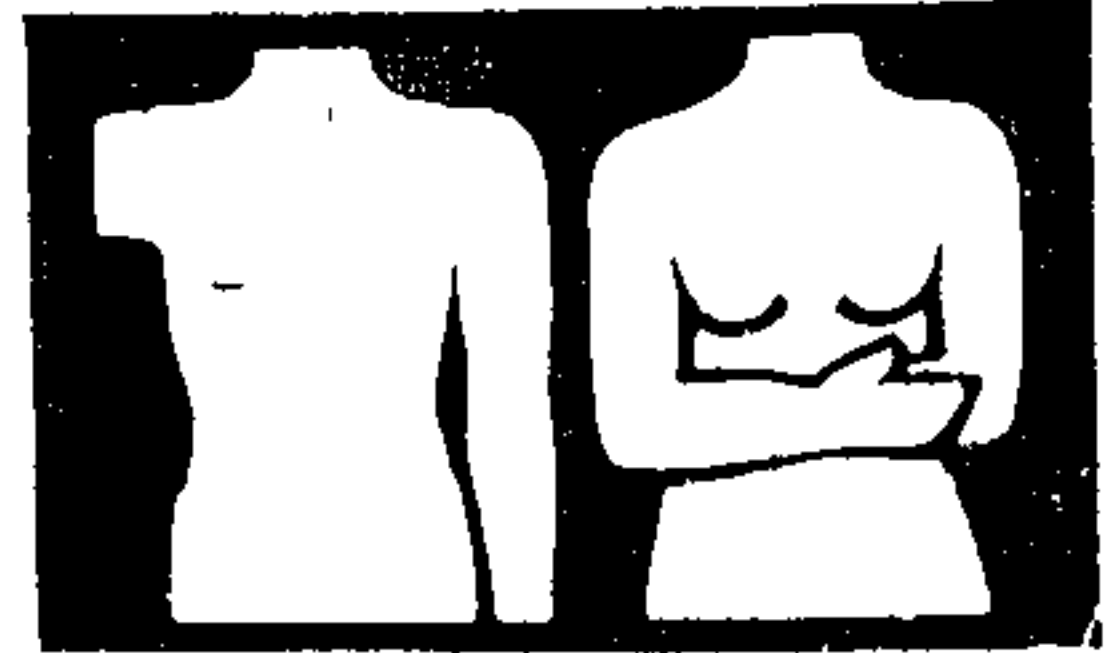
The service, which was led by members of the Odi Minister Fraternal, was held at Medunsa "to avoid confrontation with the Bophuthatswana police"

An application for the use of the Odi Stadium in Mabopane was turned down by the homeland authorities *Sovetan 7/3/91*

The commemoration is a sequel to an incident in which the Bophuthatswana Security Forces shot and killed 11 marchers and injured more than 500 others

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KNOW YOUR BODY



Health in the city

Environmental health services in Soweto

This article has been adapted from an article which first appeared in Critical Health Number 28 of October 1989. It was written by the Centre for the Study of Health Policy, Department of Community Health, University of the Witwatersrand.

New Nation (formerly Nation) 8/3-14/3/91
 Inadequate service infrastructure, service disruption and health risks in Soweto

PLANACT's report indicated that the service infrastructure in Soweto was not adequate for the population it served. It emphasised that these inadequacies were exaggerated when the local authority disrupted services. There is no formal information on the overall health effects of this disruption. Yet, as we will explain, it is obvious that the service disruption must indeed have constituted a health hazard. The frequent and long cuts in the water supply seriously reduced the availability of water in Soweto. Residents had to walk far to collect water from distant supplies. In addition, the water shortage affected the functioning of the sewerage system. Toilets could not be flushed normally, but had to have water poured into the cistern by hand. This meant that often toilets were not flushed after each use. As a result, pipes blocked and then leaked and overflowed, contaminating yards and streets. This problem was made worse by the long delay before repairs were made.

When water supply and sewerage systems break down, the spread of infectious diseases will increase. Less water is used for washing hands, bodies, clothes, food and cooking utensils. Thus, although the initial quality of the water is good, the risk is greater that water-borne diseases (diarrhoeas) and water-washed diseases (diarrhoeas, dysenteries, worm infestations, skin and eye infections, lice) will be transmitted. As diarrhoea is a killer of children in developing countries, its certainly increased incidence in Soweto should be viewed with particular concern.

The risk of outbreaks of serious diseases such as polio and typhoid is also increased by cuts in water supply. Food-borne diseases, including food poisoning, may arise since food may be cooked less frequently and left standing longer.

Excreta-related infections may result from contamination of the environment by leaked sewerage. These diseases include both the water-washed diseases mentioned above and infestation by beef and pork tapeworms. Diseases transmitted by flies will also increase, particularly as flies can be expected to breed more readily in leaked sewerage and piles of rotting refuse.

Although household refuse collection had improved by the time this article was written, bins were in bad condition and few had lids. There was little attempt to clean up the unprotected piles of refuse which occurred in most open spaces. The fly problem associated with open refuse has already been mentioned, rats also breed more readily in such conditions and the threat of rat-borne diseases may be expected to increase. Unprotected refuse also increases the danger (especially to children) of poisoning and injuries, pollutes water and poses a fire risk. The polluting effect of refuse and sewerage is worsened when poor drainage allows stormwater to lie in stagnant pools.



Several years ago Soweto, like many other townships, started a rent boycott in response to rising rent and service costs. At the same time, socio-economic conditions were getting worse, which made the charges more difficult to afford.

Other issues related to housing and environmental health services increased the residents' dissatisfaction. There was an overall housing shortage, as well as a controversial government charge for the transfer of home ownership to tenants of long standing. As far as water supply and sanitation services (sewerage and refuse removal) were concerned, the existing infrastructures were inadequate and poorly maintained. But these services were nevertheless expensive.

It should be noted that the high service costs are linked to the separate tax base for Soweto and Johannesburg. Whereas taxes in Johannesburg benefit substantially from township labour and purchasing power, these taxes support Johannesburg services alone. In effect therefore, Johannesburg rates are subsidised by Soweto residents, and Soweto services are underfunded.

The local authority in Soweto tried unsuccessfully to break the rent boycott. One of its methods was to disrupt services intentionally and unnecessarily. The water supply was cut frequently and for long periods. Sewerage pipes were left blocked and leaking and refuse was removed irregularly or not at all. It was apparent that the intention of these cuts was to cause residents so much discomfort that they would have to start paying rents again.

The Soweto Delegation emerged to represent the community in discussion directed at resolving the crisis. One of the Soweto Delegation's decisions was to commission PLANACT, a service organisation concerned with urban development, to evaluate housing and service provision in Soweto. PLANACT in turn requested the Centre for the Study of Health Policy to assess whether water and sanitation services in Soweto were a danger to the health of Sowetans.

This article briefly describes the Centre's findings. It shows how the health hazards caused by inadequate water supply, sewerage and refuse removal infrastructures were made worse by the local authority's deliberate policy of disrupting services. As these findings are applicable to other townships in similar positions, we make suggestions as to how communities could respond to the disruption of already inadequate services.

In addition to the physical effects of service disruption, we must also consider the effects of mental and social stress. Daily life is filled with difficulties and indignities. Although it is difficult to measure the effects of such stresses, it is no doubt that the community's mental and social health was seriously endangered by the poor water and sanitation services. It seems too that those most at risk were the elderly, the disabled and mothers of young children.

The local authority's policy of service disruption therefore threatened the physical, mental and social health of the Soweto community. Unless Soweto is different from the rest of the world, we may say with a fair degree of certainty that this disruption led to an increased prevalence of disease. Therefore, in the interests of health, residents of Soweto and other townships need to address the problems of poor services and service disruption.

A basic infrastructure at affordable costs

In order to protect a community from the health hazards described in this article there should be:

- an uninterrupted, plentiful flow of good quality water, supplied by tap to each property,
- a water-borne sewerage system or, in smaller townships, a suitable alternative (Note that the bucket system is hazardous and should always be opposed),
- regular and frequent removal of both household and community refuse, sufficient well-constructed bins should also be provided.

Although the communities have such services in name, poor maintenance (e.g. delayed repairs) is still a major problem. The opinion of an engineer would be useful in evaluating the water and sanitation services because of the complexity of the technical details.

Without these services, appropriately designed and efficiently maintained, urban populations face unacceptable health risks. We must also mention that many other environmental factors have an impact on health. For example, road construction, electricity supply, stormwater drainage and housing. Demands focussing on water and sanitation thus address only the most urgent of such factors.

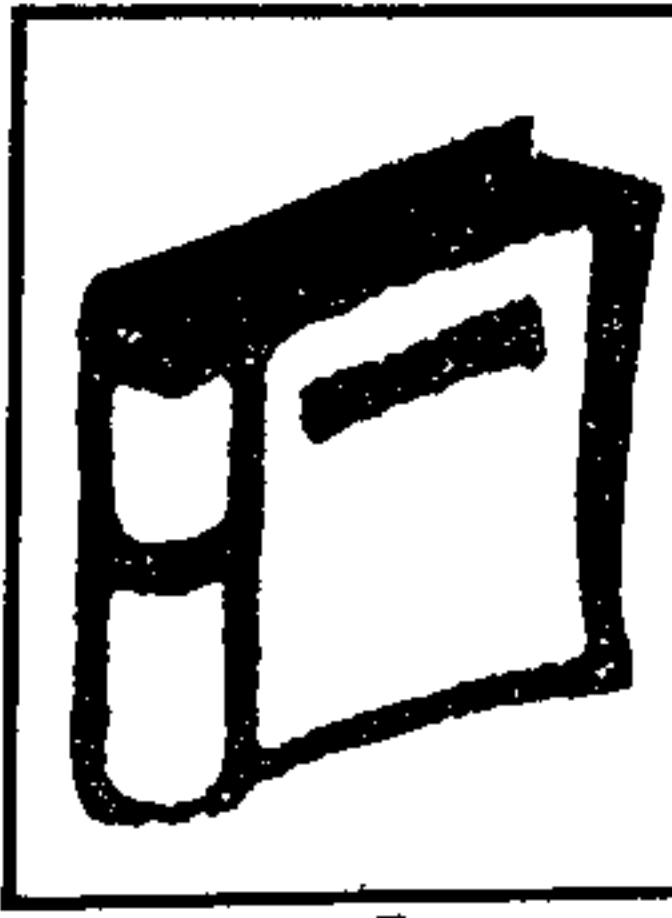
Not only must basic services be adequate, these services must be provided at reasonable and affordable prices. In Soweto, whilst residents accept that there should be service charges, there is great resentment that the currently poor services should be provided at such excessive cost. Arriving at a charge which is fair depends on proper community consultation and involvement in planning. In Soweto, as in other townships, it may depend on the restructuring of the unequal tax base.

Community action in response to service cuts

The residents of townships where services have been cut in response to a rent crisis may react in a number of ways to this threat to their health. Firstly, residents may choose to organise around the issue of health risks arising from service disruption. Secondly, they may decide to negotiate with the relevant local authority, if this seems to be an appropriate strategy under prevailing conditions. Thirdly, they may consider taking legal action against the local authority.

The community may also consider taking direct legal action against the various health authorities, it may be possible to lay charges against them in the event of neglect of their duties in terms of the law. However, the legal issues are complicated and to our knowledge, have never been tested in court. Expert legal opinion should thus be sought by any community wanting to take a case to court. Threats of legal action nevertheless remain a strong bargaining point.

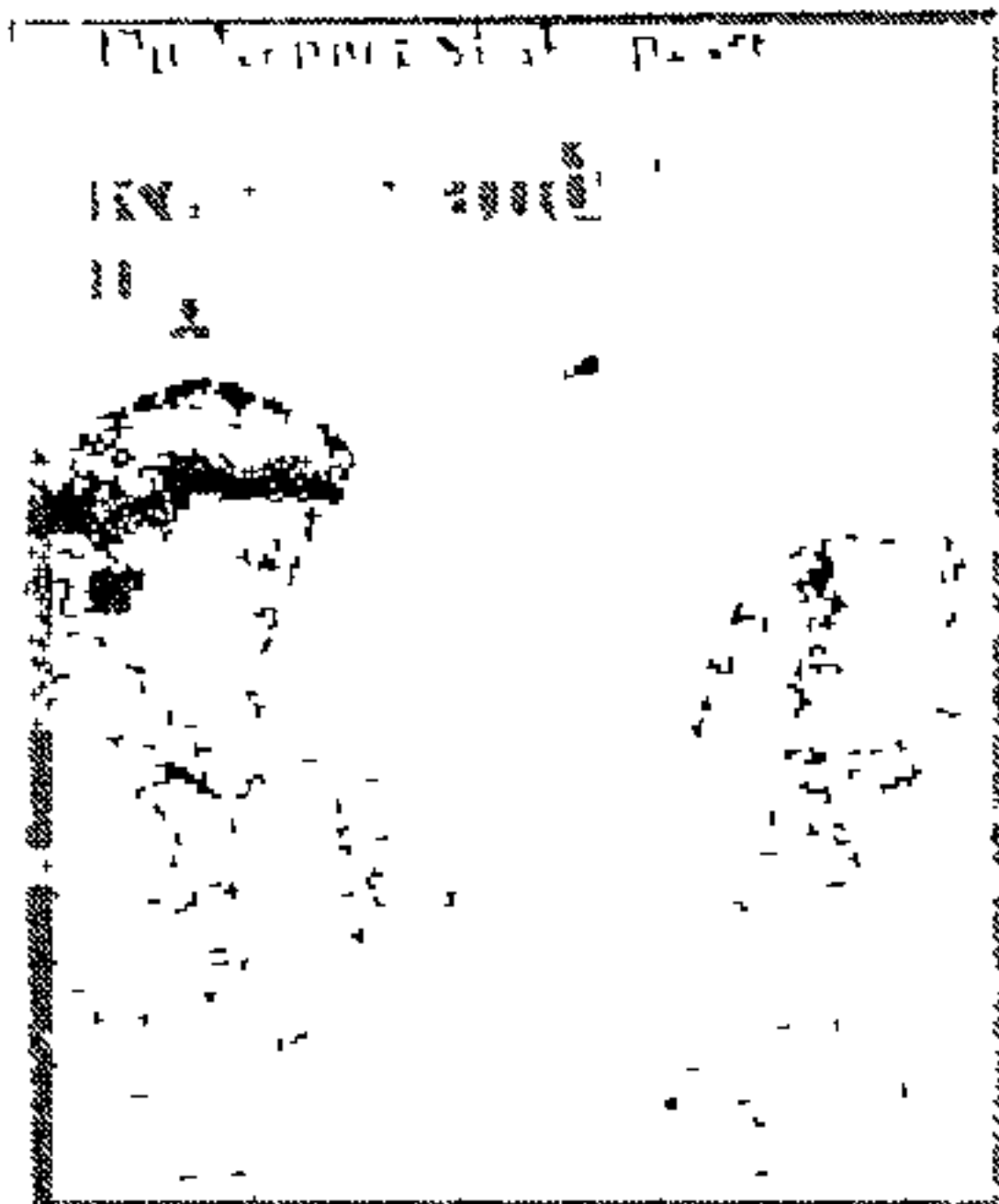
P70



MATRIC LITERATURE

Romeo and Juliet: Introduction

Over the next seven weeks we are going to look at **Romeo and Juliet**, your Shakespeare network. My page and line references will be taken from **The Kennet Shakespeare edition**. If I want you to look at line 85 of Act Two, Scene Four, I will write it like this **II, iv, 85**. If you have a different edition from mine, you will still be able to find the quote by using the references. **The Elitic Manual of Romeo and Juliet** is also very useful for learning about the more basic aspects of the play, such as plot and character.



Leonard Whiting and Olivia Hussey in Franco Zeffirelli's 1968 film.

Before we go any further, I want you to stop reading for a moment and think about what you think love is. Better still, talk about love with your friends. What is love? Write down your ideas on a piece of paper and keep that paper in your Matric Literature File. Once you have done this, read on.

Background

William Shakespeare was about 30 years old when he wrote **Romeo and Juliet**. The play was first published in 1597 and its first performance was an instant success.



Shakespeare

People loved it! In fact, the story of the two lovers of Verona was an old one which already existed in many forms such as prose narratives, poems and plays. The original story can be traced back to an ancient Greek romance or love story which was first told in modern Europe around 1470. Two Italian versions of the story were translated into English in 1563 and in 1580. Shakespeare read both the English versions of the story and used them extensively to construct his drama. Since then, **Romeo and Juliet** has been adapted to dance performances as well as film.

The most recent adaptation of the story is to be found in the French film **Romuald and Juliette**, which was on circuit at the beginning of this year. This film is quite different from Shakespeare's play, but the main theme is still there. Two lovers who find themselves in circumstances in which their love will not be recognised. Another way in which themes of the story remain with us today is illustrated by the fact that today we still call a Romeo the boy or man whose mind is always distracted by thoughts about love.

Love

You may by now have discovered that there are different kinds of love. There is self-love, religious love, parental love, the love between family members and friends and there is romantic love - the love between lovers. But that is not all. We can also find disillusioned love in a person who falls in love, but who believes that this love will never last. There is the cynical or fearful love of the person who believes that as soon as he falls in love, he will be hurt. Some people love and worship other people without being loved in turn. I would call this kind of love "one-sided love". Then there is the kind of love which people believe will triumph over evil. People who believe in this kind of love, believe that love is a kind of power which we cannot really understand, but which we can feel ourselves or witness in others. I will call this last kind of love "idealistic love". Now that I have given you all these names and definitions to describe love, which words do you think best describe the love between Romeo and Juliet in Shakespeare's play?

The Story

Romeo and Juliet is the story of two teenagers who become lovers. We can therefore call their love romantic love. However, the two encounter a problem in their love: their respective families are at war with one another. We do not know why the two families are at war, and we are never told, but one day the tension erupts into a fight between the young men on both sides. Tybalt, who is Juliet's cousin and belongs to the Capulet family, challenges Romeo's friend Mercutio to a fight, who is on the side of the Montagues. Tybalt ends up killing Mercutio. Romeo, who has just got married to Juliet, avenges Mercutio's death by killing Tybalt. As punishment, Romeo is exiled from the city of Verona. He has to go to another city in Italy, called Mantua. This is terrible news for Romeo and Juliet, because it means that they will be living in different towns and will have to be even more secret about their love affair than before.

In the meantime, Juliet's parents have decided that Juliet should marry the young nobleman Paris. In order to avoid marrying Paris, Juliet turns to Friar Laurence for help. The friar gives Juliet a magic potion which will make her seem dead for 42 hours. In the meantime another monk, Friar John, plans to ride out to Mantua to

tell Romeo that he must come and fetch Juliet as soon as she wakes up. However, Friar John never gets to Mantua. Balthasar has witnessed Juliet's funeral but did not know of the potion and he tells Romeo that Juliet is dead. Romeo races back to Verona, sees Juliet in the tomb and kills himself in despair. A few moments later Juliet wakes up to find Romeo dead beside her. Grief-stricken, she also commits suicide.

The result of all this is that the two households, the Montagues and the Capulets are reconciled to one another. At the funeral, Juliet's father says to Romeo's father,

V, iii, 296:

O brother Montague, give me thy hand.

The fathers then agree to make statues of gold of their children to show how the children's love forced the families to stop feuding.

Bearing in mind the different kinds of love I discussed earlier, if we pay attention to the end of this play, we can say that the love between Romeo and Juliet is not only romantic but idealistic too. It is their love which overcomes the hostility between the two factions.

Now the fact that their love overcomes the hostility between the two families is a good and happy thing. But the fact that Romeo and Juliet have to die for this, is sad. When a play is sad, we often call it a **tragedy**. **Romeo and Juliet** is one of Shakespeare's tragedies. But because there is a happy element in the ending of **Romeo and Juliet**, we can say that it is not a tragedy in the usual sense of the word.

There is another difference between **Romeo and Juliet** and other tragedies. Usually, one of the characteristics of tragedy is that there is a hero or a heroine who has a character fault. This character fault is called a **tragic flaw**. This flaw causes something terrible to happen to the hero or the heroine, but because the fault is in the hero or the heroine, we can say that he or she is responsible for what happens. Can we say that **Romeo and Juliet** are entirely responsible for what happens to them? Are they not rather victims of their circumstances?

Most of Shakespeare's other tragedies, for example **Macbeth**, **King Lear** or **Hamlet**, follow this convention of tragedy by including a hero with a tragic flaw in his or her character. Why did Shakespeare not include this aspect of tragedy in **Romeo and Juliet**? Or did he?

Over the next few weeks, I will show you why I think **Romeo and Juliet** are not entirely responsible for the sad fate that ends their lives.



Ballet performance of Romeo and Juliet

The razor's edge of frontier living

Star 11/3/91

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On the East Rand there are two towns with only 75 m of open ground separating them — but they are worlds apart
JACQUELINE MYBURGH reports

DALPARK 6, a white suburb of the East Rand town of Brakpan, and Tamboville, an extension of Benoni's black Wattville township, are both relatively young developments, with mostly young families living there. But Dalpark residents say their lives have been plagued by repeated break-ins since their neighbours moved in.

Some houses have been burgled up to six times in the eight months since Tamboville was established, says Frank Lamont, who has lived in Dalpark for five years.

He refers to Tamboville as a squatter camp, but residents there insist that the township, created by the Benoni Town Council in July last year, is a formal settlement.

"Would the Benoni municipality install latrines and charge us rent if this was a squatter camp?" argues Tamboville resident Cynthia Tshandu.

Residents pay R25 a month to stay on the land.

Mrs Tshandu rejected accusations that Tamboville "squatters" were breaking into homes in Dalpark.

But the crime rate in Dalpark is a severe problem.

The white suburb was built 10 years ago by housing developers offering young middle class people the opportunity to become home owners. With two bedrooms, the houses were designed to be extended in later years and most residents have altered and enlarged their homes.

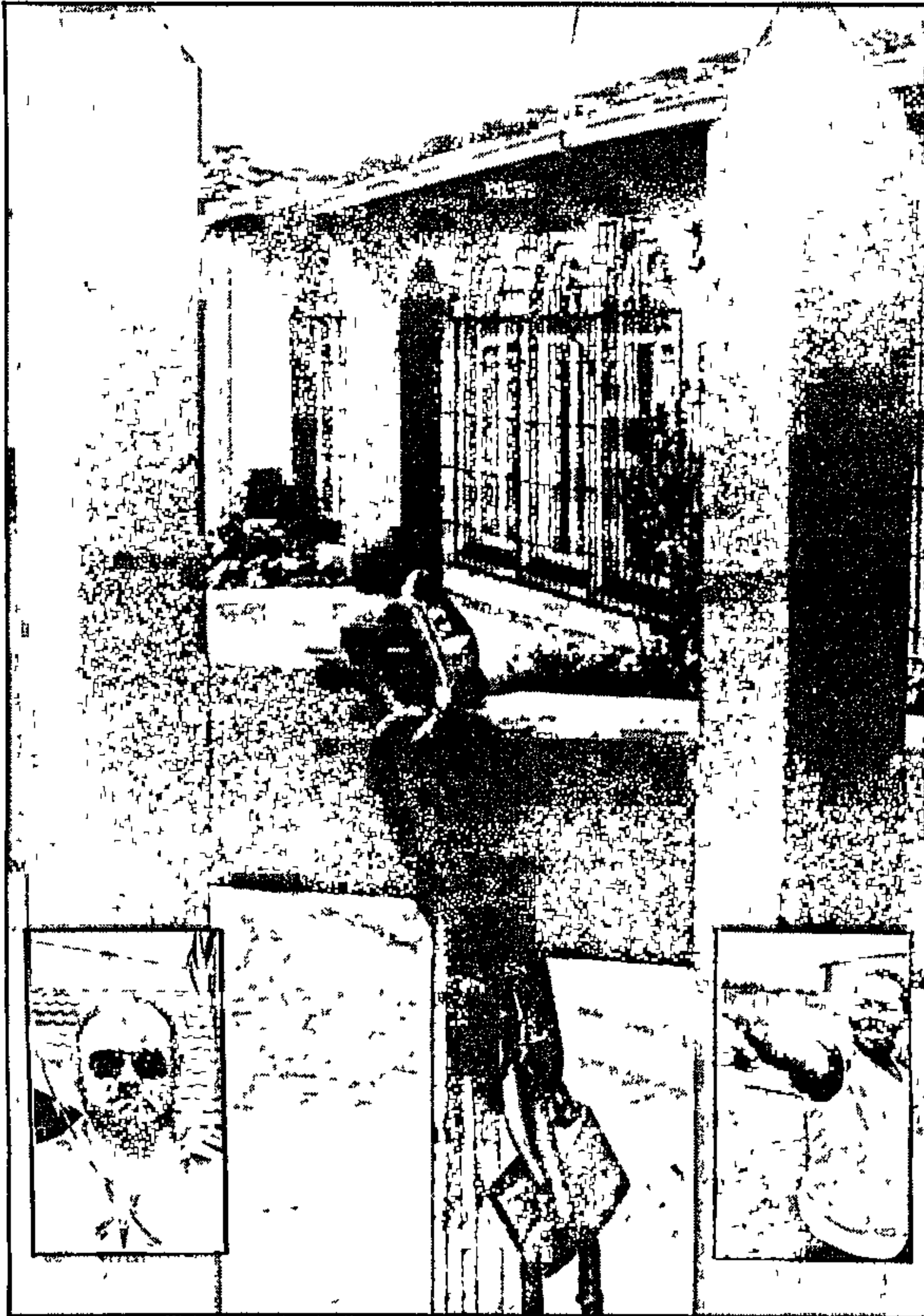
Now, almost every second house in Dalpark is for sale.

Others are surrounded by walls, up to 3 m high, with razor-wire fences.

Dobermanns, bull terriers and Alsations guard many properties.

Mr Lamont, whose own home is surrounded by circles of razor wire fencing, said his first reaction to the news that the Benoni Town Council had given the Tamboville settlement the go ahead was to petition the State President. He raised 1 000 signatures.

He and fellow residents'



Home-made jail a lock on the gate symbolises life in Dalpark. Insets: Steve Connelly has razor wire around his home, Samson Gumede is astonished that Tamboville people are being blamed for break-ins. Pictures: Ken Costerbroek

committee member Steve Connelly insist, however, that their complaints were not race related.

Mr Lamont said he was against squatters of any race.

He and Mr Connelly have no objection to a black, coloured or Indian person moving into the house next door, but are concerned about the type of person inhabiting the "squatter camp" up the hill from their homes.

"If the Benoni municipality would only provide formal housing, we could get a better class of person living there," says Mr Lamont.

Mr Connelly says the atmosphere as a result of the repeated burglaries is affecting his family.

"We are not very affluent people. We are very middle class families who are striving to better ourselves, but when

this kind of thing happens it's a kick in the guts," he said.

Anton and Lynne Els have been living on a corner stand in Dalpark 6 for six years, and have had 10 break-ins in this period. Their house is surrounded by a 3-m-high wall. They have two big dogs and access to an armed response service.

"But I am still very nervous at night when my husband

works late," says Mrs Els. The rising crime rate has also meant the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging had fertile ground in which to carry out their recruitment, Mr Connelly and Mr Lamont said.

"They come here every Sunday afternoon to recruit, and we want to prevent this right-wing element from taking the law into their own hands," Mr Lamont said.

Residents have seen Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Hernus Kriel, who agreed that formal housing would be preferable and undertook to look into the matter.

"But that's the last we heard," said Mr Lamont.

Senior Wattville resident Jerry Makuse said Tamboville was created when Wattville became overcrowded. About 3 000 people were squatting on the land when the Benoni municipality decided to service it with water and sewerage facilities at a cost of R500 000.

The newcomers were young, employed people trying to establish themselves in their first homes and not likely to be responsible for the break-ins at Dalpark, he said.

"Elements from Wattville may be responsible for the burglaries," he said.

Benoni town clerk Deneys Conradie says Dalpark residents are being unfair in laying the blame for the crime in their suburb on Tamboville residents.

"Firstly," he said, "it is not a squatter camp." Since it was established nine months ago, the municipality has installed sewerage, water, street lights and roads at Tamboville.

Mr Conradie described Tamboville as a low income housing area.

He said that the municipality would ultimately liaise with a developer to build housing at Tamboville.

The municipality has, however, reached agreement with the Wattville Residents' Committee (WRC) that homes would not be corrugated iron and plastic shacks, but rather concrete houses.

Samson Gumede, a nighttime security guard who is building his house at Tamboville during the day, has a wife and two children.

He says there is no crime in Tamboville itself and was astonished that he and his neighbours were being blamed for break-ins at Dalpark. □

No more talks with councils, says CAST

By Thabo Leshilo (27)

No further talks would be held with black local authorities to discuss rent boycotts and related matters, the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) resolved in Johannesburg yesterday.

"We felt strongly that negotiations at local level, with councillors, should be suspended. Civic associations should negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Administration at regional level — not with councillors," publicity secretary Sandy Lebese said at a press conference.

Deputy president Kgabisi Mosonkutu claimed the TPA was trying to perpetuate the existence of town councils by making civic associations negotiate with them about electricity cut-offs.

The meeting also accused black town councillors of nepotism in distribution of land for squatter settlement.

Mr Lebese said town councils were an obstacle to political negotiations and called for campaigns for their resignations to be stepped up.

He said the meeting also resolved that the Government be asked to provide CAST with a copy of the Bill on local government.

CAST also decided at the meeting to

- Hold a consultative conference on forming a national organisation of civic bodies.
- Call on civic bodies and parents to be involved in mass action by children to force Government to resolve the crisis in black education.
- Intensify the "campaign for the occupation of unoccupied land".

Townships saved from switch-off

127 WILSON ZWANE

TWO Pretoria townships had averted electrical power cuts by paying more than R2m, Pretoria City Council spokesman Ina Olivier said yesterday

Olivier said electricity would have been switched off in Mamelodi and Atteridgeville yesterday had their town councils not paid their current and outstanding electricity accounts

"The town councils of Atteridgeville and Mamelodi, which owed the Pretoria City Council R1 437 274 and R1 098 583 respectively, paid their accounts in full on Friday," Olivier said.

Atteridgeville town clerk Ernie Jacobson said although his council had managed to avert power cuts, only 28% of residents had actually paid their electricity accounts.

While his council was repairing damaged meters and power supply networks, residents should pay the R50 a month interim rate agreed to by himself and the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) in January.

"After damaged meters and power supply networks have been repaired, residents are expected to pay according to consumption," he said

Stoffel set to meet Alex hunger strikers

PICTURES ROBERT BOTHA

EDUCATION and Training Minister Stoffel van der Merwe could meet Alexandra pupils - some of whom are on hunger strike - this week to discuss grievances against the Department of Education and Training, a spokesman for his office said yesterday

"I cannot confirm the venue and time at this stage but we are hopeful that the meeting between the minister and the Congress of SA Students (Cosas) will take place in Johannesburg on Friday," spokesman Caro Hoon said

The meeting was part of Van der Merwe's "open-door-policy" of meeting everyone with a "genuine concern about education"

Hoon said Van der Merwe had agreed to meet the Alexandra Cosas branch after the pupils' body phoned his office yesterday

News of the meeting came as pupils announced plans for a protest march on Thursday, Sapa reports

The march would be a "physical expression" of the pupils' anger over

WILSON ZWANE

alleged moves by the authorities to evict the youths and end the sit-in

Cosas, whose executive committee members are on a six-day hunger strike at Alexandra town council offices, reiterated its vow that it would not suspend its protest action until it met Van der Merwe

Alexandra Education Crisis Committee co-ordinator Mike Maile said pupils had given the authorities until March 19 to begin implementing their demands for improvements to schools.

In a memorandum submitted to Alexandra school inspector Gordon Kadungure last month, Cosas called on the DET to make resources available as soon as possible if it wanted to avert a high year-end failure rate.

It noted a serious shortage of teachers and textbooks and "gross overcrowding in classes"

In another development, eight principals from local schools yesterday joined the sit-in by 18 youths at the Alexandra town council offices.

B7D any 12/3/91

Mr M MOHANLALL The hon member for Central Rand must tell us how his leader tried to bamboozle his way into an overseas trip last year through the Parliamentary Association and did not allow his colleagues to go [Interjections] At the time when the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition was the Chairman of the Ministers' Council he did not go on an overseas trip simply [Interjections]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

Mr M MOHANLALL because he was afraid of a coup d'état in his absence

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION We did our work!

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!
The hon member may proceed

Mr M MOHANLALL The hon the Leader of the Official Opposition did not go overseas when he was the Chairman of the Ministers' Council simply because he was afraid there would be a coup d'état in his absence [Interjections] [Time expired]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, in the situation that prevailed at the time which the hon member for Clare Estate mentioned, we had general criticism, but the then Chairman of the Ministers' Council attended all meetings of the Ministers of Housing. We have hardly seen the present hon Minister of Housing attend any meetings of the Housing Advisory Committee of this House. The day he did attend, he woke up six times to run away. Here there was an admission by the Deputy Minister that the hon the Minister of Housing did not have time [Interjections]

Mr T PALAN The former Deputy Minister!

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION The former Deputy Minister said he did not have the time because the situation of laziness and neglect that exist now did not exist previously, for the benefit of the hon member for Clare Estate. Let us not compare the two situations. There was productivity when no meetings or conferences were missed in South Africa.

We are not scoring political points [Interjections] There is common concern I want to say that this trip to South America was not in the

The MINISTER One of the reasons for the delay is that we have committed R300 million over the past 18 months for housing development for the Indian community

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION You're replaying the old record!

The MINISTER Furthermore, we are now discovering the faults, the weaknesses and the incomplete work left behind by the former Chairman of the Ministers' Council who controlled this Ministry [Interjections] During my address in the housing debate I shall be able to give chapter and verse. Pelikan Park started six years ago and we still cannot give transfer. Why? Because the work of township registration has not been completed [Interjections]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION It was given to you on a platter but you are doing business from your office!

The MINISTER Likewise, in other parts of the Transvaal, we cannot give transfer to people because the planning, the layout and the registration of townships are incomplete

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION What about the past two years?

The MINISTER This is what we have been putting right in the past two years

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION You are fast asleep!

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! I have given the hon the Minister half a minute's injury time and that has also expired [Interjections]

Debate concluded.

2 Mr A S Akoob—Housing [Withdrawn]

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Question standing over from Tuesday, 5 March 1991

Lenasia: allocation of plots

*1 **The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION** asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether he recently revoked a decision of the Housing Development Board in respect of the allocation of plots to a developer in Lenasia, if so, (a)(i) on what grounds and (ii) in terms of what statutory provisions and/or regulations was the decision revoked and (b) what is the name of the developer in question,

(2) whether any attempt was made to cause the Housing Development Board to review its decision, if not, why not, if so, (a) why and (b) with what result?

Hansard 12/3/91 D22E
The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes

(a) (i) These plots were intended for the lower income group for whom some 633 houses have already been provided in the area

(ii) In terms of sections 3(i) and 10(2)(b) read in conjunction with sections 50(t)(b) and 53(1) of the Housing Development Act, Act No 4 of 1987, Administration House of Delegates

(b) Universal Homes

(2) No I became aware of the decision of the Housing Development Board after it had been conveyed to the applicants

(a) Falls away

(b) Falls away

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, arising out of the answer to the first part of the question, I would like to know whether the allocation by the Housing Development Board was made during the past two years?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING What was the question?

(127)

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! Could the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition repeat that question?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, I shall repeat the question Was the decision of the Housing Development Board in respect of the allocation made during the past two years?

The MINISTER No, I think it was made in August for the first time

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Sir, it would therefore be correct to assume that no blame could be attached to the previous administration [Interjections]

Mr Chairman, further arising out of the answer given to the second part of the question, I would like to ask the hon the Minister whether it would not have been better to have asked the Housing Development Board to review the decision, rather than revoke it

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, my concern is to build homes which fall within the limits of this housing administration, because it has been created primarily for this purpose The decision was revoked, because it concerned a category of people who were earning between R2 000 and R3 500 per month

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, is it not correct that the Housing Development Board only acts on a memorandum of submission made by the hon the Minister's Department?

The MINISTER Sir, the motivation actually comes from the officials in the Department In this case I, in my capacity as Minister of Housing, have the overall responsibility I therefore revoked the decision, because I felt that that land should be used for other purposes

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, does the drastic step of revoking a decision not reflect on the administration of the hon the Minister which advises the Housing Development Board?

The MINISTER Sir, if an administration acts in good faith, there is nothing wrong if a Minister decides to revoke a decision After all, he has the overall responsibility These things happen, but they should be done in good faith

Mr T PALAN Mr Chairman, may I ask the hon the Minister if there is a garage site in that area?

The MINISTER Sir, 399 sites were involved but they were residential sites However, one could park a car there! [Interjections]

D28E

QUESTIONS
†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Natal health services: amount spent

1 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of National Health

Health *Hansard 12/3/91*

(1) (a) How much of the sum of R50 million which the State President announced in October 1990 was to be made available for health services in Natal has been spent and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) how has this money been allocated?

DITE

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

(1) (a) Provincial Administration of Natal Health Services—R15 011 564

KwaZulu Health Services—Nil and
(b) Provincial Administration of Natal Health Services—15 February 1991

KwaZulu Health Services—4 March 1991,

(2) Provincial Administration of Natal: Health Services—R39 000 000

KwaZulu Health Services—R11 000 000

Own Affairs

Care of the aged—funds *transferred*

(2/3/91)

3 Mr H M NEERAHOO asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare

(1) Whether any funds appropriated in respect of the 1990-91 financial year for institutionalised care of the aged have yet to be utilised by his Department, if so, (a)(i) what is the amount involved and (ii) in respect of what date is this information

furnished and (b) why has this amount not been utilised as yet,

(a) how many service centres for the care of the aged are financed by his Department, (b) where is each situated and (c) to what extent is each of them so financed?

D28E

ie MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES
ND WELFARE

(1) No

(a) (i) Falls away

(ii) 4 March 1991

(b) Falls away

(a) Nine

(b) Verulam Service Centre

JISS Lenasia

Aryan Benevolent Home

Dayanand Gardens

Clayton Gardens

Durban Association for the Aged

Welbedacht

Phoenix

Chatsworth

Shallcross

Pietermaritzburg Old Age Society

Per month

(c) Verulam Service Centre R4 111,20

JISS Lenasia 2 055,60

Dayanand Gardens 2 341,10

Clayton Gardens 2 912,10

Welbedacht 1 884,30

Phoenix 3 140,50

Chatsworth 1 998,50

Shallcross 1 370,40

Pietermaritzburg Old Age Society 4 568,00

Atteridgeville moves to resolve rent, electricity crisis by end of the month

STEPS are to be taken to ensure that Atteridgeville residents pay their monthly rent accounts in a move to resolve the electricity crisis in the township.

Atteridgeville administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson said on Monday that he had organised a series of

meetings for local businessmen and residents in a bid to resolve the crisis.

Only 28 percent of Atteridgeville residents have so far paid their accounts.

Jacobson said it looked like most people had not accepted the flat rate agreed upon by the

Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation.

"These people must realise that we have moved into a new situation and that they have to pay their rent accounts."

Jacobson said the council's finance committee would meet this week to determine proper

tariffs to be paid by residents ~~South~~ (3/3/91)

Mamelodi town clerk Mr JP Nel said local residents had responded positively to the council's call. "This enabled us to settle our account with the Pretoria City Council on Friday"

Nel said he was op-

timistic that the council would be able to pay its account to the Pretoria Council this month.

"We would like to urge residents to pay their accounts on time."

He said those in arrears should come to the council offices to make necessary arrangements.

Alexandra council to be dissolved

Journal
13/3/91
(127)

THE Alexandra Council is to be dissolved so that a single non-racial local authority for Randburg and Sandton districts can be created

This emerged in a statement released after an historic meeting last week between the Government, Alexandra residents and officials of the Randburg and Sandton councils

The parties - which also included officials of Eskom, Rand Water Board, the Development of Southern Africa and members of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council - established a forum to work out the details of the future council.

The forum promised to pay "attention to issues which are of importance" to Alexandra

The establishment of the forum follows five months of intensive negotiations

Members of the forum also hope to end the rent boycott in the township.

In a joint statement, the parties pledged to work for improvement in

By IKE MOTSAPI

the quality of life in Alexandra

The statement added "Negotiations were always conducted in good spirit although it should be pointed out that there were always differences about specific matters.

"The viewpoint of the parties during negotiations and in the agreement was that the interests of the residents must at all times be the number one priority

Possible

"The fact that co-operation between the civic organisations and the authorities is indeed possible and that reasonableness can prevail is proved by the fact that the Alexandra Civic Association was most of the time represented by its chairman Mr Moses Mayekiso, who is also president of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal."

Some of the important aspects of the agreement are:

* The writing-off of

arrears,

* Payment for services,

* Transfer of rented houses to the people;

* Upgrading and conversion of hostels into family dwellings,

* Upgrading of services;

* Transfer of the land known as the East Bank to a land trust administered by representatives of Alexandra,

* Implementation of low income housing;

* Provision of additional land, and

* Dissolution of the Alexandra Council and other local authorities

Row as Indian MP bars blacks from new area

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13/3/91

By MONK NKOMO

A ROW has erupted over enforcement of the Group Areas Act by an Indian MP concerning Lotus Gardens, near Atteridgeville in Pretoria.

This follows the rejection of black applications for the occupation of houses at Lotus Gardens by Chairman of the Ministers Council Dr JN Reddy.

Reddy told the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation that Lotus Gardens was being developed strictly for the Indian community in terms of the Group Areas Act, which had at the time not yet been repealed.

Backlog

Asro representatives said yesterday they complained to Reddy recently following reports that scores of applications from Atteridgeville residents to occupy houses at Lotus Gardens had been rejected by the Indian authorities.

The organisation condemned the stance taken

by the Indian authorities and said their residents also had a serious housing backlog.

Asro has now sought a meeting with the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, to resolve the matter.

In his reply to Asro, Reddy said although his administration supported State President Mr FW de Klerk's initiatives to scrap apartheid, he was still bound by the country's constitution

Needs

"I and my administration are, until such time as these measures are enacted, obliged, in terms of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act No 110 of 1983, to provide first and foremost for the needs of the Indian community in South Africa, which includes their housing needs.

"In this context Lotus Gardens is being developed for members of the Indian community of whom several thousands

have been on our waiting list for many years," said Reddy.

Mr Sattar Cassim, chairman of the Laudium Management Committee, yesterday distanced himself from Reddy's stance and said his committee was in favour of the area being shared by people of all races.

"Reddy's attitude is bad and not in line with the new South Africa that is being planned," Cas-

sim said.

In their reply dated March 7 this year, Asro told Reddy that South Africa was a racial state because its constitution entrenched separate development.

"Your allegation that you and your administration subscribe to non-racial principles as advocated today by all peace-loving South Africans are misleading and discouraging," Asro said.

Rent boycotts blamed for electricity cuts

Soweto 15/3/91. 127

THE withdrawal of essential services in many Transvaal townships was a result of boycotts called by certain organisations, a Transvaal Provincial Administration official has said.

Mr John Mavuso, TPA MEC for Housing and Community Development, said this while speaking at the handing over of several facilities to the East Rand township of Tsakane.

Mavuso said "The hardships currently being faced by people in some towns in the Transvaal are a direct result of the payment boycotts instituted by certain organisations last year."

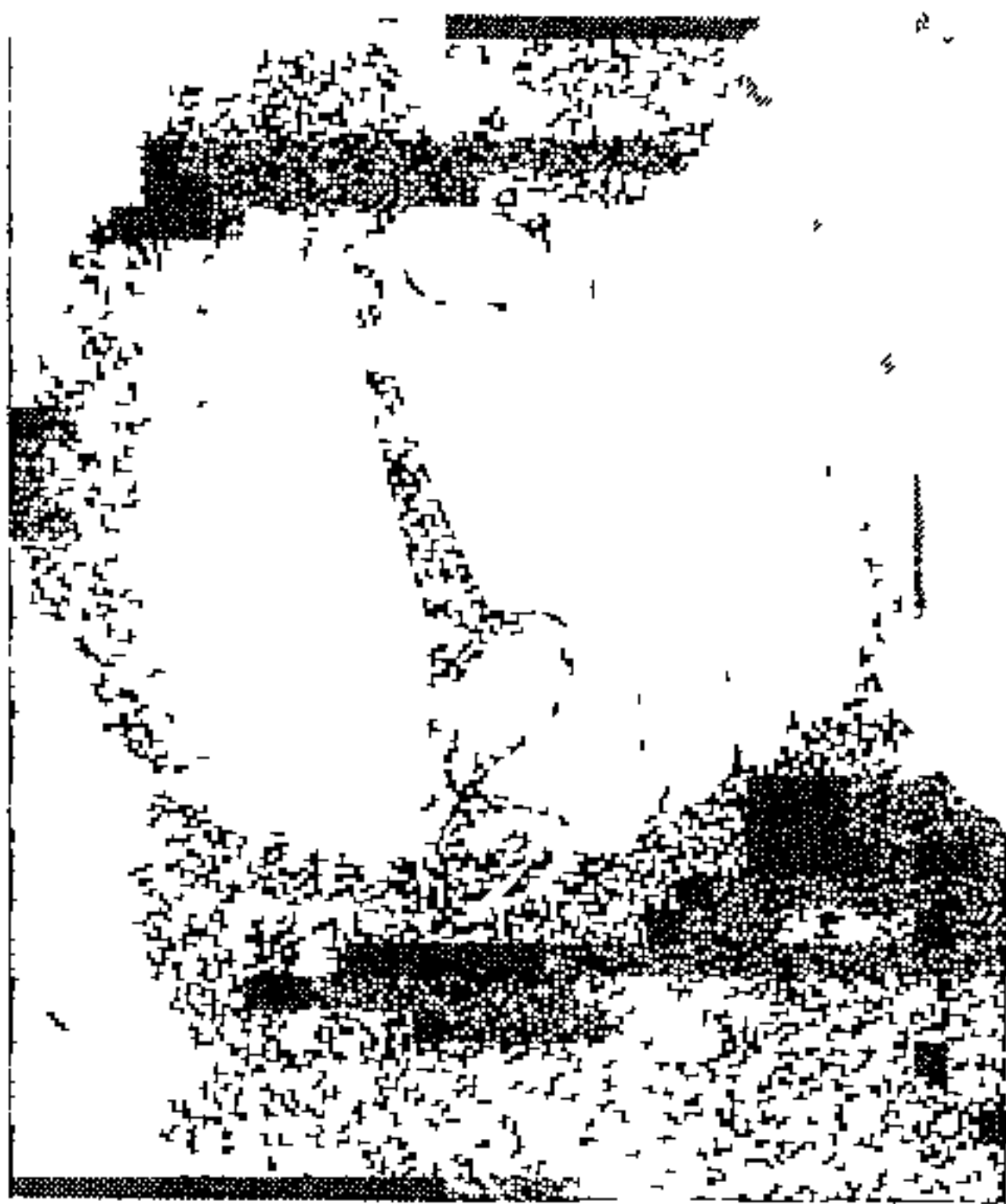
Boycotts

He said if it was not for the boycotts, townships in the province would have had better infrastructure and improved services. Referring to the squat-

ter settlements that are mushrooming in and around the metropolitan areas of the Transvaal, Mavuso warned that not all open spaces were necessarily habitable.

"People squatting on such land would therefore not be able to settle there permanently," he said.

The East Rand Regional Services Council handed over recently completed essential amenities to Tsakane, including a reservoir constructed at a cost of R2,5 million - Sapa



JOHN MAVUSO

Tariff rises likely 127 for two townships

Sowetan (5/3/91)

ATTERIDGEVILLE and Saulsville residents should brace themselves for increased tariff charges likely to come into effect on April 1.

The announcement was made by Atteridgeville's administrator, Dr ES Jacobson, in an "Open Letter" distributed in the two Pretoria townships this week.

The town's administration is unable to meet its commitments because

By ALINAH DUBE

of insufficient funds, Jacobson said.

Apart from the new rates and tariffs, redundant personnel were likely to be retrenched after a survey had been conducted, he said

Increases

Reacting to the proposed tariff increases, the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation

said no increases would be introduced

"According to the terms of the agreement reached on January 15 1991, between Asro and the administrator, new tariffs will be negotiated and will come into effect on July 1 1991, provided the parties (Asro and the administrator) agree.

"There is no way the administrator can arbitrarily increase tariffs in

Atteridgeville," said Asro in a statement

Asro said the agreement was not imposed on Jacobson but was a result of negotiations which were conducted in good faith.

Approached for comment yesterday, Jacobson said: "I agree that we have an agreement. But that agreement is not forever. One can change because the situation changes."

Local govt to have teeth to stop decay

Star 16/3/91

RESIDENTS, ratepayers and housing associations will be given teeth to enforce by-laws and keep neighbourhoods in good nick when the Residential Environment Bill is passed by Parliament, town council spokesmen said this week

The Bill aims to prevent the possible downgrading of neighbourhoods with the scrapping of the Group Areas Act. It also confers additional power on local authorities to pass and enforce by-laws in order to maintain neighbourhoods. But the Bill stipulates that racially discriminatory by-laws will not be allowed.

The Bill provides for the setting up of an Urban Environment Board to help local authorities to maintain standards and set up urban renewal projects. The board will play an advisory role and consist of experts in urban renewal.

Standard

Apart from providing for the maintenance of norms such as tidy and hygienic premises, the Bill provides for ways to settle disputes and for the orderly and civilised use of public facilities, noise control and urban decay.

"This national provision sets minimum standards which go further than previous legislation," said Midrand Management Committee chairman Ian Bekker.

He said Midrand had already amended existing by-laws, mainly to ensure ghettos don't develop.

Asked about the effect the Bill would have, Sandton town councillor Peter Gardiner said "Neighbourhood standards could be protected and most municipalities could now decide on what standard of service they want in their area.

"Presumably we are now allowed to

set our own standards. For example, Sandton neighbourhoods want high security standards and environmental standards. We could even provide our own security force.

"Our council could now pass a by-law to set up residents' associations more formally. This would put teeth into the system and residents would be encouraged to pay for upgrading their neighbourhoods."

He said another example would be to formalise homeowners' associations — which in Sandton already raise money to control architectural standards and maintain landscaping.

The Bill also means local authorities will have more control over spending and it provides for financial assistance to local authorities to undertake projects out of appropriated funds, according to Mr Gardiner.

Johannesburg City Council spokesman Professor H Hurwitz said he believed local authorities may have more power to enforce legislation because penalties would now be more realistic. Offenders could be fined up to R10 000 and there is an additional R100 fine a day for an ongoing offence.

The Randburg Town Council has promulgated housing nuisance by-laws, aimed at ensuring minimum standards, according to council spokesman Andre Jacobs.

But he admitted that it may be difficult to enforce legislation while the country was going through a transition.

Federation of Western Johannesburg Ratepayers' Associations spokesman Frank Salmon said residents were already contributing to maintaining standards in their suburbs but the new legislation would give local authorities more power to prevent urban decay.

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PAT DEVEREAUX

Alex council sit-in a 'coup'

A SIT-IN at the office of the Alexandra mayor and the town clerk will continue until mayor Prince Mokoena resigns, says the Alexandra Civic Organisation.

Now in its third week, the 24-hour-a-day sit-in has crippled the running of the council and is regarded as a "coup" against Mokoena and his council.

Since the sit-in started on February 27 Mokoena has not been in his office and town clerk Willie Khumalo said he had been working under "extreme" pressure.

"I have no secretary because they are also occupying her office," he said.

ACO general secretary Richard Makane said the sit-in was part of an ongoing struggle by residents against the role played by the council.

"We are putting pressure on the councillors to resign because they are not serving the needs of the community," he said.

Khumalo said there were no plans to try and evict the strikers by force.

Power scam causes anger

By DERRICK LUTHAYI

DOBSONSVILLE
Council electricians are switching off the electricity of residents who are not in arrears and pocketing the R40 re-connection fees they demand *(Press 17/3/91)*.

Management committee chairman Vincent Thusi said several complaints had been received from residents who had their electricity disconnected even though they had paid their bills.

"We have reprimanded some electricians, although most have denied being involved in the racket.

"Our investigations are being hampered by lack of evidence because most affected families do not report the irregularities to us," said Thusi.

Last Thursday about 60 irate residents were at the offices demanding reinstatement of their electricity supply.

Dennis Vuka Buthelezi showed *City Press* his receipt for R81 which he had paid on Wednesday. The same day his electricity supply was cut off.

A clerk in the accounts office, who was reluctant to help, finally checked the records and told Buthelezi he owed a further R33,80.

Not satisfied with the answer Buthelezi spoke to township treasurer MCB van Zyl, who after investigations apologised and told him the council owed him the amount

Pay up, warns Soweto council

By Stan Hlophe

The Soweto City Council has warned residents to pay for service charges and electricity in terms of the Soweto Accord signed last September — or else it will cut the power supply

In a statement, acting town clerk Johan Oosthuizen said that from April 1 the council would no longer receive financial assistance from the regional services council and, therefore, the council would be unable to provide electricity unless all residents honour the accord.

Agreement

Mr Oosthuizen reminded residents that in terms of the accord, signed by the Greater Soweto councils, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), the following agreement was reached

- Writing off R450 million arrears (residential units only)
- Ending the four-year rent boycott as well as the immediate resumption of R23 monthly payments for service charges and for metered electricity consumption on a sliding scale.
- Establishment of a Metropolitan Chamber

to serve as a forum whose primary purpose would be to investigate and formulate the setting of regional, non-racial, and democratic structures

Meanwhile a meeting between the council and representatives of the Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce resolved to form a working committee to reach an amicable settlement on whether the traders were part of the accord

It was also agreed that the businessmen should continue paying their monthly accounts while negotiations are on course.

This follows a war of words between the council and the chamber over the interpretation of the Soweto Accord

Breaching

The chamber maintains that as Soweto residents they are included in the accord, but the council is adamant that they are not

SPD spokesman Pat Lephunya said that if the council could carry out its threat, it would be breaching the accord, which stipulated that if either side should encounter a problem, a solution had to be found before any action could be taken

Star 18/3/91.

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Threat to township projects

TOWNSHIP development projects worth hundreds of millions of rands could be scrapped unless Soweto township residents begin paying rent and service charges.

The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council meets today to discuss the fate of capital projects. Although the amount at risk is not known, the council has a capital project development budget of about R900m.

A strong warning to residents to begin paying or have long-term projects shelved indefinitely, is likely to be issued after the meeting, RSC sources said yesterday.

In terms of September's Soweto Accord, Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Meadowlands residents undertook to make payments. The RSC agreed to pay the difference in the council's operating costs until the end of this month.

Payment of electricity bills has dropped from 76% of consumers after the signing of the accord to 26% last month.

PATRICK BULGER

RSC executive member Hein Kruger said yesterday projects might have to be stopped so bridging finance could continue to be provided. Today's meeting would decide whether finance would continue.

He said a decision had to be taken between short-term finance for non-payment of services or capital projects to uplift communities in the Greater Soweto area.

RSC chairman John Griffiths said: "Our commitment ends at the end of this month. It's no use us assisting if the payments are so poor."

There was little point providing infrastructure if services from such infrastructure were not going to be paid for.

"Only capital items of high priority will be looked at," he said. Municipal sources said attention was being given to cutting supplies to residents who refused to pay

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16/11/1979
19/10/1979

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS

(1) The Department will continue to render a service in line with the needs of the communities concerned which have been served for many years. It is a world-wide phenomenon that services which are rendered to different communities are based on social compatibility. The admission policy in respect of these homes will be effected in accordance with the provisions of the RSA Constitution Act, 1983.

(2) At these homes provision is made for a service within the community for those who prefer it.

(3) Falls away

Sonop settlement: occupation by non-Whites

*7 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works †

(1) Whether the Sonop settlement near Brits will be open for occupation by non-Whites after the abolition of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, if not, why not, if so, (127)

(2) whether any restriction will be placed on the number of non-Whites who will be admitted to the settlement,

(3) whether any other conditions will apply to the admission of non-Whites to the said settlement, if so, what other conditions? (127)

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS

(1) The Department does not envisage a change in admission policy due to the repeal of the Group Areas Act specifically. At Sonop settlement, as well as the other two departmental settlements, the Department will continue to render a service according to the needs and wishes of the communities concerned. This will be carried out within the framework of the constitution. It is government policy to promote the concept of an own community. However, an own community life has to be sustained by a community's inherent will and capabilities and not by statutory coercion.

(2) Falls away

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS

(3) Falls away (127)

QUESTIONS

† Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Black townships. electricity

13 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

Whether any housing units in Black townships have yet to be supplied with electricity, if so, (a) which townships are involved and (b) what percentage of Black housing in each specified region had not yet been supplied with electricity as at the latest specified date for which information is available? (127)

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

Cape

Yes

(a) and (b) The Black townships involved and percentages per township as at 19 February 1991 are reflected in the accompanying Annexure A

Natal

(a) and (b) The Black townships involved and percentages per township as at 14 February 1991 are reflected in the accompanying Annexure B

Transvaal

Yes

(a) and (b) The Black townships involved and the percentages per region as at 13 February 1991 are reflected in the accompanying Annexure C

Orange Free State

Yes

(a) and (b) The Black townships involved and the percentages per township as at 28 February 1991 are reflected in the accompanying Annexure D

ANNEXURE A

Township	% without electricity	Township	% without electricity
Mataleng	97	Jeffreysbaai	100
Mziwabantu	94	Kareedouw	100
Kuyasa	95	Kei Mond	100
Tlhakalatlou	35	Kei Weg	70
Nonzwakazi	68	Ginsberg	87
Tidimalo	98	Bontrug	100
Bongani	95	Wongalethu	100
Matlhomola	96	Qumrha	100
Nompumelelo	100	Kwezinaledi	100
Valspan	99	Sonwabile	100
Galeshewe	40	Marselle	98
Kwazamuxolo	96	Kwanonzame	96
Ditloung	99	Nomonde	99
Thembinkosi	90	Kwazenzele	96
Lukhanyisweni	99	Khanyiso	95
Boichoko	93	Nkwenkwezi	99
eThembeni	96	Ibhayi	77
Boipelo	93	Kwamagxaki	0
Sabelo	100	Kwadwest	0
Motswedimosa	3	Walmer	30
Paballelo	99	Motherwell	75
Huhudi	100	Mlungisi/Komani	83
Ikhutse	97	Zakhele	100
Kutlwano	100	Kwanojohi	95
Thembalesizwe	100	Masakhe	90
Addo Noodkamp	100	Khayamnandi	97
Lingelethu	96	Vuyolwethu	100
Kwanonqubela	98	Cumakala	100
Kwanonswakazi	100	Zola	98
Dukathole	70	Dyoki	28
Nkuluekho	90	Kwanobuhle	95
Nolukhanyo	100	Nozizwe	99
Nyarha	96	Willowmore	100
Mzamomhle	20	Khayelitsha	56
Katikati	95	Langa	36
Bhongweni	99	Gugulethu	19
Lingelihle	90	Nyanga	0
Despatch	98	New Crossroads	69
Sinakho	95	Crossroads	48
Gompo Town	80	Phillipi	0
Masibambane	100	Lwandle	0
Kwatimdidubu	68	Mfuleni	43
Umasizakhe	92	Khayamandi	0
Rini	72	Mbekweni	57
Umzamomhle	100	Zweletemba	0
Luxolweni	99	Zolani	89
Kwanonzamo	99	Nkqubela	60
Mavuya	100	Zwelihle	55
Kwazamukucinga	100	Nduli	82
Masakhane	100	Sidesaviwa	99
		Masinyusane	18

AN informal letter, suggesting the building of a high wall to seclude the plush northern suburb of Dunkeld in Johannesburg, has been circulated among residents for response.

"Imagine our lovely suburb secure and secluded from the urban violence that has undeniably become part of the new South Africa," said the letter, circulated by a group of residents who have discussed the concept for over two years.

They proposed the isolation of Dunkeld between Jan Smuts and Craddock avenues, and along Bompas and Rosebank roads, by building walls across each road at the boundary points and leaving just one access point for both entrance and exit.

"We envisage security access point, who will allow residents and authorised staff free passage, but will confirm the destination of all other vehicles and pedestrians before allowing them to proceed," the letter continued.

Organiser Mrs Bridget Orlop said the group had approached the Johannesburg City Council about the "secured village concept" and were canvassing other residents' responses.

"We have had an overwhelmingly positive response so far," Orlop said.

"The village complex will involve about 180 families, and once all families have been can-

vassed, a formal proposal will be submitted to the council," she said.

"The proposal is still unofficial and in its early stages. Several traffic flow and feasibility studies are yet to be conducted, before approvals for road closures can be applied for," Orlop said.

"The concept is not racially-based at all," she said. "It arises from a general concern about the crime wave that has escalated in Johannesburg's northern suburbs."

Walls

"Dunkeld residents want to be free of the robberies, violence and prostitution that have plagued the area. We want our children to be able to walk home from school safely," she said.

Dunkeld residents would help finance the building of the walls and the employment of a security company to regulate the area.

"Most residents already employ the services of block watch or security companies," Orlop said. "Our security entrance point will connect with each home to complete the security profile."

The pastor for St Martin's in the Veld Anglican Church in Dunkeld, the Rev R Germonde, said, however, the proposed inclusion of his church in the complex would have adverse implications for his parish.

"Apart from being impractical in terms of traffic pressure, we cannot give in to fear," he said.

"This is not the solution to our country's problems," Germonde said. - Sapa.

Scheme to turn plush suburb into a fortress

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Sowetan 20/3/91

SAA eyes USSR, Eastern Europe

B Day 20/3/91

LINDEN BIRNS

SAA was investigating the possibility of operating regular flights to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and would probably fly three times a week to New York once the US reinstated its landing rights, CE Gert van der Veer said yesterday.

Van der Veer said in an interview that opening new commercial and trade markets in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union would be carefully monitored.

Once market and traffic volumes warranted it, SAA would apply for routes to these areas.

"We are in contact with East European and Soviet airlines, but there's no immediate market," he said.

Criticism

"For the foreseeable future we'll continue to interline with these airlines via our European destinations.

"We already have an interline agreement with LOT of Poland through Frankfurt," Van der Veer said.

He denied criticism that SAA would operate flights to the US, once the ban on the airline's landing rights was lifted, only for political status reasons.

"We are a profitable business; we fly to make money out of it.

"The latest statistics show that SAA carries more US-originated passengers now — through Europe — than it ever did before

the imposition of sanctions," he said. American Airlines's SA spokesman Mike Tyler said although a bilateral agreement with SAA would be offered as a right to a US carrier, it was doubtful that this right would be exercised as SA represented a very small market.

"SAA will probably be the only party to operate on routes between Johannesburg and the US, as it really wouldn't be a worthwhile market for a US carrier," Tyler said.

Van der Veer said SAA would probably operate three flights a week to New York when the go-ahead to resume flights was given.

"Prior to the imposition of sanctions, SAA flew five weekly flights to New York, so we've no doubt of a market need," Van der Veer said.

He added SA's international civil aviation policy would come under review next month but it was unlikely that any meaningful liberalisation would take place on international routes to and from SA.

The focus would probably be on allowing new players into the market while maintaining the current bilateral agreement policy, rather than a complete deregulation, he said.

This was in line with international trends.

● See Page 4



Winnie Mandela, flanked by a Court yesterday.

Trial trio's indemnity hopes high

PRETORIA — The three right-wingers allegedly responsible for the Melrose House bombing in Pretoria last year had applied to President F W de Klerk for indemnity, but had not received a reply, the Pretoria Regional Court heard yesterday.

Regional magistrate W F Kruger granted a postponement to June 6 at the request of counsel for Jan Dirk Heyns du Bruyn, 37, of Krugersdorp, Gert Johannes Jacobus du Bruyn, 30, of Elandsrand, and Artur Detlef Guderian, 23, of Blyvooruitzicht.

Counsel for the defence J Roussouw indicated that in the light of the "perpetrator" (presumed to be extreme right-wing Orde Boerevolk leader Piet "Skiet" Rudolph) being granted indemnity on Monday, the chances were his clients would receive similar treatment.

As yet, the three men have not been formally charged.

They face charges of sabotage and the illegal possession of an explosive device.

The charges are related to the explosion of a home-made bomb at Pretoria's historic Melrose House on May 23 last year.

The men's bail of R2 000 each was extended.

They have to report every Wednesday to their nearest police stations. — Sapa.

Alexandra mayor accused of 'importing murderers'

B Day 20/3/91

WILSON ZWANE

ALEXANDRA Civic Organisation (ACO) president Moses Mayekiso yesterday lambasted the township's mayor Prince Mokoena for allegedly fuelling instability by bringing in foreigners who "mercilessly murdered" residents.

Addressing a media briefing in Johannesburg, Mayekiso said his organisation condemned forces which wanted to reverse political gains made by Alexandra's people.

Alexandra has been the scene of intense factional violence in which more than 50 people have been killed over the past 10 days. Mokoena, who recently sought a home in Inkatha, had told the ACO leadership he would "hit the community very hard".

"There are also allegations that Mokoena facilitated the influx of foreigners into Alexandra," Mayekiso said. It was believed these "foreigners" included people

from Mozambique, as some were overheard speaking Portuguese.

"The importation of rooidoeke from the East Rand, West Rand, Natal and Mozambique was done behind the scenes, without the knowledge of political organisations, by the third force, which is manipulating structures and leadership of some political organisations.

"This shows how the supposedly progressive organisations are infiltrated by criminals to use innocent members to commit violence," Mayekiso said.

"ACO will intensify its campaign for the resignation of Mokoena and his council. People are staging a sit-in at Mokoena's offices and they have vowed to continue with their protest until Mokoena resigns."

Mokoena could not be reached for comment.

Cast denies trying to derail negotiations

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) charged yesterday that it was not a front for the ANC and that its campaign to isolate black town councillors had the support of most residents in townships where it operates.

In a statement in Johannesburg, Cast denounced allegations that its isolation campaign was aimed

at derailing the negotiation process.

"Cast is on record as being supportive of the ANC initiative around talks with the government.

"However, we have also said that the pace and content of the talks must be dictated by the majority of our people.

"The campaign is one way of involving our people

in this process," the organisation said.

In a similar statement, former Daveyton mayor Tom Boya distanced himself from reports that his resignation was precipitated by intimidation from the ANC and Cast.

"The system of the black local authorities is bankrupt," he said. — Sapa.

Upliftment slice largely hailed

By Helen Grange
and Winnie Graham

A mixed response has met the Government's Budget for social upliftment, with some housing economists suspicious of how the money will be used to address the critical housing shortage

Social upliftment has been a major focus of this year's Budget, with particular attention being paid to housing in the light of rapid urbanisation. Some R1 billion has been set aside for this purpose.

Jan Steyn, chairman of the Independent Development Trust (IDT), has welcomed the Budget's focus on poverty.

"Obviously we are encouraged by the reorientation taking place in the areas where funding is being allocated by the State.

"The war on poverty has to be fought by everyone in this country if we are to create a

just and peaceful society," he said.

He added that the R1 billion for housing would complement the IDT's own R750 million initiative in this area.

The Urban Foundation abstained from commenting on the Budget until today in order for directors to study it more completely.

Dr Azar Jammine, director and chief economist of the Econometrix think-tank, said an analysis of the spending "inside the Budget" revealed that the Government would not spend "one iota" more on social upliftment this year.

"The figures show that 36,6 percent of the Budget has been set aside for social upliftment — exactly the same as last year."

Most of the money earmarked for social spending, he said, would probably go on health and welfare services, teachers' and nurses' salaries, and administrative and bureaucratic costs.

It was sad, however, that the Government had to increase spending on policing when what the country needed was more housing, Dr Jammine said.

Very little was happening on the housing front, largely because of the bottleneck in the supply of materials, the reluctance of builders to work in the black areas and the lack of training for home-owners who wanted to build themselves.

He said the Government could do little about the unemployment problem while people were killing each other.

The spending on social upliftment, however, could go a long way towards stabilising South Africa which, in turn, would lead to revitalisation of the economy.

"The individual will pay more tax than last year," he added. "In part he is being taxed to pay for social upliftment."

Actstop, an organisation representing tenants in low-income

urban housing, welcomed the large amount put aside for housing but expressed reservations.

"It's good news, but we would like to see how it is going to be implemented. If it is anything like the White Paper on Land, it will be dubious."

Aida Holdings chairman Aida Geffen said that without the infrastructure, the Government's contributions to housing would be wasted.

"The problem is that, as in the past, the money does not go to private enterprise to be used and distributed where it is needed most."

"Huge amounts are whittled away by housing foundations and trusts because the infrastructure for housing is inadequate and money is spent on houses for middle-income earners rather than for people in the sub-economic group."

"The Government just creates these papers and hopes its proposals will work."

Star 29/3/91

Govt ignoring real land issues, conference told

Staff Reporter

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) and Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Ohmle) vowed at a joint press conference yesterday to continue with their occupation of vacant land because the Government's White Paper did not address the real land issues.

(127)
The conference, called to express their rejection of the White Paper, was held in Johannesburg.

Ohmle general secre-

tary Basheer Lorgat said the Government saw the White Paper as a major leap forward towards a new South Africa.

But, he said, the majority of the people were not excited about it.

"We believe our people and not the Government are best able to redistribute land. The people must do this by a well co-ordinated campaign to occupy vacant land," he said.

"We will not wait for the Government to move at its own pace," he added.

Doubts over wall around Dunkeld

By Guy Jepson ^{Star} 2/3/91

The plan to transform the exclusive Johannesburg suburb of Dunkeld into a secluded village — physically shielded from criminal elements and “rat-running” motorists — appears to enjoy wide support among local home-owners

However, a spot survey carried out by The Star in Dunkeld yesterday revealed a measure of doubt over the practicality of the “Dunkeld Village” project

Support

Its organisers have claimed overwhelming support for the concept which, according to a brochure recently circulated among home-owners, involves the walling-off of 13 street entrances to the suburb between Jan Smuts and

Cradock avenues and Bompas and Rosebank roads

Access to the “village” would be determined by a single security checkpoint at the intersection of Rosebank Road and Bath Avenue

A Rosebank Road resident interviewed by The Star described the concept as “exceptional”

“We have had a tremendous amount of petty crime in the area recently. The project would provide extra security”

He added, however, that the checkpoint would result in traffic congestion in Christopherson and Rosebank roads, which would become de facto through-routes to internal traffic

A Christopherson Road resident, who said his home had been burgled “a couple of times” over the past three

years, doubted whether the city council would allow the project to be implemented

“It is ludicrous. You can't keep people out with walls — you would need to festoon them with barbed wire,” he added

Pat Bastani, who lives in Smits Road, said she fully supported the “village” concept

Worry

“It would be wonderful. I would no longer have to worry about the safety of my children. At present I'm afraid to let my little boy ride his bike to school”

An Eastwood Road home-owner said she supported the project in principle

“The intention is to stop our neighbourhood from becoming a thoroughfare. But I do have reservations. If it is im-

plemented, the traffic on Christopherson Road might be worse than it is now”

She also expressed doubts about the effectiveness of the proposed walling-off of access points to Dunkeld, pointing to existing discrepancies between boundary walls on properties on the suburb's borders

Approached for comment last night, town planning consultant Mitzi Venn, one of the project's organisers, stressed that the concept was in an “embryonic stage” and was open to modification

“We have arranged for a traffic engineer to carry out a feasibility study and investigate traffic patterns. Thereafter we will draft a comprehensive questionnaire which we will distribute among residents”

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Massive shock for Johannesburg property owners

Star 22/3/91

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

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Johannesburg ratepayers in upmarket areas could be forced to pay a massive 65 percent more for rates after the new valuation roll figures come into effect on July 1 and 12 percent VAT is added to rates in September.

Land values in some of the city's affluent areas have risen by between 150 and 300 percent in the past three years since the previous valuation.

These shock figures follow only a day after the announcement that 12 percent VAT will be imposed on municipal rates shortly after the annual municipal increases come into effect countrywide on July 1.

Rocketed

All land in Johannesburg increased in value by an average of 90 percent, city valuer Nick Botha said.

The present total value of rateable property (land and improvements/houses) in Johannesburg is R26 billion, as against R5 billion in 1988. This does not include the increases reflected in the new valuation roll.

Estate agent and Johannesburg city councillor Clive Gilbert said property values had rocketed in certain areas.

"From July 1, rates are going to increase by at least 50 percent, taking into consideration any rebates. Add VAT at 12 percent and people could be paying upwards of 65 percent more.

"It is a great pity it is coming all at the same time. This is a nasty blow with no incentive for the man in the street."

The increases in land values in the city varied from very low in the south to exorbitant in the north. In Linksfield North Ext 1, the value of land increased by

an average 300 percent compared to only 13 percent in the southern suburb of Naturena.

Taking into account the 55 percent rebate Johannesburg grants to home-owners, Mr Gilbert worked out that:

- In Linksfield North Ext 1, land valued at an average of R52 000 in 1988 had rocketed to about R200 000. Land-owners who paid about R1 000 in annual rates three years ago would now have to fork out R3 000.

- In Linksfield Ridge, land valued at R53 000 had jumped to R169 000 — a 220 percent increase. This meant rates would jump from R1 000 to R2 400.

In Linksfield Ridge the average increase was 220 percent, Norwood 190 percent, Northcliff 135 percent, Melville 123 percent, Montgomery Park 90 percent, Mulbarton 49 percent, Newlands 47 percent and Newclare 30 percent.

Mr Botha said "Land is getting scarce and view sites go at a premium."

Recession

The new statistics would be announced once the Valuation Board had officially approved them later this year. In the new valuation, 719 townships (suburbs) and 52 farms in Johannesburg were surveyed.

"Industrial properties have not increased as much as residential property. This is because industry recuperated much more slowly from the last recession and the demand for industrial properties was lower," Mr Botha said.

Local authorities were required by law to update valuations every four years.

Mr Gilbert criticised the city council for not warning its citizens of the serious effect the new valuation combined with VAT would have on land rates.

House prices soar 22% in a year

Star 23/3/91

FRANK JEANS

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ALTHOUGH the general economy has been going through a rough patch, there has been no let-up in price increases in the property market, with house values this year expected to rise by an average 17 percent and a further 10 percent in 1992

This sustained growth in the homes market emerges from the latest report on the property market by Cape analyst, Erwin Rode

And in spite of economic downturn, high interest rates and generally tighter financial conditions, prices rose by a healthy 22 percent last year.

"Especially vigorous was the second quarter spurt in the prices of upper and middle class homes in Pretoria — fuelled, presumably, by increases in the salaries and bond limits of civil servants," says Rode.

The average national growth rate rose by a whopping 23,5 percent in the second quarter compared with a year earlier.

By comparison, Johannesburg's house price rises for the year ending in the second quarter of 1990, slowed to 20,1 percent from 25,9 percent in the previous quarter

The Cape Peninsula outperformed the rest of South Africa by a wide margin — 41,13 percent for the second quarter of 1990 over the same quarter of 1989

Durban's upper class house price growth was 16,9 percent in the second quarter compared with 10,8 percent for the year ended the first quarter of 1990

Looking at flat accommodation, Rode says the market is tight

Of 26 suburban areas listed in South Africa, only Joubert Park, Hillbrow and Berea in Johannesburg indicated vacancies above one percent.

In the city's northern areas there were no vacancies in the higher priced flats

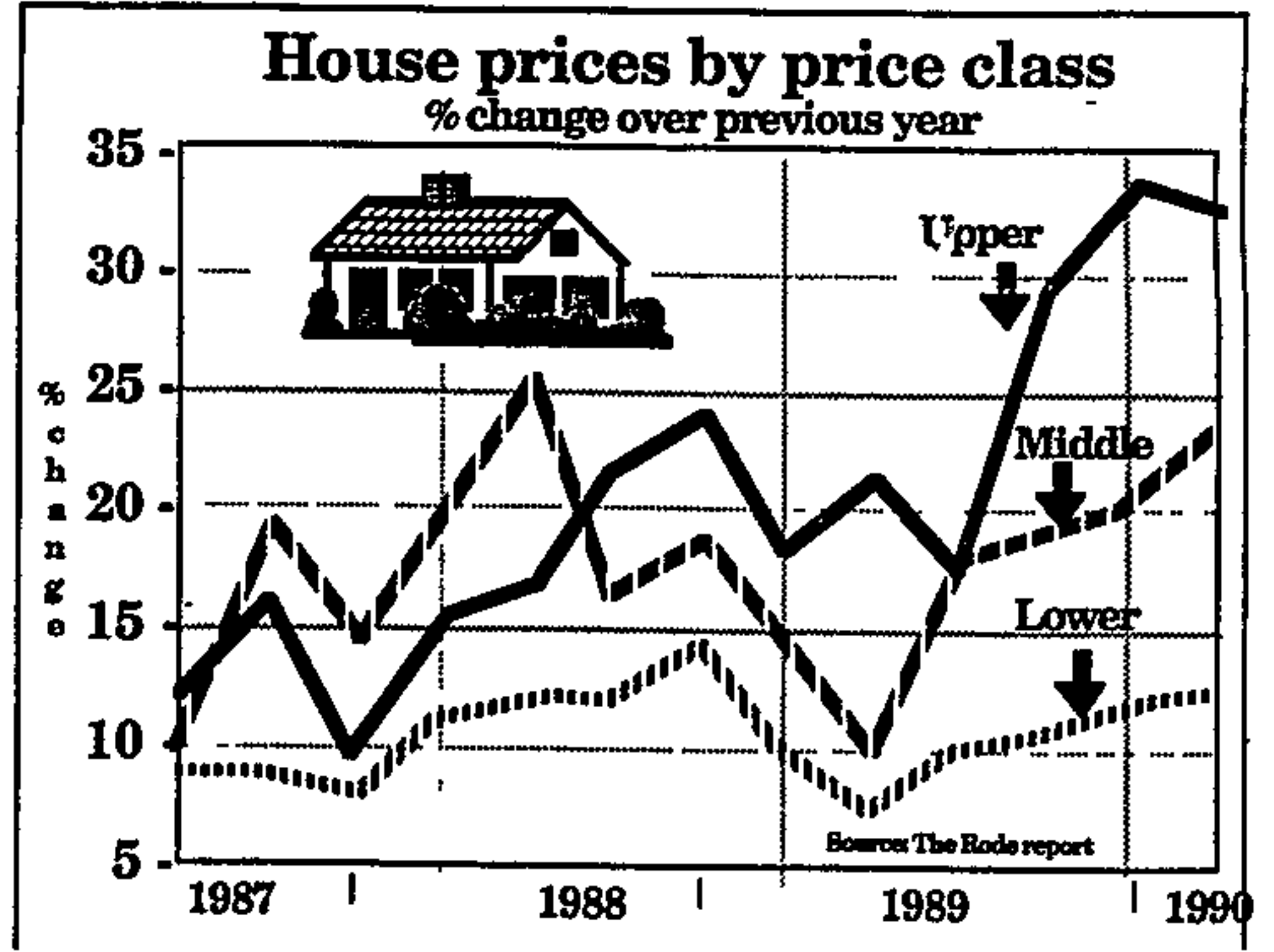
In the wake of rising house

prices, rentals for standard quality flats are still surging ahead.

Star performers in the two-bedroom flat league for the six months ended November 1990, were Johannesburg central and north (28,3 percent), Port Eliza-

beth (22,3 percent), and the Cape (17 percent)

Rents for two-bedroom flats in Johannesburg vary from R450 (Joubert Park) to R1 400 in Sandton and R1 200 in the northern suburbs



Banks ditch Doornkop scheme

BOTH major banks which private developer Safrich originally claimed were backing its Doornkop project have backed out of the scheme.

The Perm and Standard Banks, which originally considering investing more than R10-million in the Safrich development, are no longer

putting money into the scheme.

The two banks would have granted bonds for more than half the 1 300 houses Safrich hopes to build.

A spokesman for the Perm's Johannesburg Central branch told *City Press* the bank was not satisfied the political, legal and technical consid-

erations had been given enough attention.

The spokesman said the Perm had originally been interested in financing 400 houses - 30 per cent of the scheme - but had made no formal undertakings to Safrich.

He said Safrich was notified on February 4 of the Perm's decision not to finance the project.

A spokesman for Standard Bank said they had made no commitment to finance Doornkop.

Community organisations have voiced reservations about the involvement of private developers and the unfair allocation of sites to financial institutions.

They have also questioned the marketing of Doornkop sites through Safrich sales representatives and independent estate agents. Advertisements have appeared in Johannesburg daily newspapers for the past three weeks offering sites in Doornkop.

Agencies working on behalf of developer Safrich are charging R200 in administration fees to process site allocations through the Soweto and Dobsonville councils and the Transvaal Provincial Administration offices at the Doornkop site.

Purchasers of these sites have to sign a building contract with Safrich for between R15 000 and R20 000, as well as pay the TPA R5 100 in in-

stalments over 30 years for the site.

According to spokesmen for the Dobsonville Civic Association (DCA) and Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle), Doornkop sites are supposed to be for poor, homeless people.

The organisations claim that thousands of homeless people squatting illegally in Dobsonville, Soweto and Diepmeadow qualify for Doornkop sites - but have been told there are no more sites.

One agency, Brink Property Group, of York House in Rissik Street, is run by Eddie Maisel, formerly of Faith Homes, which last year had offices in the same building.

City Press wrote about Maisel and Faith Homes last year after complaints from several readers who paid deposits to Maisel, but never got houses. A number of them issued summonses and are waiting for their cases to be heard in court.

Safrich workers at one of the Doornkop sites the company is developing. Banks which were considering backing the scheme have pulled out.

Five years on, and back at square one

SIXTY five families presently housed in the Dobsonville council's Siphwe Hostel have been given notice to leave the hostel by the end of May

The council, which plans to convert the hostel into family flats, has threatened to evict the families if they do not leave by then

The 65 families were evicted from council houses in 1986 and dumped in the veld. They lived in tents supplied by local churches for almost three years before the council housed them in the hostel.

The TPA has now told the families to apply for sites at Doornkop - but with the exception of the 1 300 sites being developed by Safrich, all the sites have already been allocated

A spokesman for the families, Goodwill Maphepha, said they have nowhere to go unless the council and the TPA comes up with a plan before the end of May

He said most families could not afford the R20 000 to R25 000 for the Safrich ready-built homes as they are unemployed and cannot get loans

The Legal Resources Centre is now assisting the families to negotiate with the TPA and the council for alternative accommodation

Dobsonville Civic Association's spokesman for the homeless, Zacharia Moraludi, has called on the council and the TPA to allocate Doornkop sites to the poor and homeless from Dobsonville.

Pay up — or be cut off!

By DAN DHLAMINI

City Press
28/3/91

(127)

PAY up or we'll cut off your water and switch off your lights

This is the stern warning from Ikageng's newly-appointed administrator, Johan Oosthuizen

In a strongly-worded notice accompanying monthly accounts, Oosthuizen, a National Party member and a councillor in the Conservative Party-controlled Potchefstroom Town Council, said residents owed R2-million for water and electricity

He said if residents did not pay up, water and electricity would be cut off on April 18. Residents who could not afford to pay could arrange with him to settle their debts in instalments

Reacting to the notices, Ikageng Civic Association secretary Sello Tshwaribe said the community did not recognise Oosthuizen as administrator.

"He has been imposed on us. As far as we are concerned there is no council and a people's delegation will be elected to negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Administration over the appointment of an administrator, the writing-off of arrears and the introduction of an interim flat rate while talks continue," said Tshwaribe

Oosthuizen, who told *City Press* he was open-minded and would like to talk to all community organisations, said if residents did not pay, Ikageng would soon find itself in the same plight as its neighbouring towns of Khuma, Jouberton, Stilfontein and Klerksdorp.

Klerksdorp and Stilfontein councils cut off township electricity because bills were not paid. Residents retaliated by boycotting white-owned businesses

Khuma and Jouberton Civic Associations refused to discuss the boycott before electricity was reconnected.

The boycott crippled the economy of the two towns and businessmen got together and offered to pay some of the debt if the electricity supply was restored. The boycott was subsequently lifted.

Woman evicted as row rages over sale of family home

FORMER Dobsonville mayor Steve Kgame is involved in a controversy surrounding ownership of a house which led to the occupier of 31 years being evicted. (Press 24/3/91)

When Mamahabedu Anna Kgaile returned from work this week she found her household belongings strewn all over the yard. (127)

She was told that two messengers of the court and four gun-toting municipal policemen came to her house looking for her and when they did not find her, broke the lock and threw everything outside.

Dumbfounded and sitting forlornly on the stoep of what was once her house while Dobsonville Civic Association (DCA) members brought the goods back inside, Kgaile said "I do not know what I have done to deserve this kind of treatment. I had R420 in the house and now it's gone."

She showed City Press receipts amounting to R1 605 which indicated she bought the house from the council.

She also had court documents which showed that Kgame bought the house from her mother Martha for R2 000 on May 26, 1987, and later sold it to Mohatla Lazarus Makoala for R14 400 - netting a whopping R12 400 for the semi-detached house.

Kgaile said their father Petrus died in 1981 after he had divorced their mother and they occupied the house without their mother.

"My mother lives in Taung and the only time she came to Dobsonville was to sign the new permit in 1984. We know nothing about the house being sold by her," she said.

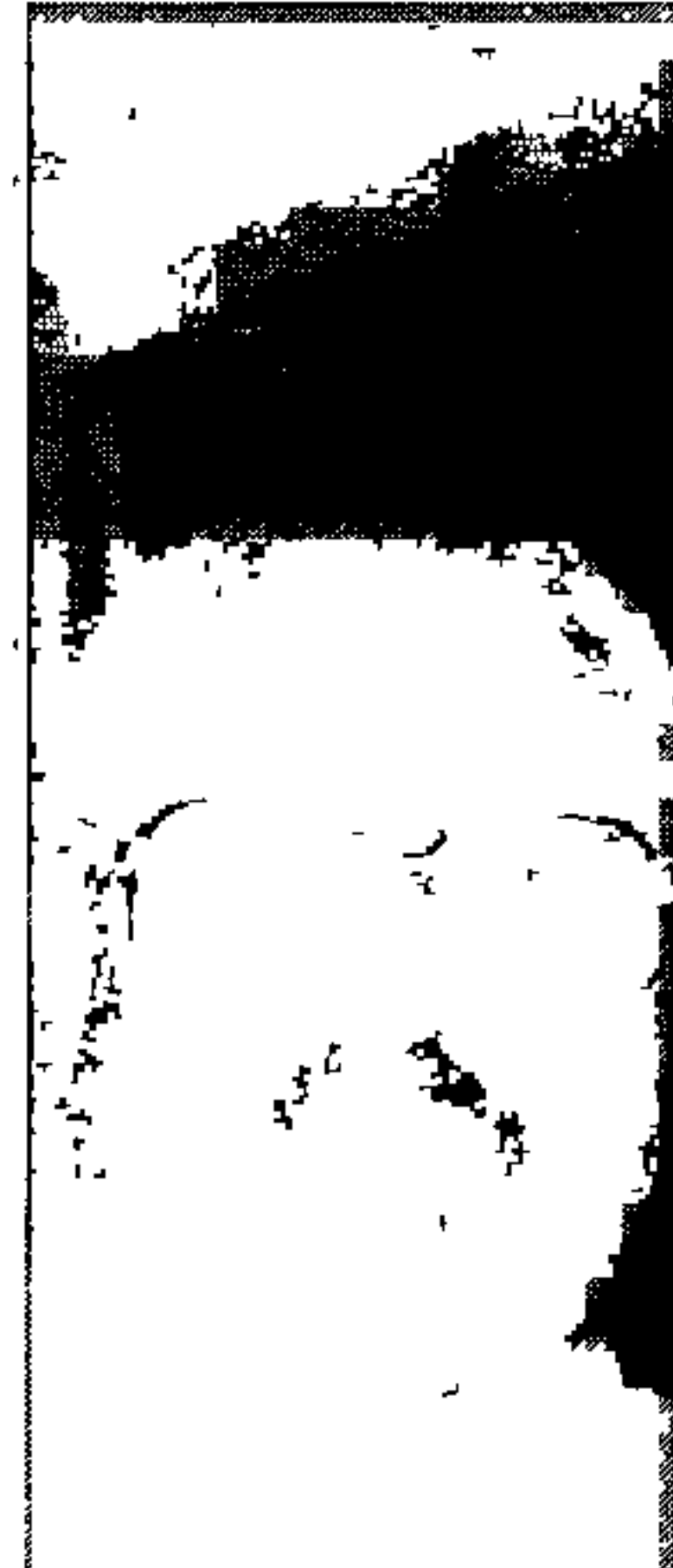
The Kgaile's had occupied the house since August 29, 1960, after they were forcibly removed from KwaJuluwe location in Roodeport West.

Papers before court state that Makoala bought the house from Kgame on October 29, 1989, and that Kgaile was refusing to vacate it.

He wanted to move in with his family and applied to the court for an eviction order, which was granted.

At the time of the transaction Kgame was chairman of the housing committee.

DCA spokesman Japhtha Lekgetho said - "We are not going to be



Kgame ... bought and sold house.

spectators to our people's sufferings while others plan with the councillors to buy other people's houses. We are not going to allow our people to be tossed around."

Alexandra civic protestors 'assaulted and locked in'

By ELIAS MALULEKE

CP Press 24/3/91 (12)

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) claimed this week that ACO members staging a sit-in at the Alexandra Town Council offices were assaulted and locked in and left without food on Tuesday afternoon.

ACO spokesman Richard Mdakane said the women protestors, including a 64-year-old pensioner, were assaulted by policemen who accompanied the mayor, Prince Mokoena, to retrieve some documents from his office shortly after 5pm.

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said

nothing had been reported to police, but invited the affected people to lay charges.

Fifteen women and five men started their sit-in inside the mayor's reception office on the first floor and the town clerk's reception office on the ground floor in February.

They are demanding the resignation of Mokoena and other councillors, saying the sit-in will continue indefinitely until councillors resign.

Mokoena has been in hiding since the sit-in began and is now operating from an office in a Johannesburg suburb.



Alexandra Civic Organisation sit-in protestors at the Council office of the mayor, Prince Mokoena.

Picture by TLADI KHUELE

Armed guards to travel on trains

By SOPHIE TEMA

A 24-HOUR police guard has been introduced on black trains and stations in Johannesburg to protect passengers.

Police will travel on trains between Johannesburg and Naledi and some stations have been made safer by the installation of fences for better gate control.

The South African Rail Commuter Corporation (SARCC) this week made the announcement.

The SARCC was established in April

last year to assume responsibility for rail commuter services in view of the government's decision to deregulate the railways.

While the SARCC is responsible for the safe operation of railway equipment, the SAP are to take responsibility for the personal safety of passengers on trains.

Violence on trains, resulting in the deaths of scores of commuters, led to an exodus from the railways to minibus taxis.

"Protestors' posters and banners on the walls were removed and destroyed by the policemen who arrived in two caspers," Mdakane said.

Evelyn Khuba, 64, said when the policemen arrived at the office with Mokoena, they ordered them to "gaan uit (get-out)".

When they refused, police started tearing posters and banners from the walls.

"They were aggressive and threatened us with violence while Mokoena made snide remarks about us," Khuba said.

Mavis Tshabalala said another policeman turned on her and accused her of being "cheeky", although she did not utter a word.

"He slapped me in the face twice and pulled me by the dress, forcing me to fall down on my knees," Tshabalala said.

Lillian Kgoele, 23, said she was also slapped and kicked by a policeman for no apparent reason.

"As a result I fell and rolled down a flight of 13 stairs. The other policeman laughed," she said.

The women said the police left with Mokoena, threatening that they would lock the main door and throw teargas canisters into the offices.

The door was then locked and they could not get out or receive food for more than 15 hours.

They could only get out when the town clerk, who was also locked out, persuaded one of the councillors to open the door with a spare key.

Mokoena told *City Press* that police did not lock the main door as alleged.

He said he locked the door because he had the key.

"I was only exercising my democratic rights. The office is mine and it has been left open for more than three weeks," Mokoena said.

Councils owe Eskom R120-m

BLACK town councils owe Eskom R120 million in outstanding electricity payments, says Eskom chief executive Ian McRae *Sowetan*

Presenting the group's 1990 annual report McRae said that the supply of electricity to the townships had become almost completely politicised over the last year. 25/3/91

Many township residents have refused to pay their electricity rates to the city councils, who pay bulk rates to Eskom. In response Eskom has cut off electricity supplies to many of the councils

Giant

Eskom's general manager, finance, Mick Davies said that the utility giant had sold about R250-m worth of electricity to black townships last year.

Total arrears this month were recorded at about R120-m and Eskom listed R95-m of this as an abnormal item in its latest balance sheet.

Although Davies stresses that this is not a write-off.

Despite these financial problems McRae said Eskom was committed to the electrification programmes in black townships - Sapa

Funds for township bulk services run out

Star 26/3/91

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau



Bulk services such as water, refuse removal and sewerage may no longer be provided to most East Rand townships next month because of a lack of funds.

The East Rand Regional Services Council has been providing funds for bulk services, but at its monthly meeting last week it said it no longer had the money to do so.

The funds given to the local authorities for bulk

services were originally intended to be used for capital development, but were diverted by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.



Tokoza Administrator Gert Muller said the TPA had made R4,5 million available to his council for the next financial year. This amount was not even enough to pay for the salaries of his staff.

Mr Muller said his council was negotiating with the TPA to review the matter.

R5-bn TPA budget stresses upliftment

Star 27/3/91

Political Staff

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday asked approval for a record R5 billion budget — according the major slice towards uplifting disadvantaged communities

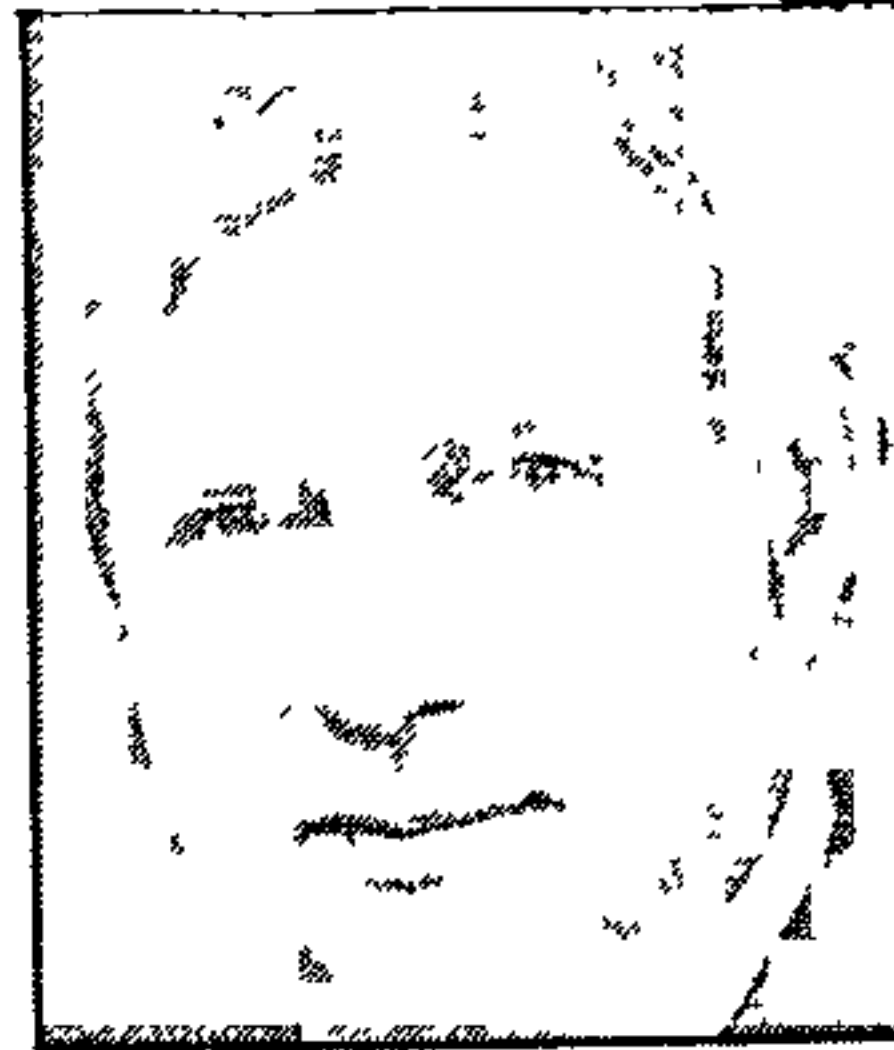
Priorities will be community development, black local authorities and bridging finance, and the emphasis will be on the maintenance of existing infrastructure rather than the creation of new infrastructures

Hospital services and primary health care also feature high on the list of planned expenditure

Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough yesterday tabled the budget before the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs for the Transvaal

The committee comprising all the Transvaal MPs is sitting in the old Raadsaal for the budget debate

Mr Hough presented a budget totalling R4 97 billion — 13,45 percent up on last year's budget. Better service conditions for TPA employees account for R183 million of the



Danie Hough

increase

Estimated revenue from provincial sources will be R778.5 million — an increase of 15.06 percent. The rest of the budget will be paid from central Government coffers

Mr Hough said a 'fierce attack' on the local government system and health services in Transvaal had adversely affected the quality of the TPA's services

As a result funds that could have been used for maintenance and community development had had to be used to maintain essential services

'Further expansion and development was more or less brought to a standstill by this' he said

Apart from the onslaught against local government structures the greatest problem facing the TPA was the housing shortage leading to illegal squatting on unsuitable land

Mr Hough said the Government's White Paper on Land Reform had placed the emphasis on the provision of suitable land for informal housing which may subsequently be upgraded

Acquiring land for this purpose was 'top of the list'

The TPA's community development branch had made excellent progress in the past year in the establishment of informal towns, Mr Hough added

Mr Hough warned that limited funds had forced a cut-back on the construction of new roads. And the maintenance of existing roads in the Transvaal, with an estimated replacement value of R21.2 billion had deteriorated at an alarming rate

He said the present form of provincial government was not representative, not elected, did not have its own legislative body, its functions were limited and it had only limited revenue-sources

Changing the face of a new South Africa

More than 60 towns, cities within decade

IMAGINE South Africa with another 68 towns and cities - some the size of Bronkhorstspuit, some no bigger than Naboomspuit and a good few as large as Randfontein, Roodepoort or Rustenburg.

That's the prediction 10 years hence. In another 20 or 30, there could be several more cities, possibly the size of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

Work has already started on these so-called "projects" which, in time, will change the face of South Africa - and which will house tens of thousands of newly urbanised people.

One of the organisations involved in South Africa's new look is the SA Housing Trust, a body created three or four years ago to "facilitate the provision of affordable shelter for the lower income communities."

Trust

The trust started building houses almost immediately but soon realised man needed more than a roof over his head.

If SAHT was to build, it could not simply construct "straight rows of houses". It had also to create shopping centres, schools, industrial parks, bus stations, clinics and recreation facilities.

It had to ensure parks were started and trees planted.

SAHT, in other words, had to create a balanced community environment where people would be happy to live and raise their families.

The level of services provided to a community

is yet another very important factor.

Mike Fowlds, corporate marketing manager of the SAHT said it was "short sighted and false economy" to provide people with sites without water, sewerage and electricity.

The old concept of one tap for every 10 houses was simply no longer acceptable.

"Human dignity requires certain basics," he said.

"Homeowners must be able to derive an element of dignity from their houses and environment."

Granny

Building balanced community developments has provided the people at SAHT with a new insight into what is required. Because houses had to be "affordable", (R20 000 for house and stand) dormitory housing was previously provided.

"We very quickly saw the dehumanising effect this would have on any community," Fowlds added. "We started speaking to people and learned what they wanted in terms of a home and environment. A granny told us the kitchen area of our houses was too small. She needed space because she minded several children while their mothers were at work."

"Another wanted bigger bedrooms."

The SAHT now offers its customers a choice of house at all its projects.

It created its own bond financing subsidiary and network of agents, and has initiated an education programme for "the little guy" who has had no ex-

perience of paying bonds rates, electricity and water.

Since its inception, the trust has approved projects which will make 62 600 houses and 54 800 stands available.

Fowlds said that with the housing backlog at 1.8m 320 000 houses a year had to be built by the year 2000.

Although the SAHT provided 40 percent of the affordable houses last year, it was not entirely satisfied with what it had accomplished.

"We need to push ahead at an even greater rate," he added.

He recognises however, that not everyone will want a house, that some may never be able to afford them. But the ultimate dream of most - to have a home of their own - may one day become a reality. - *Sowetan Correspondent*



Projects underway will house tens of thousands of families by the year 2000

Residents begin consumer boycott

RESIDENTS of the impoverished township of Namahabi-Frankfurt have decided to embark on an indefinite consumer boycott to force local authorities to accede to their demands.

According to the ANC Youth League's organising secretary, Mr Zanele Sithole, the boycott started yesterday

Residents are demanding that the Frankfurt business community pressure the local town council into upgrading facilities in the township.

The facilities involved include the installation of a water-borne sewerage system, the electrification of houses, upgrading of access roads in the township and the local stadium.

They also demand that the tax rank in town be upgraded and that the local police stop harassing residents, especially during night vigils

According to Sithole, several deputations have been sent to the local authorities but to no avail.

Lack of homes breeds violence, says Omhle

Sowetan 28/3/91
THERE is little wonder there is a culture of violence in South Africa because homeless people are forced to compete against each other for basic services.

Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle) general secretary Mr Basheer Lorgat was replying to a statement made by Transvaal Administrator, Mr Danie Hough in Parliament on Tuesday.

Supply

Hough said the supply of accommodation and facilities to thousands of homeless had caused great disruption and high costs, which the province could simply not afford.

"Hough's statements are misplaced on the issue of landlessness and homelessness, as well as its causes and effects," Lorgat said.

"This will continue so long as the Govern-

ment makes it a priority to seek re-entry into the Olympics, instead of ad-

ressing the 'bread and butter' issues of the day," he said. - Sapa

Clamp down on road offenders

TRAFFIC police are poised to clamp down on road offenders in a national campaign to keep the accidents down at the Easter weekend.

The campaign is being jointly launched by the Road Safety Council, the four provincial traffic departments, the police, the Black Taxi Association and medical officials and emergency service staff.

Cape provincial deputy traffic chief, Mr Stan Botha, said there was a need for drivers to adhere to road safety rules because people wanting to travel to their destinations "in a hurry" often forgot safety procedures.

Police patrol vehicles would be stationed every 10km along the N1 between Paarl and Colesburg and also in the Northern Transvaal and N3 in Natal. Traffic safety information centres would also be set up at crucial points in the campaign.

He said: "A special lookout will be kept for passenger overloading in vehicles of long-distance bus and minibus operators."

"Road users must accept responsibility not only for themselves but also for that of others. An unselfish approach is required, treating fellow travellers with consideration and courtesy.

"Aggression must be curbed and good manners should prevail at all times. - Own Correspondent

Atteridgeville set to expand

So wetan 28/3/91

THE housing shortage in Atteridgeville is to be alleviated with the building of more than 10 000 houses in an area west of the township.

Plans for the development of the area were unveiled by the township's Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, at a sod-turning ceremony at Ga-Mothakga Resort on Tuesday.

Jacobson said the westward expansion would see 13 000 houses being built, of which 6 100 would be completed during the first phase.

Jacobson said this was

a joint effort because land was donated by the Defence Force, Iscor and Habicon.

The bulk water and sewerage system will be provided by Cycad Construction while Ferrolin Power lines and Frog Electrical will instal electricity.

"We are therefore glad that the Regional Services Council (RSC) have voted the money for supplying the services."

Jacobson said the RSC might be the ideal model on which future local governments may develop because it had proved that

a tax base could be broadened and different councils could co-operate in developing and servicing a region like Pretoria and its environments.

"We also appreciate the involvement of the Pretoria City Council in supplying bulk services as well as administrative aid to Atteridgeville."

Jacobson said he foresaw the new development would be the first in a new a free society with the spirit of trust in South Africa where everybody will contribute to the well-being of the country.

- Own Correspondent

Government was warned, says civic leader Mayekiso

THE president of the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal, Mr Moses Mayekiso, yesterday put the blame for yesterday's Alexandra massacre squarely on the shoulders of the Government

Speaking at a Press conference following the killing of 14 people at a night vigil in the township early yesterday, Mayekiso said Cast gave the Government two weeks to stop the violence or else black people would consider arming themselves in self-defence.

He said there were white people who were in command of a "third force"

which massacred blacks in Daveyton, Sebokeng and Alexandra.

Meanwhile, the Inkatha Freedom Party yesterday condemned the Alexandra killings and described the attack as "yet another act of senseless violence". *Sowetan 28/3/91*

The IFP called on the police to bring the culprits to book

Mayekiso said Cast would call on "parties involved in negotiations with the Government" to reconsider their participation in the talks

Alex massacre: threat to arm residents

(127) LINDEN BIRNS

THE Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday warned it would arm residents if government failed to stop violence in the townships.

Reacting to yesterday's early morning massacre of 15 people in Alexandra township, north of Johannesburg, Cast president Moses Mayekiso said township civics would not hesitate to set up armed street or block defence committees unless peace was restored soon.

He said the weapons would be of a "deterrent nature which would make vigilantes think twice".

By yesterday afternoon 15 people had died as a result of gunshot wounds sustained after a gang armed with automatic firearms attacked a Swazi family holding a mourners' vigil in their home early yesterday. About 13 others were injured.

"Civics must listen to the call of their communities. It's not just the ANC or Inkatha being attacked. What we have is vigilantes attacking the communities. Government has two weeks to stop the violence," Mayekiso said.

Survivors of yesterday's shooting said the police were called during Tuesday night after the gang made an earlier attempt to attack the vigil house.

Police spokesman Lt Nina Barkhuizen confirmed this, but said police had decided not to grant special protection to residents in the area as no evidence of an armed gang could be found.

"It was decided instead to increase patrols, and a police patrol did visit the house but left about 10 minutes before the shootings occurred," she said.

Red Cross worker Beatrice Mampane, who helped survivors in the aftermath of the attack, said police arrived on the scene about an hour and a half after the massacre.

Survivor Doris Ramokgole said she hid when armed men "banged on the windows

□ To Page 2

Alex 28/3/91

and door and told us in Zulu to open up". She said she lost five family members in the attack.

Victims were taken to Baragwanath, Thembisa and Johannesburg hospitals, where many of them underwent surgery.

SAP Commissioner Gen Johan van der Merwe yesterday ordered that a special team be set up to investigate the shootings.

An ANC statement claimed the attack had been orchestrated by "shadowy elements" with the aim of destabilising the ANC and the peace process. It claimed the

(127) ~~28~~ □ From Page 1

attackers wore uniforms and used automatic weapons with "expertise suggesting they had undergone thorough training".

Inkatha condemned the attack and called on the police to find the perpetrators. It also called on communities not to launch revenge attacks as this would threaten negotiations.

Yesterday morning police in Alexandra threatened to arrest journalists unless they left the township immediately.

● Picture: Page 3

Power cut
warning to

Vosloorus

Wilson Zwane
28/3/91

ABOUT 42% of Vosloorus residents would have their power cut unless their accounts were paid by next Friday, the East Rand township's town clerk George Prinsloo said yesterday. Prinsloo said in a statement yesterday 10 001 (57,81%) households had already paid the agreed upon flat rate of R57 for this month.

He added while payments received so far were a good start towards resolving the rent and services boycott in the township, it was still "necessary to take steps against the large numbers of residents who have not yet paid".

Restored

"They are, accordingly, given until April 5 to pay their accounts," he said. The deadline warning comes almost a month after electricity was restored to the township following negotiations between the Vosloorus town council, Eskom, the TPA, Inkatha, Vosloorus Civic Association and local trade unionists.

The parties agreed that power, which was cut on January 29, should be restored on condition that residents paid interim rates of R57 for this month and R60 for April and May

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127



Building has begun . . . at Mfundo Park for the Star Homes Show 1991. An extra 14 showhouses will go on display. Picture. John Hogg

Home sites sell fast ⁽¹²⁷⁾

By Thabo Leshilo ^{Star 24/7/91}

Sites at Mfundo Park, the venue of The Star Homes Show 1991, are selling like hot cross buns — and the organisers have been forced to increase the number of showhouses

Exhibitors attracted by the rewards of the lucrative black market in affordable homes have already snapped up the 43 stands initially earmarked for the show

Louis van Wyk, a

spokesman for the strategic town planners and development managers, Citicon, said showhouses have had to be increased to 57 because of builders' interest in the innovative project

The show, which features comfortable homes priced from R15 000 to R35 000, will be held on the northern outskirts of Vosloorus

Also on show will be a temporary exhibition of houses costing below R10 000 available in

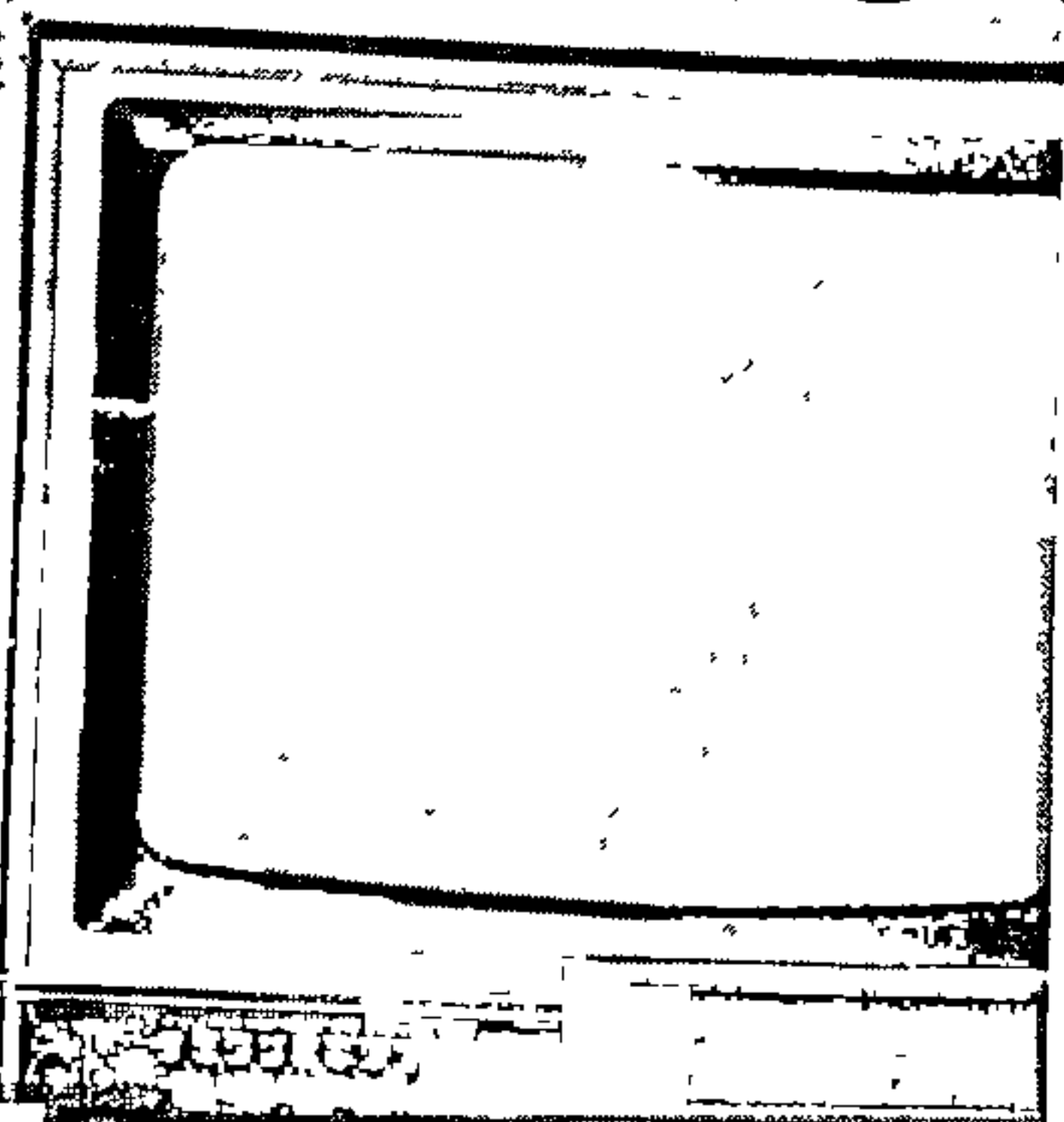
South Africa ⁽²⁶⁵⁾

A wide variety of other innovative home products and home improvement services will be exhibited at 100 exhibition stands at The Star Homes Show

Mfundo Park is a development of the Perm's property development arm, Permprop, which has put R30 million into the project

The show will be held at weekends and on public holidays from May 9 to June 2

NOW YOU C



Housing Trust works towards houses for all

Star 28/3/91

By Winnie Graham

Imagine South Africa with another 68 towns and cities — some the size of Bronkhorstspuit, some no bigger than Naboomspruit and a good few as large as Randfontein, Roodepoort or Rustenburg.

That's the prediction 10 years hence. In another 20 or 30, there could be several more cities, possibly the size of Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

Work has already started on these so-called "projects" which will change the face of South Africa — and house tens of thousands of urbanised people.

One of the organisations involved in South Africa's new look is the SA Housing Trust (SAHT), a body created in the '80s to "facilitate the provision of affordable shelter for the lower income communities".

The Trust started building houses almost immediately but soon realised man needed more

than a roof over his head.

If SAHT were to build, it could not simply construct "straight rows of houses". It had also to create shopping centres, schools, industrial parks, bus stations, clinics and recreation facilities. It had to ensure parks were started and trees planted.

SAHT, in other words, had to create a balanced community environment where people would be happy to live and raise their families.

Mike Fowlds, corporate marketing manager of the SAHT, said it was also "short-sighted and false economy" to provide people with sites without water, sewerage and electricity.

"Human dignity requires certain basics," he said.

Because the houses had to be "affordable" (R20 000 for house and stand), dormitory housing was previously provided.

"We very quickly saw the dehumanising effect this would have on any community," Mr Fowlds added. "We started speaking to people and learned what they wanted in terms of a

home and environment.

"A granny told us the kitchen area of our houses was too small. She minded several children while their mothers were at work and needed space. Another wanted bigger bedrooms."

The SAHT now offers its customers a choice of house at all its projects.

It created its own bond financing subsidiary and network of agents, and has initiated an education programme for "the little guy" who has had no experience of paying bonds, rates, electricity and water.

Mr Fowlds said with the housing backlog at 1,8 million, 320 000 houses a year had to be built by the year 2000.

Where has the money come from?

Mr Fowlds said the Government made interest-free "seed capital" of R400 million available in January 1987 "with the proviso that the Trust drew an additional R800 million from the private sector".

"We draw on this as and when we need it," he said.

COME TO US

C

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Blacks, housing shortage

104 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

- Handwritten: 161, 28/3/91*
- (1) What is it estimated was the shortage of housing for Blacks in the Republic, excluding the self-governing territories, at the end of 1990,
- (2) how many houses were provided in each province in 1990 for such Blacks by (a) the State, (b) local authorities and (c) the private sector,
- (3) when is it estimated that this shortage will be eliminated?

B289E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

Transvaal

- (1) 323 848 houses
- (2) (a) None
- (b) Maternal loans were granted to local authorities (5 212 loans were provided to individuals to erect houses)
- (c) 23 690 houses

(3) It is the aim of the Government that by the year 2000 shelter be provided for all South Africans

Natal

- (1) 180 000
- (2) (a) ± 500
- (b) None
- (c) ± 550

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(3) It is the aim of the Government that by the year 2000 shelter be provided for all South Africans

Orange Free State

- (1) 68 378
- (2) (a) 741
- (b) None
- (c) 1 651

(3) It is the aim of the Government that by the year 2000 shelter be provided for all South Africans

Cape Province

- (1) 184 760
- (2) (a) 415
- (b) 2 685 houses erected by way of self-help loans granted to individuals by local authorities
- (c) 5 020

(3) It is the aim of the Government that by the year 2000 shelter be provided for all South Africans

Persons/communities, resettled

132 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

Whether any persons or communities have been resettled under section 5(1)(b) of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, No 52 of 1951, as amended in 1990, if so, (a) how many persons or communities, (b) (i) from and (ii) to which areas and (c) who applied for the resettlement in each case?

B372E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

Yes

- (a) 214 Black families
- (b) (i) From an area without services in the Black residential area of Dorrecht
- (ii) To serviced sites in the Black residential area of Dorrecht

(c) On request of the Black Town Council of Dorrecht

Apart from the 214 families mentioned which have been resettled under section 5(1)(b) of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, No 52 of 1951 as amended in 1990, numerous voluntary renovals have taken place which led to the orderly settlement of approximately 245 000 people up to 31 December 1990, inter alia 16 250 at Mangaung near Bloemfontein, 18 000 at Odendaalsrus, 24 000 at Duda near Nigal, 80 000 at Orange Farm near Vereeniging and 47 760 at Zonkisswe near Germiston

Transvaal Black local authorities, services

162 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

- (1) (a) (i) In how many Black local authorities in the Transvaal has the provision of any services been discontinued and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (b) in respect of each such case, (i) what is the name of the relevant (aa) town and (bb) township, (ii) what services were discontinued and (iii) on what date was each of these services discontinued,
- (2) whether these services were discontinued only in townships that were in arrears in respect of service payments, if so, (a) what total amount is owed by each of the Black local authorities concerned and (b) to whom is it owed, if not, (i) what procedure was followed in discontinuing services and (ii) why was this procedure followed,
- (3) whether he is taking or plans to take any steps to restore the provision of services, if not, why not, if so, (a) what steps and (b) when?

B438E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

- (1) (a) (i) Seven
- (ii) 7 March 1991

(b)	(ii)	(iii)
Name of town	Services suspended	Date of suspension
(aa) and (bb)		
eMzinoni (Bethal)	Electricity	14 January 1991
Siyathuthuka (Belfast)	Electricity	19 November 1990
eThandakukhanya (Pret Retef)	Electricity	6 February 1991
Tswelatang (Wolmaransstad)	Electricity	17 October 1990
Boroelo (Swartruggens)	Electricity	29 January 1991
Tokoza (Alberton)	Electricity	1 December 1990
Munsterville (Krugersdorp)	Electricity	4 March 1991

(2) Yes

(a)

Name of town	Amount outstanding payable	(b) To whom
eMzinoni	R 672 787	Bethal
Siyathuthuka	R 75 407	Belfast
eThandakukhanya	R 157 975	Pret Retef
Tswelatang	R 28 279	Wolmaransstad
Boroelo	R 4 935	Swartruggens
Tokoza	R 2 248 908	Alberton
Munsterville	R 58 225	Krugersdorp

(b) (i) Falls away

(ii) Falls away

(3) No steps are to be taken to restore the respective services. Consumers should pay for the electricity they use as the services cannot be rendered unconditionally without payment. Available bridging finance is not intended to finance payment boycotts

OFS Black local authorities: services

164 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

- (1) (a) (i) In how many Black local authorities in the Orange Free State has the provision of any services been discontinued and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (b) in respect

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

NEW Deal for Homeless

Changes made after exposure of corruption by councillors

C/Pres 31/3/91

By DERRICK LUTHAYI

(127) ~~21/3/91~~

THE housing scandal at Doornkop, near Dobsonville, took a dramatic turn this week when three Greater Soweto councils introduced new measures to allocate land to the homeless

The measures, described by the Diepmeadow, Soweto and Dobsonville councils as unique in the history of land allocation in the country, follow the exposure by *City Press* last Sunday that the scheme was riddled with corruption and massive bribery

Dobsonville Civic Association (DCA) and the Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Omhle) had petitioned the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), which is responsible for Doornkop, to intervene immediately to stop any involvement of councillors in the allocation of Doornkop sites

Council lawyers say individual councils will invite interested people and organisations in their municipalities to submit representations for names to be included in the pool from which allocations will be made. The successful applicants' names will be handed over to the TPA for a final decision

A statement from Dobsonville Council, whose councillors were named as asking for bribes, have denied their councillors have been involved and challenged any organisation or individual who has made these allegations to lay charges against them

It adds that in the event of any councillor being found guilty the council will dismiss him immediately

However, it warns that should these allegations continue against an individual councillor or the council they will sue for defamation of character

It further stated that any applicant applying for land at Doornkop must have been on the council's housing waiting list and no councillor could make applications for anyone

A lawyer for Dobsonville residents said 10 people had claimed in sworn affidavits to have paid bribes of up to R200 to councillor Leleki Mohajane. He had advised them to lay charges and to fill in forms at the Small Claims Court demanding their money back

HOUSING & HOSTELS — T.V.L.

APRIL — JUNE

~~1964~~

Focus on growing PWV population

127

51 Day 3/4/91

1285

Reports by
CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

THE need to address a rapidly growing population and a society recently freed from apartheid were the main themes of last week's SA Property Owners' Association (Sapoa) conference on Greater Johannesburg in Transition

"The PWV is going to have to support an urban population vastly in excess of that which now exists," Gallagher Aspoas Poplak urban planner Erky Wood told delegates "The foundations for this will have to be laid over the next five to 10 years if an urban crisis of monumental proportions is to be averted"

Johannesburg CBD Association urban planning consultant Diana Mayne said "Johannesburg faces not only the typical urban change endemic to all communities worldwide but a major socio-political transition"

Wood argued that to assimilate urbanisation, approaches to development legislation would have to be reviewed to cope with successive waves of redevelopment

Wood and Ampros director and Sandton town councillor Peter Gardiner pointed to the 70km strip of unused land forming an east-west axis along the Witwatersrand from Randfontein to Springs, which is owned by the mining companies

"The existence of vast areas of vacant land close to a major centre is an anomaly,

and while there is still the opportunity to allocate it for the national priority of affordable housing, it should be taken," Gardiner said

Wood also indicated areas such as Modderfontein and Midrand for potential development and suggested a system of regional corridors to the south of Johannesburg that would provide a basis for further development

Soweto Civic Association representative Khehle Shubane said SA cities had been the most glaring example of white supremacist policies. In the transitional phase to a democratic order, attention should be given to the injustices created by unequal access to resources

"United and non-racial cities could now begin to be given full attention, both by township civics and local authorities. This takes the country beyond the view that it was sufficient merely to open white cities to all," Shubane said

"Townships on their own are not going to overcome years of unequal allocation of resources"

Human Resources Development strategist and managing member of Career and Resource Development Strategies Lente Louise Louw told delegates how the realities of cultural diversity could be handled

In Soweto Star 3/4/91 some pay, others don't

By Montshiwa Moroke 127

Rent in some parts of Greater Soweto has increased beyond expectations since the signing of the historic accord, but in some cases householders had not paid a cent so far.

Diepmeadow mayor M J Khumalo said yesterday he had been encouraged by money collected by his council last month.

At the time of the signing of the accord in August, a total of R516,2 million was owed to the three Soweto councils in rent arrears and service charges.

Householders in Diepmeadow alone were in arrears of R89,5 million.

Mr Khumalo said "There is definitely an improvement in Diepmeadow. The graph has been going up since January and payment between March 1 and 18 was more than R1 million.

"But there are those who simply still refuse to pay. They are a burden to others and are pushing the council to take serious steps against them," Mr Khumalo warned.

Tembisa 8/20 3/4/91 electricity cut looms

East Rand Bureau

127

The Tembisa Council has threatened to cut off power supply to the township on Monday if residents do not begin paying an interim rate of R75 for electrified homes and R25 for those without electricity.

The mayor of Tembisa, Solomon More, said that unless residents payed up or contacted the council before Monday, the power supply would be cut off.

The council is reported to owe R8.5 million for electricity, R1 million for water and R382 000 for refuse removal.

The council introduced an interim flat rate last year, but said that until now only 10 percent of residents were paying.

Mr More said the council had suspended arrear rentals in September, hoping that residents would pay the tariff.

Tembisa Residents Association president Albert Tleane said the matter had been handed over to the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal for their attention.

Tokoza heads township arrears list

4/4/91 By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN
Political Correspondent

127

SEVEN Transvaal and 16 Orange Free State townships owe about R7 million for electricity and water

Services at these areas were cut off between November last year and last month, the Minister of Planning Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr Hernus Kriel said.

Replying to questions put to him by the Democratic Party's Mr Jan van Eck, Kriel said that Tokoza showed the highest arrears in the Transvaal (R2.25m) while Thabong was the highest in the OFS (R1.9m).

The arrears were calculated from between September last year and March this year, he said.

Kriel warned that no bridging funds would be made available in the Transvaal and "no steps are to be taken to restore the respective services".

"Consumers should pay for the electricity they use as the services cannot be rendered unconditionally without payment," he said.

The Minister said that steps had been taken in the Free State in the form of discussions with concerned parties

He also said that campaigns had been launched to motivate payment and communications networks by means of the popular media had also been initiated.

He repeated however, that while the campaigns would continue, the payments had to be made by the consumer.

The effected townships in the Transvaal are:

- * - eMzimoni, Bethal (R67 787 arrears),
- * - Siyathuthuka, Belfast (R75 407 arrears),
- * - eThandakukhanya, Piet Retief (R157 975 arrears),
- * - Tsweleng, Wolmaransstad (R28 279),
- * - Borolelo, Swartruggens (R4 935 arrears),
- * - Tokoza, Alberton (R2 248 908 arrears) and
- * - Munsieville, Krugersdorp (R58 225).

These townships have had only their electricity cut.

In the Free State the cuts are across the board in many areas, but range from electricity, water nightsoil, garbage and sewage

Police warn Cast over defence units

POLICE and the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal are at loggerheads over Cast's threat that it will help in setting up "community defence units" unless the fighting factions are disarmed by next Wednesday.

Cast spokesman, Mr Cas Coovadia, said yesterday it would be tragic if Cast's members were forced to "fight violence with violence".

At a Press conference last week, Cast gave the Government two weeks to disarm both factions or it would help in providing

the community with weapons to stave off attackers.

Coovadia said Cast was presently looking at ways of building up a stock of weapons.

"We are speaking to communities and organisations such as the ANC to find ways of defending ourselves."

"Weapons aren't easy to come by but people can be very creative when their lives are threatened," he said.

Asked to comment, police said they would take action against any group which took the law

into its own hands

A spokesman for the Ministry of Law and Order, Captain Craig Kotze, said police would not tolerate the existence of private political armies.

"We welcome those who wish to combat crime and violence to work with the police."

"Self-defence units will only continue to polarise communities along political lines and increase the potential for violence," he said.

He said until people involved in violence settled their disputes, violence would continue.

127
11/11/71
Southern



Lady Luck smiles on potential platteland ghost town

By Helen Grange *Star* 5/11/91

Two crises have struck the town of Balfour just south of Heidelberg — but in an unexpected twist, one crisis has helped cancel out the potentially disastrous effects of the other.

Five months ago, Balfour traders and residents were devastated by the closure of Anglo American's Springfield colliery and the mothballing of Eskom's Grootvlei power station — which meant a massive move of people away from the area

Today, however, the town finds itself accommodating scores of people faced by a housing shortage in surrounding towns, thereby filling the vacuum left by former mine and power station employees.

Expecting ghost-town status, Balfour has instead discovered an alternative way to stay alive.

During a visit by The Star to the neatly groomed country town yesterday, residents told of their relief over the recent developments.

"When employees at the

power station were transferred, there were plenty of empty houses. But people are filling them again because they are being rented cheaply by Eskom.

"Every house is going to be occupied by people — black and white — who work as far afield as QwaQwa, Vereeniging, Heidelberg, Standerton, Springs and Johannesburg," said Katharine Graaf.

At a prayer meeting at Grootvlei power station last week, residents discovered that for every two families moving out, there were three planning

to move in, according to the owner of Odies pawn shop in town, who preferred not to be named.

A traffic officer painting a bright new zebra crossing said the local high school boarded children from many areas surrounding Balfour.

"This town is also home to a good many pensioners and retired folk I believe Balfour is doing well," he said.

Traders not prospering so well out of new developments are those whose business came mostly from black miners and

power station employees. "Hundreds of the higher-income black workers from Siyambu township had to be transferred after the closure of the colliery and power plant — and although their families are still in the township, quite a lot of money has left town with the breadwinners," said the owner of a struggling take-away shop.

Said Mrs Graaf, "We have bioscope every Friday. We have a clubhouse, sporting grounds and miniature golf. At the swimming pool we have seen a lot of new faces."

Court refuses 127 2 hostel dwellers leave to appeal ☺

TWO Tembisa hostel dwellers have been refused leave by the Bloemfontein Appeal Court to appeal against the dismissal of their applications on the rights of new owners to terminate their occupancy.

The two are Mr Mkhulu Tjale and Mr Phephelaphi Rwayi, who stayed at Ethafeni Hostel.

The hostel consisted of 200 four-roomed units, each with three bedrooms and four beds. The units were used to accommodate single males, but families began to move into them in April 1987. *Sowetan 3/4/91.*

Accommodation

In February 1989 the Tembisa Council decided to sell the units at Ethafeni, in which no lessees (holders of hostel permits) resided, and which were occupied by families whose names were on the official waiting list prior to January 1 1988.

However, on April 26 1989 the council resolved to sell the units to any legal resident of Tembisa. Hostel dwellers were to be given three months to vacate the premises.

Tjale and Rwayi contended that they were entitled to be provided with alternative accommodation. - *Sapa.*

Fears of cholera, typhoid in waterless CP-run township

The Shame of Carolina

See 5/14/41

127

CAROLINA — After 80 days without water, sewerage and refuse removal, there has been an outbreak of scabies and other infectious skin diseases in Slobela township here.

The Conservative Party-supporting town council of Carolina, which lies between Withank and Ermelo, cut Slobela's services on January 17 after its arrears reached R130 000.

Apart from skin diseases, local doctors said the instances of dysentery and gastro-enteritis are approaching epidemic level, especially among small children.

Slobela's administrator, Maame van Vuuren, said he had notified the Department of National Health of the outbreak of contagious skin diseases and the township's growing health crisis.

Poluted

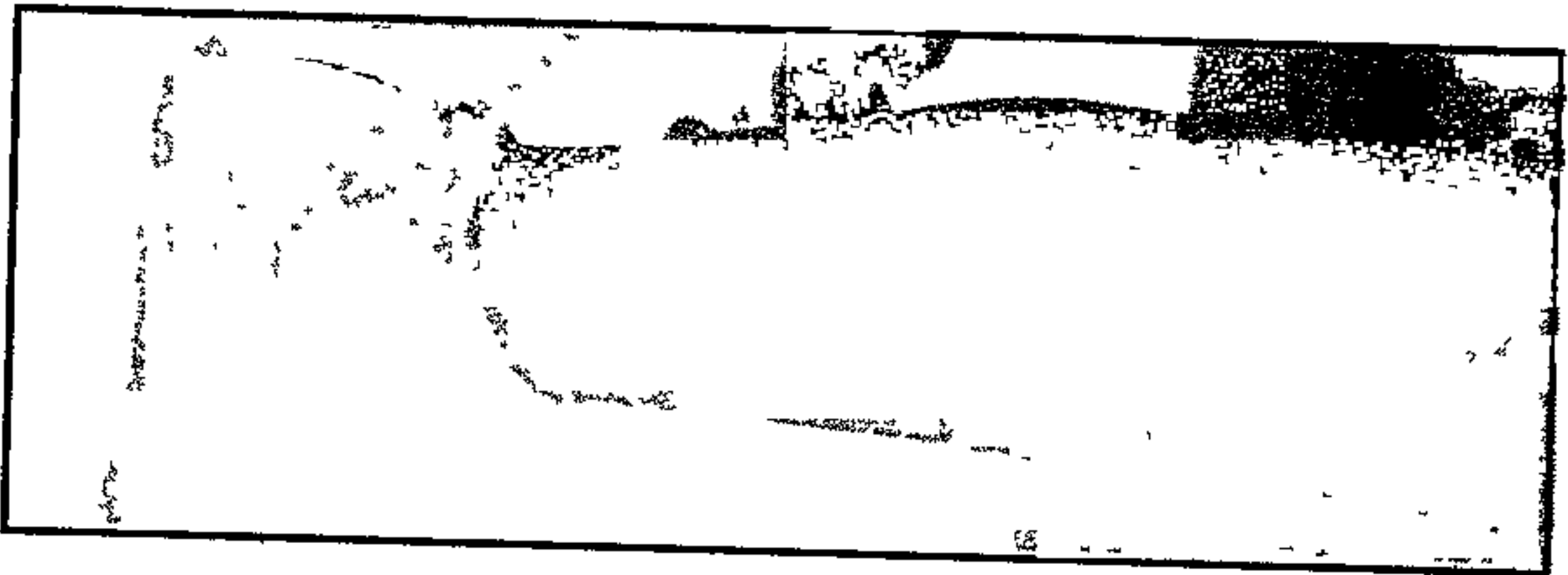
A local doctor said yesterday "I plead with the Government to get the water turned on before the health of the community deteriorates further and we begin seeing cholera and typhoid."

"There is no doubt that the outbreak of scabies is a result of the community's poor hygiene now that residents are forced to live without running water."

For 11 weeks, Slobela residents have had to collect water from the town's Indian area or from the township's polluted spruit.

In recent weeks the Carolina Town Council has been selling water in the township for 1c a litre. Slobela has been without electricity since October

Report and pictures by Therese Anders



Health risk many youngsters have developed skin sores

Local township leaders maintain there has never been a services boycott in Slobela

They say residents previously paid a flat rate of R11 and are now prepared to pay R25 a month for services and water, although the local

township authority says a minimum of R43 per household must be paid monthly to break even.

The parent of one of the students at Slobela's 1 000-pupil Ezenzeleni Primary School took me on a tour of classes. Many of the youngsters had skin sores.

Said one teacher "Our children never had these skin problems before the water was cut off. Now we have about 100 children infected and the number is growing."

"Without water, nobody is able to wash themselves properly, and mothers cannot thoroughly clean clothing."

The children are being educated under the most trying conditions

Pits

"There is absolutely no water to drink at this school right now," the teacher said.

"For water to flush the toilets, pupils are sent into the veld with buckets to get water from pits which have been dug near the river."

Outside the school fence — and in the township — lie piles of stinking refuse

The Department of Education and Training was told of the school's hygiene crisis last term but so far nothing had been done, parents said.

All attempts to obtain comment from the DET were unsuccessful, as were attempts to contact representatives of Carolina's CP council.

Slobela administrator Mr van Vuuren said the only reason night-soil buckets were collected from those parts of the township still using that system was because of the generosity of an Indian trader who paid for the tractor's diesel.



Trying conditions . . . with no water at the school, pupils are sent into the veld to get water to flush lavatories

Carolina row: TPA says water bill WAS paid

127

Star 6/4/91

IN a shock disclosure the Transvaal Provincial Administration has revealed that the water account for disease-ridden Silobela township — which has been without water or sewerage for 80 days — was paid by the TPA two weeks ago.

But Carolina's Conservative Party council refused to reconnect the water until the township's full arrears of R123 000 for electricity and other services were met.

Last night the TPA sharply criticised the Carolina council and ordered it to reconnect Silobela's water immediately, or face possible Supreme Court action.

However, Silobela residents will still be without water this weekend because the CP council has stalled the TPA until Monday, saying any decision on reconnection can only be taken at a meeting of the full council.

They say the first opportunity for an extraordinary council meeting will be on Monday.

The Star yesterday disclosed that after 80 days without water, sewerage and refuse removal there has been an outbreak of scabies and other infectious skin diseases in the township.

Local doctors also say the instances of dysentery and gastroenteritis in the area are approaching epidemic level.

The TPA's deputy director general of community affairs Len Dekker said he had instructed a provincial deputy director to visit Silobela yesterday morning immediately after reading The Star's story.

"After receiving his report and that of regional director Mr Neels Zaayman, I ordered the Carolina town council to reconnect the water at once," said Mr Dekker.

His officials reported that Carolina had been paid R10 480 on March 26 to cover the township's water consumption for that month.

Condemned

"The Carolina council used that money to cover the water arrears, but instead of reconnecting the supply they said 'Okay, the water is now paid, but they're not going to get their water until they also pay for the electricity'.

"As I read the contract, once the water account had been fully paid Carolina is obliged to reconnect the water supply.

THERESE ANDERS

They can't withhold water just because the electricity account is outstanding."

Mr Dekker condemned Carolina council's actions.

He said he wanted to hear from the Carolina council on Monday that they had held their extraordinary meeting and reconnected the township's water.

He also hit out at the ANC, who he felt were also partly to blame for Silobela's suffering.

"We had negotiations with the ANC on March 4 in which it was agreed between all parties that residents would pay R38 a month for the first two months.

"That would get the ball rolling again to provide proper services to the community.

"Then within that period affordable and realistic tariffs would be worked out.

"According to information from my regional office Mr Joe Nkuna from the ANC undertook to consult the community and to come back for further talks on the matter.

Caravanning

"But to this day he has not come back to us, despite the fact that he was phoned by the TPA's regional office two weeks ago."

Carolina's town secretary Albert Myburgh said the only council official allowed to speak to the press was the mayor, currently Dr Sarel Bloem.

However, Dr Bloem was away on a caravanning holiday until April 15 and could not be contacted.

SA 17/1/91 (127)

Atteridgeville faces switch-off

The Pretoria City Council is to cut bulk electricity supply to Atteridgeville at 8 am today until the township pays its debt.

Today's switch-off will be the second in seven months. The first, in September, lasted only a few hours.

The chairman of the Pretoria council's management committee, Pieter Smith, said the switch-off was inevitable because the township had been given until April 9 to pay its February account — Pretoria Bureau.

West Rand dispute drags on

By MARTIN NTSOELNGOE

THE war of words between the Randfontein Town Council and Toekomsrus residents is shifting from the township's dusty streets to the courts.

Residents who refuse to pay services charges and rent and electricity bills have been summonsed to court.

Many residents paid up after being told their properties would be sold if they did not pay up.

The Randfontein council postponed a planned meeting with the Toekomsrus Crisis Committee (TCC) this week, and the TCC is now accusing them of using delaying tactics.

At an earlier meeting, the council rejected a TCC proposal that residents pay a flat rate of R80, dropping to R60 for pensioners.

Trouble started after residents refused to pay any rates unless their demands were met.

In December last year the council switched off the non-payers' lights.

Youths then started destroying electrical equipment, plunging the township into darkness.

The TCC demands include a single non-racial body to administer both Randfontein and Toekomsrus, a flat rate for all services in the township, and the transfer of some old houses to residents.

Pay rents, ¹²⁷ urges VCA

THE Vosloorus Civic Association has urged residents to pay their rent to avoid further electricity cut-offs.

Only 70 percent of residents had responded to the restoration of electricity after an interim agreement reached with the Vosloorus Town Council made provision for the residents to pay R57 in March and R60 in April and May *Sowetan 8/4/91*

Due to the poor response, the township is threatened with another cut-off.

A spokesman for the association, Mr Keith Montsisi, said VCA had applied for an extension to allow residents to increase their payments - *Sapa*

Carolina told: turn on taps or go to court

Star 8/4/91

127

20/4/91

By Therese Anders
Highveld Bureau

CAROLINA — The Conservative Party town council here has until today to switch on disease-ridden Silobela township's water supply, or possibly face Supreme Court action by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

At the weekend the provincial authorities disclosed that Silobela's water account of R10 480 had been paid by the TPA two weeks ago.

But the CP council refused to reconnect the supply because the township's outstanding electricity arrears of R123 000 had not been met.

Last week, The Star reported that after 80 days without water, sewage or refuse removal there had been an outbreak of scabies and other infectious skin diseases in the small eastern Transvaal township.

And local doctors said the instances of dysentery and gastro-enteritis were reaching epidemic level.

The Department of National Health had been notified of the health crisis by township administrator Manie van Vuuren.

On Friday, the TPA's deputy

director general of community affairs, Len Dekker, said he had ordered the Carolina council to turn on Silobela's water supply immediately when he heard that the township's water account had been settled.

However, a council official had stalled him until the end of the weekend, saying this could only be done by council resolution, and the earliest the council could hold an extraordinary meeting was today.

Said Mr Dekker: "As I read the contract, once the water account had been fully paid Carolina is obliged to reconnect the water supply. They can't withhold water because the electricity account is outstanding."

He said he wanted to hear from the Carolina council today that they had held their extraordinary meeting and reconnected the township's water.

"Failing that, I will recommend to the Administrator that urgent court action be taken."

All attempts to get comment from the Carolina town council were unsuccessful. Council secretary Albert Myburgh said only mayor Dr Sarel Bloem was allowed to talk to the press, and he was on a caravanning holiday until April 15.

We're piggy in the middle, says Eskom

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

Eskom has strongly denounced the punitive blackout of townships by white local authorities in response to massive outstanding electricity accounts

Communications manager Johan du Plessis said this practice was extremely unfair because it posed serious security and health risks to black communities and punished residents who paid their accounts

Eskom was firm on its views that non-paying individuals

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should have their electricity cut off, but not entire towns, he said

Mr du Plessis said Eskom's negotiations with community organisations confirmed that 80 percent of township residents were prepared to pay their accounts once affordable tariffs and accurate metering and billing systems were implemented

He said black local authorities owed Eskom about R120 million countrywide, but Eskom had not cut off power supplies to any of the defaulting black towns

"Some people blame us because we don't cut off electricity

"This is because they believe blacks don't want to pay for services. But white people would not pay their accounts either if they were to have the problems black residents have

"On the other hand, most blacks blame Eskom for the mess in which they have been caught up. They don't understand that Eskom cannot bypass the local authorities which have the right of supply"

Food aid for Orania families

^{31 Day 9/14/91} ORANIA's last 11 coloured families, forced to move to Warrenton in the Transvaal from the Afrikaner-only town in the north-western Cape at the weekend, were given a month's supply of food by welfare workers

However, all 11 family heads are unemployed and have no cash to start looking for jobs, pay rent or renovate the core housing they were assigned

Jan Stellenberg, spokesman for the 11 families, said the houses were not complete inside (AMM)

"We left fully completed houses, whereas these are merely shells with bathrooms. And what will we use for transport money to go job-hunting, or pay the rent with? All of us are quite desolate."

The community has approached Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) in Kimberley for financial assistance

Afrikaner Volkswag head Prof Carel Boshoff said "We offered to let them (the families) stay until the end of March, and also offered to help them move, which we have in fact done. We do not believe that it is correct to blame our organisation." — Sapa

Cast calls township residents to arms

THE ANC-aligned Civics Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday urged township residents to arm themselves and form defence units (127) (28)

Cast spokesmen told a news conference in Johannesburg the organisation had asked President F W de Klerk to meet them on Thursday to discuss the escalating violence on the Reef

At the meeting, Cast would demand the urgent scrapping of hostels, which it said had become "vigilante bases and launching pads" Bidan 9/14/91

It also called for the immediate resignation of all the remaining black councillors and management committees who had become "the actual source of violence

TANIA LEVY

against our people"

Cast president Moses Mayekiso said the violence, and particularly attacks by "root-doeke" vigilantes using spears, pangas, choppers and other so-called traditional weapons had escalated

Now residents were being told to defend themselves against their killers, including the "third force created by government"

Cast supported the ANC's call for a ban on the carrying of weapons, but while this was not heeded by government, communities would have to carry weapons for self-defence, said Mayekiso

These would include firearms

Launch of Chamber hangs in the balance

By Jo-Anne Collinge and Shirley Woodgate 9/4/91

Political violence has reared its head as a last minute threat to the formation of the multiracial Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, due to be constituted in Johannesburg today

The inaugural meeting was still in the balance 15 minutes before it was due to start at 9 am as there was no sign of any of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) members

At the heart of the issue is a claim by CAST that township councillors "have become the actual source of violence against our people" and that sitting on a joint structure with councillors demands urgent re-consideration

CAST affiliates — including

those who are potential members of the Metropolitan Chamber — were due to meet today to take a final decision on whether to take part in the Chamber or not

Said CAST vice-president Kgabisi Masunkutu yesterday "There might be a surprise taking place"

CAST president Moses Mayekiso said "The whole violence issue is going to play a role in deciding whether to participate in such a structure with people who are mowing down the communities through using red doeke (sic) vigilantes"

CAST general secretary Sam Ntuli added that CAST had resolved "that civics are not allowed to sit with councillors any more because of the escalation of violence"

In addition to reviewing participation in the Chamber, CAST is seeking a meeting with President de Klerk this week to discuss its demand for the res-

ignation of councillors and its proposal for the setting up of "interim local structures"

At the launch it appears possible that would-be participants will be faced with a last-minute amendment to the constitution, moved by the civics, in which an attempt may be made to eliminate councillors

In terms of the draft constitution, the Chamber will comprise nine civics from the greater Johannesburg area, the Johannesburg, Roodepoort, Randburg and Sandton councils, coloured and Indian management committees, the three Soweto councils and the TPA

● Sapa reports that Mr Mayekiso said if the Government did not ban traditional weapons, then CAST would encourage township residents to carry weapons. People should be armed to defend themselves through defence committees using available weapons, CAST added.

Silobela still without water

By Therese Anders
and Carina le Grange (127)

CAROLINA — Four days after being ordered by the Transvaal Provincial Administration to turn on disease-ridden Silobela township's water supply, Carolina's Conservative Party town council has still not complied.

Silobela has now been without water and sewage and refuse removal for 83 days.

The township's health crisis is growing by the day, say local doctors, with infectious diseases such as scabies, dysentery and gastro-enteritis rife

meet today to discuss the reconnection issue

Asked why the TPA had not yet made good its threat to obtain an urgent application against the Carolina council, Mrs du Toit said it was no use filing court papers on Monday when the council was to meet the next day

However, a Silobela community leader, who asked not to be named, has hit out at the TPA for failing to take action

● The Star has been given a copy of a document signed on November 30 1990 by Carolina town clerk P M Strydom stating that R67 164 of the township's electricity arrears was a "correction" following a major ac-

counting error
Also, the Silobela cut-off may be illegal in terms of the Health Act

Cedric de Beer, director of the Centre for Health Policy Studies, attached to the University of the Witwatersrand, said township residents deprived of water due to cut-offs have the right to resort to court action if the initial demands of medical officers, local authority or province — as set out in the Act — are not met.

Mr de Beer said "I would suggest that Silobela residents demand that these personnel meet their obligations in terms of the Health Act. Failing this, the residents should bring court action."

Star 21/4/91

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Natal: facilities for Aids patients

7 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of National Health *Answered 9/4/91* Whether any facilities are available in provincial hospitals in Natal for the (a) treatment, (b) counselling and (c) monitoring of Aids patients, if not, why not, if so, (i) what facilities, and (ii) at which hospitals, in each case?

D41E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

As for any medical condition the full facilities at all Provincial Hospitals in Natal are available to Aids patients with regard to treatment, counselling and monitoring

Own Affairs

Brickfield constituency: rent-controlled premises

15 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing

- (1) How many rent-controlled premises were there in the Brickfield constituency as at 31 December 1990,
- (2) whether any such premises have been decontrolled to date, if so, (a) how many and (b) when in each case,
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

D40E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING.

- (1) Unknown, as there are no separate records of rent-controlled premises in respect of a particular area
- (2) Falls away
- (3) No

Lenasia South: homes for lower-income categories

Answered 12/7

16 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing *Answered 9/4/91*.

- (1) Whether his Department intends building homes in Lenasia South, Extension 14, for persons falling within lower-income categories, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many are to be built, (b) when are building operations expected to (i) commence and (ii) be completed and (c) for what income categories are these homes intended,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

D73E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

- (1) No There is no Extension 14 in Lenasia South at the moment
 - (a) Falls away
 - (b) Falls away
 - (i) Falls away
 - (ii) Falls away
 - (c) Falls away
- (2) No

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

(1) Yes

(a) (i)

Prof P P Kirstein

Mr J H C Stassen

Mr H J Pienaar

Prof P J Smith

Mr N K Prins

Prof A D J van Rensburg

Mr A P S de Kock

Mr A J P J van Rensburg

Mr E J van Zyl

Prof N M du Plessis

Prof T J Roos

Mr J M Payley

Mrs C E du Plessis

Mr M B de Kock

Mrs C J Strutt

Mr G D Bekker

Mr F H Boot

Mr G E Burger

Prof W P Basson

Mr C Horne

(b) (i) In view of the fact that the pension benefits and salaries of officials are regarded as a private matter, it is not deemed appropriate to publish such information

(2) Yes

(3) No

- (a) Applications, as in the above cases, are only considered after the termination of services of those concerned—that is subsequent to their having severed connections with the employer body
- (b) A police report was obtained in respect of the circumstances to which the personnel were subjected. The responsible Minister (Minister of

B331E

Civic body defies and joins talks

MEMBERS of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal were at the inaugural meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber in Johannesburg yesterday.

This was despite earlier widespread criticism of their involvement

Mr Fanie Ferreira, MEC and chairman at the meeting, said the objectives and activities of the CWMC were similar to the Greater Soweto Accord, signed on September 24 last year

The aim of the accord is to serve as a negotiating forum to investigate and formulate non-racial, democratic metropolitan and local government structures.

The forum would invite political participation, dialogue and interaction during the period of constitutional transition in South Africa.

The local government

bodies who signed the CWMC constitution yesterday were the councils of Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville, Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra.

The civic associations were the Soweto Peoples Delegation, Soweto Civic Association, Western Residents Action Committee Klipfontein, Eldorado Park, Klipspruit West Interim Democratic and Riverlea Civic associations

Cast was severely criticised on Monday for its participation in the CWMC by, among other groups, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless, which said the CWMC would be "squandering valuable resources".

Replying to the criticism at their involvement in a body shared with black councillors, Mr Cas Coovadia of Cast said the participating Cast members had been mandated by their constituents to

sign and participate in the CWMC.

"We do not see our participation here in isolation from the broader issues and we would take our guidance from the events occurring at national level," he said

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, chairman of the National Union of Mineworkers, explained that he and Cast still rejected local black councils and would continue to call for the resignation of all black councillors.

Although they were all signatories to the constitution of the CWMC, "this will still not detract from us continuing to call for their resignation", Ramaphosa said

During yesterday's Press conference, the black councillors shared the same table as Ramaphosa, Coovadia and other black leaders who have consistently called for their resignation - *Sapa*

Sabta gets tough on taxi drivers

THE South African Black Taxi Association is to recommend to the Department of Transport that permits of taxi owners and drivers convicted of drunken driving be temporarily suspended.

Sabta's president, Mr James Ngcoya, yesterday confirmed that five drivers stopped by Sabta patrols during the

Easter weekend were found to have been under the influence of alcohol.

Ngcoya said Sabta would ask the department to suspend for six months the permits of drivers and owners found guilty of the offence.

The recommendations would be endorsed in Sabta's constitution in June. - *Sapa*

Soshanguve boycott of rent, charges starts

127

Journal 10/4/91

SOSHANGUVE residents have embarked on a boycott of rent and service charges for an indefinite period.

The decision to boycott was taken during a meeting at the local stadium this week.

The Soshanguve Residents Association said in a statement the boycott was the result of many years of dissatisfaction over inadequate facilities and fruitless talks with the Department of Development Aid.

It was also decided that the length of the boycott would be

By GRACE RAPHOLO

determined by progress in negotiations between residents and the authorities.

A delegation to investigate the feasibility of introducing a flat rate in the township is to be appointed.

At present Soshanguve residents living in a four-roomed house pay an average R150 a month for rent, water, lights and services.

The local administrator recently told a Sorea delegation that people were not charged service

fees according to metre readings.

He said the township had 34 000 metres, too many to be monitored by the municipality's four readers.

Consequently, residents were charged an average rate.

Residents are also demanding that rent arrears be written off.

They were paying accounts dating back to November and December 1990, they said.

Sorea said the local administration attributed the outdated accounts to the vandalising of computers last year when angry residents stormed its offices.

Civic constitution backed

~~127~~ (127) S/W 10/4/91



Historic moment . . . Councillor Ian Davidson signs the inauguration agreement.

Most members of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) participated at the inaugural meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber in Johannesburg yesterday, despite earlier widespread criticism of their involvement

Fanie Ferreira, MEC and chairman at the inaugural meeting, said the draft constitution for the new body was tabled, approved and signed by representatives of the Transvaal Provincial Administration, seven local government bodies and five civic associations

The objectives and activities of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber were similar to the Greater Soweto Accord, signed on September 24

last year — to serve as a negotiating forum to investigate and formulate non-racial, democratic metropolitan and local government structures

The forum would invite political participation, dialogue and interaction during the period of constitutional transition

The local government bodies who signed the constitution were the councils of Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville, Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra.

The civic associations were the Soweto People's Delegation, Soweto Civic Association, Western Residents' Action Committee, Klipfontein, Eldorado Park, Klipspruit West Interim Democratic Civic Association and the Riverlea Civic Association

Seven other groups also attended

The new body will not require funds to run it, Mr Ferreira said during a Press conference which followed the inaugural meeting.

Replying to the criticism at their involvement in a body shared with black town councillors, Cas Coovadia of CAST said the participating CAST members had been mandated by their constituents to sign and participate in the Metropolitan Chamber

Cyril Ramaphosa, chairman of the National Union of Mine workers, said he and CAST would continue to call for the resignation of all black town councillors

Also taking part in the meeting was Ian Davidson, chairman of the Johannesburg management committee — Sapa

84 days of hell are over

Town goes

Wild as water flows

By Therese Anders
Highveld Bureau

Star 16/4/91

127

CAROLINA — People danced in the streets of Silobela last night as the township's water pipes began to fill for the first time in 84 days.

The order to reconnect the water supply was given following an extraordinary meeting of Carolina's Conservative Party-controlled town council management committee yesterday afternoon.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) threatened to take Carolina's council to the Supreme Court if the water supply was not immediately restored, as the TPA had paid Silobela's water arrears two weeks ago.

Last week, The Star reported that there had been an outbreak of infectious diseases — including scabies, dysentery and gastro-enteritis — during the more than two-and-a-half months the township was without water, sewerage and refuse removal services.

Silobela is still without electricity, which was cut off in October last year.

Carolina's acting town clerk Piet Strydom said the council had reconnected the water because representatives of Silobela had assured the township's administrator that they would pay their water accounts in future.

Yelling

Mr Strydom pointed out that Carolina had restored water despite the fact that there was still some more owed on the township water account.

He could not, however, say how much was owed.

In Silobela, teacher Gladys Ngwenya said children throughout the township began yelling and shouting, "the water is coming", when the water supply was reconnected.

"We are all so very happy tonight," she said.

Mrs Ngwenya said today would be the first day this school year that pupils would find water at their school.

"They turned off our water, the day school started in January. That was the day before the Iraq war started... that's how long we've been suffering."

Local businessman Aboobaker Jina said people began singing in his shop when they heard the water was being turned back on.

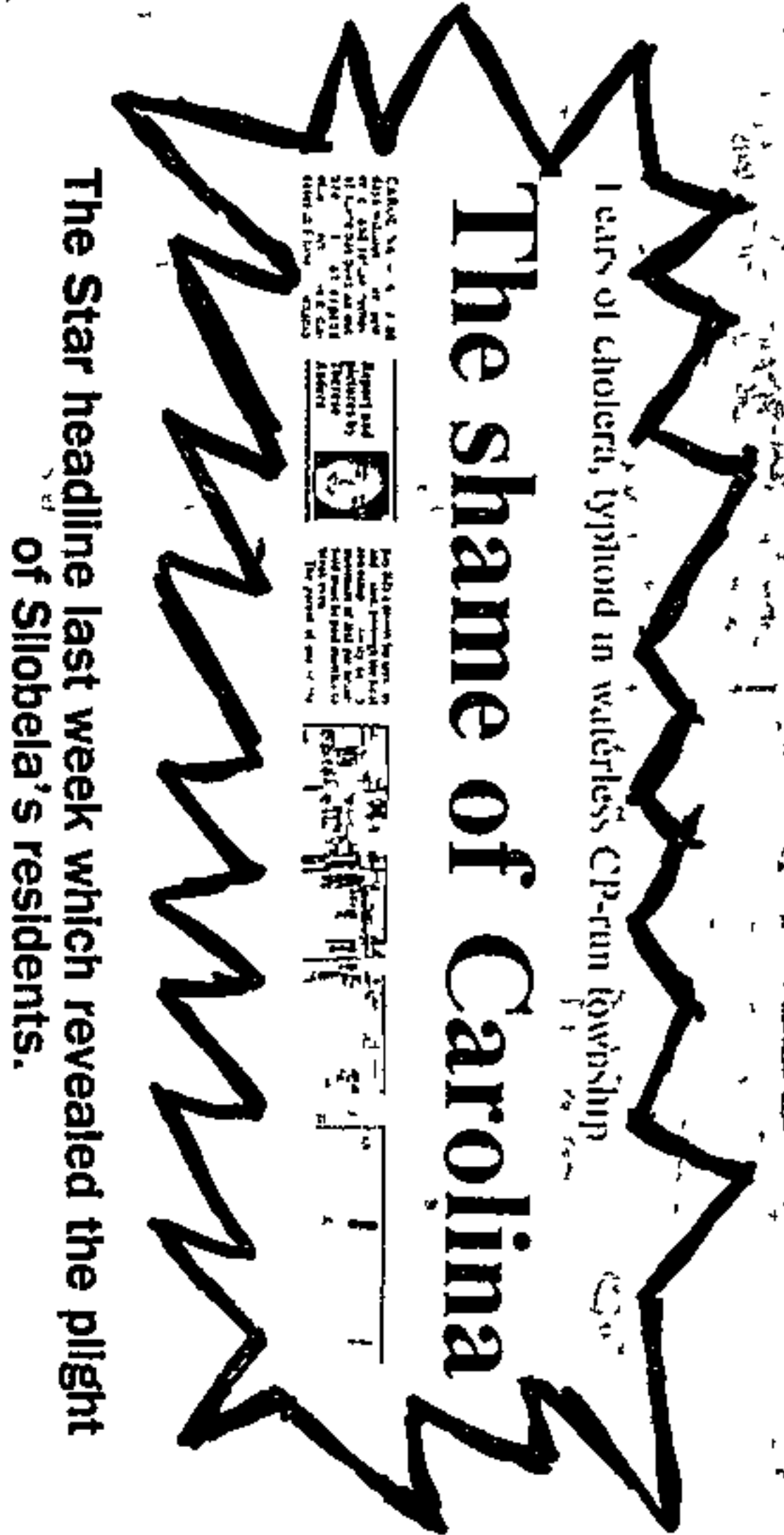
"God be blessed, this is a wonderful day for us," he said.

Silobela Civic Association general secretary Boetie Magagula said that although the water crisis was over, the health crisis wasn't.

"Our diseased and sick children and old people won't get well overnight."

"Many are poor and can't afford doctors."

"We would appreciate it if the Department of National Health sent doctors to treat our sick and suffering."



- (ii) Value R22 900,00
- (iii) Contractor C A de Wet
- Maintenance 2
- (i) Repairs and renovations to Manor House Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R36 952,00
- (iii) Contractor Datron
- Maintenance 3
- (i) Replace skirting and flat roof portion of Hoop Op Constanatia
- (ii) Value R2 274,06
- (iii) Contractor G P de Koning
- (c) Drainage None
- (d) Roads None
- (e) Other None
- 1988/89
- (a) Building None
- (b) Maintenance 1 (i)
- (i) Replace and repair gates at Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R4 998,00
- (iii) Contractor D'Ambrosio Bros
- (c) Drainage None
- (d) Roads 1
- (i) New Stonepathways at Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R3 700,00
- (iii) Contractor James Townsend & Co
- (e) Other 1
- (i) Electrification of new pump-house Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R7 235,00
- (iii) Contractor S G Electrical
- 1989/90
- (a) Building None
- (b) Maintenance 1
- (i) Repairs to roof Constanatia Wine Museum
- (ii) Value R68 321,00
- (iii) Contractor Gordon, Verhoef and Krause
- Maintenance 2
- (i) Repairs to thatched roof Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R4 300,00
- (iii) Contractor C A de Wet
- Maintenance 3
- (i) Repairs to thatched roof Hoop Op Constanatia
- (ii) Value R4 700,00
- (iii) Contractor C A de Wet
- (c) Drainage None
- (d) Roads None
- (e) Other None
- 1990/91
- (a) Building None
- (b) Maintenance 1
- (i) Repairs to roof of Manor House Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R4 490,00
- (iii) Contractor C A de Wet
- Maintenance 2
- (i) Repairs and renovations to the exterior of the main dwelling, toolshed, shelter and to all the garden walls Coleyn
- (ii) Value R55 060,00
- (iii) Contractor W Voigt (Cape) (Pty) Ltd
- (c) Drainage 1
- (i) Installation of a sewerage network on the Groot Constanatia Estate
- (ii) Value R327 240,99
- (iii) Contractor Road and Civil Construction
- (d) Roads 1
- (i) Repairs to road leading to Groot Constanatia
- (ii) Value R88 500,00

- (iii) Contractor Martin & East (Pty) Ltd
- (e) Other 1
- (i) Supply, delivery and installation of a boom at entrance to the Estate
- (ii) Value R2 344,75
- (iii) Contractor Automatic Door Equipment Manufacturer
- (2) Yes, the prescribed tender procedures were followed in all the cases
- Rent-controlled premises
- 29 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works
- (1) How many rent-controlled premises were there in the Cape Town Gardens constituency as at 31 December 1990.
- (2) (a) how many such premises were decontrolled in 1990 and (b) when were they decontrolled?
- B412E
- 1114/91
- 38 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works
- (1) How many rent-controlled premises were there in the Hillbrow constituency as at 31 December 1990.
- (2) How many such premises were decontrolled in that year, *Hansard 1114/91*
- (3) whether he will furnish the House with the (a) address and (b) description of each of the premises so decontrolled, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details? B536E
- The MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS
- (1) On 31 December 1990 there were still 816 units, comprising of 6 dwellings and 810 flats, subject to rent control.
- (2) 885 units, comprising of 36 dwellings and 849 flats, were conditionally exempted from rent control subject to the granting of continued protection to the tenants thereof if and for as long as such tenants comply with the prescribed requirements for continued protection
- (3) Yes
- (a) and (b) See Schedule
- SCHEDULE
- FLATS
- 1 Carniston Court, 35 units, 3 Abelroad, 38 & 40 Cathrine Avenue, erven 205, 206 & 208, Berea
- 2 Carnock Court, 27 units, 85 Claim Street, erven 3161 & 3162, Hillbrow
- 3 Sybertha hof, 35 units, 34 Abel Road, erven 163 & 165, Berea
- 4 Cavelgold, 7 units, 80 & 82 Goldreich Street, erven 3804 & 3905, Hillbrow
- 5 Hermanna Court, 64 units, erven 4072 & 4078, Hillbrow
- 6 Gaelic Mansions, 30 units, 18 Van der Merwe Street, erf 3771, Hillbrow
- 48 Government Gazette No 172 dated 2 February 1990
- 4 Government Gazette No 635 dated 23 March 1990
- 101 Government Gazette No 633 dated 23 March 1990
- 95 Government Gazette No 1266 dated 8 June 1990
- 164 Government Gazette No 1379 dated 22 June 1990
- 36 Government Gazette No 1745 dated 27 July 1990
- 11 Government Gazette No 1828 dated 3 August 1990
- 100 Government Gazette No 2593 dated 9 November 1990
- 16 Government Gazette No 2991 dated 21 December 1990

- | | | | |
|----|---|--------|--|
| 7 | Lorina Court, 82 Quartz Street, 2 units erf 4942, Hillbrow | 27 | Wimbleton Court, cnr Wolmarans & Hoek Streets, 49 units, erven 2253 & 2254 |
| 8 | Sunbeam House, 23 units, 47 Van der Merwe Street, erf 3829, Hillbrow | HOUSES | |
| 9 | Clarendon Court, 22 units, 1, 3, 5, & 7 Wille Street, erven 4140, 4141 & 4142, Hillbrow | 1 | 62 Olivia Road, Berea, erf 277 |
| 10 | Bonvista Mansions, 36 units, 113 & 115 Twist Street, erven 3772 & 3773, Hillbrow | 2 | 26 Louis Botha Avenue, Berea, erven 955 & 956 |
| 11 | Bellmont Court, 36 units, 50 Van der Merwe Street, erf 3821, Hillbrow | 3 | 35 & 37 Olivia Road, Berea, erf 310 & 312 |
| 12 | Hermannia Court, cnr Clain & Paul Nel Streets, 64 units, erven 4072 & 4078, Hillbrow | 4 | 67 Joel Road, Berea, erf 469 |
| 13 | Gealic Mansions, 18 Van der Merwe Street, 30 units, erf 3771, Hillbrow | 5 | 24 Louis Botha Avenue, Berea, erven 953 & 954 |
| 14 | Lorina Court, 89 Quartz Street, 2 units erf 4942, Hillbrow | 6 | 30 Mitchell Street, Berea, erf 1011 |
| 15 | Sunbeam House, 47 Van der Merwe Street, 6 units, erf 3829, Hillbrow | 7 | 14 Olivia Road, Berea, erf 217 |
| 16 | Clarendon Court, 1, 3, 5, & 7 Wille Street, 22 units, erven 4140, 4141 & 4142, Hillbrow | 8 | 119 Quartz Street, Hillbrow, erf 3868 |
| 17 | Ann Mor Mansions cnr Quartz & Pieter-son Streets, 39 units, erven 2675 & 2676 | 9 | 73 Joel Road, Berea, erf 475 |
| 18 | Vannin Court, 26 Pietersen Street, 45 units, erf 5216, Hillbrow | 10 | 69 Joel Road, Berea, erf 471 |
| 19 | Circle Court, cnr Twist & Calendon Place, 49 units, 137 & 139 Twist Street, erven 4017 & 4018, Johannesburg | 11 | 48 Hillbrow Street, Berea, erf 747 |
| 20 | Da Gama Court, 16 & 17 Caroline Street, 72 units, erven 3926 & 3927, Johannes-burg | 12 | 79 Honey Street, Berea, erf 1133 |
| 21 | Killmurry Flats, 32 Klein Street, 24 units, erven 2609 & 2610, Johannesburg | 13 | 2 houses 2 & 4 Barnato Street, Berea, erven 1424 & 1425 |
| 22 | Trinity Mansions, 32 Klein Street, 15 units, RE of erf 3064, Johannesburg | 14 | 31 Alexandra Street, Berea, erf 521 |
| 23 | Newbridge Mansions, 34 Wanderer Street, 24 units, erven 1941, 5061 & 5062, Johannesburg | 15 | 23 Hillbrow Street, Berea, erf 823 |
| 24 | Royal Crescent, 2 Wille Street, 25 units, erf 4139, Hillbrow | 16 | 77 Honey Street, Berea, erf 1131 |
| 25 | Uno Court, 24 Goldreich Street, 33 units, erf 4885, Hillbrow | 17 | 33 Johnston Street, Berea, erf 1250 |
| 26 | Tulbach Mansions, 60 Edith Cavell Street, 33 units, erf 497, Johannesburg | 18 | 33 Alexandra Street, Berea, erf 523 |
| | | 19 | 71 Joel Road, Berea, erf 474 |
| | | 20 | 54 Soper Road, Berea, erf 129 |
| | | 21 | 17 York Street, Berea, erf 632 |
| | | 22 | 50 Joel Road, Berea, erf 370 |
| | | 23 | 31 Hillbrow Street, Berea, erf 831 |
| | | 24 | 25 Van der Merwe Street, Hillbrow, erf 3864 |
| | | 25 | 5 & 5A Barnato Street, Berea, erf 586 |
| | | 26 | 60 Barnato Street, Berea, erf 556 |
| | | 27 | 50 Louis Botha Avenue, Berea, erven 1220 & 1221 |
| | | 28 | 4 Louis Botha Avenue, Berea, erf 970 |
| | | 29 | 70 Alexandra Street, Berea, erf 470 |
| | | 30 | 30 York Street, Berea, erf 669 |
| | | 31 | 61 Hillbrow Street, Berea, erf 869 |

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

- 32 52 Hillbrow Street, Berea, erf 751
- 33 52 Soper Road, Berea, erf 127
- State-owned land: auction
- 41 Mr J CHIOLÉ asked the Minister of Wel-fare, Housing and Works +
- (1) Whether his Department is involved in the sale by auction of State-owned land in the Pretoria West constituency, if so,
- (2) whether any of these plots have been sold to non-Whites, if so, (a) which plots, (b) at what prices and (c) to members of which population groups,
- (3) whether these plots have been sold sub-
- (4) whether the relevant city councillors, member of Parliament and neighbours were approached for their comment in this regard, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?
- B542E
- THE MINISTER OF WELFARE, HOUSING AND WORKS
- (1) Yes
- (2) No
- (a), (b) and (c) Fall away
- (3) and (4) Fall away

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: *Surprise decision by Southern Transvaal president*

Grave mistake to join forum, says Mayekiso

w/ mail 12/4 - 18/4/91

THE Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) has come out in strong opposition to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, a negotiating forum to investigate and set up non-racial metropolitan and local government structures.

President of Cast, Moss Mayekiso, said yesterday "it was a gross and grave mistake" for civics and other parties to ratify the Chamber constitution, which he said was made up of racially-defined bodies. Metropolitan and regional structures with a racial component would only pave the way for the furtherance of the tricameral parliament and continued protection of group rights envisaged by the government, he said.

His response comes as a surprise in the wake of the signing of the constitution by the Soweto People's Delegation and the Soweto Civic Association.

The constitution was signed this week by the Transvaal Provincial Association, several local government bodies and five civics. Five other bodies, including the Alexandra Civic Association, Acstop and three local government committees, said they would only sign after receiving authorisation.

Mayekiso said yesterday that Cast would clearly distance itself from being party to a forum which had been "bulldozed through before people understood it".

Cast rejects the CWMC constitution on the following grounds:

- It is racially-based in that the various groups represent racially-defined areas and are comprised of racial bodies like local authorities

- It is based on proposals whereby the government wants to give power to regional structures and thus preempt a "watered down" national constitution where strong regional government bodies will be able to protect racial interests.

- It has not yet been thoroughly discussed by civic bodies (save the Soweto People's Delegation and Soweto

The Soweto Civic Association has agreed to the constitution of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, but the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal disagrees.

By PHILIPPA GARSON

Civic Association) which are being "rushed into signing"

- Black local authorities which were not elected by their constituencies feature prominently in the Chamber, despite the call for the disbanding of black local authorities and resignation of the councillors

However Mayekiso said this did not mean negotiations could only take place once fully-fledged non-racial local authorities were in place, but that interim non-racial structures should be created as negotiating arms, as was the case with Alexandra and the Sandton and Randburg town councils

Soweto Civic Association general secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday that the CWMC came about in the wake of the Greater Soweto Accord with the purpose of drawing in a wider spectrum of local bodies to create a single tax base and non-racial municipality for the Witwatersrand region.

Lephunya said the SCA had all along called for the resignation of the black councillors. But he added that the formation of the CWMC was an important step towards the disintegration of racially-defined municipalities. "We cannot deny that the municipalities are racial in character but what we are saying in the Chamber is that the time has come to begin to address this situation and have a vision of the future."

Lephunya said there was no way non-racial regional bodies could be formed while municipalities and areas were still racially-defined. He added that Cast's position would not create conflict as those civics under the umbrella body were part of a federal organisation and could thus act with autonomy



Moses Mayekiso ... Wants interim non-racial structures created

Heartbeat of our future

SHIFTS IN THE HEART

JOHANNESBURG

A LARGE slice of South Africa's destiny could be decided in an area that covers less than two percent of its land surface.

From Vereeniging in the south to Winterveldt in the north, from Springs in the east to Randfontein in the west, the PWV region will, by the year 2000, be home to some 12,3-million South Africans, one quarter of the population.

It is a region rich in potential — by the end of the decade it will be producing 50 percent of the country's wealth.

But it is also fraught with problems — the Urban Foundation estimates that 2,5-million people in the PWV live in informal housing (excluding the sea of squatters that is Winterveldt), 25 to 40 percent of blacks are unemployed and 70 percent live without access to electricity or running water. South Africa, with its past of fragmented local government, has little experience of planning on this scale.

Johannesburg is at the centre of this web of possibilities and pitfalls. Over 200 000 people work in the central business district alone. More than a million enter its boundaries every day.

But not all roads lead to Egoli. On the east of the PWV for instance, commuting patterns indicate that the majority of people from Thokoza, Katlehong, Germiston, Tembisa and Kempton Park work on the East Rand. Factors like this will shape metropolitan government that in turn will shape the PWV.

The Urban Foundation urges planning and support at national level for the development of the PWV, including funding, land provision, housing subsidies and assistance with services. Within this framework, each local authority must develop its natural advantages to encourage investment and job creation.

"Competition that is how cities function," says Planact's Mark Swilling. "Cities compete for skills, public funds and private investment by offering whatever locational advantages they can. If within that you have competition of organised interests, particularly if unions develop an urban programme and the civics increase their capacity to influence, then you will have the most efficient allocation of resources. If cities are left to the bureaucrats, they will die."

In that scenario there are already areas of contention taking shape. If the PWV is carved up into smaller metro regions the boundaries will be crucial. Which authority, for instance, will get "cherries" like Midrand — a commercial zone offering a rich tax base and no housing backlogs?

What about the mass of squatter camps like Orange Farm, that begin south of Soweto and stretch all the way to territory that could form part of a Vaal metropolitan area? Which metro authority is going to take charge of them? "Functional" relationships will not be the only criteria in deciding their future.

Meanwhile, the future is happening. "At the moment you have around 250 people per square hectare living in Soweto, over 300 in Alexandra and between 30 and 60 in the rest of Johannesburg," says urban consultant Nigel Mandy.

"What you will see in future in the traditionally white areas is greater backyard occupancy, people sharing houses, especially in the inner ring of suburbs surrounding the city centre" — an increase in the number and density of the city's emerging slum areas.

"In areas like Hillbrow, Joubert Park and the North East CBD the level of decline has been alarming," says Mandy. "Because of Group Areas people have not been lawful tenants, which has led to rack renting and over-occupation. The Rent Act has meant that there have been few new buildings and little upgrading."

"It will be extremely difficult to reverse this trend. In most areas you will have increased occupancy, which is a short term solution to the shortage of accommodation."

Transport could also become a growing headache over the next decade, as the number of cars and taxis — and air pollution — continues to increase.

Ian Symon, who heads up that aspect of the Johannesburg City Council's Metropolitan Planning department, says a lot has been done by "fine tuning the system in an efficient way. We have managed to keep the city moving. But that

Can South Africa manage its biggest metropolis? That may depend on who does the managing.
By GAVIN EVANS and JOHN PERLMAN

kind of fine-tuning can only go so far", he says. Symon says they now need to look at "a major upgrading in the transportation system. And this city has a great opportunity to get it right. At present 62 percent of people move on public transport. Our goal should be to keep that 62 percent there and to keep them happy."

Symon believes there is now significant political and private enterprise support for a light rail transit system to link up Johannesburg with the suburbs, townships and towns beyond the CBD.

Despite the separation of the Witwatersrand towns into different regional services councils, Symon's department does transportation and land use planning for 17 local authorities. But in the end it is politics, it would seem, that will shape the PWV.

Ian Davidson, chairman of the management committee of the Johannesburg City Council, predicts the evolution of a body along the lines of the old Greater London Council, which will direct the affairs of all the municipalities in the central Witwatersrand.

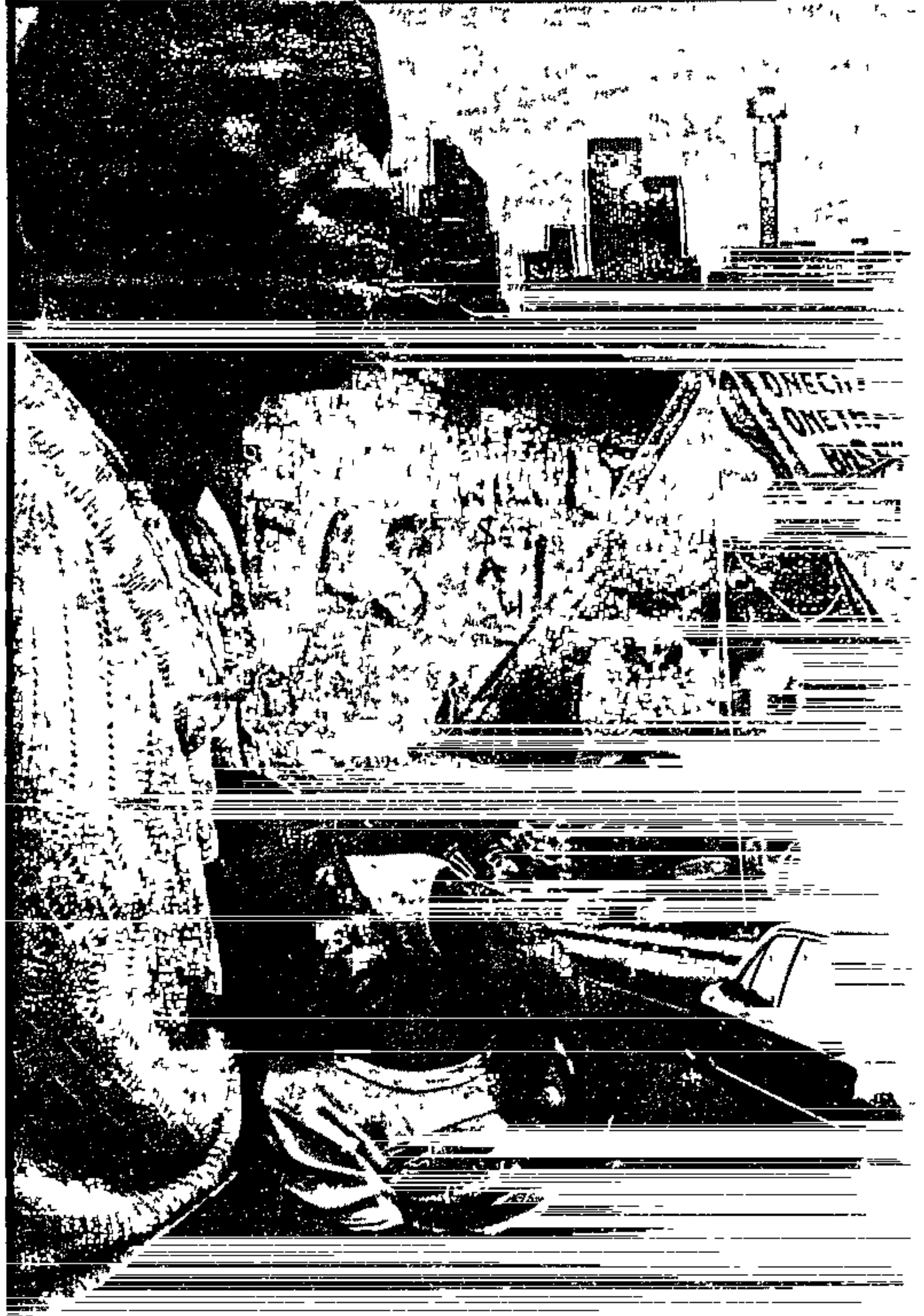
"I believe each of the major areas — Johannesburg, Soweto and so on — could have its own council because the size is simply too big for a single council."

"The metropolitan council could then ensure there is an adequate mechanism for the redistribution of wealth and could have its own financial base which would act as a redistributive mechanism. This is important because residents of areas like Soweto and Alexandra do much of their spending in Johannesburg."

"The metropolitan council would look to handling broader service functions like transport, health, sewerage, water and electricity while the city and town councils would deal with things like parks, road maintenance and aspects of urban planning," he said.

The shape of such a metropolitan body is one thing, but the content of the politics may be hard to predict.

Soweto politicians, for instance, won't say now that the squatters south of the city are not their responsibility, not while they share their political exclusion. But what about in five years time, as inevitably scarce resources put pressure on them to deliver to their own constituency first? Those kinds of political conflicts may well grow more acute as the burning issues of today recede into the past.



The future of South Africa's cities Overcrowding, pollution? Or a share in the collective

surge forward?

reach Mr. K
ARCSIMILYIN DANCING
Cast rejects plan
for 'racial' chamber

Stev
13/4/91

JO-ANNE COLLINGE

127

THE Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber has been rejected outright by the Civic Association of the South Transvaal (Cast), largely because it "is based on racial representation" and includes "illegitimate and discredited" township councillors.

Cast publicity secretary Sandy Lebesse yesterday released a statement stressing that Cast had not been party to any of the negotiations which had taken place between signatories of the chamber.

The chamber, comprising seven white and black local authorities, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and several civic associations in Greater Johannesburg, is seen as a forum in which future non-racial forms of third-tier government will be planned.

About half the eligible civic bodies — including the largest, the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) — joined the chamber at the launch on Tuesday, while others held back. They have until the end of the month to add their names to the founding parties

Constituent assembly

Cast said it believed structures such as the forum cut across national political demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government

Cast executive member Nomvula Mokonyane elaborated that the reform of third-tier structures — even of an interim nature — could not occur satisfactorily unless representative national interim structures were set up.

Various Cast members said it appeared the TPA wished to foist chamber-type structures upon areas in which opposition to township councillors was stronger than in Soweto.

Cyril Ramaphosa of the SCA accused Cast members of "political dishonesty" He said none had raised fundamental objections to the chamber in a meeting shortly before the signing.

Oukasie wins fight for survival

LIKE many other South African townships, the small community of Oukasie, near Brits, has seen more than its share of harsh treatment over the past half-decade forced removals, service cutoffs, police intimidation and faction fighting have long been the order of the day.

The roots of such violence are complex, but a 25-page commission of inquiry into the Oukasie case released this week by Lawyers for Human Rights provides a revealing glimpse into the manner in which actions from different organs of the State combined with intense socio-economic stresses to create a climate of instability.

Official policy

According to the LHR report, Oukasie was first established in 1928, but from the 1950s onward the Government has followed a policy that its residents should ultimately be moved elsewhere.

After a series of tentative moves in this direction, in December 1985 the inhabitants of Oukasie, then having a population of 16 000 (now 7 000), were told that they would have to move to Lethabule, which lay 25 km north of Brits (and ran the risk of incorporation into Boputhatswana).

Once the decision had been made, the commission asserts, the State began a subtle policy of trying to make life in the township so unpalatable that residents would decide to move voluntarily. This was

'State tried to create instability

MARK SUZMAN
and MCKEED KTILOLO

signalled when the Development Board of the Southern Transvaal decided not to take any action towards upgrading the township there are no tarred roads, no electricity and no street lighting, no new house construction and few communal water taps.

In response, residents formed the Brits Action Committee (BAC) to co-ordinate protest against the Government decision, asserting that Oukasie was their ancestral home (90 percent of residents were born there) and that the transport, service and housing costs would be prohibitive in the new location.

The BAC proved successful in its fight for publicity, getting legal permission to get new plots and international community endorsement of the community's stand. Despite this, the report asserts "the State in its persistent aim of achieving its single-minded goal continued its policy of posi-

tive neglect"

As a result, in 1988 the Transvaal Provincial Administration slapped an "emergency camp" tag on Oukasie which, among other curbs, prevented the building of new houses and arrival of new residents.

Just prior to this, moreover, the report found that widespread intimidation had been practised against the BAC, including petrol-bomb attacks and police recruitment efforts. As part of the state of emergency, many of the BAC leaders were also arrested while hit-squad/vigilante attacks were carried out against community organisations and trade unions.

Following rumours (which the LHR investigators say were most likely spread by the Security Force to divide the opposition) that the detained leaders were, in fact, police spies, a new action committee was formed, and the township became divided into two warring factions — the newer "comrades" and the older group calling itself the "Vark Squad".

Assault, murder

At this stage, violence became entrenched in the township, and physical confrontations and attacks became regular events. This consisted mainly of intimidation and assault, but included murder.

Exacerbating the situation, the LHR commission also found widespread evidence of police involvement in vigilante groups which "aimed to create a climate of fear and demoralisation in the township so that people would move 'voluntarily'."

In addition, when complaints were brought to the authorities, the police and courts were apparently unresponsive to the violence. This resulted in what the report terms "a total breakdown in the administration of

justice" as perpetrators of violence were almost never punished by magistrates, leading to a de facto "decriminalisation" of violence.

Over the past year, the violence has subsided, and in January the State finally acknowledged that Oukasie is a "permanent residential area" and agreed to the upgrading of the township.

Nevertheless, many root causes of unrest remain and continued socio-economic pressures could well result in a resumption of violence. To prevent this — and as an example to other areas — the report recommends that

- The TPA liaise with and consult local residents in regard to the upgrading of the township

- Working groups consisting of Brits and Oukasie residents and industrialists be formed to handle issues of employment, local government and aid for upgrading of the area

- Residents' criminal charges and complaints laid with the SAP be thoroughly and swiftly investigated, enabling the law to take its course

By DAN DHLAMINI

THREE families from Promosa, near Potchefstroom, defied police blockades and moved back into their homes this week after being evicted by the Potchefstroom Town Council for owing rent.

Now the coloured community is up in arms, demanding the immediate resignation of its five-man management council, which it accuses of being ineffective.

According to the Rev Patrick Paulse of the Nazarene church, who is active in politics, the trouble started last week when

Evicted families go back home

CP 14/4/91 127

heavily armed Potchefstroom traffic policemen delivered accounts and notices of eviction in Promosa.

This week the traffic policemen, led by Potchefstroom town clerk CJ

du Plessis kicked out three families and locked their houses.

According to Paulse, the local Action Unity Committee made an appointment with Du Plessis in a bid to sort out the problem, but he failed to turn up on Thursday and the families broke the locks and moved back in. Paulse said church leaders in the area would meet tomorrow.

Promosa Management Committee deputy chairman Dolf Wilmse said the committee would meet Potchefstroom Town Council tomorrow to find a solution.

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TO KMT COMMERCIAL COLLEGE 22154

Please send me information on

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(127) (84)
St. Times 14/2/91
Anglo in
multi-race
housing

Business Times Reporter

A MULTIRACIAL residential estate has been developed by Anglo American near Sandton's northern boundaries. *St. Times*

Fairfield comprises 223 erven, 15 of which are reserved for a school, clinic and nursery school. The remaining stands of between 800m² and 1 000m² are zoned for single dwellings. Prices range from R38 500 to R47 000. *14/4/91*

To prevent speculation on stands there is a compulsory contract for the construction of a house with a minimum floor area of 120m².

Built by Schachat Cullum and Zofos Construction, and managed by Montagu Homes, 63 sites have been sold. A total of 43 buildings have been completed and 14 are under construction.

'New stance' of Cast surprises

Olaus van Zyl

127 WILSON ZWANE



TRANSVAAL MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl expressed surprise yesterday at the apparent about-turn by the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) on participation in the newly-launched Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber **6/10/84 15/4/91**

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said the organisation would soon meet Cast to find out its stance on the newly constituted metropolitan chamber

Van Zyl said he was surprised by Cast's criticisms of the chamber because numerous meetings had been held since September last year when the Soweto Accord — which provided for the chamber — was signed

"Cast never raised any objections then And when the chamber constitution was signed Cas Coovadia (Cast assistant general secretary) did not raise any objections Why is Cast making these comments now?" Van Zyl asked

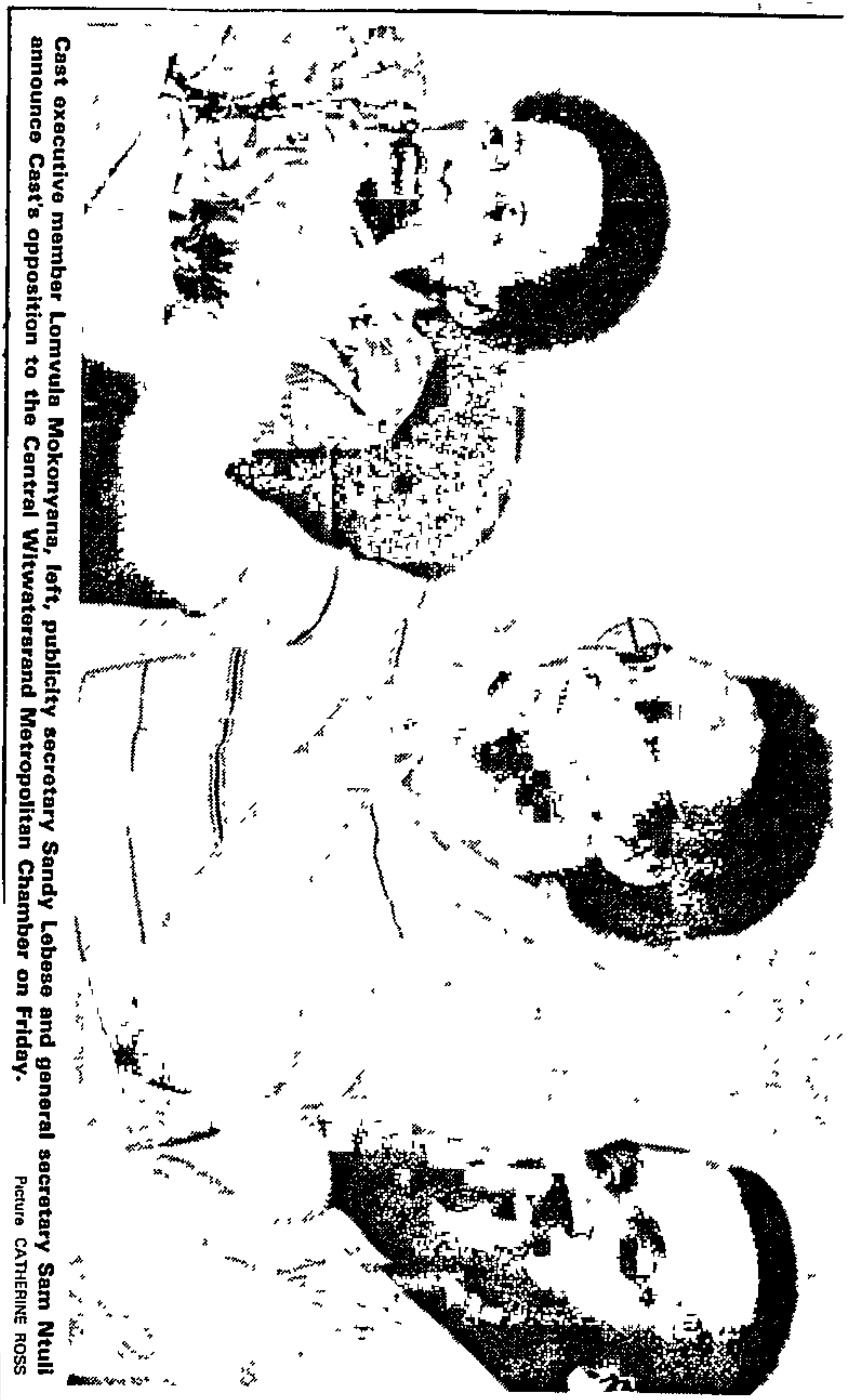
He added that present structures would not be replaced until there had been negotiations on what to "replace them with" "The metropolitan chamber is a forum for such negotiations," he said

Soweto Civic Association official and signatory to the metropolitan chamber Cyril Ramaphosa was reported at the weekend to be surprised at Cast's "political dishonesty" No fundamental objections were raised by Cast at a meeting before the signing of the chamber constitution on April 9, Ramaphosa was reported to have said

Although neither Ramaphosa nor Cast have official links with the ANC, both have close, informal ties with it

Cast said "We do not reject the basic concept of the Metropolitan Chamber outright we merely reject its present formula and want to know who defined these and whether they were given a mandate to do so," the association said

The Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is a forum whose main purpose will be to formulate the setting up of regional, non-racial and democratic approaches for long-term implementation of measures for the constitutional, economic, institutional and social development of the metropol-



Cast executive member Lomvula Mokonyana, left, publicly secretary Sandy Lebese and general secretary Sam Ntuli announce Cast's opposition to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber on Friday. Picture CATHERINE ROSS

Townships' power debt tops R1,6-b

Sowetan 15/4/91
 (27)
 (130)

BLACK local authorities throughout the Transvaal owe more than R1 billion collectively and electricity cuts are still continuing as a result.

By DON SEOKANE

A Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman said the amount, which is owed by 82 local authorities in the province, is for service charges.

According to Eskom, Transvaal townships owe at least R1,6 billion for electricity supplied.

Although East Rand townships have been particularly hard hit by blackouts, an East Rand Regional Services Council spokesman yesterday said the council was only providing funds for necessities such as water, sewerage and part of refuse removal bills.

She said although the TPA had requested the council to provide funds for electricity accounts, the council had not decided on the matter.

A delegation of Civics Association of Southern Transvaal was last night scheduled to attend a meeting with affected local civic bodies.

Power supply to Katlehong township has been cut-off since last Tuesday.

Mr Fanie Maree, Katlehong's town clerk, yes-

terday said residents with electricity have to pay R72 as an interim amount. Those without were supposed to pay R25, he said.

Maree said the council owes R12 million to Eskom for electricity.

Three youths, one from Moseleki section and two from Radebe section, have been admitted to Natalspruit hospital after doing so.

The Katlehong branch of National Council of Trade Unions called a meeting of all community organisations in the township in a bid to resolve the blackout dispute.

At Vosloorus, residents not paying their electricity amount will soon find themselves in the dark. A council spokesman said letters were being delivered to residents who are not paying their bills.

The spokesman said residents were supposed to have paid R57 for electricity in March and R60 for April and May.

Meanwhile at Tokoza, residents have been without power supply since December 1 1990.

Soul-search for strategy to define 'new' local government

Star 15/4/91

THE FIRST of the all-race "voluntary" forums on local government has been launched in the Transvaal in the guise of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber. It appears to have been accompanied by about equal proportions of back slapping and cold shou-



dering. Many observers are puzzled by the deep-felt disagreement which the chamber has provoked among civic organisations representing various townships and black residents of central Johannesburg.

Activists who for years shared trenches in the struggle against apartheid are now launching verbal missiles at each other over participation in the chamber.

The Soweto Civic Association (SCA) — and its appointed negotiating arm, the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) — have gone into the chamber together with three other Johannesburg civic associations. About an equal number of Johannesburg civics (the figures vary slightly from source to source) have

Provincial Administration and the councils of Johannesburg, Sandton, Diepsloot, Dobsonville, Soweto and Alexandra.

The question on many a tongue is whether division over the chamber could critically split the civic movement just as the setting up of a national civic structure is within grasp.

The answer is almost certainly no. Firstly, regional civic structures such as CAST — and presumably the planned national character and do not deprive individual affiliates of the right to take decisions as directed by residents of the townships they represent.

Secondly — and more importantly — there are certain goals and principles to which both the supporters and the opponents of the chamber adhere. These put both groups fundamentally at odds with their old opponents, the National Party and the State structures which serve its interests and black people who have occupied posi-



tions in apartheid structures — the 'collaborators'.

Both Cyril Ramaphosa of the SCA/SPD and Moses Mayekiso of CAST (and the Alexandra Civic Association, which has stayed out of the chamber) insist that they will fight any attempts by the NP to protect white privilege by local government reform measures.

They also find common ground in asserting the goals of ending the rule of township councils and ensuring that NP models for the reform of local government are not imposed in advance of national constitutional negotiations.

It is over the methods of achieving these goals that the fall-out in the civic movement has occurred. CAST's criticisms and the SCA's rebuttals are as follows.

CAST says the chamber is 'completely based on racial representation which is similar to that of the tricameral Parliament'.

Mr Mayekiso adds "We believe it is a Government ploy to introduce a racial structure to the negotiating forum on local government. It gives us the impression that the central Government is implementing the Thornhill (commission of inquiry) proposals."

Mr Mayekiso believes the chamber need not have used racial building blocks — that representation could have been on the basis of "localities" which twinned, for instance, Johannesburg-Soweto and Sandton-Alexandra and forced these pairs to establish a working relationship before joining a metropolitan structure.

Mr Ramaphosa dismisses as irrelevant the distinction made

by CAST. He points out that the "localities" proposed also have a racial starting point.

He maintains it is vital, especially when considering new patterns of financing for the townships and the establishment of an appropriate tax base, to 'cast Soweto against a broader canvas' involving the entire functional economic area of which it is part.

As for the Thornhill proposals becoming a fait accompli? It is impossible that the chamber could be the vehicle for this says Mr Ramaphosa. "We reject Thornhill's approach and we have an ally in this in the Johannesburg City Council."

CAST believes that initiatives such as the chamber cut across the central negotiating strategy. The chamber is described in its constitution as a "negotiating forum to formulate non-racial democratic metropolitan and local government structures."

CAST members take this goal literally while the SCA appears to have a different inter-

pretation. "The chamber has its own limitations and shortcomings. Our own view is that it can't be seen as a negotiating body."

CAST finds it totally unacceptable that civic representatives should form joint structures with "illegitimate and

discredited (township) councillors'.

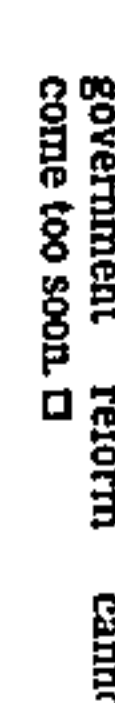
CAST Secretary Sam Ntuli says this flies in the face of long-standing campaigns for the resignation of councillors and is confusing to residents.

While distancing himself from any bid to impose the model elsewhere, Mr Ramaphosa maintains that participation in the chamber could result in the political demise of councillors.

"We aim to achieve through the Metropolitan Chamber a interim dispensation which is going to disempower the very local councils that people are fighting against," he said.

The chamber tug-of-war has highlighted the degree to which local conditions and power struggles prevail in determining the policies of civic organisations. In the verbal cross-fire harmony has been sounded on one point, for the civic movement, a national structure and a co-ordinated position on local government reform cannot come too soon. □

Cyrl Ramaphosa vital to involve entire economic area



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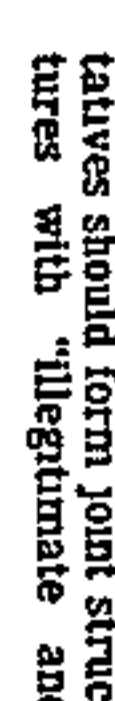
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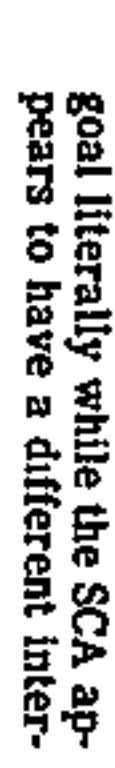
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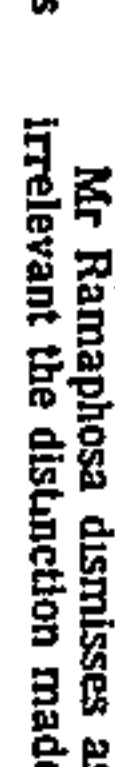
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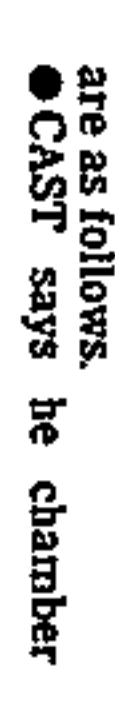
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CAST finds it totally unacceptable that civic representatives should form joint structures with "illegitimate and

discredited (township) councillors'.

CAST Secretary Sam Ntuli says this flies in the face of long-standing campaigns for the resignation of councillors and is confusing to residents.

While distancing himself from any bid to impose the model elsewhere, Mr Ramaphosa maintains that participation in the chamber could result in the political demise of councillors.

"We aim to achieve through the Metropolitan Chamber a interim dispensation which is going to disempower the very local councils that people are fighting against," he said.

Dispute over self-defence units grows

Sowetan 17/4/91



COMMUNITY organisations - not the ANC - will be primarily responsible for preventing self-defence units proposed by the ANC from becoming private armies, a spokesman for the organisation said yesterday.

ANC Youth League spokesman Mr Parks Mankahlana was reacting to a growing controversy following the call for defence units by ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela at the weekend.

A 29-page confidential ANC manual details the

organisation's concept of the units

"One must realise that these self-defence units are community structures. They are not per se organs of the ANC," said ANC Sharpeville chairman Mr Siza Rani

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Captain Craig Kotze, rejecting any form of State accommodation over the defence units, said yesterday.

Tolerated

"Private political armies from all sectors of the political spectrum will not be tolerated in any way."

Details of the confidential ANC booklet, entitled *For the Sake of Our Lives - Guidelines for the Creation of People's Self-Defence Units*, were

revealed in *Business Day* yesterday.

The document details how para-military self-defence units could be formed and deployed countrywide under the guidance of the ANC military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe.

Fears

Self-defence units already exist in five Vaal townships, said Rani last week.

As a result of fears of an attack, the ANC last Wednesday night set up defence units in Evaton, Sharpeville, Boipatong, Bophelong and Sebokeng, Rani said.

They operated mainly at night, patrolling streets and searching "suspicious-looking cars" at township entrances. - Sapa.

Electricity cut is looming in Atteridgeville

Sowetan
17/4/91 By ALINAH DUBE (127)

ATTERIDGEVILLE will be plunged into darkness tonight if the Pretoria City Council carries out its threat to cut the electricity supply to the township.

Dr Ernie Jacobson, Atteridgeville's administrator, announced yesterday that the council was unable to meet its financial commitments towards the supply of bulk services

This followed the failure by residents to pay a flat rate of R50 a household and R150 a business

Jacobson said of the R2,25 million expected over the past three months since the flat rate was introduced, only R872 000 was received.

Account settled

"To rectify the situation, the Atteridgeville Council will revert to the promulgated tariffs. This means that an average household will pay R100 to R140 a month for services and businesses up to R2 000," he said.

Meanwhile, the Mamelodi Council has settled its account. It had until noon yesterday to pay.

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Rand towns and Katlehong to form 'joint base'

THEO RAWANA

ADMINISTRATIVE and political problems plaguing Katlehong had prompted three other southeast Rand towns to form a joint administration and services base with the township, Germiston town clerk Tony Heyneke said yesterday.

Katlehong is facing water and power cuts and continuing violence

The local council owes Eskom about R12m and the Germiston council R500 000

Heyneke said the municipalities of Germiston, Bedfordview, Palm Ridge and Katlehong had recently committed themselves to the forma-

tion of the South East Rand Co-ordinating Committee (Sercom)

Outlining the benefits of such co-operation, Heyneke said in a statement "Such a larger unit of administration will better be able to accelerate economic growth, with the spin-off of employment and a greater share in the economy. This aspect is considered an indispensable part of the new system of urban management which we will see"

He added "Co-operation and progress towards joint administration already exists to a greater or lesser extent in the areas of public health, sewage treatment, valuation, fire

services and certain aspects of personnel training" (127)

Asked if the Sercom could be seen as a step towards the single-tax base concept and whether it would solve Katlehong's financial problems, Heyneke said "We hope it will form the basis of that concept, but the councils felt that the political question should be left for discussion at national level"

"The financial position of Katlehong has not been discussed because the local civic association refuses to take part in talks until the black local council is excluded"

BIDON 17/4/91 (127)

Atteridgeville to lose power

PRETORIA — The Pretoria City Council would cut electricity to Atteridgeville township this morning, Pretoria management committee chairman Pieter Smith said yesterday.

The City Council of Atteridgeville had to pay R913 135 for electricity for February on April 9.

Overdue accounts for water and sewerage were R289 281 and R657 015 respectively.

Smith said "The City Council of Pretoria understands the financial problems experienced by Atteridgeville. The current situation is, however, counter-productive and cannot be allowed to continue at the expense of the city's rate-payers."

Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson said yesterday the reason power would be cut was that households and businesses had not paid flat rates of R50 and R150 a month as agreed.

The council would revert to promulgated tariffs, which would mean the average household would have to pay R100 to R140 a month while businesses would have to pay up to R2 000 a month.

Jacobson said accounts would be sent out within the next week.

"If all the arrears for January, February and March are paid the council will at least be in the position to have the electricity supply reconnected at the earliest possible date," he said.

provision of serviced sites
to accommodate 700 000
people.

"This initiative will

UAL Minister general
manager (securities) Mr
Leon Kirkinis, whose
team developed the

3-million families still homeless

THERE are about three million homeless families who are either in squatter camps or living in cramped back-yard rooms where they are paying exorbitant rentals in the PWV townships. *Sowetan 18/4/91*

The managing director of the black-owned Metropolitan People's Consultancy (Mepco) Housing and Developers, Mr J C Mtshali, said that although the research was done about five years ago it was clear that the crisis was not a small issue

Mepco was started immediately after the assessment of the research with the aim to provide houses and employment to the people of that area at the same time

Mtshali said unless something was done, particularly by blacks, the results would be disastrous. He will consult with the liberation movements, such as ANC, PAC and others to discuss this problem in detail as well as suggest methods which could be used to alleviate the acute housing shortage.

Asro to act after Pretoria blackout

127

Sowetan 18/4/91

By ALINAH DUBE

THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation has threatened to take the Atteridgeville City Council to court over yesterday's switch-off of electricity in the township.

The Pretoria City Council cut power supplies to Atteridgeville at 8am yesterday following the local council's failure to pay its R1,7 million bulk services account.

Asro spokesman Mr Chippa Chidi said his organisation viewed the switch-off as an attempt to break the agreement existing between Asro and the Atteridgeville council.

Standing agreement

Asro was fully aware of the fact that the TPA, Pretoria City Council and Regional Services Councils were unhappy with the R50 flat-rate tariffs paid by Atteridgeville residents, Chidi said.

Dr Ernie Jacobson, administrator for Atteridgeville, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

"We are treating the matter very carefully because of the standing agreement. In terms of the agreement, tariffs can only be reviewed in June although the authorities have started pressuring us into negotiations prematurely," Chidi said.

He said the council had failed to substantiate allegations that certain residents had not paid the flat-rate tariffs since they were introduced in January this year. He said such details should have been made available at the meetings held in the past.

1091

THURSDAY, 18 APRIL 1991

1092

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

CS educators: conditions of service

285 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education

- (1) Whether improved conditions of service of college/school (CS) educators will be granted during the 1991-92 financial year, if so, (a) what are the improved conditions and (b) from what date will they come into effect,
- (2) whether any improvements have recently been made to the salary scales for CS educators, if so, (a) what improvements and (b) when?

B751E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

- (1) Yes, salary adjustments will be made during 1991/92. Details of the adjustments as well as the date on which they will take effect are still being investigated by my advisory bodies and are therefore not yet available

1093

THURSDAY, 18 APRIL 1991

1094

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

Own Affairs

Riverlea areas: additional land

14 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing

- (1) Whether his Department has entered into negotiations with the Mining Commissioner in regard to additional land for the Riverlea areas in Johannesburg, if not, why not, if so, (a) when and (b) with what results,
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C74E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

C77E

No, due to physical limitations on the land (a), (b) and (c) Fall away

- (1) No, due to physical limitations on the land (a) and (b) Fall away
- (2) No

Mining company: extension of Riverlea area

16 Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Housing

Whether he has conducted any negotiations with a certain mining company, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, in regard to the extension of the area available to Riverlea in Johannesburg for development, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) what was the outcome and (c) what is the name of the company concerned?

Noordgesicht homes up for sale - at last

SA PRESS ASSOCIATION

THE people of Noordgesicht in Johannesburg - after many years - now have the chance to buy their homes. *Soweto 18/4/71*

Mr Anthony Reeves (LP Klipspruit West) said in Parliament yesterday it was due to the House of Representatives that the homes were for sale at "give-away prices" which range from R2 407 to R4 284.

Proclaimed

The Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Administration (House of Representatives) approved the selling prices of the 1,070 dwellings on March 14, director-general Mr FP Hugo said.

Approved

Reeves said they were old houses, "but we are encouraging the people of Noordgesicht to buy them. It is a giveaway price".

Noordgesig was proclaimed a coloured area two years ago and the families had lived there "not knowing if it (Noordgesicht) would become part of Soweto", Reeves said.

(27)
8/14/91

Residents seek split from Sandton

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Linbro Park residents want to break away from the Sandton Town Council and merge with neighbouring Modderfontein, Linbro Park Residents Association chairman Chris Perry said yesterday.

The proposal has been welcomed by the Modderfontein Town Council.

Mr Perry said many residents of Linbro Park felt the Sandton Town Council had not been acting in their interests.

He expected a majority to support the move in a current referendum.

The breakaway bid has been prompted by several incidents in which the Sandton Town Council allegedly did not appear to have the Linbro Park residents' interests at heart.

ANC in talks with civic leaders over chamber

8/10am 19/4/91 - WILSON ZWANE (NA) 127

A HIGH-powered ANC delegation, including deputy president Nelson Mandela, yesterday held extensive talks with civic leaders in a bid to heal the rift between civic associations over the newly constituted Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

A source confirmed yesterday that the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast), the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) and the ANC delegation met to discuss the chamber.

ANC spokesman Gill Marcus said the discussions were held to enable the ANC to get "different viewpoints" on the chamber which has been boycotted by Cast, but in which the SPD and SCA are taking part.

However, Marcus declined to say whether the ANC was for or against participation in the chamber although it was aware of the various viewpoints.

Cast last week slated the metropolitan chamber, saying it was based on racial lines and was aimed at undermining national political demands for a constituent assembly, and an interim government.

The SPD's Cyril Ramaphosa has said his organisation and the other civic associations that had signed the chamber constitution were not so "politically naive" as to get involved in something that was what Cast said the chamber was.

The chamber's constitution was signed in Johannesburg on April 9.

Township folk fear defence units plan

Sowetan 19/4/91

127

DEFENCE units in the townships should not be run by any one political organisation if they are to succeed.

This was the opinion expressed by residents of Reef townships in a snap survey by *Sowetan* yesterday.

Those interviewed expressed fears of thugs using units to further their aims. But most welcomed the idea, saying it might help bring an end to violence in townships.

Audrey Mmutle (20), a student at a commercial college in Johannesburg, said "This is a very good idea. But I think the ANC should suspend the concept until a 'united front' of all organisations has been formed."

Unruly elements

"Otherwise, unruly elements will use the units to terrorise members of rival organisations."

One resident, who declined to give his name, said "I will support anything that is done to bring an end to the carnage in the townships."

"But there are many things that should be clear to us before such units are formed."

He said he was worried about the "tsotsi" element within the units who would harass residents.

An Alexandra taxi driver said, "The units should be properly controlled,

By KENOSI MODISANE

otherwise hooligans will take advantage."

A Soweto mother, Mrs Magdeline Fame, said "We may have arrived at a solution to the problem of violence, but whoever is in charge will have to educate the community on the operations of the units."

Police protests

"I think we may have to co-operate with the police so as to avoid hooliganism gaining ground within the units."

Mabel Xulu of Daveyton, Benoni, said, "Will the hijackers and the jackrollers not take advantage of the units to carry out their satanic deeds?"

"I am afraid that we shall be giving rise to another monster. Unless everything is done well and planned ahead, I have no qualms over the idea."

* ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela this week said his organisation would go ahead with the formation of the units despite protests from the police.

The general secretary of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal, Mr Sam Ntuli, was reported as saying the units were already functioning in some townships.

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— usually takes a tough line. This has been aggravated by him being less than familiar with the chamber, and the influence of a militant faction under Thokoza civic association president Sam Ntuli.

Mayekiso refused to comment to the *FM* before a meeting this Thursday with the Soweto People's Delegation.

Cast has recently begun leaning towards an anti-negotiations stance and some of the opinions of its members sound more like militant Pan Africanist Congress rhetoric than the statements of the ANC, Cast's traditional ally.

Ntuli is against talking to black councillors, which is contrary to more flexible ANC negotiations strategy. Last week Ntuli called on township communities to arm themselves for self-defence after the government had failed to respond to an ultimatum for the carrying of traditional weapons to be banned. Though Cast claims it is non-aligned, Ntuli made it clear that Inkatha and black councillors were seen as "the source of violence against our people."

Others in the "civics" claim the real issue is the personal ambition of some members of Cast, rather than the best interests of civic structures. Cast is the most powerful amalgamation of civic structures in the country and will be a prime mover behind a national civic organisation expected to be formed this year.

Though the movement is theoretically nonpolitical, it has strong ties with the ANC. There is a belief that some of the militants are trying to form power bases, either for election to the ANC's National Executive Committee in June or as a springboard to more powerful positions in the ANC — as long as the violence makes militancy a popular option.

The NP leadership regards local government as critical to the negotiation process and talks here are expected to deal in advance with some of the issues to be discussed by ANC leaders and government.



Mayekiso



Ramaphosa

Yet other members of Cast are closer ideologically to African nationalistic positions like those of the PAC, and could form part of a breakaway faction.

Whatever the reason for the latest intriguing squabble in the anti-apartheid ranks, the citizen of Soweto or Alexandra — rubbish mounting on his pavements, sewage running down his potholed roads, his skies polluted by coal fires, his neighbourhood unsafe — appears to be last on anyone's list of priorities. ■

LOCAL POLITICS FM 19/4/91
CIVIC DISPUTE

~~127~~ (127) ~~127~~

Power struggles within the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) organisation almost cost Johannesburg its hard-won nonracial Metropolitan Chamber last week.

The chamber is a product of last year's Soweto Accord between the Transvaal provincial administration, three Soweto town councils and the Soweto People's Delegation. It has the job of formulating "regional, non-racial and democratic approaches for long-term implementation of measures for the constitutional, economic, institutional and social development of the metropolis."

But nearly seven months after the signing of the accord, Cast questioned the mandate of those who had signed and rejected the formula for the chamber, calling it racist. Cast, which represents about 40 civic structures, also refused to sit at the same negotiating table as black councillors.

At first it seemed the chamber might collapse before it had begun. But the powerful Soweto People's Delegation, under union boss Cyril Ramaphosa, rejected Cast's allegations, saying it was unfortunate that Cast had gone to the press before consulting the signatories of the accord. In the end, last week's opening chamber meeting was attended by all relevant structures, including some members of Cast.

Other signatories to the constitution last week were councils of Johannesburg, Alexandra, Randburg, Sandton, and the civic associations of Soweto, Klipfontein, Eldorado Park, Klipspruit, Riverlea and the Western Residents' Action Committee.

The *FM* learns that there is deep division in Cast about a number of issues, including its stance on the new chamber.

Moses Mayekiso, Cast president and resident of Hillbrow, is head of the Alexandra Civic Organisation, which so far has refused to sign the chamber constitution. Mayekiso — who is thinly spread between those tasks and his roles as head of the National Union of Metalworkers of SA and a central committee member of the SA Communist Party

Atteridgeville - the city of darkness

127
C/P 2/4/91

ATTERIDGEVILLE township in Pretoria has been plunged into complete darkness, leaving only Kalfong Hospital and the police station with electricity

The chances of relaunching "Operation Khanyisa" - in which defiant residents went on an "operation switch-on" - have been short-circuited this time as the main township supply has been cut off instead of individual houses

The switch-off has sparked outrage in the community, and the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) is considering numerous options including court action and a consumer boycott to force the Transvaal Provincial Administration to re-

consider its decision

The TPA switched off the power supply to the township at 8am on Wednesday to force residents to pay R1,6-million owed for both electricity and water supplies, but decided not to cut water supplies for humanitarian and health reasons

Asro and township administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson agreed in January on a flat rate of R50 per month to end the year-long rent boycott

However, the TPA turned down the agreement between the two parties, saying the money fell far short of meeting monthly costs for effective administration and services in the township

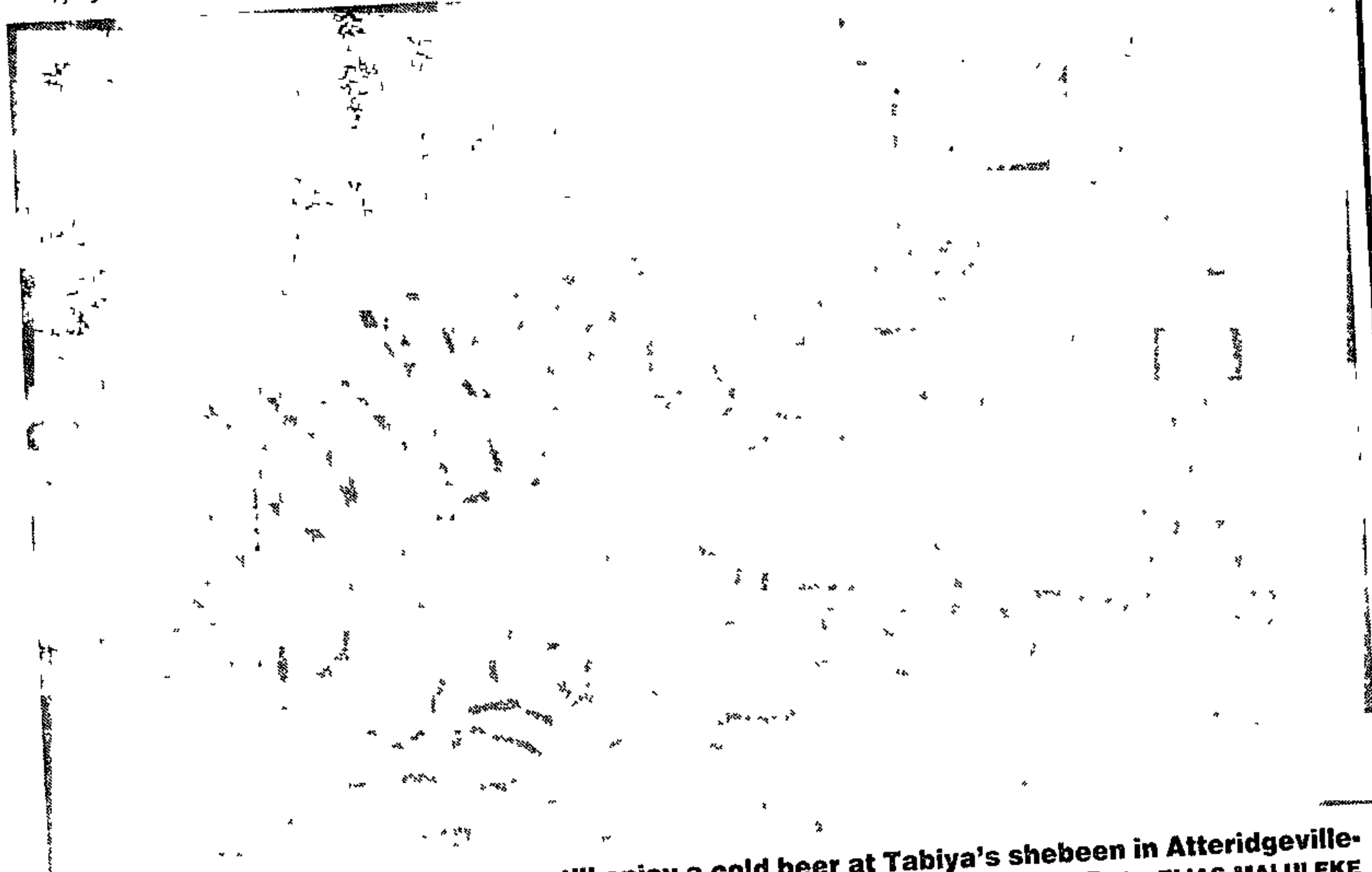
Businesses are the hardest hit

and some have resorted to closing as early as 6pm

The community has resorted to paraffin and candles for cooking and to light their homes, which they said was making life unbearable. Thousands of rands have been lost since the cut-off, as piles of rotting food had to be thrown out of fridges

As night descends on the township, it becomes a dark city without any sign of life. But behind the drawn curtains, save for the lack of blaring radios and bright television screens, life goes on as usual

City Press found people in shebeens having their cold beer in silent surroundings while others held society meetings in candle-lit rooms



No lights, but shebeen visitors can still enjoy a cold beer at Tabiya's shebeen in Atteridgeville. Pic: ELIAS MALULEKE

Power cut in Kagiso forces undertaker to move corpses

AN undertaker in Kagiso had to move corpses out of his mortuaries after the local council cut the township's electricity supply over the weekend

Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Sam Ntuli said seven townships were without electricity yesterday *Monday 23/4/91*

Sapa reports that Ntuli said that, in addition to Kagiso, electricity to Toekomsrus and Thokoza was cut two months ago. Katlehong, Mamelodi, Atteridgeville and Dobsonville had had no power supply for two to three weeks.

Power to Kagiso was cut despite an agreement between the Kagiso Civic Association (KCA) and the Kagiso town council that each household would pay R45 a month for electricity.

However, Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) general secretary Simon Tshidi said yesterday the power supply was restored to Atteridgeville on Friday after discussions with township administrator Ernie Jacobson.

THEO RAWANA and
WILSON ZWANE

Kagiso undertaker Lucky Tholoe said electricity to his business was cut on Saturday at 1 pm and restored at 9 am yesterday.

"I had to transport corpses from my mortuaries to other business friends for fear of them decomposing," he said.

KCA spokesman Nomvula Mokonyane said yesterday the council started cutting power last Thursday despite an agreement reached last December that residents should pay an interim R45 a month.

"We have been negotiating with the town clerk but all of a sudden he stopped talking to us because he wanted us to talk to councillors — whom we don't recognise," said Mokonyane.

But Kagiso town clerk William van Rensburg denied that power to the township had been cut.

"I do not know of any cut, and I know of no agreement over a R45 interim payment," he said.

Residents join forces against hotel plan

THE Killarney, Riviera and Saxonwold residents' associations are joining forces to oppose proposals to build an international hotel on the corner of Oxford and Riviera roads in Johannesburg's northern suburbs. *Blpaw 24/4/91* (127)

Killarney and Riviera Residents' Association chairman Harry van der Kleij said yesterday they were fundraising and would collect objectors' signatures.

"We are going to contest not only the proposed establishment of the hotel with the Townships Board, but are also going

PETER GALLI

to strive to get the powers held by the board decentralised back to the Johannesburg municipality," he said

The hotel's size meant at peak times between 2 000 and 4 000 people would be present with 500 parking bays provided.

"Obviously the rest will have to park in the street, which is totally unacceptable."

Town planners involved in the development, Rosmarin & Associates, could not be reached for comment.

Wesselton struggles on without water

By Therese Anders
Highveld Bureau

In Ermelo's Wesselton township, 50 000 residents have been struggling without water or sewerage services for a week

Ermelo's CP-controlled town council disconnected the water supply after the township defaulted on its March water account

Ermelo town clerk Pieter van Oudtshoorn said water and sewerage services would not be restored to Wesselton until the account was paid in full

He said the TPA had not contacted his council since the water was disconnected on April 16.

The Star was unable to contact any member of the Wesselton Civic Association yesterday

However, a community leader said he believed the civic association had instructed resi-

dents not to pay municipal accounts after the service charge of R15 was doubled without the community being consulted

Wesselton's acting town clerk, Hannalie de Bruyn, said the community had been notified of the increase. She said it would take two to three weeks before a serious health hazard arose.

Meanwhile residents are making up to four trips a day to the Indian township of Cassim Park or the white part of town to collect water.

This is the third time the council has cut Wesselton's essential services in six months.

Earlier this year Eskom won a judgment against the Wesselton local authority for electricity arrears. The township owes Eskom almost R2 million.

The Wesselton Town Council has begun cutting electricity. At present about a third of the area is without power

Star 24/4/91

127

626

Bid to end Soshanguve rent boycott (27)

Sowetan 25/4/91

SA PRESS ASSOCIATION

THE authorities are arranging to discuss with the local civic association the boycott of rent and service charges by residents of Soshanguve.

Deputy Minister of Education and Development Aid Mr Piet Marais said the boycott was regretted. He would invite the Soshanguve Residents Organisation to discuss the issue.

The boycott action was taken at a mass meeting in the Pretoria township on April 7.

Marais said he received a letter from

Sorea "wherein they stated their intention to initiate such a boycott, but also indicated their willingness to discuss the matter"

After holding talks with officials of his department, he regretted the boycott, but welcomed the willingness of Sorea to enter into discussions

He intended to personally attend these talks as soon as a date was set by officials of his department and Sorea.

Marais pointed out that some problems were being experienced with the processing of rent and service charge accounts

"Among the reasons is a petrol bomb attack on the township manager's office late last year which caused severe damage to computers and destroyed valuable records," Marais said

This led to the delay in issuing accounts. Steps had been taken to speed up the sending of ac-

counts and arrangements were also being made so that residents could pay their "overdue" accounts over a longer period

Other complaints and problems would be looked into during the discussions with Sorea, he added

At the mass meeting in the township on April 7, residents decided to boycott rent and service charges until a delegation had met officials of the Department of Development Aid to determine a flat rate.

The residents also decided that all arrears should be cancelled and payment should start from the date which would be agreed on by the delegation and officials of the department - Sapa

Residents to protest 'cops indifference'

Sowetan 25/4/91
127

RESIDENTS of Maokeng in Kroonstad have vowed to stage an unauthorised march to protest alleged police reluctance to arrest a gang terrorising the township.

Police have described as "totally false" allegations they are not taking action against the "Three Million" gang who, the African National Congress alleges, have killed and terrorised township residents for the past seven months.

Kroonstad's ANC organiser, Mr Dennis Bloem, said yesterday police denials of the allegations were "just not true."

Memo

He said Maokeng residents had had enough and would march from the township to Kroonstad police station this morning where they would deliver a memorandum calling for a commission of inquiry into their allegations.

In the latest incident a 16-year-old ANC Youth

League member was stabbed to death in his home on Friday night.

Police confirmed the death but said there was no evidence the murderers were linked to the gang.

Bloem reacted with disbelief, saying the boy's mother had reported the names of the men involved as she was in the house at the time and recognised them.

In their statement, po-

lice said the gang's operations were "very scarce, if ever". They said several gang members had been arrested and a number of firearms seized in the past.

"Arrests were made but due to lack of evidence because people are afraid, opposing bail has always been unsuccessful. These cases are, however, still being investigated," the statement read. - Sapa.

Govt claim drop in sq

THE Government yesterday claimed a dramatic drop in the number of squatters, from about 900 000 to 500 000 between 1989 and last year.

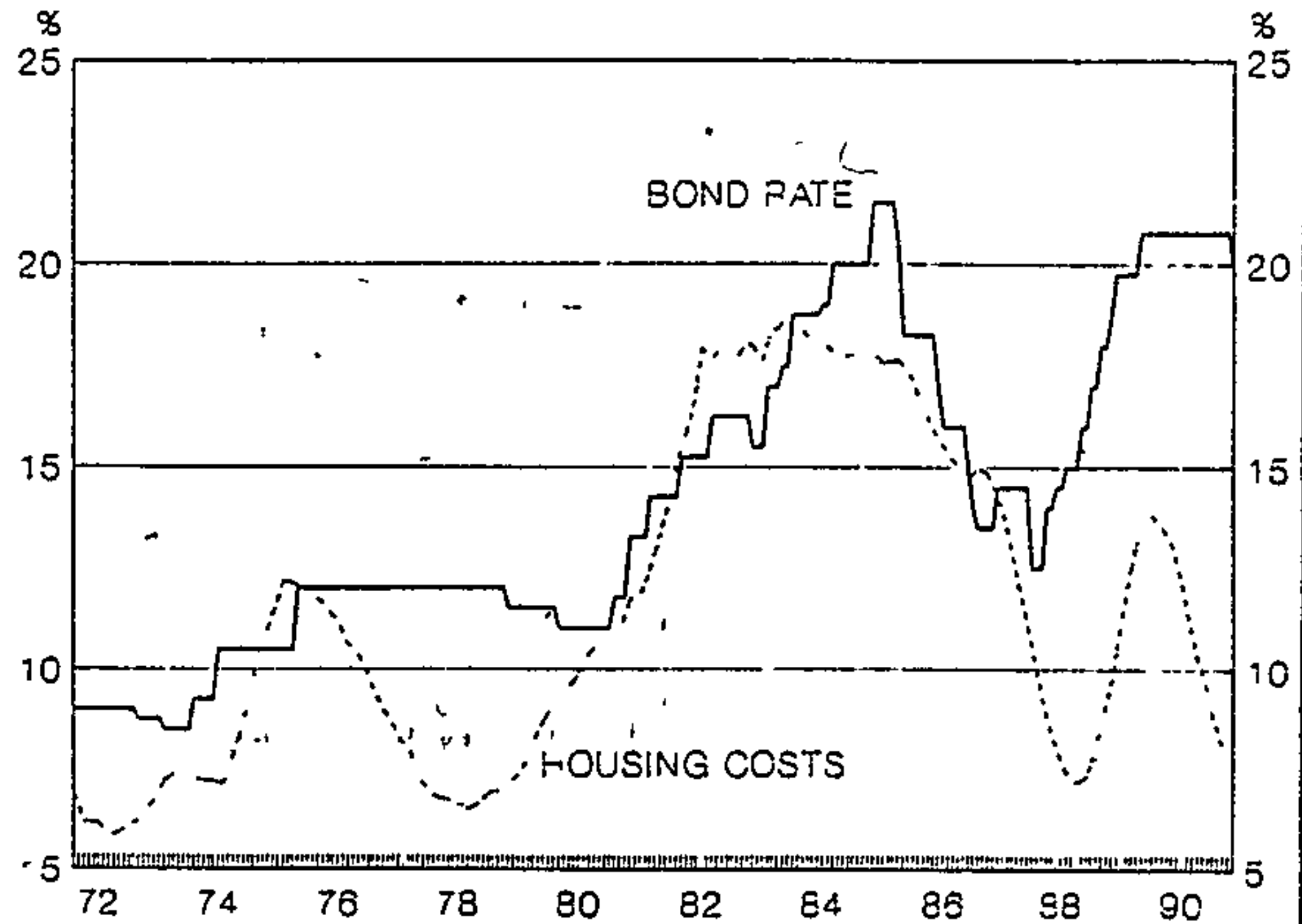
According to the 1990 annual report of the Department of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing tabled in Parliament yesterday, the Government has resettled the former squatters.

"By and large, the provincial administrations have been successful in settling squatters in an orderly manner, despite the extent of squatting," the report said.

The report covered the period between June 1989 and June 1990.

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BUSINESS



Source Central Statistical Services

The cost of housing is cheap relative to other components of the CPI and has kept the inflation rate down overall. Behind the drop in housing costs is the stability of the bond rate, which stayed around 20,75 percent for a year. The lowering of the rate by one percentage point, and probable further decreases, should again cut housing costs.

Graph: Sanlam's Economic Research Department

Flat sales may up rents

By MONDLI MAKHANYA

PROPERTY companies are buying up rental buildings across the country and converting them to sectional title.

This is likely to push up rents but in areas close to the city it will stabilise property prices

Property analysts believe this trend will take units out of the rental market at a time when the demand for rented property is high. The rental market will be heavily pressured, thus pushing up rental rates. Figures recently released by the Cape-based Real Estate Surveys said the only areas in the country that showed a vacancy factor of more than one percent were Hillbrow, Berea and Joubert Park.

According to the report, rental for two-bedroom flats in Johannesburg range from R450 in Joubert Park to R1 400 in Sandton. In Durban a flat would be R505 in the city centre and R653 in Upper Berea. In the Cape rentals on the Peninsula are R492 and on Atlantic seaboard, R712.

Investec Property Group — which has a policy of converting rental apartments to sectional title — acquired three Berea flat buildings comprising 180 flats for R4,5-million and intends reselling them under sectional title. Earlier this year IPG bought 960 flats in Bedfordview for the same purpose. These acquisitions may be a prelude to IPG converting more inner-city buildings to sectional title.

Says MD Marc Wainer: "If the response to the three Berea properties is as good as we expect them to be, IPG will look at returning in strength to the

inner city sectional title." 127

Real Estate Surveys director Erwin Rode estimated that only 20 percent of rental property stock had not yet been converted to sectional title. He believes this will raise rents but that this need not be a bad thing. "Rental levels are so low that it does not pay developers to put up buildings. Rentals are going to have to rise so it can be profitable for people to invest in rental property once more"

Estate agent Eskel Jawitz concurred. He added that a lot of sectional title owners tended to be investors who rented out their properties.

Another agent, Basil Elk, disagreed, saying he did not believe people wanting to meet bond repayments would charge higher rents as "rentals are determined by supply and demand".

IPG director Ronnie Sevitz says his company was taking fewer than 200 units out of the rental market and this would not affect an area like Berea.

A definite effect of this, though, may be to stabilise inner city areas and harden property prices in these areas. This will go a long way towards preventing urban decay and checking it in areas such as Hillbrow and Berea.

He believes the threat of urban decay will continue in areas where only 50 percent of properties are owned — Hillbrow being one of them.

Sevitz says it is only buildings which were subjected to rent control that have deteriorated. Hence IPG's interest in the inner city market — "in five years we expect there will be a doubling of property prices in the area"

Tembisa's water, lights to be cut off

Sowetan 26/4/91.

By DON SEOKANE

127

WATER and electricity supplies to Tembisa will be cut off by the local council today

Tembisa's mayor, Mr S More, yesterday said that for the services to be restored, residents must pay the flat rate introduced last October.

More said the council's appeal to residents to pay their service fees started last year

"During the switch-off period strong security measures will be taken to protect the council's property such as electrical transformers and sub-stations.

Sunday meeting

"I appeal to residents to keep away from the council's property. It will be extremely dangerous to go anywhere near them," said More.

He also advised residents, for their own safety, to keep off the streets at night during the switch-off.

Meanwhile in Tokoza a group of residents will be holding a meeting on Sunday at 9am, at Nkaki Street church hall, to discuss the continuing power problems in the township.

Randfontein next target of boycott



Sowetan 26/4/91.

RANDFONTEIN is the latest West Rand town to fall victim to a consumer boycott.

Residents of Mohlakeng and Toekomsrus townships yesterday resolved to boycott businesses in Randfontein from tomorrow.

The Randfontein boycott was delayed a week while township residents discussed tactics, according to Thami Liphoko, ANC PWV regional organiser and executive member of the ANC's Mohlakeng branch.

The Krugersdorp - started last week - and Randfontein boycotts were sparked by the two Conservative town councils' refusal to give permission for marches

on March 6 this year to demand the release of political prisoners, democratically elected local government, upgrading of services and provision of land for the homeless, and the opening of amenities for all races.

Letter

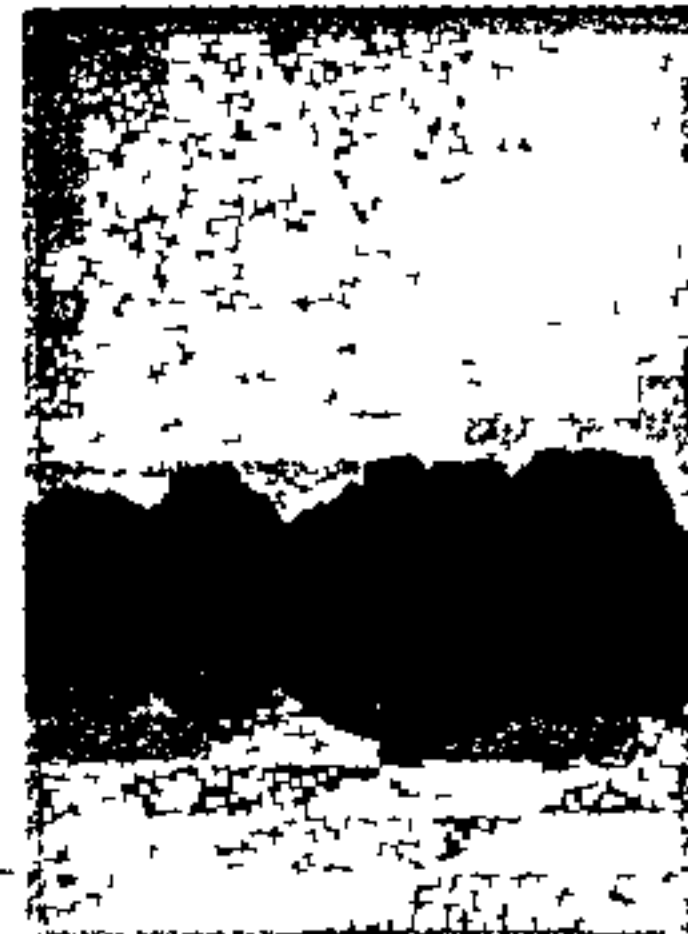
Chairman of the local branch of the ANC, Uhuru Moiloa, showed reporters a letter from the West Rand Chamber of Commerce inviting them to discuss the boycott and "explore the possibility of establishing a more permanent channel of communication" between the two parties.

Marshall Fourie, the Chamber's president-designate, confirmed he wrote the letter.

Moiloa said the Krugersdorp boycott was

successful, adding that traders and residents were not buying from white businesses.

Because of the discussions going on between the West Rand Chamber of Commerce and both the Krugersdorp Town Council and the ANC, Fourie said he could not comment on the boycott "at this stage". - *Sowetan Correspondent.*





Taking in the sights . . . businessmen and politicians tour Alexandra. From left in the front row are Avroy Shlain, Tom White of S C Johnson Wax, Sandton MP Dave Dalling and civic organisation leader Moses Mayekiso. Picture: Ken Oosterbroek

Businessmen taken on tour of Alex

By Julienne du Toit ^{SP} 26/4/91

High-powered businessmen were urged to open their chequebooks and mobilise their resources for the community of Alexandra as they toured the township in a minibus yesterday (127)

Moses Mayekiso, chairman of Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO), hosted the tour, which was aimed at eliciting promises of money and involvement in the community from the

rious chairmen, managing directors and presidents from a wide variety of companies (128)

Celebrities on the tour included Democratic Party MP for Sandton Dave Dalling, the mayors and mayoresses of Sandton and Midrand, recently released detainee Mzwanele Mayekiso and ACO executive member Richard Mda-kane

Chris Aitken, who was involved with the Alexandra Development

Fund and now with the Eden Trust, said he realised that budgets were under pressure. (129)

Tom White of S C Johnson Wax, who sponsored the tour, urged businessmen not just to give handouts but to become involved with the community and to consult community leaders.

Mr Mayekiso suggested that a forum of employers could possibly become involved in the development of Alexandra

Cast's problems could wreck metro chamber

Star
27/4/91

ABBEY MAKOE

(127)

THE future of the newly formed Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber (MC) is in the balance.

A series of damaging developments have emerged within the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast), the organisation representing millions of black people whose participation will be vital to laying the foundations of future non-racial local government

It now seems unlikely that Cast will play a role in the new local government structure, according to impeccable sources, and without it the Metropolitan Chamber will be rendered impotent



MR RAMAPHOSA
Signed the MC's draft.



MR COOVADIA: Attended meeting.

Investigations by Saturday Star reveal that

- The issue of whether to participate in the MC has seriously divided the leadership of Cast
- The rift is likely to lead to the dismissal of two senior civic association office-bearers — Cyril Ramaphosa and Cas Coovadia
- Cast is in dire financial straits
- ANC deputy-president Nelson Mandela has been called in as a mediator
- The Soweto Civic Association (SCA) is likely to break away from Cast
- The SCA itself is expected to split over the Metropolitan Chamber issue

Mr Coovadia, assistant general secretary of Cast, and Mr Ramaphosa, a leader of the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), which is affiliated to Cast, are the targets of hard-liners within the body

The hard-liners believe Cast should not become involved with the MC because it would give exist-

ing black councillors the recognition they do not deserve. Mr Ramaphosa attracted their wrath by recently signing the MC's draft constitution on behalf of the SPD

Mr Coovadia is in trouble for having attended the initial chamber meeting and later speaking to the media as a Cast representative without a mandate from the organisation

Sources told Saturday Star this week that as a result of these actions, Mr Ramaphosa and Mr Coovadia would be fired or asked to resign

It is believed that such measures have the support of the majority of Cast leaders, who last week held a secret meeting to decide, among other things, the fate

● TO PAGE 2.

Open, local govt in

trouble

Catch-22 of 'white' suburbia

McRae added that self-disservice by overpricing in that they make their homes increasingly difficult to sell.

He further said such properties tended to "stick" and will ultimately realise less than if they had been correctly priced.

"There are obviously those exceptional homes in prime positions which will get premium prices in the current market. But in the main, overpricing has to be studiously avoided," McRae warned.

The risk was that buyer resistance would be generated - certainly among black buyers who would at the very least resent being presented with a blatantly over-priced property.



This house in Fairfield, Sandton, is in the first area marketed to all races without being a free-settlement area. But is the Great Trek on?

Peace of mind - at a hefty price

Apr 28 1977

BY DERRICK LUTHAYI

THE quest for quality life seems to be a mission impossible for blacks who want to buy properties in previously "whites only" suburbs.

Violence and school boycotts are the main reasons many blacks want to move out of the townships in search of a stable society and a quiet life for their families in suburbia.

One of the snags is that black homeowners are finding it difficult to sell their township properties to enable them to put up reasonable deposits for property of their choice in the previously-white areas.

Escalating land prices in "white" suburbs is another stumbling block.

A snap survey this week revealed that there is no tremendous rush by blacks to buy property in previously-white suburbs ahead of the repeal of the Group Areas Act which is expected to be passed by Parliament before July.

But despite the odds weighing heavily against blacks moving to the suburbs of their choice, many

have taken the plunge. It is estimated that a quarter of the houses in three affluent suburbs of Sandton - Kelvin, Burchell and Wendywood - are occupied by blacks.

Former Sandton mayor and Anglo American Property Services director Peter Gardiner said black occupancy in these suburbs certainly called for them to participate in the local decision-making process.

Gardiner added that a new residential area in Sandton, called Fairfield, is the first housing estate to have been actively marketed to all races without having been a free-settlement area.

A managing director of one of the biggest estate agents, Scott McRae, said another disturbing factor is that sales of property by whites to blacks has produced very little in the way of prejudice, but there is an element of exploitation creeping into the prices being asked of black buyers.

The scrapping of the Group Areas Act will be extremely positive for the property market, he said, but sellers have to keep a sense of perspective on their asking prices.

"We are definitely coming across an attitude among some white sellers that black buyers are not sophisticated and that an extra premium could therefore be placed on the asking price because they are dealing with naive buyers.

"In fact, black buyers are perfectly well-informed about market trends and price levels in a given area.

"Moreover the calibre of black buyer is definitely high in that many are successful businessmen, professionals and so on. In short, they lack nothing in terms of sophistication and it's a fallacy on the part of sellers to assume they can be misled."

Atteridgeville rejects new service charges

Sowetan 29/4/71. (127)

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents yesterday rejected new service charges proposed by the local administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, and threatened to embark on a rent boycott if electricity was cut again.

At a public meeting organised by the Atteridgeville /Saulsville

By MONK NKOMO

residents organisation held at the Super Stadium, Mr Chippa Chidi, Asro's general secretary asked area committees to discuss the new proposals again and report back to the executive committee before their meeting with Jacobson on Friday.

Jacobson has proposed that a household using three Amps should pay a flat rate of R60. Those using five Amps should

pay R100, those using 10 Amps R150, households using 15 Amps R200 and metered houses R240.

Rate

Residents, who boycotted rent from April 1 last year to December, agreed early this year to pay a monthly flat rate of R50 plus a community trust fund of R5 a house from January.

Residents yesterday agreed to continue paying the R55 a month.

They threatened to embark on a rent boycott and resolved that the black local authorities should first be scrapped and quality services rendered in the township before rent could be increased.

Residents also resolved to occupy new houses at nearby Lotus Gardens which has been declared an Indian area

Services cut warning for Atteridgeville

Sowetan 30/4/91 274

(127)

THE administrator of Atteridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, yesterday warned that electricity and water in the township would be cut soon unless residents paid higher service charges.

He was reacting to a resolution by residents rejecting the proposed new tariffs.

Jacobson said each resident was expected to pay a minimum average flat rate of R150 a month so that the local council could run the township properly.

Jacobson, who has proposed a monthly flat rate of between R60 and R240 a household, depending on the consumption of electricity, said the council had arrears of about R2 million for electricity, water and sewage.

"The council no longer has spare funds to pay bulk suppliers. If residents do not want to pay the proposed minimum flat rate, then all essential services

By MONK NKOMO

including electricity, water and sewage will be terminated," he said.

At a public meeting in the township on Sunday, residents rejected Jacobson's proposed tariffs and resolved to continue paying the monthly flat rate of R55.

Residents also threatened to stop paying rent should the authorities cut essential services.

They resolved that increased tariffs would only be considered when black local authorities were abolished and the township fell under the control of a single, nonracial municipality in Pretoria.

Jacobson said a flat rate of R55 a month was not enough.

"It is unfortunate that residents take such decisions without realising the seriousness of the matter. If they don't pay higher rent, services will be cut," he said.

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Low ceiling cramps house-hunting envoys

NEWLY arrived East European diplomats are scouring Pretoria's posh eastern suburbs for bargain accommodation

Estate agents said this week the hard-up governments of the former Soviet bloc were not in a position to provide top-of-the-market mansions for the heads of their new missions in SA

A Hungarian spokesman said his country's mission was temporarily occupying a house in Colbyn, while staff searched for a permanent base. He admitted the choice was narrowed by limited funds.

Aida Real Estate manager Maritz Blig-

B 10 am 215791
GERALD REILLY (127)

naut confirmed a flurry of diplomatic house-hunting

A spokesman for the Pam Golding agency said palatial houses of the sort occupied by established, senior missions would cost between R800 000 and R1,3m

Klooster and Steyn manager J S Klooster said some purchases had already been made by Eastern Europeans. He declined to give details.

Those hunting for homes include Hungary's permanent mission head Lazlo Mohai,

the head of the Polish office of interest Stanislaw Cienuch, and the Soviet Union's interest section head J Lebeden, who is operating from a city hotel.

Still to arrive in SA are the Czechoslovakian and Romanian mission heads.

SA has representation in all those countries, as well as in Bulgaria. A Foreign Affairs spokesman said there was no indication yet whether Bulgaria intended setting up a local mission.

There are still no signs as to when African states might join Pretoria's up-market housing queue.

Merge private health care with state — ANC paper

Biday 2/5/91

TIM COHEN

THE ANC has suggested that the costs of private medicine be regulated and the sector integrated into an overall national health service providing care for the whole population

A health policy document published for discussion at the ANC's mid-year conference criticises the private sector for its orientation towards those with the means to pay. "About half of all the money spent on health care is caught up in the private sector, which contains half the doctors, nearly all the dentists and pharmacists, and one-quarter of the hospital beds

"Yet this rich private sector only provides care for about 20% of the population. Public funds are used for the training of health workers who later on drift to the private sector"

The document, titled "Towards Developing a Health Policy", says the private sector must become part of the national health system

"This means that in the short term it will be necessary to find ways to regulate the very high cost of private health care. In the longer term, most health care should be provided by the public health service"

The document states that health is a basic human right, and calls for free essential health care to be entrenched in a bill of rights

It also calls for the preferential allocation of resources to promote health care for the most vulnerable sectors of the community

"This should apply particularly to those who have suffered psychological and physical trauma because of apartheid"

The public service should be made "accountable" and it would be necessary to attract into the public sector many of those health workers who had chosen private practice

The document also criticises the

duplication of health services in "own affairs" administrations, and calls for more expenditure

"The government's policy of privatisation and cuts in government spending on health has meant that not enough money is spent on public health services"

The national health service should be unified, non-racial, accessible and affordable. It should give priority to those most in need and focus on eradicating or controlling the major diseases

It lists as major diseases tuberculosis, measles, polio and AIDS, which it says might soon become the largest public health problem in recent history

The document also proposes a national medicines policy, stating that too much money is spent on medicines and that there are many sectors of the public health service in which there are not enough medicines in store

Cast meeting on rift over chamber

Biday 2/5/91

WILSON ZWANE

CIVICS Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso has acknowledged a serious rift between it and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) over the newly constituted Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber

Mayekiso said in an interview Cast would meet today for discussions on the widening rift

Cast has rejected the chamber, saying it undermined national political demands such as an interim government and a constituent assembly and included "discredited and illegitimate" black councillors

But the SPD and the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) have welcomed the chamber as a useful forum in which local government issues could be negotiated

"It is true that some of our members are against the chamber while

others have signed its constitution. But I cannot say that the issue of whether to participate in the chamber has divided our membership," Mayekiso said

Grievances

Top ANC leaders are believed to be involved in efforts to steer the two organisations towards resolving their disagreement over the chamber

However, Cast had problems with its assistant general secretary Cas Coovadia, Mayekiso conceded

Coovadia stands accused of speaking to the Press without a mandate from Cast

"Cas is not our publicity secretary and he has not been mandated to

speaking as our spokesman," Mayekiso said

Coovadia confirmed that Cast had sent him a letter outlining its grievances two weeks ago. "But I don't want to enter into a public debate on the matter until I have had the opportunity of consulting with my comrades in Cast," he said

Mayekiso confirmed that Cast had financial difficulties. Cast was in debt to a Johannesburg hotel it had used as a venue for a number of meetings, he said. He would not disclose the amount of the debt

"Sam Ntuli (Cast general secretary) has been in Sweden in recent weeks on a fundraising mission. But who does not raise funds? The ANC, Numsa, the Alexandra Civic Organisation and many other organisations go overseas to canvass funds," Mayekiso said

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Eviction bid at hostel ⁽¹²⁷⁾

THEO RAWANA

AN ORGANISATION formed in March this year to tackle Alexandra's rent problems, and involving the TPA and the Sandton and Randburg councils, is preparing a court interdict to evict people allegedly brought into a local hostel by Inkatha.

Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) spokesman Mzwanele Mayekiso told a news conference in Alexandra yesterday that since fighting started in the township last year, Inkatha members had been using the 3 000-bed hostel as their base ^{B Day 315191}

"They harassed people who refused to join Inkatha, and used the place as a 'slaughterhouse' where victims were killed

"Now most people have been chased away and others brought in from other hostels and Alexandra Township itself," Mayekiso said

A hawker still resident at the hostel said all people who refused to join Inkatha were chased away and other people brought in

Inkatha could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press

An armed policeman watches over an injured Zulu who suffered a head wound after being attacked by Xhosa squatters yesterday in ongoing violence in Soweto. Picture AP

UN wants amnesty for all, says ANC

^{B Day 315191}
THE United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) wanted a general amnesty for all exiles before it became involved in the repatriation of SA exiles, ANC head of repatriation Jackie Selebi said yesterday.

Speaking at Jan Smuts Airport, where 192 exiles arrived from Angola, Selebi said this was one of the points of disagreement between government and the UNHCR

"The UNHCR needs access to detainees and in the case of SA this involves them being able to go everywhere. If a refugee is designated as a citizen of Bophuthatswana, for example, should anything happen to that person in Bophuthatswana, the UNHCR would not request that government for access"

Selebi said the UNHCR was also unhappy about SA security legislation which would interfere with international norms of legal protection for refugees

The ANC would continue repatriating people but wanted UNHCR involvement because the world body had the expertise and access to international funding

He said the ANC was unhappy with government's progress with the indemnity process

It had 20 000 people who wanted to return but the process was being hampered by a lack of clarity on who was ultimately responsible for police action against re-

PATRICK BULGER

turnees "It seems like we have two governments — one headed by De Klerk and the other being the police. Nobody appears capable of bringing the police to book"

He said those who returned yesterday were mostly Umkhonto we Sizwe members who had been looking after abandoned military camps in Angola

A small group of family and friends waited at the airport for the returnees. Police kept a low profile

Sapa reports that the ANC in Lusaka is faced with an acute accommodation crisis and astronomical rents due to an unexpected influx of SA exiles from other parts of the world

ANC sources said yesterday the exiles were arriving in the hope their travel papers could be processed quickly so they could catch connecting flights to SA

KIN BENTLEY reports from London that the British government has set aside R2,5m to assist in reintegrating exiles and former political prisoners into SA society

Details of this aid were made in a policy document presented to parliament this week by foreign secretary Douglas Hurd

The first allocation, of about R100 000, was made in March to the Western Cape Repatriation Committee to help with the cost of renovating a reception centre in that area, the document said

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Messina: person charged

241 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Justice

- (1) Whether the State intends charging a certain person from Messina, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply and who purportedly assaulted various youths in the Messina area in or about November 1989, if not, why not, if so, (a) what will this person be charged with, (b) what is his name and (c) what are the circumstances surrounding the alleged assaults,
- (2) whether any other complaints were laid against this person in the past two years, if so, what other complaints?

B626E

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

- (1) Yes
 - (a) Nine charges of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm
 - (b) Wynand Johannes Erasmus
 - (c) In the charge sheet it is alleged that Mr Erasmus beat nine persons with a cane on their buttocks. No further particulars can be furnished because the case is *sub judice*
- (2) The Department of Justice does not have such information at its disposal

Answered 315191

242 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

- (1) With reference to the Reply to Question No 956 on 4 June 1986, (a) how many (i) hostels for (aa) males and (bb) females were there in each township falling direct-

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

by or indirectly under his Department, and (ii) persons were accommodated in each hostel, as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) how many persons were each of these hostels designed to accommodate,

Answered 315191

- (2) whether any single-sex hostels have been converted to family housing units since 1 May 1985, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many, and (b) at what cost in respect of each such township, as at the latest specified date for which figures are available,
- (3) whether any further single-sex hostels are to be built, if so, (a) why, (b) for how many persons, (c) when, (d) at what cost, and (e) where, in each case,
- (4) whether any further single-sex hostels are to be converted to family housing units, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) where, (c) how many, and (d) at what cost, in each case,
- (5) whether his Department is planning to provide improved types of bed-sitter and single-room accommodation in the future, if so, (a) when, (b) where, and (c) at what cost, in each case?

B630E

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

Reply bound in Annexures of House—see M249

281 Mr B B GOODALL asked the Minister of Justice

- (1) How many (a) Black, (b) White, (c) Coloured and (d) Indian men had been (i) taken to court for, (ii) convicted of and (iii) sentenced for rape during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available,
- (2) (a) how many of those sentenced (i) received death sentences, (ii) were hanged and (iii) were certified insane and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished,
- (3) how many of those convicted were (a) found guilty of multiple rapes and (b)

Answered 315191

Rape: sentences

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

The required information is not readily available in the Department. To obtain the information all court records will have to be examined, which is not economically feasible. I, however, refer the hon member to my reply to Question No 186 on 27 March 1991 (see col 791). A copy is attached for the hon member's convenience.

B745E

Magalies toll gates: figures

301 Mr P H DE LA REY asked the Minister of Transport

- (1) (a) What, from the putting into operation of the Magalies toll gates on the N4 up to the latest specified date for which figures are available, (i) were the total receipts and (ii) was the total expenditure in respect of the operation of these gates, (b) how many vehicles made use of this toll road during the above-mentioned period and (c) what was the total cost involved in the erection of the toll gates,
- (2) whether the completion of the road concerned is being delayed until such time as the toll gates yield enough profit to cover construction costs, if not, what is being contemplated in this regard, if so, when is it anticipated that the road will be completed?

B782E

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

- (1) (a) (i) The total toll income at the Pelindaba toll plaza on the Magalies Toll Road for the first two months after the commencement of toll collection on 1 February 1991 was as follows—
- | | |
|---------------|---------|
| February 1991 | R22 427 |
| March 1991 | R26 762 |
| Total | R49 189 |
- (ii) The operating expenditure for the first two months of operation of the Pelindaba toll plaza was as follows—

February 1991	R 74 619
March 1991	R 75 610
Total	R150 229

- (b) The total number of vehicles which used the toll road during the first two months of operation was as follows
- | | |
|---------------|---------|
| February 1991 | R22 553 |
| March 1991 | R27 136 |
| Total | R49 689 |
- (c) The total cost involved in the construction of the Pelindaba toll plaza was approximately R8,7 million
 - (2) No The completion of the road is not directly connected to the toll income at the Pelindaba toll plaza. The total project will be completed in phases. The tolling of the first phase of the project, ie the 12 km section between Ateridgeville and Pelindaba was undertaken because the location for the main toll plaza on the toll road is on this section. The location of the toll plaza at Pelindaba will, in future, make it possible to distinguish between Pelindaba/Pretoria, Pelindaba/Brits and Brits/Pretoria traffic and, therefore, to levy equitable toll tariffs in respect of these different traffic movements at one toll plaza complex. The first phase of the Magalies toll road between Ateridgeville and Pelindaba is only a link in the toll road and the viability of the toll road is based on the complete toll road
- In order to provide a further vital link of the toll road, the Department of Transport will be putting the construction of the N4 between Ateridgeville and the Central Business District of Pretoria to open tender by the middle of 1991, and it is expected that this road section will be completed by the middle of 1993. It is anticipated that the construction will be financed from capital market loans which can be supported by future toll revenue
- The completion of the section of the N4 between Pelindaba and road 980, south of Brits, is currently not on the five-year plan of the Department. It will be constructed when warranted from both an economic and financial point of view

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Cast likely to plaster over its rift

By GAVIN EVANS

THE internal rift within the Civics Association of the Transvaal over whether to participate in the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is expected to be resolved this weekend.

While the parties currently in conflict over the issue are sticking to their positions, African National Congress sources close to both groups say they are expecting an agreement which opens the way to attempt to change the chamber from within.

The Metropolitan Chamber was launched with considerable fanfare on April 9 and was intended to be a "super forum" which would help mould the future of non-racial local government in the PWV area and beyond. Delegates are drawn from all the white and black town and city councils in the area, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the ANC-aligned Soweto Civic Association and other civic bodies, while observers from the Development Bank, Eskom and the Tembisa and Midrand councils also participate.

But the chamber was rejected by Cast, largely because it is "based on racial representation" and includes "illegitimate and discredited" town-

The schism in Cast over participation in the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber is expected to be resolved this weekend. **By GAVIN EVANS**

ship councillors.

Cast said it believed structures such as the forum cut across national political demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government.

The SCA and Soweto Peoples' Delegation, which had forged the ground-breaking Greater Soweto Accord with the TPA last September, believed it was a useful forum through which a future non-racial local government system could be forged.

Following the Cast announcement of its rejection of the chamber, SPD leader Cyril Ramaphosa accused Cast members of "political dishonesty", saying that none of them had raised fundamental objections to the chamber at a meeting shortly before its launch.

Since then top-level ANC members have been working hard on getting the two sides to reach agreement. It

315-915191
has been stressed that failure could lead to a major split between Cast, led by National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa general-secretary Moses Mayekiso and its most powerful affiliate, the SCA, in which National Union of Mine-workers general secretary Ramaphosa is playing a central role.

"The differences are essentially over tactics, not over principle," said one ANC leader involved in the discussions which they hope will resolve the issue this weekend.

"It can't be reduced to the individuals involved, but bear in mind that Cyril comes from a union tradition where initial agreements made space for NUM to organise, while in Numsa they had to force the space to organise from the bottom before the initial agreements were won.

"In the end though, I think they will reach an agreement which will open the way to try and change the chamber from within — to use it to oversee the demise of the illegitimate black town councils."

Mayekiso this week confirmed that some Cast affiliates were still against the chamber while others had signed its constitution, and that meetings were being held to resolve the problem.

Stayaway looms in Mamelodi

By ELIAS MALULEKE *Special*
 THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) will lead a protest march to the Mamelodi Town Council tomorrow in support of the Mamelodi Civic Association and demands made by the local residents.

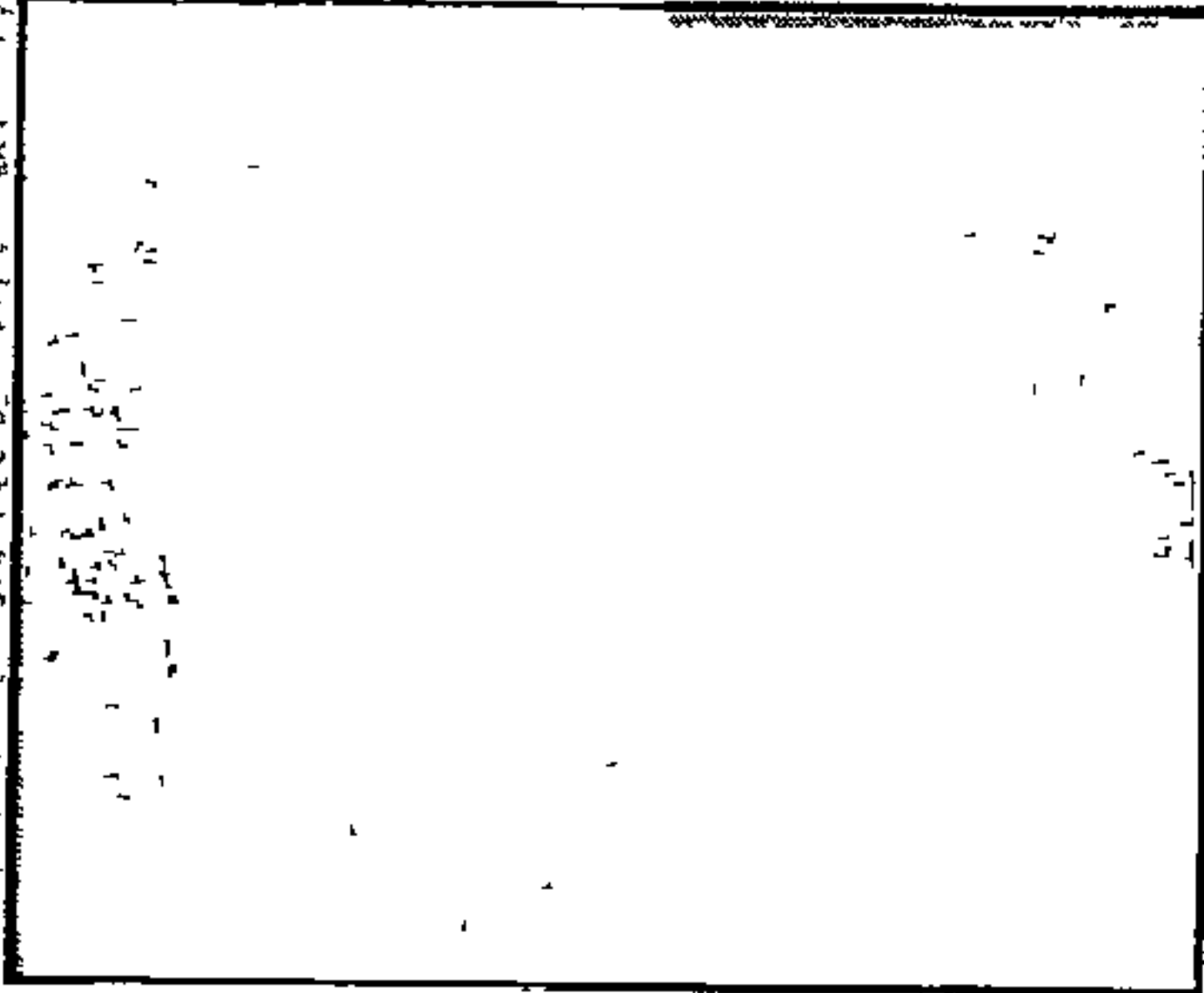
It is expected that thousands of workers will stay at home to support the march which is to demand a flat rate of R50 a month for electricity and services.

Cast spokesman Sandy Lebesse said other demands are road improvements, low cost houses, one non-racial municipality, one tax base, the scrapping of rent arrears and the resignation of town councillors.

Lebesse also responded to the controversy surrounding the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber which is said to be threatening to split Cast.

Some members of Cast have joined the chamber which has been rejected by Cast.

A war of words has started between Cast president Moses Mayekiso and Cyril Ramaphosa of the Soweto Peo-



Cyril Ramaphosa

ple's Delegation, leading to the resignation of Cast general secretary Cas Coovadia.

Ramaphosa has accused Cast of "political dishonesty", saying Cast members had raised no major objections to joining the chamber at a meeting short-



Moses Mayekiso

ly before its launch.

The chamber was established last month as a think-tank and a forum representing government, councillors and civic organisations in the PWV.

Lebesse said Coovadia's resignation would be discussed soon.

"As far as we are concerned Coovadia is still the general secretary as his resignation has not yet been accepted," Lebesse said.

He denied claims of a rift within Cast and said Cast was experiencing "minor internal problems".

"Contradictions will always be there in any organisation. Contradictions are the driving force for a changing and developing organisation like Cast and should not be seen from an antagonistic point of view," Lebesse said.

He said Cast would like to clearly state its standpoint on the chamber.

"We are rejecting the MC because it does not address the question of a Constituent Assembly for an interim government. We view it as undermining the national negotiation process. Also, it is racially structured and includes the illegitimate structures of black local authorities which have been rejected by the majority of blacks."

Lebesse said Cast did not "completely reject" the idea of the chamber, but believed it had "some flaws which had to be corrected before Cast could participate".

Stayaway set today

*Sowetan
6/5/91* By MONK NKOMO

THE Mamelodi Civic Association has called on local residents - except students, journalists and health workers - to stay away today to demand the resignation of local councillors.

In addition, MCA publicity secretary Mr Pasty Malefo urged residents to pay a monthly flat-rate tariff of R50 a household until the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Pretoria Council meet the organisation to discuss affordable rent and service charges.

Residents were planning to march on the local town council offices to deliver a memorandum demanding the resignation of councillors.

Malefo said the MCA resorted to the stayaway action after the TPA refused to meet it to resolve the rent problem.

He added that the chief magistrate of Pretoria had granted the MCA permission to stage a peaceful march.

Power to ¹²⁷
Lekoa to be
disconnected
star 6/5/91
Vereeniging Bureau

Lekoa's power supply is to be cut off on May 27 unless 70 percent of residents in the Vaal Triangle townships concerned pay their electricity bills by the middle of the month.

Continuing negotiations to end the seven-year boycott of rent and service charges in the area have so far failed to bring a solution to the dispute.

However, Lekoa Town Clerk Klasie Louw last Friday confirmed a last-ditch meeting to be scheduled for tomorrow night, during which the issue would hopefully be concluded.

According to reliable sources, the electricity supply to townships in Lekoa's jurisdiction, including Sebokeng and Sharpeville, will be disconnected on May 27 unless 70 percent of the residents pay their accounts by May 15.

Since November last year alone the amount in arrears has risen to R16 million, with an average of only about six percent of Lekoa's 25 000 consumers paying their electricity bills.

It is understood that the council is already preparing letters to local consumers to warn them about the disconnection of power supplies.

The disconnection will also affect those who have been paying their accounts as there is no way in which defaulting consumers can be singled out.

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810cam 715191 IDT to start assessment of land subsidy applications

CAPE TOWN — The Independent Development Trust (IDT) will start approving the first batch of applications for land subsidies from the R750m it allocated on July 19, housing director Ben van der Ross has announced

The applications would be assessed and evaluated after a May 31 deadline and approved "in principle" at the IDT's monthly meeting in July, Van der Ross said. Additional applications for assistance would be considered in a second evaluation exercise.

To avoid unnecessary expense, the IDT has announced that it does not expect applicants to develop their proposals in full technical detail before receiving an "in principle" approval. Final approval will follow further negotiation with successful applicants.

The IDT project aims to provide assistance to about 100 000 poor South Africans. It hopes this scheme will form the basis of home ownership for about 750 000 people.

The trust received 300 applications to

127
LESLEY LAMBERT

the tune of R7bn before it launched the project and is expected to be inundated with thousands more.

To deal with the inflow, the IDT will consider applications not on a first come, first served basis but according to the following timetable:

Applications which meet the May 31 deadline will be assessed on receipt until June 14,

During the last two weeks of June and the first week of July, the merits and demerits of each application will be evaluated by a panel of experts,

Recommendations for the approval "in principle" of projects will be made to the meeting of the IDT board of trustees on July 19, and

Further negotiation with successful applicants to settle outstanding queries will proceed on an ad hoc basis and final approval will be granted by IDT executives on delegated authority from the board.

CAST leader resigns over policy disparity

By Shareen Singh ^{Star} 7/5/91

Cas Coovadia, assistant general secretary of the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal, (CAST), has resigned.

Mr Coovadia's resignation follows reports from CAST that he, without a mandate from the organisation, had attended an initial meeting of the newly formed Metropolitan Chamber and had later spoken to the media as a CAST spokesman.

CAST had taken a stand against participating in the Metropolitan Chamber, but Mr Coovadia, in his personal capacity, supported participation.

He believed that although the Chamber had its drawbacks, through participation in the structure CAST could challenge the authorities in the Chamber and initiate a process that would result in better living conditions in the townships.

He agreed with CAST that the Chamber was racially constituted and he also had problems with the participation of black local authorities and management committees, but he dif-

fered with the organisation on the issue of participation.

"In my view, participation in the Chamber would not preclude our ongoing demand for the resignation of black local authorities and coloured and Indian management committees. This struggle could be extended in the Chamber," he said.

General secretary Sam Ntuli said he had not received Mr Coovadia's resignation and as far as CAST was concerned Mr Coovadia was still the assistant general secretary. The matter would be discussed internally and the organisation would take a decision on whether to accept or reject the resignation.

Mr Coovadia pointed out that his executive position would depend on his constituency, but he would remain an active member of CAST.

"If the CAST general council rejects my resignation, I would continue as assistant general secretary, but on condition that the organisation addresses certain problems I have with CAST's method of operation."

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- number of summonses that need to be served. This legislation should be changed accordingly.
- 17 4 Traffic officers should stop the incorrect use of Section 341 CPA notices in respect of the *post factum* institution of prosecutions, such as for speeding or traffic-light offences recorded by camera. Section 54 CPA summonses should be used instead, and investigations should be carried out in order to introduce suitable measures to deal with the requirement that presently prompts the incorrect use of Section 341 CPA.
- 17 5 There is a dire need to increase the prosecutions for moving violations drastically.
- 17 6 Warrants of arrest related to traffic cases should be recorded on a national information system that is accessible to traffic officers and arrests should be allowed on the strength of such recordings.
- 17 7 The prosecution of most types of parking offences should be adjudicated administratively *in toto*.
- 17 8 The criminal procedure law in respect of all other traffic offences must be streamlined.
- 17 9 Traffic officers should receive specific training in aspects such as the taking of finger prints, the art of testifying in courts of law and monitoring the effects of implemented traffic-law enforcement measures.
- 17 10 The onus of proof on the State in respect of readings by mechanical and electronic measuring devices should be alleviated considerably.
- 17 11 Traffic-law enforcement agencies should find more effective ways to communicate with the public at large.
- 17 12 Road collisions involving traffic offences should lead to prosecutions wherever possible and collision involvement should be recorded in a national register.
- 17 13 Traffic officers should play a more predominant role in the visiting and taking of particulars at road collisions as well as during the subsequent investigation thereof.
- 17 14 Hazardous locations should be identified in a uniform manner and, where possible, they should be improved or eliminated. Collision statistics should be collected, processed and applied uniformly.
- 17 15 Point duty should be carried out by traffic wardens where possible (and, in terms of the Road Traffic Act, No 29 of 1989, by traffic reservists), in order to make more traffic officers available for traffic patrolling during peak hours.
- 17 16 Explicit uniform guidelines to pursue motorists who do not stop when they are signalled to do so, should be drafted.
- 17 17 Evidential breath testing should be introduced as an alternative to blood tests in drinking and driving cases.
- 17 18 The giving of a breath sample at the request of a traffic officer should be made compulsory.
- 17 19 Traffic-law enforcement should be executed uniformly throughout the Republic of South Africa. The mechanism should be created to compel individual traffic enforcement guidelines set on a national basis.
- 17 20 Legislation should stipulate that tyre wear beyond a 1 mm high gross rib in a tyre groove is not permitted in order to provide for a visual check of tyres.
- 17 21 Tyre-tread-depth instruments should be standardised.
- 17 22 Simple and practical legislation in respect of mass requirements and measurement is very necessary.
- 17 23 Traffic-law enforcement should be mechanised extensively.
- 17 24 Effective and enforceable measures to deal with the intoxicated pedestrian should be researched, devised and legislated.
- 17 25 A means to identify vehicles that carry less than 12 seated persons properly as taxis should be researched, devised and legislated.
- 17 26 The administration of drivers' licences should be reorganised *in toto* and all drivers' licences should be reissued under

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

- a properly-controlled administrative system. If this cannot be done, the requirement for drivers' licences should be abolished altogether, in view of the fact that under the prevailing system they no longer serve any useful or effective purpose.
- 17 27 Standardised means to monitor the effect of traffic-law enforcement measures should be introduced country-wide.
- 17 28 Law-enforcement quality-control models should be used more extensively throughout South Africa. The use of these models will greatly assist traffic authorities in deploying their available manpower resources more effectively. (These models may be employed for the purposes of the latter recommendation.)
- 17 29 In order to render the administration of justice more effective, serious consideration should be given to the establishment of special traffic courts that are manned by experienced judicial personnel.
- 17 30 One of the most important deficiencies in South African traffic-law enforcement practice is the lack of a system that makes provision for the removal of habitual traffic offenders from our roads. The introduction of a points-demerit system for traffic offenders is considered essential.
- 17 31 Full authority should be given to traffic officers in the service of local authorities to issue a written warning to appear in court in terms of Section 72 CPA.
- 17 32 With reference to the literature, it is disquieting to note that many of the problems in the field of traffic-law enforcement that existed in South Africa more than 20 years ago, are still prevalent and that many of the recommendations to alleviate these problems made at that time have still not been implemented, for example, the points-demerit system, special traffic courts, extensive use of mechanised law-enforcement methods, etcetera.
- 17 33 Criteria for the staffing requirements of traffic departments should be found

INTERPELLATION

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

Own Affairs

Housing projects opening

1 The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether he will open housing projects undertaken by his Department in the same manner as did the Minister of Education and Culture by admitting non-Indians to schools and colleges of education for Indians.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? *Hansard* 41591 D138E INT

The MINISTER OF HOUSING Mr Charman, the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition will no doubt agree that the admission of non-Indians to schools dovetails with the overall policy of this Administration which is a continuation of the policy applied by the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition when he was a Minister. As a former Minister of Housing in the House of Delegates, he must surely be fully aware of the extended waiting list for the Indian component of the South African population.

This dispossessed community has built up a backlog spanning many years which has not been totally done away with. It will not be possible, with our limited funds, to meet the demand for housing for the entire South African population emanating from the lower-income categories of the community.

Notwithstanding the constraints, I share the concern of the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition as well as that of other organisations which have, from time to time, approached me regarding the plight of the underprivileged in respect of housing in many of the Black communities. I have indicated to such organisations that I am fully prepared to render assistance whenever possible within the constraints within which we are obliged to work. Hon members can therefore rest assured that I will not hesitate to consider making surplus housing or land available to other race groups wherever the opportunity presents itself.

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For the information of the House I wish to say that in the following cases this Administration has assisted members of other communities in the housing field 200 ha of land was released in Fmetown, 700 ha was released in Savannah Park Phase 2 and 3, some 30 houses were made available in Dassenhoek, and a portion of land at Whispers near Copesville and some houses in Moor River were made available. These actions speak for themselves.

Whilst there is understanding for the serious housing need of so many thousands of families throughout the country, an appeal is made to everyone concerned not to frustrate us in our sincere endeavours to provide basic accommodation for those in need for whom we are at present responsible and who are victims of the discriminatory legislation of the past.

In reply to the second part of the question, I refer hon members to my response to the first part.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, what I want to say should be seen in a positive sense. The hon the Chairman of the Ministers' Council, in his capacity as the Minister of Housing, made reference to the fact that the rendering of service to other race groups as far as our education is concerned was a continuation from the previous administration and, of course, there was a veiled criticism of the fact that I was the Minister of Housing at the time. [Interjections.]

The vision of the new South Africa only came into being in February last year, because at that time the question of the repeal of the Group Areas Act was not negotiable. One would not have dreamt that the Group Areas Act would even be drastically changed. The hon the Minister of Finance will agree that there were difficulties even in respect of getting reasonable amendments to the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act. So there has been a change.

We are now in a process of transition. In spite of the fact that Parliament, most certainly as a result of the efforts of all parties, will repeal the Population Registration Act and the Group Areas Act, the White Administration and the Government are giving permits for the occupation and ownership of residential properties and for the acquisition of farms in White areas even

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now as if the Group Areas Act is not going to be repealed. ~~(127)~~ (127)

We have one Ministers' Council, we have one majority party controlling it and we have one Administration and one House of Delegates. Let us be consistent. The hon the Minister of Housing referred to the question of limited funds. If ever there is a department in our Administration that is running short of funds, it is the Department of Education and Culture. They should not admit non-Indians, as that is a provision in the Constitution in respect of the rendering of services to other race groups.

There is a surplus of funds in the Department of Housing—the hon the Minister of Finance will agree that he has given only R60 million to the House of Representatives because much of our money for housing is not used. It is no fault of our Administration, but I say let us be consistent, because there have been criticisms against our Administration and against the hon the Minister of Housing. I am not saying whether these criticisms are justified, because if there is pressure in Maranahill, if one can release 30 homes in Maranahill for occupation by non-Indians, why are we not consistent throughout South Africa? We accept that circumstances differ from province to province and region to region.

We have had the hon the Minister of Education and Culture in the House of Assembly boasting in an act of superficial ostentation to South Africa that we have 10 000 or 12 000 Blacks in our schools, at a time when he is crying with a begging bowl to the hon the Minister of Finance for extra funds to man Indian education. [Interjections.]

My appeal is that we should show—not by words, but by action—that we have pilot projects in our Administration, that we are not waiting for the negotiation to be completed. The House of Delegates, like the Indian community in South Africa, has always had an open-door policy. We are creating the same and we are translating into reality our vision of a new South Africa. [Time expired.]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOUSING Mr Chairman, having heard the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition, I want to say that when

we came to Parliament we were fully aware of the responsibilities that we were supposed to carry out. He also mentioned the new vision and the continuation towards the new vision.

I have always mentioned the problems which are facing the Indian community—one is education, the other is housing. When it comes to housing we cannot divorce ourselves from the political situation which we have been subjected to in this country. The hon the Leader of the Official Opposition knows that the Indian community was sandwiched in Natal. Now that the restriction has been lifted, the communities are moving. Houses are required for their movement and resettlement in various areas. I want to make it very clear this afternoon that, as far as the Group Areas Act is concerned, we are at the moment developing Indian housing in non-Indian areas with money from Indian funds. We are trying to find legal means in which to do this, and we are also looking at where areas have been expropriated for development. We are in actual fact looking at returning those lands, and therefore the question of the character of group areas should never come into it.

What is more, it is unfortunate that, whilst we are looking at one South Africa and one nation, we cannot just escape the responsibility of having to provide housing. Well over 60 000 houses are required for the Indian community. [Interjections.] One can imagine that if anybody does, the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition knows full well what has been achieved in this House since we have come into this House. [Time expired.]

MR D K PADIACHEY Mr Chairman, it is unfortunate that the hon the Deputy Minister has to speak in terms of Indian housing, Indian land, and Indian money. [Interjections.] The time has come when we no longer speak in that way—the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act are going, and we will not have any mention of "Indian, Indian, Indian" any more!

I heard what the hon the Chairman of the Ministers' Council has said about 200 hectares of land which were given. To whom was it given? It was given to South Africans, and we as South Africans are entitled to the land.

MR M NARANJEE Mr Chairman, may I ask the hon member a question?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! Is the hon member prepared to take a question?

MR D K PADIACHEY Mr Chairman, this is an interpellation, there cannot be a question in an interpellation. [Interjections.]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member may proceed. ~~(127)~~ (127)

MR D K PADIACHEY Mr Chairman, it is also unfortunate that we had areas like Cato Manor, Fiets and Sophiatown, where people of all races lived together and from which they had to move when the Group Areas Act came into being, to areas like the land of the Asians, Lenasia, Palmridge and those places.

There are people living in our areas who are not of Indian origin, and they must be given the same deal as the other people of the area. If, for instance, people living in Lenasia apply for houses, whether they are of Indian, African, Coloured or White origin, they should be given the houses. There is no such thing as our not having money for housing.

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING [Inaudible.]

MR D K PADIACHEY I am saying we should give houses to South Africans. I am not speaking only about Indians. This is unfortunate, because in a manifesto Solidarity spoke about a "South Africa for all". They do not speak about a South Africa for Indians, about a South Africa where there will be an Indian, Coloured, White or African component.

The crux of the matter is that Solidarity does have the power, and the hon the Ministers do have the power now to delegate these things, but they do not do it, and they come up with reasons such as that it is an Indian matter. [Time expired.]

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE Mr Chairman, I listened with interest to what the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition has stated. He compared education to housing. It must be categorically understood by him that, as far as education is concerned, we stated very clearly that if there was space and a

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teacher available, then we would take anybody who applied to our schools. That is a categorical and very clear statement. If that situation exists in respect of housing, I am sure the hon. the Minister of Housing will apply the same rule. There is one rule for everybody in the Ministers' Council of the House of Delegates.

The hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition is trying to state that we have different policies, but that is erroneous. He is trying to throw a red herring in our path by stating that we have so much extra housing that we can take it away and give it to the Blacks, but that is misleading. He is trying to give hope where there is no hope of obtaining a house at all.

Right now we have the tricameral system in South Africa in which this Government is involved and which has good standing. As such, monetary allocations are made for housing and education in this particular Administration. Therefore we do not have the money to build homes for Blacks, much as we would have liked to. We want to share, but we can only share what we have. If we do not have, we cannot share. [Interjections.]

Indian land was taken in Cato Manor, as was the case throughout the country. In Durban there are 18 000 people on the waiting list. [Interjections.] I would like to ask the hon. member for Central Rand.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! I cannot allow private discussions across the floor of the House. Hon. members must understand that the hon. the Minister may proceed.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION That hon. Minister is an ass!

THE MINISTER I understand the hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition, being an ass himself.

MR K CHETTY Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Is it parliamentary for the hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition to call the hon. the Minister an ass?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! Did the hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition say that?

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION That is what I said, Sir. His own members are laughing at him, because they regard him as an ass. He speaks like an ass. [Interjections.]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! The hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition must withdraw that.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION I withdraw it unconditionally, Mr. Chairman. [127] **THE MINISTER** Mr. Chairman [Time expired.]

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr. Chairman, space in a school is not the only argument. A child in school needs a teacher, textbooks, other amenities and facilities. The hon. the Minister of Education and Culture has been crying in every newspaper in South Africa that there is a tremendous shortage of funds. I think if there is one Minister of the Ministers' Council who has embarrassed his party and the hon. the Chairman of the Ministers' Council in an act of superficial orientation—if he understands what that means—it is that hon. Minister. Let us tell South Africa that we have allocated land to non-Indians and let us accept that fact, but the hon. the Chairman of the Ministers' Council must control his Minister of Education and Culture who, as an individualist, is trying to present to South Africa the picture that he is changing, but that his Ministers' Council is not.

Let us agree, as the policy of the House of Delegates, that we have projects in the pipeline to complete for the benefit of the members of the Indian community who suffered as a result of the Group Areas Act. Therefore I propose, not as an act of negative criticism, but as an act of positive criticism, that we determine a policy for the House of Delegates. [Time expired.]

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING Mr. Chairman. [Interjections.]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! I want to tell hon. members. [Interjections.] **ORDER!** Did the hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition call the hon. the Minister a rogue?

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Sir, he is stealing from the community! [Interjections.]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! The hon. the Leader of the Official Opposition must immediately withdraw that.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION I withdraw it, Sir.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! I want to appeal to hon. members if they are going to rise on points of order and what have you during interpellations, to keep in mind that we have limited time for speeches. We cannot allow that sort of disorder to continue.

THE MINISTER Mr. Chairman, my appeal to all hon. members present here is: Let us not make housing an issue for debate and, in so doing, create impressions and give people hopes that we cannot satisfy. [127]

At the present time the Administration has more than enough applications for housing to satisfy the needs of the underprivileged in our own society, and that is the charge that we have to answer. However, I am hoping that in due course and wherever it is possible, if in some way we can assist in providing housing for some unfortunate group of people, as we have done in Marnahill, we will try to assist them, but my primary responsibility and that of this House is to build homes for the thousands of people who are wait-listed and who depend on us to provide them with homes. We are planning townships and homes. If, for some reason or other, the members of the Indian community decide they do not want those homes, the homes can go to those next on the list. However, what we need in this debate is an understanding of our problems.

MR DSAKALINGUM Mr. Chairman, is the hon. the Minister prepared to take a question?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! Is the hon. the Minister prepared to take a question?

THE MINISTER No, Sir.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Watch out for the Judas behind you!

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE ORDER! That hon. member must resume his seat. The hon. the Minister may proceed.

THE MINISTER Here in my report is an indication of the fact that we have released land and made it available to other people so that they can develop it for their own community. That is a manifestation of a genuine desire to assist and to understand the plight of other people. However, I think charity begins at home and for some time into the future priority must be given to the provision of homes for those people in the lower-income group who are dependent on us for the provision of homes. [Interjections.]

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Pension payments: irregularities

*1 **MR M RAJAB** asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare

- (1) Whether allegations of irregularities in pension payments in Glencoe and other Northern Natal towns are being investigated by his Department, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details,
- (2) whether he has received correspondence from the Glencoe and District Indian Child Welfare Society concerning a press statement in this regard. If so, what was (a) the purport of and (b) his reaction to this correspondence,
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

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THE MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE

- (1) Yes. I must add that investigations into irregularities are not confined to Glencoe and other Northern Natal towns but take place wherever they occur. As this particular matter is very sensitive, it is expected that the investigation will not be completed in the near future. Details will be made available to the hon. member for Springfield on the completion of the investigation.
- (2) Yes
 - (a) General dissatisfaction with and rebuttal of the article published in the Northern Natal Courier on 8 March 1991
 - (b) I requested my Department to investigate the matter as indicated in the reply to (1) above
- (3) No

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr. Chairman, arising out of the hon. the Minister's reply, has he received any complaints

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

member of the community, would be able to stay alive to do their share in building a New South Africa [Time expired] Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

IDT: total amount voted

*1 Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of Finance † 127 (a) What total amount was voted to the Independent Development Trust in the 1990-91 financial year and (b) (i) how and (ii) when was this money (aa) allocated and (bb) spent? B879E

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (Dr T G Alani)

The hon member is referred to the written reply to Question 2 in the House of Representatives, which was handed in on 15 April 1991 (Hansard, col 1031)

†Mr J CHIOLE Mr Speaker, arising from the reply in Hansard in which was reported that the focus area is housing, education and health, and that more than R1 300 million has been spent on this, I should like to know whether any funds were voted in respect of White housing

†The DEPUTY MINISTER Mr Speaker, these funds were voted for the poorest among the poor [Interjections]

†Mr J CHIOLE Mr Speaker, further arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, I should like to know whether he is aware that R14 million is needed most urgently for the upgrading and restoration of White sub-economic housing in the constituencies of Pretoria West and Hercules, and if there is any possibility that initiatives may be launched to channel that amount for White sub-economic housing from those funds

†The DEPUTY MINISTER Mr Speaker, I am not ready to answer the hon member's question, and I suggest that he places the question on the

Question Paper so that the responsible Minister may answer it [Interjections]

†The SPEAKER Order! I put Question 2 [Interjections] Order! The hon member for Hercules should constrain himself. When the Chair is engaged in announcing something or addressing the House, the hon member must take this into account

Political exiles, number/cost

*2 Mr J CHIOLE asked the Minister of Home Affairs †

(1) (a) What is the estimated number of political exiles that will return to South Africa and (b) what is the estimated cost involved.

(2) whether assistance of any nature from the United Nations, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees or any official of the United Nations is being considered in this connection, if so, what is the nature of this assistance? B880E

†The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

The hon member is referred to my media release of 5 March 1991, a copy of which I laid upon the Table on 12 March 1991, in reply to Question No 4 for oral reply (Hansard, cols 442 to 444)

†Mr J CHIOLE Mr Speaker, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, I should like to know if the Government envisages any financial aid in respect of the settlement of exiles. If not, have explicit and clear instructions been given to the administrators of the Independent Development Trust that nothing from that fund is to be made available for the transportation, settlement or aid in respect of political exiles?

†The MINISTER Mr Speaker, the Department has voted no moneys for the purpose of the return of the exiles. The expenditure which the Department incurs, is the normal expenditure to be incurred in respect of the return of any other person to South Africa. The majority by far of these people are South African citizens. This affects matters such as social and medical care. Just like that hon member has access to hospitals, they have access to hospitals. This is the basic expenditure involved, and this is what it is about

†Mr J CHIOLE Mr Speaker, further arising from the reply by the hon the Minister, I want to point out that I asked him whether explicit and clear instructions had been given to the administrators of the Independent Development Trust that none of the R2 000 million is to be employed for that

†The MINISTER Mr Speaker, there were no negotiations whatsoever with the trustees of that specific trust and to my knowledge they do not contribute at all in this regard. This is my information

†Adv S C JACOBS Mr Speaker, further arising from the answer by the hon the Minister, we should like to know if any monetary aid or any other aid from the United Nations is being employed or contemplated to be employed in this regard for the returning exiles

†The MINISTER Mr Speaker, the United Nations' chief commissioner for refugees has rendered no direct aid to South Africa. If he has rendered aid to political organisations which are assisting in this process, it is taking place altogether without our knowledge and support

Craigeburn incident, SAP investigation

*3 Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Law and Order †

(1) Whether, with reference to the reply by the Minister of Defence to Question No 87 on 28 February 1991, the police investigation into the incident during which two policemen were killed at Craigeburn near Umkomaas in Natal on or about 25 January 1991 has been completed, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it expected that it will be completed, if so, what are the findings.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B881E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) Yes, the Attorney-General of Natal has decided that the accused stand trial on charges of murder

(2) No, except to say that a provisional date for a trial in the Supreme Court, Scotts-

burgh, has been set down for 17 until 28 June 1991

VAT: estimate

*4 Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Finance (1) Whether his Department has made an estimate of the non-recurrent additional cash collection in the form of value-added tax (VAT) which will arise on the eventual sale of those inventories which will be in the hands of producers, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers on the date of implementation of VAT and in respect of which sales there will be no deductible input credits, if so, what is the estimated amount, if not, why not.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B895E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (Dr T G Alani)

(1) No. Inventories held by producers, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers on the commencement of the day on which VAT is implemented will have been acquired free of sales tax by vendors. VAT, as would have been the case if sales tax was in operation, will be collected only when such stock is sold and there will, therefore, not be any non-recurrent cash collection arising on the sale of such inventories

(2) No Pmb N3 by-pass: cost of investigation

*5 Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Transport

(1) (a) (i) What has been the cost of the investigation into and the planning of the proposed N3 by-pass route to the east of Pietermaritzburg and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (b) (i) when will this investigation be completed and (ii) what is it estimated will the investigation have cost by completion.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B900E

Tembisa ⁽¹²⁷⁾ hostels put ^{Sowetan 8/5/91} up for sale

By KAMAL SINGH

TEMBISA hostels, often at the forefront of violence in recent years, will be sold and converted into houses, town clerk Mr Deon Theron said yesterday.

Tenders for the sale of five hostels in Sethoga and Ehlanzeni sections were advertised this week. Tender proposals close on May 30.

"The men's-only hostels, owned by the council, have proved to be a loss because most inhabitants have not been paying rents for some time," said Theron.

"Some of the hostel-dwellers have also proved to be troublesome," he said.

"By allowing family units, political factions that have developed will be a thing of the past."

Hostel units will not initially be sold to individuals. Entire blocks will be tendered, sold and converted into flats. The developer would then sell units to families.

The units, expected to cost little, must be sold to the public.

"Large companies cannot buy the hostel blocks and allow the hostel system to continue," Theron said. "Neither can the developer retain the units for a particular company's employees."

Theron said the developer would be responsible for providing alternative housing for hostel-dwellers.

Spokesmen for the Tembisa Civic Association and the Tembisa Residents Association welcomed the plans.

Mr A E REEVES Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply I would like to ask him if he intends removing all discrimination on TV 1 and TV 4, because the programmes are definitely all one-sided, designed for the Whites I want to know whether he intends to remove all discrimination, including the discrimination in respect of advertisement and quiz programmes in which only Whites are allowed to take part

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS Mr Chairman, I can merely say that the SABC's policy, as far as the use of news presenters and other personnel is concerned, is based on merit irrespective of race, colour or creed. As far as news presenters are concerned I may point out that we have men such as Mike Steenbeck, Mohammed Shek and Cobus Dowy and ladies

such as Veronica van der Westhuizen and Ursula Stapelveld

Mr A E REEVES Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply, may I say that he did not reply to my question. My question was whether the hon the Minister was going to open up everything on television, because TV 1 and TV 4 is all White

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, everything is open. If the hon member has any problems, he must please bring them to my attention in writing. I will certainly submit them to the SABC, which is an autonomous body. I will certainly exert pressure on them if there is anything which does not satisfy hon members of this House

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Prisoners sentenced for political offences

302 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Correctional Services

- (1) Whether any (a) males and (b) females are still serving sentences for offences against the security of the State, if so, (i) how many in each category and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished,
- (2) whether he will disclose the names of the prisoners referred to above, if not, why not, if so, what are their names,
- (3) whether it is the intention to release these prisoners as part of a Government programme to release prisoners sentenced for political offences, if not, why not, if so, (a) why have they not been released as yet and (b) when is it anticipated that they will be released?

B790E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

- (1), (2) and (3)

Prisoners who have previously for administrative reasons been classified as so called security prisoners are still there because they have otherwise also committed serious common law offences. The exception to the above is a number of PAC related prisoners who refuse to apply for release either through their organisation or on an individual basis

Prisoners still in prison therefore who claim that they qualify for release as political prisoners are mainly serving sentences for serious offences, such as murder, attempted murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances, homicide or offences involving the infliction of serious injuries. These applications are being

dealt with on an individual basis. At present there are more than 390 applications for release with the Consulting body for advice. Should the State President be so advised he may decide to effect further releases.

The total number of applications from prisoners for release are continually changing. For example, at 07 00 on 10 May 1991, 833 new applications had been received since 1 May 1991. A considerable percentage of these applications are opportunistically based.

Stlobela Township services discontinued

303 Mr M A TARR asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

- (1) Whether the Carolina Town Council recently discontinued the (a) supply of (i) water and (ii) electricity to and (b) removal of sewage and refuse from Stlobela Township, if so, (aa) why and (bb) when were these services discontinued,
- (2) whether this township's outstanding water account was settled by the Transvaal Provincial Administration approximately two weeks ago, if so, (a) how soon after this was the water supply to this township reconnected and (b) what was the reason for the delay in reconnecting it,
- (3) whether there has been an (a) outbreak of (i) scabies and (ii) other infectious skin diseases and (b) increase in the incidence of (i) dysentery and (ii) gastro-enteritis in this township since the discontinuation of the water supply, if so,
- (4) whether any action was taken to persuade the Carolina Town Council to reconnect the water supply to Stlobela Township, if not, why not, if so, what action?

B791E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

- (1) (a) (i) Yes (ii) Yes
- (b) No—the Town Committee render these services themselves

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

INTERPELLATIONS UNDER NAME OF MEMBER

- (aa) As a result of the non-payment of the account in respect of services rendered
- (bb) (i) Water
16 January 1991
- (ii) Electricity
16 October 1990
- (2) The Town Committee of Siobela settled the water account on 26 March 1991 in abeyance of inter governmental grants which were received on 28 March 1991
- (a) Reconnection of water took place on 10 April 1991
- (b) The Town Committee of Siobela still owes the Town Council of Carolina approximately R123 000,00 for other services rendered (eg electricity and water) and the Town Council's standpoint was that all debts first had to be settled
- (3) (a) (i) and (ii) A few isolated cases have been reported
- (b) (i) and (ii) It cannot be confirmed whether there was a real increase in the incidence of dysentery and gastro-enteritis
- (4) Yes, steps have been taken to effect the reconnection of water
- In March 1991 an amount of R10 480,00 was paid over to Siobela by the Transvaal Provincial Administration as inter governmental grant to settle the water account This amount was paid over to Carolina and the Chairman of the Management Committee was informed on 5 April 1991 that the water must be reconnected If not, the Town Council has been advised that the Transvaal Provincial Administration would support an urgent application for a court order by Siobela

Burrows, Mr R M— <i>Own Affairs</i> Education and Culture, 603, 1064 Welfare, Housing and Works, 1252	Hoon, Mr J H— <i>General Affairs</i> Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, 567
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Haswell, Mr R F— <i>General Affairs</i> Law and Order, 286 Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, 65	Lorimer, Mr R J— <i>General Affairs</i> Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, 848
Herandien, Mr C B— <i>Own Affairs</i> Housing, 125	

CAST leader's pullout praised

By Shirley Woodgate

The Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber has lauded this week's resignation from the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal by CAST general secretary Cas Coovadia.

Spokesman Nigel Mandy said he admired Mr Coovadia for his principled stand, and added that CAST affiliates who opposed membership of the chamber were negating the painful negotiations which had taken place over several months.

Although Mr Coovadia was not a signatory to last month's formation of the chamber, he was present at the inaugural meeting.

Mr Mandy queried the seriousness of certain CAST members and labelled as "nonsense" allegations that the chamber would not be able to

operate if certain CAST affiliates boycotted it.

"If some of the CAST members refuse to participate, then it is their loss," he said.

The chamber is supposed to be a nonracial, democratic forum with a mandate to thrash out problems concerning local-government structures that will eventually replace existing local authorities.

But at last month's inaugural meeting only half of the eligible civic bodies formally signed the agreement launching the chamber.

CAST members who held back claimed the chamber was based on racial representation.

Mr Coovadia's resignation has fuelled rumours of a split in CAST ranks, but he has indicated that if asked, he may withdraw his resignation at next week's general council meeting.



Give all a say in 'development'

127

W/Mant 10/5-16/5 911

SOME suggestions for ending the violence which plagues the townships could land up achieving the opposite.

One example may be the African National Congress' demand that the government "phase out the hostel system", so showing that it is serious about trying to curb conflict.

On the face of it, there are obvious reasons for the demand. Much (most?) of the violence begins in the hostels.

To other people in the townships, many of whom support the ANC, they have become a source of terror which must go before normal life can resume.

It's not hard to see why. A group of men, forced to live apart from their families in squalid, overcrowded, barracks, who have strong links with the countryside and are excluded from the city around them are obvious targets for anyone wanting a conservative army, ready to rally around "ethnic" slogans.

To demand the end of hostels is, therefore, to support people in the townships who want a threat removed — but at the same time to demand the end of one of apartheid's ugliest creations. And, if the demand is met, it seems obvious that everyone can sleep easier.

It seems less obvious if we cast our minds back to events in Alexandra a few weeks ago.

There, according to reports in this newspaper, a devastating round of violence began *because* it seemed possible that hostels were to be "phased out".

The Alexandra Civic Organisation had just agreed with the province and municipalities that the hostels should be "upgraded" — and, possibly, converted into family dwellings. Someone who was threatened by the agreement then reportedly went to the hostels and told residents the civic had agreed that their barracks should be demolished. The rest is history.

The point is not whether what the hostel-dwellers was told was true. It is that the fear of losing their barracks may have been enough to trigger violence. And that, before the agreement was signed, no-one seems to have asked them whether they wanted the hostels "phased out".

There is evidence that some hostel residents choose to live in single-sex dwellings. They obviously want to live decently and would prefer better housing. But they don't want to lose what they have. They fear that "phasing out" hostels would mean losing just that.

There is also evidence, that, even if the hostels were removed, the problem would not disappear.

This doesn't necessarily mean that hostels should stay. And it certainly doesn't mean that they should stay as they are now. But it does mean that a government-ANC agreement to "phase out" hostels could prompt much more of the violence it aims to stop.

The only way of preventing that might be an agreement that nothing will be done about the hostels unless the residents agree that it should be done.

Similar points could be made about another suggested cure for the violence — development. Government and business strategists now accept that violence is more likely if people lack jobs, houses, or water.

The key to peace, therefore, is to develop "communities?" But, in many communities, the prospect of development has triggered violence.

Black communities, like white ones, bring together people with different allegiances and interests. Particularly where there are already hidden tensions, development plans — particularly when they are negotiated with some parts of the community only — raise fears that only parts of the community will be "developed". Those who suspect they are going to be excluded then mobilise to do something about it.

Again, this doesn't mean we need less development — we need more. But it does mean that it could cause more violence than it stops unless all those who are affected have a say in the process.

Part of the reason for violence is that, although 80 percent of the people are denied the vote, parts of that majority find it far harder to make their voice heard than others. Since they aren't organised enough to influence decisions peacefully, they do it in other ways.

Until they are, some will claim to speak for them — political movements or unelected leaders. But there will be no guarantee that they really do, and that what they agree to on behalf of the excluded is what they are willing to live with. For as long as that lasts, violence will be a constant threat.

No-one can force them to organise. But the threat of violence could drop if conditions are created in which they are more likely to do it themselves.

Throughout our society, negotiating development directly with those who are to be "developed" may be essential if we are to avoid decades of violence.

127
B/Dem 19/5/79

Township reconsiders rent
RESIDENTS of Atteridgeville, Pretoria, yesterday indicated they might consider paying higher rent and service charges.
A memorandum to the local administration, the Atteridgeville/Saulville Residents Organisation (Asro) said locals would not be found wanting should the authorities come up with "reasonable" proposals. (127)
Asro gave the authorities a June-30 ultimatum to meet their demands.
REPORTS Sapa-Reuter Business Day Reporters

LINDEN BIRNS

THE Tembisa City Council has become the first black local authority to ask private developers to convert hostel complexes into family units (127)

The council placed newspaper advertisements this week asking potential developers to contact it in connection with the proposed sale and conversion of two hostel complexes currently housing 22 000 people, mostly single male migrant workers

Converting single-sex hostels into family units has become a major political issue, with various parties demanding that the authorities provide greater resources towards converting them

On Wednesday Tembisa City Council

Tembisa launches scheme for hostels

town planner Deon Theron could not say what the family units would be sold for. The TPA would set selling prices.

"Our plan is basically to sell the hostel complexes at Sethokga and Ehlanzeni sections to big developers lock, stock and barrel. They will then develop the complexes in accordance with a contract drawn up with the council," he said.

Prospective developers would have to propose alternative accommodation for the present hostel residents during development and once the separate family units had been sold

6/10/87 10/5/91

Protest over rising violence

127

By MONK NKOMO

HUNDREDS of Atteridgeville residents marched to the local police station and council offices yesterday to demand an end to violence and the right to live in a suburb reserved for Indians.

The march, organised by the Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents Organisation and the local ANC branch, started from the Roman Catholic Church near the township entrance amid a heavy police presence.

ANC branch chairman Dr Abraham Nkomo and Asro executive members presented a memorandum to Colonel Andries Beetge at the police station.

Nkomo said residents were concerned about the escalating violence in the township and they would form street committees to defend themselves.

A memorandum was also delivered to acting town clerk Mr Daan Mouton at the council offices

In the memorandum, Asro demanded the right to live in Lotus Gardens, a declared Indian residential area; an end to electricity cuts; repeal of the Black Local Authorities Act and the dismantling of all apartheid structures.

National civic body is born

SI Times 12/5/91

THE foundation of a new national civic organisation was laid at a consultative conference for civic bodies in Bloemfontein this weekend.

The conference was hosted by the United Democratic Front.

UDF treasurer, Azhar Cachalia, said yesterday it was hoped that a new national body, which might be called the South African National Civic Association, would be launched in July, prior to the official disbanding of the UDF on August 20.

The disbanding of the UDF had created a need for a national co-ordinating body that would enable local civic associations to network, he added.

Mr Cachalia said the concept had been mooted before the UDF's March decision to disband.

It was envisaged that a national organisation

Sunday Times Reporters

would be non-partisan and focus on community issues.

The UDF actively encouraged the formation of such an organisation in the belief that a vibrant civic society was crucial, he said.

Representatives from the ANC, Azapo, the PAC, the SACP, Cosatu and Nactu attended the two-

day conference.

The conference was expected to discuss a Civics Charter and initial steps towards a constitution. Papers would also be delivered on the political situation, local government, civil society and violence.

A UDF press statement said civic associations had increasingly indicated that they did not see their role as party-political although

they clearly had a political role to play in the transitional period where local government was of key importance.

"Given the disparities between regions and the differing municipal and provincial governments that civics have to contend with, the necessity to co-ordinate responses is apparent," it added.

The statement said civic

associations had identified the improvement of the quality of life of communities as a prime objective.

The statement concluded that organisers did not see themselves as shaping national and constitutional policy, but they demanded that the present and future government be sensitive to the needs of the people.

Meanwhile, the troubled Civic Associations of South Africa suffered another setback this week when its assistant general secretary, Cas Coovadia, resigned.

Mr Coovadia said he had stepped down because his participation in the newly formed Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber had been opposed by some elements within Cast.

Public

Mr Coovadia and another leading member of the Soweto People's delegation and leader of the National Union of Mineworkers, Cyril Ramaphosa, came under fire for attending the launch of the chamber without the full approval of Cast affiliates.

Mr Coovadia said "The executive chose to go public on its view of the chamber on the day the new body sat."

"Instead, they should have had discussions with members," he added.

DET pass rate

810cm 14/5/91
rises to 40,7%

A FURTHER 9 915 black matric pupils passed the Department of Education and Training's (DET's) March supplementary examinations, raising last year's pass rate from 36% to 40,7%, DET Minister Stoffel van der Merwe said yesterday.

A substantial number of candidates who failed last year still stood a chance of passing in the May/June examinations, Van der Merwe told a Johannesburg media conference.

An estimated 127 000 pupils would sit for the May/June examinations and 285 000 pupils would write in November, he said.

Van der Merwe said R121m of the DET's allocated R337,5m budget had been used up by the end of March in improving educational facilities.

"But it is still not sufficient to eliminate backlogs in education," he said — Sapa

Atteridgeville power is cut

810cm 14/5/91
PRETORIA — The Pretoria City Council yesterday cut off the electricity supply to Atteridgeville, outside Pretoria.

A council statement said the switch-off followed the Atteridgeville town council's failure to pay thousands of rands in service charge arrears.

It said the Atteridgeville council had failed to keep its commitments in terms of several agreements with the Pretoria council.

The administrator of Atteridgeville, Ernie Jacobson, said the switch-off was unfortunate but unavoidable due to a shortage of funds to pay for electricity. — Sapa

PEANUTS

THEY SAY THAT THE FIRST THING A
NOTICES ABOUT A MAN IS HIS EYES



BARPLATS

(Incorporated)

Payment of convertible

Notice is hereby given for the six months end of debentures registered close of business on

The register of debentures to 16 June 1991, both of

Cheques in payment to be posted from the date of 26 June 1991

By order of the Board
Rand Mines (Mining)
Secretaries

per A M Snashall

13 May 1991

Registered office
15th Floor
The Corner House
63 Fox Street
Johannesburg 2001
South Africa,
PO Box 62370
Marshalltown 2107
South Africa

Alexandra centre due to open 'soon'

WILSON ZWANE

(127)

SA's first "dispute resolution centre" was expected to open in Alexandra within the next few months, Johannesburg lawyer Steven Goldblatt said yesterday. *8 10am 14/5/91*

Goldblatt, one of several lawyers training Alexandra residents in mediation mechanisms, said he was impressed with the response of the 14 people he had trained so far to become part-time mediators.

"Mediation is a skill one has to learn and it is difficult to set a date on which the Alexandra dispute resolution centre will open its doors to the community. It could take three to four months, depending on how the training goes," Goldblatt said.

To date the Community Dispute Resolution Resource Committee (CDRRC) — an organisation formed by legal experts to provide resources to communities wanting to set up their own dispute resolution centres — has had three training sessions.

Goldblatt said although meetings had been held with the Justice Department to discuss the Alexandra project, the first in the country, the project did not "seek permission to continue with its work".

"But we are keeping the Department of Justice abreast with the developments," he said.

Goldblatt said the organisation had funds to operate for six to eight months. More funds were expected from local and international funding organisations, he added.

Most civic groups set to join chamber

8 10am 14/5/91

TANIA LEVY

ALL but one of the civic associations in greater Johannesburg are expected to take part in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber — in defiance of the stand taken by the executive committee of the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) to which they are affiliated.

The chamber meets for the first time tomorrow since its inauguration last month.

The Alexandra Civic Organisation has not decided on participation in the chamber by yesterday, but is expected to make its position clear at a meeting of the Johannesburg Civics Association interim committee tonight.

Five of Cast's nine Johannesburg affiliates have already become members of the chamber and the inner city group, Actstop, will consider joining this week. Two other organisations will join once they have sorted out "technical problems". They are the Ennerdale Civic Association and Lenasia's Federation of Ratepayers Association.

Transvaal Provincial Administration consultant Nigel Mandy said it would be a pity if certain civics chose not to join the chamber, but that this would not stop the forum negotiating new non-racial local government structures for the area.

The Cast executive last month came out strongly against civic associations joining the chamber alongside black councillors and members of management committees.

This prompted the resignation of assistant general-secretary Cas Coovadia from the Cast executive. At an AGM tomorrow Coovadia will propose a resolution that his organisation Actstop join the chamber.

Yesterday he said he had been unhappy that Cast, which was a federal structure, went public with its opposition to the chamber before consulting constituent members who were considering joining.

Wits Centre for Policy Studies senior researcher Steve Friedman said the dissent among civics regarding the chamber highlighted the problem facing the civic movement in general — they had to decide whether to continue mobilising protest at local level or whether to become vehicles representing residents in negotiations.

WILSON ZWANE reports that Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Hennis Kriel was "excited" about the announcement that a national civics federation would be formed later this year, a spokesman for Kriel said yesterday.

Johan Oosthuizen said the move would "make contact between the government and civic organisations a lot easier".

Civics sources said the national civics federation was unlikely to align itself with the ANC. The federation would aim to depoliticise development issues as the civic associations did not see themselves as a political party or a liberation movement, they said.

sday May 14 1991

Residents are angry as power is cut

127
Sowetan 14/5/91

THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation has demanded a refund of money paid by residents to the local council for services after electricity in the township was cut off again yesterday.

Dr Ernie Jacobson, the administrator of Atteridgeville, said the Pretoria City Council had cut off the electricity after his council failed to pay the R867 000 April account, which was due last Tuesday.

This is the third time this year the Pretoria City Council has switched off electricity in the township because of unpaid bills.

Asro's general secretary, Mr Simon Chidi, condemned the Pretoria municipality's decision, saying the move was planned to punish residents during winter.

Chidi said residents were paying a flat rate of R50 a month in accordance with a signed agreement reached between Asro and Jacobson early this year.

He said: "We call on the administra-

tor to switch on the electricity, failing which we will stop paying rent. The council tells us that the R50 is insufficient but they accept it and refuse to provide the services.

"If the lights are not on by 6pm today (Monday), then the council must refund residents the R50 they paid for services this month.

"The total administration of Atteridgeville must also close down because they render no services to the community," Chidi said.

Overdraft

Jacobson said the R50 a month flat rate was insufficient and made it impossible for the council to run the township properly. He urged residents to pay an average of R140 a month.

The administrator said the council no longer had funds and its bank had withdrawn its overdraft facilities.

"We are trying to raise money to get the lights back on. But we also appeal to residents to accept increased tariffs," he said.

posed of the surgery report.
 ● Temporary doctors are keeping the hospital running

(25), is in serious condition in Pretoria's H F Verwoerd Hospital. — Own Correspondent.

Pretoria cuts Atteridgeville's power supply

The Pretoria City Council (PCC) cut off Atteridgeville's electricity supply yesterday morning. The PCC said in a statement yesterday that the switch-off followed the Atteridgeville Town Council's failure to pay thousands of rands in

service charge arrears. The statement quoted PCC management committee deputy chairman Cor Uys as saying the Atteridgeville council had failed to keep its commitments in terms of several agreements with the PCC.

"In terms of an agreement reached between the two councils on April 19 to reschedule the payment of debt, the Atteridgeville council had to pay the first instalment of R319 356,62 on May 7."

The amount, as well as

statement that her organisation believed the newly-created organisation and other

participate in a moratorium in the transition

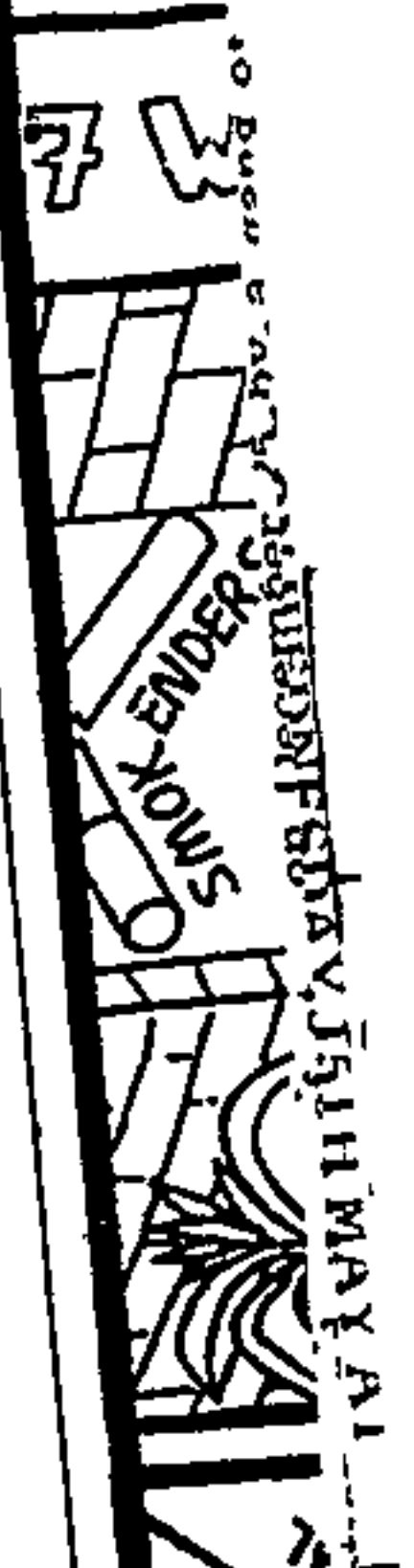
Ms van Dyk said

the current account for electricity and water, as well as sewage removal, had not been paid, Mr Uys added

The administrator of Atteridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, described the action as unfortunate.

— Sapa.

SHOKING IS A COMPLEX



HEIMS... was damaged...

CAST, TPA meet today over Tembisa cuts, rent boycott

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

Representatives of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) will meet Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) officials today and tomorrow, to discuss the rent boycott and power cut in Tembisa.

Power was cut off by the council on April 26

A meeting which was to have taken place between the Tembisa Residents' Association, TPA and the Tembisa Council last week was cancelled.

Residents' Association president Albert Tleane said the TPA had told their delegation that councillors refused to attend the meeting be-

cause their houses were attacked after the power cut.

Mr Tleane said the association called on the TPA to switch on power to avoid further violence in the township.

"We told the TPA that the switch-off could only exacerbate the situation, but there was no sense of urgency from them"

He said Tembisa residents would continue with the consumer boycott against white businesses in Kempton Park as the boycott was about 90 percent successful

Mr Tleane said the consumer boycott could lead to a change of attitude from the authorities, and result in a restoration of power in Tembisa this week

'Lights or money back' demanded

WILSON ZWANE

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THE Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) yesterday demanded an immediate refund of services payments made to the Atteridgeville Town Council unless power was restored to the township within 24 hours

Bloom 151591-
The move came in the wake of a decision by the Pretoria City Council to cut power to Atteridgeville this week after the township failed to pay its R319 356,62 electricity account

In another development yesterday, the neighbouring Mamelodi Town Council warned residents of a possible power cut unless they abandoned their R50 flat rate and started paying their full accounts.

Asro publicity secretary John Ramutsu said Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson had been given 24 hours to "see to it that power is restored to the township".

"If the lights are not on within 24 hours, the administrator will have to refund residents the money they have paid to the council for services this month. We will also demand the resignation of the administrator because he has failed to honour his obligations in terms of the January agreement, which provided for a monthly interim rate of R50 until new tariffs were negotiated"

Jacobson said "We are rendering services to the residents but the monthly flat rate of R50 is just not sufficient for the running of the township. Our bank has also limited our overdraft facilities.

"I just don't know how we are going to raise money to pay the Pretoria City Council

"And the demands by Asro for refunds and my resignation are a little bit unreasonable."

Pretoria switched off Atteridgeville's power on Monday

A big crowd and media representatives gathered outside the Rand Supreme Court yesterday as Winnie Mandela left the bull to six years in jail.

Strong support for Ventersdorp stayaway

THE Western Transvaal town of Ventersdorp was reportedly deserted yesterday, the second day of a work stayaway by residents of Tshing township, with another black stayaway scheduled to start at Krugersdorp tomorrow

While the three-day Ventersdorp stayaway is a reaction to an attack by right-wingers on squatters at Goedgevonden farm on Saturday, the Krugersdorp stayaway is to protest against Sunday's massacre of 27 people by an alleged Zulu impi in Swaneville squatter camp

A memorial service for the dead would be held at the Kagiso community hall at 11 am tomorrow.

510 am (57579)
A trader said yesterday Ventersdorp looked like a ghost town. Another store manager who reported a 70% drop in business added there had been "quite a bit of intimidation"

However, police said they had not received any reports of intimidation

A Ventersdorp town council spokesman denied there had been any boycott.

Operation Masakhane for the Homeless spokesman Basheer Lorgat maintained the stayaway in Ventersdorp was "100% succesful".

A decision on the stayaway and a possible consumer boycott would be taken today, he said.

The KRO's Mokonyane said

charges of murder could not be limited to the six people arrested in connection with the Swaneville attack, "but the whole 900 Zulu impi must be charged with common purpose".

She said the KRO had threatened the council with mass action if Swaneville refugees were evicted from a council building in Azaadville

□ Police yesterday reported two people killed in the latest political violence in the 24 hours to late Monday night, including another man found hacked to death at Swaneville. The second victim was stabbed and hacked to death at Bomela in Port Shepstone

● See Page 5

Residents want white official to quit council

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Sowetan 15/5/91

By MONK NKOMO

THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation yesterday called on the township's administrator to resign after accusing him of having failed to bring normality to the Pretoria township.

The call for Dr Ernie Jacobson's resignation follows electricity cuts on Monday.

The Pretoria City Council said the action was prompted by the council's failure to pay nearly R1 million in service charge arrears.

Fifty residents yesterday staged a sit-in at the town council offices in protest against the power cuts.

Police liaison officer Lieutenant Marinda Erasmus confirmed there was a sit-in and said police were monitoring the situation.

No arrests had been made.

Must-resign

Asro's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, warned that if electricity was not restored by 4.30pm yesterday "the administrator must resign and all white officials in the council vacate the offices immediately".

Ramatsui called on Jacobson to refund all residents who paid their May rental accounts and those who paid the April and May Community Trust Fund

fee of R5 a household.

Responding to Asro's call, Jacobson said he could resign and have all essential services in Atteridgeville discontinued because the R50 monthly flat rate was not enough to run the township.

Residents could not be refunded because services had been rendered.

Meanwhile ALINAH DUBE reports that the Mamelodi Council has warned local residents of a possible power cut unless they paid their rent and service charges.

The warning was issued yesterday by local mayor Mr SS Mokone in reaction to a decision announced by the Mamelodi Civic Association that residents would pay a flat rate of R50.

He said according to an agreement between his council and the Pretoria City Council, the Mamelodi municipality was expected to pay for the bulk supply of services before dates agreed upon by both parties.

Unless residents reacted positively to his plea, electricity might be switched off, he said.

He advised residents to pay an amount reflected on their rent statements, "and not any other amount".

Civic body 'must be neutral'

By Kaizer Nyatumba
Political Staff

87W 15/5/91

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organisations' role was to represent the interest of communities on issues such as water and electricity supply, refuse removal and other services

The ANC Youth League has welcomed the weekend decision to form a national civics movement but has warned against the perception that the new body would have an adversarial relationship with the ANC

In a statement yesterday, the league said the new national civics structure, to be launched within two months, had to be politically neutral and accommodate all members of the community

The ANCYL warned against "efforts to use the civics as a political platform to settle personal contradictions" It also resolved to fight efforts to project the civic movement as a force mobilised against the ANC

The youth league said civic

The Johannesburg-based Five Freedoms Forum has also welcomed the formation of a national civic organisation, saying it believed the new organisation and other civic structures could make a significant contribution to the establishment of democratic practices and principles in the country

FFF spokesman Hanlie van Dyk said "A strong civic society, operating independently but not necessarily in conflict with existing political parties and movements, could afford the opportunity for a broad range of citizens to participate in a more meaningful way in the transition process"

Private police may walk the Parktown West beat

15/9/91
Parktown West, an old inner ring Johannesburg suburb, might not want to wall itself off like the people of Dunkeld, but it is considering its own police force

Residents are debating whether to club together to employ a security firm to patrol the suburb for 24 hours a day

Nearly one in three homes has so far been burgled

From a town planning point of view, Parktown West — wedged between Jan Smuts Avenue and Empire Road — is uniquely intact for a Johannesburg suburb it remains unviolated by filling stations, office blocks and shopping centres

But it has had to fight hard to keep its leafy streets from going the way Parktown did — that once stately suburb is now a

mess of dead-by-night offices, wide streets and chaotic parking

Parktown West has just completed a survey of its residents

The results indicate possibly the most conservative suburb in South Africa 95 percent own their houses, two-thirds haven't budged for 8 — 15 years, and collectively they see their suburb's biggest asset as its "peaceful nature"

Their biggest fear "businesses without residential occupancy" (88 percent)

They have spent R4,5 million improving or extending their homes, which are typically early century

A fifth have built granny cottages and more than half do not plan to leave Parktown West. A fifth of residents are children

TRENDS REPORTER

Ventersdorp residents vow to continue boycott

Saxeton 16/5/91

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RESIDENTS of the Ventersdorp township of Tshing yesterday vowed to continue the consumer boycott which started on Monday.

This decision was taken at a mass meeting at the local stadium when about 1 000 residents were told by local ANC Youth League chairman Tommy Lerefolo that the Ventersdorp municipality was refusing to accede to their demand that town clerk Mr Salt Visser resign.

The boycott will continue until June 13, when the action will be

By KAMAL SINGH

reviewed.

The Ventersdorp ANC Youth League met municipal officials earlier yesterday.

Lerefolo said: "We demanded that Visser and two other officials in his department resign because his department marked the doors of the shacks in Khayaletu last week

"On Saturday morning the shacks with markings on the doors were attacked by the AWB.

"Residents believe

that the marking of the shacks and the attack are linked "

The Government said this week it supported police action against the farmers and called on farmers not to act unlawfully

Attack

Earlier this week about 3 000 Tshing residents resolved to boycott white and Indian-owned businesses in Ventersdorp because of the attack.

Lerefolo said the boycott was successful. He warned residents who attempted to break the

boycott that they would be "disciplined".

Residents have been urged to support black-owned shops

He said the boycott decision would not end until Visser and the two officials resigned.

"Already a Greek supermarket owner has pleaded with us to end the boycott.

"He said the boycott, linked with the worker stayaway, has resulted in a drastic downturn in business. He claims to have thrown away many products which had rotted," said Lerefolo

Fort Hare closed



Atteridgeville white officials forced out

Sowetan 16/5/91

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Kle

By MONK NKOMO

WHITE officials of the Atteridgeville Council were ordered to leave their offices yesterday by local residents angered by electricity cuts in the Pretoria township.

Mr Simon Chidi, secretary-general of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation, said the officials were asked to vacate their offices at 9am.

"We told them they would be accepted back only after the electricity supply has been reconnected," said Chidi.

He said a meeting with black staffers of the municipality was scheduled for yesterday afternoon to discuss the running of the council.

Chidi said local residents at area committee meetings held on Tuesday night resolved to demand a refund of the R50 rent paid for May and to embark on a rent boycott.

"We plan to hold meetings with Eskom and the Rand Water Board

to discuss certain legal requirements with a view to getting these supplies direct from them," said Chidi.

The latest moves by Asro follow the cutting of electricity to the township by the Pretoria City Council on Monday.

Switched off

It switched off the lights after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay their service charge bill totalling R838 608,92.

The deputy chairman of the Pretoria City Council's management committee, Mr Cor Uys, yesterday made it clear that electricity in Atteridgeville would only be restored after payment of arrears.

Chidi lashed out at Atteridgeville administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson

and accused him of having violated an agreement he signed with Asro early this year in which he agreed that residents pay a R50 flat rate a month.

The Central Transvaal region of Azapo yesterday condemned the Pretoria Council's decision to cut the power supply to the township.

"We appeal to Eskom to consider selling this essential commodity direct to townships and avoid the laager mentality of the city fathers," Azapo said in a statement.

Jacobson said the Pretoria municipality would not consider reconnecting electricity to Atteridgeville if the township council did not guarantee payment of their May instalment.

He also said he spoke to the chairman of Asro and asked him to call together his executive and discuss the matter to try to stop the threats.

Argus 21/10/91

Row brews over sale of hostels

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The Tembisa Hostels Resident Committee (THRC) has criticised the Tembisa Council for advertising the sale of hostels in the township without consulting them.

President of the THRC Mr Lesiba Makgaka said tenders for the sale of the hostels should not have been advertised before the council met the THRC and the Tembisa Civic Association who are representatives of hostel dwellers.

He appealed to developers not to buy the hostels until the matter had been discussed by parties concerned.

"We support the view that the hostels must be converted into family units, but we also want to have a say as to the type of dwellings," Mr Makgaka said.

White officials pull out of Atteridgeville

By Mckeed Kotlold
Pretoria Bureau

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All the white officials of the Atteridgeville Council, including the administrator, have left the township after threats by local residents, administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson said yesterday.

This followed demands by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) that the officials leave the township until electricity has been restored by the Pretoria City Council.

Dr Jacobson said he was planning a meeting with Asro in an attempt to find a solution.

Trouble started on Monday morning when the Pretoria City Council switched off the bulk electricity supply after the township council failed to pay its electricity and sewerage debt.

Asro publicity secretary John Ramatsui yesterday said the administrator and white officials should resign or not return to the township until power had been restored.

Mr Ramatsui said residents were also demanding the money they had paid for services for this month and money paid into a trust fund.

He said that since the appointment of the administrator, the situation in the township had deteriorated, and that was proof enough that the black local authority was unworkable.

Mr Ramatsui further said the administrator had failed to provide basic services.

A spokesman for the Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday said the TPA was not aware of any withdrawal of officials.

ard Thatcher is due to receive
Udusa criticised the secrecy
the RAU authorities were
visit.

yesterday in the western Transvaal town-
ship of Tshing, where residents voted to
impose a consumer boycott on Venters-

who had staged an illegal picket
stration in the CBD. Police said the group
had ignored a warning to disperse.

Switch-off sparks 'retaliation'

81 Day 1715791
THE Vaal Civic Association will
soon consider "retaliatory" action
for the impending power switch-off
in six Vaal Triangle townships, in-
cluding Sharpeville and Sebokeng.

Lekoa town clerk N P Louw said
that as a result of a "long-standing
rent and services boycott" more than
90% of residents in the six townships
under the jurisdiction of the Lekoa
City Council had not been paying for
electricity, water, sewerage and
refuse removal.

Louw said negotiations with the
Vaal Civic Association had broken
down and the council was unable to
pay its bulk suppliers of electricity.

"The city council is now compelled
by chaotic circumstances beyond its
control to stop the supply to all town-
ships from June 3," he said.

A source within the civic associ-
ation said yesterday the organisa-

tion's branches would hold a series of
public meetings in the six townships
"within days to discuss thoroughly
the decision by the city council to cut
off power and to formulate retali-
atory action".

"After those meetings the general
council of the association will meet
to decide on a course of action to be
taken," the source said.

Demand

The source added that residents
would maintain their five-year-old
rent boycott until their demand for a
monthly flat rate of R30 had been
met.

"That demand for a flat rate was
made by residents of the six Lekoa
townships in 1984, when the city
council increased tariffs. The resi-

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dents argued that there was no point
in paying higher rentals when the
townships were not being upgraded.
When the city council refused to ne-
gotiate, residents embarked on a
rent boycott.

"That demand is still being made
now by residents as no upgrading is
taking place," the source said.

In a statement yesterday Louw
said his council did not have the
financial resources to pay the R6,6m
it owed to its bulk electricity suppli-
ers - Eskom and the Vereeniging
City Council.

However, the Lekoa City Council
would consider restoring power to its
townships if at least 70% of the resi-
dents paid regularly for their electri-
city, Louw said.

He added that his council re-
mained willing to discuss fair tariffs
for all municipal services.

UNIVERSITY
SALDRA

Township mission to meet Marais

WILSON ZWANE

A SEVEN-member delegation from the Soshanguve township near Pretoria will meet Deputy Education and Development Aid Minister Piet Marais tomorrow to discuss grievances which have led to a rent and services boycott in the township

Soshanguve Residents' Association (Sorea) spokesman and leader of the delegation Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa said yesterday the meeting was at his association's insistence

"This is not our first meeting with the authorities. We have held meetings with the Soshanguve town manager and senior government officials, including Education and Training Minister Stoffel van der Merwe. *B10am 17/5/91*

"A monthly flat rate of R50, for which Sorea has been negotiating unceasingly, the conversion of the Soshanguve hostel into family units and other grievances which have led to the boycott will be discussed at our meeting with the deputy

minister," Mkhathshwa said **(127)**
The Minister's office confirmed the meeting would take place, but would not elaborate

Soshanguve residents' complaints included high rentals, incompetent township administration, unreliable water and electricity supplies and lack of proper recreational facilities, Mkhathshwa said

"For these grievances the residents of Soshanguve embarked on a rent and services boycott on April 7. And the boycott will go on until all our demands have been met," he said

In an open letter to the residents, the town manager appealed to residents to "stay clear of boycott actions" and take the route of consultation.

"Let us approach the rent issue in a more positive manner. Solutions are guaranteed to be found," it said

Freedom or death, say hunger strikers

CAPE TOWN — Prisoners on hunger strike said from hospital yesterday they were prepared only for release or death.

In a statement released by lawyer Willie Hofmeyr at a march to demand the release of hunger striking prisoners held in Cape Town, they said. "We are prepared to go the full distance to ensure our release. It is release or death"

Eighteen of the 28 politi-

B10am 17/5/91
dal prisoners recently moved from Robben Island to Pollsmoor Prison are on a hunger strike, Hofmeyr said

Of these, six had been hospitalised since their strike began on May 1.

The Department of Correctional Services responded, saying "Prisoners whose condition justifies hospitalisation receive the best possible professional

attention. **(2)**

"The allegation that all visit applications have been turned down is malicious and devoid of all truth"

KIN BENTLEY reports from London that in a wide-ranging resolution on SA, the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday called for the immediate release of political prisoners on hunger strike and the maintenance of pressures such as sanctions.

BLACKOUT!



By DON SEOKANE, THEMBA MOLEFE
and MONK NKOMO

SIX more Transvaal townships are facing electricity blackouts while the Soweto Council is experiencing problems with its service payments.

A spokesman for Eskom said yesterday the Soweto Council had indicated that its income

Are electricity blackouts a fair way to deal with the problem of rent and service payment boycotts? *Sowetan* 17/5/91

Telephone popular Radio Metro DJ Tim Modise between 4.30pm and 5pm today and tell the nation what you think.

The hotline number is 714-8063. Listen to the *Sowetan*/Radio Metro Talkback programme on mediumwave at 576KHz.

from residents for electricity consumption was not sufficient to cover the costs of its bulk electricity supplies.

He said a joint technical committee of the Metropolitan Chamber had been appointed and that Eskom was awaiting its recommendations on possible electricity cuts.

Sources within the Metropolitan Chamber said a recommendation had been put forward that Eskom take away the council's powers to administer

Lights may go out all over Vaal

(127)

electricity supplies. Meanwhile, the Lekoa Council will switch off electricity in the six Vaal townships on June 3 as the seven-year-old rent boycott begins to take its financial toll.

The council said it owed R16 million to its bulk suppliers, Eskom and Vereeniging City Council, and that monthly costs had escalated by about R2,5 million.

Townships to be affected by the blackout are Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Zamdela, Refenggotso, Bophelong and Boipatong.

At the same time, the Civics Association of

● To Page 2

P.T.O

Alex meeting will seek ways to curb township violence

By DON SEOKANE

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation and its allies have called a mass meeting at East Bank Hall tomorrow to address violence and escalating crime in the township.

ACO's publicity secretary, Mr Obed Bapela, said the objective of the meeting was to explore ways that could effectively bring peace to the township.

Bapela said they would also discuss the holding of an anti-violence rally and a march on the police station and council offices to deliver a memorandum expressing the community's concern about police conduct.

Defence units

He said: "The meeting is an opportunity for our community to resolve the crisis caused by violence. Since violence erupted, activities such as sports, culture and night vigils have been affected.

"We will also look at mechanisms that will effectively defend our properties and families in times of attacks," he said.

He appealed to the community to attend the meeting since violence needed a united force to stop it. He urged residents to be ready to form defence units which will protect life and property

[Handwritten scribble]

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Southem 17/5/91

Soshanguve, ¹²⁷ govt discuss rent boycott today

By MONK NKOMO

A delegation of Soshanguve residents will meet the deputy Minister of Education and Development Aid, Mr PJ Marais, today to discuss the rent boycott.

Local residents stopped paying rent and service charges on April 7 this year in protest against high rents, bad roads and incompetent administration.

Residents also complained about unreliable water and electricity supplies.

A spokesman for the Soshanguve Residents Association (Sorea), said the delegation would meet Marais today and report back to the residents at a mass meeting at the Giant Stadium at 12 30pm on Sunday.

In a statement released yesterday, Sorea said other factors that led to the rent boycott included lack of recreational, educational and health facilities and failure to collect garbage on a regular basis.

Residents received letters this week from the township manager's office urging them to stop the rent boycott and informed them that the delay in sending monthly rental accounts was being addressed.

The letters also informed residents that seven new meter readers had been employed following complaints by householders that not all meters were checked by the officials. *Soream 171591*

A spokesman for Sorea yesterday said he was surprised that the letters were sent to residents on the eve of their meeting with Marais.

"These letters actually serve as an admission by the authorities that they are not running the township properly and in fact justifies our action not to pay rent," he said.

He added that the letters were sent to residents "to try and impress the Deputy Minister that the township manager's office was addressing the problem. The truth is that we complained several times at this office but to no avail", the spokesman added.

Hostels remain complex problem

Star 1715791 (127)

Changes to the notorious single-sex township hostel is slowly becoming a reality. But with the implementation of plans to phase out these apartheid-inspired structures, strong reservations have emerged over how the task is being approached, reports HELEN GRANGE.

SINGLE SEX township hostels long neglected by the financially strapped black local authorities governing them are on their way out.

Although hundreds of hostels remain as the squashed living quarters of thousands of workers on the Reef, the informal agreement by the Government, the ANC and Inkatha to phase them out is now seeing results. But reservations are being expressed about the way in which this change of status is being implemented by township authorities and big business.

To date at least three black town councils have sold or are planning to sell hostels to private development business.

The Tembisa Town Council last week placed newspaper advertisements to attract potential developers to buy and convert two hostel complexes into family units. The hostels house 22 000 people, mostly single male migrant workers.

Two Dobsonville hostel complexes have also been put up for sale by the Dobsonville Town Council which would like to see them turned into family units.

In December Diepmeadow Town Council sold Diepkloof hostel for R862 000 to a private company which stands to make more than R1 million a year in rent charges. (This decision angered the 6 000 hostel dwellers who threatened to take action against the council.)

The Soweto City Council and the Soweto Developers and Builders Forum have also expressed hope that the private sector will invest in hostels with a view to redevelopment.

Despite what appears to be a positive development in the progression of the barracks-style hostel to upgraded bachelor or family units facilitated by an injection of funding by the private sector a number of



Heading for the scrapheap

housing consultants have warned that such a one-sided strategy may be disruptive because the methods of councils and big business in converting hostels amid highly volatile black communities may be misinterpreted or rejected by both hostel dwellers and the community.

Apart from the political stress in certain townships the fact that black town councils

entering negotiations to convert hostels are regarded by black communities as non-representative and on their way out, presents an obstacle.

This problem was demonstrated when the Tembisa Hostels Residents Committee slated the Tembisa council for advertising the sale of hostels without consulting it.

Another problem is the insecurity of single men in hostels

a hostel resident makes his springless bed

many of them prone to the belief that the meagre shelter they have at present will be taken away from them.

Ian Bernhardt of Bernhardt Dunston and Otten consultants in worker housing, believes that black town councils making deals with big business to get hostels off their hands are highly irresponsible.

It will be a disaster what these councils are looking at

are speculators out for a financial killing, ignoring the community needs, he says.

This was not to say that hostels should not be converted. "Most of the hostels are perfectly good buildings and conversion is preferable to simply tearing them down."

"Conversion must be sensitive taking into consideration the community's needs. Low cost housing for married and

single people should be provided and financing could be established by community trusts.

It is a pity councils are doing deals with developers, he said. Mr Bernhardt's current objective is to put a model of such a converted hostel on the ground for everyone to see.

The point is to show all the possibilities of converting hostels to low-cost housing and establish the costs involved.

Though we will see far fewer of the old style hostels in years to come, the Government and some urban consultants believe there is still a need for them.

Said one consultant researching complex issue which cannot be separated from the country's housing crisis. There are many hostel dwellers who simply want their hostels improved not necessarily converted.

□

(127) 204

NP, ANC meet over conditions in Hillbrow

Star

18/5/91

STAFF REPORTER

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~~20/5/91~~

THE executives of the National Party and the African National Congress in Hillbrow met last night to discuss socio-economic conditions in the constituency

A joint statement issued by the two parties said the meeting, held in a "friendly atmosphere", was "useful, informative and constructive" although there was disagreement about the way living conditions could be improved

It was generally accepted that Hillbrow could become a "good example of a future non-racial community"





Marie Mabuza of Wesselton township does her washing in a stream after the water supply was cut by the Ermelo Town Council. Pic: LESLIE HLAKATI

By SOPHIE TEMA

AN ALLEGED tariff overcharge — estimated at about R70 000 a month for almost four years — forced the CP-controlled Ermelo Town Council to suspend water cuts to Wesselton township this week

Water was scheduled to be cut off at noon on Thursday, but the Wesselton-Ermelo Forum — a body consisting of the black Civic Association, engineers and top-ranking mining officials — stepped in and threatened legal action if this happened

The Forum has based its claim on information leaked from Ermelo Town Council that the black Wesselton Town Council was overcharged

Overcharge puts bung in water cut

between R20 000 and R30 000 for water and about R40 000 for reticulation every month

Wesselton town clerk JJ de Bruyn this week said she was not in a position to reveal the amount involved.

She said the Forum had discussed the matter with her and the Council's legal representatives had been asked to investigate

Ermelo town clerk P van Oudtshoorn this week dismissed the Forum's claim that there was a conflict looming between

CP Press 19/5/91

the two councils

"My Council has always extended a helping hand to Wesselton and if there is a problem it will be solved," he said

Wesselton Civic Association secretary Silas Nkonyeni, who is also a Forum member, said the first cut-off in October last year led to a crisis when residents were left without water for three weeks

Wesselton residents claimed they were harassed by police who slashed their water containers and chased people

from taps in the Cassim Park Indian complex

Concerned whites united with Wesselton residents to solve the problem and the Forum was established to address the problems. Yet soon afterwards Wesselton had its second cut, which lasted two weeks

Nkonyeni said water was reconnected only two weeks ago and now the township had been threatened with a third cut-off following a claim by Ermelo Town Council that it was owed R40 000 by Wesselton Town Council

(127)

Threat of boycott

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Sowetan 20/5/91

THE Nancefield civic association has threatened to call a consumer boycott of all white-owned shops in Messina should the township council fail to resign on June 1.

A spokesman for the association said the residents were "fed up by the gross incompetence of the council which has done nothing since its inception in 1986".

He said service charges had been "exorbitantly increased" in the past five years. *Sowetan Reporter*

Hillbrow Nats and ANC seek solutions

Staff Reporter ⁸¹² 20/5/91

A "useful, informative and constructive" meeting was held at the weekend by the National Party's Hillbrow branch and ANC executives to discuss socio-economic conditions in the area.

They said in a joint statement that the meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere although there was disagreement on how living conditions could be improved.

"It was generally accepted that Hillbrow could become a good example of a future non-racial community.

"Concern was expressed over the rapid

decline in living standards and safety."

Crime, building standards, living conditions and the lack of educational facilities were identified as areas of concern that could be addressed locally and diagnosed for the purpose of finding a common approach for all parties concerned

NP Hillbrow divisional council chairman Daryl Swanepoel said the exploratory talks were aimed at exchanging perspectives on the parties' policy issues

He stressed that in the interest of Hillbrow, party political opposition had to be put aside where common ground existed.

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Redellingshuys was taken to court by the thin 14 days.

2 BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, May 21 1991

Council turns Yeoville residents' lives around

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TANIA LEVY

RESIDENTS of Yeoville, Johannesburg, woke yesterday to find the city council had turned their lives around. The suburb's famous Rocky Street — a one-way street featuring some of the city's favourite late night spots — has been changed to run in the opposite direction, from east to west.

Hunter Street, which runs parallel to Rocky, now runs in the opposite direction. The changes caused widespread confusion among residents, revellers and shoppers, who had not been warned beforehand about the changes.

The road change is part of the Rocky/Raleigh Street Redevelopment project, which includes an entertainment square, parking court and the re-opening of the defunct Piccadilly Cinema as a theatre, according to local councillor Martin Sweet.

The city council has so far budgeted R2m for the project. *B/Dan 2-115191.* On Sunday, street signs were reversed, road signs repainted and islands laid.

Confused motorists travelling into Yeoville along Obervatory Avenue hesitated suspiciously as a pointsman tried to coax them up Rocky Street, where previously large red signs had declared "No Entry".

The one-way along Rocky Street has been extended to Kenmere Street, including the block of Raleigh Street where Checkers and the OK are situated. Traffic travelling east turns left at Kenmere and is channelled into Hunter Street.

New traffic lights have come on stream at the intersections of Hunter and Cavendish and Hunter and Bezuidenhout streets.

Yesterday Johannesburg road planning chief project officer Dave Havell said the confusion would be a short-term situation until people adapted.

He said 90% of residents present at a meeting called to discuss the road changes had voted in favour of them.

No jail for priest, says Appeal Court

BlD an 2/15/91

SUSAN RUSSELL

CONSCIENTIOUS objector the Rev Douglas Torr had his one-year sentence for refusing to do military service set aside yesterday and was ordered to do 800 hours community service instead.

Mr Justice Gautschi, with Mr Justice Lazarus concurring, suspended for five years the one-year prison sentence imposed on Torr by a Regional Court magistrate in August last year.

Torr, 25, had appealed against sentence only.

Despite calling Torr "exactly the type of person who did not belong in prison", magistrate H Verhoef imposed a one-year jail term after finding that the Defence Act gave him no discretion to impose a suspended sentence.

The magistrate came to this finding despite last year's Appellate Division decision to the contrary.

Mr Justice Gautschi said yesterday the magistrate had misdirected himself in holding that despite the Appellate Division's decision he had no discretion to impose a sentence other than imprisonment.

The judge said the Appellate Division's judgment held that the courts were empowered to suspend any part of an objector's sentence on condition that the person rendered community service.

Torr refused to do military service on the grounds that as a Christian universal pacifist he was not prepared to serve in any army anywhere.

He also refused to serve in the SADF because he believed it upheld apartheid and white domination, thereby undermining the values of Christian morality.

Although entitled to apply for exemption as a religious objector, Torr decided not to appear before the SADF's Board for Religious Objectors because he believed it created an artificial distinction between religious and moral or political objectors.

Torr said he was "overjoyed" at the Appeal Court's decision.

"For me it is real justice," he said. "It is also a great victory for a stand based on non-violence."

Torr said he looked forward to the day when there would be no more conscientious objector Support Group yesterday called on government to stop all trials of conscientious objectors. The group welcomed Torr's successful appeal against his sentence as "a step forward".

It called on government to halt "all objector trials as objectors are not criminals".

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Power cuts to remain

127
Soweto
21/5/91

By MONK NKOMO

THE Pretoria City Council will only reconnect electricity supplies to Atteridgeville after it had thoroughly investigated the best solution to avoid future power cuts, it was announced yesterday.

Miss Ina Olivier, the council's liaison officer, said senior officials of the council had met a delegation of the Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents Organisation on Friday to discuss the week-old electricity blackout in the township.

"The management committee has resolved to investigate the proposals and find the best solution to avoid future electricity cuts," Olivier said.

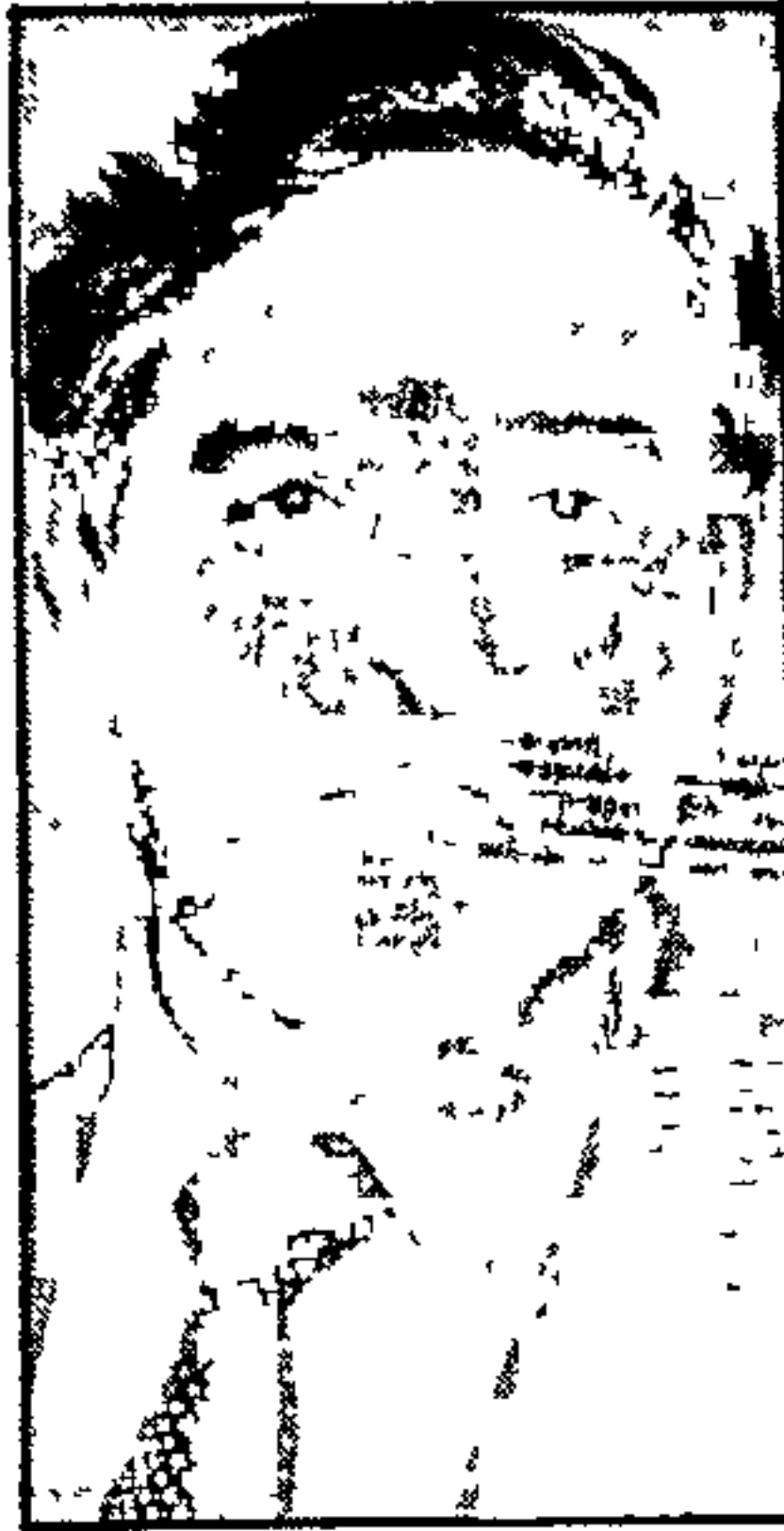
Supplies

The council had no immediate intention of reconnecting the power supplies which were cut last Monday after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay arrears of service charges to the total of R838 608,92.

Asro's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, said yesterday they had a "fruitful meeting" with both the council and the Regional Services Council on Friday.

"We have hope that the electricity supplies will be reconnected probably before the end of this week," Ramatsui said.

Thousands of Indians to get housing aid



Dr J N Reddy . . . urban settlers occupying land earmarked for housing.

Political Staff

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The House of Delegates would help more than 12 800 families acquire home in this financial year, Minister of Housing Dr J N Reddy said yesterday

Presenting the housing vote, he said the HoD housing development fund exceeded R300 million for the first time

In this financial year, R249 million would be spent on new and existing projects in Natal, R68 million in the Transvaal and R11 million in the Cape This would result in 5 164 stands and 7 645 houses being developed

In the past year more than 40 new housing projects had been initiated and approved The central Government, local government, the private

sector as well as individuals had to play a role in providing housing, Dr Reddy said

There had been inordinate delays in the proclamation of townships, "many extending to 10 years or thereabout"

"I have now directed the department to give priority attention to ensuring that townships are proclaimed and registered as quickly as possible This will mean that the houses and sites can be sold sooner so that the funds realised from such sales can flow back to the fund and be used to finance further projects at an accelerated pace"

Dr Reddy said that in many areas in the Transvaal and Natal, "urban settlers" had invaded and were occupying land earmarked for housing. "Their presence is presently causing this administration very serious prob-

lems" While the HoD approached this with understanding, "no administration can allow people to occupy land and deny the owners the right to proceed with the development of housing for those people who have been waitlisted for many years and for the provision of whose housing this administration is responsible"

Savannah Park phase 2 and 3 developments had been relinquished to the Natal Provincial Administration for the provision of housing for black "urban settlers"

In Lenasia, more than 200 ha of land had been made available to the Transvaal Provincial Administration for the resettlement of black "urban settlers who have invaded land earmarked for housing by our administration", Dr Reddy said

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3/4

Jo'burg to pass plans in 24 hours

By Shirley Woodgate

Long delays in the approval of house plans by Johannesburg's town planning department will be streamlined to a record 24 hours by August 30 this year.

Planning chief Eddy Magid said with building costs increasing at an average 3 percent a month, the procedure which now takes several months has been overhauled, placing more responsibility on inspectors and engineers.

Future short cuts include Star 2115191

- An inspector visiting the site after the application is submitted and not necessarily before submission.

- When the plan is submitted, the examiner effects necessary technical alterations.

- Double checks and lengthy holdups will be avoided by allowing a developer to proceed after an engineer has signed a form taking responsibility for a structure

- Details of the structural plan will be checked on issue of an occupancy certificate

Two hostels to become family flats

Sowetan 22/5/91

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By KAMAL SINGH

ST)

TWO Dobsonville hostels - often the scenes of violent clashes between its dwellers and township residents - will soon be upgraded to family flats.

The municipality yesterday announced that the planned sale of the Wilford and Siphwe single-sex hostels, presently an eye-sore with walls blackened and windows broken from petrol bombings, would be concluded in a few months.

Dobsonville mayor the Rev MacFarlane Phenethi said the decision to upgrade and sell the hostels was

Is selling hostels a good idea? Will this help to reduce violence?

- Telephone Radio Metro DJ Tim Modise between 4.30 and 5pm today and tell the nation.

- The hotline number is 714-8063. Listen to the Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback programme on mediumwave 576KHz.

taken because of the lives lost in clashes between dwellers and residents.

Another reason is apparently because both hostels are almost deserted after dwellers fled the area at the height of unrest.

Dobsonville Civic Association chairman Mr Tlhalefang Sekano confirmed the move, saying that Inkatha-supporting hostel dwellers were forcibly evicted by armed gangs angered by the reign of terror allegedly carried out by the hostel men.

"After the Inkatha members were driven out, residents turned on the remaining dwellers. They were accused of killing six people from the township," he said.

● To Page 2

Dobsonville hostels on sale

Sowetan 22/5/91

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From Page 1

Developers have until the end of June to make feasible proposals for the face-lift

The Tembisa Council announced plans earlier this month to sell five hostel blocks in a bid to lessen the clashes between residents and hostel dwellers

Town planner Mr Deon Theron was quoted then as saying the hostel dwellers had stopped rent payments a long time ago.

The Dobsonville Council has experienced similar financial problems

since dwellers vacated the Wilford hostel

Sekano said the civic association had long felt that single-sex hostels should be ended and replaced by affordable family units

Convert

The council was apparently pressurised by ratepayers, the Congress of South African Students and school principals to convert the hostels

"Once the hostels are converted, the level of violence will be considerably lessened," said Sekano "Only then can former hostel dwellers

return and homeowners sleep without fear of midnight attacks"

Meanwhile, the ANC, which has consistently called for an end to the hostel system, said occupants should be provided with alternative accommodation

The ANC's opposition to the hostel system stemmed from hostels' "unsanitary, barrack-like conditions" which bred "sub-human characters"

The non-aligned South Africa Hostel Dwellers Association, which represents about 50 000 dwellers in Natal and the Transvaal, could not be reached for comment

Councils bid to restore power

THE Pretoria and Atteridgeville city councils were yesterday locked in a meeting to determine "new and fair tariffs" so that electricity supplies to the township can resume.

Atteridgeville's Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, said officials of both city councils were working out new tariffs following an agreement reached with a delegation of the Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents' Organisation last Friday.

sowetan 22/5/91
By MONK NKOMO

"We hope to announce the new tariff today and thereafter request the Pretoria City Council to immediately reconnect electricity supplies which were cut off last week Monday," Jacobson said.

The Mamelodi City Council, in a statement released yesterday, warned civic association members to stop intimidating residents to pay a flat rate of R50 a month.

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An executive member of the association was arrested by municipal police. He was cautioned and released, said mayor Mr Simon Mokone.

22/5/91
The R50 flat rate recently proposed by the civic association would not cover the costs of essential services, the council claims.

Council is silent on cash shortfall

By DON SEOKANE

127

THE Soweto Council yesterday refused to disclose the amount of its shortfall on electricity payments by residents

Soweto 22/5/91
The council's spokesman, Dr Johan van der Westhuizen, said the amount was still "classified information at the moment" as the council was negotiating with the Metropolitan Chamber on its electricity income.

The council is experiencing problems with payments from residents and hostel dwellers, he said

An Eskom spokesman has confirmed that the Soweto Council had indicated it had problems with electricity payments

Eskom was awaiting the decision of the joint technical committee of the Metropolitan Chamber on electricity payments

No further action could be taken without the recommendations of the chamber

Sources within the chamber said there were discussions about electricity being supplied directly by Eskom.

~~127~~ 127

More hostels up for grabs

In another step towards phasing out township hostels, Dobsonville's town council is advertising the sale and redevelopment of the Wilford hostel complex

It has also put the Siphwe hostel complex up for sale

Two weeks ago, the Tembisa council advertised the sale of two hostel complexes

Diepmeadow council has already sold Diepkloof hostel for R862 000 to a private company

Last year, residents of Diepkloof hostel expressed outrage at the council's decision. Recently, Tembisa hostel residents criticised the council for not consulting them on the sale — Staff Reporter

11/5/79
Star 22/5/79

Mfundo Park: 'exploit' claims denied

Sowetan Reporter

THE *Star* Homes Show at Mfundo Park, Vosloorus, is the first show of its kind to address the South African housing crisis, and the chronic lack of affordable housing in this country

Philip Chilton Jones, managing director of developers Permprop believes that the company is setting a precedent amongst property developers

Questions

There is often questioning at The *Star* Homes Show gate as visitors query the reason for an entrance fee. Some people perceive the Homes Show as a development company exploiting the need for low cost housing and making money at the expense of residents in the area.

"Nothing could be further from the truth", continued Chilton-Jones. "Over half of the show houses were sold in the first weekend of the Homes Show. Permprop could easily have developed Mfundo Park and sold out without a *Star* Homes Show."

"The purpose of turning Mfundo Park (which means Education Park) into a showcase of what is available in the affordable housing market in South Africa, is to educate first time homeowners particularly with the abandonment of the Group Areas Act."

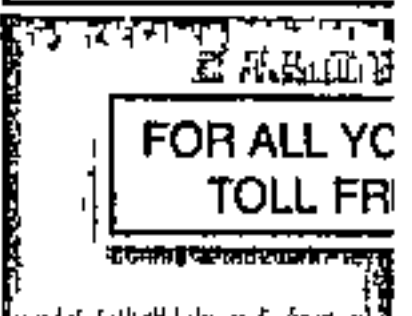
"Rather than exploit this new market we wanted to create a place to tell people, who is eligible for a housing bond, what is involved (financially) in purchasing a house, which builders give value for money and how can one 'grow' one's first house by extending."

Charge

Permprop wanted to contribute something back to the local Vosloorus community, and hence the minimal entrance charge of R3 per adult - R1 of which is going towards building a community centre for Mfundo Park residents.

"We have committed ourselves to supplying the community centre whatever the show attendance, and we are grateful for the on-going support that Permprop and Citicon (the project managers) have received from the Vosloorus Civic Association and Town Council", concluded Chilton-Jones.

The *Star* Homes Show is open until June 2 1991 (weekends and public holidays only), from 9am to 6pm.



SOME STORES MAY

Tembisa to switch on power

127
Sowetan 23/5/91

THE Tembisa Council yesterday decided to restore electricity to the township for 18 days.

After that time, electricity might again be switched off if there is no satisfactory response from residents, Tembisa mayor Mr Solomon More said yesterday.

He said the council's decision to switch on power was not because of any pressure but to "the cry and suffering" of the community. The council had earlier decided that electricity would be restored only after 80 percent of the residents had paid. Meanwhile, the Vaal

By DON SEOKANE

Council of Churches has appealed to the Lekoa Council to give negotiations a chance to resolve the rent conflict and the impending blackout of the six Vaal townships.

In an open letter to the council, the VCC urged the council to rescind its decision to cut power to the townships and give "sincere and honest negotiations a chance".

The VCC said it was aware that the rent issue had been unresolved for a long time - almost seven years - and that negotiations had been deadlocked since last year.

However, the Lekoa

Council yesterday remained adamant that power would be switched off on June 3 if more than 70 percent of residents had not paid their bills by then.

The acting town clerk said there was an improvement of five percent from residents of Zamdela township alone, pushing the paying percentage to only 17 percent.

He said the council was monitoring the situation.

In an effort to resolve the impending blackout, the Lekoa Council and the Vaal Civic Association will hold talks on Saturday.

Talks over power cuts are halted

THE administrator of Atteridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, yesterday suspended talks with local civic leaders shortly before submitting his plan to resolve the electricity blackout in the township.

He said the suspension of talks with the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation followed threats to white council officials

"For the second time in a week, Asro has threatened white officials of the Atteridgeville administration. It is therefore decided that talks with Asro be suspended," said Jacobson

However, the suspension of the talks would not interfere with his plan

By MONK NKOMO

to resolve the power blackout in the area, which he submitted to the Pretoria City Council yesterday.

The township has been without electricity since last week Monday after the local council failed to pay its arrears of nearly R1 million

Asro's secretary-general, Mr Simon Chidi, said Jacobson's decision to suspend talks with them "is a delaying tactic to sow division among our people"

Although he declined to reveal the contents of the plan, Jacobson said it included a new and fair tariff and a request for the council to reconnect electricity.

He said he would do

his best to communicate with residents to explain the new tariff

Sources within the Atteridgeville Council said yesterday senior officials were busy preparing pamphlets informing residents about the new developments

Residents at one of Asro's area committee meetings at "Oustad number two" agreed on Tuesday night to consider a fair tariff only after the council had embarked on projects to upgrade the township

Residents also urged Asro officials to seek a guarantee from the council that electricity supplies would not be cut when rent was paid.

Meanwhile, Asro has asked residents to participate in a massive clean-up campaign this weekend.

Star 23/5/71

Power back in parts of Tembisa 127

Electricity supply was restored to some sections of Tembisa last night following the council's resolution on Tuesday to restore power to the township

Electricity was cut off on April 26 when residents failed to pay a flat rate of R75 demanded by the council.

The council said it would give

residents only 18 days to pay

Among the sections which received electricity last night were Emmangweni and Emkhâtinî.

The reasons for the failure to switch on the other sections was because cables had either been damaged or stolen — East Rand Bureau.



Residents plan stayaway over electricity cuts

THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation is planning a two-day stayaway to protest the two-week electricity cuts in the township (127)

Asro's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, said the Pretoria City Council had been given until noon today to reconnect the electricity "or face mass action" Sowetan 24/5/91

Meanwhile, residents, including political organisations, appointed an interim committee at a special meeting initiated by the PAC on Wednesday night to resolve the matter.

Organisations invited included the ANC, Azapo, doctors, lawyers, teachers and Asro, according to Mr Fortesque Mtinkulu, information officer of the PAC. The ANC and Asro did not attend.

Mtinkulu said "We invited almost all the organisations in the township because we do not want to be seen as trying to get mileage out of it".

An interim committee was appointed to meet administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson and a report back meeting is scheduled for next Thursday.

TPA rejects ANC 'unfair deals' claim

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has rejected allegations by the ANC that it is using electricity supplies as a "weapon" to impose unfair deals on black communities

The TPA's MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiation, Olaus van Zyl, said in a statement yesterday that the TPA took exception to an earlier news release issued by the ANC's PWV region

"It is clear that the press release does not reflect what in fact has been happening over the last few months with regard to negotiations and the supply of electricity

"The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (whose membership includes prominent members of the ANC) has been in a process of negotiations about the supply of electricity and various other mu-

nicipal matters since late in 1990. During these negotiations, CAST made it abundantly clear that they and their affiliates accepted the principle that the people must pay for municipal services, including electricity

"The ANC's statement that electricity is basically a right, and not a privilege, is clearly in direct conflict with the stance taken by CAST. Electricity is clearly a commodity for which the user must pay, while agreeing that subsidies are also necessary"

Mr van Zyl said the TPA rejected the ANC's accusation that it was using the issue of electricity as a weapon to impose unfair deals on black communities. The ANC and CAST were fully aware of the fact that the TPA was in no way involved in the supply of electricity

Consequently, the TPA had not terminated the supply of electricity. In all cases where electricity had been terminated so far, it had been done by either the bulk supplier or the local authority

"The TPA, as a responsible Government body, is not at all interested in unfair deals, as alleged by the ANC. In fact, the TPA is only interested in deals which are in the interests of the communities

"The TPA has stated publicly its readiness to negotiate with any representative body or organisation about local government affairs

"Consequently, the TPA finds the suggestion by the ANC, that the TPA is unwilling to sit down to discussions with CAST to work out fair deals for the whole region, contrary to the facts," the statement said — Sapa

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ANC
246 127

Cast teams study local government abroad

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) has sent 10 young black South Africans to various overseas countries to study local government.

ABBEY MAKOE

127

Moses Mayekiso, Cast's president, told Saturday Star more young men and women

would be sent to join those who left two weeks ago for Canada, India, the US and UK.

"We're sending people over for training to make sure that the new South Africa does not end in a shambles."

Fields of study include health services, informal education, housing, national development and transport management

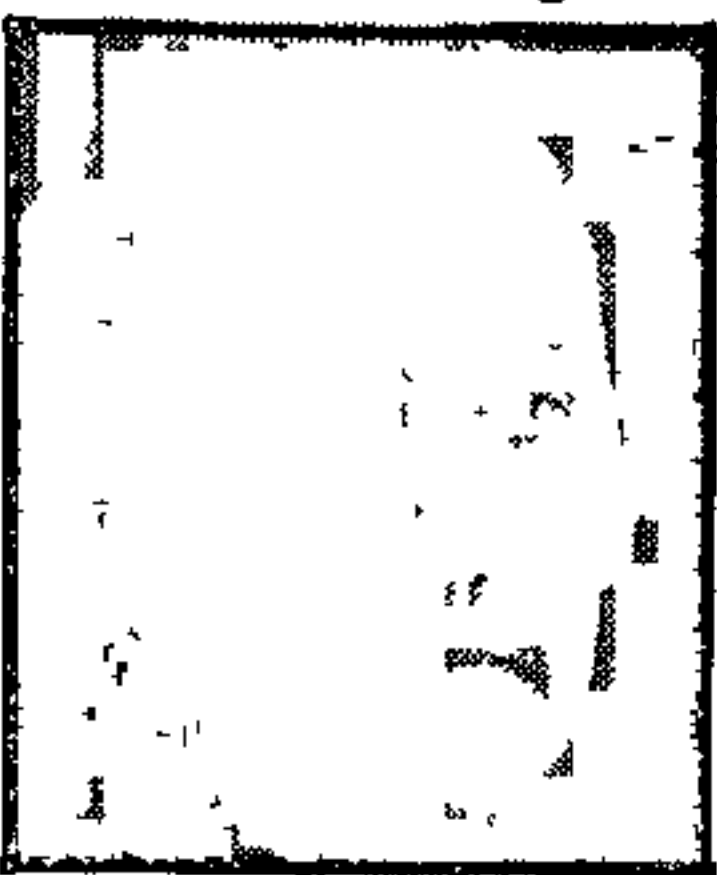
Mr Mayekiso said the idea for the training scheme occurred to him when he saw councillors signing documents they hardly understood

Cas drops out of Actstop over wrangles

ACTSTOP publicity secretary Cas Coovadia has confirmed his resignation from the central Johannesburg civic organisation, which now has internal wrangles to solve.

Mr Coovadia dismissed reports he was leading a breakaway group that would form a civic body as a rival to Actstop, formed to advise mainly black tenants of their rights, and to act for them against landlords who took advantage of tenants under the Group Areas Act.

Mr Coovadia said he had resigned his position a week after re-election. He confirmed that he was one of the 36 representatives who boycotted the organisation's annual meeting two



RESIGNED: Actstop's Cas Coovadia

weeks ago because of objections to the executive committee's running of the organisation.

Yesterday Mr Coovadia claimed the Actstop AGM was unconstitutional and added that a process had been started to resolve the problems.

Actstop general secretary Mr Pressage Nkosi confirmed that there were problems in the organisation, but said that these were internal matters.

Responding in his per-

CONNIE MOLUSI

sonal capacity, Mr Nkosi said Mr Coovadia's resignation had not come as a surprise and had been expected for some time. He said Actstop's executive would consider the resignation at a meeting today.

Mr Nkosi said there was disagreement within Actstop on the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber. Some members insisted that the organisation join the chamber, while others called for more consultation within the membership.

"A democratic organisation should consult its constituency before taking major decisions, and therefore Actstop has remained an observer on the chamber," Mr Nkosi said. "Actstop has refused to join the chamber because there has been no consultation or discussions of the issue in Actstop forums."

Mr Coovadia said he was prepared to rejoin the organisation if the problems were resolved and the majority of the constituency demanded him back.

Mr Coovadia has also resigned his post as assistant general secretary of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal over a disagreement on the metropolitan chamber.

The chamber is constituted by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, city councils in the Witwatersrand and civic associations, and has as its main objective the formation of non-racial local authority administrations — Sapa

Cast teams study local government abroad

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ABBEY MAKOE

would be sent to join those who left two weeks ago for Canada, India, the US and UK

"We're sending people over for training to make sure that the new South Africa does not end in a shambles"

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Mr Mayekiso said the idea for the training scheme occurred to him when he saw councillors signing documents they hardly understood

12/12/82

127

127

'GIVE BACK OUR LAND!'

By ELIAS MALULEKE

ALEXANDRA'S Land and Property Owners' Association (Alpoa) has joined the list of communities demanding the return of their land

However, its demands are sure to cause conflict between Alpoa, the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA)

Alpoa members told *City Press* this week they have "launched a campaign" to reclaim lands expropriated by the government in the early 1960s

The so-called "oldies" launched a scathing attack on ACO, describing as "worthless" the accord for the development of Alexandra - recently signed jointly by ACO and TPA

"ACO had no mandate to negotiate and sign the accord without consulting land and property owners," they said

They are thinking of "challenging the legality of the accord in court".

The members - some have been residents of Alexandra since the early 1920s - complain they are being forced to buy their land back from the local council, and that some of their properties have already been subdivided.

Alpoa's chairman, Mathilda Modisele, said Alexandra Town councillors "should resign, as they are not constitutionally elected by land and property owners"

Alpoa is also demanding that:

■ Squatters be resettled in "decent" areas, particularly those living in the graveyard;

■ Land should not be sub-divided without the approval of "owners with title deeds";

■ The TPA should stop forcing land owners wanting their lands returned from "seeking the approval of illegal tenants"; and

Campaign

Open
by 'oldies'
26/5/91.
threatens

Alexandra (127) accord

■ ACO should stop encouraging squatters to occupy private land by force

Alpoa claims there are more than 2 000 landowners in Alexandra, most of whom have "already lost their properties to squatters and the TPA.

"At present land owners have no say over their own land and properties because the moment they complain against squatters they are attacked and their houses

set alight," Modisele

She said that ACO and the town council were "taking rent from squatters at the same time as ACO is discouraging legitimate tenants from paying rent to landlords

"These days land and property owners are being made to pay service charges to the council but sub-tenants are not contributing a cent," she said

Church minister and landlord, the Rev MP Molo, said tenants and squatters were being "used as a political tool by fanatics, not realising that landowners were trying to get back lands and properties stolen in the apartheid era"

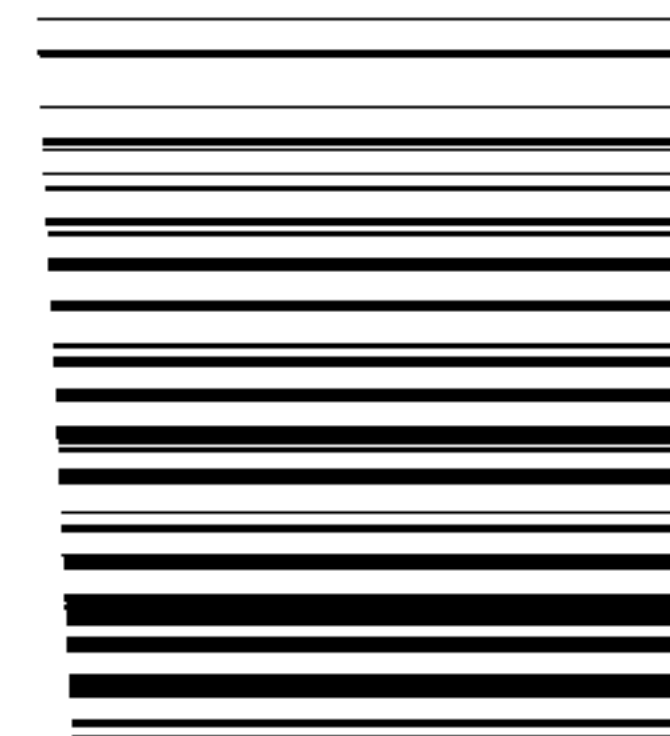
Modisele said squatting was contributing to the violence in Alexandra

"Apart from the Inkatha and ANC conflict there is now a fight between landlords and people occupying their land.

"This violence could explode into open warfare."

Golden oldies ... fighting to get back their land are (from left) J Menkwe, K Kwaliqhe, R Modisele, F Noge, and P Molo

■ Pic. LESLIE HLAKATI



Power cut threat

(127)
Sowetan
28/5/91

By ALINAH DUBE

THE Mamelodi City Council has warned local residents of a possible powercut unless they paid their rent and service charges.

The warning was issued by mayor Mr SS Mokone in reaction to a decision announced by the Mamelodi Civic Association that residents would pay a flat-rate of R50.

"The council would hate to see the residents inconvenienced, especially who are mostly dependent on electricity for their livelihood, by any electricity blackout," Mokone said.

Plea

He said according to an agreement between his council and the Pretoria City Council, the Mamelodi municipality was expected to pay for the bulk supply of services before dates agreed upon by both parties.

He said, unless residents reacted positively to his plea, the township might end up without electricity.

He advised residents to pay an amount reflected on their rent statements. Those who paid less than what they owed would be defaulting

Randburg eases VAT blow

Star 28/5/91

127

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Randburg Town Council kept down the cost of rates and services, aimed at cushioning the VAT blow at the end of September, when it presented its budget for the next financial year last night.

The record budget of more than R210 million was 29 percent up on last year's total, but the cost of rates and services was kept down to benefit the consumer, management committee vice-chairman Christo Geyer said.

This meant that the average account of a domestic consumer would go up by only R12,48 a month.

In a surprise move, the cost of water to domestic consumers was reduced from R1,11 a kilolitre to R1,08. This will mean an effective 2,4 percent lowering of the average domestic account.

The electricity rate was restructured, but this will only affect business, commercial and industrial consumers and not bona fide domestic consumers, Mr Geyer said.

The tariff structure had

previously not spread the burden evenly between business and the private homeowner, to the extent that power had been sold to the former below cost. Restructuring meant that the domestic consumer no longer subsidised big business, but their tariffs were still in line with surrounding towns, Mr Geyer added.

The total increase in respect of electricity and water during 1990/91 amounts to R11,64, or 4,58 percent.

The total increase in rates and services will be R12,48 a month on the average domestic account — an increase of 4,6 percent.

Mr Geyer said the net effect of VAT on an average account, when it was intro-

duced later this year, would be 9,3 percent.

The aim of the budget had been to keep the increase on rates below the rate of inflation, and he was pleased this had been achieved.

The capital budget was R43 541 888, with R166 887 174 earmarked for the income and expenditure account.

Mr Geyer said almost R7 million of the capital budget had been provided for Randburg's area traffic control system, with a centralised computer due for completion in September.

The total provision for security was R1 689 588. This money would be used to institute effective protection and crime prevention measures to ensure that residents, bu-

sinesses, properties as well as assets of the council were protected.

Mr Geyer said the saving of R260 000 on commercial services when GST was done away with had already been worked into the budget and had had a positive effect on the adaptation of commercial service tariffs.

Attempts had been made to keep tariffs, on which VAT would be levied, as low as possible, he said.

It was not clear whether the council would have to pay VAT on subsidies such as ambulance services, bus services or regional services Councils.

The budget further earmarked

- R1,25 million for renovations and additions to the Civic Centre

- R770 000 for the expansion of the Magistrate's Court complex, the cost of which will be claimed from the State

- R50 000 for development of the Braamfontein Spruit

- R1 441 800 for projects relating to the Golden Harvest Park. Some R665 000 of this amount has been provided to build a dam in the park.

A further R20 000 has been provided to improve the Kiepersol Lapa.

Sandton to pay more for water.

The Sandton Town Council last night approved an increase in the cost of water and refuse removal services.

The cost of water supply to consumers will be increased by 9,56c a kilolitre from July and the removal of refuse will cost residents 20 percent more.

The increase in the cost of water is a result of an increase announced by the

Rand Water Board. A portion of the money will be contributed towards the construction of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project.

The charge for water supply to domestic consumers will increase from 77,75c/kl to 87,31c/kl.

The charge for businesses goes from R1,18 to R1,27/kl — Staff Reporter



Germiston puts out hard-knock budget

East Rand Bureau

The Germiston City Council last night tabled a record R447,1 million budget for the 1991/92 financial year

Management committee chairman Leon Louw (NP) announced a 9,3 percent increase in assessment rates from 4,3c to 4,7c in the rand, subject to certain rebates

Mr Louw said negative economic factors had presented the management committee with a serious challenge of restricting increases in the council's major source of income — assessment rates — to the lowest possible level

Increases in the price of electricity, water and sewerage services are 10 percent, 6 percent and 9 percent

The council's revenue account is estimated at R366 million and the capital programme at R372,3 million. Provision has been made for a R5,2 million deficit

An average monthly household bill would show these increases: assessment rates up by R8,60, sewerage R1,14, refuse removal R3,17, electricity R9,01 and water R1,39

Mr Louw said there had been great emphasis on privatisation and deregulation, and the council was continuing to enhance productive use of its financial resources

He said South Africa was experiencing a deepening recession characterised by double-figure inflation, increasing unemployment and continuing high interest rates, with a predicted low growth rate of not more than 0,5 percent

Instability

"Against the background of political changes and financial instability, the management committee exercised great restraint to keep tariff increases to a minimum, especially in view of the fact that residents would be subjected to 12 percent VAT on all amounts payable with respect to service rendered from October"

He said the regional services council's contributions had led to a decrease in the council's financial burden on transport studies, planning and road projects

Star 28/5/91

(27)

Affordable homes show

'successful'

Staff Reporter

127

~~2/3~~

Star 28/5/91

black market and people need a lot of education," she said

A total of 49 homes and 200 stands have been sold at the Star Affordable Homes Show at Mfundo Park near Vosloorus

The show was a success despite poor attendance, according to Home Show spokesman, Judy Drake

Ms Drake said only genuine buyers had come in large numbers, which had made the show successful as far as the organisers were concerned

With the country in turmoil and an economic downturn, people were hesitant to invest

In this climate the organisers were lucky to sell 49 houses and 200 stands, Ms Drake said

"The whole concept of low cost housing is still new in the

The entertainment side of the show was successful, with OKTV best female vocalist, Rebecca Malope, and her backing band Pure Magic in full blast

Other attractions were the African Jazz Prophets and up-and-coming Reggae star, Julia Mabika

The show will end on June 2. There are several competitions including the R40 000 show house, and the election of Miss Mfundo Park, who will win modelling contracts worth R2 500 from Network

Nine semi-finalists will each win R500

The admission fee is R3 for adults and R1 for children. The proceeds will go towards building a community centre



existing buildings are also to be included in the upgrading programme on high priority. The services required at Greyville at this stage must be viewed objectively against the services that may be required more urgently at schools elsewhere in the country

- (a) and (b) fall away
(2) Falls away

Housing Development Board: houses at discount rate (127)

*6 Mr D K PADIACHEY asked the Minister of Housing

- (1) Whether he will consider letting houses owned by the Housing Development Board to the present tenants at a discount rate, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details,
(2) whether he will consider selling the South Fork flats in Lenasia Extension 9 to the tenants under sectional title, if not, why not, if so, what are the details in this regard?

D169E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

- (1) Yes Circular Minute No 17 of 1983 as amended by Circular No 3 of 1987 apply to the sale of houses within the Sales Campaign and it has also discounted the selling prices of houses subsequently built
(2) Yes The Housing Development Board approved that a consultant be appointed by the Department to undertake an investigation in order to determine the feasibility of selling these flats

For written reply

Own Affairs

Management chief superintendents

30 Mr K PANDAY asked the Minister of Education and Culture

- (1) How many management chief superintendents are there in his Department,
(2) whether a certain official, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, has been transferred back to his post in Durban from the sessional post he held in Cape Town, if so, (a) why, (b) what is the designation of the post (i) to which he was transferred and (ii) which he held in Cape Town and (c) what is the name of the official in question? D126E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (1) 4 excluding two Acting Chief Superintendents of Education (Management)
(2) Yes

- (a) The official was required at Head Office to assist the two Acting Chief Superintendents of Education (Management) until they could undertake their duties without further assistance. Whilst at Head Office, he continued to liaise between the Ministry and the Department. If he is required to be in Cape Town to assist the Department the Acting Chief Executive Director will so instruct
(b) (i) Chief Superintendent of Education (Management)
(ii) Role Playing Post of Parliamentary Officer
(c) Mr A H A Rauman

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Prohibited organisations: prisoners released

358 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Correctional Services †

- (a) How many members of the ANC, the SACP and other previously prohibited organisations who were detained in prisons in South Africa were released in the 1990 calendar year,
(b)(i) how many such prisoners are still being detained and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (c) what are the names of the other previously prohibited organisations? B937E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

- (a) The political alliance of prisoners does not form part of the information required from a prisoner on his admission and consequently the information as requested by the hon member is not available. However, I would like to confirm that 1 013 sentenced security, security related and unrest related prisoners were released between 2 February 1990 and 27 May 1991. These releases included persons on various sides of the political spectrum. Persons and/or organisations who had not committed themselves to peaceful solutions and development, did not enjoy the benefit of an earlier release in terms thereof
(b) I refer the hon member to my written reply in the House of Assembly to question number 302 on 10 May 1991 (see col 1401)
(c) The hon member is referred to the contents of Government Gazette 12287 dated 3 February 1990 (Government notices R21 and R229)

Black residential areas: total amounts owing

360 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing †

What total amounts were owing by residents of Black residential areas in (a) the Transvaal, (b) the Orange Free State, (c) Natal and (d) the Cape Province in respect of (i) electricity, (ii) rentals and (iii) service charges as at 31 December 1990?

(a) Transvaal (i), (ii), (iii) R996 572 389
Unfortunately, it is not possible to furnish the outstanding amount in the breakdown required
(b) Orange Free State (i) R11 044 603
(ii) Not separately available Included in service charges
(iii) R57 878 721
(c) Natal (i) R267 512
(ii) R969 848
(iii) R2 400 021
(d) Cape Province (i) R11 351 909
(ii) R29 201 381
(iii) R68 556 423

SADF base Vhembe: visit

367 Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Defence

- (1) Whether, during the period 28 to 30 July 1988, the South African Defence Force (SADF) transported to and accommodated at the SADF base Vhembe near Messina a number of young guests, including a certain person (particulars of whom have been furnished to the SADF

Firms, govt offices in Soweto face power cut

810am 29/5/91 (127)
THE Soweto City Council has begun cutting electricity supplies to 110 bulk consumers in the township — including local businesses and state departments — for failing to pay their accounts

A council spokesman said the bulk consumers owed the City Council nearly R3m in arrears for electricity.

Power to two telephone exchanges had been cut last Thursday and the accounts had been paid the same week. Accounts from the police and the Department of Education and Training for services were still outstanding.

Several other black townships in the PWV area are also facing electricity cuts, or have been in the dark for some time.

Atteridgeville, outside Pretoria, had its power supply cut two weeks ago by the Pretoria City Council, which said the township's council had failed to pay its electricity debt on May 7.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation (Asro) is due to meet the PCC today in an attempt to have the electricity supply restored.

Asro also threatened to impose mass action if it was not restored.

The Lekoa council also threatened to cut the power supply to its Vaal Triangle townships on Monday next week unless arrears were paid.

Residents were given notice to pay about R58 on top of their April electricity accounts.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said postponements of the deadline could not be granted due to the council's dire financial situation. If a substantial number of residents paid up before Monday, however, power would not be interrupted, he said. — Sapa

Atteridgeville flat rate for electricity rejected

Sowetan 29/5/91

THE Administrator of Atteridgeville, Dr Ernie Jacobson, has rejected the R50 flat rate currently being paid by residents and proposed a new average monthly rent of R147,50 for each household.

In an effort to resolve the electricity blackout that has plunged the township into darkness since May 13 this year, Jacobson, in a statement released this week, said the council was going to instal meters in all the houses so that tenants could pay according to the consumption of electricity and water.

"All houses will be metered after October this year" Jacobson said.

The Administrator held a meeting with senior officials of the Pretoria City Council, the Transvaal Provincial Administrator and the Regional Services Council to discuss long-term solutions to the rent problems in the township.

Asked if electricity supplies were going to be reconnected this week, Jacobson said: "That will depend on the community. If they are willing to

127
By Monk Nkomo

pay for services rendered, then electricity will be switched on".

He also submitted possible scale of tariffs for the 11 321 houses. Jacobson suggested that 173 houses with 3 amps circuit breakers pay R70, houses with 5 amps to pay R90, those with 10 amps R120, houses with 15 amps to pay R130 and metered houses R180.

Jacobson stressed that the amounts would depend on the consumption of essential services. He appealed to residents to accept the new tariffs "so that the township should start progressing".

He added that the R50 monthly flat rate paid by residents since January this year resulted in a deficit of R1,2 million every month.

The Administrator indefinitely suspended talks with the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) last week after white council officials were threatened by certain officials of the civic organisation.

Township councils' crisis confronted

B10am
30/5/91

127

TANIA LEVY

THE Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) agreed yesterday to form a working group to tackle the crisis facing black local government.

Cast said in a statement later the four-member working group would try to facilitate agreements in local areas where negotiations had deadlocked.

Bodies such as Eskom, water boards, regional services councils and white local authorities would be co-opted if necessary to help reach agreements.

Cast and the TPA also agreed to set up neutral points for the payment of service bills in townships.

The working group would investigate proposals put forward by Cast as an alternative approach to the TPA's local government strategy.

Cast said the group would study a Cast document proposing alternatives to the TPA's local government strategy.

An unprecedented crisis faced the entire local government system in Transvaal, the document said.

Cast predicted that the belief that conditions were deteriorating and that there had been little progress in the transition to a more acceptable form of local government would soon be borne out.

The proposals dealt mainly with ways to ensure the continued provision of services, while a completely new local government structure was negotiated.

Cast proposed that government be app-

roached to increase the amount set aside for bridging finance or inter-governmental grants to townships by R288m.

Without this extra money, black local authorities would receive only 54% of the finance they needed this year.

Cast said the payment of bills in the townships would only increase if residents experienced improved services. This would be possible only if enough financing was made available to keep services going while negotiations were under way.

Cast proposed that tariffs for water, sewage, electricity and refuse removal be set at a regional level, while the cost per housing unit was worked out.

The TPA accepted Cast's suggestion that legitimate payment points be set up to increase the confidence of township residents who did not trust the existing black local authorities.

The working group would investigate Cast's proposal that agency agreements be entered into to transfer responsibility for providing services from black local authorities to regional services councils.

This would increase residents' confidence in the administrative system.

There was no point in leaving this responsibility in the hands of authorities which would be scrapped first when real reorganisation on local government structures began, said Cast.

TPA spokesmen were not available for comment on yesterday's meeting.

R996-m
owed by
black Tyl
residents

343 (127)
Star 30/5/91

Residents of black areas in the Transvaal owed an amount of R996 572 389 as at the end of December for back rents, electricity and service charges, Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Hennis Kriel said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

In a written reply to a question from Louis Stofberg (CP Sasolburg), he said the figure for the Transvaal could not be broken down into amounts for rent, electricity and service charges.

In the Free State the amount owing for electricity was R11 044 603 and service charges R57 878 721. There was no figure for rentals.

In Natal R267 512 was owed for electricity, R969 848 for rentals and R2 400 021 for services.

In the Cape R11 351 909 was owed for electricity, R29 201 381 for rentals and R68 556 423 for services. — Sapa.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

tract was ceded to Joscott Construction

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

Own Affairs

Certain areas: contracts for building of houses
34 Mr S PACHAI asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether any contracts have been awarded for the building of houses in (a) Lenasia Extension 4, (b) Villa Liza, (c) Mooi River and (d) Ladysmith, if so, to whom in each case,

(2) whether any of these houses have been completed and allocated, if not, why not, if so, (a) how many and (b) what was the contract price of each house?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING
D137E

(1) (a) Lenasia Extension 4

No Not by this Administration

(b) Villa Liza

Yes, Stocks Housing

(c) Mooi River

Yes, the contract was originally awarded to Pilot Construction (Pty) Ltd but after its liquidation the con-

(d) Ladysmith

Yes, 168 self-help and 60 conventional units in Acaciavale, Ladysmith awarded to Innova Homes originally known as Azalea

(2) Lenasia Extension 4

(a) falls away

(b) falls away

Villa Liza

Yes,

(a) 204 completed but none allocated

(b) approximately R22 500,00 excluding land

Mooi River

Yes,

(a) 60 units of which 30 have already been allocated and the balance is under construction

(b) Approximately R29 500,00 excluding land

Ladysmith

Yes,

(a) 168 self-help units of which 8 have been completed and allocated

60 Conventional Units of which 11 have been completed and allocated

(b) Self-help Units—approximately R23 000,00 excluding land

Conventional Units—approximately R27 500,00 excluding land

INTERPELLATIONS UNDER NAME OF MEMBER

Burrows, Mr R M—

Own Affairs

Education and Culture, 603, 1064, 1666

Welfare, Housing and Works, 1252

Hoon, Mr J H—

General Affairs

Foreign Affairs, 1428

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Carlisle, Mr R V—

General Affairs

Home Affairs, 10

Jacobs, Adv S C—

General Affairs

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Own Affairs

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Chetty, Mr K—

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Law and Order, 681

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General Affairs

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Eglin, Mr C W—

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Le Roux, Mr F J—

Own Affairs

Chairman of the Ministers' Council, 1339

Lorimer, Mr R J—

General Affairs

Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, 848

Herandien, Mr C B—

Own Affairs

Housing, 125

PEOPLE ARE LIVING THERE

The migrant workers who live in decrepit hostels are almost invariably involved, as victims or attackers, when violence flares on the Reef. The *FM*'s Charlene Smith visited some hostels, including the great Nancefield complex.

Hostels are almost as old as the SA mining industry. As far back as the turn of the century, the black presence in urban areas was seen as migratory and transitory.

Blacks who came to the cities to work on mines were housed in compounds. Later, industry, particularly the construction sector, began housing workers in hostels. Under apartheid rule, hostels were taken from industry and placed under Native Administration Boards. Now they fall under the administration — or lack of administration — of black local authorities.

Most hostels are uninhabitable. Over the past eight months they have taken on the characteristics of vast military barracks. Some of them are bases for the smuggling and manufacture of weapons.

Hostel dwellers are generally drawn from the rural poor. Most are unskilled, taking jobs as cleaners and night watchmen, many, despite years in Johannesburg, speak little English. They tend to be scorned and feared by more sophisticated township residents, which increases their sense of isolation and resentment.

The first buildings at Nancefield hostel, close to the outskirts of Soweto, were erected in 1957. One of the original residents (he was moved there from the old Wemmer hostel) is Abednigo Gasa (49). He used to work as a night watchman before becoming an Inkatha "captain" at Nancefield. He heads a 12-member committee that effectively controls life at the hostel. His two wives and nine children live in KwaZulu and he sees them once or twice a year. Other men have their wives and children with them in the hostels, which can worsen the squalid conditions.

A little good may have come of the visit to Nancefield by US Senator Edward Kennedy in 1985 (whatever the senator's motives). In 1987 many of the walls were painted, and some hostel blocks upgraded — but the improvement was only relative.

In 1990 President F W de Klerk visited the hostel, but nothing much has come of that either. The toilets are open sewers, most showers have cold water only — and most are without shower heads or even taps.

Each block accommodates 16 men: two sleeping areas on each side, and a small living area with a stove in the centre.

Most stoves have a single small plate for all 16 to cook on. Electric cords are illegally joined to the wires serving the street outside, or to the single light-bulb socket; these are used to power radios and improvised hot-plates. No hostel block has a plug-socket.

There are benches for only eight of the 16 men. There is one table and no kitchen shelves, lockers or cupboards for clothes. This means there is no privacy and much insecurity and smouldering resentment.

Not all the men who live in hostels join war parties, but it is apparently very difficult not to. Men who refuse to participate are regarded as suspect, perhaps as collaborators with other political groupings, which puts them in danger. Some hostels in Nancefield have empty beds vacated by Xhosa people in the recent violence, leaving only Zulus, Sothos and Shangaans.

In the old sections of the hostel men pay R12,50 a month for a bed, in the new sections, R17,50. All of them told the *FM* they



Nancefield living "like pigs"

would be prepared to pay more if conditions were better.

They are bitter that they continued to pay for their beds during the five-year township rent boycotts, and that the improvements evident in the townships have yet to reach the hostels.

There is no outside lighting at the Nancefield hostel. It is a huge, sprawling complex with about 5 000 inhabitants (no one is sure of the total). It is one of the biggest of the dozen hostels around Johannesburg.

The lack of outside lighting is important. There are no roads or paths, only rough tracks through high grass. Crime is a serious problem, especially as many residents have to commute in darkness.

Toilet and shower blocks are in the middle of each double row of blocks. They are not only inadequate, but a disgrace. They have no lights, so people who return at night have to shower in the dark. Nearly all the shower and toilet blocks have impressive waterfalls

gushing from broken taps, rusted cisterns or broken pipes. In some places gushing water combines with scraps of leftover food, from where men kneel on the concrete to rinse their plates under taps. In the toilets urine and faeces spill from the doors, or seep under walls.

The toilets and showers lack windows, there are huge gaping holes in the walls. The areas were dank and chilly, even on the warm day the *FM* visited the hostel.

The showers lack soap holders, there are no hooks or rails on which to hang towels or clothes, and no slatted boards to dry feet.

In the living areas there are no comfortable chairs. The walls are sooty from coal stoves. The men hang their clothes from

wires strung across the roof — there is no ceiling — although some have bought lockers.

Some have given up trying to keep the hostels clean. But others, like security guard Ben Mdlalose, make sure that the concrete floors shine and possessions are neatly stacked against walls. Mdlalose, like many others in the hostels, is against scrapping the system. They do not want to bring their families to live dangerously in Johannesburg, but they also do not want to live the way they are, "like pigs".

As the *FM* toured the hostel, a large impi formed at the western end of the hostel, chanting war songs with spears, pangas and rifles held high. There was a rumour the ANC would attack at 2 pm. No attack came — but it did not stop the war party growing by the minute.

On the eastern fringe of the hostel are green prefabricated bungalows, housing municipal policemen. They watched the impi nervously, confessing they were terrified.

The policemen were all from Durban. The previous day the Soweto Town Council switched off their water and removed the roofs from their tin toilets and showers. No reason was given. The *FM* failed to find anyone at the council who knew about the incident.

It is clear that some of the recent violence might have been prevented if conditions at hostels had been vigorously dealt with. Physical insecurity breeds suspicion and fear, which can easily flare into fighting — often based only on rumour and counter-rumour.

Left

Lights out for 350 000 in Vaal

127

in the

Sowetan 3/6/91

dark

ALL 38 000 houses in the Vaal Triangle's six townships will be plunged into darkness from today when the Lekoa Council switches off electricity for non-payment of tariffs.

The blackout would affect the entire population of 350 000 regardless of whether they were paying or not, Lekoa

By THEMBA MOLEFE

town clerk Mr Nikolaas Louw said yesterday

The townships are Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela in Sasolburg and Refenkgotso in Deneysville

Louw said lights would be switched off by 2pm unless payment for at least April and May was received by noon today

● To Page 2

350 000

From Page 1

He said residents had to pay a R41 flat rate for water and other services. This excluded payment for electricity consumption for which accounts had been sent to residents.

"We are not talking about arrears for other months but about payment from the month of April only. We will, however, monitor the situation until noon and see what happens," he said.

Louw said up to Thursday fewer than nine percent of residents had responded to legal notices sent to them and advertised in *Sowetan* and on radio and television on May 16.

The notices warned residents of the cuts unless payment was received from at least 70 percent of ratepayers.

Sharpeville residents were not paying at all. Louw gave the percentage response from the township as almost nil.

Chairman of the Vaal Civic Association Mr Malik Madise said yesterday the council had negotiated with residents in bad faith and was coercing them to pay.

This will be the first time that residents in the Vaal Triangle have experienced a blanket electricity cut-off since the boycott of rent increases in September 1984.

More townships face blackouts

By Abel Mushi ^{Star}
and Melody McDougall 3/6/91

A total of 54 of the 82 black townships in the Transvaal are in arrears with electricity accounts. Six have had their supply cut off, according to the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Six more townships, all in the Vaal area, face cut-offs by 2 pm today.

Those without electricity are Katlehong and Tokoza on the East Rand, Atteridgeville near Pretoria, Tigane near Hartbeesfontein in the western Transvaal and the eastern Transvaal townships of Siyatutuka near Belfast, and Silobela near Carolina.

The switch-offs were implemented because their councils had such huge arrears that their bulk suppliers could no longer afford to continue rendering services, said Magda du Toit, liaison officer for the TPA.

While the other 48 town councils are also in arrears, albeit on a smaller scale, electricity supplies were being continued because of negotiations with bulk suppliers, who in most cases are nearby white town councils.

In some instances, interim rates are being paid while the rent and services problem are discussed.

Tokoza Town Council owes the Alberton Town Council R1,9 million.

Its supply was discontinued on December 1.

According to the Transvaal Provincial Council, Atteridgeville had its power cut off on May 13, Katlehong on April 2, Siyatutuka on May 28, Tigane on March 26, and Silubela on October 16.

Interim rates

Amounts owed by other townships were not immediately obtainable.

Lekoa Town Council has threatened to switch off electricity to six Vaal townships — Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Zamdela, Refenggotso, Bophelong and Boipatong — today if they have not settled outstanding accounts.

Chairman of the Vaal Civic Association Malik Madise told The Star that it expected the Lekoa Town Council to go ahead with the switch-off, although some residents had begun paying interim rates of R67,50.

A spokesman for the Lekoa

Town Council yesterday said that only about 12 percent of affected residents had responded to an appeal to pay their accounts by last week's deadline date.

Residents would, however, be granted up until noon today to pay accounts.

Mr Madise added: "We regard this action as one to coerce residents to pay up, regardless of ongoing negotiations on the (seven-year) rent and services boycott."

The civic association intended taking "drastic steps" against the Lekoa Town Council in the interest of those who had begun to pay for services.

Mr Madise said that the move could possibly "affect escalating violence and secret killings".

Should this happen, the civic association would put the blame on the Lekoa council and the provincial authorities, he added.

The TPA was not a bulk supplier, and was therefore not responsible for any switch-offs, explained Mrs du Toit.

"The TPA gives grants in the form of fixed amounts of money to townships that have infrastructural problems," she said, adding that some councils had enough money to run their townships without the TPA's assistance.

Death threats to town planners

By Helen Grange

127

Town planners involved in the redevelopment of a single-sex hostel in Tembisa have been threatened with death — and some planners in other war-torn townships have temporarily abandoned their projects on hostel redevelopment.

An unexpected surge of resistance by hostel dwellers to the conversion of hostels to family units has bedevilled plans by town councils to sell and redesign the buildings, The Star has learnt.

A prominent developer involved in several conversion projects, Ian Bernhardt, said political struggles in townships on the Reef had presented a bigger problem than developers and planners had expected.

"On the face of it, the conversion of hostels is straightforward, but it has turned into an extremely complex and sensitive problem."

"Planning officials have been told they will be done in if they enter Tembisa hostel," he said.

Town council planners in

Star 3/6/91

both Tembisa and Dobsonville, where hostels have been advertised for sale, agreed that ongoing political violence had become a major deterrent to potential hostel developers.

Tony Roux, planner at the Dobsonville Town Council — which has advertised for the sale of two hostel complexes — said contractors were particularly concerned about their safety.

Relocated

"There have been tremendous problems experienced by contractors working on regional services council projects in the township."

"The seasoned contractors have learned to live with it — and I understand they get protection money. But others feel threatened."

Mr Roux said the council had encountered resistance from hostel dwellers to being relocated during the period of conversion.

Tembisa Town Council, which

has also advertised the sale of a hostel, is experiencing the same problems.

Although no deals have yet been made, Tembisa town planner Deon Theron said he expected contractors would be unwilling to work in the township unless they were offered some kind of security.

He also envisaged resistance from hostel dwellers when they had to be moved.

Both the Tembisa and Dobsonville councils intend to have the converted family units sold at low cost and, in the case of the Dobsonville hostels, some of the current residents will not qualify financially to buy units.

Mr Theron said rented accommodation was not being considered, because of the difficulty experienced in the past of getting rental from the hostel dwellers.

"We are not looking at rented accommodation, because the council has had no income in the past from these hostels. With rented accommodation, this situation will just continue," he said.

over power cuts

WILSON ZWANE (127)

THE Vaal Civic Association said yesterday it would launch "retaliatory" action against power cuts in six Vaal Triangle townships, including Sharpeville and Sebokeng.

The warning came after Lekoa town clerk N P Louw said electricity to the townships, under the jurisdiction of the Lekoa City Council, would be cut from 2pm today "unless 70% of the residents pay their April and May accounts".

"We have decided to cut off power in the afternoon so as to give people a chance of paying their accounts. But I doubt that 70% of the residents will have paid by noon," he said.

He said as a result of a "long-standing rent and services boycott" more than 90% of residents in the six townships had not been paying for electricity, water, sewerage services and refuse removal.

Louw said his council had no financial resources to pay the R6,6m it owed its bulk electricity suppliers — Eskom and the Vereeniging town council — and that negotiations with the civic association had broken down.

Association chairman Majak Madike said yesterday his organisation viewed the power cut as a strategy aimed at "coercing people into paying tariffs they cannot afford".

He would not, however, disclose what form of action his organisation had decided on.

Education draft has ANC support

Billy Paddock

CAPE TOWN — A major education reform plan, which will involve compulsory attendance at primary schools, has been discussed by the ANC/government education working group and has the tacit approval of the ANC.

Government officials yesterday stressed that the Education Renewal Strategy document would not be implemented without consultation with all political parties.

Key features of the plan, to be announced tomorrow, are free and compulsory primary schooling for all South Africans, with a marked shift in emphasis towards job training.

The officials said government was not ruling out holding a major conference at which the document would form the basis of a far-reaching discussion on a new education system.

The plan is the product of a 15-month investigation led by National Education director-general Johan Garbers.

Democratic Party education spokesman Roger Burrows said the plan was in line with recommendations by the World Bank, which stressed the need for universal primary education and a technical secondary education.

National Education officials were

cagey about details, but said the plan envisaged a dramatic shift from the academic bias of the present system.

Key features of the plan include

- All children provided with compulsory, free education up to Std 5,
- That this formative education be centred on a course syllabus of reading, writing and arithmetic, to produce literacy and numeracy by the age of 13,
- Parents paying part of the cost of schooling if they wish their children to pursue a conventional academic secondary education,
- Dramatic changes in "streaming" secondary education, and
- Far-reaching changes in tertiary education, including the upgrading of university entrance standards and the expansion of technician facilities.

Sapa reports the education plan has been rejected by the Azaman Students' Convention (Azasco), which said it would not attend any conference on the proposals.

Azasco publicity secretary Siphon Maseko said in a statement that the plan "does not in any way address itself to the crisis in education from primary school through to tertiary level in a black perspective".

Ruling on Fedlife deal is expected tomorrow

SUSAN RUSSELL

A RULING on the validity of the deal which will give Fedlife a 30% controlling stake in Saambou will be given in the Rand Supreme Court tomorrow.

Saambou shareholders Nuwe Suid-Afrikaanse Prinsipale Beleggings (Pty) Ltd and the CC Exchange (Pty) Ltd brought an urgent application last week challenging the validity of the merger deal.

They have asked for an order declaring the agreement, which provides for Fedlife's acquisition of 30% of Saambou, void and unenforceable.

Both companies have also applied for an order declaring invalid approval for the deal given by Saambou shareholders at a meeting on May 15.

Nuwe Suid-Afrikaanse Prinsipale Beleggings and CC Exchange hold 8,5-million and 3,2-million shares respectively in Saambou.

They maintain implementation of the deal will not be to the advantage of Saambou shareholders.

Fedlife already holds a 2,6% stake in Saambou. The agreement between Fedlife and Saambou on January 31 this year provides for the issue of convertible debentures by Saambou to Fedlife.

If Fedlife exercises its option to convert the debentures into shares it will hold 31,5% of Saambou.

Counsel for Nuwe Suid-Afrikaanse Prinsipale Beleggings and the CC Exchange, Schalk Burger SC, argued last week that the deal was unenforceable because it did not comply with the new Deposit Taking Institutions Act which came into effect on February 1 this year.

It was also argued that 6,7-million of the 12-million votes cast by Saambou shareholders in favour of the merger deal were invalid as the representative of Main Street Nominees, who held the shares, had a proxy to vote against the deal, but without authorisation voted for it.

Mr Justice Ralph Zulman is to give judgment.

Soweto services: boycott threat

B/ram 3/6/91

WILSON ZWANE

THE Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) has warned that residents would stop paying for services should the Witwatersrand Regional Services Council not be given responsibility for providing electricity to Greater Soweto.

At a recent media briefing, SPD official Cyril Ramaphosa said it was hard to predict the consequences of the "extremely serious situation" emerging in Soweto, Diepmeadow and Meadowlands.

"The councils are, to all intents and purposes, financially bankrupt," he said, and claimed the councils were planning to increase service charges by 300% (from R56,80 to R170,40) a month in a desperate attempt to survive.

This was denied by Soweto City Council spokesman Johan van der Westhuizen. He said the council would discuss the electricity supply issue.

Ramaphosa told the briefing that services in Soweto continued to deteriorate, and residents could not be expected to pay increased tariffs. "We will resist increases fiercely through negotiations and various

other mechanisms that will bring pressure to bear on the councils." (127)

He warned that residents would stop paying for electricity and services should the Soweto councils refuse to hand over responsibility for the electricity supply to the RSC.

The Soweto crisis had earlier this month been discussed by the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, of which the SPD and the three town councils are members.

"The chamber resolved that the RSC be requested to take over the responsibility for Soweto's electricity supply," he said.

An RSC spokesman said the council would consider the request tomorrow.

Dobsonville and Meadowlands councils could not be reached for comment.

□ Sapa reports that in Parliament last week Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel said residents of black Transvaal areas owed nearly R1bn at end-December for back rent, electricity and service charges.

WILSON ZWANE

Townships R180m in debt to Eskom

ESKOM said yesterday that arrears in payments for electricity supplies to black townships had soared to R180m by the end of April and were continuing to rise

Allen Morgan, deputy GM distribution and marketing, said arrears were running at an average of R12m a month and were escalating dramatically as winter set in.

Eskom's announcement follows yesterday's cut in electricity supplies to the Lekoa City Council, which owes Eskom and the Vereeniging City Council R20m for bulk electricity supplies to Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Zamdela, Refengkgotso, Bophelong and Boipatong

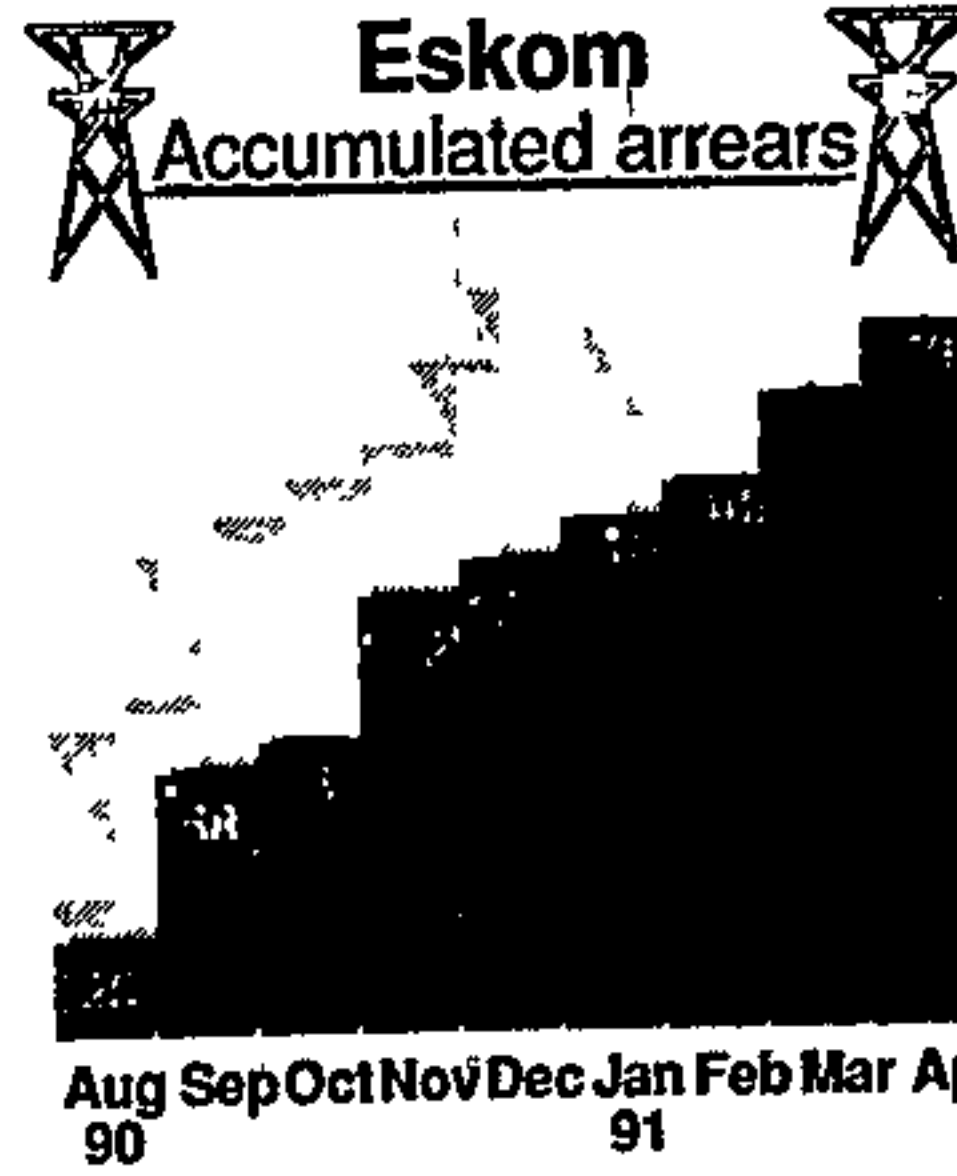
It is understood that Eskom will institute legal proceedings against Lekoa to recover the arrears

Eskom accounts show that local authorities' arrears of more than 90 days amounted to R115,5m at April 30, while accounts of less than 90 days

Brent von Melville

amounted to R64,2m.

Morgan said that in terms of previous agreements Lekoa payments had looked "very poor" to



the extent that some of the towns which Lekoa served had been at payment levels of about 7%.

He said that while there was a stable payment level in general, it was still not meeting accounts.

"And the situation will not get much better until Eskom, in tandem with other suppliers, resolves the whole issue of financing local authorities"

The Metropolitan Chamber, formed as a result of the Soweto Accord last October, has so far been unable to come up with an equitable solution for the struggling councils. The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) has had to step in with additional financial assistance to Greater Soweto over and above its agreed level

Morgan said the problem was that black dormitory towns had little economic viability

Graphic: LEE EMERTON Source: ESKOM

Roodepoort ratepayers to pay extra R21

West Rand Bureau

Star 4/6/91

Roodepoort ratepayers will on average pay R21 extra each month for rates and services

A R303 million budget was approved by the Roodepoort Council at a special meeting held last night

Tariff increases in assessment rates, electricity and sewerage rates were announced while refuse removal tariffs remained unchanged

Sewerage fees went up by 15 percent after remaining constant for the past four years

The electricity account for household consumers was increased by 6,5 percent

A new valuation roll becomes effective from July, which means that property prices will rise by 16 percent on average

The budget includes an operating budget of R248,4 million and a capital budget of R54,6 million. The capital bud-

get is up by 13,9 percent from last year

Municipal expenses announced included a R200 000 masterplan to solve the city's stormwater problem

A sum of R8 million, financed by the Regional Services Council, will be spent on Hendrik Potgieter Road, R2,6 million on the development of recreation facilities and R4 million on a new banqueting hall and conference complex

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Power cut to 6 Vaal⁽¹²⁷⁾ townships

Star 4/6/91
By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

The electricity blackout in the Vaal Triangle was extended to two more townships this morning, bringing to six the number of towns in the region without electricity.

Lekoa council cut power in Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Boipatong and Bophelong yesterday afternoon, and at 8 am today the supply to Zamdela and Refenggotso was disconnected.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said Zamdela was cut after some Sasolburg industries had indicated their willingness to help with service payments but were unable to pay 70 percent of the township's April bill by yesterday afternoon.

The blackout followed a 6½ year rent and services boycott by approximately 25 000 electricity consumers, as well as fruitless negotiations involving the Lekoa council, TPA and Vaal Civic Association.

Expressing his regret about the council's drastic action, Mr Louw said it was unfortunate that those who had been paying their accounts also had to be affected by the blackout.

However, as soon as 70 percent of the bill was paid, electricity would be restored.

Vaal Civic Association chairman Malik Madise said today the VCA was disappointed by the council's action.

A statement would be released following a meeting with his committee today.

A police spokesman said this morning no incidents of violence had been reported in the affected townships.

350 000 people hit by power cuts

127

B/D am 4/6/91.

WILSON ZWANE

ABOUT 350 000 people in the Vaal Triangle are without electricity after the Lekoa City Council cut off power in six townships, including Sebokeng and Sharpeville, yesterday afternoon.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said electricity was switched off at 2pm after "70% of the residents failed to pay their April and May accounts".

"But residents are responding well to our pleas for payment for services and as soon as 70% of them have paid their accounts, we will restore power to their houses," Louw said.

About 350 000 people who occupy the 38 000 houses in Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela and Refenkotso were affected by the power cuts, he said.

Vaal Civic Association (VCA) chairman Malik Madise accused the council of renegeing on an agreement with his organisation that no essential services would be cut during negotiations, which began last year.

"A certain percentage had paid an interim monthly rate of R67,50 and it is unfair that they should suffer. Drastic action will be taken against the council on behalf of these people," Madise said.

He added that the council should take full responsibility for crime and violence which might "escalate be-

cause of the electricity switch-offs"

Louw said residents had been informed they had to pay their electricity accounts for April plus R41 for other municipal services "For May residents have to pay R41 for services, including electricity," he said.

The Vaal Triangle power cuts — the first since residents embarked on rent and services boycotts in 1984 — brings to 12 the number of Transvaal townships without electricity as a result of non-payment for services. Other townships without electricity are Atteridgeville, Thokoza, Katlehong, Tigane, Silobela and Siyatutuka.

Louw said the decision to cut off power was taken after the coffers of the Lekoa City Council had been depleted by a "longstanding rent and services boycott"

Negotiations with the VCA had broken down and the council had no financial resources to pay the R6,6m it owed its bulk suppliers — Eskom and the Vereeniging Town Council.

"The city council is now compelled by chaotic circumstances beyond its control to stop the supply of electricity to all townships," Louw said.

He added his council remained willing to discuss "fair" tariffs for municipal services.

Blackout for 38 000 homes

Sowetan
4/6/91

127

THE Vaal Triangle's 38 000 homes are now in the dark.

Last-minute efforts, including a petition to the State President, failed to prevent a blanket power cut in all six townships yesterday

The Lekoa Council switched off power at 2pm as scheduled in spite of an 11th-hour meeting between a delegation from the Vaal Council of Churches and the council.

The cuts came amid a rush by many residents to the council offices to pay

Town clerk Mr Nikolaas Louw said the council appreciated the effort but it was not enough to prevent the cuts

There are 350 000 people living in Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela in Sasolburg and Refenkgotso in Deneysville

The blackout will affect everyone whether they have been paying or not.

He said power would be reconnected as soon as 70 percent of residents had paid the R41 flat rate for water,

By THEMBA MOLEFE and Sapa

other services and their electricity accounts for April and May

Lekoa's debt is about R240 million

Electricity to Zamdela might not be cut off as local industries have indicated they might pay the township's account

Louw said power could be reconnected as soon as this week if payment was forthcoming

Sharpeville's response to calls to pay was almost nil, he said

He said clergymen had sent a memorandum to President FW de Klerk yesterday asking him to intervene

This is the first time that residents in the Vaal Triangle have experienced blanket electricity cuts since the rent boycott and violence sparked off by increases on September 3 1984

The area was the first to boycott rent payments which later led to the lengthy Delmas Treason Trial from 1985 to 1988

The violence on the Reef has made it difficult for the NICC to span political divides, reports Jo-Anne Collinge

Civic movement tries hard to shrug off the past

Star 4/16/91

WHEN civic associations across the country look to heart some lessons from Eastern Europe and opted for an independent "watchdog" role rather than being swallowed up by any political party, some observers saw this as hostility toward the African National Congress.

The interpretation has left Sthembiso Radebe, general secretary of the National Interim Civics Committee (NICC), more than a little puzzled.

The first concern of the national civic movement, which will be formally constituted in August, is to organise communities and represent them on issues of broad concern, he stresses.

In taking their directions constantly from the grassroots, the civic associations could find themselves at odds with any political party, he concedes, especially a ruling party. "But it is totally incorrect to say that we are presently antagonistic to the ANC."

The civic movement certainly

is trying hard to shrug off its Congress-aligned past, he says, but this is in order to perform better as a development and residents' organisation.

As an observer who has worked closely with civic associations puts it: "When you go to negotiate with the authorities for better services, or for housing, you can't do so just for residents of a particular political party."

Mr Radebe acknowledges the NICC will have to do more than simply proclaim the political neutrality of the civics. The Reef violence in particular has made it very difficult to span political divides.

"But before the escalation of violence to the PWV, even though civics were affiliated to the United Democratic Front, we had Inkatha people in our structures, even in some executive portfolios," says Mr Radebe.

In the two months before the civic body is born, top-level talks must be held with all major politi-

cal parties, says Mr Radebe, to persuade them of the seriousness of the civic movement in relation to political independence.

"We aim to see the IFP's Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi as well."

What kind of reception the NICC will receive from Inkatha and other groups remains to be seen. The civics reserve the right to endorse positions and campaigns of political parties if they are satisfied that these are in the overall interest of the communities they represent.

And the recent civics conference in Bloemfontein resolved to "give its full support to the establishment of defence committees" and call for "Chief Buthelezi to be brought to account in the interests of peace."

The civic conference also endorsed the ANC-centred campaign for an interim government and the more broadly supported call for a constituent assembly.

The long-term thrust of the civic movement away from pro-

test politics and into development is another goal that was widely accepted in Bloemfontein. Its implementation, like that of political independence, will not be without problems.

But probably the most taxing questions at the conference were those relating to the immediate challenges of political transition.

Civic bodies have a real dilemma. To respond to the needs of their constituencies and end the rent boycott crisis they must attempt to create new relationships with white town councils, move away from the apartheid town/township model which has impoverished black communities and secure new sources of finance for the townships.

But they are loath to suggest by their interactions with white authorities that they are endorsing a new form of local government in advance of national constitutional negotiations or in any way accepting a long-term model which falls short of nonracialism.

The fact the Government is considering legislation to promote and recognise new forms of "interim local government", instituted on a voluntary basis by white and black local authorities and by non-statutory bodies like the civics, confounds the picture. Nobody is sure what the Government intends by these structures, which have been described only in the broadest terms.

The controversy around the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber - approved by the influential Soweto Civic Association, but spurned by others - is a symptom of this lack of clarity on how the civics should handle the transition.

It also stems from the unique history of the civic associations which typically sprang into being in response to distinct crises in individual townships. There was little uniformity, as they took decisions in accordance with demands from residents influenced by the highly variable actions of

local government

The Soweto Civic Association may see it as fruitful to sit down with various white Reef councils in the Metropolitan Chamber, but the Krugersdorp Residents' Organisation is at loggersheads with the Conservative Party council in its town and has encouraged a crippling boycott of shops in Krugersdorp to bring pressure to bear on the council.

Every effort is being made to bring greater coherence to the civic movement as it engages in immediate negotiations on housing, land, service provision and the financing of black residential areas.

When it comes to national constitutional negotiations, the national civic organisation does not aspire to a place at the table. But it will attempt to influence the submissions of participating parties on matters such as the Bill of Rights, local government, metropolitan structures and land issues. □

^{S. Swetzer}
4/6/91
**Water cut
accidental**

AN acute water shortage in Tokoza at the weekend and yesterday was not linked to the rent boycott, the local council said yesterday.

Residents were without water since Friday and could not cook food or flush toilets

They accused the council of cutting the supply without notice because of the rent boycott

The administrator of Tokoza, Mr Gert Muller, denied the allegations

He said the main water pipe, shared by Tokoza and Katlehong, was damaged by a contractor last week

Hardline stand against power cuts is likely

Sowetan 5/6/91
By THEMBA MOLEFE

THE Civics Association of Southern Transvaal has threatened to stop talking to the Transvaal Provincial Administration on local government issues, as more townships continue to experience electricity cuts.

Cast said it had called an urgent meeting with the TPA to be held at 2pm tomorrow to address power cuts.

The ANC in the PWV region, which joined Cast in condemning the cuts, said it was planning a march for June 15 to demand the restoration of electricity to affected townships and to back other demands.

Yesterday Cast accused the TPA of renegeing on agreements reached concerning joint investigations into services.

It said power cuts continued in spite of the setting up of a sub-committee consisting of two delegates from each side.

The committee was established on May 29 and still had to start investigations, Cast said.

The association said it had proposed to the TPA, as a basis for further negotiations, that local government talks be about two issues

* That the Government be approached to increase the size of the inter-governmental grant by R288 million; and,

* That a regional approach was needed to determine the cost of basic services in each area.

Cast said it also proposed that the Cast/TPA regional forum be a body where broad agreement on policy approaches could be negotiated

Cast threatens to halt talks over power cuts

127

BlDey 5/6/91.

WILSON ZWANE

THE Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday warned it would consider suspending negotiations "at all levels" in retaliation for power cuts in Transvaal townships.

Cast secretary-general Sam Ntuli said at a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday his organisation had called for a moratorium on electricity switch-offs pending the outcome of negotiations between it and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA).

He said that at a meeting between Cast and the TPA a week ago, it was agreed that a four-member joint committee should be formed to look "into the whole question of the electricity cut-offs".

Vulnerable

"We are disappointed that cut-offs happen to be the order of the day even before the committee starts its investigations. Cast sees the cutting off of services as jeopardising negotiations at local level," he said, adding that his organisation would consider suspending talks at all levels.

ANC PWV region publicity secretary Ronnie Mamoepa accused the TPA of using power cuts as a means of undermining civic formations and rendering township dwellers "vulnerable to unfavourable agreements".

"We therefore call for a moratorium to be declared on the suspension of basic services to the townships pending negotiations of regional tariffs between Cast and the TPA, the introduction of a single tax base for

all metropolitan areas and a constitution for interim non-racial local government structures," Mamoepa said.

He added that Cosatu and the SA Communist Party were organising a march next week in support of the demands for the restoration of power to the townships.

The TPA has repeatedly dissociated itself from power cuts saying decisions to cut off power were taken by local authorities themselves.

There are 10 townships without electricity in the Transvaal. These are the Vaal Triangle townships of Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Boipatong and Bophelong, Atteridgeville (near Pretoria), Thokoza and Katlehong (on the East Rand), Tigane (in the Western Transvaal) and the three Eastern Transvaal townships of Silobela (near Carolina) and Siyatutuka (near Belfast).

Power to the four townships in the Vaal Triangle was cut this week by the Lekoa City Council after 70% of the residents had failed to pay April and May accounts.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said negotiations with the Vaal Civic Association (VCA) had broken down and the council had no financial resources to pay the R6,6m it owed Eskom and the Vereeniging Town Council.

VCA chairman Malik Madise has accused the council of reneging on an agreement it reached with his organisation that no essential services would be cut during negotiations, which began last year.

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PROPERTY



The facade and tower of the 90-year-old Palace of Justice, which houses SA's Supreme Court on the south side of Pretoria's Church Square, was recently extensively refurbished by Gordon Verhoef & Krause. The building was built almost entirely from hand-cut sandstone by Scottish, German and local masons.

Cluster schemes getting smaller

A TREND towards smaller schemes with fewer, more luxurious units is emerging in the cluster housing market, says Montagu Homes developer Elize Rosenmann.

"Economies of scale are still achievable without a development taking on a look of sameness" *810 am 5/6/91*

She rates Sandton as the country's leader in innovative cluster developments, with special attention being given to "design aesthetics and inherent security".

With the move to smaller schemes and access to top architectural teams with many years of local experience, the new

Rosehill development in Strathavon, Sandton, is set to attract buyers, Rosenmann says.

127
The development will consist of four units, priced from R695 000 into the "early R700 000s".

It is situated close to Sandown High School, the Sandton Health and Racquet Club and the M1.

The development is a joint project between Montagu Homes and the Perm, with construction on the first unit already complete and ready for occupation, Rosenmann says.

The other three units should be ready within three weeks.

Alexandra smear tactics attacked

By DON SEOKANE

THE Alexandra Civic Association yesterday disassociated itself from a smear pamphlet criticising its counterpart, the Alexandra Civic Organisation.

ACA chairman Mr Mike Beea said 5 000 pamphlets vilifying the ACO were distributed in the township

The pamphlets claimed that the ACA viewed the ACO as a "sellout" which had caused the deaths of innocent children and residents

Both civic bodies are aligned to the ANC

Beea said this was the second time in eight months "the forces of destruction" had tried to create animosity and hatred among residents in Alexandra

"The first pamphlet vilifying the ACO was distributed in Alexandra last September when equally malicious suggestions were ascribed to ACA about ACO.

"I want the residents of Alexandra to know that we are not responsible for these pamphlets," he said.

12/9/91
5/16/91
5/16/91

(12)

Housing plan is 'on course'

PLANS to help 200 families acquire their own homes at Ennerdale, a coloured residential area south of Johannesburg, through a self-help scheme are on course, says project manager Louis van der Walt of the Department of Local Management, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Representatives. *B10am 5/6/91*

"The interest in the project was so great there was a waiting list of 1 400. Unfortunately there is only enough money to help 200 people," he says.

The idea of the self-help project is that people build their own homes with "all possible assistance".

For instance, plumbing and electrical wiring will be done for them.

The waiting list of 1 400 will be analysed with the help of a property consultant, and the 200 "most suitable" people will be se-

lected to take part in the project.

Van der Walt describes these as the people regarded as "a low risk".

Participants in the project can choose between a conventional concrete brick house or a panel house.

While general building costs are about R800m, the Ennerdale project will cost between R250m and R300m.

"Everything is being done under supervision and according to the regulations," Van der Walt says. Material is available on site and is supplied in phases, and the new owners have 12 months in which to complete their homes.

Although the department can help only 200 people at this stage, Van der Walt says the private sector is ready to enter the project and help others on the waiting list.

exchanged with President
yesterday

CAST SEED TO ...
YFAFGL UFUJAD

Cast seeks moratorium on township power cuts

127

Monday 6/6/91

WILSON ZWANE

THE Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) said it would meet the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) in Johannesburg today to discuss power cuts in black townships

But TPA spokesman Piet Wilken could not confirm this

"The only meeting I know about between the TPA and Cast will be on June 12," Wilken said

Cast secretary-general Sam Ntuli said that in today's talks Cast would push for a moratorium on power cuts pending the outcome of negotiations between Cast and the TPA on the issue

The announcement of today's meeting follows Cast's threat to suspend talks "at all levels" in retaliation against the power cuts, introduced this week.

Ntuli said he was disappointed power supplies were being cut de-

spite an agreement between Cast and the TPA that a four-member joint committee would look "into the whole question"

Ten Transvaal townships are without electricity Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Boipatong and Bopelong in the Vaal Triangle, Atteridgeville near Pretoria, Thokoza and Katlehong on the East Rand, Tugane in the western Transvaal, and the eastern Transvaal townships of Silobela near Carolina and Siyatutuka near Belfast

In another development, the Tembisa Residents' Association (TRA) yesterday called off a consumer boycott launched a month ago to force the Tembisa Town Council to restore power

TRA president Amon Msane told a news conference the decision to call off the boycott was

taken after the town council had restored power to "certain parts" of Tembisa last Friday

"We are, however, calling upon the council to restore power to the whole township," Msane said

Msane said residents would continue their five-year rent and services boycott even if power was restored

"We have submitted a number of grievances, such as the shortage of land and availability of land, to the council and the TPA. The rent boycott will never be suspended until those demands are met"

Sapa reports that the Central Witwatersrand RSC was last night negotiating with the various Soweto city councils to take over the control of electricity supplies to Greater Soweto

"We have agreed in principle to taking control of electricity to these areas," said RSC CE John Griffiths

ore letter |



Boycott (127) blamed *Southern* 6/6/91

The Daveyton Town Council said yesterday the community suffered from a shortage of ambulances because of the ongoing partial rent- and service charges boycott in the black township near Benoni.

The council was investigating recent allegations by residents that deaths had resulted because of delays - *Sapa*

Atteridgeville power will be reconnected

Pretoria Bureau

6/6/91
power from Pretoria

Pretoria City Council is to reconnect electricity to Atteridgeville today

The township has been without electricity since May 13 following the township council's failure to pay for bulk

The reconnection was confirmed by the local administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, who said the city council had decided to reconnect the power on a month's trial to see if residents would pay the new tariffs

These range between R75 and R190 for houses with circuit breakers covering 3 to 15 amps. Metered houses would pay according to electricity consumption

A spokesman for the Atteridgeville Council would not confirm the

reconnection but said a statement would be made later today.

Sources said the decision to reconnect power followed meetings between the city council, the administrator and a group of concerned Atteridgeville residents

127



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Pretoria Bureau

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Star 6/6/91
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sta 7/6/91
**300 evicted from
63 bachelor flats**

About 300 black tenants were evicted from 63 bachelor flats in the Polly Lodge building in central Johannesburg yesterday in terms of a court order served on them by the owner, M Cohen

Actstop representative George Sejaphala said flat dwellers were given one day's notice. All were served with similar orders, claiming rent arrears.

(127)
According to Mr Sejaphala, negotiations deadlocked on the issue of the arrears.

Efforts to talk to Mr Cohen were unsuccessful and lawyers acting for him refused to say anything on the issue.

Switch-off blunder leads to deadlock with council

Concerned residents try to light the dark

WHEN the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation signed an agreement with the local administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson earlier this year little did they know that the agreement would be far from solving the rent problem.

Asro and Jacobson had pledged to end the nine-month-old rent boycott and agreed that residents would pay an interim monthly flat rate of R50 a household

A few weeks after the agreement, Jacobson notified residents that the flat rate plus a community trust fund of R5 a household was "too little" to cover the costs of running the township.

Asro pointed out that the flat rate was an interim measure which would last until the end of June.

The R55 was to cover the running costs while negotiations for a fair tariff were being conducted

Upgrading

Another issue on the agenda would have been the upgrading of the township

The Atteridgeville Council, meanwhile, could not settle accounts for essential services provided by the Pretoria City Council

The service charge arrears bill totalled nearly R1 million at the end of April.

The Pretoria Council was growing impatient. They wanted the account settled immediately

Efforts by the administrator to seek an extension from the council before any drastic action was taken drew a blank.

FOCUS



On Monday, May 13 at 8 04am, (this reminder is still reflected on the watch of my kitchen stove), the Pretoria Council switched off the electricity supply

All 11 000 houses were affected. So was the local council offices and the police station

Kalafong Hospital survived the action

Tenants who had paid the stipulated R55 on their May accounts were angry

"What the hell is going on? We paid our account," they complained.

Asro accused the Pretoria City Council of "racism" and said the action was endorsed by "sadists who want to freeze us to death during the cold winter months"

The Pretoria Council said the decision was not political but in

line with their economic policy that those who failed to pay for services should have them cut

The question that arose after the cutting of the electricity supply was Whose blunder was it that led to the electricity cuts?

Asro pointed an accusing finger at Jacobson "He must abide by the agreement," said Mr John Ramatsui, Asro's publicity secretary

The administrator said although Asro had signed the agreement, almost half the householders were not paying the R50 flat rate

Asro argued that there was no proof to substantiate the claim that half the residents were not paying

The good work that ended the rent boycott that started on April 1 last year and led to the signing of the agreement turned from bad to worse and then it became ugly when certain Asro officials, in a fit of anger, forced white Atteridgeville council officials from their offices and warned them not to return until electricity was restored in the township.

The administrator, after receiving this report, dropped a bombshell

Suspended

"Negotiations with Asro have been suspended with immediate effect," he said in a statement

Residents were left out in the cold

Jacobson then came up with proposed tariffs ranging between R70 and R2 450 depending on the consumption of electricity for metered houses

Residents who attended Asro's area committee meetings rejected

these proposals. Others agreed to a monthly tariff of R70 on condition the authorities upgraded the township and gave a guarantee that lights would not be switched off again

Others said R50 was enough for essential services.

Those who telephoned and visited Sowetan offices said the rent problem had been turned into a political issue and recommended that Asro suggest a tariff to the residents to get the lights restored.

The electricity cuts began to bite as some businesses closed. Butchers could not stock meat. Those who used generators complained about the running costs

A large number of residents complained that they were spending more each day to buy paraffin, meat and candles

"This money could be used to augment the R50 flat rate to get the lights back," some residents said

After the suspension of talks between Asro and the administrator, a group of concerned residents formed an interim committee following initiatives by the local branch of the Pan Africanist Congress

The committee held about three meetings with Jacobson and reported back last week that the talks had been fruitful

In a statement released this week, Asro requested the "concerned residents" to stop negotiating with the administrator

"Proper and meaningful negotiations can only be achieved by Asro because we have entered into an agreement with the administrator," said Mr Simon Tshidi, Asro's secretary general

Sowetan

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Switch-off blunder leads to deadlock with council

Concerned residents try to light the dark

WHEN the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation signed an agreement with the local administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson earlier this year little did they know that the agreement would be far from solving the rent problem.

Asro and Jacobson had pledged to end the nine-month-old rent boycott and agreed that residents would pay an interim monthly flat rate of R50 a household

A few weeks after the agreement, Jacobson notified residents that the flat rate plus a community trust fund of R5 a household was "too little" to cover the costs of running the township.

Asro pointed out that the flat rate was an interim measure which would last until the end of June.

The R55 was to cover the running costs while negotiations for a fair tariff were being conducted

Upgrading

Another issue on the agenda would have been the upgrading of the township.

The Atteridgeville Council, meanwhile, could not settle accounts for essential services provided by the Pretoria City Council

The service charge arrears bill totalled nearly R1 million at the end of April.

The Pretoria Council was growing impatient. They wanted the account settled immediately

Efforts by the administrator to seek an extension from the council before any drastic action was taken drew a blank



On Monday, May 13 at 8.04am, (this reminder is still reflected on the watch of my kitchen stove), the Pretoria Council switched off the electricity supply

All 11 000 houses were affected. So was the local council offices and the police station

Kalafong Hospital survived the action

Tenants who had paid the stipulated R55 on their May accounts were angry

"What the hell is going on? We paid our account," they complained

Asro accused the Pretoria City Council of "racism" and said the action was endorsed by "sadists who want to freeze us to death during the cold winter months"

The Pretoria Council said the decision was not political but in

line with their economic policy that those who failed to pay for services should have them cut

The question that arose after the cutting of the electricity supply was Whose blunder was it that led to the electricity cuts?

Asro pointed an accusing finger at Jacobson "He must abide by the agreement," said Mr John Ramatsui, Asro's publicity secretary

The administrator said although Asro had signed the agreement, almost half the householders were not paying the R50 flat rate

Asro argued that there was no proof to substantiate the claim that half the residents were not paying

The good work that ended the rent boycott that started on April 1 last year and led to the signing of the agreement turned from bad to worse and then it became ugly when certain Asro officials, in a fit of anger, forced white Atteridgeville council officials from their offices and warned them not to return until electricity was restored in the township

The administrator, after receiving this report, dropped a bombshell

Suspended

"Negotiations with Asro have been suspended with immediate effect," he said in a statement

Residents were left out in the cold

Jacobson then came up with proposed tariffs ranging between R70 and R2 450 depending on the consumption of electricity for metered houses.

Residents who attended Asro's area committee meetings rejected

these proposals. Others agreed to a monthly tariff of R70 on condition the authorities upgraded the township and gave a guarantee that lights would not be switched off again

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Tenants evicted from ⁽¹²⁻⁷⁾ ^{Soweto 7/6/91} 63 flats

ABOUT 300 black tenants were evicted from Polly Lodge apartment building in downtown Johannesburg yesterday, in terms of a court order served on them by the owner, Mr M Cohen.

Resident Actstop representative Mr George Sejaphala said they were given a day to vacate the 63 bachelor flats - housing on average four people each - before their possessions were impounded for rent arrears.

Mrs Emily Molico said some of her furniture was taken by the owner's representatives and is to be sold to recover rent arrears of R1 623,50.

Arrears

All the tenants have been served similar orders, claiming for rent arrears of R1 623,50.

Sejaphala said rent for the units had been increased from R250 to R360, which they agreed to pay.

But the owner then increased the rent to R460 a month, Sejaphala said, and also demanded that arrears accumulated since 1987 be paid in full.

Polly Lodge has been the subject of litigation since 1987 when residents tried to enforce controlled rent of R84 a month.

Sapa

Talks on power cuts to resume next week

Staff Reporters

(27)

Provincial authorities and civic associations failed yesterday to reach an agreement on the reconnection of electricity to 12 townships that have been in darkness through non-payment of accounts.

However, a flood of late rent and service payments yesterday in Sebokeng, one of six Vaal Triangle townships which had power cut on Monday, has led to the restoration of power in some areas of the township.

Power was restored to Zone 10 on Wednesday after nearly 70 percent of residents had paid their bills.

Zamdela outside Sasolburg was also scheduled to have electricity restored today if 38 percent of residents had paid by yesterday afternoon.

Power was expected to be restored in Atteridgeville yesterday for a trial period.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal

(CAST) met for an hour in Johannesburg yesterday and agreed to meet again next week.

TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said "CAST wants a moratorium on cut-offs, they want to buy time. They want services to be supplied while talks continue. But we explained that the TPA did not switch off the electricity, the bulk suppliers did."

CAST spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

In a statement after the meeting, MEC for institutional development and negotiation Olaus van Zyl said the province did not have money to support "any kind of moratorium".

It was assisting black local authorities with inter-government grants for backlogs in infrastructure. This money was not meant to subsidise rent and services boycotts.

"It seems that, although it is easy for civic organisations to instigate payment boycotts, apparently in many cases they cannot encourage their supporters to start paying after agreements on payment have been reached."

Mr van Zyl said the TPA was concerned about the deteriorating situation in black townships.

He warned that black local government might collapse if boycotts continued.

Problems should be resolved through negotiations and such talks were taking place at 64 areas in the Transvaal.

TPA chief director of community development Jan van der Walt said sections of Sebokeng were to have electricity restored yesterday following a "dramatic" increase in payment of outstanding accounts.

"In Bophelong, between 25 and 30 percent of residents have already paid their accounts, and if the current rate of payment continues they may be reconnected today or early next week," Mr van der Walt said.

Lekoa Town Council switched off power at Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Boipatong and Bophelong (Vanderbijlpark) on Monday afternoon and on Tuesday morning at Zamdela and Refengkgotso (Sasolburg).

The blackout followed a 6½-year rent and services boycott in townships in the Triangle.

Star 7/6/91

Residents object to electricity discussions

PRETORIA. — The Atteridgeville Saulville Residents' Organisation (Asro) yesterday rejected township administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson's negotiations with other residents' groups as unrepresentative.

Asro chairman Mr Reeves Mabitsi said Thursday's reconnection of electricity in the township did not alter a January agreement between Asro and Dr Jacobson.

He said new tariffs suggested by Pretoria City Council would be discussed at a mass meeting tomorrow.

Dr Jacobson said earlier that during certain discussions with an interim committee representing "broad-based community organisations", the group agreed to present the proposed tariffs to the community.

But Asro maintains that the group, led by the local PAC chairman, Mr Fortesque Mthimkulu, did not have a mandate.

● Residents of Zamdela in the Vaal Triangle had electricity restored yesterday after the intervention of a major oil company. — Sapa



ALL AGLOW: Mapana Motloung (12) of Atteridgeville reflects the joy of the township folk when power was restored on Thursday night. But that joy was dimmed yesterday when the township residents' organisation denounced an agreement between the administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, and a group of concerned residents under which there would be higher tariffs to reduce the huge amount owed to the Pretoria City Council for services. There will be a public meeting tomorrow to discuss the new crisis.

'Services must be paid for'

CAPE TOWN — Government will not budge on its insistence that township residents should pay for their basic services and electricity.

"On this principle there can be no compromise," Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs deputy Minister Dr Tertius Delpont said in Parliament yesterday

Government was looking at ways to improve services, reduce charges and rationalise administration

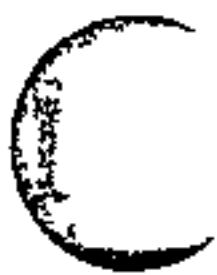
"The Government cannot, however, scrap or ignore the world-wide accepted and acceptable principle that services must be paid for"

Racism was not suggested

AN article published in Saturday Star on March 9 this year alleged that certain doctors in Witbank did not keep records of cash-paying black patients, and quoted an officer of the National Medical and Dental Association as saying racism motivated the situation.

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Soweto housing scheme on rocks

City Press 9/6/91

PRIVATE developer Safrich has pulled out of Soweto's Doornkop housing scheme, leaving hundreds of buyers without houses built on their sites and hundreds of others with no sites at all.

Safrich generated enormous community criticism earlier this year when it negotiated with the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and launched itself as the only private developer in the Doornkop scheme.

The scheme, originally intended as the pilot project of the government's R1-billion plan to house the country's homeless, now lies in pieces after being dogged by allegations of mismanagement, bribery and corruption by councillors.

The TPA bought the Doornkop land to provide 5 800 sites for low income families, illegal squatters and homeless people from greater Soweto.

The TPA stipulated that sites would be allocated to local families whose names were on the waiting lists of either the Soweto, Dobsonville or



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Diepmeadow councils and whose combined income was less than R600 a month.

According to Safrich director Steyn Fourie, the company reached a "gentlemen's agreement" with the TPA to develop 1 300 of the 6 000 sites.

Safrich marketed its sites through more than a dozen estate agents in and around Johannesburg.

Contrary to the TPA stipulations, Safrich agents signed contracts with anyone who responded to their advertising campaign and who could afford a house of between R16 000 and R21 000 - whether the applicants had been on the housing

waiting lists or not.

City Press has evidence that Safrich agents also sold sites to people earning more than R600 a month and to people who were not local residents.

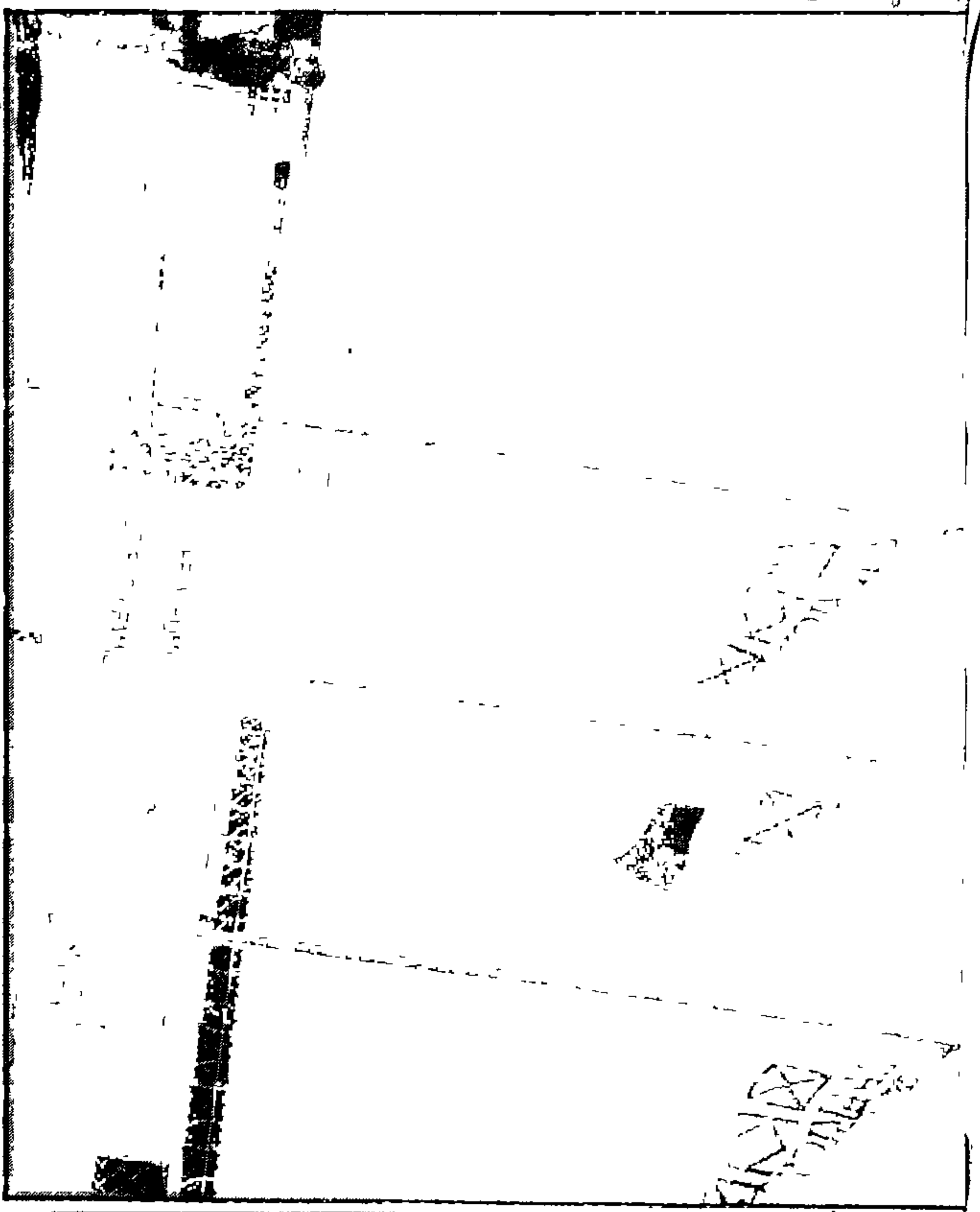
Initially, Nedperm Bank was interested in financing 30 percent of the scheme with an investment of more than R6-million. Standard Bank was also considering investing millions.

But both banks pulled out when they realised the development did not have the approval of community and civic organisations, or a formal agreement with the TPA.

Safrich continued to market its Doornkop sites after the major banks withdrew their support.

Safrich is now refunding more than R600 000 taken as deposits from hundreds of clients.

Other private developers have moved on to the 1 300 sites vacated by Safrich and are offering a variety of housing packages ranging from R6 000 to R14 000. Banks are not financing the houses being built.



SITE OF ALL THE TROUBLE ... Housing Advice Project director Brian Leveson says the Doornkop development should not have been marketed before financial backing was assured.

Battle rages on over Doornkop fees

BRINK Estates - one of the agencies which marketed the Doornkop sites for Safrich - is refusing to refund hundreds of clients the administration fees charged for processing their site applications through the Soweto councils and the Transvaal Provincial Administration

The company, owned by estate agent Eddie Meisel, is a franchise of the Durban-based Brink Property Group. His agency sold an estimated 600 of the 1 300 Safrich sites and took deposits of

^{CP/ren 11/6/91. 12.7}
between R800 and several thousand rands

In addition, buyers paid the agency administration fees of between R150 and R200 and a further R61 for site fees, which the agency was to pay to the TPA. Safrich could not obtain finance for the project, so cancelled all contracts. All deposits are now being refunded.

Brink Estates refuses, however, to refund any of the estimated R120 000 it took for administration fees. It also collected almost R24 000 in site

fees payable to the TPA but never paid the money over. These fees will be returned.

Meisel told City Press the administration fee was not refundable. He had paid his staff "to do all the running up and down getting permits."

According to the TPA, sites were only for people on the councils' housing waiting lists but applications processed by Brink Estates - for which it charged the R200 fee - were processed for anyone.

The Housing Advice Project of the Legal Aid

Bureau is helping many people obtain refunds.

"The Doornkop project is but one disgraceful example of the housing rip-off which occurs daily in this industry," said HAP director Brian Leveson.

"People believe developers will act in their interests and in Doornkop, unfortunately, they were misled.

"This development should not have been marketed before financial backing was assured. We can only hope the authorities will prevent any repetition of this fiasco."

Mass ⁽¹²⁷⁾ ~~South African~~ action is ^{10/6/91.} planned for Vaal

ACTIVISTS are expected to call for mass action in Vaal Triangle townships next week where authorities cut electricity after a breakdown in talks to resolve a seven-year-old rent boycott.

Civic leaders, the Pan Africanist Congress and African National Congress agreed on mass action on Saturday but have to consult with residents and supporters before issuing a formal call

"The organisations agreed that the Vaal community needs to embark on mass action to force the authorities to restore power to some 300 000 in six townships," Mr Paul Sithole, a senior official of the Vaal Civic Association said.

Meeting

The nature of the action would only be known after a meeting on Thursday

Sections of Sebokeng have had power restored after residents stepped up payments this week but Sithole said this was a tactic to "weaken the resolve of the people"

An attempt by the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal for a moratorium on punitive action by the authorities received an initial blow on Thursday when the Transvaal Provincial Administration rejected the idea. - Sapa

Pretoria rent hike is rejected

SDwetam 10/6/91

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By MONK NKOMO

HUNDREDS of Atteridgeville residents yesterday rejected new rent tariffs, ranging between R75 and R190, introduced by the local administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, last week

The residents rejected the proposals at a public meeting organised by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation at

the local community centre

Instead, they unanimously agreed to continue paying the monthly flat rate of R50 a household

They also lashed out at a committee which negotiated the new tariffs

"without a mandate from the masses"

The new tariffs were announced last Thursday, a few hours before the Pretoria City Council reconnected the electricity supply to the township.

The council switched off the power on May 13 after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay ar-

rears totalling R800 000

Asro's secretary general, Mr Simon Tshudi, criticised the interim committee which negotiated the new tariffs with Jacobson

He said "This committee blundered by negotiating for us without us. These new tariffs will result in mass evictions."

Move to take over councils' powers

Sowetan 10/6/91

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By DON SEOKANE and KENOSI MODISANE

THE Soweto Peoples Delegation is involved in a move to strip the three Greater Soweto councils of their power to supply electricity to the area, a SPD spokesman said yesterday.

The SPD has recommended that the townships' electricity supply be transferred to the Witwatersrand Central Regional Services Council

The CWRSC said it was investigating the possibility of taking over the supply of electricity from the Greater Soweto councils

SPD spokesman Mr Kgabisi Mosunkutu said the move was "brought about by the councils' inability to run financial affairs in the townships

"We have discovered that the financial structure of the townships has collapsed and this has been kept secret from the residents

"The council has instead sent statements with abnormally high electricity charges in a bid to cover



KGABISI MOSUNKUTU

up for the discrepancies," he said.

Mosunkutu said people were not paying because they did not receive their bills in time and that, in most cases, the bills were not accurate

On July 1, the CWRSC will take over responsibility for supplying electricity to Alexandra

A similar move in Greater Soweto has caused anxiety among the three councils

Addressing the Diepmeadow Council two weeks ago, management committee chairman Mr Freddie Phiri said the Greater Soweto councils had vowed not to relinquish responsibility of supplying electricity to the area

Diepmeadow town clerk Mr Johan de Jager told the council meeting that the move to take over the townships' power supply would be temporary as "the council cannot waive its responsibility without the approval of a Minister"

However, the Diepmeadow Council decided against accepting the recommendation before its management committee studied the proposals

CWRSC chairman Mr John Griffiths said they had accepted that the distribution and maintenance of electricity supplies to black local authorities was an essential service that should not be interrupted.

The Soweto Council, in particular, is experiencing a shortfall of nearly R3 million in arrears for electricity supplied to bulk consumers, including local businesses and State departments

Soweto Council spokesman Dr Johan van der Westhuizen said although the council was experiencing difficulties with payments, tariffs would not be increased without negotiating with interested parties

Pretoria civic bodies ⁽¹²⁷⁾ establish CAST region

More than 200 delegates from 36 civic associations around Pretoria townships, KwaNdebele and Moutse met at Medunsa near Pretoria on Saturday to form a sub-structure of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST).

A spokesman for the new body, John Ramatsui, said the body was named the Central Transvaal Civic Association (CTCA), which was made up of three zones

He said the zones were Odi/Moretele (in Bophuthatswana), Pretoria Central (Mamelodi, Soshanguve and Atteridgeville) and KwaNdebele/Moutse

Mr Ramatsui said the

meeting did not decide on any programme of action to be taken by the CTCA in the near future and explained that zonal steering committees would hold meetings in their respective areas to co-ordinate meetings. They would table suggested programmes of action to be taken to a general meeting, on a date to be decided.

Those elected to the executive committee were the Rev Smangalis Mkhathshwa (chairman), Isaac Ditshego (deputy chairman), Star Vilakazi (secretary), Donie Makola (assistant secretary), Pasty Malefo (publicity secretary) and Reeves Mabitsi (treasurer). — Sapa

New civics group is formed

A NEW organisation known as the Civic Associations of Central Transvaal has been formed.

The formation and launch of the group was announced by its publicity secretary, Mr Pasty Malefo, in Pretoria yesterday. He said 32 civic bodies were represented at Medunsa on Satur-

Sowetan 11/6/91
By ALINAH DUBE

day

Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa of the Soshanguve Residents Organisation was elected president.

Other executive committee members are Mr Isaac Ditshego of the Moutse Civic Association, Mr Star Vilakazi, Mr Donny Makola

of the Garankuwa Civic Association and Mr Reeves Mabisi of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation.

Malefo said priority would be given to the demand for a non-racial local government for Pretoria. This would help address mat-

“Although the meeting did not have time to work out a pro-

gramme of action, the central executive committee will meet soon to iron out matters of importance,” Malefo said.

His organisation believed that Pretoria was what it is because of the labour drawn from areas such as Garankuwa and Mabopane and yet people there were considered to be Bophuthatswana citizens.

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Lekoa may face mass action

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Blouay 11/6/91
THEO RAWANA

VAAL townships were poised to launch mass action against Lekoa City Council after it cut essential services to six townships last week, Vaal Civic Association (VCA) chairman Malik Madise said yesterday.

The VCA, Cosatu, the PAC and Azapo on Saturday agreed to take mass action. Its form will be decided upon on Thursday.

As the seven-year rent and services boycott had built up a R240m debt, the council cut off power supplies to 38 000 Vaal township households on June 3, Lekoa city treasurer Piet Roets said yesterday.

However, electricity had been restored to townships where 70% of residents had made their current monthly payments, he said.

Lekoa's council reportedly owes Eskom and Vereeniging City Council R20m for bulk electricity supplies.

Madise warned residents against agents who were trying to persuade them to pay their bills. "The VCA is aware that now that the townships are dark, some people are trying to throw residents into confusion. The VCA has not called on residents to start paying," he added.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said residents had been informed they had to pay their electricity and services accounts for April and May.

The townships affected by the power cut are Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Bophelong, Boipatong, Zamdela and Refenkgotso.

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New power cuts loom in township

Sowetan 12/6/91

By MONK NKOMO

THE Pretoria City Council yesterday warned it might cut off electricity to Atteridgeville again next month unless residents paid new tariffs ranging between R75 and R190.

A spokesman for the council said the management committee was due to meet on July 16 to review the situation.

Power supply to the township was discontinued on May 13 after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay arrears

totalling R800 000 to the Pretoria Council

Electricity was restored last Thursday following discussions between local administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson and "an interim committee representing broad-based community organisations", the Pretoria Council said.

A spokesman for the Pretoria Council yesterday warned that "a strong possibility exists that the power will be discontinued again next month if

residents do not pay the proposed new tariffs"

A large number of residents who attended a meeting convened by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation on Sunday resolved to ignore the new tariffs and to continue paying the R50 monthly flat rate.

Crisis

The Pretoria Council had said the R50 flat rate was not enough to pay for administrative costs and sewerage in the township,

"let alone electricity"

Atteridgeville acting town clerk Mr Daan Mouton expressed concern about the rent crisis and said large numbers of residents were still not paying the R50 flat rate.

The arrangement signed by Asro and the administrator in January for the payment of R50 a house is due to expire at the end of this month.

Asro chairman Mr Reeves Mabitsi asked residents at Sunday's meeting to determine how much they wished to pay from July.

Stayaway protest plan by students

By MATHATHA TSEDU

THE South African National Students Congress has declared a week of action against Gazankulu Chief Minister Professor Hudson Ntsanwisi in protest against the closure of Tivumbeni College.

Sansco's Northern Transvaal chairman Mr Robinson Ramaite said yesterday the organisation had decided that Friday would be marked by a stayaway and marches at all tertiary institutions in the region.

Tivumbeni was closed indefinitely in March following class boycotts to demand that Ntsanwisi relinquish his post as chancellor of the college and for the recognition of the constitution of the students representative council.

Sansco has tried several times to pressurise the Gazankulu government to reopen the college.

A delegation that staged a sit-in at the offices of the department of education in April was frog-marched out by police.

Strike threat by steel workers

STEEL and engineering employers are forcing trade unions into a strike, the Metal and Electrical Workers Union of South Africa said on Monday.

"If we are not able to reach an agreement I believe we are heading for a crisis," Mewusa general-secretary Mr Tommy Oliphant said in a statement, referring to deadlocked pay talks.

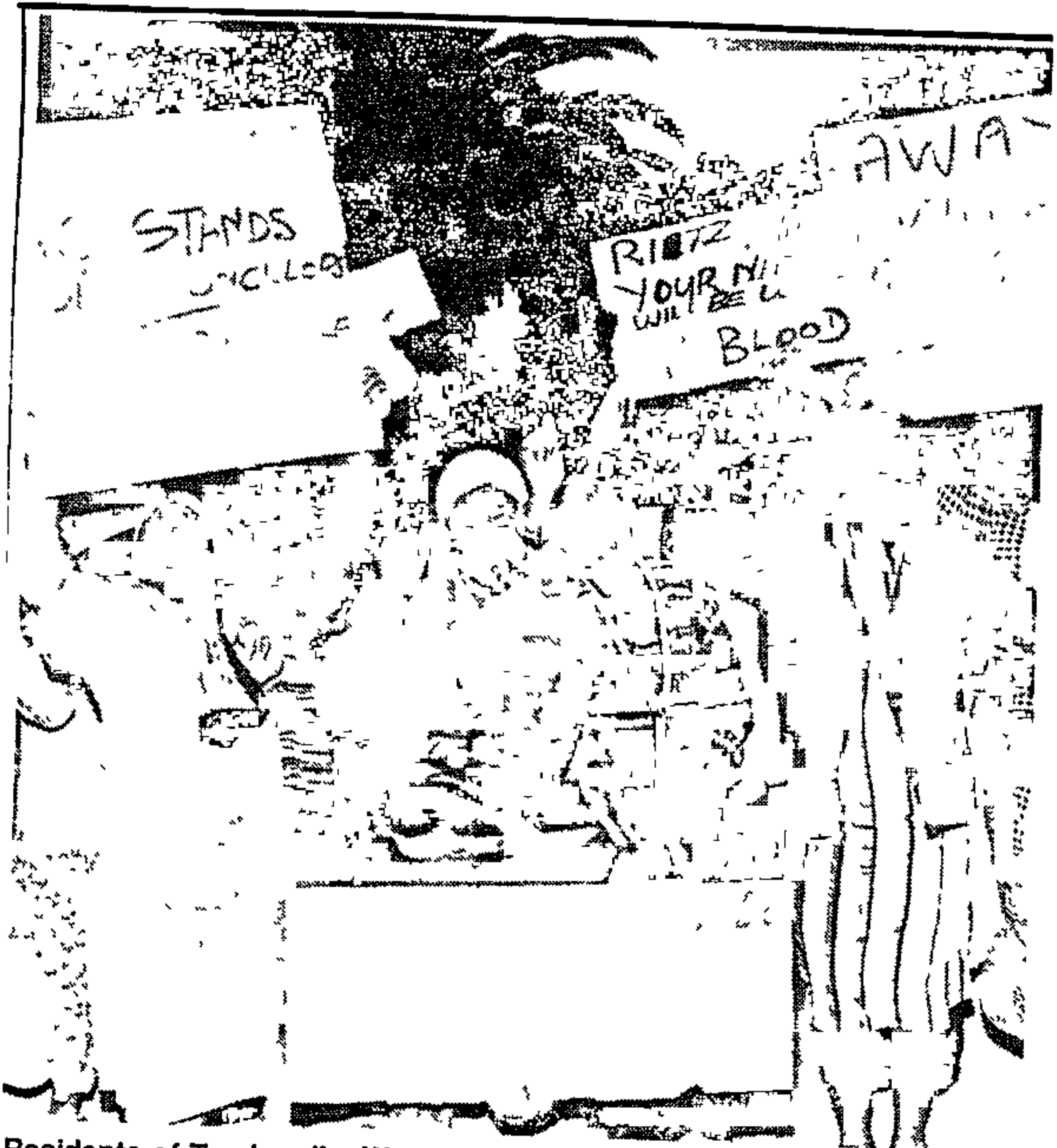
Trade unions and employers' representatives who are involved in national wage negotiations in the industry were

due to attend a dispute meeting in Johannesburg yesterday.

The 12 unions facing the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of South Africa in the talks have declared a dispute with the employer grouping, Oliphant said.

Metal industry talks deadlocked on May 29, despite unions having drastically reduced their demands, he said.

Seifsa had refused to amend its wage offer, despite Mewusa reducing its across-the-board demand to R1,30 an hour, Oliphant said - Sapa



Residents of Tamboville, Wattville, protest outside the Benoni town hall on Monday to show their anger over the allocation of stands in the area.

Row brews over ⁽¹²⁷⁾ land in Wattville

Sowetan 12/6/91
By GRACE RAPHOLO

THE Wattville Concerned Residents Committee has lashed out at the Benoni Town Council over the allocation of stands at Tamboville on the East Rand

WCRC chairman Mr Abie Nyalunga said they had been given the mandate by the Benoni Town Council to allocate stands in Tamboville, near Wattville

The Wattville Council was not represented and not involved in the allocation of stands

Benoni's town clerk Mr Denys Conradie said the WCRC had permitted the allocation of 242 stands to the Wattville Council following a meeting on June 6

Nyalunga said the Benoni Town Council was trying to involve the Wattville Council in the matter

"In an emergency sitting of the

Benoni Town Council, part of the agreement was annulled in order to provide 242 people on the Wattville Council's waiting list with stands

"All stands in Tamboville have been allocated and there is a confrontation looming between people who were allocated stands by WCRC and those who were on the waiting list

"By involving the Wattville Council in the Tamboville affair the Benoni Town Council is trying to bring violence into the area," Nyalunga said

If violence broke out the Benoni Town Council would have to take responsibility, he said

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New bid to solve electricity and boycott crisis

Political Reporter

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stew 12/6/91

The joint working group between the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) will meet again today to discuss electricity cut-offs and rent and services boycotts in Transvaal townships.

TPA spokesman Magda du Toit said the meeting in Johannesburg was part of an ongoing process.

The group would make arrangements for a larger meeting some time next week between representatives of the two bodies.

CAST general secretary Sam Ntuli said the meeting would look at all the problems in the townships.

Talks between the TPA and CAST last week failed to find solutions to the electricity cut-offs in 12 townships.

CAST called for a moratorium on cut-offs while negotiations were being held on the non-payment of rent and services accounts. But the TPA said it could not accept the request because it was not responsible for the cut-offs.

1 Page
force
formed
Star 12/6/91.
in Alex

By Abel Mushi

Residents of Alexandra are in the process of forming a non-aligned peace force to monitor violence in the strife-torn township.

The Alexandra Peace Corps (APC) started functioning on a limited basis two weeks ago with a membership of 35, comprising members of local youth organisations and community and church leaders.

APC facilitator and co-ordinator Timothy Mabena said the APC had approached other organisations, such as the local branch of the ANC and the Alexandra Civic Organisation, to take part in the project.

"They have not shown any ill-feelings about the project and we are only waiting for them to respond," he said.

"We are not yet fully operational and we will only launch the organisation when we are satisfied we have a body which is representative of all the people of Alexandra," he said.

Arms

"We hope to have at least three members in every street, or a total of 120 members in Alexandra," said Mr Mabena, who lives in Tembisa and is a vice-chairman of the Tembisa Peace Corps.

The APC would be run in the same way as the more established and "very successful" Tembisa Peace Corps.

Members will not be allowed to carry weapons, Mr Mabena said, and will be responsible for alerting the police when violent situations arise. The volunteers will not be paid for services rendered to the community.

The creation of peace organisations in Tembisa and Alexandra, The Star was told, originated from a Sandton-based church organisation which is involved in establishing friendship clubs among white residents of Sandton and residents of Alexandra and Tembisa.

Mass protests planned for Vaal Triangle, S Tvl

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Star 13/6/91

The Vaal Triangle and Southern Transvaal are the targets this weekend of mass action protests against township electricity cuts and to pressure the Government into solving the education crisis.

What has been described as the first in a series of mass protests following power cuts in Vaal Triangle townships last week will hit Vereeniging this weekend.

Cosatu education officer in the Western Transvaal, Shelle Papané, confirmed yesterday that a protest march was being organised in the town for Saturday.

Freedom

He said about 10 000 residents were expected to protest against the blackout in townships, and to demand peace, jobs and freedom.

The march, he said, would start at the Vaal Showgrounds at 11 am and move along Beaconsfield and Leslie avenues, ending opposite the post office, where a memorandum would be presented to the police district commandant, Colonel Jaap Venter.

The Vereeniging Town Council has given permission for the march, which requires the approval of the chief magistrate, with whom an application has been lodged.

Vaal Civic Association chairman Malik Madise said on Tuesday a meeting would be held tonight at Cosatu House in Vereeniging at which the association, ANC, PAC, Cosatu and other organisations would look at suggested mass action in the Triangle.

The Southern Trans-

vaal region of the National Education Coordinating Committee is planning mass protests on Saturday to put pressure on the Government to address the education crisis.

Amon Msane, regional general secretary, told a media conference in Johannesburg that the protest would include marches to all Department of Education and Training offices in the PWV, culminating in nationwide rallies on Sunday to mark the 15th anniversary of the 1976 Soweto uprisings.

"We call on all our masses in the factories, schools, townships, suburbs and cities to come out in strong support of our just cause," said Mr Msane.

The NECC has accused the DET and the Government of failing to address grievances, and has called on the Minister, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, to resign by June 16 if these grievances are not addressed.

"This year, we commemorate the deaths of those children 15 years ago in the struggle to normalise education," Mr Msane said.

Begged

"Since the beginning of the year, we have demonstrated, we have demonstrated, we have petitioned, we have begged, we have appealed, we have negotiated with every decision-maker in the DET hierarchy, including President de Klerk, all to no avail."

He said most pupils were still without books halfway through the school year — Vereeniging Bureau-Education Reporter

Soweto is warned of electricity cuts

Sowetan 13/6/91

127

THE Soweto Council said yesterday it would cut off electricity within two weeks unless residents and traders paid their accounts.

The council said in a statement yesterday that all traders would receive final notices this week giving them until June 25 to pay.

The deadline for residents is the end of the month

The council's new public relations officer Mr Mojalefa Moseki said the council would also conduct random inspections throughout the township to check on illegal electricity connections

By DON SEOKANE

Spot fines would be issued to those found to have illegally connected electricity to their homes

"While the council is opposed to switching off the electricity supply to consumers, especially during winter, it finds itself with no option but to take the action so that it can meet its obligations to its suppliers," Moseki said

President of the Soweto Civic Association Mr Isaac Mogase yesterday rejected claims that they were bankrupt as a "misrepresentation of facts and a fairytale"

He acknowledged, however, that the association had not received payments from some residents who used their services

Mogase said it was imperative that the civic and the traders' organisation meet the council to iron out differences

However, Mogase reiterated the Soweto Peoples Delegation's intention to have the council stripped of its control to supply electricity to the area

The SPD wanted this responsibility to be transferred to the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council

Pay up or face power cut-off, Soweto told

Staff Reporter (127)
for 13/6/91

The Soweto Council yesterday warned traders and residents in the area of an impending electricity cut-off if they did not pay their bills within the next two weeks.

In a statement the council said final notices would be served to all businesses in the area, whereby they would be given 14 days (until June 25) to pay up or face the cut-off.

Arrears

The council also made an appeal to residents to pay their electricity and water bills by the end of this month to avoid a services cut-off.

Power would only be restored upon payment of at least 10 percent of arrears or three months' consumption, an undertaking to pay off the balance, and payment of the current (June) account, the statement said.

Random inspections to check unauthorised electricity connections would

be conducted and spot fines issued to culprits. Failure to settle such fines would lead to prosecution, said the statement.

The statement further said the council noted with regret that the Soweto People's Delegation had either not fulfilled its obligation in the Soweto Accord or had failed to persuade "the 80 percent residents it claims to represent" to pay for services or to restrain residents from tampering with the council's property.

The council also rejected claims that it had inflated electricity bills because it was bankrupt.

"Bills sent out to residents are an accurate reflection of their electricity consumption, either as metered or the flat rate agreed upon by the signatories of the Soweto Accord," said the statement.

However, those who had complaints about their accounts were urged to contact the council.

Hostel¹ (127) dwellers *Sowetan 14/6/91* to march

By MONK NKOMO

EXECUTIVE members of the Mamelodi Civic Association will lead a march by hostel dwellers to the local council offices tomorrow.

The march, from 9am, is to demand that hostel residents pay R6,50 each for boarding in terms of an agreement by residents at a meeting held last month

Residents decided at the meeting to pay a flat rate of R50 a household, which was rejected by the council

Meanwhile, president of the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal, Mr Moses Mayekiso, will address a rally at HM Pitje Stadium on Sunday

The rally will start at 10am and the other expected guest is Mr Isaac Mashigo of the newly-formed Central Transvaal Civics Association

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... sports manager Etienne Dorfling (not shown) appeared in connection with corruption charges. They were not asked to plead and the case was postponed to July 28. Jordaan and Dorfling were suspended by the SABC in April following a probe by the SABC's external auditors into TopSport finances.

Picture CATHERINE ROSS

... by the Correctional Services Department

It said he would appear in court on August 12 in connection with murder and contravention of the Arms and Ammunition Act.

Do not cut Soweto power during talks, council told

Boya 14/6/91

127

THEO RAWANA

THE Soweto City Council had no right to cut off power to businesses and residents while talks on handing over management of electricity supply to the Central Witwatersrand RSC were continuing, the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) has said.

The council has threatened to cut electricity to businessmen by June 25, alleging they had built up a debt running to hundreds of thousands of rands since the rent boycott started seven years ago.

It claimed that the business community was not covered by the Greater Soweto Accord which last year wrote off a R516m debt for residents under the Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto councils.

SCA technical committee member Lawrence Boya said parties represented in the chamber were working on an agreement on handing over management of electricity to the RSC.

"The chamber is not in a position to give authority to the handover, but the parties in the chamber have to ratify the agreement," Boya said.

"So we would not accept any cutoff of electricity supply just yet."

The SCA hoped to meet the council before June 25 to resolve the situation.

Boya said if the council would also be acting in bad faith if it carried out its threat to cut power to residents if they did not pay by the end of this month.

"It would be an unfortunate situation because the matter of interim charges for electricity is still under negotiation."

Soweto Mayor Oscar Maseko could not be reached for comment yesterday.

RSC chairman John Griffiths confirmed yesterday that the issue of the handover was discussed at a meeting with the three councils. "The councils are still considering the proposal," he added.

Dobsonville Mayor MacFarlane Phenethi also confirmed that the subject had been discussed. "The issue has to go to the (chamber's) joint technical committee first and then to the Metropolitan Chamber. So I don't have a comment yet."

2 residents take council to court

Sowetan 14/6/91.

127
~~211~~

By SONTI MASEKO

TWO residents yesterday brought an application in the Rand Supreme Court against the Evaton Council to have some of its by-laws set aside.

Mr William Titi Mogapi and Mr Solomon Kehla Mashimani, members of the Evaton Standowners Association, asked for an order to declare the by-laws void, claiming that the council had not complied with them.

Mr Justice MS Stegmann, will hear the application again today.

They maintain that the council had, for a considerable peri-

od, charged them land tax on their properties while it had no authority to do so.

Residents were also being charged rent despite the fact that they had freehold rights.

By-laws

Mr J du Toit, for the council, submitted that the council had the authority to enact the by-laws as it had complied regula-

tions. The residents claimed the council did not comply with the regulation requiring newspaper

advertising before enactment. The applicants submitted that the council had misled residents in the advertisement, giving the impression that residents' rights to object or comment on the proposed by-laws ended two days earlier.

The adverts were placed in *Sowetan* on May 27 and 29 last year.

Du Toit said residents did not suffer great prejudice.

Mr Paul Kennedy, for the applicants, asked that the by-laws be set aside because they were so vague that they confused residents.

2-m face township

Star 15/6/91

Talks to end boycott fail as councils endure bankruptcy

AS provincial authorities and civic associations failed to reach agreement this week, more than 2 million township residents could be left without essential services by the end of July.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) have jointly warned, if consumers continue with the boycott of payment for services, local authorities will no longer be able to provide those services.

Employees of the bankrupt councils are also faced with retrenchments as there is no money to pay their salaries. Already, Thokoza Town Council, on the East Rand has retrenched 37 percent of its employees, due to bankruptcy caused by the continuing rent and services boycott in the township.

Administrator for the town council Gert Muller said on Tuesday the crisis could force further retrenchments.

Power cuts

Nine black townships were plunged into darkness due to the non-payment of services accounts by residents in those areas.

Power has however been restored to some areas of Sebokeng, in the Vaal Triangle and the whole of Atteridgeville, Pretoria and Thokoza — following agreements signed by the TPA and civic organisations and a flood of late services charges payments.

Mr John Griffith, chairman of the CWRSC, said the situation might be averted if residents paid for what they consumed and if the Government increased its bridging funds to the councils.

He predicted that in a month's time, town councils would be unable to pay their employees' salaries, let alone paying for bulk services or township development projects.

"It's my view that with the level of income at the moment,

both from consumers and the Government, there would be a breakdown of services by the end of July.

"All parties involved should address this issue very soon as councils will find it difficult to pay employees and even more difficult to pay for bulk supplies of water and electricity," Mr Griffiths said.

His view was fully shared by Olaus van Zyl, MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations.

"The TPA is very concerned about the deteriorating situation in black towns. We believe the problems must be resolved through negotiation, and such talks are presently taking place at 64 places in the Transvaal," Mr van Zyl said.

He said the only solution would be reached when residents fulfilled their responsibility for paying for services.

Money intended for development purposes was used for the payment of essential services such as the provision of water, sewerage and refuse removal. "As a result of this, very little new infrastructure can be developed," Mr van Zyl said.

In another development, the CWRSC had accepted to take over the distribution and maintenance of electricity supplies to black townships in its region, after they had been requested to do so by the Metropolitan Chamber.

"We are waiting for the councils to approach us and then we can negotiate an agreement," Mr Griffiths said.

The CWRSC had always been against a total curtailment of power to the areas and was in favour of withdrawing power from individuals that do not pay for their consumption.

Mr Griffiths made an impassioned appeal to residents to pay for what services were used.

At the moment, electricity is cut off at the following towns: Lekoa (four towns), Silobela (Carolina), Siyatutuka (Belfast), Tigane (Haartebeesfontein), Katlehong (Germiston) and Munsieville (Krugersdorp).

127 JOVIAL RANTAO

Urban co-government is closer as CAST relents

Star 15/6/91

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AFTER much arm-twisting, the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) has finally bowed to pressure from constituents eager for it to take part in the controversial Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber (MC)

MC spokesman Nigel Mandy sighed with relief at the news, which ended months of uncertainty

He had previously accused the mass-based CAST of adopting a "dogmatic approach" to the MC. In the past, CAST had dismissed any ties with the MC, saying this would indirectly give black councillors undeserved recognition

On the other hand, most of CAST's affiliates in the Witwatersrand have been independently echoing groundswell support for participation in the MC

And, although this week, CAST reiterated it would not deal with the MC, civic bodies affiliated to the MC stayed on as members of CAST

Besides dividing the leadership of CAST, the MC saga has also exposed cracks in the relationship between CAST and its associates since the MC's constitution was signed on April 9

And while the latest developments could amount to just a plastering over of those cracks, Saturday Star can reveal that heated debates over whether or not to participate in the MC had previously led to

● The resignation of Cas Coovadia as assistant general secretary of CAST

● The threat to get Cyril Ramaphosa sacked from the pro-MC Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), the "negotiating task force" of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA)

● An appeal to ANC deputy president

ABBEY MAKOE

Nelson Mandela to mediate in the squabble

● The threat of a split within the SCA itself. Hardliners argued that participation in the MC could only be acknowledged once the black councillors relinquished control over township finances

Now the rough spots have apparently been ironed out, CAST this week described its affiliates as autonomous

In the meantime Mr Coovadia, who believed the weaknesses of the chamber could best be fought from inside, not outside, has yet to learn whether his resignation has been accepted — five weeks after submitting it

It was not clear why CAST had taken so long to make its standpoint known. CAST president Moses Mayekiso said the general council would take a decision at the end of the month

Mr Coovadia said he would return to his job if asked to do so

Isaac Mogase, president of the SCA, said his organisation had always been committed to the MC. He said the MC was established as a result of the Soweto accord signed last year

He warned that black councillors "were on their way out". All would be forced to resign

Approached for comment on participating in the MC, Johannesburg's central civic body, Actstop, said no decision had been made yet. General secretary Pressage Nkosi said his organisation was waiting for a mandate from members. "Otherwise," he said, "in principle, we support the chamber"

The Alexandra Civic Organisation was also attending the MC meetings

Civic body to confront city council

127
ABBEY MAKOE

THE CP-controlled Pretoria City Council (PCC) will soon be confronted with mass action from the newly formed Civic Associations of the Central Transvaal (Cact).

Cact's publicity secretary, Pasty Malefo, warned that "for too long" the PCC has proved to be insensitive towards the impoverished black townships surrounding it and therefore deserved any form of action.

Top on Cact's agenda would be a demand for a non-racial local government for Pretoria, and a single tax base for Pretoria and the neighbouring townships.

Negotiations would be entered into with the PCC, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the business community to find common solutions. Mr. Malefo said "The black local councils would be snubbed."

The new civic body was launched at the Medical University of South Africa last weekend.

Unity in Vaal rent talks

(127)
apnews
16/6/91

THE Vaal branches of the ANC, PAC and Azapo joined forces this week in negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) to end a seven-year rent boycott in Vaal townships.

The joint force has called on residents to pay rent and service charges pending an agreement with the TPA.

The unity announcement was made at a meeting held at Vereeniging's Cosatu House.

It was attended by members of Cosatu, Nactu, the National Forum, the Azanian Students Organisation, Azanian Youth Unity, the ANC Youth League and the PAC.

Vaal Civic Association chairman Malik Madise blamed the TPA for delaying negotiations in the past.

"They could not guarantee the supply of services if residents agreed to pay R41 for services and R45 for electricity," he said.

Madise denied that an agreement had been reached with the Lekoa City Council to pay for electricity bills only.

If the TPA meets the demands of the joint delegation, it could end the boycott which has cost R16-million.

Residents demands are.

- No negotiations with councillors,
- Writing off arrears;
- Transfer of houses to residents;
- Cessation of threats and evictions,
- No expropriation of property,
- Conversion of hostels into family units; and
- Upgrading of services

NEIGHBOURHOODS WAR

S/Times 16/6/91

(127)

Smnt, who said he had been beaten up after testifying to the commission

Other allegations presented to the inquiry were that the South Western Management Committee neglected its duties and issued an unauthorised letter regarding increased municipal service charges

The findings of the commission, which were submitted to the Transvaal Provincial Administration, have not yet been released

Mr Mateman said the attack on his family was "a civic matter" and that he believed the assailants had been "after my wife"

Their home in Eldorado Park Extension 2 was gutted after the intruders set it alight

"Strange things started happening after the inquiry," said Mr Mateman

"This is the work of uncontrolled elements of some anti-Mateman organisation

"They didn't want to talk to my wife, they wanted to kill her and my daughter, too," he said

Shortly after Mrs Mateman and Natasha were attacked, Mr Mateman's son Donovan, 25, allegedly assaulted Mr Tyron Jones, who gave evidence in the housing inquiry.

However, Mr Jones — sporting a black eye after the punch-up — said his United Civic Association distanced itself from the attack on Mrs Mateman and was opposed to violence in any form

"We are agitating for more housing and further developments in the area," said Mr Jones, who is related to Mr Mateman by marriage

Mystery

Mr Jones initiated the commission of inquiry in January 1989 he submitted a 50-page dossier to the government, alleging corruption within the SWMC

Mr Mateman said he did not know if the death of his son Kurt, 30, on March 12, was related to the vendetta against his family or not

His son, also a member of the management committee, died when a motorist smashed into his stationery vehicle.

Mr Mateman said "My son's death is a complete mystery to us and the police. We don't know whether it was politically motivated and deliberate or a genuine accident."

Police treated Mr Mateman's death as an accident

Mr Mateman said Monday night's attack appeared to be the work of two groups

The first group of three, including a woman, broke into his house, terrorised the family and left at about 5am

Two hours later another group of three or four arrived and set the house alight

"This was a well-planned operation and the culprits knew what they were doing," said Mr Mateman, a former teacher

On Monday night, intruders cut a chain to enter through a security door

Mrs Mateman and Natasha were beaten, stabbed and gagged

Their legs were tied with telephone wire and blankets piled on top of them

Attack

After the group left, the women freed themselves and went to a neighbour for assistance

They were then taken to hospital

"My wife recognised the woman involved and had seen her before in Eldorado Park

She seemed to know Margaret's movements because she wanted to know why my wife had not resigned from the

South Western Management Committee as she had been instructed to do," said Mr Mateman

The two pressure groups operating in the Eldorado Park area — UCA and the ANC-affiliated Klippruit Eldorado Park-Klipspruit Civic Association (Kekitca) have denied involvement in the attack on Mrs Mateman

Bribes

The probe, headed by retired magistrate Koos Louw, heard evidence from several residents of Eldorado Park, south of Johannesburg, who claimed they were denied housing if they refused to pay bribes to management committee members

Mrs Mateman was alleged to have been a "silent partner" in a close corporation which was allocated a R300 000 property in Eldorado Park zoned for commercial development

She was accused by several witnesses of accepting bribes in exchange for housing

Other homeless residents said they refused to pay bribes to councillors for homes

The inquiry heard evidence from Dr Clifford

The investigation will cover various aspects, including the cause of the fire at the Mateman home," said Captain Joseph Ngobeni

A spokesman for the Soweto police said the robbery at the Mateman home as well as the assault on Mr Jones were being investigated

"The investigation will cover various aspects, including the cause of the fire at the Mateman home," said Captain Joseph Ngobeni

Mr Mateman is convinced this week's attack on his wife and daughter is the latest salvo in an ongoing war against his family

Mr Mateman's wife, Margaret, is a key figure in an inquiry into corruption connected with allocation of housing in Eldorado Park, near Johannesburg. Members of the South Western Management Committee, which is headed by Mrs Mateman, believe that the attack is part of a campaign to oust them from office, and have stepped up security at their own homes

Members of the committee have received threats both before and since the vicious attack on my wife and the Johannesburg city council has posted guards at their houses," said Mr Mateman, who recently crossed the floor from the Labour Party.

Tuesday's early-morning attack on Mrs Mateman and her daughter Natasha, 22, came less than three weeks after a commission of inquiry into alleged corruption in the South Western Management Committee

EMBATTLED MP SAYS FAMILY ARE VICTIMS OF BRUTAL VENDETTA

By BOETI ESHAK

A DISPUTE over a township housing shortage erupted into open warfare this week when National Party MP Don Mateman's family was attacked and their house set on fire.

Mr Mateman is convinced this week's attack on his wife and daughter is the latest salvo in an ongoing war against his family

Mr Mateman's wife, Margaret, is a key figure in an inquiry into corruption connected with allocation of housing in Eldorado Park, near Johannesburg. Members of the South Western Management Committee, which is headed by Mrs Mateman, believe that the attack is part of a campaign to oust them from office, and have stepped up security at their own homes

Cast will join Met Chamber

(127)
Sowetan
17/6/91

AFTER much arm-twisting by its constituents, the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal has agreed to take part in the controversial Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber

MC spokesman Mr Nigel Mandy sighed with relief at the news, which ended months of uncertainty.

He had previously accused the mass-based Cast of adopting a "dogmatic approach" to the MC

In the past, Cast had unequivocally rejected any ties with the MC, saying its involvement would indirectly give black councillors undeserved recognition

On the other hand, most of Cast's affiliates in the Witwatersrand have been independently echoing groundswell support for participation in the MC.

Dividing

And although this week Cast reiterated it would not deal with the MC, civic bodies affiliated to the MC stayed on as members of Cast

Besides dividing the leadership of Cast, the saga of the MC has also exposed serious cracks in the relationship between Cast and its associates since the MC's constitution was signed on April 9

Heated debates over whether or not to participate in the MC had previously led to:

* The resignation of Mr Cas Coov-

adia as assistant general secretary of Cast;

* A threat to get Mr Cyril Ramaphosa sacked from the pro-MC Soweto People's Delegation, the "negotiating task force" of the Soweto Civic Association;

* An appeal to ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela to mediate in the squabble, and

* The threat of a split within the SCA itself

Hardliners

Hardliners had argued participation in the MC could only be acknowledged once the black councillors first relinquished control over township finances

Now that the rough spots have been ironed out, Cast this week described its affiliates as autonomous.

In the meantime Coovadia, who believed the weaknesses of the chamber could best be fought from inside, has yet to learn whether his resignation has been accepted - five weeks after submitting his letter.

It was not clear why Cast has taken so long to make its standpoint known.

Mr Moses Mayekiso, president of Cast, said the general council would take a decision at the end of the month.

Coovadia said he would return to his job if asked to - *Sowetan Correspondent*

Honour to FW angers 65 groups in Stanger

Sowetan 17/6/91
MORE than 60 organisations in Stanger are bracing themselves for a confrontation with local authorities over a decision to confer the freedom of the town on State President FW de Klerk

In a strongly worded advertisement, the ANC and 64 local organisations warn the Local Affairs Committee and the town council that residents will mount campaigns to resist an attempt to confer the honour on De Klerk.

The ANC has written a letter to De Klerk asking him to decline the offer to "show respect for the wishes of the people of Stanger".

Attempts by the ANC to meet with the town clerk to resolve the issue have been unsuccessful.

"The Stanger and Groutville branches of the ANC condemn the Stanger LAC and the town council's decision that Mr de Klerk be given the freedom of Stanger. Such a move is insensitive and inappropriate," a joint statement from the chairmen of the ANC Stanger and Groutville branches states.

"The conferring of the honour on the State President is no more than the wish of a few persons and for them to think that they have the support of Stanger's people is presumptuous in the extreme," the statement says.

"Should they wish to proceed without testing the views of the town's people, the local branches of the ANC will mobilise the people and will take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the freedom of Stanger being given to Mr De Klerk."

Stanger town clerk Mr WT Byrnes said the town council had noted the sentiments expressed by the ANC, but stood by its decision.

"Furthermore, the Stanger town council is of the opinion that it is not necessary to meet with representatives of the ANC as it will serve no useful purpose," Byrnes said.

The advertisement taken out by the ANC and other organisations says:

"The LACs in their insistence not to reconsider their decision are ignoring the wishes of the people."

"We say to the LAC and the town council, rescind your decision or face the wrath of the people" -
Sowetan Correspondent.

agreement the "new terms of which capital to cope will acquire in its way... will acquire in its way... ing full developments would he might... -... will state that an announcement outlin-

Vaal mass action plan shelved

THEO RAWANA

THE Vaal Civic Association (VCA) has shelved the mass action planned after the Lekoa City Council cut off electricity supplies to Vaal Triangle townships

VCA chairman Malik Madise said on Friday a meeting of delegates from the PAC, Cosatu, ANC, Azapo, Nactu and the National Forum had instead decided to seek resumption of talks with the TPA

The parties last held talks on May 25 and electricity was cut off on June 3

"The organisations and their sub-structures decided to work for an accord with the TPA, the question of mass action will depend on the outcome of the talks," Madise said *8/10/91 17/6/91*.

A Lekoa council spokesman said last week the council switched off power to 25 000 households after talks with the VCA deadlocked on the resolution of the R240m

arrears which residents had built up over seven years of rent and service charge boycotts

However, electricity had been restored to townships where 70% of residents had made their current monthly payments, he added

The council reportedly owes Eskom and Vereeniging City Council R20m for bulk electricity supplies

Lekoa town clerk Klaas Louw said power had already been restored to 25% of the 25 000 households because they had paid 70% of their current monthly accounts

Townships affected by the power cuts were Sharpeville, Sebokeng, Bophelong, Bethel, Boipatong, Zamdela and Refenkotso

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Civic group shuns chamber

127

Sowetan 18/6/91

THE umbrella group of township civic organisations in the Transvaal said yesterday its decision not to participate in the Metropolitan Chamber had not changed.

"Cast has never decided to participate in the chamber and at present the position is that Cast is not going to participate," said Mr Moses Mayekiso, president of the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal.

Mayekiso was approached for comment on a newspaper report that pressure by members had forced the group to cave in.

Some civic groups are affiliated to the MC. The report gave no source of the claim

"Cast does not support signing constitutions at regional level while there are negotiations pending for a national constitution," said Mayekiso, a leading member of the South African Communist Party

Cast has declined to join the chamber because of the presence of township councillors, who it accuses of being unrepresentative and corrupt

"The chamber is silent about whom those (councillors) represent because we believe they represent nobody," Mayekiso added

ories of decentralising political power in a move that could bring in apartheid through the back door.

Campaign

Cast has been in the frontline demanding the resignation of councillors in a campaign that has virtually destroyed several councils, forcing the authorities to appoint administrators.

Mayekiso accused the auth-

We believe that the chamber is one step towards that direction. Why should that decentralisation come now that we are about to get majority rule. We believe they want to accommodate rightwing sentiments of group rights," he said.

He said municipalities in conservative towns would rush to create racial structures. - Sapa.

Power cut hits Reef train commuters

Sowetan
18/6/91
127

THOUSANDS of commuters in the PWV area were left stranded or arrived late for work yesterday as suburban trains ran up to an hour late.

A spokesman for Spoornet said the problem was caused by a failure in the power supply from Eskom.

The spokesman said Eskom power lines in Tembisa had been cut down and stolen during the weekend.

As a result, the power supply to Spoornet substations was "too weak to pull the trains".

The entire PWV area was affected and all suburban trains were running late, the spokesman said.

"There is nothing we can do. We just don't have enough power to pull the trains."

Sowetan Correspondent.

Tokoza electricity is on again

Sowetan 18/6/91

By GRACE RAPHOLO

ELECTRICITY to Tokoza has been switched on after a six-month blackout.

This follows the suspension of a 15-month rent and service charges boycott.

Transvaal Provincial Administration chief director Jan van der Walt said the Alberton Town Council had agreed to the switch-on even though an amount exceeding R1,9 million for electricity supplied before the cut-off

could not be made yet

The town council required the Tokoza Council to pay an amount of not less than R12 000 a day to ensure a continued supply of electricity

"As a gesture of goodwill, the TPA has paid the Alberton Town Council R120 000 to enable the electricity supply in Tokoza to be

switched on."

For June and July, households with electricity are to pay R71 a month while others will pay R21 a month to the Tokoza Council. From August onwards, residents would pay for metered electricity, water, sewerage, refuse removal and other services according to set tariffs.

Van der Walt said it was essential that residents should start paying the amounts which were

negotiated on their behalf by the Tokoza Civic Committee.

The Tokoza boycott was called off following the signing of an agreement by the TPA, Tokoza's administrator, Gert Muller and the Tokoza Civic Committee.

The TCC is made up of ANC, Inkatha Freedom Party, PAC, Tokoza Civic Association, Tokoza Chamber of Commerce, Tokoza Ministers Fellowship and Tokoza Ratepayers Association.

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Heated debate over Sandton rates

By Mark Suzman

^{Star} 18/6/91

to 13 percent

12.7

Sandton residents' assessment rate will increase by 12,6 percent and interest on unpaid council revenues will rise to 24 percent as a result of the new Sandton budget passed last night.

"This constraint is considered to be unreasonable since inflation is currently in excess of 14 percent and Sandton continues to be one of the most rapidly developing towns in South Africa with a growth rate of 6 percent," he said.

In a somewhat acrimonious meeting, with some councillors accusing the council of lacking proper direction and of building power cliques that restrain dissent, the town's new R254 million budget was approved after a 2½-hour meeting.

In order to balance the budget, the council has limited the creation of new posts and deferred the filling of some vacant posts.

Introducing the budget, Councillor Bruce Stewart, chairman of the management committee, criticised the Government for keeping local budget increases

In addition to raising rate and interest charges, the budget calculates that water, electricity, sewerage, refuse removal and other taxable services will increase by a further 12 percent after the introduction of VAT in October.

Residents fume as geysers turned off

By John Miller Starline
19/6/91

As temperatures plummeted on Monday night and demand for electricity in the PWV region hit an all-time high, thousands of Kempton Park residents were fuming when they were left with no hot water after the council's ripple-control system switched off geysers

Mike Pheifer, one of the many residents who was affected by the shutdown, said he had to boil numerous pots of water on the stove and also use a kettle and microwave to obtain hot water after his geyser was switched off

"Surely this defeats the object of saving electricity by cutting off the geyser I feel that if I pay for electricity I should be entitled to receive it I have no choice in the matter and they certainly did not have my permission to install a ripple control in my geyser?"

The town's electrical engineer, Jan Malan, said the ripple-control system was installed about 12 years ago and controlled maximum demand during peak periods.

He said staff had been caught off guard with the sudden cold weather, and the cut-off point of 195 Mva was in fact too low

Yesterday it was set at 200 Mva and increased to 204 by the afternoon to meet the high demand

The system is controlled by computer, and at a predetermined point a signal is sent out and geysers shut down for a few hours

An Eskom spokesman said Monday night's record consumption of 22 140 MW was 166 MW higher than the June 1989 figure of 21 974 MW

Hostel dwellers ¹²⁷ warned of cuts

Sowetan 19/6/91
THE Mamelodi Council has warned local hostel dwellers of possible electricity cuts should they boycott rent, writes ALINAH DUBE.

The council made this warning reacting to the march on Saturday by hostel dwellers who were demanding a flat rate of R6,50 for their boarding.

Bulk electricity

Chairman of the Mamelodi Civic Association, Mr Lazarus Nzwayini, led marchers to the council offices.

"People should realise that if they do not pay the usual levy the council will not be able to pay for the bulk electricity supply and finally they may lead to power cuts

"Hostel dwellers insisting on paying the flat rate suggested by the civic association will have to brace themselves for the consequences of their move," the council spokesman said

Steep hike in Jo'burg rates likely

JOHANNESBURG ratepayers face steep property rates increases after the city's annual budget is tabled tomorrow, council sources said yesterday. *Bism 19/6/91*

The council was not expected to announce an increase in the assessment rate but a dramatic increase in property values following the most recent municipal valuation would see ratepayers paying more.

Residents will start paying rates on their new property values from the beginning of the council's new financial year on July 1.

Council could be expected to offset the rates hike with less severe increases in tariffs for electricity, water and other services, sources said. Electricity tariffs could be expect-

TANIA LEVY

ed to be kept below 8% and other service charges below the 14% inflation rate. *(127)*

The general valuation of property — which takes place every three years — resulted in an average 60% to 70% increase in the value of Johannesburg properties, city valuer Nic Botha said yesterday.

However, it could not be assumed that the percentage increase in rates would equal the percentage increase in property value. He said he assumed that the 55% rebate applicable to residential properties would continue in the coming year.

Other sources said that in most cases the increase in assessment rates would be high.

SOWETAN FOCUS PROPERTY

Building the Nation

Moving in new South Africa

Sowetan 20/6/91
 Special report by Rear Booysse, managing director of Rabie Property Developers's Transvaal region.



Townships many will stay due to socio-economic factors

A RUDE awakening awaits prospective homebuyers who think that, after the demise of the Group Areas Act, they can move to any of the historically white suburbs

The reason is in the main one of pure economics compounded by bureaucratic red tape

Johannesburg gives a good example of the situation which exists around the country

Let us look at a homeowner in one of the black areas. He may have bought a stand for say R30 000 or he may be contemplating investing at that price. Let us assume that he is a buyer of property at one of the newer developments around Soweto

That stand only comes into existence when the township or suburb is proclaimed and here we come up against the first discrepancy which will count against him

Proclaimed

Black townships are usually able to be proclaimed much faster than those in white areas. Furthermore, the authorities concerned have specifications which must be met in terms of type of house construction, infrastructure and services which may be lower than those in white areas

This is historically the case and the existence of these down graded specifications bears testimony to earlier efforts to keep costs as low as possible

In white areas the period taken for proclamation can be more than 18 months - thus a year and a half has to pass by between purchase of the land by a developer and the start of home construction

This period is much less in black areas

Costs however, remain the major factor. On the outskirts of Soweto land may be bought for approximately R30 000 a hectare by a developer. In Sandton this figure is closer to R1 million

In Soweto influenced by the differing specifications referred to earlier a stand of 300sq m without a house on it, in a prime area like Diepkloof Extension sells for R50 000

In Johannesburg's northern suburbs this figure will be R120 000 for the stand

A further factor is stand size, which varies from suburb to suburb. That house in Diepkloof is situated on a stand of 300sq m in size. You won't find stands smaller than about 500 square metres in the northern suburbs with the equivalent living area erected on them

And so the person who wishes to move from Soweto to Sandton has the dice loaded against him. The size of his Diepkloof house will in effect drop by approximately half should he move at the same house price and thus before he has taken into account the double-edged sword of increased stand size at increased costs a square metre

And so the person who wishes to move from Soweto to Sandton has the dice loaded against him. The size of his Diepkloof house will in effect drop by approximately half should he move at the same house price and thus before he has taken into account the double-edged sword of increased stand size at increased costs a square metre

A further problem is infrastructure. The proximity and types of schools, churches, shops, public transport and a host of other social necessities are a major factor influencing the decision on where to live

This is because home buyers seek convenience and are also having to be far more aware in today's climate of the cost of transport. In white areas, too, public transport is not as efficient or convenient as that to which black commuters are used

The outlook therefore is perhaps a little gloomy at first view. However, it is a fact that we are about to witness the beginnings of a significant shift by many groups from traditional areas to others

Economic

More correctly we are going to see suburbs changing their character as economic and demographic forces begin to dictate the address of individuals. Formerly this was legislated to a large degree

What will occur is a shift of people, starting with those blacks in the middle income groups from areas formerly designated black to those previously considered lower-income white

Certainly some of the more affluent residents of Soweto and other townships will make the transition to affluent suburbs in white areas

Their personal economic situation will allow for this with little trouble. But they are in the minority. For the members of the upper middle class who wish to move across the old boundaries this is going to take time given that it will not be their intention to lower their existing living standards

Put bluntly, the family which has over the years spent time, effort and money to buying, say, a three-bedroomed home is not easily going to trade for a two-bedroomed alternative

Right now there is far

better value for money on offer in the Dobsonville, North Gardens and Spruitview Gardens residential areas than in most white areas catering for equivalent incomes

We are talking here about moves from black areas to white suburbs. I believe that the beginnings of this process will take about two years to materialise

As far as reciprocal traffic is concerned - I don't see many if any, whites moving to Soweto or Alexandra for many years. This is even though some of the up market developments, such as Dobsonville, North Gardens and Spruitview, offer homes and properties of highly desirable standards

This, in the main, is because the social requirements of schooling, shopping, worship and so on will just not be met for many years to come

I see white families, certainly in the long term, remaining in suburbs which will retain their economic and social characteristics. Blacks will move into those same areas as and when their situations permit

This is an important issue, for it gives the lie to frequent expressed fears of white suburbanites who fear that their property values will drop as soon as a black family moves in next door. I cannot see this

Any white suburb into which blacks or anyone else, move will retain its stand values. In fact in certain areas, which are not difficult to identify, the reverse will be the case

Influence

Values will rise significantly as blacks move in. The affordability levels will continue to increase over the years although at a differing rate influenced by the perceived desirability of the various neighbourhoods

Normal economic influences will therefore prevail. While these will probably include personal prejudice for some time to come - if not for ever - this is, internationally, a fact of life and not peculiar to South Africa where we have experienced it for many years

What will happen is that the total amount of people looking to buy in one suburb - people whose identity is fixed by financial means now and not by race - is going to

* To Page 25


i-Perm Home Line, uma udinga ongancika kuyena.



Mayelana namaphupho namathemba awo wonke umuntu onesifiso sokuzithengela indlu noma ukwakha, singakhohlwa yilowo ofuna ukulondolozela kona belu ukwakha

Lalela uhlelo i-Perm Home Line ku-Radio Zulu njalo ngolwe-Sine wesibili phakathi kuka 8 no 9 kushlwa, lapha uzokuzwa u-Sjula Mnisi nezinye izingcwethi, bephendula yonke imibuzo ongaba nayo. Ukuthenga, ukwakha, ukuthola izimali, ama-diphozi nokuningi

Ngakho-ke lalela uhlelo i-Perm Home Line ngoLwesine ushayeke kulenombholo yocingo, (011) 714-8030 uma unombuzo. Thembela kubona, bona-ke bazokusiza ngezinkinga ezimayelana nokuzitholela indlu

 Perm Home and Savings
Uma udinga ongancika kuyena

P.T.O.

Tokoza electricity switched on again

THE 15-month rent and service charges boycott in Tokoza has ended and electricity to the Alberton township has been reconnected after a six-month blackout.

Transvaal Provincial Administration chief director Mr Jan van der Walt said the Alberton Town Council had agreed to the switch-on although an amount exceeding R1,9 million, for electricity supplied before the cut-off, had not been paid.

The town council required the Tokoza Council to pay an amount of not less than R12 000 a day to ensure the continued supply of electricity.

"As a gesture of goodwill, the TPA has paid the Alberton Town Council R120 000 to enable the electricity supply in

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onwefan 20/6/91
By GRACE RAPHOLO

Tokoza to be switched on."

He said for the months of June and July, households with electricity connections were to pay R71 a month and others R21 a month to the Tokoza Council.

Payments

From August onwards, residents would pay for metered electricity, water, sewage, refuse removal and other services according to set tariffs.

Van der Walt said it was essential that residents started paying the amounts which were negotiated on their behalf by the Tokoza Civic Committee.

"Unless sufficient payments are made to the

Tokoza Council, it will not be able to keep up its daily payments to the Alberton Council and that would lead once more to the disconnection of electricity supplies and further deterioration of other services."

The Tokoza boycott was called off following the signing of an agreement by the TPA, Tokoza's administrator, Mr Gert Muller, and the Tokoza Civic Committee.

The Tokoza Civic Committee comprises representatives of the African National Congress, Inkatha Freedom Party, Pan Africanist Congress, Tokoza Civic Association, Tokoza Chamber of Commerce, Tokoza Ministers Fellowship and Tokoza Ratepayers Association.

CAST 'not asked to join chamber'

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Star 20/6/91

By Mekeed Kotlolo
Pretoria Bureau

The Civic Associations of Southern Africa was not invited to take part in the Metropolitan Chamber, according to the Transvaal Provincial Administration

MEC for institutional development and negotiations Olaus van Zyl was reacting to CAST's reported decision not to take part in the chamber

Mr van Zyl said "As far as we are aware, CAST, as an organisation, was never asked to participate

He said some of the civic associations taking part in the chamber were members of CAST, but that was a matter between them and CAST

Mr van Zyl could not understand why CAST president Moses Mayekiso had said his organisation would not join the chamber because of the presence of town councillors

He said Mr Mayekiso had been "part of the negotiations and the agreement" reached in Alexandra. The talks had included the local council

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Rates beating for Jo'burg suburbs

RATEPAYERS in Johannesburg's north and north-western suburbs can expect their monthly rates and services bills to increase by between 20% and 30% from July 1.

Details of the different overall increases expected in various areas will be outlined during the city's annual budget meeting today.

They range from 30% to minus 0,7% depending on suburbs' updated property values.

This morning management committee chairman Ian Davidson will again announce a record budget — expected to top R2,5bn.

The council's main capital expenditure in the coming year is expected to include the Africana Museum, sewerage projects as agent of the Central Witwatersrand RSC, the Kelvin power station and another instalment for the Civic Theatre, which should be completed in November 1992.

TANIA LEVY

Davidson will explain how the management committee has restructured the budget, as promised last year, to reduce its reliance on profits from electricity tariffs and increase the emphasis on rates income.

Domestic ratepayers should welcome the resultant reduction in electricity bills which will be announced today.

In general, businesses have been loaded with higher tariffs because they are tax deductible.

This year the council expects to double the amount it collects in rates, while

the amount from electricity, gas, water, refuse removal and sewerage tariffs will increase less than 5% on aggregate.

Tariff increases have been kept low to offset the impact on assessment rates of the new valuation roll.

In some areas property values have been increased substantially and their rates bills will follow suit.

In general, the values of properties in the south, and the far south in particular, have shown modest increases. In other areas, such as the north and north-west, increases have been substantial, in some cases as much as 250%.

TODAY'S WEATHER

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SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

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Vaal power crisis deepens

THE rent and electricity crisis in the Transvaal deepened this week, with the civic associations and the Transvaal Provincial Administration unable to reach agreement.

A total of 54 Transvaal townships are in arrears with electricity accounts and more than 12 have had their electricity cut off. The TPA will not consider a moratorium on cut-offs during negotiations.

In a fresh move to break the deadlock, the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) has proposed an alternative approach to resolve the crisis facing the entire system of black local government. Both Cast and the TPA concede that

Over a dozen Transvaal townships have had their power cut off — and a further 54 face having the plug pulled on them

BY WALLY MBHELE

the townships are facing their worst crisis ever. The TPA has expressed fears that black local authorities will collapse if the boycotts continue.

It is estimated that arrears are running at an average of R12-million a month and are expected to escalate as the rent boycott continues. Cast insists, however, that no negotiations can take place while the "cut-

offs continue to hang over the heads of residents".

The civics say moratoriums on switch-offs should be declared while the two parties are engaged in working out an acceptable solution.

In a statement after meeting with Cast last week, MEC for institutional development and negotiation, Olaus van Zyl, dismissed Cast's demand and said the province did not have money to support moratoriums.

He said the TPA was assisting black local authorities with intergovernmental grants for backlogs in infrastructure, and "not to subsidise rent and services boycotts".

However the two groups have formed a joint working committee to discuss negotiations at local level.

Cast general secretary, Seta N... yesterday told *The Herald* the attitude of the TPA was beginning to change considerably.

Last week a meeting between the sides failed to reach agreement on a moratorium on electricity switch-offs.

At a press conference Cast accused the TPA of 'bad faith' and of jeopardising negotiations at local level.

Cast not invited says MEC

Soweto
21/6/91

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THE Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal was not asked to participate in the Metropolitan Chamber, the Transvaal Provincial Administration has announced.

Reacting to Cast's reported decision not to participate in the chamber, MEC for institutional development and negotiations Mr Olaus van Zyl said:

"As far as we are aware, Cast, as an organisation, was never asked to participate.

"Therefore, it is not really relevant whether Cast wants to participate or not."

Van Zyl said the chamber comprised representatives of local authorities, man-

agement committees, civic and resident organisations and the TPA.

Bodies such as the Regional Services Councils, Eskom and the Development Bank participated as observers.

Councillors

"Some of the civic associations participating may however, be members of Cast and their participation is therefore a matter between them and Cast," he said.

Van Zyl said he found it strange that Cast's president, Mr Moses Mayekiso, said his organisation had declined to join the chamber because of the presence of town councillors on the body, while he was a member of the Alexandra Joint Negotiation Forum, in which councillors participated. - Sapa.



Power costs cut, rates up in Jo'burg

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg householders will pay 10 percent less for electricity from July 1, but property owners in affluent areas face up to 30 percent increases in their rates bill.

This was revealed in the record R2,6 billion city budget tabled yesterday.

It was described as a "VAT-efficient budget" by management committee chairman Ian Davidson.

Service tariffs were kept low to even out the high increases in rates in some areas when the new property valuation roll comes into effect on July 1.

Introduction of the new roll means the effect on ratepayers' household accounts varies from minus 0,7 percent to 30 percent

Profits

In the restructured budget, more emphasis has been placed on financing the operating budget with funds from rates rather than from service tariffs

In the new financial year, the city council will receive 90 percent more money from domestic rates than at present

A 10 percent decrease in electricity for domestic users was announced, and a low 5 percent increase in electricity for commercial and industrial users

This means electricity profits to the council will be cut by R100 million

Other proposed changes

- Domestic refuse removal — up 15 percent.
- Non-domestic refuse removal — up 30 percent
- Domestic gas use — no change
- Commercial gas use — up 5 percent

- Sewerage service — up 25 percent.
- Domestic water use — up 4 percent
- Commercial water use — up 15 percent.

Ratepayers have been warned to budget for 12 percent VAT to be added to their service tariffs from September 30

The R548 million capital budget is up 41 percent on last year and the operating budget of R2,1 billion up 22 percent. The total Johannesburg municipal budget is larger than that of Namibia as well as the Natal and OFS provincial budgets

The management committee is confident the council can make savings in the next financial year. A deficit of R10,5 million has been allowed for.

"In previous years the council has budgeted for a small surplus. I would rather have the surplus in the hands of the ratepayer than the council," Mr Davidson said

Johannesburg had a major role to play in the new Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber by rendering assistance to black councils

"However, we have made it abundantly clear that we do not see the obligation of maintaining services to, or rehabilitating the municipal areas falling under the control of, the black councils as being solely the responsibility of Johannesburg"

"The State has a clear role to play, as do all local authorities and communities in our metropolitan region," he said.

"A common fiscal base must be established, but it must be understood that all the bodies within the metropolitan area should share in the common wealth, and that must include those established local authorities which are mainly responsible for generating such wealth"

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Star
2/16/91

ANC versus th

IS THE ANC rethinking its earlier strategies to form civic organisations in all areas and communities around the country?

Or, put another way, in the ANC magazine's own words, are these organisations becoming a power base to oppose the ANC?

The article in *Mayibuye* is at the centre of a raging debate about the role of civics and how independent they are or should be from the ANC

The June issue of the magazine carries two separate articles, both reacting to an earlier story run in April about the civics

The magazine asserts that there are people who saw the birth of the National Interim Civic Committee as a power base to oppose the ANC.

NICC co-ordinator, Mr Zohra Ibrahim, argues in the article that civics are independent and they would make their demands about affordable housing, land and services regardless of what government is in power

Leaders

"This is what is meant by the independence of the civics," he said

The civics represented communities and had involved people regardless of political affiliation.

"Civics don't say after winning a victory 'Exclude house 2 or shack 7 because ANC, PAC or Azapo members live there'," Ibrahim said

The relationship issue between the NICC and the ANC is relevant. All the leaders of this new organisations belong to the ANC

It is also relevant in the light of what happened to ANC Northern Transvaal regional executive member Mr Lawrence Phokanoka last week when the Northern Transvaal Civics Association told him point blank that they were independent and therefore not bound by ANC agreements with Lebowa chief minister Mr Nelson Ramodike

Residents' groups determined to be independent

Sowetan
2/6/91

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By MATHATHA TSEDU

Phokanoka, who is head of the regional political education desk, was part of a delegation last Thursday that met Ramodike to discuss a planned stayaway by the NTCA

Insiders said Ramodike was infuriated by the idea of a stayaway to protest against the opening of his legislative assembly, especially as other bantustans such as Gazankulu, Kangwane and KwaNdebele had not been subjected to marches or stayaways

The insiders said Ramodike, who was billed as one of the major speakers at last weekend's rally at the FNB stadium, told Phokanoka and regional chairman Mr Joel Netshitenzhe that if the ANC did not stop the NTCA's stayaway, he would pull out of the FNB rally along with the busloads of people he had organised

The ANC agreed to prevail on the NTCA to abandon the stayaway. Netshitenzhe accepted that this was the position when he addressed a news conference with Ramodike on Thursday afternoon

Stayaway

It had been agreed, he said, that "nothing should be placed above the objective of uniting our people"

The NTCA comprises various civic organisations which are all led by ANC members

The NTCA leadership itself, from President Kamela Sekonya to secretary Ms Cebile Khanye, are ANC members

But when Phokanoka addressed a meeting with the task force of the NTCA, Azapo and the PAC that evening, it was ANC members who told him plainly thanks, but no thanks

Khanye and Sekonya told *Sowetan* after the meeting that as the NTCA they were not bound by ANC agreements with Ramodike.

"In the same way that we would not be bound by agreements between Azapo and anyone, we have refused to cancel our stayaway and it is going ahead as planned

"The fact that we are ANC members is immaterial as we are at this juncture operating as the civic and in that capacity, we are non-aligned and non-sectarian

"We represent the views of our community and we are bound by their decision to call a stayaway," they said

And indeed, as they said, Lebowakgomo was affected by a stayaway on Friday, with shops closed for half the day as ordered, and taxis not running

Considering that the leaders of the civics are ANC members and that the formation of civics was an ANC campaign, what is happening?

Natal Midlands leaders Mr Blade Mzwandile and Mr Mpume Sikhosana effectively argue in their joint article in *Mayibuye* that civics are upstaging ANC branches and are unnecessary now that the organisation can wage its battles legally.

Conflicts

The two say there are "widespread conflicts between civics and ANC branches in many regions also, many of the civics are becoming alternative power centres to the na-

lated by ANC members

Many ANC members, frustrated by the organisation's blowing hot and cold over many issues such as sanctions, bantustan collaborators, the acceptance of Captain Dirk Coetzee into the organisation and the sports and cultural boycott, are turning to civics as a power bloc to uphold "the true principles of the ANC", one ANC insider said

Angry

The link with Gazankulu chief minister Hudson Ntsanwisi when he has closed down a college controlled by an ANC-aligned SRC, and with Ramodike who is still experiencing problems with

NELSON R
tional liberation movement"

Rejecting the NICC basis that civics take up day-to-day issues such as rent, housing and water while the ANC takes up political issues, Mzwandile and Sikhosana say "The danger of the argument that civics should take up issues of rent, electricity, roads and the ANC branch (undefined) political issues, is that it falls squarely within the strategy to separate the ANC from its mass base.

"What political issues does an ANC branch take up other than the very political questions of rent, electricity, township administration?"

grassroots structures, have left many ANC activists disillusioned and angry, the source said

"If the July conference in Durban can produce a leadership that would be seen to be towing the same line as now, structures such as the NICC are going to openly canvass against the ANC, pushing for a more militant line that saw the UDF grow from a ragtag army of activists to the giant that it was until the state of emergency put many of its leaders behind bars," said the source

Callers support 'watch' groups

Sowetan
24/6/91

127

CALLERS to the Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show on Friday urged township residents to form either street committees or neighbourhood watch groups to fight gangsterism and crime in their areas

By NKOPANE
MAKOBANE

Mr Moropa from Diepkloof said one way to stamp out crime and gangsterism was through the formation of street committees. He said without a protective structure everybody was afraid because there was no one to report to.

"I believe that if we come together we can fight these gangs."

Faith from Vosloorus also said the solution to fight gangs lay in street committees.

She said she did not have much confidence in the police because of a personal experience



One caller, Charmaine, said residents should establish neighbourhood watch groups similar to those operating in white suburbs for protection.

According to her, police cannot do more than they are already doing.

Royal from Zondi said although it was the duty of the police to get rid of gangs, he believed the community must also help.

He said the courts should be harsh so that criminals would know what to expect when they broke laws.

"I am living in fear and I do not know what to do because gangsters terrorise us. Civic associations must try to do something to deal with gangs," he said.

Vusi said he believed that the escalating violence was caused by the high unemployment rate.

"Crime is on the increase because of disruption in education. If schooling problems can be corrected, then things will get back to normal and crime will decrease."

Crash

d by yesterday.
o an end-of-line wall at the

assengers died.
y not reveal their identities.
ave been discharged and the
condition at Hillbrow Hospi-

train, who could also not be
d from hospital yesterday

Mounted... festival



New tariffs divide community groups

Sowetan 24/6/91 127

THE Atteridgeville and Saulsville Interim Committee yesterday distanced itself from the new rent tariffs recently announced by the Pretoria City Council.

It had signed an agreement with the local administrator for a monthly flat rate of R90 a house, a committee spokesman said.

Shortly after the agreement was signed the administrator announced the new tariffs ranging between R75 and R180.

The interim committee

distanced itself from these new tariffs and warned Asro to stop its campaign of misinforming residents that the committee was party to the new tariffs.

Speaking at a meeting at the community hall to clarify the position, Mr Nkosi Molala said his committee viewed with contempt "the dangerous campaign of vilification, distortions and disinformation" by Asro against them.

Molala said the committee was formed last month after the administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, suspended talks with Asro

during the electricity cuts.

Several community-based organisations were invited to participate with a group of residents who wanted to negotiate the reconnection of electricity.

Although Asro and the ANC were invited they failed to attend without giving reasons, Molala said.

The interim committee met the administrator and senior officials of the Pretoria City Council and the TPA and signed the agreement to pay the flat rate of R90 a month.

The meeting, which

was well attended, was nearly disrupted by a group of youths outside the hall who heckled and voiced their dissatisfaction with the R90 flat rate.

Deputy president of the PAC, Mr Dikgang Moseneke, appealed to residents not to be threatened by any organisation and urged them to depoliticise civic organisations.

Asro general secretary, Mr Simon Tshidi, was asked to leave the stage after addressing the meeting for a lengthy period amid chants of dissatisfaction from the

audience.

A few people threatened to take the microphone from him but an incident was prevented by the intervention of Dr Lerole Mabe, a senior member of PAC.

Molala said after the incident that it was clear certain people and organisations wanted to disrupt the meeting "to score political goals".

At the end of the meeting residents resolved to discuss the R90 flat rate with their respective organisations.

Another meeting is scheduled for next month.

Pirating of essential services rife - claim

THE Atteridgeville City Council has launched an intensive investigation into claims that scores of residents occupying private houses are not paying for essential services because they are not properly registered.

An investigation by *Sowetan* has revealed that a large number of residents living in private houses do not receive accounts for essential services because the council does not know of their existence.

Most of these residents are not registered at the local council offices where each resident is supposed to have a file detailing all personal particulars, including the date of entry, address and names of family members.

This negligence, which costs the council thousands of rands a month, could be as a

By **MONK NKOMO**

result of certain contractors who have not notified the council of names and addresses of people who had bought their houses, investigations revealed

A woman who stays at Extension 11 and did not want her name revealed for fear of reprisals, said she bought the house through the bank from a contractor without bothering to report her presence at the town council office

She said: "I stayed for about eight months without paying for essential services. I did not receive any accounts from the council. My file was only opened when I enrolled my child at school. The principal insisted that I present a letter from the council to prove that I was a resident."

Mr Daan Mouton, At-

teridgeville's acting town clerk, said the council has launched an extensive investigation into claims that most of the residents occupying private houses are not paying for essential services. (127)

"We cannot deny or confirm these claims. We have heard about them. We are obviously concerned. We are going to check on these houses and get things straightened out," Mouton said.

Another resident, who also insisted on anonymity, told *Sowetan* he had been staying in his house for four years without paying for services rendered by the council.

"I have never received accounts from the council in the four years I have been staying in this house. I bought the house through the bank, got my key and took my family in."

"I think the negligence lies with the contractors because they should inform the council of our existence. I have not yet gone to the office to register. But I hope to do that soon."

Mouton declined to comment on the claims that certain contractors were to blame.

Power cuts threat to Soweto traders

Sowetan 25/6/91 (127)

BUSINESSES who owe about R10 million to the Soweto Council have until today to settle their service charges accounts or face having their water and electricity supplies cut off.

The council's public relations officer, Mr Mojalefa Moseki, said yesterday the council had decided to take strong action against defaulters following a warning a fortnight ago.

He said business owners who had not paid for services since last year or more would be treated as

By GRACE RAPHOLO

"worst cases" and would be the first to have their power cut.

Moseki said the council would institute legal action against those who failed to pay.

Legal action might lead to the attachment and auctioning of the property by the Messenger of the Court in order to recover money owed to the council.

Action would also be taken against traders who tried to reconnect their electrical supplies after

the cut-off.

He said the switch-off operation would continue until every business in Soweto had paid up.

Residents who have not paid their electricity bills since the signing of the Soweto Accord last September have also been warned of power cuts.

Switch-offs for residents will be implemented later.

Moseki confirmed that the council had already switched off electricity to some households in Protea South.

Call for boycott amid confusion over tariffs

Sowetan 25/6/91

THE rent crisis in Atteridgeville took another turn yesterday when the executive committee of the local civic association called on residents to stop paying rent until the issue was clarified.

The general secretary of the Atteridgeville and Saulville Residents Organisation, Mr Simon Tshidi, said the decision was taken at a special meeting on Sunday.

Tshidi said their constituencies would be urged this week to stop paying rent because of confusion created by the local administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, who had agreed to three sets of different tariffs to be paid by householders.

Confused

He added that Asro had signed an agreement with Jacobson early this year in which he agreed to an interim monthly flat rate of R50 a house.

A spokesman for the interim committee, which was formed during the electricity cuts in the township last month, announced on Sunday that they had signed an agreement with the administrator to pay a flat rate of R90 a household.

Shortly after this agreement the Pretoria City Council announced

By MONK NKOMO

its tariffs ranging between R75 and R190 a house, depending on the type of circuit-breaker.

"The administrator must clarify the position on how much residents are expected to pay for essential services.

"Our people are now confused. They do not know which of the tariffs are to be paid," Tshidi said.

The Pretoria City Council has threatened to cut electricity supplies from July 16 if residents did not pay their (Pretoria Council's) set of tariffs

127

Power cuts 'cause increase in illness' 127

By Mckeed Kotlold
Pretoria Bureau

Illness and domestic accidents had increased in township homes where electricity blackouts were in force, a PAC media officer claimed in Pretoria yesterday.

Fortesque Mtinkulu said many Atteridgeville-Saulsville township residents, particularly children, had fell ill as a result of the strong paraffin or gas fumes they had inhaled.

He said people were turning to gas stoves, paraffin, generators, candles and coal.

"We know of cases where people were either burnt as they operated the apparatus or had their hair or belongings burnt by either candles or paraffin stoves"

Yesterday, the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Interim Committee agreed that residents would pay a provisional flat rate of R90 for services because residents were actually spending

more on electricity alternatives during blackouts.

Some businesses had preferred to close during the blackouts "to avoid unnecessary expense".

Mr Mtinkulu also complained about the high rate of theft from vehicles as well as house burglaries under the cover of darkness.

"At the end of the day, we have enriched white businesses more than we had to because we purchase almost all the apparatus from town."

In response to the complaints, Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation secretary-general Simon Tshidi said sick people would go to the doctors"

Local police station commander Lieutenant-Colonel P Matjeke confirmed an increase in burglaries during the period May 13 to June 6 when electricity was cut. In May, 16 cars were stolen, 26 were broken into and 25 homes burgled in the township

Tembisa Council may be dissolved

127
Scrap four
26/6/91

THE Tembisa Council may be dissolved if a recommendation by the Transvaal Provincial Administration for its dissolution is approved by the Administrator.

A TPA spokesman said a report on alleged maladministration by the council was being compiled and would be forwarded to the Administrator on July 15.

The TPA has in the past been unhappy with council resolutions which have led to litigation. It has also complained about councillors allegedly ignoring regulations when using public funds.

If the administrator approves the dissolution the council may challenge the matter in court. Meanwhile, another

appeal has been made to Tokoza residents to pay their rent or face further electricity cuts.

To date only 28 per cent of residents had paid the new flat rates of R200 (for business people) and R75 a month (for those living in bond houses), Tokoza administrator Mr Gert Muller said yesterday.

He hoped the appeal to residents last week by the Tokoza Civic Association to pay the new rates would be heeded, failing which electricity would be cut.

Residents have until Sunday to pay the new tariffs. - Sowetan Correspondent.

Inkatha 'big mistake'

THE Inkatha Freedom Party said on Monday it had a white membership of 100 000, but at least two people were given memberships without ever asking to join.

Sowetan correspondents are in possession of two IFP letters sent to people to thank them for joining, although they had never applied.

Asked to comment, IFP spokesman Ms Suzanne Vos joked: "Well, I'm amazed at the efficiency." She then said: "I have no idea how such a thing could have happened."

Transvaal executive member Mr Themba Khoza said: "I am very, very sorry. I think it must be a big mistake." - Political Staff.



The queens and the king groaner: Mildred Nongxola, Nobesuthu Shawe, Simon "Mahlathini" Nkabinde and Hilda Toubatia arriving at Jan Smuts Airport yesterday.

Mahlathini stops by

BY VICTOR METSOAMERE

EVERGREEN *mbaqanga* music group Mahlathini & Mahotella Queens and backing band Makhona Tsohle made a whistle-stop visit to their home country.

Arriving yesterday, they were scheduled to leave this morning for London, where they will perform before going to Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, France and Switzerland.

Soweto switchers off power to defaulters

THE Soweto Council yesterday switched off electricity to supplies to businesses and residents defaulting on their accounts.

Businesspeople owe the council more than R10 million in service charges that have accrued over a period of more than a year.

Council spokesman Mr Mojalefa Moseki said the council had decided to take strong action against defaulters after warning them about taking action two weeks ago.

Moseki said Protea South residents were the first victims of the switch-off because meters in that area were tampered with to hide the true readings and so that most meters were counting backwards.

"Other residents who are behind with their payments will be given a period of grace until July 7 to enable them to meet their debts."

"The council decided to give residents a breather period since most were now trying to erase their arrears."

BY DON SEOKANE and GRACE RAPHOLO

said Moseki. He added that traders who had not paid for services since last year would be treated as "worst cases" and would be the first ones to have their power cut.

Moseki emphasised that the council would institute legal action against those who failed to pay.

The action might lead to the attachment and auctioning of property by the Messenger of the Court in order to recover money owed to the Council.

Legal action would also be taken against traders who tried to reconnect their electrical supply after the cut-off.

He said the switch-off operation would continue until every business in Soweto had paid up.

A warning has also been issued to residents who have not paid their electricity bills since the signing of the Soweto Accord in September last year.

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Talks over hostel rent ¹²⁷

THE Mamelodi Civic Association will meet Transvaal Provincial Administration officials today to discuss rent-related issues and the demand for a R6,50 flat rate for hostel dwellers in the township

A spokesman for the MCA said hostel residents would stop paying the usual monthly levy until a settlement had been reached with the TPA. - Sowetan Reporter

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IS THINK OF TOMORROW

16/9/91
26/6/91



Power cuts are 'unfair'

Sowetan 26/6/91

127

THE Soweto Council was being unfair in its strategy to cut off electricity to defaulters, callers to Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show said yesterday.

SOWETAN RADIO METRO



TALKBACK

Callers told Radio Metro DJ Tim Modise that the council should first investigate the circumstances of the people because many residents were unemployed and others were pensioners. 26/6/91

Tokoza lights had been switched off for seven months and it was "terrible".

"I regard it as inhuman and brutal," said Steve from Tsakane.

Siphiwe from Johannesburg said the Government should consider subsidising electricity for the unemployed.

However, one caller, Poppy, said she felt the cut-offs were right provided residents were given sufficient notice.

Themba, also from Johannesburg, felt that electricity, if supplied, should be paid for.

Washington from Tokoza on the East Rand said the council should charge reasonable rates and bear in mind that black people did not earn enough and could hardly clothe their children.

However, he said the system of selective cuts could lead to intimidation of those who have been paying their bills.

He said that in

The same anxieties were also expressed by Grace from Soweto, who also felt that the Government should consider subsidies to the poor.

No power for Soweto cops

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Police stations in Soweto could have their electricity cut off at any moment — because their bills have not been paid.

Mayor Mr Oscar Maseko said yesterday that the city council had ordered officials to cut water and electricity to bulk users in the area who had not honoured undertakings to pay for services.

These included police stations, post offices and other government offices, as well as hundreds of businesses, he said.

Last night the lights were still on at police stations.

Council PRO Mr Mojalefa Moseki said businessmen, government departments and other bulk consumers collectively owed more than R12m.

An SAP spokesman said the Public Works Department was responsible for police station services.

● Vaal triangle civic leaders met officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration last night and agreed to resume talks to resolve a seven-year-old rent boycott in the area.

Mr Paul Sithole, a publicity spokesman for the Vaal Civic Association, told Sapa the two sides had agreed to resume discussions on July 2.

TPA spokesmen could not immediately be reached for comment.

Council warns of power cuts

127

Star 26/6/91

By Abel Mabelane
and Stan Hlophe

Businesses, which owe more than R12 million in electricity payment arrears, have a week to pay up or have their power cut off, the Soweto City Council announced last night.

A spokesman said Government premises such as post offices and police stations would not be exempt from action.

Electricity was cut to two houses in Protea yesterday after it was discovered that the meters had been interfered with.

This follows a warning by the council that businesses had until yesterday to settle their accounts.

Business owners who

had not paid for services since last year or more would be treated as "worst cases" and be the first to have their power cut, it warned.

Business owners have also been threatened with legal action, which could lead to the attachment and auctioning of their property by the Messenger of the Court in order to recover money owed to the council.

Action would also be taken against traders and household heads who tried to reconnect their electrical supplies after it had been cut off.

The switch-off operation would continue until every business in Soweto had paid up, the council said.

● Tembisa Council has collected R561 094 for

rent since power was switched on in the township, mayor Solomon More said yesterday.

He said that although the council had collected half a million rands, it had spent more money to have power restored.

He told a council meeting yesterday that the interim flat-rate payment did not apply to business people.

Mr More also said the interim flat-rate payment did not mean that the residents were excused from the money they owed the council.

He said some business people had complained that their meters were not being properly read.

The council had received reports that some businesses were threatening meter readers, he added.



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Actstop: a change in policy

By Shirley Woodgate

Stew 26/6/91

(127)
24

Actstop is undergoing a major policy change to move into line with the recent scrapping of apartheid laws.

Focussed since 1976 on evictions under the Group Areas Act in the inner city residential areas of Johannesburg, the logical new direction was "a shift from purely protest politics to the politics of development", said spokesman Mohammed Dangor.

"There is a need for flat dwellers to set up building co-operatives where people living in specific blocks will combine to buy the property after forming a non-profit Section 21 company.

"Former tenants become shareholders in the company, selling their holdings back to the co-operative when they

leave the property."

Mr Dangor said approaches for financial backing for the scheme would be sought by way of guarantees from either the multi-billion rand Industrial Development Trust (IDT) or foreign sponsors.

Actstop called on the Johannesburg City Council to reduce rates for inner city buildings providing accommodation. It warned that unless this was granted, many of the residential blocks would be converted by landlords into more profitable commercial space.

Unless authorities viewed the housing situation in the inner city areas with more compassion, Greater Hillbrow would inevitably deteriorate into a second Harlem or Bronx as landlords would be reluctant to upgrade their properties, Mr Dangor said.



Vaal leaders and TPA in rent talks ¹²⁷

VAAL Triangle civic leaders met officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration on Tuesday night and agreed to resume talks to resolve a seven-year rent boycott

Mr Paul Sithole, a spokesman for the Vaal Civic Association, said the meeting lasted for two-and-a-half hours. The parties agreed to resume discussions on July 2

He said the talks on

Tuesday did not touch on power cuts.

Four townships are still without electricity, which was cut by the authorities on June 3 to punish residents who were in arrears on rent payments.

"The priority today was to ensure negotiations are resumed," the civic leader said.

TPA spokesmen could not immediately be reached for comment.

- Sapa

16/9/72
Sowetan

Rabie leads homes market

By JOSHUA
RABOROKO

RABIE Property De-
velopers continue
with their success
story in the Trans-
vaal, with their black
housing still selling
extremely well despite
unfavourable social
and economic condi-
tions.

Three of their new
townships have displayed
the "sold out" signs.

The entire stock of
250 units in Tokoza, 209
in Vosloorus and a further
180 in Katsheong have
been sold in the past two
years

The company has also
recorded high sales fig-
ures in Protea Glen - a
new development west of
Soweto, where 330 homes
have already been sold

Of the 285 stands the
company developed in
Spruitview, 200 have
been sold

About 440 people
have bought homes in the
company's Dobsonville
North Gardens project.

Rabie's national sales
director, Mr David Harris,
attributes the high sales
figures to several factors.

Not the least of these
is the fact that Rabie de-
velopments were situated
on the outskirts of the
townships.

That location was
highly desired by buyers
who saw the associated
enhanced security as
being of prime impor-
tance.

Harris also said the
company's policy of al-
lowing multiple-choice of
design and finish, coupled
with efficient and profes-
sional advice concerning
financial options and im-
plications had also paid
off handsomely.

"The fact that we of-
fer guarantees on both
maintenance (three
months) and construction
(five years) is also a big
plus factor," he said.

The perceived stability
and the depth of resources
of the company were
some of the contributory
factors.

"We have as many as
five project managers
permanently on site," he
said, "and buyers know
that they can refer any
query to them where it
will be answered or fol-
lowed up without delay.

"We are seen as the
market leaders in the pro-
vision of a high level of
professional advice and
trained customer rela-
tions."

"Consistent mainten-
ance of quality and stan-
dards is non-negotiable,"
Harris said. "Rabie has
always created this life-
style which extends far
beyond the house and into
the suburb itself. That is
the reason why our homes
are landscaped and have
trees planted when our
buyers move in."

Switch-offs continue in Soweto 127

By Abel Mushi Star 27/6/91

The Soweto City Council said yesterday it was continuing with its punitive electricity switch-offs on defaulting businesses

Council spokesman Mojalefa Moseki said the extended "grace period" of seven days, which started on Tuesday, applied only to residents and not businesses

He said only residents who had tampered with their meters had their electricity cut

The grace period follows an accord reached between the council and the community's representatives

About 1 000 private and Gov-

ernment-controlled businesses owe the council more than R12 million — some as much as R100 000

Mr Moseki said about half the township's 110 bulk consumers had their power supplies cut

One of those was a telephone exchange, he said

According to Mr Moseki, the general response of the public had been positive

And while some businessmen responded immediately by settling their accounts in full, some had paid part of their debts and undertaken to settle the balance

Only those who did not co-operate had their electricity supplies cut, he said

Power cuts also hit the innocent

By MONK NKOMO (127)

ILLEGAL reconnection of electricity in Ateridgeville, Pretoria, during the township blackout imposed because of the rent boycott, has now resulted in daily power failures in certain areas. *Sowetan 28/6/91*

"Several electricity power lines have been overloaded since the illegal reconnection by residents early this year. This results in power failures in certain parts of the township everyday," Mr Daan Mouton, acting town clerk, said yesterday

Certain areas of the township, including those bordered by Segola, Tantsi, Sehloho, Komane, Makgatho and Mafole streets, have been plagued by electricity cuts after the official reconnection by the Pretoria City Council on June 6

The blackouts normally occur from 6.30pm.

Residents interviewed said the electricity only came on after 10pm when most people were asleep and the overloading minimised

"We cannot watch or listen to the news on TV despite the fact that we do pay rent and TV licences," residents complained.

Mouton said the council was doing its utmost to repair the damaged electricity lines and power stations.

"Our aim is to offer a good service. Affected residents should please bear with us while we try to remedy the situation," said Mouton.

The council has presently engaged the services of a construction company to upgrade the electricity network in the township.

After the council cut the electricity supply early this year following the rent boycott that lasted eight months, residents, mostly youths, took to the streets and illegally reconnected the power in a campaign known as "operation switch-on".

One solution, McRae feels, would be for developers to research demand patterns and market sentiment more carefully. He suggests they work in close co-operation with marketing and selling organisations prior to committing themselves to new schemes

As regards the rest of the market, McRae concedes that there are several problem areas. Nevertheless, he believes the fundamentals are in place for a market "upsurge" this year or perhaps next. The abolition of the Group Areas Act, he notes, has already had an impact on prices and demand patterns in specific areas.

"As far as the more direct impact is concerned, if one assumes that as little as 1% of the black population can afford homes of R150 000 or more, we are still looking at an influx of 25 000 additional prospects to the pool of buyers."

On the downside, he doubts interest rates would fall significantly in the short term, unless there was a major breakthrough in the fight against inflation. However, he considers an easing in bond rates essential to keeping the window of affordability open to encourage sales.

"Government," he urged at the convention, "must develop a national strategy which will encourage home ownership — not merely by means of low cost housing, but in terms of an overall blueprint for all levels of housing. Such an approach must be adopted in order to avoid a housing poverty scenario."

On the question of the impact of VAT, he notes that though the new tax was still being debated, most observers accept that it would push up the cost to private owners of new dwellings.

"There could well be a strong 'beat VAT' rush on new houses in the short-term leading up to the introduction of the tax. Prices will increase and resale prices will rise in sympathy."

While McRae expressed optimism about

the short-term future of residential property, one wonders whether his bullishness isn't misplaced. It could well be that prices and demand will improve in line with a general economic upturn, but he said little to support his assertion that the fundamentals were in place for an upswing, or even a boom. ■

HI-TECH

PUSH-BUTTON AGENTS

It's going to take more than a gift for smooth sales talk for an estate agent to move property in future. If his agency isn't computerised, he'll more than likely lose the deal to one that is.

Few agencies are computerised at present, but dependency on the new technologies available is growing and most firms are expected to computerise within the next 10 years.

In a booklet entitled *Top Real Estate Firms of 1991*, property consultant Stefan Swanepoel and publisher of *A New Era in Real Estate*, notes that less than 10% of estate agents are currently computerised. However, he says this figure should rise to 75% by the year 2000.

A primary reason is that many firms feel they are too small to justify the heavy capital investment required. In contrast, the top 50 firms by size are already well on their way towards being fully computerised.

Swanepoel's latest survey reveals that they all use fax machines, 90% use personal computers and 76% use word processors. Other equipment frequently found in hi-tech estate agencies include pagers, Minitel (the Post Office's videotex service), printing equipment (including desktop publishing facilities), photographic and studio equipment and electronic measuring equipment.

But what are the benefits of this hi-tech

RESIDENTIAL

TOO CLUSTERED

While Dunkeld's planned walls may have been breached, there seems little doubt that Sandton and Randburg are rapidly showing a preference for walled-in living.

An estimated R800m is in the process of being spent on between 75 and 80 new cluster housing developments in Sandton and Randburg. Included in this are around 80 housing units with price tags in excess of R1m.

The figures come from Camdon's Scott McRae who questions whether it makes business sense to develop such upmarket properties — particularly in such large quantities — when the market for them is limited.

Addressing the Sapoia convention on the state of the residential property market, he conceded that cluster housing units were among the most popular forms of housing because of modern lifestyles and the security they offered.

"Nevertheless, we have a serious glut of upmarket cluster housing in the Sandton and Randburg areas. I would like to know where we're going to find buyers for these developments."

In contrast, he noted that there was a dearth of new cluster housing units in Durban. "Quite obviously developers are not doing their homework. The situation calls for a drastic re-evaluation of strategies, firstly to move the existing stock as quickly as possible, and secondly to avoid a similar glut occurring in future."

CONTINUED

Different tariffs cause confusion

Sowetan
28/6/91

127

THE Atteridgeville and Pretoria municipalities should perhaps first put their houses in order before embarking on punitive measures such as electricity cuts in the township.

So far the local Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson has agreed, in writing, to three sets of tariffs in Atteridgeville this year

This has caused confusion among residents and senior officials of the Atteridgeville Council because they do not know how much to charge householders

Jacobson agreed to a monthly interim flat rate of R50 with the local civic organisation, Asro. He warned, however, that this amount was too little to run the township

Problems

During the electricity cuts last month, the administrator signed an agreement with the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Interim Committee for a monthly flat rate of R90. Shortly thereafter the Pretoria City Council announced their own tariffs ranging between R75 and R180, depending on the consumption of electricity and water

Rent problems in Atteridgeville, which could have its electricity supplies cut again soon, seem to be getting worse

Asro this week called on residents to stop paying rent and also rejected plans to install pre-paid electricity meters in the township - a move which was seen by authorities and certain community-based organisations as the best solution to the rent crisis

A number of residents this week complained that Asro called on householders to stop paying without getting a mandate from them.

"They instructed us to stop before we were given a chance to discuss the matter," residents said.

Asro's general secretary, Mr

FOCUS

By MONK



NKOMO

Simon "Chippa" Tshidi, told the *Sowetan* in an interview that the installation of these meters would divide the community.

"This move will weaken our campaign to fight together. We reject these plans out of hand. The time is not yet ripe for the installation of (pre-paid) meters in our township," he said.

Amid confusion over how much should be paid for essential services, Tshidi said Asro still stuck to the R50 interim flat rate agreed to by the local administrator earlier this year

Asked if Asro had an alternative offer which could help run the township without any power cuts, Tshidi said the civic organisation was "prepared to shift from the R50 flat rate but only if the authorities implement development projects in the township"

He added "The Atteridgeville Council must first upgrade

the township and tar and clean the streets, improve water reticulation and the refuse removal service and then we can influence residents to pay increased tariffs"

Several organisations and individuals have recently voiced their concern over the running of the civic organisation, questioning its leadership and arguing that most of the officials serving on the executive were not permit holders and as such could not resolve problems of householders

Meetings

Others accused Asro of being closely linked with the African National Congress and of popularising it at its meetings

"We accept the fact that we are leaning too much to the ANC. But you must understand that civic organisations are not apolitical. The problems they tackle daily are a direct result of the unjust laws of this country," said Tshidi. He added "It is not a mistake to lean towards the ANC. Our link is historical"

Tshidi said the criterion of leadership in Asro was not based on whether a person was a permit holder or not. "Leaders should be responsible adults. But I concede that final decisions should be taken by permit holders after everybody has participated in discussions"

Committee

Asked if his executive committee was prepared to meet the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Interim Committee to resolve the problem of electricity cuts, Tshidi said they would not

"These people are local residents who should express their views at their respective area meetings of Asro. In fact we believe that they can help us resolve a number of problems facing us daily

"They should also tell us of any problems they encounter in-

side the organisation. In fact they also have a right to influence residents at meetings to either be political or to align themselves with political organisations of their choice"

"They can also bring along flags of their political parties at our public meetings"

Tshidi conceded that a good number of residents were in favour of paying up to R100 a month for services and were in fact "sick and tired" of electricity cuts

"Residents must understand that Asro cannot negotiate for affordable tariffs from a weak position of being threatened with power cuts each time the authorities want us to pay high rent

Residents

"That is why we do not know how much should be paid for services because of the introduction of different sets of tariffs every day," said Tshidi

A number of residents have urged Asro officials to resume positive negotiations with the administrator and to guide or recommend a reasonable tariff to be paid

"We cannot be talking about rent problems throughout the year. A long-term solution must be found as soon as possible. We have a lot of things to attend to," Mrs Angelina Mntsi, a resident said

The Atteridgeville Council should now commit itself to upgrading the township by, among other things, cleaning and tarring the streets and attending to the constant power failures in some areas

Residents on the other hand, must also prepare themselves to pay reasonable amounts for services rendered

Maybe then we will stop talking about electricity cuts in this township

SOWETAN RADIO METRO

TALKBACK

Council, residents blamed

THE Soweto Council has failed to provide efficient services to its residents and residents had also not observed the spirit of the Greater Soweto Accord reached in September last year.

This was the opinion of two guests on the *Sowetan/Radio Metro* Talkback show. Soweto Civic Association spokesmen Mr Chris Ngcobo and Mr Lawrence Boya.

While electricity is a right and a service that is considered as essential, residents also had a responsibility to ensure that the service is continued by paying for it, Ngcobo said.

The SCA was opposed to ensuring that electricity bills were paid by cutting off power and said people should, instead, be advised and encouraged to pay their bills.

Residents who had not been paying rent and electricity since September last year after the resolution of the rent boycott, were guilty of not observing the agreement reached between the council and their representatives.

A caller who wished to remain anonymous found the council at fault for not sending out electricity bills and advising residents to pay even a portion of it.

Themba of Jabulani was advised by Ngcobo that residents should also learn to report technical failures in the supply of water and electricity.

The SCA is also in the position to advise residents on related matters. They can be reached at 982-5856/7, he said.

11/1/88
Sowetan

Planning 'based on ideology not needs'

BIDAM 28/6/91

127

TOWN planners had helped mould an apartheid SA and had based their planning on ideological rather than community needs, civic campaigner Cas Coovadia said yesterday.

Coovadia was addressing the Transvaal branch of the SA Institute of Town Planners' one-day conference at Wits University on planning in a post-apartheid SA. He said an example of this "top-down" planning was the creation of "inside-out" cities, where the poorest section of the population had been allocated land furthest from the CBDs.

"This is, as you know, the reverse of most international experiences. Such flawed planning has, in our opinion, been a factor in impeding economic growth because it creates substantial hidden costs.

"One example of this is the vast amount of money spent by the poor to commute to and from their places of work." If community-based town plan-

ning had taken place, the money could have generated economic growth.

Coovadia said a further problem created by an ideological approach to town planning was that of differentiated standards. The gap between black and white standards was "immensely wide".

"The ideological approach to town planning has deepened this differentiation. This legacy of apartheid is such that even new developments, having a community-orientated approach to town planning, will not deliver standards for black people that are at a level presently enjoyed by white people.

"The practice of standards being determined by town planners must stop and the community must be empowered to negotiate standards by being provided with sound information and alternatives."

He challenged the institute on several points which included that:

□ They should promote community-based struc-



● COOVADIA

tures to facilitate community participation in the development process.

□ Their promotion of community-based structures must include the building of an institutional infrastructure for such community-based structures. Black local authorities presently had neither the capacity nor the political will or legitimacy to do this, yet white ratepayers' associations were subsidised by white city/town councils. Such inequalities had to be eliminated, and

□ There needed to be a fundamental shift on the part of planners and other professional people in the field of development. They needed to become advisors to the communities rather than the privileged dispensers of specialised knowledge — Sapa

Council meets over electricity

THEO RAWANA

SOWETO councillors have voiced strong opposition to the Central Witwatersrand RSC taking over management of electricity supply from the Soweto City Council

The council's monthly meeting was closed to the media yesterday when Transvaal MEC for institutional development and negotiations Olaus van Zyl and MEC for housing and community development John Mavuso addressed councillors.

Sources said councillors opposed having the function of selling electricity to residents taken from them. Many felt finance needed to be provided to Soweto to upgrade its services.

Councillors were heard arguing outside the chamber that the RSC had no magic formula to get the residents to pay but would resort to supply cutoffs as well.

The RSC recently offered to take over the service from the three Greater Soweto councils after Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto had found it difficult to get residents to pay.

Mavuso said yesterday it was not the TPA's offer that was discussed, but a recommendation from the council's execu-

tive committee that councillors accept the RSC offer in principle. He said he did not know what the councillors had decided.

Gordon Sibuya, an electrical engineer who is a consultant to the council, said the council had asked for time to consider the proposal.

Sibuya added "I can't see how the RSC is going to succeed where we as blacks are seen to be failing to make the people of Soweto pay."

He said the council, with the aid of 11 electrical consultants, would perform better in the supply of electricity.

Soweto Council PRO Mojalefa Moseki refused to say what was discussed, but said "Electricity wouldn't have been a separate issue from all those addressed by the Metropolitan Chamber had the Soweto People's Delegation and the Soweto Civic Association fulfilled their part of the Greater Soweto Accord — getting 80% of the residents to pay for services."

He said the two should not be pushing for the handover of electricity management while it was still being discussed.

11/16/77
SIP
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TOWN PLANNING

Civic groups 'played role' ¹²⁷

WILSON ZWANE

CIVIC organisations had fundamentally shaped the nature of SA's recent urban transition, Planact urban consultant and former Wits University researcher Mark Swilling told yesterday's conference.

"The outcome of the Soweto rent boycott points to the centrality of social movements (including civics) in the overall process of urban social change. This is important because existing conceptions of how urban policy changes over time either ignore or underplay positive roles played by social movements in shaping the process of urban social change."

In contrast to Urban Foundation reports, which described social movements as "delaying urban deracialisation and prolonging instability," social movements had fundamentally shaped urban transition.

In essence, the Soweto case revealed the impact a powerful and well-organised social movement had on policies and strategies. May 28/6/91

"Although there were structural reasons for the crisis of the apartheid city, the rent boycott finally drove home the unviability of urban apartheid," Swilling said.

HOUSING & HOSTELS — TRANSVAAL

1991

JULY — AUGUST

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Tembisa rent
boycott may
soon be over

Tembisa residents yesterday decided to end the rent boycott as soon as the Tembisa Residents Association and the Transvaal Provincial Administration reached an interim agreement.

The mass meeting followed a breakdown in talks between the TRA and TPA recently when, according to the TRA, the TPA made it clear that other organisations be included in the talks

TRA publicity secretary George Bila said yesterday that Tembisa had decided to put forward proposed interim tariffs to the TPA

He said interim tariffs should stand until the TPA fulfilled demands made when the rent boycott started in 1986.

He said the initial demands included the scrapping of all rental areas, the transfer of all old dwellings to residents at no charge and the dismantling of all hostels

The tariffs proposed by residents range from R50 a month for a four-roomed house with bathroom and electricity to R10 for a two-roomed house without electricity and for hostel rooms. Businessmen are expected to pay R100 a month

It was proposed that pensioners who do not have relatives staying with them should not pay rent — Sapa

Talks to avert total boycott ⁽¹²⁷⁾

WILSON ZWANE

THE Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) is confident that a high-level meeting in the township today will avert a return to a full-scale rent and services boycott

About 55% of Soweto residents are paying their electricity accounts and the SPD has warned that unless the management of electricity supply to the township's residents was handed over to the Central Witwatersrand RSC there would be a total rent and services boycott ^{11/7/91}

An SPD source said at the weekend there were indications that the three Soweto councils — Soweto, Dobsonville and Meadowlands — would agree to the handing over of the function of selling electricity to residents to the Central Wits RSC.

Soweto Council PRO Mojalefa Moseki confirmed that a meeting of the Greater Soweto Principal Parties (GSPP) — the three Soweto councils, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the SPD and the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) — would discuss the issue today

Moseki would not, however, say if his council was in favour of handing the management of the township's electricity supply to the RSC. "A decision will be taken by all parties concerned at the meeting," he said

It is understood a substantial number of Soweto councillors oppose such a move, believing it would be even more difficult for the RSC to enforce payments

Police suicide rate outstrips civilians' ⁽¹²⁷⁾

^{11/7/91}
Biday
JONATHON REES

BLACK policemen, who make up about 46% of the SAP, are 36 times more likely to commit suicide than black civilians, an SAP psychologist says

In the SAP generally, policemen were nine times more likely to kill themselves than civilians were

The SAP's Institute of Behavioural Sciences head, Col Kobus Truter, said the alarming — and increasing — suicide rate among policemen was attributable to very high stress levels and a lack of recognition

Long hours of shift work — up to 12 hours a day and seven days a week in dangerous situations — and being absent from their families for long periods were major factors contributing to severe depression and stress

Changes

Young policemen had to adapt quickly to demands of a very wide "role repertoire", from intervening in vicious township conflict to arresting a drunk or interviewing a sexually abused child

Continual postponements of court cases and inconsistent judgments handed down also played a major role in high stress levels

The changes policemen had to make to adapt to new political circumstances also caused anxiety, Truter said

In the white population, 17 of every

100 000 people would commit suicide, while 27 white policemen out of every 100 000 would take their lives

Law and Order Ministry spokesman Capt Craig Kotze said the police force, especially black members, were subjected to "extraordinary stress" by organisations which still "fanned the flames of hatred against the police"

Police patrolling townships to maintain law and order faced constant danger. They were often shot at with AK-47 rifles, petrol-bombed and attacked

There had been no reduction in the number of murders of black policemen

Kotze praised the resilience of black policemen who continued to serve the SAP despite the danger and stresses they faced

Truter said that since June 1 this year, all police recruits underwent thorough tests to determine intelligence, attitude, interests and personality as part of a major preventive psychology campaign.

Psychologists evaluated individual's stress tolerance and tested their levels and direction of hostility.

In the last evaluation, 72% of policemen tested were passed for work in dangerous political situations in townships

President's

Software firms' court

Residents to end boycott

Sowetan
27/91. By DON SEOKANE

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THE Tembisa Residents Association has been asked to negotiate the end of the rent boycott following an agreement by residents to pay at most a R50 flat rate for service charges.

Spokesman for TRA Mr George Bila yesterday said the community endorsed the decision of the TRA's general council that people with electricity should pay R50 for four rooms, while those with four rooms without electricity should pay R25.

Bila said businesses are required to pay R100 flat rate.

However local mayor Mr Solomon More said the TRA cannot make recommendations or process council matters without the council's knowledge.

More said the council requested that people should pay R75 for those with electricity and R25 for unwired houses.

"We had to negotiate with Eskom for those tariffs, because the amount is too little to cover electricity consumed. R25 charged for people without houses is only for water, sewerage and refuse removal."

The mayor said residents' response to pay R75 and R25 respectively has been wonderful and that the rent boycott to most people in the township has been over.

He also rejected the R100 flat rate which has been recommended to be paid by business owners.

Sweden pledges R2,5m for Alexandra 'court'

SWEDEN has pledged R2,5m for the establishment of a dispute resolution centre in Alexandra township, Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) official Ben Dhlomo said yesterday.

Plans to set up the township's dispute resolution centre or a "community court" — the first of its kind in SA — were at an advanced stage and "depending on the availability of funds the centre will open its doors to the public within two weeks", Dhlomo said. *Blom 2/7/91*

US support

"The 11 people being trained in mediation mechanisms by a team of legal experts are almost ready to begin their work at the centre.

"The only obstacle to opening the centre to the community is a lack of funds.

"But Sweden has pledged R2,5m to the project and other countries, including the US and Canada, have indicated they would support the venture," Dhlomo said.

The centre would mediate in community disputes, he said.

ACO president Moses Mayekiso

WILSON ZWANE

has said the "negative" reaction of Alexandra residents to the "white" judiciary and escalation of crime in the township had prompted his organisation to resolve to establish community-oriented courts.

Mayekiso said these community courts would be unlike the notorious kangaroo courts, which "were often constituted at a whim of individuals".

The Justice Department has said the establishment of a dispute resolution centre in Alexandra had much in common with its desire to make the administration of justice accessible to all people of all levels.

The Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies, the National Association of Democratic Lawyers and lawyers in private practice are contributing to the Alexandra project by training people in dispute resolution mechanisms.

A spokesman for the Wits centre, Edwin Molahlehi, said if the project was successful it could be used in other communities which "want this kind of assistance".

Power deal averts threat of boycott

THE Soweto City Council announced yesterday that it would be prepared to let the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council administer electricity supply to the township, provided there were no moves to take over ownership of the R350m electricity infrastructure

The move averts a confrontation with the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) which had warned of a full-scale rent and services boycott unless electricity supply to residents was handed over to the RSC

The RSC had offered to take over power supplies from the three Greater Soweto councils — Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto — which were having problems getting residents to pay rent and service charges

About 55% of Soweto residents have been paying their electricity bills since the signing of the Greater Soweto Accord, which wrote off R516m arrears last September and ended a five-year boycott

Informed sources said yesterday the Dobsonville council had agreed to transfer administration of electricity supplies to the RSC, while Diepmeadow had rejected this because it was expecting Soweto to do the same. It was possible that Diepmeadow councillors might have a change of heart, the source said

Soweto council spokesman Mojalefa Moseki said in a statement yesterday the council had agreed in principle to "man-

THEO RAWANA

date" the RSC to administer the power supply on its behalf

Hinting that other parties could be given the task, Moseki said the council's decision set the stage for negotiations with the RSC or any other body the council deemed fit to administer the service on its behalf

He said a full council meeting passed the motion last Thursday after an exhaustive debate during which its implications were thoroughly considered

Specific

Moseki said conditions adopted with the agreement — to safeguard the interests of Soweto residents who own the R350m electricity infrastructure — were that

- The agreement should address and relate to Soweto's specific needs,
- The council should approve of decisions on the supply of electricity taken by the mandated party,
- The final draft of the agreement should be approved by the full council before being signed,
- There should be provision for a procedure through which the Soweto council could terminate the agreement if it felt that the other party was not fulfilling its part of the contract, and
- The duration of the contract should be clearly specified

NECC seeks meeting on Orange Grove school

WILSON ZWANE

THE National Education Co-ordinating Committee (NECC) is seeking an urgent meeting with government to discuss the transfer of the Orange Grove Primary School to Alexandra high school pupils

NECC southern Transvaal general secretary Am Msane said yesterday his organisation had requested an urgent meeting on Wednesday with Education and Training Minister Stoffel van der Merwe and Budget, Welfare and Housing Minister Sam de Beer

"We also want clarification on Van der Merwe's announcement last week concerning the transfer of unused white schools to blacks," Msane said. He had said empty white schools would in future be handed over to black authorities with "a minimum of red tape"

The offices of the Ministers could not confirm if the NECC's requests for a meeting had been received

Msane said Alexandra's East Bank High School pupils would try to occupy Orange Grove again on Friday. "The NECC hopes that the meeting with the ministers will not be an obstacle to the occupation"

He added that the occupation of the school — and a number of others in the PWV region — was not a "publicity stunt but a genuine campaign to highlight the mess black education is in"

Other Johannesburg schools the NECC has identified for occupation by black schools include Joubert Park Primary School, Winchester Ridge School and General de Wet Primary School in Westdene

De Beer said at the weekend the future of the Orange Grove school would have to be renegotiated with various interested parties, and welcomed representations by institutions with a vested interest in education

Sapa reports that the head of Azapo's education secretariat Gomolemo Mokae told a Johannesburg news conference yesterday the organisation did not support the campaign to occupy empty schools and took "offence" at the notion to settle for the crumbs of the white market

The Azanian Student Convention charged it was aimed at political point-scoring and put black lives at risk

Devolution the answer, says Kriel

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Star
2/7/91

The solution to town planning problems in the Transvaal lay in a devolution of responsibility so that people at ground level could take the decisions, Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister, Hernus Kriel told Johannesburg councillors and ratepayers yesterday.

Democratic Party MPs Dr Zach de Beer and Peter Soal invited Mr Kriel to tour the northern suburbs, at the request of ratepayers, to see the effect of the Removal of Restrictions Act on established residential suburbs.

The Minister was taken to

Houghton Island and other areas where, despite vehement objections by the Johannesburg City Council and ratepayers, business rights were granted to developers by Pretoria

A document proposing changes to the system was presented to Mr Kriel by Northern Areas Ratepayers' Federation chairman Tony Challenger, and Flo Bird of the Parktown Residents' Association

Ms Bird said they wanted Mr Kriel to ensure that the procedures regarding the removal of restrictions on properties were equitable, that reasons be given for decisions, that provision be made for appeal to a proper appeals board, that property

rights be addressed specifically in the decision-making and that ad hoc rezonings be avoided so that planning could proceed in an orderly manner

"Ratepayers no longer have any faith in the system or in the ability of the city council to control the situation," Ms Bird said

Mr Kriel said he would study the proposal and pass it on to the committee investigating a new land-use Bill due to be published next year.

"I hope the new Bill will enable landowners to know what their rights are and what they can do with their properties. I believe the answer lies in devolution so that the people on the ground can take the decisions."

(127)

Blackout for those with unpaid bills

By Montshiwa Moroke (127)

The countdown to the electricity blackout in Soweto has started for those residents who have not paid their accounts since the signing of the Soweto Accord in October

The Soweto Council's public relations officer, Mojalefa Moseki, said yesterday that residents had until the weekend to pay their bills, otherwise their power supply would be suspended on Monday

Those who had paid would not be affected

Mr Moseki said 26 homes and about 80 business premises had had their electricity switched off since the council started its campaign on June 12

Initially 110 businesses had been targeted as being heavily in arrears, including the Jabulani flats, Chiawelo flats and Mzimhlope women's hostel. They would be among the first to be affected, he said

He said 12 residences in Protea South and 14 in Mofolo had had their power cut off either because they had been in arrears since last year or had tampered with their meters

"There has been a positive response from some Government institutions. The police and the Post and Telecommuni-

cations departments have undertaken to settle their outstanding accounts.

"However, the Department of Education and Training has not yet responded, but we will not be switching off electricity to schools as that would encourage disruptions (to education)," Mr Moseki said

He said the council had collected more than R1 million from businesses in the past two weeks. There were five tills at each of the nine offices in the township and they had not been able to cope with the rush by residents to pay. The deadline for payment is Saturday

● At least half of Tokoza's residents paid their rent and service charges at the weekend — but the income was only enough for the council to pay for electricity until Monday, said, administrator Gert Muller

The council paid R12 000 a day to Alberton for electricity.

Mr Muller said local businesses had boosted the council's coffers by paying more than R35 000 in rent arrears

He said he hoped the rent payments would improve after local pensioners collected their money tomorrow

He said he was pleased that until now it had not been necessary to cut off power supply

Rent defaulters blacklisted as 'credit risks'

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG — Thousands of township residents have been "blacklisted" by credit organisations after judgments were awarded against them for failing to pay rent.

Credit organisations automatically list people as "credit risks" as soon as a debt judgment is issued against them.

The Information Trust Co, which provides clients with the credit ratings of credit seekers, says its information is confidential and was not classified according to race or type of judgment.

Several black town councils have been awarded judg-

ments against thousands of rent defaulters as a result of rent boycotts.

Julie Mohamed, of Valli, Mthembu Attorneys, said she had dealt with rent cases from 1985 and covered townships in the PWV and Wesselton, Davel and Carolina.

"A lot of people are still feeling the effects of the judgments awarded against them. They cannot get credit," she said.

She said most judgments were issued in townships where the civic associations were not organised. Where the civic association were "well organised", lawyers stepped in before judgments were awarded.

In some areas the councils

had two law firms issuing summonses and getting judgments. "Thousands of people were involved," she said.

An employee at Krish Naidoo, a law firm which handled rent cases at the time, said about 1 800 cases of people with judgments against them for not paying rent were handled.

"We got most of these orders rescinded but, there are thousands of others who did not go to any lawyer and waited for the boycott to end. These will find that they are blacklisted," she said.

Soweto city council spokesman, Mojalefa Moseki, said figures were not available but the council at the time issued thousands of sum-

monses in an effort to get residents pay their charges.

Lekoa town clerk, Klasié Louw, said at the height of the rent boycott in 1986 the council issued summonses, but they were "far less than 500 summonses out of 38 000 defaulters".

A Katlehong man was told he had a rent judgment against him when he tried to get a loan from Wesbank. Mr Dlamini (not his real name), said others in Katlehong were also told they had debt judgments against them when they tried to get loans from various organisations.

Financial institutions, however, seem to adopt a lenient attitude when faced with such cases. Wesbank

and Standard Bank said they did not evaluate applications for credit solely on the defaults.

Terry Powers of the Standard said "We evaluate every case on its merits".

Wesbank's Piet van Zyl said he was aware of Dlamini's case but there were other issues involved and these were being sorted out.

"We, however, would not decide solely on the rent default as we know about the problems in the townships," he said.

Nonetheless, fears are that other organisations, more so those with conservative credit policies, may not take such a liberal view, particularly in borderline cases.

PROPERTY

Rent for flats set to rise, say agents

81 Day 3 (7/91)

127

Reports by
PETER GALLI

FLAT rentals are set to rise on fears of a major move by black tenants into some former white areas, rampant inflation and the fact that few new buildings are being built for rental purposes, rental agents say.

In addition, the imposition of VAT from September 30 will increase almost every cost for the landlord, resulting in rent rises before the end of the year, a Campbell and Seward spokesman said.

"In the two years up to about June 1990, flat rentals were depressed, and increased by between 10% and 15% a year. However, since the beginning of 1991 the market has become more buoyant," he said.

"The lack of new buildings for rental purposes, the fear of racial integration and increased costs due to inflation saw rentals in the southern suburbs, one of the areas in which we play a predominant role in the rental market, escalate by as much as 50%.

"The rental for a one-bedroom flat in the southern suburbs — Rosettenville, Turfontein and Mondeor — has increased from about R375 a month in early 1990 to about R475 at present. A two-bedroom flat rented previously at between R450 and R485 a month now fetches between R550 and R650."

"The southern suburbs traditionally attract blue- and white-collar workers. The escalation in rentals is in keeping with increases in the northern suburbs," the

spokesman said

Certain areas of Hillbrow and Berea have become unpopular as people are frightened off by the militancy of some tenants. While this issue has become less of a problem recently, the areas have deteriorated, he adds.

"While rentals have increased, the cost of running the buildings is greater, which puts renewed pressure on rentals. The average cost for a one-bedroom unit in a non-renovated building is between R425 and R525 a month."

I Kuper director Louis Weinberg says there is a desperate shortage of flats in the north. He adds that no new buildings are being built for rental purposes as they do not offer sufficient return.

"Even owners of older buildings, who have very small bonds or no bonds at all, are converting their buildings to sectional title. The rental situation is difficult and can only get worse," Weinberg says.

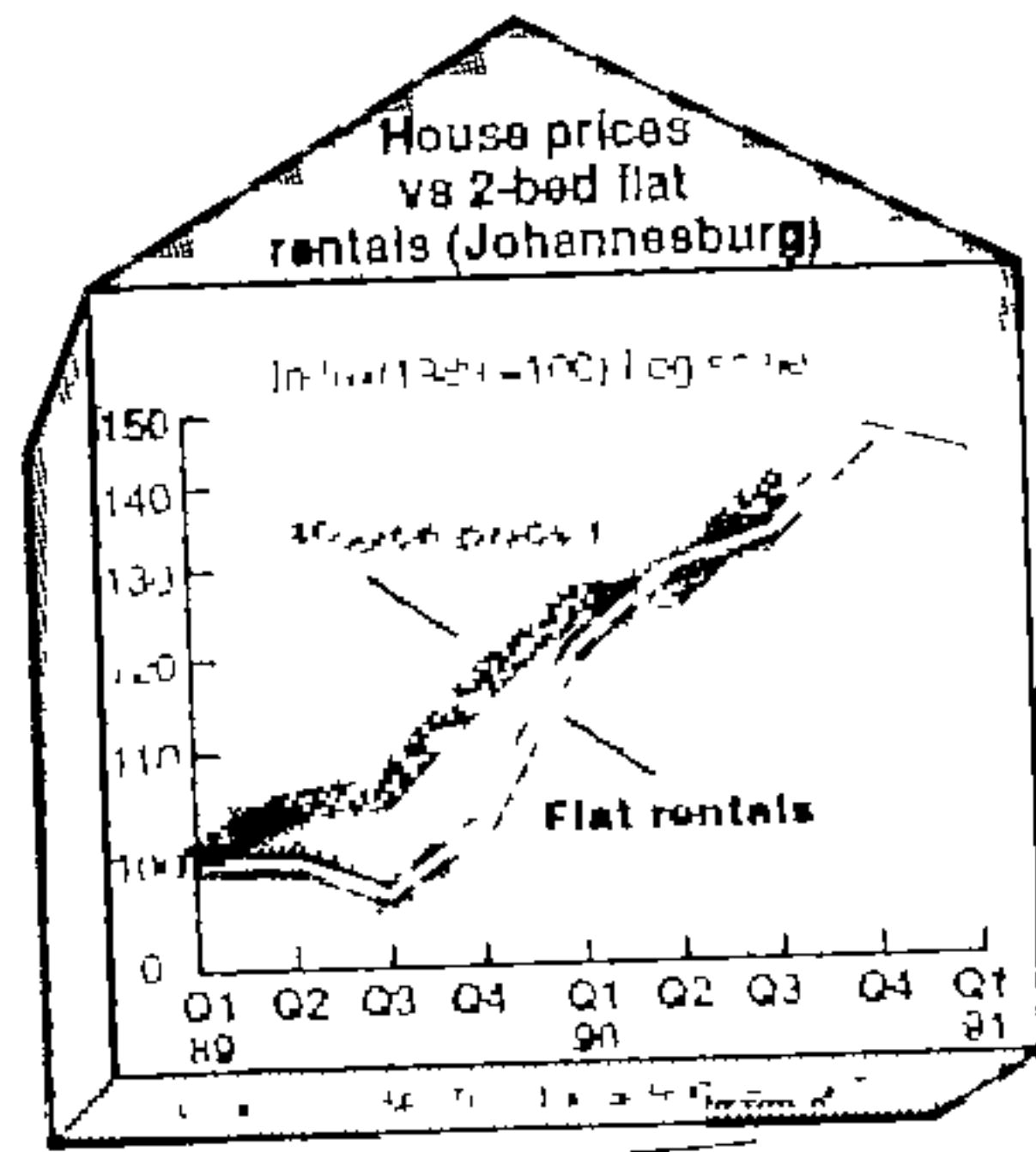
Rental increases in the northern suburbs have increased by about 15% in the past year. In most cases VAT has been taken into account, but it will probably increase the landlords' costs by about R40 a flat a month. This will then be passed on to the tenant, he adds.

"Even at their present levels, rentals offer value. The rental on a flat that would cost R100 000 is considerably less than the bond repayment would be," Weinberg says.

The inflow of blacks to formerly white areas will exacerbate the problem on two fronts. Firstly, more flat space will be required for rental and secondly, a large group of whites will move to outlying areas. This will increase the demand for space and strengthen rentals in these areas.

The latest Rode Report says that when flat or house rental levels overtake or even approach bond repayment levels, tenants will consider buying property.

This should lessen the demand for rented accommodation and lead to an easing of rentals. "Although our historic data on flat rentals are still fairly limited, they do show a similar trend to that of national house prices," the report says.



Township rent boycott leads to credit blacklist

THOUSANDS of township residents have been "blacklisted" by credit organisations after judgments were awarded against them for failing to pay rent

Credit organisations automatically list people as "credit risks" as soon as a debt judgment is issued against them

The Information Trust Company, which provides clients with the credit ratings of credit seekers, said its information was confidential and was not classified according to race or type of judgment.

Several black town councils have been awarded judgments against thousands of rent defaulters as a result of rent boycotts

Attorney Julie Mohamed said she had dealt with rent cases from 1985

"A lot of people are still feeling the effects of the judgments awarded against them. They cannot get credit," she said.

In townships where the civic association was "well organised", lawyers stepped in before judgments were awarded

An employee at Krish Naidoo, a law firm which handled rent cases, said about 1 800 cases of people with judgments against them for not paying rent were handled, and while many orders were rescinded others waited for the boycott to end "These will find that they are blacklisted," she said

THAMI MAZWAI

Soweto City Council spokesman Moja-lefa Moseki said figures were not available but agreed thousands of summonses were issued

Lekoa Town Clerk Klasie Louw said at the height of the rent boycott in 1988 the council issued "far less than 500 summonses out of 38 000 defaulters".

A Katlehong man was told he had a debt judgment against him when he tried to get a loan from Wesbank Dlamini (not his real name), said this was the experience of others when they tried to get loans.

Some financial institutions, however, seemed to adopt a lenient attitude in such cases and did not evaluate applications for credit solely on the defaults.

The Standard Bank's Terry Powers said, "We evaluate every case on its merits."

Wesbank's Piet van Zyl said he was aware of Dlamini's case but there were other issues involved and these were being sorted out "We would not decide solely on the rent default as we know about the problems in the townships," he said.

Fears are that other organisations, particularly those with conservative credit policies, may not take such a liberal view, especially in borderline cases.

**Soweto power:
talks sought**

3/7/91 THEO RAWANA 127

THE terms under which the Soweto City Council would accept the handover of administration of electricity supply to the Central Wits RSC would have to be discussed before an agreement was signed, RSC CE Len de Wet said yesterday.

De Wet was reacting to Soweto's acceptance of the transfer and its condition that there should be no move to take over possession of the R350m electrical infrastructure.

Soweto also rejected the type of agreement signed with Alexandra Town Council, which it said handed over the running of electricity supply without negotiations.

De Wet said the RSC had responded to a proposal from the Wits Metropolitan Chamber that the three Greater Soweto councils — Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto — should hand over administration of power supply to the RSC.

3 Lekoa areas still without electricity

Staff Reporter ^{star} 3/7/91

Three Lekoa townships are still without electricity after residents failed to meet their payment obligations adequately last month, the Transvaal Provincial Administration said yesterday.

The TPA and the Vaal Civic Association (VCA) had

recently agreed that Lekoa residents should end a boycott of electricity payments, but last month only certain extensions in Sebokeng exceeded 70 percent of their debit, the TPA said.

Power had been reinstated there, but not for the Sharpeville, Bophelong and Boipatong townships

(127)
Discussions between the TPA and the VCA over the boycott resumed yesterday and were conducted in a constructive spirit, TPA delegation leader Nigel Mandy said in a statement.

He added that Zamdela and Refenkgotso townships fell under the Free State Provincial Administration.

'Pay⁽¹²⁷⁾ up or *Sowham* else'^{4/7/91}

By DON SEOKANE

The Tokoza council is poised to introduce selective power cuts if electricity payments do not improve.

The township's administrator, Mr Gert Muller, yesterday said only 10 percent of residents had paid during the first two days of July

The council had to pay the Alberton municipality R12 000 daily for electricity

"We have no reserve funds, so the council has to generate money from the residents," he said

The council had money to pay the Alberton council until Friday

"The situation will be reviewed on Monday and the council will consider switching off power supply to individuals who have not paid," he said

Tokoza's electricity to the township was restored last month after a six-month blackout

After months of negotiations, the council signed an accord with a newly-formed Tokoza Civic Committee, whose members have been drawn from Inkatha Freedom Party, the Pan Africanist Congress, the ANC-aligned Tokoza Civic Association and the National Council of Trade Unions

Agreement

However, payments have not improved since the signing of the agreement, according to Muller. In June, only 50,6 percent of house owners paid

"If we do not honour our agreement with Alberton (to pay R12 000 daily) they might switch off our power without further notice," Muller said

Meanwhile Soweto residents are responding in large numbers to the local council's breather period to pay their electricity bills

The council's spokesman, Mr Mojalefa Moseki, yesterday said the council was giving people a chance to pay their bills before power would be switched off

He appealed to those who have problems meeting the Monday deadline to approach the council

Alarm over 5 000 shacks

(127) ~~127~~
Sowetan
4/7/91

THE shortage of housing in Atteridgeville has reached alarming proportions.

The announcement by the local town council yesterday that there are nearly 5 000 shacks in the township is proof of this.

Administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson said land to the west of the township, earmarked for the building of some 3 500 houses if fully developed, would "under present circumstances cater for needs up to the year 2000".

Responding to certain demands made by the local civic organisation, Asro, Jacobson said in a letter that the council was negotiating with the Department of Land Affairs and the TPA for the purchase of the land which was owned by the SA Defence Force, Iscor and other private companies.

Referring to a request by Asro that residents be allowed to apply for houses at the nearby Indian town, Lotus Gardens, Jacobson said the House of Delegates wanted to alleviate their housing backlog before this request could be heeded.

By MONK NKOMO

A socio-economic survey conducted two years ago indicated that about 85 percent of the housing needed in Atteridgeville was "in the low to very low income groups".

"There are about 5 000 structures in backyards in Atteridgeville," he said.

Jacobson also conceded that conditions at the Saulsville hostel were poor and there was a great need for improvement.

The council had also made another application to the National Housing Commission for the conversion of hostels to low-cost family units. Only two hostel units had been converted so far.

Jacobson admitted that in general services in the township were poor, which could largely be attributed to the age of the township and the infrastructure but lately also to the rent boycott and the low tariffs paid by residents.

ANC claim shocks us says Asro

By MONK NKOMO

THE Saulsville/Atteridgeville Interim Committee yesterday said it had been "shocked" by recent official announcements that the local civic organisation was aligned to the ANC.

In a statement released yesterday Mr Nkosi Molala, liaison officer of SAIC, said: "Residents' organisations can ill afford ideological affinities because nowhere do we find in residents, uniformity of political affiliation."

SAIC was reacting to an article in *Sowetan* last Friday, in which the general secretary of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation, Mr Simon Tshidi, admitted that the civic organisation was "leaning towards the ANC".

Organisation

Molala said a residents' organisation which was affiliated to a political organisation "does not only cease to represent all residents, but also turns into a political organisation and, without really meaning to do so, actually divides the community it sets out to serve".

The SAIC, which negotiated the reconnection of electricity last month after agreeing to an interim flat rate of R90 a month with the local Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, said: "We either stick to the R50 monthly flat rate, plunge ourselves into darkness or pay the R90 flat rate, retain the electricity supply and negotiate areas of concern. The choice is ours to make."

Thokoza risks new blackout

THEO RAWANA

THOKOZA township, which owes neighbouring Alberton R1,9m for electricity, risks being blacked out again, Thokoza town clerk Herman Combrinck said yesterday

Three weeks ago electricity supply was restored to the township's 250 000 residents after a six-month blackout followed a 15-month rent boycott which had built up a R15m debt

Residents last month signed an agreement covering June and July in which those with electrified homes undertook to pay R71 a month and other householders R25 a month for other services

But Combrinck said yesterday only 50% of residents had paid for services last month and only about 17% had honoured the agreement this month

Hani, Maharaj differ on strategies of negotiation

DURBAN — Two reputed ANC hardliners, Chris Hani and Mac Maharaj, yesterday expressed greatly differing views on the strategies used in, and results achieved from, the negotiation process

Umkhonto we Sizwe chief of staff Hani expressed strong commitment to the process during a media briefing at the ANC's national conference yesterday. He said murders of ANC and MK members by right-wing elements opposed to the process was no reason to withdraw from negotiations with government.

However, in a separate briefing, Operation Vula commander Maharaj said he believed the ANC had made far too many concessions to government and it had gained nothing in return

He said the August 6 1990 decision to suspend armed action was seen as a sign of weakness by government

Further hinting at the reasons behind the decision he took last year to retire from the ANC NEC, Maharaj said he believed the ANC had failed to adequately mobilise its membership in support of its strategic goals

Maharaj has been nominated for re-election to the NEC and has agreed to stand, citing grassroots pressure on him to do so

Hani said the ANC had to accept that its members were living with people who had been indoctrinated into believing apart-

BILLY PADDOCK

heid would always exist "They feel let down and some will use force to defend the status quo"

He called for an integrated defence force during the transition period, incorporating the SADF, Umkhonto and the armed movements of the PAC and other parties accountable to the interim government

"The ANC cannot have a private army. A number of organisations have built up forces. We feel a need for an integrated force during the transition period that will be accountable to the government of the day. Umkhonto should be part of this."

Hani said the setting up of self defence units in the townships was in its initial stages but the ANC was worried about them degenerating into vigilante groups.

"We want very firm control, discipline and accountability." The units should not be used to maintain the domination of political organisations, he said

Maharaj said government had yielded to pressure of the armed struggle and sanctions to engage in talks with the ANC. However, mass struggle should continue.

"We should actively pursue the talks about talks as a terrain of struggle and we should combine it with mass actions. This is not to destabilise the current position but because we still do not have the vote"

Pretoria Correspondent

State advocate Danie Heyns, who earlier this week beat the ANC for the mining village of Grootvlei near Heidelberg, has remained adamant that his bid was not a quest to prevent the ANC buying the village

Both the Department of Justice and the office of the Attorney-General of the Transvaal have stated that Mr Heyns's bid at the auction was made in his private capacity and no disciplinary steps would be taken

Mr Heyns said yesterday he did not act on behalf of a con-

Heyns 'not out to stop

ANC'

See 5/1/91

(121)

sortium of local farmers and businessmen

"I do not belong to any political party and neither am I carrying R4,6 million for any political party," he said

The money had been raised through normal financing channels, he said

He intended getting the 250-house village proclaimed as a township before selling the houses individually on a first-come, first-served basis
"A number of people have al-

ready indicated they are interested in buying property. I will try to accommodate the present occupiers and I am not after a huge profit. But business is business and profit remains the bottom line"

He said a committee of local residents, on hearing that he intended bidding for the village, approached him before the auction on Monday to find out what his plans were

They were apparently satisfied with his plans and did not

oppose his bid, although some, including local businessman Gert Viljoen, had bid for some individual properties

"The whole thing became politicised when it became known that the ANC was interested. It is regrettable that the Department of Justice has been drawn into the controversy, but the department had nothing to do with my bid," Mr Heyns said

Ismail Ayob, the attorney who represented the ANC at the

auction, said he had no comment on whether the sale was politically motivated. The ANC also declined to comment

Deputy Attorney-General John Welsh said yesterday that Mr Heyns's action had been above board.

"There is absolutely nothing to stop him from doing something which leads to profit," Mr Welsh said

The village was bought for R4,6 million, R100 000 more than the ANC was prepared to offer. The ANC apparently wanted to use Grootvlei to accommodate returning political exiles

Stop paying rent, urges Asro

By MONK NKOMO

RESIDENTS of Atteridgeville, Pretoria, were yesterday urged to stop paying rent until negotiations on a fixed tariff had been completed with the authorities.

Speaking at a public meeting at the Super Stadium, general secretary of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation Mr Simon Tshidi also appealed to residents to consider paying more than the current R50 monthly flat rate.

Asro (127) recently promised to consider paying more than the R50 a month if the council acceded to demands, which include upgrading the township.

Tshidi urged residents to stop paying rent until negotiations on a fixed tariff had been completed with the local Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson.

Asro signed an interim agreement with Jacobson early this year to pay R50 a month.

Tariffs

Jacobson signed another interim agreement with the Saulsville/Atteridgeville interim committee for the payment of R90 a month.

The Pretoria City Council also announced another set of tariffs ranging between R75 and R190.

Asro's chairman, Mr Reeves Mabitsi, said residents had been asked to discuss at their area committee meetings the increase of rent from R50.

Asro's executive committee met Dr Pieter Smith, chairman of the Pretoria City Council, on Friday to resolve the rent crisis. Another meeting between the organisation, the council, Jacobson and TPA officials is scheduled for July 15 to discuss the proposed increased tariff.

Councils tackle power problem

~~2019~~ THEO RAWANA (121)

A TEAM of representatives from the three greater Soweto councils would draw up a plan in terms of which the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) would run their electricity supplies, electrical consultant Gordon Sibiyi said at the weekend.

The city councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto last week agreed that the RSC should be mandated to administer their townships' electricity supply.

Sibiyi said Soweto City Council, in accepting a Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber proposal that it consider handing over the running of electricity to the Central Wits RSC, had rejected the terms under which Alexandra's town council recently signed a similar agreement with the RSC.

Soweto council's conditions of agreement were that:

- There be no move to take possession of the council's R350m electrical infrastructure;
- Decisions taken by the RSC on the supply of electricity be approved by the council;
- That a procedure through which the Soweto council could terminate the contract should be provided; and *8/10/91*
- The final draft of the agreement be approved by the full council.

Residents pledge to stop paying until satisfied

Star
8/7/91

By Mckeed Kotlolo
and Sapa

127

A residents' meeting convened by the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) yesterday resolved to stop paying rent and service charges until residents were satisfied with the upgrading of services currently taking place in the township.

The residents also threatened to occupy houses in Lotus Garden — a new Indian township adjacent to Atteridgeville — from September 1 if no agreement to allocate certain houses to Atteridgeville residents, at present on the waiting list for housing, was reached within the next two months.

Asro secretary-general Simon Tshidi admitted

that the authorities had already started with the upgrading process in the township and also expressed Asro's preparedness to pay more than the current R50 flat rate if residents were satisfied with the developments.

Mr Tshidi, however, appealed to the residents not to pay until they were happy with the upgrading programme.

He also said no payments should be made before the authorities had issued monthly accounts reflecting the R50 flat rate agreed upon by Asro and Atteridgeville administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson at the beginning of the year.

He expressed Asro's willingness to discuss the problems of the township with the authorities and

said the organisation would be meeting the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Dr Jacobson and the Pretoria City Council on September 15

The Pretoria council, bulk supplier of electricity, water and other services to the township, has twice disconnected electricity to the township since the beginning of the year because the Atteridgeville council failed to pay its instalments

Those attending the meeting expressed concern when the chairman of the local hostel committee, John Malema, showed a dilapidated bed and said: "This is what the administrator says is worth R30 per month for an inmate"

Residents' group takes legal action

MEMBERS of the Saulsville/Atteridgeville Interim Committee have briefed lawyers about inciting statements made against them by an official of the local civic organisation who threatened to abduct and "work on them" at a public meeting on Sunday.

The threats were made by Mr John Malema, the chairman of the local hostel committee of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation.

Speaking at an Asro public meeting on Sunday, Malema said they also had addresses and registration numbers of

By MONK NKOMO

vehicles belonging to SAIC members

Malema said they were going to fetch these members from their homes and take them to a meeting where they would be asked who had given them the mandate to negotiate rent tariffs with the local Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson

Shocked

The SAIC recently signed an interim agreement with Jacobson to pay R90 a month during the electricity switch-off in the township.

In a statement issued yesterday, SAIC's media liaison officer, Mr Nkosi Molala, said

"We are shocked by the inflammatory, inciting and threatening statements made by Malema against the lives, limb and property of members of the SAIC"

Executive

Molala challenged Asro's executive committee to either endorse or to distance themselves from the intimidatory utterances.

"The fact that these statements were not con-

tradicted by an executive member of Asro can only mean that they represent a true reflection of Asro's attitude towards the SAIC," Molala said.

Rent

He added that the SAIC welcomed Asro's call on residents to consider paying more than the R50 monthly flat rate to resolve the rent problem.

"We believe that this is not only a step in the right direction, but also serves as a vote of confidence in our position," Molala said

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Sowetan 9/7/91



Gunmen kill two Bible class pupils

JONATHAN REES

GUNMEN shot and killed two young children and wounded a youth when they sprayed a Bible class meeting in rural Natal with AK-47 rifle fire on Monday night

SAP spokesman Lt Bala Naidoo said the Rev Benjamin Ngidi's four-year-old son Sabelo and six-year-old Duma Siyabonga were killed Nuzwa Magwaza, 16, was wounded and was in a satisfactory condition in the Port Shepstone hospital, he said

Naidoo said the motive was unknown as Ngidi was not politically aligned

Police yesterday reported another three people were killed in unrest incidents Police said they were fired upon in Daveyton township near Benoni after finding a man shot dead and a Tokarev pistol and spent cartridges on the scene

The gunmen fled after the SAP patrol returned fire and a wounded man was arrested, the daily SAP unrest report said

A body with bullet wounds was found at Pateni near Richmond and another man was gunned down in Old Crossroads near Cape Town in the ongoing taxi feud in the area

A number of shooting incidents and deaths in Natal at the weekend were reported by police yesterday

Unrest monitors yesterday confirmed nine people died in weekend violence One monitor said those who believed Natal violence had quietened down were "dreaming"

Moves to make AIDS notifiable

PRETORIA — Government was investigating legislation to proclaim AIDS a notifiable disease, National Health and Population Development Minister Rina Venter said yesterday

At a news conference to announce a huge campaign against the spread of AIDS, she said the implications of such legislation would be examined thoroughly before a decision was made

The news conference was held shortly after Venter met health ministers from the six-self governing territories

GERALD REILLY reports Venter said the new anti-AIDS programme would be based on a communications strategy document which would soon be presented to Cabinet

She said the number of confirmed AIDS cases had risen dramatically to 683 since 1982 It was estimated about 100 000 people in SA were already infected with the HIV virus, about half of whom were likely to die within the next 10 years

"Moreover the pandemic continues to spread rapidly and at the current rate the number of HIV-infected people will be at least 200 000 at this time next year"

Venter said AIDS education and curbing the alarming spread of the

disease had become a high government priority

"We believe it to be of extreme importance to get the co-operation of all the political players, trade union leaders, business leaders and others mobilised in a massive effort to stem the spread of the diseases"

She said a major objective was that children should be "AIDS literate" by Std 5

AIDS cost SA about R20m a year, including R5m spent by the Health Department

Venter said AIDS was spread mainly through heterosexual intercourse Mother to unborn child transmission accounted for many of the other cases

Venter said other issues discussed at yesterday's meeting included the doctor-to-population ratio in the self-governing territories — one doctor to 15 635 people, compared with one to 1 009 countrywide

The shortage of doctors in rural areas had to be addressed

She said there was an urgent need to restructure health services The present system failed to satisfy five basic conditions accepted by Cabinet — accessibility, effectiveness, affordability, acceptability and equity

She said it seemed the health status of South Africans was deteriorating



Ivory Park squatters whose homes were demolished yesterday morning

Picture CATHERINE ROSS

Govt unable to sell its township houses

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Despite intensive selling campaigns, government has sold fewer than half its 335 000 units of township housing put up for sale in 1974

A TPA spokesman said total sales to date nationwide were 125 282 units

In Transvaal, the sale of houses had been even less successful than the national average

Another major reason for the poor sales was the fact that rent and service boycotts enabled black families to live rent-free

Government should do- nate houses to those fam- ilies who had occupied them for lengthy periods and who had paid rents amounting to many times the houses' initial costs, said Gibson

Catchings up in a boom town

BY THE END of last year, the Midrand Town Council had approved almost R400 million worth of building plans. Ten years earlier, the same council approved plans worth less than R2 million.

In 1981, Midrand's budget was R4 million, this year it is R106 million.

Spread over 193 sq km on either side of the Ben Schoeman highway between Pretoria and Johannesburg, with lots of open spaces inviting development, Midrand is undoubtedly the fastest-growing town in South Africa — possibly the fastest-growing in Africa, says David Hidden, chairman of the town's management committee.

Mr Hidden, a businessman, says Midrand can handle the expansion, as long as it is controlled. He advocates a proactive approach in planning development.

"The best way of controlling the development of Midrand is to plan ahead, as far as funding and strategic planning is concerned, and to take cognisance of what central Government and the rest of the country is doing," Mr Hidden says.

"For example, in Cape Town 10 000 people flood into the city every month — we have to plan for urbanisation at this rate.

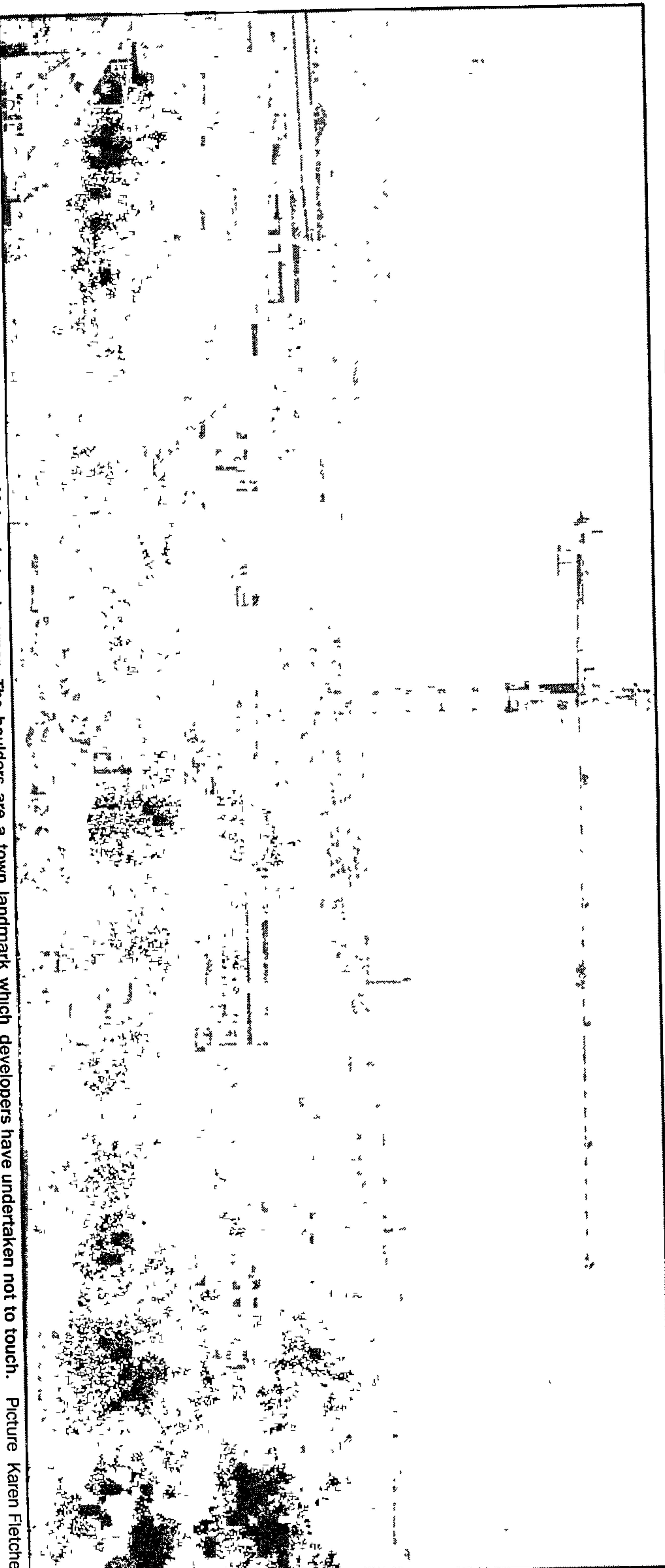
"What are we going to do if people start occupying the open tracts that are all over Midrand? We have got to plan," he says.

In the chairman's seat since the beginning of last month, Mr Hidden acknowledges that Midrand will need about R800 million in the next five years to pay for the infrastructure required to service developments.

So far R278 million has been invested in existing infrastructure. This is only 10 percent of what is needed, however, since most of the surrounding towns have about 90 percent of their infrastructure in place.

He is emphatic, though, that Midrand residents cannot be made to pay for this, and that creative methods will have to be used to raise the funds.

Midrand, previously a peri-urban area, was declared a



Up she goes... there's construction on virtually every Midrand street corner. The boulders are a town landmark which developers have undertaken not to touch. Picture: Karen Fletcher

Midrand, halfway between Johannesburg and Pretoria, celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Some say the town is booming, others say it is growing faster than finances allow. JACQUELINE MYBURGH reports.

town in 1981.

Consisting mostly of rural holdings, the settlement of the town was based on two distinct areas of development: Halfway House and Oltfontein.

Five years ago, a guide plan was drawn up to direct the development of this fragmented town, and a revised structure plan this year is aimed at controlling the millions of rands worth of development springing up all over.

A number of factors have contributed to the sudden and fast growth of Midrand. Chiefly,

it is because the town is exceptionally well located, halfway between two major cities, with easy access to the highway and railway line. Midrand also has its own airport, Grand Central.

The face of the town has changed radically in the past 10 years. According to a group of town and regional planners called in to draw up the structure plan, "the town is no longer entirely a tranquil, semi-rural area remote from the realities of urban living."

They suggest a development

approach which maintains a balance between the forces of development and the need to conserve.

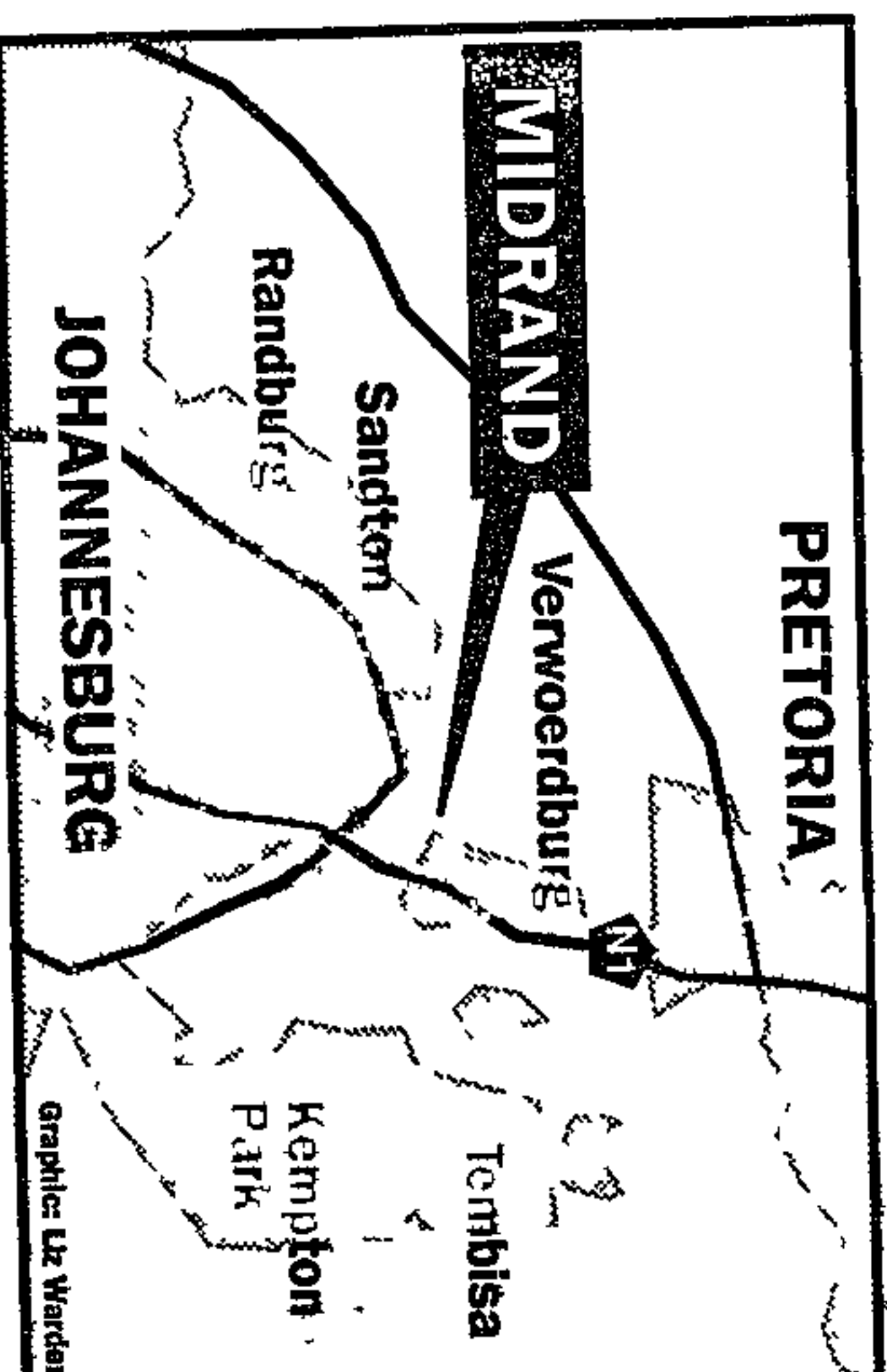
The golden thread running through all Midrand planning policies is that it is a rural residential town, Mr Hidden says for the development of the town.

Many people are apprehensive about Midrand's "so-called growth and development", says Margie Moore of the local newspaper. The Midrand Reporter.

Mrs Moore has lived in Midrand since 1963, when her parents bought an agricultural holding there.

Now there is a need to attract middle-income residents to Midrand, says Midrand Chamber of Commerce president Ian Lourens. Many people are under the impression that Midrand is an expensive town in which to buy, chiefly because of residential areas consist of agricultural holdings.

He says there is not enough housing stock available and that



residential development, alongside commercial development, should be stimulated. Last year there were just less than 24 000 residents in Midrand, with 60 000 people working there. The Midrand council, too, has

a task to address a number of internal problems.

When this council took over 2½ years ago, "we inherited a real mixed bag", Mr Hidden says.

Bad management structures resulted in several ill-advised appointments, and currently only three departments have permanent heads — the rest are all "acting" because their predecessors had to leave as a result of mismanagement.

"The wrong people were hired. They were totally unqualified and their activities were uncontrolled," Mr Hidden says.

Roads or the lack of them, are also causing some problems.

Mr Hidden says the town has lost at least three developments this year because of the poor access to the central business district.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has planned a number of roads through and around Midrand. Although they may destroy the character of the town, they are important for easy access.

There are about 1 000 homeless families in Midrand, most of them squatting on land belonging to the House of Representatives in Rabie Ridge.

Mr Hidden says Midrand would like to buy a tract of land on a site-and-service basis for homeless people who work and live in Midrand.

Midrand and Tembisa, to the north-east of Midrand, are currently involved in talks with Kempton Park on the future of the three neighbouring towns.

Midrand is also represented on the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

"There's a huge amount of talking going on, although some residents have indicated they are opposed to it," Mr Hidden says.

He believes it is just a matter of time before Pretoria, Midrand and Johannesburg become one centre — probably in five to 10 years.

"This is a small window of opportunity, so we have to get cracking," he says. □

Star 11/7/91

White union to monitor race mixing

Action committees will be formed to monitor neighbourhoods opened to all races by Eskom and mining houses, the all-white Mineworkers Union said in a statement in Johannesburg yesterday.

"The opening of residential areas by Eskom could lead to a chain reaction where most of the Conservative Party-controlled towns would be mixed in a very short time," the statement said.

It was accepted that Eskom's example would soon be followed by the mining houses, Sasol, Iscor and other big corporations.

These companies supplied housing for their workers on the East Rand and in towns such as Vanderbijlpark, Welkom, Secunda, Witbank, Middelburg and Klerksdorp and various parts of Pretoria.

Company housing was usually provided at a very reasonable rental, and affordability would not be a problem for the lower-income groups.

This would inevitably lead to mixed schools, a fall in property prices and neighbourhood standards as well as mixed town councils, the statement said —Sapa

Rent crisis meeting delayed

(27)
Sowetan 11/7/91

A MEETING scheduled for yesterday between a delegation from Soshanguve, north of Pretoria, and the Deputy Minister of Education and Development Aid, Mr Piet Marais, has been postponed.

Chairman of the Soshanguve Residents Association (Sorea), Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa, said the meeting had been postponed until July 29 at the request of the deputy minister.

The meeting was to discuss the three-month-old rent and services boycott in the township.

Mkhathshwa said the residents' resolution, taken three months ago to boycott rent and services, was still in effect and residents should ignore recently issued accounts.

The town manager of Soshanguve, Mr N Liebenberg, said residents' response towards payment for rent and services was poor.

Residents resolved to embark on a boycott at a mass meeting held at the local stadium on April 14, following complaints of irregular meter readings and what they describe as exorbitant electricity and service bills. - Sapa

Power cuts 127

THE Pretoria City Council yesterday warned that electricity supplies to Atteridgeville could be cut next Tuesday unless residents settled their accounts. *Sowetan 12/7/91*

The council said the management committee will meet on July 16 to decide the issue.

The council reconnected electricity supplies to Atteridgeville last month and gave residents

By MONK NKOMO

until next Tuesday to pay the new tariffs, ranging between R75 and R190 depending on the circuit-breaker of each house.

Officials of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation asked residents to stop paying rent until an affordable and fixed tariff had been negotiated with the authorities.

Land-occupation threat

(127)

Secretan

12/7/91

By **DON SEOKANE**

THE Alexandra Civic Association has threatened to launch a campaign to occupy empty houses and stands at the exclusively Indian Marlboro Gardens near the township.

andrans are squeezed into one-room shacks and dilapidated houses

Meeting

"ACA has already put the matter to the Sandton council and the Marlboro executive committee. We expect a meeting with the two parties within 14 days"

ACA chairman Mr Mike Beea said the Marlboro area - which also includes an industrial site - was allocated to the Indian community in 1987 and has been exclusively used for Indians while thousands of Alex-

If the matter was not resolved, ACA would

propose the following actions be taken by the community:

* Consumer boycott of all business centres in Sandton, Kew, Wynberg and the Indian-owned shops in Marlboro and a defiance campaign, specifically to occupy empty houses in Marlboro.

Efforts to reach Mr Jacob Magda of Marlboro Gardens committee for comment were unsuccessful.



19/1/91



Fight over land use hots up in posh areas

Northern suburbs residents' associations and Johannesburg city councillors have launched a campaign to win new planning rights — and to protect the nature of their suburbs.

They took Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing HERNUS KRIEL on a tour to show some effects of the application of the Removal of Restrictions Act and Townships Board decisions.

Ratepayers say the Removal of Restrictions Act ignores certain fundamental legal principles — in that the Townships Board, which hears objections and inspects the site, makes a secret recommendation to the Minister.

The Minister, in turn, is not required to give reasons for his decision or to inspect the site.

There is also no right of appeal.

Appeal

With the municipal Town Planning and Townships Ordinance, the Johannesburg City Council's Town Planning Tribunal's decision is made public, reasons are available and there is an appeal process.

Northern Areas Ratepayers Group chairman Tony Challenger said "Ratepayers no longer have any faith in the system or in the ability of the city council to control the situation.

"Great bitterness has been engendered by a distant authority which never gives reasons for decisions, which does not even have to inspect the site, or hear arguments before changing the character of our suburbs."

A probe into a new land-use Bill is under way, writes Municipal Reporter LOUISE BURGERS.

Mr Kriel was taken to Houghton Island, where 31 luxury homes are to be demolished for a Sanlam office park.

The developer was given the go-ahead by the Minister in spite of vehement objections by the city council and some residents who are still refusing to sell and face being surrounded by offices.

Residents recommend that a new body be constituted to be called the Town Planning Appeals Board with a senior legal counsel as chairman assisted by two assessors, that decisions and reasons be placed on public record, and that Appeals Board decisions be final.

An Appeals Board should have the power to both remove restrictions and to award compensation.

Residents said there was widespread dissatisfaction with the Act and asked Mr Kriel to ensure that when the Act was amended:

- Procedures be equitable
- Reasons for decisions

be given.

- Provision be made for appeal to a proper Appeals Board

- Property rights be addressed specifically in the decision-making

- Ad hoc rezonings be avoided so that planning can proceed in an orderly manner.

Mr Kriel said the solution to the town planning problems in the province lay in a devolution of responsibility so people at ground level could take the decisions. He has appointed Dr Charl van Tonder, Director of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, to investigate a new land-use Bill, due to be published next year.

Townships developed before 1946 were controlled in terms of restrictive conditions of title, because it was only in that year that Johannesburg obtained its Town Planning Scheme. Mr Challenger said:

"All the older suburbs therefore have title restrictions so that when a change in land use is proposed, the applicant usually has no choice but to remove these and very naturally does so via a simultaneous removal of restrictions and rezoning, instead of lodging two applications, one to remove restrictions and the second to amend the town planning scheme."

Intrusion

When the rights have been granted and the precedent created, the community and local authority may be forced into a position whereby they develop a planning policy in response to intrusion by business.

What often happens, say ratepayers, is that those who were granted lesser rights apply to increase their rights to match their neighbours' and ultimately the development is much greater than was envisaged.

Parktown resident Flo Bird said most northern suburbs residents felt vulnerable, scared of "another Parktown" and helpless because even if the Townships Board had given heed to objectors, ultimately the speculators seemed to win.

"Our homes are threatened — this is our biggest single investment and our most basic security. The response to this threat is a growing anger and outrage at a system which ignores the wider issues, overlooks local concern and operates with little regard for the most basic principles of justice," Ms Bird said.

tion from attack by hostel inmates
Many Alexandra residents had lost their homes to Inkatha supporters. Local residents had been forced to flee if they did not

stabbed to death at Gamalakhe. At Nyandezulu unidentified men had hijacked a bus, before setting it alight. Two men on the bus were killed

'Electricity cards' opposed

^{31 day}
THE Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation has vowed to block a R9,5m "smart card" electricity meter project planned by the Pretoria RSC.

The budget economy control system, announced by the RSC yesterday, would enable 11 467 Atteridgeville households to pay in advance and would save administration fees, Atteridgeville administrator Ernie Jacobson said.

Credit available would be registered on a plastic card to be inserted in meters in township homes and businesses.

Publicity secretary John Ramatsui said yesterday the residents' organisation objected to the meters because they were a waste of money which should have

^{12/7/91} ⁽¹²⁷⁾
THEO RAWANA

been spent on other services such as housing, health and sewage.

"What's more, the council did not consult us before deciding to install this new system. These meters will give the authorities power to increase tariffs whenever they feel like it.

"We will oppose this. We will stop the contractor from installing the meters, until the system is negotiated with us," he added.

The Atteridgeville council owes Pretoria R800 000 as a result of a rent and service boycott in the township of 200 000 people.

Jacobson said the card would be phased in over the next 16 months. "The card enables people who work on a cash basis, to pay in

advance, either weekly or monthly, and there are six points of renewal."

Meanwhile the three greater Soweto councils' decision to mandate the Central Wits RSC to administer electricity supply would come up for endorsement at a Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting before the end of the month, the councils' spokesman Mojalefa Moseki, said yesterday.

PEANUTS

HOW CAN YOU TEACH SOMEONE WHO THINKS THE GREAT GATSBY WAS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT?



I HEAR HIM O WHAT



Civics: It's a TPA ploy to prolong suffering

Sowetan 15/7/91

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THE Transvaal Provincial Administration's unilateral decision to cancel Friday's conclusive meeting for the resumption of electrical power to more than 100 000 Vaal Triangle residents was "a deliberate ploy to prolong the suffering of our people", the Vaal Civic Association charged.

VCA spokesman Mr Paul Sithole on Friday afternoon told a Press conference that agreement had been reached for the return of electricity to thousands of residents in the Vaal Triangle follow-

ing five weeks without power.

Sithole said Friday's scheduled meeting was to conclude the agreement for the return of power to four townships in the area, but the TPA pulled out at the 11th hour.

The reason given by the TPA was that it was about to appoint four local authorities headed by administrators and that negotiations with the VCA on the electricity issue would only resume after the appointment

"This shifting of the goalposts once more clearly shows that the TPA and the government are not serious about seeking a negotiated

settlement to the problems of Vaal residents but are determined to continue with their policies of imposing their own decisions on our people," Sithole said

He expressed concern that the move to establish local authorities in terms of the Black Local Authorities Act was a move back to apartheid structures.

Mr Nigel Mandy, the TPA's urban consultant and negotiator, however rejected the VCA's claim that agreement had been reached for the resumption of power to portions of Sebokeng, all of Sharpeville, and parts of Boipatong and Bophelong - Sapa

50% 10 unemployment in
Biday 15/7/91
Alexandra, study finds

MORE than half of Alexandra's adult population is unemployed, according to a recent survey

The survey by the Education for Employment Campaign (EEC) also found that the township's population had risen by about 30% during the past year to 320 000

EEC director Dave Jackson said only one-fifth of Alexandra's children of school-going age were at school

The remaining 76 000 children were turning to crime

"Many unemployed people, including children, when asked how they survived, replied 'We have to steal - how else do you expect us to live?'" Jackson said

The EEC seeks to train township residents in practical matters and is funded by the Independent Development Trust, local industries and foreign interests, including the European Community (EC)

Jackson said that 90% of Alexandra's population pinned their hopes for the

DARIUS SANAI

future on the education of their children.

But certificates of education were virtually useless if the holder could not speak English well, he said

"There are people out there with BSc degrees who are not able to communicate properly in a factory and therefore cannot find jobs," he said

The EEC programme aims to upgrade school facilities, provide training, counselling services and employment facilities for the unemployed and management training for community leaders

The latter was vital to help defuse tension between rival township political groups, Jackson said

The programme is being set up initially in Alexandra

The EEC hopes to provide the service in other townships as well

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Soweto 'gives most support to govt'

GOVERNMENT has a higher level of support in Soweto than any other political formation, according to a survey of township residents' political attitudes

The report, by the University of Witwatersrand's Centre for Policy Studies, found that Soweto residents were "very moderate" and gave government a higher level of support than they did the church, trade unions, the ANC, employers and Azapo

The survey, of 905 township residents across SA, showed 80% of respondents were satisfied with the leadership of De Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela, but in Soweto De Klerk got 20% more support than the ANC

The ANC would, however, get the votes

JONATHON REES

of 60% of all township residents nationally in a general election

Civic associations, street committees, the SA Communist Party and Cosatu enjoyed lower levels of identification in Soweto than in other townships

On the East Rand, virtually all political formations had a lower endorsement than elsewhere, except for Inkatha.

Inkatha had "overwhelming support" among hostel dwellers, who gave positive ratings to both the state and employers

Most striking about hostel dwellers, the researchers said, was that they rated all other agencies and movements, including the church, relatively poorly

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Farmworkers victims under law report

SUSAN RUSSELL

THE exclusion of farmworkers from industrial and labour legislation made the law a weapon in the hands of farmers, according to a report published by the Black Sash and the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac).

University of Witwatersrand researcher Lauren Segal, the author of the report, said the relationship between farmers and labourers operated along the lines of a medieval master-serf relationship rather than according to contractual principles.

"With no written obligations to bind him, the farmer is free to dismiss his worker for whatever reason he wishes and to decide on his own terms," she said.

"SA's 1.3-million farmworkers are not legally protected and conditions on some farming operations have revealed that there is no bottom line to how bad such conditions may be under the law."

She said farmworkers were excluded from the Labour Relations Act, the Wages Act, the Unemployment Insurance Act and the Factories Act, and had no right to public holidays, sick pay or leave pay.

There was no legal limit to working hours or any statute compelling farmers to pay overtime and as there was no minimum age for farmworkers, child labour was endemic, she said

Legislation which could be used against farmworkers included the Illegal Squatters Act, the Trespass Act and the General Law Amendment Act, she said.

Bookmakers probe hailed
have no official stat

Daveyton readies itself for seminar

Sowetan
Sowetan reporter

16) 7) 91
DAVEYTON residents formed task groups during a workshop on Saturday to prepare for a Nation Building seminar in the township on August 24

(127)
Representatives of the youth, parents, teachers and the clergy who attended the workshop will focus on problems discussed with different groups and present their recommendations at the forthcoming seminar

"The most common complaint is of communication breakdown between the different groups. The seminars provide a forum to get together, discuss problems and work through ways to solve them," said organiser Ms D1 Sutherland



Nation Building
The Power is in Your Hands

"Professional people like clinical psychologists and community health workers at each seminar will provide advice and help set up local action groups"

Series

The seminars, sponsored by Pick 'n Pay, are part of a series of Nation Building events being taken by *Sowetan* to various towns around the country

The next seminar will be held in Bloemfontein on July 27

Pay or face cuts, residents warned

Sowetan 16/7/91 (127)

ATTERIDGEVILLE administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson yesterday appealed to residents to pay at least R90 a household to avoid electricity cuts.

The Pretoria City Council's management committee is scheduled to meet today to decide whether to continue to supply electricity to the township.

The council had given the township's residents a month's grace, beginning from June 5, to pay new tariffs that ranged from R75 to R190.

"I appeal to the residents to pay at least a flat rate of R90 to help us pay our accounts for services rendered by the Pretoria council," Jacobson said.

He said they would plead with the Pretoria City Council to give them more time.

Most residents received their accounts

only last week while many others had not yet received them, according to Jacobson.

At a public meeting last Sunday the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation called on residents to stop paying rent until "a fixed and affordable rent" had been agreed to between them and the relevant authorities.

Asro has, however, urged residents to consider paying more than the present R50 flat rate.

A meeting between Asro's executive committee and the Pretoria City Council's management committee, which was scheduled to have been held yesterday, was indefinitely postponed because some of the Pretoria council's members were not available.

South African 16/7/91

Unionists march

ABOUT 100 members of the South African Black Municipal and Allied Workers Union yesterday marched on the Wattville Council offices, demanding sites they were allegedly promised by the municipality.

They have given the council until July 19 to respond.

The workers, all employees of the council, demanded that houses be built on 16 sites which they were allegedly promised by the council.

Their grievances also included improved working conditions, better salaries and increases of between 25 and 35 percent.

Pay up or face cuts - council

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents have been given until tomorrow to pay up or face cuts - again, writes MONK NKOMO.

Dr Pieter Smith, chairman of the management committee of the Pretoria City Council, urged residents to pay their accounts and said a final decision to continue the power supply would be taken tomorrow.

Tariffs proposed by the Pretoria City Council, which ranged between R75 and R190, would enable the township to meet its obligations.

The council also suggested that hostel dwellers pay R30 a month, businesses pay promulgated tariffs and residents with metered houses pay a basic tariff of R40 as well as metered consumption.

500/17/7/91

127
Sowetan
17/7/91

Alex residents take over 31 Marlboro houses

By ISAAC MOLEDI

THIRTY-ONE unoccupied houses, which were set for occupation by Indians in Marlboro Gardens near Alexandra, were yesterday unlocked by the Alexandra Civic Association (ACA) for occupation by destitute local families.

Marlboro Gardens was taken away from Alexandra and reserved for Indians in 1987 by the Government.

ACA chairman, Mr Mike Beea, who was later escorted by police to a police station, told *Sowetan* that his organisation could not sit back and watch many destitute families in Alexandra without houses while a place near them, which by right belonged to the residents, had been vacant since March.

"We all need houses and comfort in a democratic country," he said.

ACA secretary general Mr Sidney Hiliza warned of a possible consumer boycott of Indian-owned shops in the area if Beea was not released within 24 hours.

Some residents, who were to occupy the houses, dispersed when police arrived in Casspirs and vans. Others moved into the houses.

Curtains and papers were put on windows of the houses and some residents could be seen in some of them.

Township given two days to pay lights bill

17/7/91 THEO RAWANA (127)
PRETORIA City Council has given Atteridgeville residents a two-day period of grace before it cuts off electricity to the township, which owes R800 000

A statement after yesterday's management committee meeting said a final decision on the cutting of supplies had been postponed until tomorrow.

Pretoria warned last month that power could be cut this month if residents did not pay new tariffs of between R75 and R190 a month.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation decided last month to ignore the new tariffs in favour of a monthly flat rate of R50

Star 17/7/91

Protests loom over switch-off

By Musa Mapisa (127)

He said it resulted from residents' failure to meet their bills.

Mass action, including a rent and consumer boycott of white businesses, was on the cards in Middelburg following the cutting of electricity to Mhluzi township on Monday, Middelburg Residents Organisation spokesman Ace Mathibela indicated yesterday.

Mr Mathibela said his organisation was prepared to resume negotiations with the town through the Middelburg Forum.

Mhluzi town clerk Karen Haycock confirmed the switch-off and

The forum, consisting of businessmen, trade unions and community organisations, was formed last year to address community problems in the area, he said.

Houses grabbed, police act

JOHANNESBURG — The chairman of the Alexandra Civic Association, Mr Mike Beea, was arrested on Tuesday after township residents occupied houses in the nearby Indian suburb of Marlboro Gardens, Sandton

SABC TV news reported that the occupation of 32 houses was supported by the association

Police were called to the scene, arrested Mr Beea and also requested residents to disperse, which some of them then did

Some of the houses, which belong to the Indian House of Delegates, were broken into by Alexandra residents.

A spokesman for the Indian community in Marlboro Gardens said they did not object to blacks moving into the houses — as long as it was done legally

The Acting Minister of Housing and Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Baldeo Dookie, said yesterday that the occupation of the houses highlighted the crisis among homeless blacks

He appealed for a review of the protest action and for those who had been allocated the homes to be allowed to occupy them. — Sapa

(127) CT 18/7/91

'No English-speakers' rent ad for Pretoria flat slated

Star 18/7/91

Pretoria Correspondent (127)

A Pretoria resident is up in arms over an advertisement for a flat to rent that excludes applications by English-speakers

The advert also has a "no kids, no pets" clause

It irked Rob Barnes, who has lived in South Africa for 20 years since coming from Britain. He said he was shocked and appalled by the advert.

A Pretoria property lawyer, Willem Botha, said there was no remedy to the situation short of Government intervention

He said the free-market system enabled landowners to decide whom they would rent or sell their property to.

"There is no legal remedy for Mr Barnes. The law would uphold the flat owner's right to de-

cide who lives in his property"

Mr Botha said that by limiting the market for the flat, the owner was not infringing on the rights of anyone but himself.

"An owner can legally limit the occupation or sale of his land to people who wear size 12 shoes if he wants, and there's nothing to stop him."

The northern Transvaal, chairman of the South African Property Owners Association, Jan van Straten, said the issue was a private matter between an owner and a prospective buyer or renter.

If it became commonplace, he said, perhaps the Government would introduce legislation to combat it.

Des Reed, a director of Mid-City, said he would like to see legislation to outlaw discrimination.

Estate agents will defy arson threat

By Al-Ameen Kafaar *Star 18/7/91*

Standerton estate agents say they will defy a threat to burn down their homes and offices if they sell any houses to blacks.

Four of the five agents in the town received a letter, handwritten in Afrikaans, on Monday warning them not to sell any houses in "white" residential areas to blacks.

An agent at the fifth, Hemo Christo Agency, said the firm had not received the letter. He was unable to explain why they had been left out.

An eastern Transvaal police spokesman, Major Themba Mhlangu, said yesterday that Standerton police were investigating the matter.

The Star obtained a copy of

people who requested that the sales not be made public until they had left town.

One man at Van Biljon agency said "The letter was very childish and we don't take it seriously."

The other agents — who requested not to be identified — said the letter would not discourage them from selling houses to blacks.

They said a number of blacks had inquired about buying homes in "white" areas.

Eskel Jawitz, chairman of the Estates Agents Board, said the board would advise all estate agents to ignore similar threats.

"The board will take a very serious view if consumers bring complaints to us of estate agents refusing to deal with them because of threats like this," he said.

ALLE EIENDOMSAGENTE.
HIERDIE IS NIE N DREIGEMENT.
DI IS OORLOEG
VERKOOP EEN HUIS IN STANDERTON
AAN N ANDERSKLEURIGE EN
ONS BRAND JOU HUIS EN KANTOR
A.F.

127

Threatening note . . . sent to a Standerton estate agent.

the letter from Aida Holdings Ltd, which holds a franchise in Standerton.

The letter reads "This is not a warning. It is war. Sell one house in Standerton to blacks (anderskleuriges) and we will burn down your houses and offices."

Aida Holdings managing director Aida Geffen yesterday strongly condemned the letter.

Mrs Geffen said her franchise holders had sold quite a number of homes to blacks in the Transvaal and Free State.

She said some of the houses belonged to very conservative

Cuts to defaulters only, says council

Sowetan 19/7/91 (127)

By MONK NKOMO

THE rent crisis in Atteridgeville, Pretoria - which was threatened with power cuts this week - took another turn yesterday with the announcement that plans were under way to switch off electricity to rent defaulters only.

Township administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson met the Pretoria City Council's management committee yesterday to discuss this system.

Jacobson described it as being fair to residents

who met their obligations.

A number of residents had been paying their accounts since Monday.

Appeal

Jacobson appealed to residents to pay at least R90 a household to enable the Atteridgeville City Council to pay its bulk suppliers.

Jacobson stressed that electricity supplies to the whole township would not be cut

Asked if he was prepared to meet the executive committee of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation after suspending talks with them two months ago, Jacobson said "I am more than willing to meet them but they have not yet met the conditions I set in our last meeting

"I would like to meet Asro and resolve this rent issue once and for all," said Jacobson

In a statement released

this week, Asro accused the Pretoria City Council of being reluctant to negotiate and resolve the rent crisis in the township.

Asro's general secretary Mr Simon Tshidi said they had sought a meeting with the council on Monday to clarify three sets of tariffs announced this year.

This meeting did not take place after the council said some of its members would not be available.

Pretoria mayor warns vandals

127

Soweto

19/7/91

By ALINAH DUBE

THE Mamelodi Council has warned residents who restored electricity to the houses of rent defaulters to stop breaking down meter boxes or be prepared to face prosecution.

The mayor, Mr Simon Mokohe, said in a statement that some of the people in the township were "vandalising meter cabinets" by breaking their locks.

He said this was being done in the process of restoring electricity to houses of people whose supply was cut off as a result of being in arrears amounting to R500 or more.

"The council would like to warn such culprits that if found, they will face prosecution. Any house owner who accepts the illegal restoration of electricity is also liable for prosecution.

"To be on the safe side, (house) owners are advised to refuse to be party to such an illegal act and to report the culprits to the police." is their city.

Atteridgeville's power to be cut off next week

(127)

Star
19/7/91

Pretoria Correspondent

Atteridgeville's electricity supply is to be cut on Monday. The decision to cut the township's power supply was taken yesterday by the Pretoria City Council's management committee.

The city council said the Atteridgeville City Council owed it R3,6 million for electricity, R1,2 million for water and R939 361 for sewerage.

The management committee indicated that it could no longer tolerate the situation and that the council could no longer afford to lose thousands of rands because some residents were refusing to pay for services.

Electricity in Atteridgeville was restored on June 6 after negotiations between the township's Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson and an interim committee which consisted of local residents

Power was restored on condition that residents paid new

proposed tariffs which ranged between R75 and R190.

The council said payment so far has been poor. Only 15 per cent of the residents responded positively.

The council said it had showed its goodwill towards Atteridgeville by giving the township more than enough time during the past few months to show some willingness to pay for the services rendered.

The council stated that Dr Jacobson would soon lay down conditions under which electricity will be resupplied to individual consumers.

"This action is aimed at dealing with non-payers and to motivate residents who have been paying their accounts"

The council said a meeting requested by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation last Monday could not go ahead as the memorandum submitted by the organisation did not contain any new information.

ing of first division club chairmen that Sishi and Kobus had admitted to

other things to deposit over-payments received from the SABC for

merits of the application until Monday

Townships pay more for electricity, says Eskom

31 Day 1977/91 (127)

TOWNSHIP residents paid more for electricity than people living in white towns, an Eskom spokesman said yesterday

The spokesman said in an interview yesterday that "demand patterns" for electricity in areas where there were industries or mines were favourable and Eskom could therefore supply them with electricity at a much cheaper rate

In the townships electricity was more expensive because some lacked industries and their demand was erratic, the spokesman said

A spokesman for Vosloorus Town Council confirmed that the non-existence of industries in the township and their erratic demand made electricity more expensive than most white towns

Eskom sells electricity to bulk-users — such as municipalities and mines — at 7,6 cents a unit but Vos-

WILSON ZWANE

loorus residents pay 11,26 cents a unit, 0,34 cents more than Johannesburg residents pay

The Vosloorus spokesman said every municipality sold electricity to its customers at a higher price than what it paid Eskom

Reason

"There is the whole electrical network to put into place. People who read the meters and maintain the electrical network have to be paid

"So it stands to reason that we should sell electricity at a higher price than what we get it for from Eskom," he said

The Vosloorus spokesman would not be drawn on what profits the council made on the sale of electricity

Power cuts will hit non-payers

31 Day 1977/91 THEO RAWANA (127)

THE Atteridgeville Town Council will selectively cut power to non-paying residents in a bid to avert a total cut-off, the Pretoria City Council said yesterday

Pretoria has threatened to cut power to Atteridgeville — a move which would affect all 170 000 residents — because most residents have not paid new monthly tariffs which range from R75 to R190. Atteridgeville owes Pretoria R5,8m.

The Pretoria management committee said in a statement yesterday payment was disappointing and only 15% of residents were paying the new tariffs.

Pretoria rejected a last-minute attempt by the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation to convene a meeting because it had "no new information".

'Smart' challenge to prepayment meters

ALTECH has become the fifth company to launch a

ROBERT LAING

100 000 units this year

Row flar



Stanprop's income is

29% better

15/10/91
PETER GALLI

STANDARD Bank Property Fund (Stanprop) has posted a net distributable income 29% up at R25,91m for the six months to end-June.

The improvement was attributed to a generally improved rental profile and its move out of the residential market.

The figure translates into net distributable income 12,5% higher at 9,25c a unit

Said Stanprop management and leasing agent, Fountainhead MD Mike Aitken: "We expect the fund to perform in line with these figures in the next six months

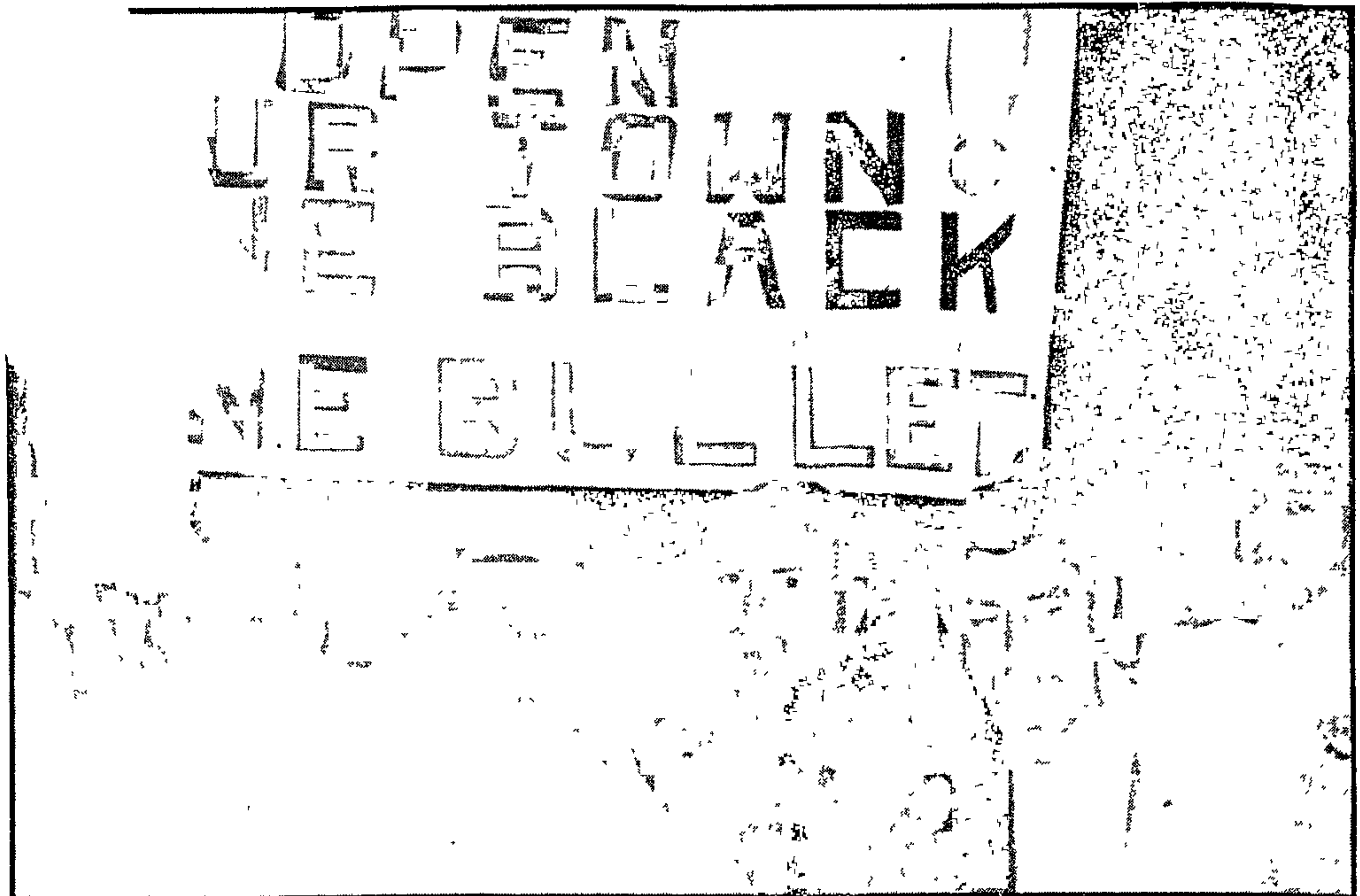
"We have R80m invested in the money market, which probably creates a distortion in the results

"However, we are looking to put this cash into prime investments . . . when the economic climate has improved."

The fund has five Berea and Hillbrow residential buildings, with a cost value of about R20m, left in its portfolio. It hopes to dispose of them for about R45m by mid-1992

Fund MD Steward Shaw-Taylor said the fund would look at the specialised sector, for example hospitals and hotels, when it wished to replace the residential component of its portfolio

Stanprop sold its Bedford Gardens residential property for R90m during the period under review, giving it a non-distributable surplus of R52,8m



PROVOCATIVE MESSAGE: Protesters make their point at the Mineworkers' Union meeting.

● Picture: JACOOB RYCLIFF

ABOUT 250 white workers gathered at Megawatt Park last night to voice their outrage at Eskom's decision to desegregate its residential areas

The stormy open-air meeting at Eskom's head office, organised by the Mineworkers' Union (MWU), was also attended by members of right-wing paramilitary groupings, the Conservative Party and Trans-

Row over Eskom desegregation

vaal Agricultural Union.

Individuals shouted racist slogans and a banner bearing the legend "Open our town! One black, one bullet" was raised during an address by Mineworkers' Union general secretary Peet Ungerer

Reading a petition handed to Eskom officials before the meeting,

GUY JEPSON

Mr Ungerer said Eskom had set a precedent which would be followed by other big companies.

"These companies are not concerned about what (will happen to) the prices of homes, residential standards, separate white lifestyles and the

peaceful nature of our residential areas," he said. *Star 20/7/91*

"They are also not concerned about the effects of such a step for white schools, voting lists and own community life"

At the meeting, the formation of Aksie Eie Woongebiede (AEW), an action group aimed at combating residential

integration countrywide, was announced

Mr Ungerer said: "We say today 'Up to here and no further' The whites are in their last trench We will not submit"

Sapa reports that the delegation of MWU members was met by by Eskom's personnel manager, Danie du Plessis, and industrial relations manager Riaan Neethling

Sandtonians demand PPP

It would be difficult to find a more dramatic example of somebody's bluff being called.

Town planning consultant Bruce Stewart of Sandton is 39 until 1988, he was a ratepayers' leader who campaigned for "PPP" — public participation in planning.

Now, somewhat to his own surprise, he is not only on the Sandton council, he is in the hot seat — chairman of the management committee, "executive director" of his town.

And Sandtonians are demanding he introduces PPP. "It all happened so suddenly," said Mr Stewart, a softly-spoken but incisive person. He is the father of three school-going children and was born in Germiston.

If any town councillor is going to find the magic formula for PPP it is going to be Bruce Stewart.

EVER since his student days at Wits University he has been debating ways and means of planning with people instead of planning on them.

Mr Stewart's role reversal began with a meeting he attended in 1985 to hear his local councillor speak. He asked some pertinent questions and the councillor, impressed, suggested he should stand for council. Mr Stewart did so on a PPP ticket — and won.

At his first council meeting he was voted on to the council's management committee. Eighteen months later he was chairman of that committee.

I interviewed Mr Stewart at the Randburg planning consultancy where he works. He described how Sandton was being torn apart by change. Office complexes have gone up where people did not want them, rows upon rows of townhouses have swallowed up once-gracious gardens, quiet suburban roads have become noisy arterials.

confrontational meetings with the council. Last month Mr Stewart was at the receiving end of a barrage of public wrath. He attended a meeting in the Sandton suburb of Buccleuch, where ratepayers are so angry about rampant change they want to break away from Sandton and join the municipality next door — Modderfontein.

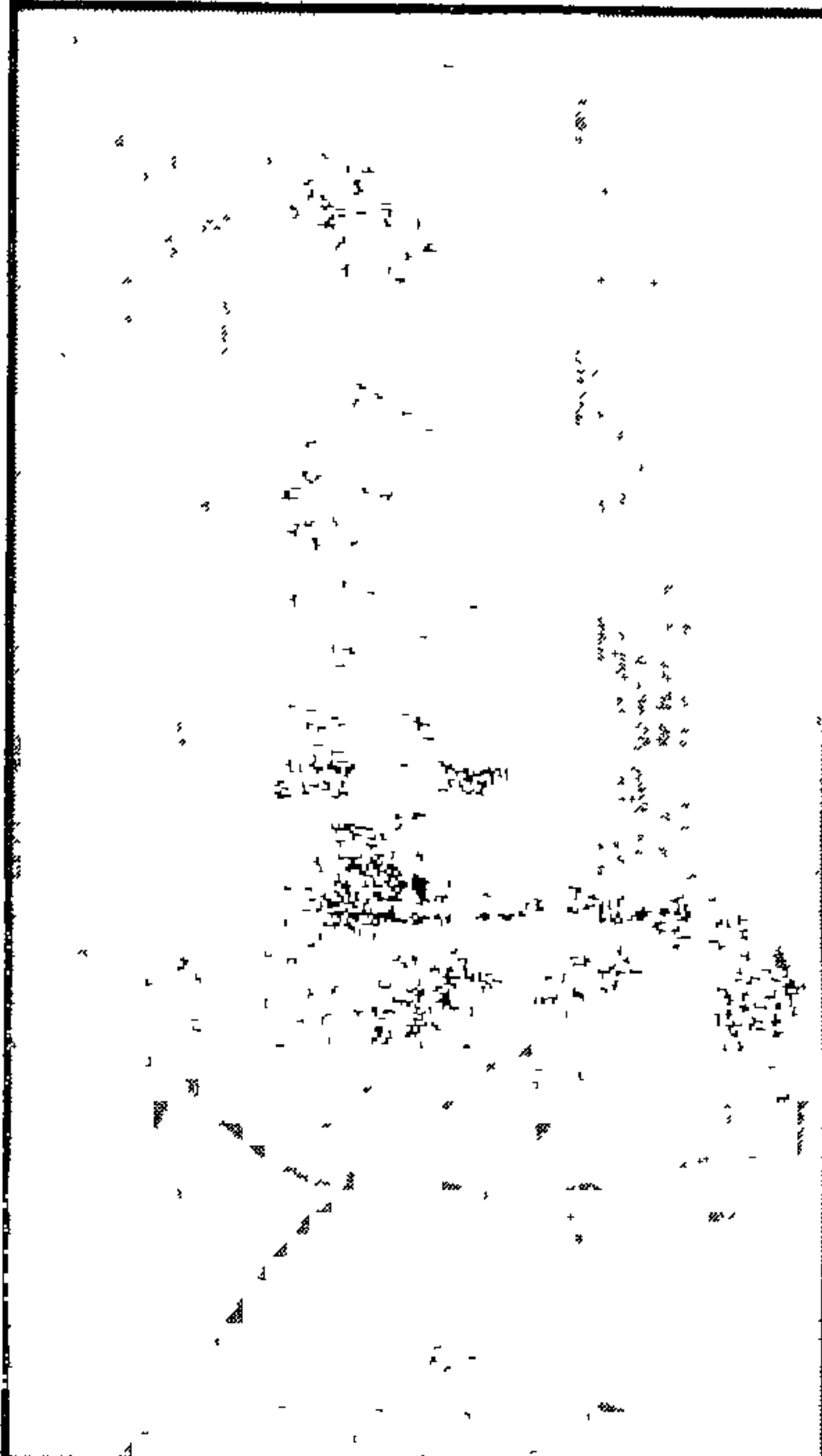
"Their anger was not directed at me particularly, but I was astonished at the level of antagonism.

"People's perceptions of town councils are that councils are secretive and work from hidden agendas and that many councillors are on the make."

He shook his head like a boxer recalling a painful punch. "Public participation is not an easy thing. But it is vital."

Yet, he acknowledged, Sandton, after many heated meetings, could turn out to be the town most likely to succeed in achieving PPP. The town has a higher than average number of big business people "and running a town is no different from running a big business. Thus, we have all that talent and we must somehow use it."

The town already has the Sandton Civic Foundation on which serve a number of millionaire business people who run active committees. The liveliest committee plays an environmental watchdog role.



MAKING A PLAN: Town planning consultant and now town councillor Bruce Stewart his town is having a midlife crisis.

Councillor has dream to plan with, not on, people

He mentally went through the list "We have a businessman — he's in clothing, two teachers, an engineer, a housewife, and another businessman, he's in glass, another teacher, an architect/planner, an attorney, a stockbroker."

He completed the list of 20. Only one was in property and he is one of the most popular and hard-working councillors.

Mr Stewart believes Sandton's "think and manure" days are over.

Up into the early 1980s it had at least 2,000 horses and its own polo field. There were big estates and more gardens bigger than "two acres" than in any municipality in South Africa.

"It was unrealistic for Sandton to have remained that way. But while change must be accepted — it must also be managed."

quarter of an hour in the evenings. We must look again at public transport."

He said Sandton had come a long way with public participation and referred to the "Sandton Structure Plan" which, in a simple map, defines present and future business modes. There is also a plan, arrived at through public participation, which, in a simple map, demarcates exactly what densities will be allowed and where.

"The structure plan will help guard against further 'surprises'," said Mr Stewart. "It has set limits on development without killing off development."

"We have to assume that interference by higher authorities will no longer override this plan."

JAMES CLARKE

"We must somehow keep the integrity of the suburbs while allowing increased density. We must somehow restore the peace we used to have, yet not suppress well-planned development."

SWISH suburbs such as Bryanston and Sandown, in danger of losing their special character, have had their names perpetuated in scattered extensions which are sometimes inclined to be parodies of the real thing.

It is partly the insensitivity of the way higher densities have been introduced and the threat of developments such as the notorious "South Road Extension" — a proposed major new arterial slashing

No longer favouring more highways, Mr Stewart now subscribes to "traffic calming."

"We do not get traffic jams in Sandton — we merely experience congestion — half an hour in the morning and a

ing is anathema to good town planning. But one must protect the integrity of the suburbs.

"For example, a big office park may wreck a suburban street because at night it becomes dead space, but small business premises here and there in suburbia can provide work close to home for people and be architecturally acceptable."

"It is not practical to strictly zone work places and living spaces, thus forcing people to commute."

"I am not advocating laissez-faire. Mixed use areas must be carefully managed and planned with full public input."

"And that's not easy."

JAMES CLARKE

That has been the trouble in the past, concedes Mr Stewart. Many developers who were told by the council that their projects were not in the town's interests have been able to get the Pretoria-based Townships Board to dismiss the council's and ratepayers' objections to certain office developments.

Surprisingly though, Mr Stewart is not against the Townships Board.

"It's worst crime has been that it has not communicated. Make no mistake, we need an appeals board. Planning is not an exact science. The principle of appeal against town planning decisions must be entrenched."

"Personally, I never felt the old Townships Board was biased."

"But I feel the board should not look at each issue de novo. It should not hear fresh evidence put by planners and lawyers. It should rather look only at the evidence on which the local council itself based its decision. Nothing else."

He is not in favour of strict zoning which dictates "houses here and work-places over there."

"I don't see why certain types of offices or other types of workplaces should not mingle with suburbia. Strict zoning is anathema to good town planning. But one must protect the integrity of the suburbs."

Next Thursday (July 25) he is meeting all ratepayers' leaders to swap ideas on PPP.

W HAT, I asked him, is the most efficient way of communicating with the public? Is he in favour of a monthly forum where the public can meet the management committee and hear and debate answers to pre-written questions — as happens in Dallas? Or the Jomag technique which entails issuing easy-to-read fact sheets on new developments — no glossy colour, just black and white on A4, describing a proposed plan and the expected impacts?

Bruce Stewart already produces a regular newsletter — it is set out like a miniature tabloid — which he delivers to all 1,600 individual houses and flats in his ward.

"Perhaps the council should consider a sort of monthly newspaper inserted into the local knock-n-drop weekly paper."

"Or we could use an informal newsletter inserted into rates accounts."

"As far as regular forums are concerned — public participation seems to work only on major issues. We might find monthly forums ill-tended."

Mayor's home is bombed again

127

By MONWABISI NOMADLOLO

A BABY, a two-month-old baby is the daughter of Duduza mayor Kebane Molo, and was sitting with her mother, Lilian Molo, watching TV in the bedroom 217741. Molo, a father of five, said his home was stoned earlier this year by a group of youths.

"This is bad. My kids' lives are in constant danger."

Moloi has suffered on both sides of the political divide. Between 1982 and 1985 his home and business were the target of township violence.

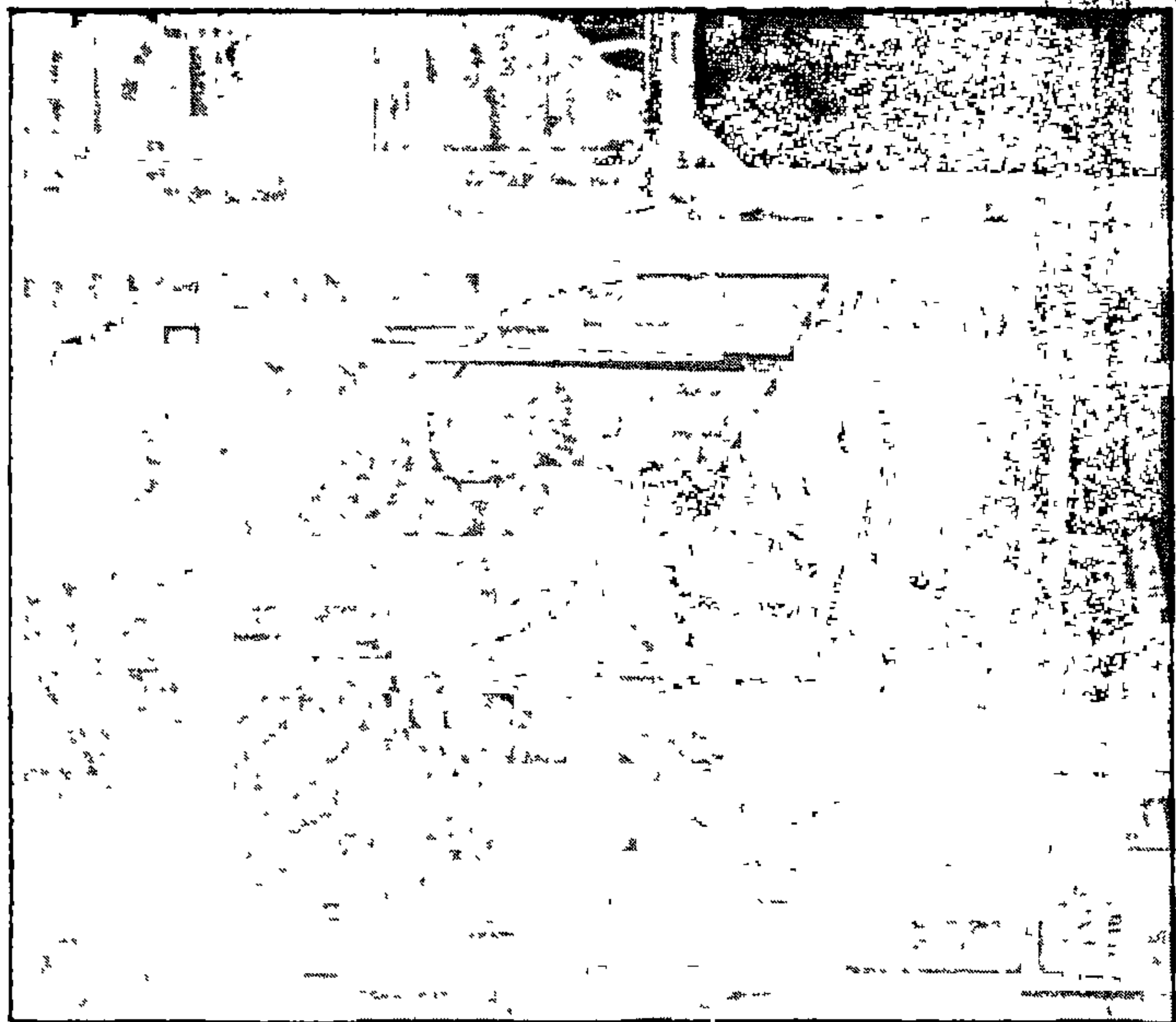
Moloi resigned from the council in 1986 and was detained the same year for his involvement in the Duduza Civic Association.

He returned to local government in 1988 after realising that he was "better inside than outside" in working for the community.

He believes the attack was politically motivated. For weeks the council has been deadlocked with the DCA over a rate for rentals and services.

DCA spokesman Christopher Mimi said residents wanted a flat rate of R20 for unelectrified houses, R60 for electrified houses, R10 for squatters, and R49 for unelectrified houses and R120 for electrified houses.

He said: "The council is open-minded on the issue, but that must be discussed and based on consensus."



NARROW ESCAPE... Lilian Molo and daughter. Pic: SIPHIWE MHLAMBI

127
SHARON GHETTY
21/7/91

By SHARON GHETTY

A PENSIONER who has been homeless for the past six years was given a house this week — on the eve of a report from a commission of inquiry into housing shortages and corruption in Johannesburg's coloured townships. 21/7/91

Mr Johannes Bankies, 58, who keeps his family on a monthly disability grant of R690, told the commission in May that he had been forced to live in a car despite being on the housing waiting list.

SI Times
21/7/91 Pressure

After his evidence, Mr Bankies, his wife and four daughters aged four to 13 were given shelter by Mrs Eileen Pieterse, a member of the Westbury Tenants' Association.

They slept in the tiny sitting room of her two-bedroom council flat in Newclare, south of Johannesburg.

On Wednesday evening Mrs Pieterse left Mr Bankies at a local shop run by councillor Andrew Booyens in an effort to pressure him into helping Mr Bankies.

Heated

She claimed yesterday that, after a heated confrontation, the councillor placed Mr Bankies and his family in a dilapidated house in Newclare that is too run down to rent out.

Recommendations by the commission chairman, retired magistrate Mr JJ Louw, will be presented to the Transvaal provincial administrator tomorrow.

Atteridgeville to face electricity blackout today

127

22/7/91

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents will experience an electricity blackout as from this morning, the townships' Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, warned yesterday.

Jacobson said the decision to cut the electricity supply to the townships was taken after "a careful consideration".

He said despite his appeal to the residents to pay their July accounts and avoid another powercut, only 24 percent of the 11 284 householders had paid.

In a statement released yesterday, Jacobson said "power will be restored per zone if more than 75 percent of a zone has paid their accounts".

He added that a scheme would soon be implemented to act against rent defaulters.

"The time has come

By **MONK NKOMO**

that the Atteridgeville administration must act in a responsible manner towards its law-abiding citizens.

"Resident organisations have failed to honour their agreed upon undertakings," Jacobson said.

Water

The chairman of the Management Committee of the Pretoria City Council, Dr Pieter Smith, yesterday said the Atteridgeville Council owed them more than R3,6-m for the bulk supply of electricity, R1,2-m for water, and R939 361 for sewerage.

"The Pretoria City Council can no longer afford to lose millions because of some residents refusal to pay for municipal services," Smith said.

Chaos at crisis talks

A MEETING to resolve the rent crisis between the Middelburg Town Council and Mhlunzi residents ended in chaos yesterday.

About 4 000 residents who attended the meeting threw empty cans and stones at a minibus transporting council officials when the meeting failed to

resolve the rent crisis, which has plagued the area since May last year.

The council is to introduce electricity cuts in the township today.

The organisers of the meeting, the Middelburg Forum, pledged to pursue the matter with the council today in an effort to reach a solution.

(127) The council's administrator, Mr Peter Collin, told residents at the meeting that his council could no longer meet its commitment to Eskom. Electricity supply to the township will be cut between 9am and 2pm today.

The council is demanding that residents increase their payments.

16/12/79
Doverham 22/1/79

Lights to go out in Atteridgeville again

127

Sowetan 22/7/91

ELECTRICITY supplies to Atteridgeville will be switched off at 8am today, the council has announced

This decision was taken after a lengthy meeting between Atteridgeville's administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, and the management committee of the Pretoria City Council.

The chairman of the management committee, Dr Pieter Smith, said in a statement released after the meeting that the administrator would soon lay down conditions under which electricity would be re-supplied to individual consumers.

"The action is aimed at dealing with non-

By MONK NKOMO

payers and to motivate residents who have been paying their accounts all along," Smith said

The announcement was made shortly after Jacobson had indicated to *Sowetan* that plans were under way to cut electricity supplies to residents who did not pay their accounts.

Owed

Smith said the Atteridgeville Council owed his council more than R3,6 million for the bulk supply of electricity only, R1,2 million for water and about R939 360 for sewerage removal.

"The management committee of the Pretoria

City Council can no longer tolerate the situation and the council can no longer afford to lose millions of rands because of some residents refusing to pay for municipal services," Smith said

He added that the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation submitted a memorandum to his committee at the weekend

"The memorandum did not contain any new information and as a result it could not convince the management committee to have a meeting with Asro, as such a meeting would not have any purpose," said Smith.

The Pretoria City Council, Smith added,

had given Atteridgeville residents "more than enough time during the past few months to show some willingness to pay for the services they receive."

Smith said his council had, since June 6 - when the electricity supply was restored for the second time this year - appealed to residents through advertisements and pamphlets to pay between R75 and R190 a month but to no avail.

Sowetan 22/7/91

People's interests must be first, civic groups are told

(127)

THE need for civic associations to be politically non-sectarian in their dealings dominated the opening session of the Northern Transvaal Civic Association general council in Seshego on Saturday, writes MATHATHA TSEDU.

The tone was set by NTCA president, Mr Kamela Sekonya, in his opening address in which he called on affiliate associations to strive to serve all people without

regard to political affiliations.

Sekonya said the NTCA and the civic movement "in general aimed at developing 'maximum civic unity in action'. This would enable them to fight for affordable housing, free education, recreational facilities and community empowerment through political power.

He said the civic movement had to develop

a code of conduct and discipline and ensure that the people's interests were served at all times and that accusations that the NTCA was inclined to the ANC were false.

"We serve all our people," he said

"Perhaps it is a measure of the unpopularity of the NTCA that the liberation movements have not deemed it fit to be with us here today despite invitations and confirmations", Sekonya said.

File on...
Cyrl Kobus reply in an affidavit



Vaal residents face blackout

erc Sowetan 23/7/91. (127)

MORE than 38 000 families in the Vaal Triangle's townships face another blanket power switch-off on Thursday.

Lekoa town clerk Mr Nikolaas Louw said yesterday the cuts would affect all five townships, including parts of Sebokeng where the supply was reconnected after 70 percent of households had paid their April accounts.

"We will reconnect electricity only after 70 percent of all consumers have paid their May accounts," said Louw.

By
THEMBA MOLEFE

He said it was difficult to penalise individual defaulters at this stage because fewer than the required number of households had paid their May bills.

Payment from Sharpeville, Bophelong and certain parts of Sebokeng had been especially low and those areas had not been reconnected since the June 3 big switch-off.

The South African

Council of Churches has urged the Lekoa Council to supply all the townships with electricity as the residents were willing to pay and had already begun paying their accounts.

"We appeal to the Government to intervene on the grounds that it is its responsibility to intervene in matters contributing to the violence in this country," SACC general secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, said.

Meanwhile, 40 clergymen who staged a sit-in protest in the Lekoa

Council chambers on June 3 when the first blanket cuts were imposed will appear in the Sebokeng Magistrate's Court today.

The SACC said the clergymen had gathered at the council offices to present a letter written to the State President in an attempt to halt the intended June 3 cuts.

"The SACC is very concerned that the violence in the Vaal Triangle appears to have escalated since the cutting off of the electricity supply.

Anger at power cuts

23/7/91 (127)
By MONK NKOMO

Sowetan
HUNDREDS of Atteridgeville residents expressed their anger at the local city council's decision to cut electricity supplies to householders who had paid their current accounts.

And in another development, the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation threatened to take the matter to court to seek an order directing the township's administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, to adhere to the agreement that residents pay an interim monthly flat rate of R50.

Residents yesterday reacted angrily at the council's decision to cut power to people who had paid their July accounts.

Jacobson had promised that electricity would be cut for rent defaulters only.

In a statement released on Sunday, he said power would be reconnected to each zone where 75 percent of the people had paid.

"This is unfair. What if only 30 percent have paid in my zone?" an angry woman asked.

"The council must take action against those who do not pay. This is the system that is applied in white suburbs. And it is a fair system," she added.

Asro's general secretary, Mr Simon Tshidi, confirmed that they had sent a

letter to Jacobson demanding that electricity be restored forthwith, failing which the matter would be taken to the Supreme Court.

Legal Resources Centre, whose lawyers represent Asro, sent a letter of demand to Jacobson yesterday stating that they had been instructed that the cutting off of electricity was a breach of agreement reached between him and Asro.

Agreement

The letter also said the local business sector, following an agreement with Jacobson in April, had been paying promulgated tariffs.

"Our instructions are to demand the restoration of electricity supplies to all households and businesses forthwith, failing which our instructions are to make an urgent application in the Supreme Court for the restoration of electricity without further intimidation," the LRC said.

Jacobson could not be reached for comment as he was in a meeting at the time of going to Press.

Atteridgeville power cut-off

PRETORIA — Electricity to Atteridgeville township near here was cut at 8 20am yesterday, and the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents' Organisation plans to bring an urgent Supreme Court interdict against the town council to have it restored.

The action follows a warning by the township's administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, that each household should pay at least R90 towards their July accounts.

Sapa (12) 07 23/7/91

(P27)
**Marlboro occupation
was 'attempt to divide'**

JOHANNESBURG — The attempted occupation last week of homes in the suburb of Marlboro here was an attempt to create a racial flare-up between Africans and Indians, two residents' organisations said yesterday

"This act of aggression is condemned, for it is designed to undermine legitimate and democratic structures," the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) and the Marlboro Area Committee (MAC) said

Last week, Alexandra residents belonging to a rival civic group tried to take over 32 unoccupied houses in adjacent Marlboro Gardens, which had been sold to Indian people on a waiting list — Sapa

Takeover of empty houses criticised

Star 23/7/91
By Abel Mushi

The Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) has dismissed last week's occupation of empty houses in nearby Marlboro, Sandton, as a ploy to sow division in neighbouring black and Indian communities.

Addressing a press conference organised jointly by ACO and the Marlboro Area Committee (MAC), ACO general-secretary Richard Mdakane yesterday condemned the action, which he said was being carried out by "opportunists" or a group of individuals purporting to represent the residents of Alexandra.

"We view this as another attempt by some external or hostile forces to create a racial flare-up between Africans and Indians living in this area," he said.

Last week black residents belonging to the Alexandra Civic Association, led by Mike Beea, tried to take over 32 unoccupied houses in adjacent Marlboro Gardens. They had been sold to Indians on a waiting list.

The action, the ACO executive said, undermined the Alexandra Accord whose aims included the creation of a non-racial democratic local government for the region, which includes Marlboro.

ACO executive member Mzwandile Mayekiso said: "We suspect it could be an attempt to create tension in the community. That is why we are saying the (Alexandra) council and the security police are behind it, to undermine the Alexandra Accord."

Mr Beea did not have the support of progressive structures in the area, said Mr Mayekiso.

Mr Beea could not be contacted for comment.

MAC representative Nazir Alli said blacks were welcome in Marlboro and it was only the illegal occupation of private property that was condemned.

The two organisations called on the Government and the House of Delegates to provide land for the homeless.

They also called for the resignation of the Marlboro management committee and the Alexandra Town Council.

Land available to house 1,2-million, says MEC

THEO RAWANA (121)

THE TPA had identified land to accommodate about 1,2 million people in the Transvaal in attempts to satisfy demands of urbanisation, MEC for land use and physical planning John Mavuso said in Pretoria yesterday.

He told reporters the squatters who occupied land at Midrand's Ivory Park would have to "go back where they came from and take their place in the queue" because that area had been set aside for others.

He said most of the land near Ivory Park was not suitable for low-cost housing because of the geological conditions.

The TPA demolished shacks in the area earlier this month and a Rand Supreme Court application brought by two squatters is still being heard.

Mavuso said informal towns already developed by the TPA included Orange Farm (near Vereeniging), Zonkizizwe (East Rand), Ivory Park and Doornkop (near Soweto).

"It was TPA policy to allocate sites in an orderly manner. Mavuso said the sudden influx of squatters into Ivory Park was not spontaneous but was instigated by irresponsible people who are misusing people for their own short-sighted political and financial purposes."



TPA officials at yesterday's news conference on the Ivory Park squatter camp were Steph Pieterse, deputy director for local government, left, and Jaap Joubert, director of local government of the Witwatersrand. Picture CATHERINE ROSS

star 2317191

Greying of south 'pain-free'

Staff Reporter (127)

Councillors in Johannesburg's southern suburbs have reported a surprisingly pain-free "greying" of the south, despite its traditionally conservative residents

However, councillor Cecil Long of Robertsham said he felt the situation was unnatural, and that if there was no housing shortage in Indian, coloured and black areas, they would not "impose themselves" on whites in the south

Mr Long added that about 30 to 40 families of "other races" had moved to Robertsham. Other councillors reported a trouble-free process

For a more in-depth look at the greying of the south, read the lead article in the Southern Focus, which can be found in The Star at outlets in the south

If it is not distributed in your area, copies of the Southern Focus can be obtained from the The Star, 47 Sauer Street

Council to restore power to residents

By MONK NKOMO

Sowetan 24/7/91

THE Atteridgeville administration is devising ways and means of restoring electricity supplies to residents who have paid their accounts.

Administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson said the Pretoria City Council and his department were still busy with certain technicalities and appealed to residents who had paid to bear with them.

The announcement followed angry reaction from residents who accused Jacobson of failing to keep his promise that electricity supplies would be cut for rent defaulters only.

The whole township was plunged into darkness after the switch-off on Monday.

Jacobson urged residents to pay tariffs reflected on their accounts to help the Atteridgeville Council pay for the bulk supply of essential services.

Atteridgeville owes the Pretoria City Council R3,6 million for electricity, R1,2 million for water and R939 361 for sewerage.

Meanwhile, the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation briefed lawyers yesterday with the intention of challenging the Atteridgeville Council's decision to discontinue electricity supplies to the township.

'Electricity for all' plan boosted by deal

127

Blisay 24/7/91

IN A major step towards realising the dream of "electricity for all", Eskom and the Development Bank of SA (DBSA) have teamed up in a partnership which will see the DBSA financing electricity to under-developed areas of southern Africa

The agreement, to be signed today, provides for the application of Eskom's and DBSA's resources to alleviate the plight of poor communities as regards electricity

An Eskom spokesman said yesterday he expected the agreement to have a major impact on the provision of electricity to many under-developed areas

In terms of the agreement, a liaison committee had been established by DBSA and Eskom which would give co-ordinated attention to communication with governments and local authorities

DBSA spokesman Deon Stassen said it was intended that the DBSA mobilise

BRENT VON MELVILLE

concessionary finance as well as providing its development expertise, while Eskom provided the technical and commercial base for the projects

Stassen said the DBSA had applied no ceiling or time frame to the loans and would only determine the viability of each project upon application

One of the first beneficiaries of the undertaking has been the KaNgwane Electricity Supply Company (Kescor)

The company has obtained a loan of R17m for electricity supply in KaNgwane

Kescor has estimated that 4 000 households in rural and urban areas of KaNgwane will receive electricity through this project in the next two years.

This will bring electricity to an estimated 20 000 people

Move to selectively restore power

Blisay 24/7/91

127

MOVES were underway to restore electricity to more than 30% of households in Atteridgeville township near Pretoria, administrator Ernie Jacobson said yesterday

Jacobson said he was due to meet the Pretoria City Council's management committee yesterday to discuss a plan he had devised which was aimed at "punishing rent defaulters and rewarding non-

WILSON ZWANE

defaulters"

"The plan is expected to be implemented within weeks," he said adding that at least 32% of Atteridgeville residents had paid their electricity accounts

A Pretoria City Council spokesman confirmed the council and Jacobson were looking at ways in which to selectively cut power in Atteridgeville

"This, however, involves certain complicated technical investigations on which the city engineer is working," he said

Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation general secretary Simon Tshidi said his organisation was consulting legal advisers with a view to making an urgent court application for the restoration of electricity in the township

According to Jacobson Monday's blanket switch-off came after an agreement with Pretoria that power would be cut selectively fell through because payments over the weekend fell far short of the required R900 000

Atteridgeville owes Pretoria R5,8m for electricity and other services. The Atteridgeville Town Council is demanding residents pay rates ranging from R75 and R190 for services. The residents' organisation has urged residents to pay a flat rate of R50

Meanwhile the Lekoa City Council has announced it will cut power in five townships under its jurisdiction tomorrow

The council says payments have dropped in all the townships within the Lekoa area, including seven zones in Sebokeng

TURE

Charles Schultz

Brain drain 'will hobble growth'

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The drain of professional and skilled workers would be a serious constraint on growth once SA's economy started to pick up, experts warned yesterday.

They were reacting to a Market Research Africa survey which disclosed that more than 250 000 white SA adults saw themselves as potential emigrants.

Central Statistical Service figures show SA has lost 315 medical doctors, 807 accountants and 1 349 engineers since 1986.

However the total loss of 7 800 professional, semi-professional and technical personnel in the five years is balanced to some extent by almost the same number of immigrants in these categories.

I R Scott, president of the SA Association of Consulting Engineers, said that while Japan had 500 engineers per million people, the US 370 and Europe 280, SA had only 35.

"If a new SA is to take its rightful lead in the development of southern Africa, it will have to attract engineers from abroad and undertake a massive education drive," he said.

National Personnel Institute economist Jan de Jager said with sanctions easing, SA could soon move out of the economic stagnation of the past two years. The skills drain would hobble growth

White Paper on tourism expected

Business 24/7/91

SIGNIFICANT changes to SA tourism are expected following yesterday's release of a "strategic framework" for the industry.

The Strategic Framework for Tourism Development in South and Southern Africa, which provides principles and guidelines for the future development of SA's tourist industry, was produced by the SA Tourism Board (Satour) and the Development Bank of SA.

Their proposals, with a report produced by the Board of Trade and Industry last year, would be considered by Minister of Trade and Industry and Tourism Org Marais and his department, and a White Paper would be issued by the end of August, outlining government's response.

The framework outlined three major institutional adjustments, including establishment of a community-driven structure to ensure "bottom-up participation" from various regions.

The second adjustment was Satour's repositioning. An international marketing arm would promote SA generically, and Satour would shift its focus to development.

The framework also suggested a Cabinet committee be established "to facilitate co-ordinated management

MARCIA KLEIN

of tourism by public sector institutions on a national basis."

Satour chairman Piet van Hoven said his organisation would implement action suggested in the framework immediately. Recommendations which required government sanction would be dealt with by way of a White Paper.

The document said the tourism industry, which employed more than 300 000 people and earned R2,5bn in forex in 1990, was "of strategic and economic significance to SA". Tourism was a labour-intensive industry, had a strong multiplier effect, and had forex earnings potential.

Extensive growth in the industry had not occurred because of its sensitivity to the investment climate, sensitivity to apartheid, and the need for personal safety. International arrivals had increased 19% between 1958 and 1975, and had slumped to 1,14% between 1975 to 1989.

With current trends towards a more normalised market situation, significant growth in the industry could be achieved. It was critical that the industry be carefully managed.

Tourism in SA was insignificant in terms of the contribution the industry made elsewhere in the world.

United anti-apartheid health organisation to be formed

Business 24/7/91

TANIA LEVY

ANTI-apartheid health organisations will unite in their fight to replace discriminatory health services with a more acceptable system.

At a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday, the SA Health Workers' Congress (Sahwco), the National Medical and Dental Association (Namda), the Organisation of Appropriate Social Services in SA and the Health Workers' Society announced that a formal decision on unity had been taken at the weekend.

The four organisations would formally dissolve early in December and the new united organisation would be launched in March.

Its aims include eradicating discrimination in health and welfare services, unifying the various health disciplines, promoting equality and appropriate training for health workers and protecting the standard of health and social services in SA.

Namda president Mvuyo Tom said the unified national organisation would present a "formidable front to

advance the struggle for equal health for all."

Until now government had been able to exploit the space created by the fragmentation of the progressive health sector, he said.

Together the four organisations have a paid-up membership of more than 4 000 people and an active campaign will take place in the next six months to include as many other health organisations as possible.

A name and constitution for the new body would be decided on in due course.

Tom said unification would allow the progressive health sector to pool resources and to use funds, from both local and international sources, more efficiently.

The EC and the Kaiser Foundation in the US had been among foreign donors which had funded the organisation's projects and conferences in the past, he said.

Council action sparks stayaway

WILSON ZWANE (127)

BUSINESS in Nigel, on the East Rand, has been hit by an indefinite stayaway called by the Duduza Civic Association (DCA) in retaliation to the local town council's decision to seize the property of four rent defaulters.

DCA official Saki Kekana said yesterday the stayaway, which enters its third day today, was "100% effective".

It would be maintained until the council returned the property it had seized.

Nigel Chamber of Commerce chairman Bernard Fitton said the stayaway had been about 70% effective. Business 24/7/91

"We are to recommend to our members adoption of a no-work-no-pay policy," he said.

He would not say how hard businesses in the town had been hit by the stayaway.

The Duduza Town Council could not be reached for comment.

Court action planned over power cuts

By MONK NKOMO

127
Sowetan
25/7/91

THE Atteridgeville Council has still not restored electricity supplies to residents who have paid their accounts despite assurances to do so by the administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson.

Angry residents yesterday accused Jacobson of "playing the fool with us".

The council switched off electricity to the entire township on Monday despite promises by Jacobson that the cuts would only affect householders who had not paid their July accounts.

Jacobson announced on Tuesday that he and the Pretoria City Council were devising ways and means of restoring supplies to residents who had paid.

Consulted lawyers

Later in the day he was quoted on SABC news as saying the supplies to these residents would only be restored at the weekend.

Scores of residents telephoned *Sowetan* yesterday demanding that the supply be restored because they had paid. Some residents yesterday consulted lawyers with the intention of turning to the courts to force Jacobson to reconnect the power.

The supplies were cut off on Monday because the Atteridgeville Council owed the Pretoria City Council R3,6 million for electricity, R1,2 million for water and R939 361 for sewerage.

The local civic association, Asro, was yesterday due to file an application in the Pretoria Supreme Court seeking an order directing Jacobson and his council to reconnect the supplies.

Discord could end Alex accord

127

By DON SEOKANE

THE Alexandra Town Council has threatened to pull out as signatory to the township's accord

The accord was signed in February this year by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Alexandra Town Council and Alexandra Civic Organisation

The township's mayor, Mr Prince Mokoena, said he wanted to withdraw because residents were dissatisfied with it and were not consulted before it was signed

Arrears

The Alexandra Civic Association, led by Mr Mike Beea, did not sign the accord.

The agreement revolves around the writing-off of arrears, payment of services, transfer of rented houses to the people, transfer of land known as the Far East Bank to a Land Trust administered by the representatives of Alexandra's people and the implementation of a low-income housing programme.

Arrears of R9,3 million have been written off.

However, the agreement seems to have failed to end the rent boycott.

Place of peace and tranquility

BASIL Read Homes' Delmore Gardens development, which got off the ground in January this year, is rapidly taking shape.

More than 146 homes have been completed and many have already been occupied.

The company started marketing the development to blacks in anticipation of the scrapping of the Group Areas Act.

More than 50 percent of the homes have been sold to blacks *Sowetan*

Delmore Gardens, which is about 2km from the Boksburg central business district, was developed to give middle-class residents of the neighbouring Reiger Park an opportunity to raise their standard of living. *2577191*

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

Since most clients are first-time homebuyers, the company ensures that all aspects such as bond applications, registrations, transfers, local authority deposits and connection fees are taken care of

A Basil Read spokesman said: "With the ongoing uncertainty in the black areas, clients are delighted to settle in this quiet suburb, free from problems that they experience in most of the townships.

"The suburb represents a unique opportunity for prospective buyers in the 'new' South Africa," the spokesman said.

Council demands R700 a household for 'shoddy' rewiring

BY BEATHUR BAKER
THE Johannesburg City Council is asking residents of Noordgesig to pay R700 per household for the rewiring of their homes — despite residents' accusations of cheap material, poor workmanship, inadequate power supply and faulty connections.

Residents had not been consulted or informed about the nature of the installations beforehand. And now the city council has allowed a deadline for repairs to pass without informing the residents that such a deadline existed.

The project is funded by a loan obtained from the Witwatersrand Regional Services Council for R1,73-million.

Many residents have lodged formal complaints at the local rent office, only to be referred to the city council where they are told that "regrettably" the council can do nothing.

George Huntley, deputy director of the Housing Department for the council, explained that a private engineering company was employed to do the installations. However, he claimed it was "not policy" to divulge the name of the company, referring enquiries to a Joe Reaney, the chief engineer overseeing the project. Reaney also refused to reveal the name of his company to *The Weekly Mail*.

He did point out that, in terms of the contract between the council and the engineering company, a three-month "re-tention period" is stipulated during which repairs have to be attended to. This period, he added, has expired.

The local civic association has been handed numerous affidavits from residents setting out problems. All of these have in common the allegation that the engineers placed switch boxes behind heavy furniture, damaged property and walls and left ugly cracks and holes on working surfaces.

Added to these complaints are alarmingly high electricity bills, faulty sockets and frequent main switch trips. The Civic Association claims that the project 'a generous offer'.

On February 28 this year, the civic association handed a petition by Noordgesig residents to the council's director of housing. It demanded that "electricians come back and undo their shoddy workmanship". The civic also claimed that residents who refused to have their houses rewired were intimidated.

The Housing Department denied knowledge of these incidents, according to a civic representative. In fact, he said, a council spokesman termed the project 'a generous offer'.



(127)



Memories of the old hostels

Soweto
26/7/91
127

I WAS driving near Dube Hostel on a cold winter's morning the other day and parked against the sidewalk.

It was about 9am and I gazed thoughtfully at a group of young men warming themselves in the inviting wintery sunshine

With hands in pockets, some were leaning against walls within the hostel premises, hardly speaking. Others sat on old paraffin tins and crates.

With only a tiny radio to cheer them up, they looked a sorry sight.

I turned my car music off, sat back and pondered.

Why were these folk, our own black brothers with similar surnames, isolated from nearby residents and the rest of Soweto?

I felt weary and sorrowful at heart as I watched these lonely and possibly futureless young men.

I remembered vividly years ago as a schoolboy when we had no electricity in Soweto and the hostels were the only

NICK OLIPHANT, a resident of Moletsane, Soweto, remembers the good old days of the hostel.

places with hot-water showers.

Local guys streamed to the hostels to get a well-come hot shower

I loved Dube Hostel as a young boy, and those living there used to buy handkerchiefs, socks and many other items from me.

Good-looking Zulu men would joke and ask: "Have you a beautiful sister?"

On Sunday afternoons we were freely entertained with terrific traditional Zulu dances, and there was never a dull moment.

Peace

Love and peace was then the order of the day. But now, alas, I dare not drive in to say "Hello, chaps".

A few years back I had a good number of friends at Merafe Hostel.

As a part-time cameraman, I took a lot of pictures of the guys right inside the hostel, with no

fear of intimidation, danger or hostility

Some were sending the photographs back to their homes in Natal to show their parents, wives and fiancées that they were alive and well in far-off Johannesburg, where they worked hard to send them money

I taught some how to operate a camera and they bought cameras to send to their brothers in the rural areas so they could earn money taking photos

As I sat thinking, I was suddenly reminded of how much I miss those Zulu-speaking friends of mine. I even addressed some in Sotho and they learnt fast.

What a delight it was to enter any hostel, especially on a Sunday morning, when you would hear all the ethnic languages being spoken.

On reflection, this was real Nation Building. There was a thriving market for guys living there. They sold every-



The hostels - how they have changed.

thing from new and secondhand clothing to fruit and vegetables

The entrance gates were lined with bottles filled with herbal medicines claimed to cure any disease

Other hostel residents repaired radios. I was surprised to meet one with a lot of TV aerrals. He said he'd had no education but he had worked with a white at Rustenburg who taught him how to install aerrals

He had left whitey and bought himself a bakkie and was doing good business with residents all over Soweto

Near Merafe Hostel you will find plenty of houses fenced beautifully with iron railings. The superb welding was done by an expert who stayed at the hostel. The people

loved him for his prices were reasonable.

The hostels used to generate countless thousands of rands but, sadly, when war erupted between residents and the hostel dwellers, most of such businesses ceased.

From Nancefield, to Jabulani, Dube and Merafe, the hostels have reached the end of an era.

They are now desolate - a wilderness cut off from all people living elsewhere

There is no communion, no meeting with friends from outside, no more playing soccer together as there was before

Blacks are separated from blacks, just like electricity poles - never to meet.

Who is to blame? Is it only the hostel dwellers

who should suffer? They are jobless, homeless, hungry and lonely

Some can't write their own names and others have no IDs and are afraid to look for work anywhere. Meanwhile chaps from Mozambique are soaring high on construction work and in hotels, earning good money.

Pleading

But if you pass these various hostels, poor boys and men stand and stare at people, their faces pleading for help, mercy and company. But there is no response from passers-by.

As we enter the new South Africa, what will happen to such people during the next five to 10 years?

One thing is certain. Hostels will never be the same again. A terrible curse, a monstrous plague has struck them.

Like the great city of Babylon, they will never rise again. It's only a matter of time before the bulldozers move in for development and upgrading.

I pity the mothers and wives and children the hostel dwellers left among the hills of beautiful Natal.

Centuries ago King Solomon said (Ecclesiastes 9.18) "Wisdom is better than weapons of war".

The English say: "The pen is mightier than the sword".

When shall we ever learn? I started my car and slowly drove away.

IDT to host seminar on hostels

Sowetan 26/7/91
127

A WORKERS' hostel seminar to be attended by leading representatives of 28 organisations across the political spectrum will be held at Midrand on August 1.

This was announced by the Independent Development Trust this week. Extra-parliamentary groups, civic organisations, trade unions, the private sector and the Government will be involved in the seminar.

Discussions would explore how locally affected communities could participate in finding solutions to hostel problems and would confirm a development approach to the issue. Follow-up task groups would be appointed after the seminar.

Appeal

"The diverse nature of these proposals has led us to conclude that there will be considerable benefit in evolving a shared appreciation of the opportunities and constraints among the principal actors in this area of activity," IDT chairman Mr Jan Steyn said.

"Therefore we took the liberty of informally contacting interested parties with a view to initiating a process to deal with these issues."

He appealed to participants to respect the sensitivity of the hostels issue and to avoid unnecessary speculation, conflicts and tension. - *Sapa*

● Hostels in the good old days - Page 29

Battle to sell elite township homes

W. M. M. 26/7-1/8/91

By MONDLI MAKHANYA
THE EXODUS by wealthy blacks into white suburbs is set to drive house prices down in elite black areas

Many wealthy blacks, who built their six-figure priced homes in the era of the Group Areas Act, are now finding it increasingly difficult to sell their homes.

The logic behind this is that there are few people prepared to buy a highly priced property in a township if one can now purchase a house in a white suburb for roughly the same price

An ironic spinoff of this, however, is that the inability to find suitable buyers for their township houses is also hampering some blacks from moving to white suburbia.

While this movement itself has thus far been insignificant — mainly as a result of affordability — a number of very wealthy blacks are slowly infiltrating white suburbs. Insofar as Johannesburg is concerned, says Aida Estates managing director Aida Geffen, there've been a number of sales to blacks in the northern suburbs while the southern suburbs have proved quite popular

"This is because there are more areas in the south which are within the price range of middle-class blacks," notes Geffen.

Also preventing blacks from "invading" suburbia as was expected are the recession and high interest rates

According to a Soweto estate agent who herself is having difficulty selling her house, "people want to flock to town but they cannot find buyers for their houses".

But those blacks who are able to overcome these obstacles, believes Real Estate Surveys director Erwin Rode, will see a 20 percent depreciation in their house prices

However, he believes this devaluation will bring these houses to their real value and thereafter prices will start climbing again.

Also exerting downward pressure is the fact that value does not necessarily equal cost. Therefore, a lot of houses that cost a certain amount to build, will, by virtue of their location in the overwhelmingly working class townships, not be worth their cost price

Basil Elk Estates managing director Basil Elk explains "The general principle in residential housing is that the most expensive house in a lower priced area will always devalue."

But Geffen believes wealth discrepancy within the black community is also responsible for the devaluation

"In the black community there is very little upward mobility. As a result you have a small top echelon and then there's the rest. Those in the top echelon are having difficulty selling because there are very few people to sell to," says Geffen.

Friday July 26 1991

TPA house sales soar

OF the 334 293 homes available for sale by black local governments, a total of 126 044 had been sold since 1984, according to the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

This amounted to 37,3 percent of the total number of houses offered for sale.

"According to statistics, 167 houses were sold by the black local authorities in the Transvaal during May this year."

This brought the total number of houses sold by the local authorities in the Transvaal since 1984 to 85 838.

"About 36,9 percent of the houses available in the Transvaal have already been sold."

Sowetan 26/7/91

Rented

A TPA spokeswoman said houses which were not yet sold were rented out, but the option to buy remained.

The TPA would not reveal the amount the houses were being sold for, but said they were geared towards the "middle income group".

However, the TPA was also concerned with the provision of homes for the lower income groups, she said. - Sapa.

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Call for 'drastic action' over Duduza stayaway

DRASTIC action would be taken against workers who had honoured the stayaway called by the Duduza Civic Association, Nigel Chamber of Commerce and Industries chairman Bernard Fitton warned yesterday.

Fitton said the stayaway, which enters its fifth day today, was wreaking havoc on businesses in the East Rand town.

"About 80% of the Duduza workforce has not been turning up since the stayaway began and industries' production has dropped by as much as 50%," he said.

Fitton said his chamber would recommend that its affiliates take "very drastic" action against their employees when they returned to

~~WILSON ZWANE~~ (127) ~~WILSON ZWANE~~
Wilson Zwane 26/7/91
work. Businesses canvassed yesterday acknowledged the stayaway was affecting them.

OK Bazaars manager Dirk Kotze said his store's turnover was down by at least 20%.

Checkers said it would only assess the impact of the stayaway today.

The stayaway was called by the civic association in retaliation for the Duduza Town Council's decision to impound property of rent defaulters.

At a mass meeting this week Duduza residents resolved to continue a work stayaway until the council had returned the impounded property.

A spokesman for the civic association claimed the stayaway was 100% effective.

"Apart from demanding the return of the four comrades' goods, we are also demanding the recognition of a rent agreement between itself and the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the resignation of local councillors," the spokesman said.

In terms of the agreement which was reached last year, households with electricity are to pay R50 a month while households without electricity and shackdwellers are to pay R20 and R10 respectively.

The Duduza Town Council could not be contacted yesterday.

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PAYMENT OF INTEREST AND CLOSING OF TRANSFER REGISTERS

Payment of debenture interest for the period 1 March 1991 to 31 August 1991 will be made to the holders of the debentures registered as such at the close of business on Friday, 9 August 1991. For the purpose of determining such registered holders, the debenture transfer register and the register of debenture holders will be closed from 10 August 1991 to 23 August 1991, both days inclusive.

Cheques in payment of interest will be posted in Johannesburg on or about 28 August 1991.

ANGLO AMERICAN PROPERTY SERVICES (PTY) LIMITED

Secretaries

Johannesburg
26 July 1991



AMPROS 018/DSC

Guns for Inkatha: Coetsee meets attorney-general

Business Day Reporter

NATAL Attorney-General Mike Imber met Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee yesterday after receiving a report on a police investigation into allegations that Maritzburg security police bought guns for Inkatha.

Some of the weapons were allegedly used in political murders in Natal.

The police report was ordered by a Natal judge after court evidence about the purchase of 24 revolvers from a Maritzburg gun shop. Evidence in the case was that the weapons had been given to Inkatha members.

DP MP for Greytown Pierre Cronje said two of the weapons had been ballistically linked to political murders.

Police said last night no decision had been taken regarding the suspension of the security policeman who allegedly bought the weapons.

Suggestions of security police involvement in the purchase of the weapons emerged in January during the trial of Inkatha gunman Stembiso Dumakude, who was sentenced to life imprisonment for killing four people and wounding four others on March 5 1989.

Dumakude, who four days after his initial attack injured several more people in a petrol bomb attack on a night vigil for the dead, allegedly used one of the weapons bought from a King's Sports shop.

Store manager Tony Wessels said yesterday that late in 1987 the shop was asked to supply the guns. Three or four men later paid cash for the weapons. Most of the guns were collected by black men over the next year.

CAN ALL 60 HOME! ... will "now be able to get the 'real' ...

Alex accord on the rocks?

C/press 28/7/91.

By THEMBA KHUMALO

THE landmark "Alex Accord" seems to be heading for the rocks barely four months after several influential civic bodies in Johannesburg's Alexandra township and its surrounds signed on the dotted line

Alexandra mayor Prince Mokoena this week announced that his council had withdrawn from the accord because of "community pressure" about the mandate to sign the accord

However, two of his councillors are still backing the accord. They say Mokoena had taken the decision to pull out unilaterally - and the council never met on the issue.

The accord was signed in February by officials from the TPA, Sandton Town Council, Regional Services Council, Alexandra Town Council and Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) - resulting in the Joint Negotiating Forum (JNF).

The pullout seems to stem from a political dispute between Mokoena and ACO leader Moses Mayekiso.

Mayekiso is a pro-ANC Cosatu official and Mokoena has strong Inkatha leanings.

Mokoena cited his rift with Mayekiso as one of the reasons for pulling out.

"Those Sandton whites are hobnobbing with him because they think he has a constituency. They'll be shocked to learn that he hardly has a house permit in Alex," said Mokoena.

"He has two houses outside

127
Alex and he owns a flat in Hillbrow. That proves that he and his ACO comrades have no constituency in the township. The white signatories drew him into the JNF because they thought he was the godfather of Alex residents.

"I realised we were mere passengers in the JNF and the main players were whites. They exert tremendous influence in the forum because they have the financial resources to manipulate us. We in the council didn't want to continue to be used as pawns in this game," he said.

Mokoena's reasons for his decision were denied by Mayekiso and ACO general secretary Richard Mdakane.

Mayekiso said: "I was chosen by the Alex people to lead them.

"It's true that I've bought a house, but in Phase Two in Alex and not in Vosloorus. I have a flat in Hillbrow and I have a right to it.

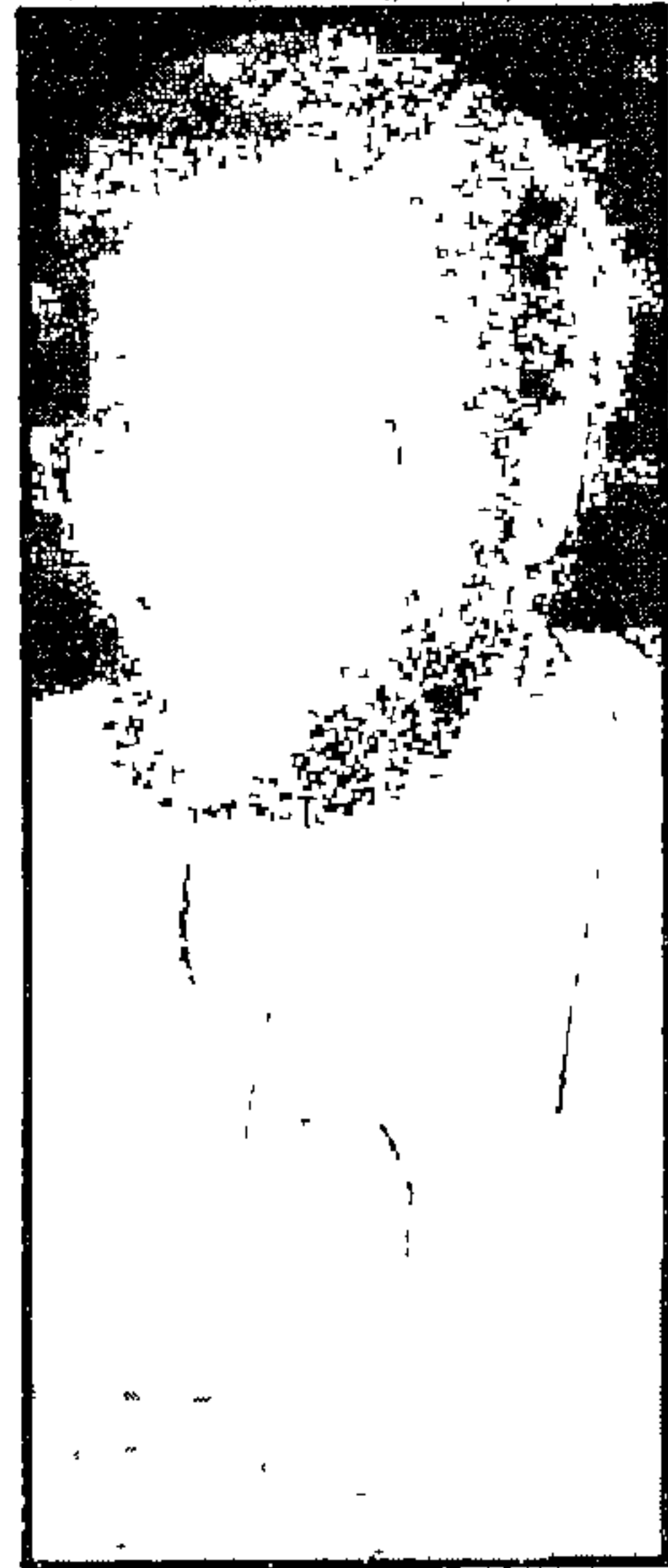
"The fact that he doesn't know that I bought a house in Alex shows he is out of touch with township matters."

Mayekiso added that Mokoena was brought to Alex by the Joint Monitoring Council officials to "impose him upon the township residents."

Several anti-Mokoena demonstrations had been held by residents who want him out.

Mdakane denied that all local town councillors had pulled out of the accord and said on Thursday two councillors attended the JNF meeting at which they gave their unqualified support to the pact.

"The two councillors actually



MOSES MAYEKISO ... "Alex mayor is out of touch with township matters."

told the meeting that Mokoena had withdrawn unilaterally and the matter was not decided by the council."

Local ANC publicity secretary, Obed Bapela, said although they were not consulted about the signing of the accord, they would only decide at their annual conference in September whether they endorsed it or not.

Darkie Rametsi of the Alexandra Builders' and Allied Traders Association said the accord was rejected at a recent residents' meeting by delegates from local structures.

Services please, residents tell govt

28/7/91
DOORKOP residents say the government has not provided adequate services to the almost 6 000 sites in the new town

The new Doornkop Civic Association (DCA) last week called on the Transvaal Provincial Administration to improve sewerage and water provision and to install high mast security lights as a matter of urgency.

The DCA said that although Doornkop was specifically intended for occupation by poor, homeless people, the lack of facilities such as schools, clinics and public transport made it one of the most expensive places to live

Doornkop residents, many of whom moved from backyard shacks or illegal squatter sites in Dobsonville, claimed it cost much more to live in Doornkop than it did in Dobsonville.

The DCA says residents are unhappy about the "aqua-privy" toilet system because the smell from blocked toilets is unbearable. The toilets - which should last up to 10 years - have only been used for a few months

The residents are also unhappy about the provision of only one tap for 20 sites, according to DCA executive member Cecilia Phenithi

This water system is really making us suffer. We accept that the government says it doesn't have enough money to build proper houses for us, but at least we should have one tap a site. Fellow DCA executive member Maria Thiko said it was very dangerous to have to walk in the dark streets at night to fill water buckets.

Another big problem is the lack of schools in Doornkop. Our children still have to attend school in Dobsonville, which means they have to walk about 4km each way. Taxi fare was R1 a child for a single journey but we have just negotiated with the taxi owners to reduce it to R1 return. This still means that the poorest families have to find R1 a day for each child to go to school. It's impossible," said Thiko.

A TPA official said the administration was holding discussions with residents to try to alleviate some of the immediate problems

The TPA said the price of land at Doornkop was kept as low as possible - sites are R5 100 over 30 years, which translates to R27,50 per month - so there was no money to provide a high level of services such as flush toilets and tar roads.



WE NEED WATER . . . Doornkop residents say that one tap for every twenty sites is totally inadequate and causes them untold hardship.

TPA to act on Doornkop scam claims

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has completed its investigation into the alleged fraudulent allocation of a Doornkop site to a Dobsonville town councillor exposed in City Press recently.

The councillor, Leleki Mohajane, runs a shop at site 210 Doornkop. The site is registered in the name of Mohajane's stepson, Edward Mkhologolo, who was in jail when the site was allocated. Mkhologolo is serving

an eight year sentence for robbery under the name of Edward Mohajane. Councillor Mohajane has been charged with bribery and corruption by a number of Dobsonville residents who claim he charged them R200 to approve their applications for Doornkop sites.

The TPA allocated sites, only to people who could prove they had been on Dobsonville, Diepmeadow or Soweto housing waiting lists.

Ward councillors were given the responsibility of handing out files to prove people were on the waiting lists. Residents claim Mohajane and other councillors demanded up to R200 before handing over files.

The Witwatersrand Attorney General's office has handed the matter over to the courts.

Following City Press' expose of Mohajane's Doornkop business, the TPA launched its own investigation.

A report on site 210 had been passed on to the Director of Local Government, who might now act.

A TPA spokesman confirmed that all Doornkop land still belonged to the TPA and that if site allocation could be proved to be fraudulent, the TPA

would take back the site. It could then be reallocated to a genuinely homeless person.

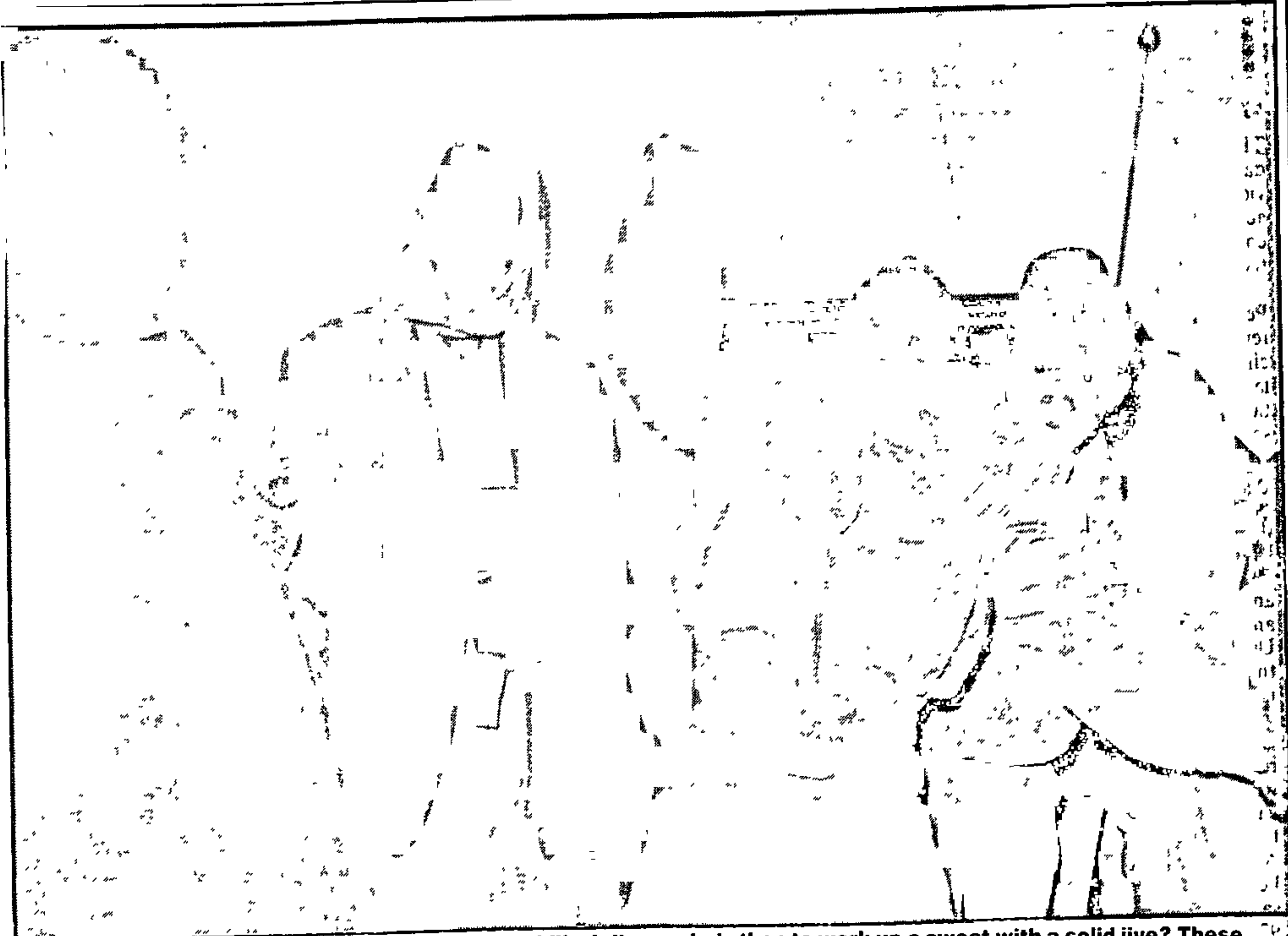
Doornkop residents supplied City Press with a list of other sites which were allegedly fraudulently allocated. Several are said to be run as businesses by Dobsonville and Soweto businessmen.

Sources close to the Dobsonville Town Council told City Press the council held a special disciplinary hearing following the City Press expose of Mohajane's business site.

The council could not be reached for comment as telephones in Dobsonville are out of order.

Attorneys for the council assured City Press earlier that if allegations of bribery and corruption against councillors could be proved in court, the councillors would be unseated.

led to death



SHAKE IT UP, BABY . . . What better way to beat chilly Jo'burg winds than to work up a sweat with a solid jive? These twilight kids have found the answer to the bitter cold — heavy clothing and the jitterbug. ■ Pic: BOY GEORGE MASHININI

By **THEMBA KHUMALO**

THE Diepmeadow Council is about to increase rent tariffs and retrench staff because of a lack of funds, according to a report tabled before the councillors recently

The report said the R25-million given by the TPA to the council as bridging finance this year was insufficient to cope with rising costs. The staff salaries and wages amounted to R26-million a month and this

Rents to rocket after money crisis?

was likely to increase by 10 per cent in the next few months

"The Treasury Department has in its possession R4-million worth of cheques owing to creditors that it is not in a position to release due to lack of funds. Creditors are going to increase

at an alarming rate and council will be facing litigation," the report said

Eskom is owed R605 625,22. The council had entered into an agreement with the Regional Services Council to pay all income from electricity directly to Eskom weekly, but due to lack

of funds the council was violating the pact

To overcome the financial crisis the Treasury Department has recommended that

- The council takes all possible measures to recover arrear accounts of defaulters,
- That council employees negotiate on the possibility of voluntary retrenchment, and
- That the council negotiate with the RSC to defer certain projects until funds are available

Cipres 28/7/91

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New ideas for township homes

Sunday Times Reporter
THE Alexandra Development Foundation put a dozen homes on show yesterday in an attempt to present new housing ideas for an established township

The ADF, under chairman Colin Adcock, is a non-profit organisation which develops houses. It is funded by businesses, including JCI, Anglo-American and De Beers.

The show site, which is surrounded by the homes of 30 000 shack-dwellers, presented its own prob-

lems to the builders. Four of the vehicles delivering materials were hijacked during June and July, materials disappeared from the site and a squatter family living in a shack had to be rehoused.

The range of homes features high-density development on stands of about 100 square metres, with housing units starting at 20 square metres.

The cost of the homes — ranging from R16 940 to R32 920 — is within reach of people earning from R1 000 to R1 800 a month.

DINKINS' TRIP TO SA

By PATRICIA CHENEY
Washington

NEW YORK mayor David Dinkins will visit South Africa in September at the invitation of Mr Nelson Mandela. *5/11/91*

Mr Mandela urged Mr Dinkins to visit South Africa when the ANC president stayed at the mayoral residence, Gracie Mansion, last year during a triumphal tour of New York.

Although details of the trip were described as

“very preliminary” by Mrs Annabelle Francescinni, Mr Dinkins’ spokesman, she said that he planned to arrive in SA on September 19 and would stay until September 24 or 25.

The mayor will be accompanied by a large group of New York dignitaries representing labour unions, anti-apartheid groups and city officials.

“He is very excited about the trip,” Mrs Francescinni said.

“He has been wanting to visit South Africa for some time.”

Mr Dinkins will also stop over for a day in Lagos, Nigeria.

ALLS CROCODILES

Jo'burg in dark (127)

Sowetan 29/7/91

GREATER Johannesburg systems and some hospitals in the area switched over to their emergency electricity generators.

The power dips caused occasional breaks in Sapa's communication

problem was caused by excessive moisture and pollution on the high-tension wires being fed into the Johannesburg grid.

The present mist, laden with aerial pollution, was coating the wires, causing short-outs and power dips.

Mist

Both spokesmen said the problem would be solved once the mist had cleared.

Eskom's telephone lines were kept busy with complaints from electricity consumers, including hospitals, according to Mr Pieter Smith - Sapa

THE Alexandra Accord, which is on the brink of collapse, should be cancelled because its contents and implications had not been discussed with residents before it was signed.

This is according to Alexandra Civic Association chairman Mr Mike Beea

The accord was signed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Alexandra Council and Alexandra Civic Organisation - which is led by trade unionist and South African Communist Party official Mr Moses Mayekiso

The two civic bodies in the township, ACA and ACO, have different views on the squalid conditions in the township and how to resolve them. Hence, the ACA refused to sign the accord and the ACO signed

Arears

Issues intended to be resolved by the accord include Writing-off of an estimated R9,3 million arrears, ending of the rent boycott; transfer of Far East Bank land to a land trust to be administered by the representatives of the people of Alexandra, dissolution of the Alexandra Council and other local authorities in the immediate vicinity; the creation of a single, nonracial local authority.

Parties in the negotiation process of the accord also agreed to form a joint negotiation forum which includes Eskom, the Rand Water Board, Development Bank of South Africa, Randburg and Sandton town councils and the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

Beea's problems with the accord starts with the way that it was conceived and the fact that the community had not been asked for approval

Alexandra's mayor, Mr Prince Joseph Mokoena, even admitted that the agreement signed with the ACO and TPA has not been well accepted by the community. But Mokoena could not shed light on why the community was not involved from the beginning.

He appeared on television last week with Mayekiso, supposedly to discuss why he was pulling his council out of the accord, but the discussion went off track

Alex Accord disputed

127
Sowetan 29/7/91

By DON SEOKANE

The two engaged in a slanging match about their places of origin and not being genuine Alexandrans

Mayekiso charged that Mokoena was from the East Rand and also did not stay in the township and hence he was out of touch with developments "Even if he can pull out of the accord, it (the accord) will go ahead because he does not represent the residents," said Mayekiso, adding that Mokoena was just "(President) De Klerk's mayor"

Mokoena retorted that Mayekiso was from Transkei and also did not stay in the township. He was a resident of Hillbrow That was all the two could talk about on television and the accord was discussed only in passing.

Transkei

In a later interview with *Sowetan* Mokoena admitted that he was an "exiled mayor" but "when your house is bombed so many times, do you still expect to be safe in it?" he asked.

The two leaders of Alexandra, who - loosely speaking - in their own words, are not residents of the township and who both claim to represent the interests of Alexandrans are at loggerheads about an agreement they both signed and agreed to.

The lack of involvement by residents is what is bothering Beea, not whether the two leaders are residents of Alexandra

"If the people who are appointed leaders have the expertise to administer the township to the best interests of residents then there would not be any problem of the leaders not being Alexandrans," said Beea.

Explaining why the accord appears to be failing, Beea said the reason

was that the community was not involved from the beginning - when the accord was discussed.

It was taken for granted that residents would accept the contents of the accord as being in their interests, explained Beea, but that was not the case.

"Not with Alexandrans, they do not take anything prescribed to them, especially with leaders who are only seen on television and read about in the newspapers."

Section 21 of the accord which deals with the "interests of the people" states that: "The parties (which signed the accord) record that they are of the unanimous opinion that this agreement is in the best interests of the people, and has been accepted by their various constituencies".

During the television debate on the accord, Mokoena agreed that people had not been informed about the implications of the accord before and even after the signing of the agreement.

Newspaper

To which Mayekiso replied that his organisation had consulted their people in the township and that residents were aware of the contents of the accord except for Mokoena's "sidekicks" and those landlords who illegally bought the stands so as to charge high rents to people.

According to Mokoena, legitimate Alexandra residents had been insulted by Mayekiso for remarking that they were his sidekicks and had bought the stands illegally.

Beea concurred with Mokoena that the remark was an insult to Alexandrans and he urged Mayekiso to apologise to residents.

"Alexandra is not any other township, residents used to have property rights, and freehold rights not a 99-year leasehold Those rights were taken

away from them by the Government

"And for saying that they are Mokoena's sidekicks and that they bought those properties illegally was tantamount to insulting them," said Beea.

The contentious aspect of the accord is seemingly the transfer of the Far East Bank land to a Land Trust administered by representatives of the people of Alexandra

Beea said the Far East Bank issue should not have been included in the accord, as it had nothing to do with the accord

Benevolent

"We fail to understand why the Far East Bank land was included in the accord and still how the Sandton and Randburg councils have suddenly become so benevolent while they have neglected Alexandra for so many years"

Beea accused the Sandton Council of allocating the previously unused Marlboro land to the Indian House of Delegates and overlooking squalid conditions that Alexandra residents had to endure for so many years

Mokoena said the accord would collapse because some interested developers wanted to capture the development of Far East Bank for themselves and that this would not be in the interests of the residents

Priority for the development of Far East Bank should be given to the black developers in the township, according to Beea, adding that they should not be regarded as sub-contractors

"We do not need white developers in the township dictating terms to us and making a mockery of residents here," Beea said.

Almost five months since the accord was signed on February 27, payments have decreased from 18 percent in January to 12 percent in June.

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FINANCING

Five hurt in wake of power cut

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Sowetan 29/7/91

By MONK NKOMO

FIVE people, including a three-year-old girl, were injured in an explosion while they were pouring petrol into a generator in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, at the weekend.

In another incident, a couple and their three-month-old-baby narrowly escaped death when a fire caused by a candle gutted the room they were sleeping in early on Saturday.

The two incidents are the first reported casualties of the week-old electricity cuts in the township.

Mr Robert Maleka of 41 Makhasa Street, Saulsville, Mr Titus Khalo and three-year-old Katlego Maleka sustained serious burns when a generator exploded while they were filling its tank with petrol on Friday night.

The explosion caused extensive damage to the kitchen.

Katlego's mother, Ms Christina Maleka, said she was in the bedroom when she heard the explosion.

"I rushed to the kitchen where I saved my daughter from the flames. Robert and his colleagues were screaming in another room," said Maleka who sustained minor injuries.

The five were taken to Kalafong hospital by ambulance. Both Maleka and Khalo were admitted.

Mr Ellington Madumo, his wife Thamaris and their three three-month-old daughter Tidimalo of 100 Seiso Street escaped death when a burning candle caused extensive damage to their outside room about 2.30am on Saturday.

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Women give vent to gripes

SCORES of women were expected to march on the KwaGuqa Town Council near Witbank yesterday to protest against service payment hikes. (127)

According to the ANC, the march - due to start in the morning - was spearheaded by the organisation's Witbank branch of the ANC Women's League.

The protestors are demanding, among other things, the resignation of the remaining three councillors and the suspension of certain white council employees *Sowetan*

311 7191
Lieutenant Cornea Goosen of the Western Transvaal police liaison office confirmed a march was to take place in KwaGuqa yesterday.

A steady trickle of blacks are moving in

THERE are 150 000 whites living in Sandton

The council estimates there are at least as many blacks living a transient existence in the city's backyards

There are also over 500 000 blacks living in Alexandra township within the city's borders

Council officials say what happens to these people has a vital bearing on the future of Sandton

Sandton Chamber of

Commerce president Tony Leftwich says "There has been a steady trickle of black people moving into Sandton in the past few years" 31/7/91

Leftwich says a number of Indians and blacks have been living and running businesses in Kelvin for some years and the numbers will increase now racial legislation has been abolished

A senior council member says discussions are under

way between Sandton, Alexandra and other neighbouring councils, including Modderfontein, about the fate of Alexandra

"Sandton cannot take on all of Alex's problems without bankrupting itself," he says

Sandton council takes on ad hoc responsibility to cope with some of Alexandra's needs, running its fire service and supervising refuse collections

"But the process will re-

quire a rationalisation of funds

"People will have to ask whether they need enormous highways and fancy landscaping schemes when faced with the enormity of Alexandra's problems

"Most people in Sandton are bright, educated and informed enough to know that we have to sort these things out

"As it is, the baling out of Alexandra is happening at enormous speed"

Peri-urban sprawl is now a dynamic business centre

Blouay 31/7/91

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DURING the last two decades, the gentle slopes to the north of Johannesburg have been transformed from what Sandton council calls a "peri-urban sprawl" into a dynamic business centre and one of the world's most famous residential districts

Sandton — the name was born of an amalgamation of Bryanston and Sandown — ranks with Neuilly, Hampstead and Beverly Hills as one of the world's most prestigious suburbs

Its white resident population is only 150 000 — complemented, according to council estimates, by at least the same number of "floating" black residents

It boasts over one million square metres of office space

When projects in its various business nodes are completed, it will have more than one and a half million square metres

Assistant town planning director Nicholas Head

says attaining a balance between demand for office facilities and maintaining Sandton as a residential area has been the most persistent problem facing the council during the last 20 years

At the same time, the council has made an effort to restrict the industrial area of Sandton to Wynberg, on the "wrong" side of the M1 motorway

Density plan

"We are trying to stop things from going mad on the office front and have adopted a residential density plan to prevent the area getting too built up," says Head

"By the mid-'80s, the shape of Sandton had become structured by market forces

"Then the council called in planning consultants to draft a plan for the future"

The plan that evolved, which is still in operation, split Sandton into four

"nodal" business districts, with restrictions on building office space in any other areas

"After the development in the town centre is complete, there will be no more offices built

"The existing infrastructure can cope, but no more — and it is not our intention to build any more roads in the area," says Head

The four nodal areas are the town centre, based on the municipality-Sandton City axis, Rivonia, Sunninghill and Fourways

The problem with the town centre is that it is not really a town centre

Sandton City is only a shopping mall and office area, albeit a big one, and the council buildings across the road hardly qualify as a nucleus

Thus, the Sandton Square project, an Italian-style piazza surrounded by shops, restaurants and offices across the road from Sandton City, with an overhead

link to the existing shopping area

On the same block of land, next to the municipality buildings, plans are in the pipeline to build a major cultural centre, incorporating a 2 000-seat concert hall which could be home to the National Symphony Orchestra and facilities for art exhibitions

"It would give Sandton a heart, a real town centre," says Head

The Rivonia project will also build on an existing base, in this case the old trading station of Rivonia

But the area is striving to keep its village-like feel

The Sunninghill development is the largest of the planned business nodes, and is still incomplete

By the time it is finished, it will provide around 380 000m² of office space

The Fourways development, still embryonic, is part of the council's plan to extend the urban and suburban areas to the borders of the municipality

Business Day SURVEY

Sandton ranks with Neuilly, Hampstead and Beverly Hills as one of the world's most prestigious suburbs. But, unlike its famous counterparts it is a city in itself. With over 1-million square metres of office space, attaining a balance between demand for office facilities and maintaining Sandton as a residential area has been a persistent problem. **DARIUS SANAI** reports.



Brick-lined walkways and rustic shopfronts in the Rivonia Village development.

R40m village-style shopping area will rejuvenate Rivonia

THE former trading station of Rivonia earned its world-wide fame by lending its name to the trial that sentenced Nelson Mandela and 16 others to jail for political crimes

Rivonia hardly deserves such infamy, having grown

to be a dynamic and developing "business node" in the northern part of Sandton

A new development, Rivonia Village, has prompted the rejuvenation of the area while building on its commercial history

Rivonia Road, Sandton's main artery leading south towards Johannesburg, and north towards Pretoria, has been diverted along a kilometre-long stretch near the town centre, allowing the development of a quiet boulevard and construction of a village-style shopping area

Sandton council plans Rivonia will house 180 000m² of office space after the completion of the Rivonia Village scheme of 1991

Old Mutual is developing the R40m village, which will see over 1 000m² of shops opening on November 1.

Available

Around 6 000m² of office space on four levels will be available early next year.

Another phase of shops, which will include a Woolworths and "other major retailers" will open at the same time as the offices

There will be separate parking for offices and the shopping areas, and an extra basement-parking zone

Daveyton braced for cuts ⁽¹²⁷⁾

AUTHORITIES are poised to cut electricity supplies to Daveyton today and residents are bracing themselves to hit back. *Sowetan 31/7/91.*

A source said residents were planning

a stayaway and total boycott of payments for services.

Residents are paying a R70 flat rate to offset its estimated R5 million debt, a source said - *Sapa*

Rise in minibus taxi commuters

GERALD REILLY
PRETORIA — The minibus industry's share of commuter traffic rose sharply at the expense of other modes of transport between 1987 and last year, a Department of Transport study has found.

The survey, by the department's Directorate of Transport Systems Planning, established that minibuses' share of the total commuter market increased from 29% in 1987 to 44% in 1990 — an increase of 51%.

The most dramatic increases were in the East Rand (274%), East London (248%), Cape Town (38,2%) and Port Elizabeth (31%). Train transport declined from 21% of the total in 1987 to 16% **B/Davy 3/1/91**

The survey shows the shift towards minibuses was partly due to an outbreak of attacks on commuters shortly before the latest survey was conducted in October last year.

The 24% loss in train traffic was most pronounced in Durban (67%), Port Elizabeth (40%), Cape Town (37%) and the East Rand (27%)

At the same time state-subsidised passengers — travelling by train and bus — last year declined from 50% of all commuters to 40%.

The survey also shows the most transport important modes — train, bus and taxis — slightly increased their share of the market.

The survey said the main sources of dissatisfaction with public transport last year were growing crime on trains, perceived high bus fares and the frequency of taxi accidents

Stayaway could claim 200 jobs

B/Davy 3/1/91
AT LEAST 200 workers living in the East Rand township of Duduza could be fired for heeding a stayaway called by a local civic organisation last week, Nigel Chamber of Business chairman Bernard Fitton said yesterday.

Fitton said representatives of 20 businesses held an emergency meeting yesterday at which they discussed a call in a letter sent by the Duduza Civic Association to the chamber for "leniency" on workers who heeded the stayaway.

There were indications that companies would abide by their industrial procedures

Warning

"All but one of the companies represented at the meeting indicated their companies would give due warnings according to their industrial procedures," Fitton said.

"In cases where employees had been warned three times for the same offence, they will be fired."

One company not affiliated to the chamber said it would stick to its "dismissal without warning" policy. "That means about 200 people could be fired," Fitton said. He declined to name the company.

He said there were no plans as yet to hold discussions with the civic as-

WILSON ZWANE

sociation. "But in the letter in which the civic asked employers to be lenient on the workers, it stated it would, in future, talk to employers first before engaging in similar actions," he said.

The association could not be reached for comment yesterday. The stayaway was called in retaliation against Duduza town council's decision to impound the property of rent-defaulters. The action began on Monday last week and ended on Friday after the town council returned the property of the four residents.

□ Meanwhile, THEO RAWANA reports that Daveyton residents, threatened by a power cut over a R5m rent and services debt, will stage a half-day stayaway today.

Daveyton interim committee chairman James Ngubo said Eskom, which was owed R2m by the township of 250 000 people, had written him a letter threatening to cut electricity if tomorrow's talks between the council, the interim committee, the Daveyton town council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration did not yield a solution.

He said residents were paying an agreed R70 monthly flat rate, but the council was not paying Eskom



Ria Oomen Ruijten, the Netherlands representative in the European People's Party delegation, with Foreign Minister Pik Botha after their meeting yesterday. Picture: ROBERT BOTHA

European politicians' visit 'important'

B/Davy 3/1/91
PRETORIA — Government considered the visit to SA by the European People's Party delegation important, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said at a news conference yesterday after talks with the delegates.

The delegation, which also met President F W de Klerk earlier yesterday, was here to observe, discuss and to meet members of government, he said.

The EPP represents a compilation of European Christian Democratic parties

Botha said he had told them where government stood in the negotiation process. Delegation spokesman Ria Oomen Ruijten said she appreciated the "open way" in which Botha had discussed the problems which government was trying to resolve. She said anything which happened which threatened to destroy the process of negotiation was a source of concern to the EPP. She said Botha had assured them government would continue to fight apartheid and wanted a real democratic SA — Sapa

Council averts power cuts

(127)
Somerton
1/18/91

THE Daveyton Town Council yesterday averted a planned power cut when it undertook to pay Eskom R250 000 to ensure continued electricity supply until August 11.

Chairman of negotiations in the Greater Benoni Forum Mr Dawie de Beer said it was hoped the negotiating parties would have by then reached a mutually acceptable arrangement for the continued supply of electricity and other essential services

Power was to have

By DON SEOKANE and Sapa

been switched off last night

Meanwhile, at a meeting yesterday, residents decided to bypass the council and pay service charges directly to the Benoni Town Council

Higher

The meeting coincided with a stayaway called by the Daveyton Interim Committee

Residents resolved to pay the same tariffs as Benoni residents who are apparently charged R12,80 for sewerage, R13

for refuse, an average of R14 for water and R59,80 for electricity

DIC chairman Mr James Ngubo said he hoped the committee would successfully negotiate for cheaper electricity tariffs with the Benoni Town Council.

He, however, warned that tariffs charged by the white municipality could be higher

Residents pay a monthly flat rate of R70 for electricity consumption which, according to the council, is not enough to cover Eskom's bills

Committee established to focus on crisis at hostels

By Brian Sokutu

star 2/8/91

Leaders from extra-parliamentary organisations, business and the Government yesterday agreed on the setting up of a permanent steering committee to address the country's hostel problems.

The meeting, held in Johannesburg and attended by more than 80 representatives from the ANC, PAC and other political organisations, is believed to be the first at high level since the outbreak of violence at Reef township hostels.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) and the Independent Development Trust

(IDT), which organised the seminar, will liaise with extra-parliamentary organisations and the Government over proposals on hostels.

Among the delegates were Thozamile Botha, head of ANC's local government department; Moses Mayekiso, trade unionist and SACP executive member; and Kagi-so Trust national director Eric Molobi.

An estimated 1 million migrant workers from Ciskei, Transkei, Natal and southern African countries lived in 220 hostels countrywide, IDT chief executive Jan Steyn told the seminar.

The IDT and the DBSA had received many ap-

plications for assistance in upgrading hostels.

"We both realised, however, that to rush into ad hoc responses that cannot be sustained on a national basis would compound rather than solve problems.

"After sounding out the different organisations and interests represented here, we felt that a preliminary discussion of the subject should take place. The objective would be to seek a broad-based consensus on how a process through which an acceptable and sustainable outcome could be obtained."

Steps taken so far to upgrade hostels were inadequate.

Group (127)

seeks new mandate

CIVIC leaders at Vosloorus have called a meeting of residents for Sunday for a fresh mandate to negotiate with authorities over the ongoing service charges crisis

Mr Keith Montsisi, spokesman for the local civic association, said yesterday a rift had emerged within the ranks of the negotiating team.

He said the position of the Vosloorus Civic Association was being challenged by its negotiating partners

"We will seek a mandate from the community on whether to carry on negotiating under such conditions or withdraw," he said.

Sapa

Asro pulls out of council talks 127

THE Atteridgeville Residents Organisation yesterday pulled out of crucial talks with the local and Pretoria municipalities aimed at resolving the problem of electricity cuts in the township.

Asro's general secretary, Mr Simon Tshidi, said this action followed the decision by the authorities to invite about 18 community-based organisations to the talks when it was common knowledge that Asro represented all these organisations.

"We decided to pull out after establishing that the Pretoria City Council wants to unfairly occupy centre stage by dictating the negotiation pace.

"Pretoria's aim is to divide the community. They believe that by inviting community organisations, they will secure their interests.

"We will not attend such meetings. However, we will not stop others who have been invited," said Tshidi. *Sowetan 2/8/91*

In a statement released this week, Mr Cor Uys, deputy chairman of the management committee of the Pretoria Council, announced that a meeting with the Atteridgeville organisations would be held at Munotoria at 4pm yesterday.

The Pretoria City Council cut electricity supplies to the township last Monday. Despite assurances that the action was only aimed at rent defaulters, the whole township was affected by the switch-off.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the TPA yesterday confirmed that Dr Ernie Jacobson, the Atteridgeville administrator's term of office ended on Wednesday night. His successor would be named soon.

Call on council to resign

2/8/91
Sowetan 2/8/91

THE Mamelodi Civic Association is urging residents to intensify the campaign to force councillors to resign

Following continuing threats of electricity cuts to individual households in the township, the chairman of Maca, Mr Lazarus Mzwayeni, said yesterday that residents should pay an interim flat rate of R50 a household and R6,50 for hostel dwellers. (127)

He said Maca had not received a response from the Transvaal Provincial Administration to a memorandum of residents' demands and grievances which included the dissolution of the council. (106)

Mzwayeni said councillors had been discredited by residents because of allegations of corruption, including the use of council vehicles and money for private use.

He said a programme of action would be announced after the general council meeting of the Central Transvaal Civics Association due to be held this weekend. -

Rent boycotters face credit ban

S/Times (Bus Times) 4/8/91 127

TOWNSHIP residents with default judgments against them because they did not pay rent fear they will be blacklisted by banks and credit bureaus

Lawyers representing civic associations from boycotting townships say it is impossible to quantify the number of default judgments granted against boycotters because the defendants are often ignorant of the fact that action has been taken against them

One attorney puts the number of judgments against boycotters in the Transvaal and Free State at "several thousand".

Sam Ntuli, general secretary of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast), estimates the number of township residents involved in boycotts at more than a million

Political

But credit bureaus say the circumstances surrounding judgments are checked before a decision is taken on creditworthiness

Kreditinform managing director Ivor Jones says credit managers are sensitive to the fact that a default judgment against a rent boycotter does not necessarily fall into the normal category of debtor delinquency

"Most people understand the situation in the townships. It is a politicised issue and the boycotter may be subject to intimidation. A credit manager may disregard the judgment as evidence of the person's ability to pay accounts."

Deon de Kock, chain credit manager for the Edgars group which includes 1,5-million Edgars and 500 000 Sales House

Business Times Reporter

account holders, says any judgment is investigated, but may not necessarily preclude granting of credit

"We are not as strict as the banks. A person may still get credit with us after a judgment. But it is not a certainty."

Tony Leng, managing director of Information Trust Corporation, says there is no systematic compilation of records on the paying behaviour of boycotters

"In any event, if a person was involved in a rent boycott this would not be a reflection of his ability to pay his bills."

In spite of the reassurances, legal representatives for civic associations say default judgments against boycotters count against them when applying for credit. Banks are said to be particularly strict on credit facilities. A default judgment counts against loan applicants

Trevor Bailey, an attorney with the Legal Resources Centre, which is representing 14 civic associations in the Transvaal and Free State, says once judgment is taken against a boycotter, his name is automatically gazetted by the credit bureaus

"I represent Enderdale Extension 5 residents who are involved in a dispute with the Johannesburg City Council over the quality of houses which they have bought

"As a result of the dispute the council obtained judgments and the civic association has told me some of the residents claim to have been blacklisted"

Mr Bailey says negotiations to end disputes with local authorities continue in most areas. Some negotiations are going well and residents in several

areas had agreed to pay an interim fee pending full resolution of the disputes

Most of the rent boycotts centre on the quality of service and housing. Some boycotts started in 1984

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) said in April that rent and services arrears of R1-billion had accumulated since boycotts began in earnest in March last year

In this time 50 out of the 82 townships under the TPA suffered service cuts for a time. In April, 23 black municipalities in the Transvaal and Free State were without water, sewerage and electricity as a result of boycotts

Upgrading

Dan Rosengarten, an attorney with Bell, Dewar & Hall, representing several civic associations in the Southern Transvaal, says efforts have been made to get councils to suspend legal actions while negotiations are under way. This has succeeded in some cases

"There are many issues at the centre of these disputes. In some cases we are trying to get the TPA and town councils to transfer the houses to residents and write off arrears, to upgrade stands and services in the area and formulate a single tax base"

Summonses were issued to boycotting residents while negotiations were under way in several townships. Residents of Mamelodi were issued with summonses. But action by Cast resulted in residents returning all summonses to the council and suspension of legal action

Residents in the six Vaal townships falling under the Lekoa council, including Sebokeng and Sharpeville, have been involved in a rent boycott for more than five years

E Rand township to pay Eskom

CP Correspondent
418191

ABOUT 25 000 Daveyton residents, this week agreed to pay the Benoni City Council R100 a month for service arrears and undertook to pay future power bills directly to Eskom.

Agreement was reached after a one-day stayaway in the East Rand township organised by the Daveyton Interim Committee.

Early this year the committee, the Daveyton council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, agreed that residents should pay a flat rate of R70 a month and that the council would pay directly to Eskom.

But Eskom complained that some residents were not paying and cut off power several times.

The new Benoni tariffs are R60 for electricity; R12,80 for sewerage; R13 for refuse removal and R14 for water.

ANC Daveyton secretary Zizi Nduna accused the Daveyton council of using residents' payments for staff salaries.

"That is why they must resign. They considered their stomachs before the residents."

Daveyton council spokesman MR Morapane would not comment on the allegations.

Rent boycotters face credit ban

S(Times (Bus Times) 4/8/91 12M)

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Police quiz Asro official

By MONK NKOMO

THE general secretary of the Atteridgeville and Saulsville Residents Organisation, Mr Simon Tshidi, was held by police yesterday when 40 local residents tried to occupy empty houses in nearby Lotus Gardens.

Tshidi was held "for questioning" by a white policeman named Gerder.

The residents arrived in the Indian residential area led by Mr Jeff Ramathale at 11 15am to protest against the area being reserved for Indians only.

The residents were leaving the area after discussions with members of the SADF when Gerder and another white policeman arrived.

An Indian man, who appeared to be drunk, told the police. "We do not want these black people

here".

Gerder then gave the group 10 minutes to disperse. Tshidi asked under which Act the group was barred from being in Lotus Gardens. Gerder

(127) told Tshidi not to shout at him.

An ANC flag seized by an SADF member was later given back to the group who queried the police action.

Asked by *Sowetan* if Tshidi had been arrested,

Sowetan 5/8/91
Gerder replied "No. He is just being held for questioning".

Tshidi was with his attorney, Mr Dabula Manzi Tantsi. At the time of going to press, it was not known if any charges had been laid against Tshidi.

Star 5/8/91
Soshanguve to resume rent payment

Soshanguve residents meeting by the Soshanguve Residents Association (Sorea) after its meeting with Development Aid Deputy Minister Dr P G Marais. Negotiations between Sorea and Dr Marais will continue. — Pretoria Bureau.

Soshanguve residents meeting by the Soshanguve Residents Association (Sorea) after its meeting with Development Aid Deputy Minister Dr P G Marais. Negotiations between Sorea and Dr Marais will continue. — Pretoria Bureau.

yesterday suspended their rent boycott and resolved to pay an interim monthly flat rate of R50 for August and September to avoid an electricity switch-off.

The decision was taken at a report-back

Cast reverses Metropolitan Chamber ban

PATRICK BULGER (127)

TOWNSHIP civic associations are poised to participate fully in negotiations for new local government structures following a reversal of the stance of their umbrella body

6/10/91 6/11/91
The Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday urged its members to present demands for new structures to the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

The negotiations for a new local government dispensation were planned to coincide with constitutional talks at national level, Cast president Moses Mayekiso said.

He was elaborating on Cast's change of mind following its earlier decision not to participate in the chamber.

Mayekiso said Cast's decision had been prompted by the ANC decision last week to enter multiparty talks

It was important that negotiations at all levels proceed simultaneously so that decisions taken at a local level did not contradict national decisions, for example

Cast's decision was likely to be adopted by civic associations around the country, Mayekiso said

Sapa reports that Cast general secretary Sam Ntuli said civic associations should attend chamber meetings to make their demands known.

Cast also announced a campaign of marches aimed at pressing the Transvaal Provincial Administration and Eskom into "depoliticising electricity and other supplies" to township communities.

It accused Eskom of not honouring agreements in terms of which residents would pay bills directly to Eskom.

Cast is also to attend government's national transport conference.



● MAYEKISO

Cast reverses policy

Sweetan 6/8/71. (127)
IN a major reversal of policy, the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal has said it would now encourage member civics to present their demands to the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber

Addressing a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday, Cast general secretary Mr Sam Ntuli said his organisation might "participate in the Metropolitan Chamber in order to change it"

Cast's assistant general secretary, Mr Cas Coovadia, resigned from the organisation recently be-

cause it refused to participate in the chamber

Ntuli said civic associations should attend chamber meetings to make their demands known

Campaign

Cast also announced it would embark on a campaign of marches to pressurise the Transvaal Provincial Administration and Eskom into "depoliticising electricity and other supplies" to township communities

Cast president Mr Moses Mayekiso said the civics wanted to cut

the township councils out of the process of paying service accounts because of alleged corruption among councillors

"Eskom should fix its house and show itself to be a service company, not a political organisation," Mayekiso said

He charged that Eskom had not set up the neutral pay points in Alexandra township as agreed

Cast also announced it would attend the national transport conference being organised by the Government - *Sapa*

Inquest probes Daveyton deaths

By Day 6/8/91

AN INQUEST began in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday into the deaths of 14 people — among them a policeman and an eight-year-old girl — in a clash in Daveyton near Benoni earlier this year.

On March 24 a group of ANC supporters was holding an outdoor meeting next to the Daveyton swimming pool at the same time that an Inkatha rally was being held at a nearby stadium, when the incident occurred.

Police allegedly fired at the ANC group after ordering it to disperse.

Sgt Jan van Wyk was allegedly attacked with pangas and certified dead on arrival at hospital.

The other victims were eight-year-old Tami Nomathansanga, Zwelangule Diko, Lelton Ndlabi, Simon Mdlazi, Mbovisele Ngckuka, Simon Nsondwa, Aaron Prusent, Nunuse Stuurman, Galelekule Mkrozo, Douglas Noabcha, Zingile Penxa, Tembinkosi Vevelo and Speelman Ngozi.

Immediately after the incident police announced the formation of a special in-

SUSAN RUSSELL

vestigation team under the command of Deputy CID chief Lt-Gen Jaap Joubert.

When the inquest court convened yesterday, presiding judge Mr Justice B O' Donovan said he would ensure all parties were able to present evidence.

Transvaal Deputy Attorney-General Anton Ackerman, who has been appointed to lead the evidence, said the purpose of an inquest was not only to investigate the cause of death and establish whether the deaths were caused by any act or omission amounting to a criminal offence.

An inquest, he said, had also to administer justice and instil confidence, satisfying the public and interested parties that a fair investigation had been made.

The court was then adjourned to allow the judge and legal representatives to conduct an inspection in loco of the site where the incident occurred.

Proceedings continue today.

Benoni help for neighbour

By Day 6/8/91
WILSON ZWANE

THE Benoni Town Council had agreed in principle to take over distribution of electricity and other services to the neighbouring Daveyton township, a source close to the Daveyton Interim Committee said yesterday.

Benoni had told the multiparty Greater Benoni Forum that it was prepared to take over the distribution of bulk services from Daveyton provided "the rates it is charging its residents are accepted by Daveyton residents", the source said.

It is understood Daveyton residents have indicated to the interim committee that they will pay the Benoni tariffs if their demands are met. These demands include the scrapping of all rent and services arrears.

The source said the Greater Benoni Forum would hold a "crucial" meeting tomorrow at which, it was hoped, the TPA would come forward with proposals that could lead to a Greater Benoni Accord.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



REPRODUCTION OF THIS PAGE IS PROHIBITED

Illegal extensions blamed for blackouts in Soweto

By Thabo Leshilo

Soweto's illegal backyard electrical extensions were playing havoc with the township's electricity supply, causing constant power failures, the Soweto City Council (SCC) said yesterday.

Public relations officer Mojalefa Moseki was responding to residents' allegations that constant power failures in the township were being used as a "weapon" to force them to honour the Soweto Accord.

He said the mushrooming of "two-rooms-and-a-garage" extensions, many built without council approval, had doubled the number of electricity users, resulting in an overload.

The extra rooms are normally let out.

"We are completely in the dark about how much power we should supply because we do not know how many such extra buildings there are," Mr

Moseki said.

The Soweto Accord, aimed at ending the four-year-old rent boycott, was signed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, SCC, Eskom and the Soweto People's Delegation last October.

The parties agreed that Soweto's R516 million rent debt be written off, the boycott be ended and a monthly flat rate of R49 50 be paid.

Many residents failed to honour the agreement.

"The council has taken it upon itself not to deny people electricity during winter and will only start acting against defaulters later," Mr Moseki said.

He said there had been a positive response to the council's threatened blanket blackout for defaulters last month, and many had paid up.

The Soweto council was in the process of upgrading the electricity supply service and would install meters in houses.

SAP role in cut-off queried

Star
7/8/91

By Jo-Anne Collinge (127)

The Middelburg Residents Organisation (MRO) has accused the South African Police of adopting a political role by taking part in actions calculated to counter the recently resumed service charge boycott in Mhluzi township

According to MRO office-bearers, two police armoured vehicles escorted an official around the township as he pleaded with residents to resume paying for electricity and water, and also concede that the MRO had failed

The action was taken only hours after electricity was cut off and water supplies reduced

A police liaison officer for the eastern Transvaal said the official relaying the message was employed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration

She confirmed that Casspirs had been used, "but the police were only there for the protection of the official"

The interruption of services by the Middelburg Town Council is a response to a debt of more than R1 million run up by residents of Mhluzi despite the termination of a service charge boycott in October

In terms of the agreement reached at that time, residents should have returned to paying an economic service rate by February, said MRO secretary

Godfrey Maseko.

Township administrator Peter Colin said at a recent public meeting that payments fell short of target by about R280 000 a month

But Mr Maseko insists that the authorities aim for "quick fix" solutions and ignore socio-economic conditions.

He added that MRO's attempts to motivate residents to pay were hampered by such factors as the failure to install a pre-paid electricity metering system by July, as scheduled

Residents have responded to the cut-off by renewing the service fee boycott and launching a consumer boycott of white-owned shops

Boost for local govt talks as CAST supports chamber

Star 5/18/91
By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Negotiations for a new democratic dispensation for local government are back on track after a decision by the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal to encourage civics to take part in the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

At a press conference, CAST announced it had resolved to support all national initiatives and agreements at local level, such as the Soweto Accord, Alexandra Accord and the Metropolitan Chamber

Johannesburg City Council representative on the chamber, Sias Reyneke, said CAST's decision was a step forward

127 268
"It's wonderful, now things are finally coming together. This is what we have been working towards," Mr Reyneke said

CAST general-secretary Sam Ntuli said it would encourage civics to take part in the chamber and protest within

"We haven't changed our objections to the participation of black councillors in the chamber, or the structure and status of business and white local authorities in negotiations"

Mr Ntuli denied that the decision was a major reversal of opinion "We have always said we agree in principle with the Metropolitan Chamber. Our problem has been the format and that some civics never had a mandate to participate

"Now we are going to protest from within and negotiate on

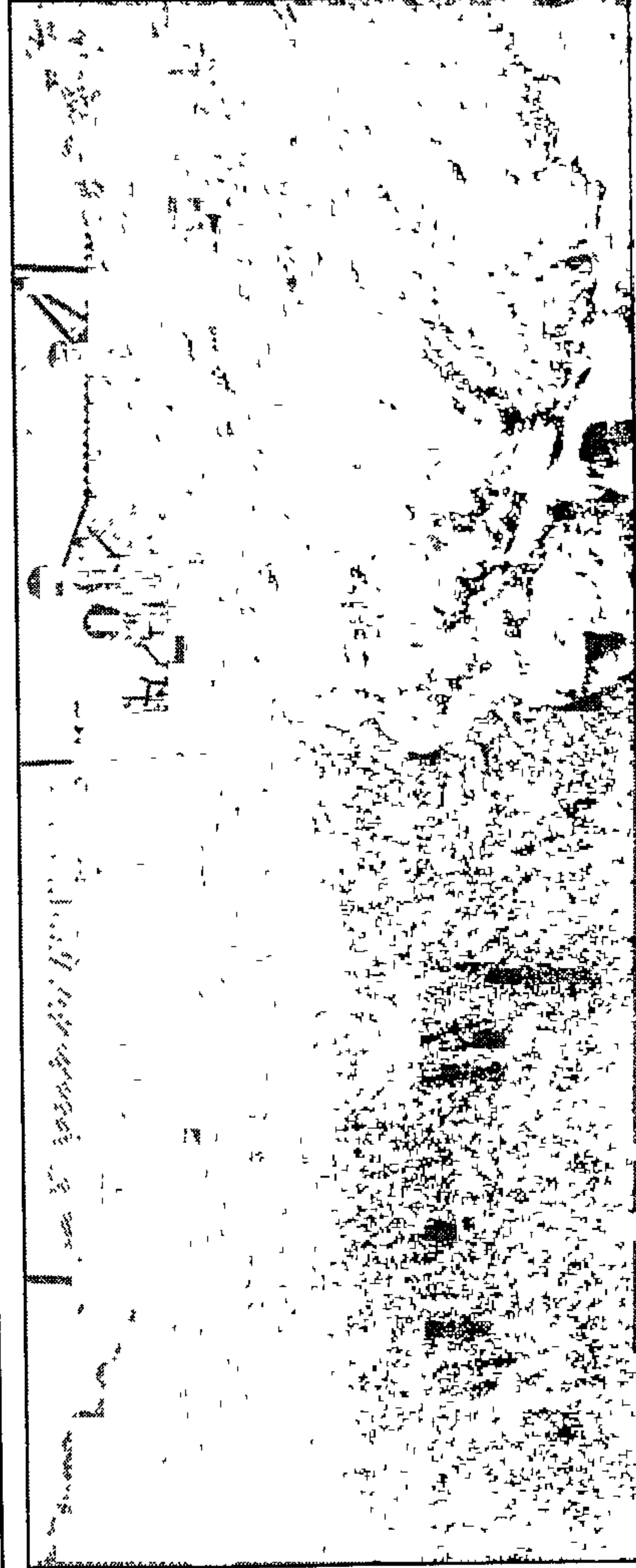
certain changes."

The organisation has appointed heads of department to deal with transport, local government, land and housing development, finance, legal, cultural and economic development issues.

At yesterday's press conference, CAST also criticised Eskom and the Transvaal Provincial Administration for their attitude towards the civics in dealing with the issue of electricity and other services.

CAST's general council also condemned the Government and the TPA for their support to "descredited" black local authorities.

It resolved to demand that the hostel system be abolished immediately, and that the Government intervene in the transport and housing crisis



Accident in waiting . . . Soweto children play near the unmarked trenches.

Picture. Sean Woods

Naledi trenches are 'dangerous'

Naledi Extension residents are up in arms against the Soweto City Council (SCC) and Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council, and have threatened mass action because of "dangerous trenches".

The trenches were dug to replace underground water pipes and to install individual water meters

"The council has no regard for our safety. This kind of thing is totally unheard of in white suburbs," said Ebenezer Maphathe, vice-chairman of the Naledi Extension Civic Association

The SCC said it was unaware of the problem - Staff Reporter

127

Move to plug govt into electricity deals

CIVIC associations are set to establish a national forum to negotiate township electricity supplies directly with government.

Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso said this week provision of electricity was an issue which needed to be tackled "by trade unions and other mass-based organisations at national level"

Mayekiso, who is also general secretary of the National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa), said Cast would ask the organisations to convene a national workshop soon at which the "whole electricity issue" would be thrashed out

"It is hoped the workshop will pave the

way for the forum, which will in turn negotiate with government about provision of electricity to townships," he said

Such a forum was necessary because agreements reached by local civic structures and Eskom had not been honoured. Eskom was reneging on these agreements, in terms of which township residents would pay bills directly to Eskom

"Eskom has not, as yet, set up neutral pay points in Alexandra township as agreed," he said. Establishment of such points was provided for in the Alexandra

To Page 2

Electricity

Accord signed by Eskom, the Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO), the Alexandra City Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) early this year

Mayekiso reiterated Cast's call on Monday for a campaign aimed at encouraging Eskom to depoliticise electricity

Eskom corporate electrification manager Johan du Plessis said the utility fully supported the belief that electricity should

be depoliticised "We are a service organisation, not a political one"

He added that the Alexandra accord had not been implemented as yet and the utility was ready to collect payments directly from residents as soon as it was

TPA spokesman Piet Wilken said Cast was free to take the electricity issue to central government level, "but our doors are always open for discussions"

From Page 1

8 (Day 28) 1971
Civic groups to formulate local policies

WILSON ZWANE (127)

TOWNSHIP civic organisations are set to formulate their policies on local government issues such as housing, development and the electricity supply

Addressing a news briefing in Johannesburg yesterday, Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Sam Ntuli said "At this conference Cast will formulate its policies on local government structures and local government issues such as development, electricity supply and housing" His organisation would invite all township civic associations within a month to a national civics' conference to formulate a national policy on these issues

The national civics' conference would, however, be preceded by Cast's own policy conference at the weekend, its first since the organisation was formed last September.

"The conference will be attended by more than 200 delegates from the affiliates of Cast," Ntuli said, adding that Cast's membership stood at 89

Wits Centre for Policy Studies director Lawrence Schlemmer and trade unionist Tozamile Botha would be among those addressing the conference

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PROPERTY

Historic home is linked with ANC

(127) Sowetan 8/8/91.

THE house that once belonged to ANC founder-member Dr AB Xuma, and the only one to escape the bulldozers when Sophiatown was razed 31 years ago, is up for sale.

The stately home, situated at the corner of Toby and Edward streets in what is today called Triomf, is being sold for R270 000.

The house survived bulldozers in the late 1950s when black people were forcibly removed from Sophiatown

A spokesman for the estate agent handling the transaction said "It would be nicer if the property was bought by someone related to him, considering the historic background of the house

By KENOSI MODISANE

"We also would have appreciated selling to the ANC, considering Xuma's links with the movement."

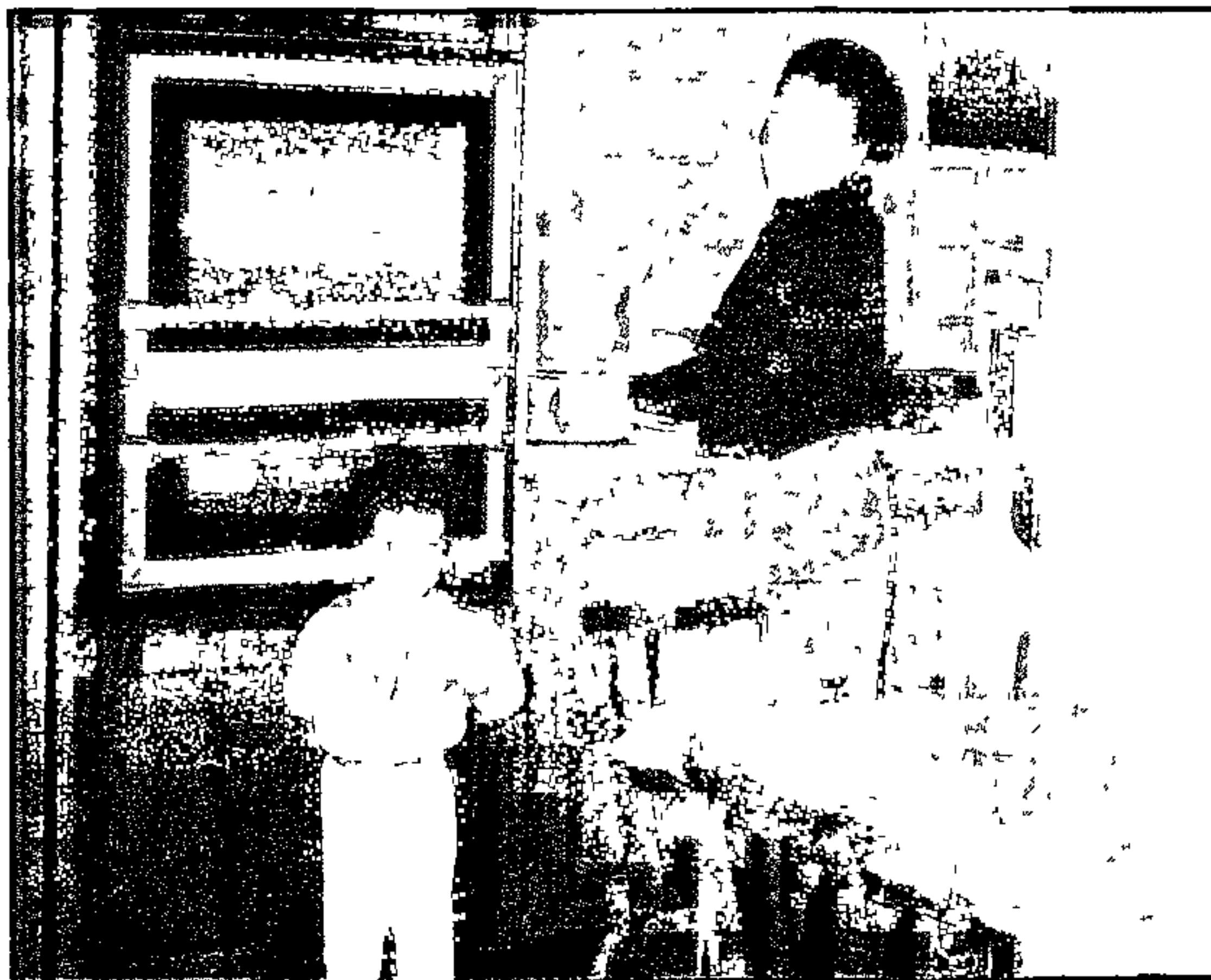
The ANC said yesterday they were not aware of the sale.

The Xuma family could also not be reached for comment

Most of the features in this four-bedroomed house, which was built in the early 1930s, are original.

Apart from its historic value, features include the fact that it was built on a double stand (1 139 square meters), its entrance lounge, study, family room, a Victorian fireplace, double electronic gates, a double garage and servant's quarters with full bathroom

The front portion of the house which belonged to Dr A Xuma of the ANC. This house survived when the bulldozers razed Sophiatown.



The kitchen in the house boasts state-of-the-art accessories.

Jane's warns SADF may be unprepared in future

SA MAY not be able to deter aggressive military moves against itself or its neighbours if further defence budget cuts are made, a recent analysis has warned.

The survey of SA's military capabilities is published in the latest issue of Jane's Defence Weekly.

Analysts Paul Beaver, Christopher Foss and Helmoed-Romer Heitmann argue that medium to long term strategic scenarios demand balanced and flexible armed forces capable of protecting SA and of assisting neighbouring states against potential threats.

With the exception of the SA Navy, the SADF could perform these functions adequately in the short to medium term, but major re-equipping was necessary if SA was to continue the role in the longer term.

Jane's warned that more complex systems would have to be procured soon if they were to be in service in useful numbers when existing equipment was retired.

Military spending cuts were to be expected when the SADF wound down its operations in Namibia

However, the government has imposed further cuts that have gone rather deeper than seems safe given the equipment needs of the armed forces the army has yet to complete the re-equipping begun in the mid-1970s in response to the Cuban deployment in Angola, the air force faces block obsolescence of fighters and transports and lacks maritime patrol aircraft, the navy has lost its anti-submarine warfare capability and will retire its strike craft and submarines around 2000 to 2005."

ARMSCOR

It seemed unlikely that defence would receive adequate funds in the near future.

As long as the rand was weak, the SADF would have to focus its procurement on Armscor, which could be paid in rands and whose products were optimised for the SADF.

Certain major foreign equipment purchases would become necessary and possible if the arms embargo was lifted within a useful timeframe, and

could include an air superiority fighter, maritime patrol and medium transport aircraft, submarines and frigates. Local manufacturers will be relied on to provide customised systems and sub-systems supporting these acquisitions.

Government also faced a dilemma regarding ground forces personnel. With the franchise extended to all races, a similar extension of national service obligations would seem logical, using a ballot to draft men to the standing units and the Citizen Force.

"There is, however, a preference in government and other circles for fully professional armed forces. How they would be funded remains uncertain," said Jane's.

"With funds already tight, the SADF may have to choose between adequate strength and no equipment, or a reasonable balance of equipment and men but with ground forces too weak to serve their purpose."

Spokesmen for the Defence Ministry and the SADF were yesterday unable to comment on the Jane's analysis or on SA's defence priorities.

Lenasia body seeks end of management committees

THE founding of the Lenasia Civic Association (LCA) on Sunday would mark the formation of the first all-embracing civic body for Lenasia, spokesman Kista Moonsamy said on Tuesday.

Moonsamy said the LCA, which would fight for the scrapping of government-created local management committees, would seek membership of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber and work for a non-racial Johannesburg City Council.

The launch of the LCA at the Lenasia Civic Centre on Sunday would be addressed by ANC National Working Committee member Popo Molefe and community leader R A M Saloojee.

"The LCA, a successor to the Federation of Residents Associations (FRA), will represent all sectors of the community — traders, workers, professionals, the unemployed and the homeless."

"It is an organisation dedicated to taking up all the problems of the people — housing, poor transport, high water and lights rates, crime, land and site allocation and all other community issues."

Local management committees had to be scrapped because they kept apartheid structures alive. Through the LCA the community had to ensure change in SA was meaningful and real at grassroots level.

The LCA would initially take observer status at the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, but would soon apply for full membership, Moonsamy said.

BLACK NEGOTIATOR/PR MAN SEEKS ASSIGNMENTS



Poison gas alert in Sandton

DB (12.7)

Star 8/8/91.

● From Page 1

Mr Pithey said: "We isolated the leak within 15 minutes and alerted the Sandton Fire department. We were unable to detect any sulphur trioxide at ground level, we only saw what was a white cloud. We are not aware of any inconvenience to any people."

As the massive emergency campaign swung into action, the Sandton Commando of the South African Defence Force and local traffic department was called out, a bus service to evacuate residents was placed on standby, regular radio reports were issued, and the Johannesburg Hospital was immediately alerted.

"It could have been ugly if the gas had been more concentrated, and if they hadn't stopped the leak as soon as they did," Mr Pienaar said.

The traffic department set up roadblocks on streets leading to Buccleuch to warn people of the danger of entering the area.

Jeanette Boers, a Buccleuch resident, said she had not felt it was necessary to leave the area. She said some people had panicked and were running down the suburb's main thoroughfare, Gibson Drive.

Mrs Boers said she had seen a "whitish cloud".

Mr Pienaar said that, although the gas could still be smelt at about 8.30 pm, the danger had passed by then.

Calling for more stringent checks at the nearby factories, local councillor Jo Marais stressed that this was the first leak she was aware of in the last 20 years.

"People were aware of this situation when they built and it is no good beating a drum about relocating at this stage as it is financially impossible," she said.

Ratepayer chairman Axel Joosting said residents had lived with the situation for many years and had a "good relationship" with the chemical factory proprietors.

Residents told to seal homes in Sandton poison gas scare

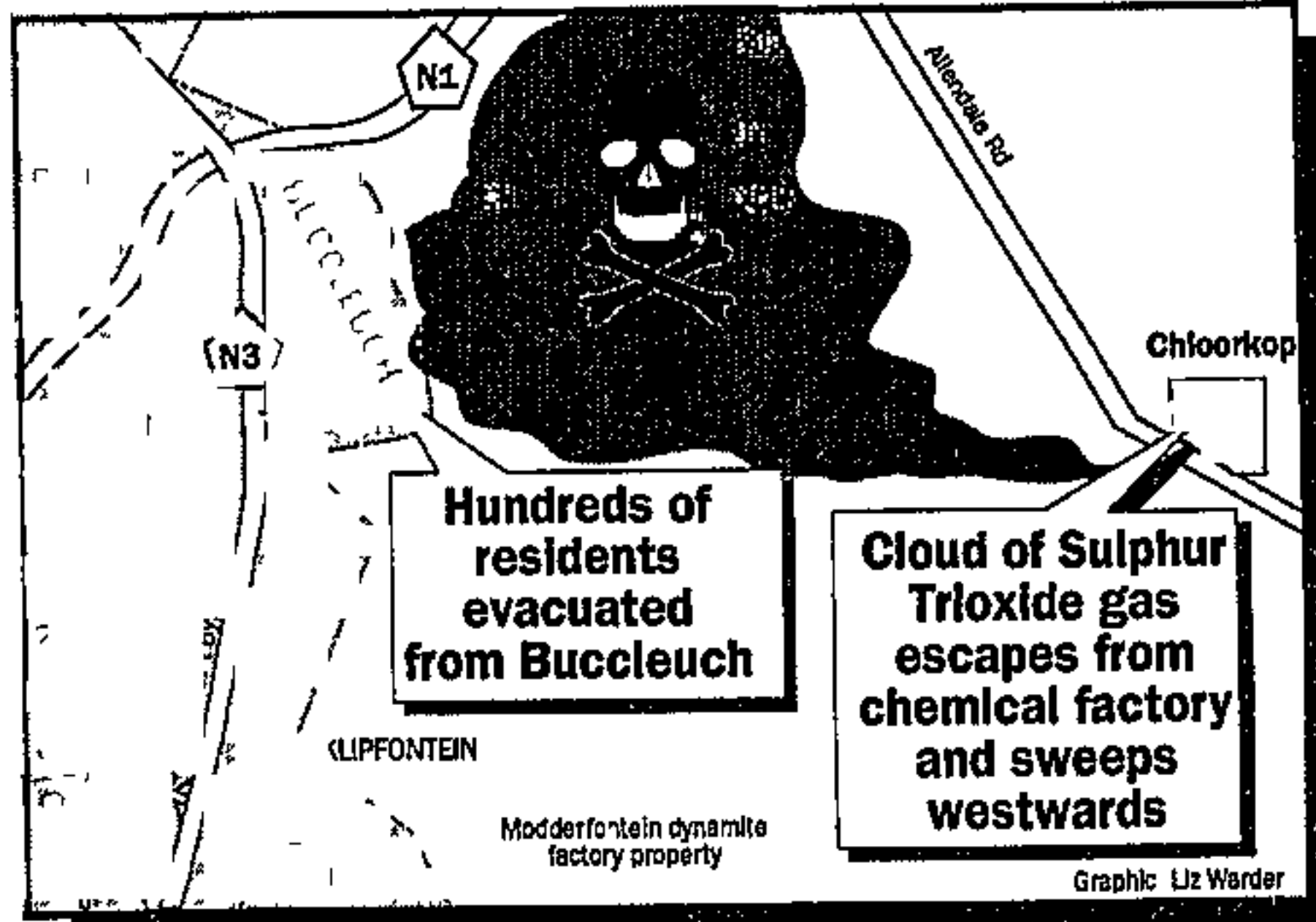
Star 8/8/91
Staff Reporters

Hundreds of residents of Buccleuch and Kelvin were told to seal their houses or evacuate the area late yesterday afternoon after a highly poisonous acid gas leak, drifting in cloud form, was detected over the Sandton suburbs.

Sandton management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said a broken pipe at the National Chemical Products (NCP) factory in Chloorkop was responsible for the leak of sulphur trioxide, "a potentially dangerous gas in concentrated form, which is converted to sulphuric acid when converted to liquid".

After a spate of callers had alerted Sandton's crisis control centre at about 6 pm, the fire department mounted a door-to-door campaign warning residents of the danger, particularly in low-lying areas near the Jukskei River, and advising them to close doors and windows.

Asthmatics and people with babies were advised to leave the area until the danger had passed, said fire



chief Pine Pienaar

"We did not have to evacuate anybody," said Mr Pienaar. "We told them that if they felt uncomfortable, if they had respiratory problems or small children, they should go and visit some friends for a while and call us later to see if it was safe to come back."

He said several families did this and there had been no panic.

Apparently the areas worst hit by the cloud, which Mr Pienaar said smelt "like

a gun that has just been fired," were the low-lying areas near the river.

Roy Pithey, chairman of NCP, said that at about 5.30 pm a gasket failed at the Chloorkop plant causing about 60 kilograms of sulphur trioxide to escape

Mr Pithey said the gas did not disperse over a wide area as there was no wind last night. However, a ghostly white cloud of noxious gas drifted towards the Sandton suburb of Buccleuch.

● To Page 3

Breakthrough on Benoni services

6/10 am 9/8/91

(127)

WILSON ZWANE

MEMBERS of a forum representing the Benoni Town Council and residents of Daveyton and Wattville townships on the East Rand have agreed to consolidate their water and electricity provision and payment procedures.

Consultant to the Greater Benoni Forum Nigel Mandy said yesterday the forum's tariff working committee had agreed on recommendations which would avert a power cut due on Sunday.

The working group recommended Benoni's tariffs for electricity and other essential services be introduced in Daveyton and that metered electricity and water charges be resumed in Daveyton and Wattville from next month.

The group also agreed to consolidate accounting procedures of Benoni, Daveyton and Wattville.

The forum is expected to endorse the plan on August 15. It is believed the agreement will be the first of its kind between a white municipality and neighbouring black authorities.

Mandy said the forum's objective was to work for a "combined democratic and non-racial municipal government for the Greater Benoni area".

RESIDENTS lined the streets of Alexandra on Saturday morning to watch an armed Inkatha "clean-up" procession striding through the township.

The singing and stamping, colourfully-clad detachment could be spotted up the hill from a vantage point nearly a kilometre away along Roosevelt Road, which cuts through the township.

Shouts echoed from the 100 strong-group for the way to be cleared "Out of the way, out of the way," I heard, as the Inkatha Freedom Party unfurled what it called "a massive clean-up campaign for the benefit of the residents of Alexandra township".

Alighting from a taxi, I walked towards the site on Roosevelt Road where members of the press were to be briefed. As I passed the house of an elderly resident, Maria Ramano, she asked angrily "What kind of a clean-up campaign is this, with people carrying sticks and assegais? This is a provocation — to revert to the violence that plagued our township early this year."

From a distance I could see a group of about six whites, standing around their cars, who I learned were Inkatha branch executive officials from Sandton and Bryanston. They were in the company of Prince Mokoena, the "exiled" mayor of Alexandra.

Although the IFP had launched the campaign with the purpose of eliminating the health hazard posed by a build-up of refuse, some of the organisation's white members seemed sceptical that the implementation of the campaign would be peaceful.

One walked towards Sandton IFP official Alasdair Macaulay and remarked cynically that "the group is

Inkatha arrives to help residents

clean up ... so why the assegaais?

W/Mon 9/8 - 15/8/91

(127)

Inkatha made a gesture to Alexandra township last Saturday by offering to clean up the rubbish-filled streets. So why then did they arrive armed? And why did they ignore most of the garbage?

BY HUBERT MATLOU PHOTOGRAPHY ADAMS

moving to Lusaka" — referring to an area next to a school, regarded as an African National Congress stronghold.

"Do you think there will be confrontation?" asked Macaulay, as they stared at each other without any reply.

They seemed reluctant to join the armed chanting group in the clean-up, and resorted instead to driving up and down Roosevelt Road.

As I was walking down Roosevelt, word was going around that the armed Inkatha group was attacking Siywelela, a shack settlement near the edge of the township overlooking the Jukskei river and regarded as another ANC stronghold.

After the "Siywelela clean-up", the chanting armed procession paraded back towards the centre of the township, under police escort. It was followed closely by ANC Youth League

members who were monitoring both the group and the police.

They claimed that Inkatha members had thrown bricks at shacks and injured three people at Siywelela, in the presence of the police moving in Casspirs. They supplied the registration numbers of the Casspirs and maintained that nothing had been done to stop or arrest the culprits.

As we followed the procession, a white terrier lay bleeding and gasping on the side of the road after being hacked by the chanting Inkatha group.

There was no sign of the group having cleared the garbage which was piled in heaps on both sides of the road. The plastic garbage bags carried by the men in the procession were either empty or nearly empty.

The armed procession ignored heaps of rubbish as it moved down 17th Ave-

nue, turned into 16th Avenue, and flowed back to Roosevelt Road.

As it was passing by, I saw a very quick, brief attack with bricks being launched on the 11th Avenue shack settlement. Police moving in Casspirs took no action to apprehend the culprits except to shout "Stop! Stop!"

A man was stabbed with an assegai as the group moved up the road after the attack. A police first-aid vehicle arrived half-an-hour later to pick up the injured man.

At this point, it must have become clear to the leaders of the campaign that they could no longer continue with the "clean-up" without risking resistance from township youths, who were beginning to organise themselves.

The group chanted its way towards the Madala hostel, where, at last, the real cleaning-up finally got underway. Madala is an Inkatha stronghold, "liberated" after original occupants fled the area during the violence five months ago.

By mid-day, Alexandra was rather quiet but tense. Activists kept monitoring and exchanging the intelligence gathered during the Inkatha clean-up campaign. This has become the usual routine whenever an attack is anticipated. But this time, none followed.

According to South African Police spokesman, Lieutenant Wikus Weber, "There were sporadic incidents of stone-throwing from both sides" in Alexandra on Saturday and "on two occasions the police fired rubber bullets at the Inkatha group which was disobeying orders".

He disputed the claim that pistol shots were fired at the Siywelela shack settlement.

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Many of our soldiers died for
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CAST's 'yes' on Chamber still a 'maybe'

THE Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) did an about-turn this week on its participation in the Metropolitan Chamber, but its general secretary Sam Ntuli denies the organisation has changed its stance

And he also warned that CAST could still pull out if crucial conditions are not met, including the removal from the Chamber of "corrupt and discredited town councillors"

For some weeks now CAST has been saying it would not participate in the chamber, headed by Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert and established to thrash out a model for non-racial local government in the new South Africa

Mr Ntuli said CAST had never been opposed in principle to the Chamber, and the about-face decision to participate did not mean CAST now accepted the Chamber's structure

He said workshops had been held by CAST's member civics in the Johannesburg area, who decided it should take part

"But before we do anything, we want to clear away the obstacles, including the removal of the councillors. If nothing is done about this we will have to reconsider our position"

Assistant general secretary Cas Coovadia, said he believed CAST's original decision not to participate was based on an incorrect understanding of the Chamber's aims

Staff (12M)
STAFF REPORTER

NE

**NEWS
ROUND-UP**

(127) ~~234~~
**Racists in
home attack**
SI Times 11/8/91

A WHITE man was seen running away after a bomb exploded at the home of a town's first black family yesterday.

The blast damaged divorcee Mrs. Yumna Woods's car.

Mrs. Woods, 41, said she would not be driven out of her new home in Roodepoort, on the West Rand, where she lives with her four children.

New residential area for Jo'burg's CBD

PETER GALLI

127

THE creation of a multimillion-rand residential area in the Johannesburg CBD will become a reality within the next 18 months, says City Council planning and development committee chairman Eddie Magid. *Bloom* *12/8/91*

Interviewed at the weekend, he said massive urbanisation in the city stressed the need for a middle class residential development

This was compounded by the creation of 5 000 new jobs by the BankCity development and, with other developments in the CBD coming on line, this figure was probably closer to 10 000, Magid said

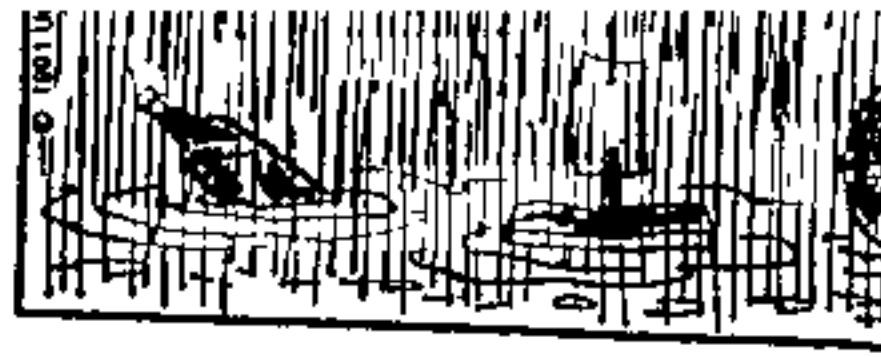
The present road and parking facilities would not be able to cope with this surge in traffic. It was in council's interests to have people living near their work, he said

The area would be designed for the middle-income market. "We are looking at the area east of Eloff Street, adjacent to the Small Street Mall, and plans for this are already under way

"Council will have to offer developers incentives to develop residential properties here as there is more profit to be made in the development of retail and commercial property," Magid said.

Such incentives could include allowing developers free bulk, where they could build on existing structures and a "tax holiday" provided profits from this went back into the cost of development.

Police stopped the bus and searched it, seizing ammunition and arms. A spokesman said 101 people were arrested — Sapa



Demands on chamber set out

WILSON ZWANE (127)

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) is formulating a set of demands for the restructuring of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber

It was to present the ideas to its umbrella body, the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast), at the weekend *Bloom 12/8/91*

Last week Cast called on its members to join the Metropolitan Chamber's deliberations on future local government structures, after earlier refusing to sanction such participation. Cast said its change of heart had been prompted by the ANC decision to enter multiparty talks.

ACO president Moses Mayekiso said at the weekend his organisation's executive committee and housing and development committee were discussing demands for a "new-look" Metropolitan Chamber.

ACO is demanding a total overhaul of the chamber's constitution. Mayekiso said if the demands were not met, they did not see themselves participating in the chamber.

Survey throws light on electricity costs

13/08/91

127

JOHANNESBURG residents are paying more for electricity than other consumers in SA, this year's National Utility Services (NUS) international price survey shows

The survey shows that Johannesburg consumers are paying 11,23c per kilowatt per hour (kw/h) up 13,09% on last year's price. It is also a whopping 25% higher than Eskom's average base cost of 8,98c kw/h, and 10% higher than SA's average rate of 10,19c kw/h

National Utility Services marketing director Peter Cornelius attributed the high rates in Johannesburg to the city's continuing involvement in

BRENT VON MELVILLE

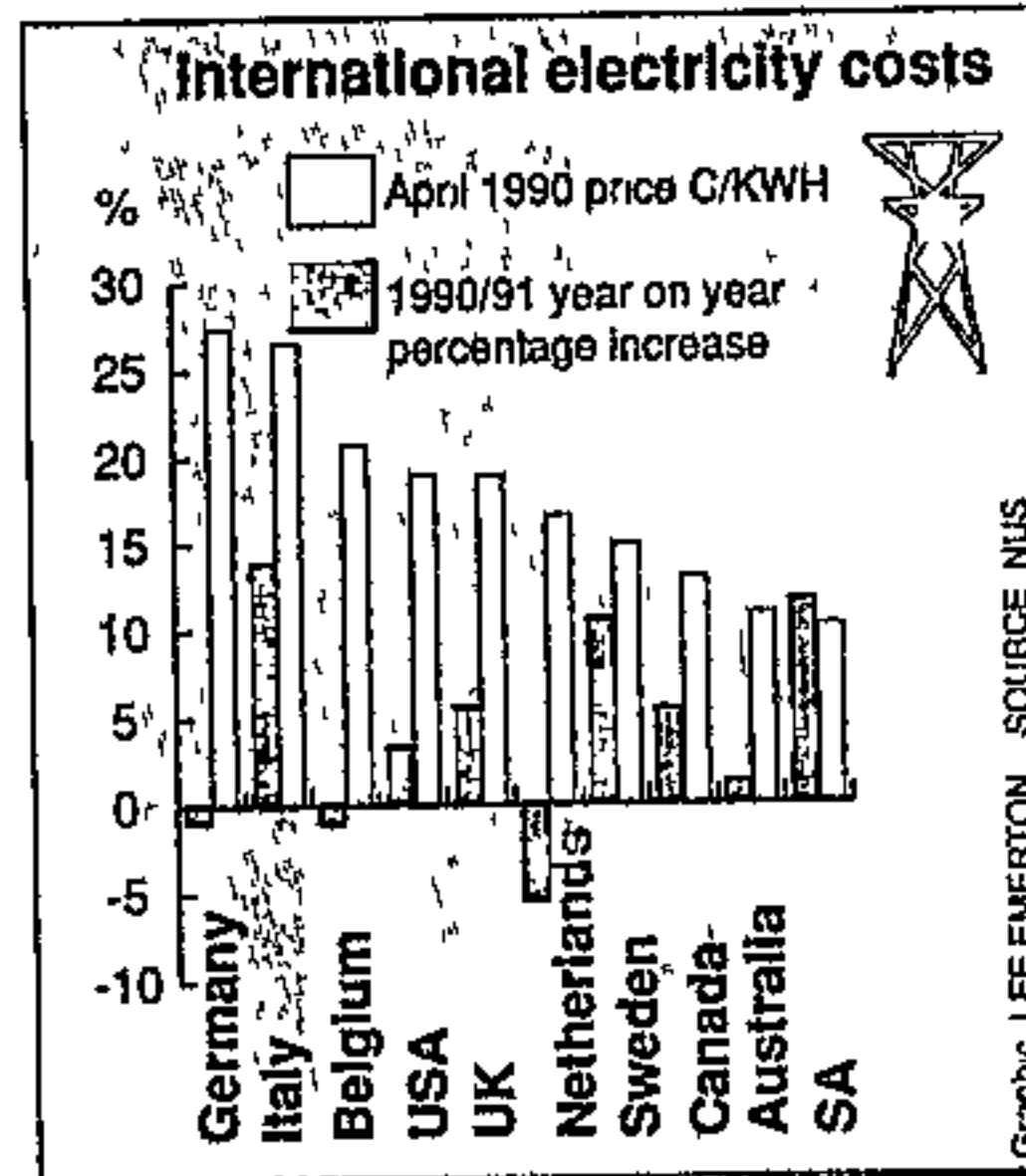
the upgrading of transmission systems in heavy industry areas and the fact that the municipality generated about 50% of its own power

In terms of price increases (with Eskom's 8% increase for the year to March 1991 as the base), Pretorians fared the worst with their municipality increasing tariffs by nearly 15%. However, Pretoria still has the second lowest average price/unit — about 7% more expensive than Eskom

Lowest increases were in Durban where tariffs went up only 10,55%. Cape Town pushed its prices up by 12,06%. An unweighted average of all municipal price increases yielded a country-wide price hike of 11,61%, to 10,2c a kw/h

In rand terms this is still the lowest electricity price in the world. Of 14 countries analysed, SA electricity comes in the cheapest, with only Australia (10,87c a kw/h), Canada (12,98c) and Sweden (14,85c a kw/h) within comparable levels

Conversely German consumers paid the highest price at 27,4c kw/h, although this is an average 1% down on last year's prices, while Italians suffered the highest price increase, at 13,9%, bringing their total cost of electricity to 26,6c kw/h



Alex to accept 'credit cards'

127
THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) is pushing for the electrification of the township and is ready to accept the controversial prepaid meter or "credit card" system of payment.

13/8/91
Electrification through the installation of meters will be high on the agenda when the ACO meets Eskom this week.

ACO official Richard Mdakane said his organisation was in favour of the meters as "such an installation will enable people to buy electricity directly from Eskom"

"Electricity is the right of the people — not a privilege. We want the whole of the township — not 20% of it — electrified. The people are prepared to pay for electricity provided they are getting it directly from Eskom and not via the town council"

In some townships the pre-paid meter system has been rejected by residents as it cannot be used as a bargaining chip in dealings with local authorities

WILSON ZWANE

He said another "thorny" issue to be discussed at this week's meeting was the call by the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) for Eskom to "depoliticise" electricity

Eskom corporate electrification manager Johan du Plessis confirmed that officials from his company would meet representatives of the Alexandra residents to discuss the supply of electricity

The call to "depoliticise" electricity was not on the agenda but would be discussed if brought up by the civic body

Mdakane also said the Alexandra Accord — signed by the ACO, the Alexandra Town Council and the Transvaal Provincial Administration earlier this year — would be implemented following its endorsement by residents at a mass meeting on Sunday

Alex ready for 'credit' power

(127) CT 13/8/91
Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) is pushing for the electrification of the township and is ready to accept the controversial prepaid meter or "credit card" system of payment.

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Power cuts remain as ^{12/1} talks go on ^{13/8/91}

THE TPA will continue with negotiations aimed at resolving the electricity crisis in the Transvaal, MEC for institutional development and negotiations Mr Olaus van Zyl said yesterday.

Nine local authorities in the Transvaal are without electricity

Van Zyl said progress had been made in negotiations with communities at 70 out of 82 local authorities in the Transvaal. Unfortunately services charges boycotts were still in force in about 50 local authorities.

Negotiations alone would not bring an end to electricity cut-offs, said Van Zyl. He appealed to communities to start paying all their municipal accounts

Van Zyl said the bridging finance provided by the TPA was not there to subsidise boycotts, but for short-falls of authorities which did not have economic bases

* He also attacked the ANC-led consumer boycott of white-owned businesses in the PWV areas in protest against electricity cut-offs. Van Zyl said the boycott was unfair because white businesses had nothing to do with the cut-offs - *Sapa*

Powerlines for trees: residents appeased

By Shirley Woodgate

The launch of an environmental impact study in Sandringham to test the effect of replacing trees with powerlines has drawn tentative approval from residents.

Announced by council management committee member Paul Asherson last night, he said the independent study would cost about R25 000.

"While I am not prepared to ride roughshod over residents' wishes, we must also be aware of costs. This study, affecting some 800 trees, will go a long way towards making a final de-

cision"

The replacement of trees — in the valley near Huddle Park and Royal Johannesburg golf courses — with powerlines from Kelvin to an Orchards sub-station, has raised a storm.

But Mr Asherson maintains the cost of putting the lines underground will be R3,5 million and the council is not prepared to foot the additional bill.

Reacting to the appointment of an environmental impact study team, Val Kleyn of the Tree Society of Southern Africa welcomed the move

Star 14/8/91

127

1/6



Transvaal too costly to electrify, says Eskom

A PROGRAMME to bring electricity to townships and rural areas in the Transvaal would cost about R3bn, according to figures made available by Eskom

Eskom said the electrification of the Transvaal alone would cost nearly half the total amount required to bring electricity to the 23-million South Africans without it

Eskom corporate electricity manager Johann du Plessis said the Transvaal would account for the bulk of the cost of electrifying all of SA

But, at the same time, the company was not prepared to fund a programme of that size by itself

Hurdles

Du Plessis said while Eskom had the generating capacity to supply everyone in SA, the infrastructural costs would have to be covered by other, cheap funding

To that end Eskom was looking to government institutions such as the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the IDT, the DBSA and others. But the company would not be approaching the private sector

Du Plessis, however, pointed out that there were still major hurdles to be overcome if Eskom was to realise even a part of its vision of "electricity for all". One of the biggest problems was non-payment by townships

Latest figures show that 27 townships countrywide owe Eskom more than

BRENT VON MELVILLE

R200m. Of those, according to Du Plessis, Eskom had summonsed 23 and had judgements against 20. However, Eskom had not yet taken the decision to execute those judgements

Du Plessis said the present system of de-centralisation of supply was not optimal, and suggested there could be better synergy with other models

He said there was a general problem of inaccurate accounting and the general politicisation of electricity supply

On the positive side Eskom and the DBSA were already linked up in a multi-million rand funding scheme to bring power to underdeveloped areas in other parts of SA. For instance they were planning a R65m, five-year plan to electrify the two KwaZulu townships of Madadeni and Osizweni

One of the first beneficiaries of the scheme has been the fledgling KaNgwane Electricity Supply Company, which recently received a R17m loan to supply about 4 000 homes, or about 20 000 people, with electricity

Du Plessis said discussions were ongoing with the DBSA, the IDT and the IDC. "But it will be a mammoth task to bring electricity to all," he said

He said an important aspect was the new technology being utilised, such as the "ready board" which would replace the wiring of houses. "The fact is that we have to largely adapt our standards. In some cases we are putting electricity into mud houses and shacks"

Talks on lights in Pretoria put off

Sowetan 19/8/91

124

A MEETING to resolve the three-week-old electricity blackout in Atteridgeville on Monday has been postponed indefinitely because not all local community-based organisations were represented.

Death toll in Alex fighting now at 23

Monday 14/8/91

218

A TOTAL of 23 people have been killed and 53 injured since violence broke out between Zulu hostel dwellers and squatters in Alexandra on Saturday, police said yesterday

Police and SADF reinforcements had been sent to the township in a bid to keep fighting factions apart and to monitor the situation, Witwatersrand police spokesman Capt Eugene Opperman said

Attacked

The Pretoria police liaison directorate said most of the dead had been shot. Of the injured, 25 had been shot, 26 hacked or stabbed and two treated for burns

The directorate said SAP members had been attacked 23 times, but did not say how many policemen had been injured

"The SAP deplores the unnecessary loss of life and damage to property and will not hesitate to take action against those who are responsible for these senseless attacks," the directorate said

WILSON ZWANE

Opperman said Alexandra was quiet yesterday and there had been no fresh outbreaks of violence

An official of the Alexandra ANC branch said a news conference would be held at which the violence "would be put into perspective"

He did, however, say his organisation had received reports that some of the people involved in the violence had been white gunmen

"Our people tell us that although these gunmen wore balaclavas, it was evident from their hands, eyes and the way they spoke English, that they were white"

Alexandra Civic Organisation official Richard Mdakane this week alleged that the attacks were launched by "hostel vigilantes who are directly or indirectly linked to Inkatha"

Inkatha has denied the allegation saying it was "typical of the bankrupt politics of the civics"

Groups meet to evaluate stayaway

POLITICAL groupings, including the ANC, would meet today to evaluate the effects of the two-day stayaway which ended in the Vaal Triangle yesterday, Vaal Civic Association chairman Malik Madise said

Madise said the stayaway — called by the association, the local branches of the ANC, Cosatu, Nactu, Azapo and the PAC — was more than 50% effective

Businesses canvassed yesterday said they had suffered

SA Breweries' (Vereeniging depot) manager Andre le Roux said no disciplinary

WILSON ZWANE

action would be taken against any worker for honouring the stayaway, but a "no work, no pay policy" would be enforced

Le Roux said the depot had minimised the effects of the stayaway by stepping up production last Friday, and turnover had dropped 15% to 20%

Iscor said only 20% and 10% of its black work force stayed away on Monday and yesterday respectively.

A Vanderbijlpark Sakekamer spokesman said the stayaway and the week-long consumer boycott in the area was crippling busi-

nesses. He said his organisation had a long-standing policy of "no work, no pay"

Madise said townships in the Vaal Triangle were quiet yesterday following sporadic incidents of violence on Monday

The stayaway and the consumer boycott were called to demand the immediate reconnection of electricity to the townships in the Vaal Triangle, the closure of Sebokeng's Kwamadala Hostel, an end to the violence, the need for a constituent assembly and an interim government, and the release of all political prisoners

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Monday 14/8/91

Monday 14/8/91

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Service cuts loom as tariff row drags on

By Jo-Anne Collinge

No fewer than nine Transvaal townships are at present affected by service cuts — and in four cases this is at least the second suspension of electricity and water supplies within a year, according to figures supplied by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

A year after the first service cuts were effected, negotiations are continuing in 70 out of 82 black local authorities in a bid to resolve the service payment boycott and resulting financial crisis.

The suspension of services remains a tangible threat.

Accord

The TPA's recent figures reveal that there has been no dramatic improvement on the situation that prevailed late last year. For instance, in November the TPA said 10 townships were subject to power cut-offs at that point.

Townships now subject to a second round of cut-offs are Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, Mhluzi, near Middelburg, Siyathuthuka, near Belfast, and eMgwenya, at Waterval Boven.

Even in areas where a formal accord has been concluded between civic associations, township councils and white municipalities, the resumption of service payments has generally fallen far below target.

Mhluzi is a case in point. Despite an agreement which bound residents to make flat-rate payments after township councillors resigned and Middelburg Steel and Alloys paid back-payments, debts to the Mhluzi council have again

mounted rapidly, and it has been unable to pay the R1 million it owes the Middelburg council.

In Soweto, despite the signing of the Greater Soweto Accord, which formally ended the boycott almost a year ago, payments are far below the agreed level and far from enough. According to the TPA, the average payment for electricity is about 45 percent of the billed amount, and only between 60 and 65 percent of residents are paying the flat rate negotiated in respect of other services.

"The TPA believes negotiations on their own are not a passport to resolve the problems in connection with services in the communities. The only way in which people can ensure their services are not disconnected is by paying their accounts," the province says.

The capacity of residents to pay for services is also pertinent, says National Interim Civic Committee co-ordinator Pat Lephunya.

Just a week after services were cut in Mhluzi, a Government-led development project, Iku-susasa Lethu, was launched in the area with project leader Marisa Botha claiming that unemployment in the township was 61 percent, while more than 75 percent of residents lived in poverty.

Mr Lephunya says the administration of accounts is mostly still in the hands of township councils, and continued inefficiency angers residents and sometimes makes payment impossible.

He adds that the development objectives mentioned in agreements often do not materialise, and that payments again tail off, with residents saying "We are paying for nothing in return".

Richard (84) vows not to pay rates increase

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

At 84, Richard Nesbitt of Kensington is considering breaking the law Not with malicious intent, but because he cannot afford to pay the latest Johannesburg City Council increase in his rates

Mr Nesbitt, a handicapped social welfare pensioner with an income of R380 a month, has written to the City Treasurer to say he cannot pay the R30 increase in his assessment rates after the recent steep increases in the value of properties in northern areas of the city

"The council can take me to court if it wants to, but I am not leaving my home," he said

Deputy city treasurer Lukas Opperman said the full effect of the council's low increases in electricity, water, waste

and refuse removal tariffs for this financial year had not yet been felt in municipal accounts

He explained that the reduction in the electricity tariff would to a large extent reduce the aggregate percentage increase of municipal accounts.

He admitted, however, that the "relief" would not last after VAT came into effect on service tariffs on September 30

Mr Nesbitt, who has lived in his home for 50 years, is one of the hardest hit, having bought in an area which has only recently become trendy and resulted in increased land values

Orange Grove councillor Clive Gilbert said "I believe the council should call a meeting with all the ratepayers' associations in the city to discuss the issue"

Light rail - council told to keep promise

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

(129)
Ratepayers have warned the Johannesburg City Council to stick to its promise to hold full public participation meetings "this time" on the effects of a light rail system and immediately do an environmental impact study
Parktown ratepayer Flo Bird

Star 15/8/91.
reacted with scepticism to assurances that no plan would be implemented without the full involvement of ratepayers

"We warn that if they are going to look at elevated railways, we urgently need an environmental impact study"

The Department of Transport and the city council will host a public meeting at 5 30 pm on September 12 at the Braamfontein Civic Centre to discuss the proposed mass transit system

"We've heard that before," was the reaction of Melville/Northcliff Ratepayers' Association chairman Wendy Potgieter

Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry chief executive Marius de Jager said he welcomed the release of the report

No services 'within 3 weeks'

Soweto faces bankruptcy

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2/8

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By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The central Witwatersrand is facing a major financial crisis because 2 million people in Greater Soweto will be without essential services within three weeks if funds are not found.

The Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber was warned that services in Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville were near collapse. Eskom alone was owed R100 million.

Civic associations have demanded the immediate resignation of the three Greater Soweto councils and the establishment of an interim administration.

In a statement, Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) spokesman Cas Coovadia also called for a massive education campaign to explain what was happening.

A joint statement by Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto councils, the SPD, Soweto Civic Association and Transvaal Provincial Administration said a major crisis was looming not only for Soweto but the entire Witwatersrand.

"At issue in the current negotiations is the fact that there is simply not enough money to pay for the supply of even the most essential services of water, sewerage, refuse and electricity."

Urgent meetings will continue between the SPD, Soweto councils and the TPA next week to discuss an increase in service tariffs.

All parties realised that the present tariffs were too low and that the rate of collections had to be improved, the joint statement said.

However, while the councils and the TPA expected residents to pay more for services, the SPD and SCA felt residents could not be expected to pay much more

as the people were poor and there was little confidence in the black councils or the standard of services.

MEC for institutional development and negotiations Olaus van Zyl said tariffs agreed to in the Soweto Accord were supposed to be increased once the chamber was established, but this had not happened.

He said it was totally unacceptable that the Government continued to pay 80 percent of the service charges and the people of Soweto only 20 percent.

Mr Coovadia said the SPD had consistently argued that the solution to Soweto's problems did not lie within the borders of the township.

"In fact, the current crisis is simply the logical conclusion of the apartheid system. As it goes into the final stages of disintegration, the State expects the people to suffer the consequences."

● Service cuts loom
— Page 8

Move to keep out of Soweto slated

127 THE STAR

THE Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce has condemned a project designed to accommodate companies doing business in Soweto in premises just outside the township.

The venture, initiated by property development and marketing company Investomark, was advertised in Business Day on Friday and Monday.

It calls for companies servicing Soweto, Lenasia and Eldorado Park to take up office space in a three-storey complex "strategically located" at Midway. The advertisement reads: "You can reach offices without driving through Soweto."

Chamber publicity committee member MacDonald Temane said Soweto needed companies which did business in Soweto to set up offices and warehouses in the township so a healthy rate base could be developed.

"Soweto has no industries and has to depend on housing for a rate base.

"We condemn the idea of people who do business in Soweto placing themselves outside the area. These companies need to be party to the chamber's plan to change Soweto from a labour reservoir into a city."

Investomark spokesman Matodzi Leposa said his company was trying to attract clients who sought to establish a market base in Soweto but were scared of possible violence.

Services crisis still rampant

Sowetan 15/8/91

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NINE Transvaal townships are presently affected by service cuts, according to the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

In four cases it is at least the second suspension of electricity or water supplies within a year.

A year after the first service cuts were effected, negotiations are continuing in 70 out of 82 black local authorities.

The suspension of services remains a tangible threat in several of these areas.

The TPA's recent figures reveal that there has been no dramatic improvement since late last year. For instance, in November the TPA said 10 townships were subject to power cuts.

There are now four townships subject to a second round of cuts. At-

SOWETAN Correspondent

teridgeville near Pretoria, Mhluzi near Middelburg, Siyathuthuka near Belfast and eMgwenya at Waterval Boven.

Even in areas where a formal accord has been reached between civic associations, township councils and white municipalities, service payments have generally fallen way below target.

Mhluzi, whose township councillors resigned and where Middelburg Steel and Alloys shouldered back-payments on behalf of residents, is a case in point. Despite an agreement, which bound residents to make flat-rate payments, debts to the Mhluzi council have again mounted. Thus the council has been unable to pay the R1 million it owes the

Middelburg council for services.

In Soweto, despite the signing of the Greater Soweto Accord which formally ended the boycott almost a year ago, payments are way below the agreed level.

According to the TPA, "the average payment for electricity is about 45 percent" of the billed amount and only 60 to 65 percent of residents are paying the flat rate negotiated in respect of other services.

"The only way in which people can ensure that their services are not disconnected is by paying their accounts," the province's statement said.

Nonetheless, argues National Interim Civics Committee co-ordinator Mr Pat Lephunya, the capacity of residents to pay is also pertinent.

Soweto councils appeal to creditors for time

B(Daw) 16/8/91

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THEO RAWANA

THE Greater Soweto councils, faced with a financial crisis that threatens essential services, are appealing to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber to hold off creditors while they find a solution.

The councils — Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto — faced a collapse of such essential services as water, electricity, sewerage and refuse collection, because there was no money, Metro Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said this week.

If everyone paid the interim charges required from residents in terms of the Greater Soweto Accord — which wrote off a R516m debt — the income would meet only 20% of Soweto's needs.

Only R1,5m of a recent month's electricity account of over R10m was collected from consumers. And Eskom was owed more than R100m, Slabbert said.

All the principal parties to the accord — the TPA, the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) and the councils — agreed that tariffs presently being paid were too low.

Councils' PRO Mojalefa Moseki said yesterday payments had gradually improved since "switch-off" threats were issued.

Now all the other parties would be working to find a solution to the problem, Moseki said.

Slabbert had said the councils, the SPD and the TPA would meet early next week to resume negotiations on the increase of

interim tariffs. General meetings of residents would also be held.

WILSON ZWANE reports parties to the Greater Benoni Forum yesterday reached consensus on a plan to consolidate water and electricity provision and payment procedures of Benoni, Daveyton and Wattville, forum chairman Dawie de Beer said.

The plan for the greater Benoni area — spelt out in last week's recommendations of the Greater Benoni Forum's tariff working group — is the first of its kind.

Modifications had been made to the recommendations and a formal statement would be issued next week, De Beer said.

The tariff working group recommended that Benoni's tariffs for electricity and other essential services be introduced in Daveyton and that metered electricity and water charges be resumed in Daveyton and Wattville from next month.

The group also recommended that accounting procedures of Benoni, Daveyton and Wattville be consolidated.

The forum comprises the town councils of Daveyton and Wattville, the DIC, the Wattville Concerned Residents' Committee and the TPA. Eskom, the East Rand Regional Services Council and the Rand Water Board have observer status.

● Comment: Page 12

Alex to get Eskom metering system

(127) (127)
6/10/91 16/8/91
ESKOM has agreed to install the pre-paid or "encoded number" system of payment for the metering of electricity in at least 50 000 households in Alexandra township within the next few months.

Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) official Richard Mdakane said yesterday Eskom had agreed to install the pre-paid meters in the Johannesburg township at a meeting it held with the ACO on Wednesday.

"Eskom has agreed to have meters installed in these 50 000 houses by November," Mdakane said.

Further installations would depend on the demands of the residents, he said. Alexandra residents were in favour of the installation of pre-paid meters in the township "as such an installation will enable people to buy electricity directly from Eskom", he said.

"Electricity is the right of the people — not a privilege. The people of Alexandra are prepared to pay for electricity provided they are getting it directly from Eskom and not via the town council," he said.

WILSON ZWANE

He said "certain points" were also clarified at the meeting which he described as fruitful. He would not, however, elaborate saying "some of the points are sensitive". Eskom spokesmen were not available to comment.

Electronics company Spescom special programmes manager Jonathan Youngleson said Eskom had ordered a "substantial number" of meters from his company for installation in Alexandra.

Youngleson said the meters — which use number codes of 12 digits — were suitable for use by all income groups.

Although these meters could be bypassed by people who knew how, they had an inbuilt mechanism which enabled the supplying authority to "identify fraudulent activity".

The meters operate like a telephone. When the customer's code number is punched into the meter's telephone-like keyboard, the information encoded in the number is translated — on a display — into the amount of electricity the customer has bought or consumed.

All promissory notes recovered

6/10/91 16/8/91
UNITED Bank yesterday moved to quell possible market talk that its financial safety was at risk as a result of the recently uncovered R3,7bn international fraud involving counterfeit promissory notes. It issued a statement saying that the bank had incurred no losses as none of the notes had been negotiated. All the originals of the forged notes had been recovered and were in the possession of the police.

"Investigations by the SA Police and United Bank are continuing and are at an advanced stage," the statement said.

ROBERT GENTLE

The fraud, disclosed in the Sunday Press, involved the presentation of R3,7bn in forged promissory notes to a number of Zurich and London banks.

On the notes were a falsified United Bank stamp and forged signatures of senior United Bank officials and Reserve Bank Governor Chris Stals.

In an interview, United Bank deputy MD Nallie Bosman described the attempted fraud as "very amateurish".

Firstly, the notes were

printed on ordinary paper, not security paper or official United paper. Secondly, foreign banks had no foreign finance lines with United Bank. Thirdly, promissory notes negotiated overseas were usually in much smaller denominations than the huge sums sought.

Initial investigations had shown that no United Bank staff had been involved in the affair, Bosman said.

Godwin Webb, 43, in police custody, was refused bail in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on Tuesday. The trial will resume on September 4.

92a

Cosatu Witbank march goes on

THE Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) in Witbank has decided to go ahead with a protest march on Saturday, even though the town council has refused permission (125)

Cosatu spokesman Mr Meshack Masumpa said workers would go ahead with the march, irrespective of whether permission was granted.

The town clerk, Mr JH Pretorius, said the council had refused permission for the march because there was little time allowed for consultations and the planning of alternative routes for the march.

Protect

Pretorius expressed optimism that future problems about protest marches would be sorted out at the newly created forum representing community organisations, the Afrikaanse Sakekamer, the local chamber of commerce and the Town Council.

The marchers will present demands on high electricity tariffs and the formation of one town council with a single tax base for Witbank - Sapa

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FRIDAY AUGUST 16 1991

CITY LATE **

By Jacqueline Myburgh
and Shirley Woodgate

Joburg residents rage about rates increase (127)

Soaring assessment rate increases on business and residential properties in Johannesburg have unleashed a backlash against the council and ratepayers are demanding a full explanation.

As the full impact of the budget hits home, residents claim the management committee failed to warn them and that increases in the June budget are the highest in at least 10 years in the northern suburbs.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson called on ratepayers to wait for August accounts, which will reveal the true picture when the reduction of electricity accounts reduces the total amount payable.

Rates increases averaging between 0,7 percent and 30 percent were announced in the budget but residents claim accounts have soared by up to R500 a month in Illovo, R70 in Parkhurst and about R100 in Risidale.

Valuations on business land have pushed rates up by 54 percent for non-domestic properties and Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry chief Marius de Jager claimed some businesses would be shocked by increases well over the aggregate because their land value had increased by as much as 245 percent.

Further increases will come into effect for all ratepayers when VAT is introduced in October.

Chairman of the Federation of North Western Johannesburg Ratepayers' Associations Frank Salmon said "The valuations are not only very unrealistic but a fait accompli".

"The only protest now available is ANC-style mass action".

Northern Areas Group chairman Tony Challenger claimed property values have soared in some Johannesburg suburbs without residents being given a suitable opportunity to object.

Parktown Residents' Association's Flo Bird said "Why didn't they include notifications with every household's rates bill?"

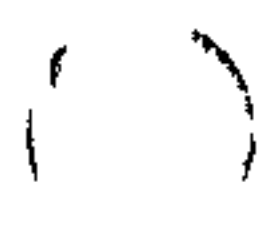
Sources indicate the Government has ordered councils to cap the profits made out of ratepayers on the sale of electricity.

It is believed previous management committees in Johannesburg suppressed

rate increases and milked the electricity account, making profits in excess of 30 percent.

Treasurer Willie Siebert said the reduction in the electricity tariff would counter the increase in assessment rates.

He said the new tariff structure would benefit residents because they would pay less VAT on lower service charges and assessment rates were not subject to the new tax.



YEAR after the Greater Soweto Accord was signed and the 'rent' boycott officially ended South Africa's largest township is still mired in the gloom of a city without electricity and the stench of one with curtailed water supplies and mountains of refuse.

Soweto Sliding into dark

area including its townships must be reintegrated as a single fiscal unit. That a joint tax base for the area is necessary so that all residents benefit from the contributions of trade and industry — not just the relatively affluent white suburbs.

Why? The Transvaal Provincial Administration's chief negotiator, Klaus van Zyl gives the following reasons: because a large number of residents are not paying the flat-rate interim service tariff which the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) accepted because that tariff is so hopelessly inadequate that, even with everyone paying only 20 percent of council costs would be recouped, and because the agreement to review the interim rate has not been met.

They were at the outset of the boycott. They want progress on some of the demands they made. And this means in the first instance a complete overhaul of the administration of services so that the prospect of better standards is held out.

Hence the SPD demanded this week at a meeting of the Central Waterstrand Metro Politan Chamber that the three Soweto councils be dissolved by immediately and be replaced by "an interim administration for the central Rand.

The structural problem of unequal municipalities in town and township had to be addressed as a priority, argued civics spokesman Cas Coovadia. And the joint administration proposed as an interim solution implied not only a joint staff but also a joint budget, SCA

spokesman Pat Lephunya made plan. The SPD argued that for the TPA to continue to provide R7.5 million to these councils monthly in bridging finance was a complete waste of money since it went largely to "paying staff who do not have the resources to do their jobs".

What is implied in the SPD position is that an ability to deliver the goods would win for a new administration a limited form of legitimacy which could secure residents' confidence and their payments during the phase of transition to non-racial representative local government.

Mr van Zyl responded to the call for structural change first and payment later by questioning whether the civics were not simply moving the goal-posts. He pointed out that the SPD

had made the review of tariffs conditional upon the regional services council taking on the administration of electricity for the township. Having addressed this condition, "we still cannot make progress" on negotiating higher tariffs he said.

If I were a council in this chamber and I were to inherit a (financial) situation like this (in Soweto), I would say "Sorry, I don't want to have anything to do with this. There is only one way to resolve this and that is that the tariffs must be revised and people must pay them."

Mr van Zyl pointed out later in the meeting that it was possible for the chamber to gain official recognition in terms of the new Interim Measures for Local Government Act. This way, the decisions of the chamber could be legally enforced.

The civic associations are fighting shy of laying their own political legitimacy on the line by being drawn into interim local government and beginning to make enforceable by-laws.

On the question of seeking formal status under the Local Government Act, Mr Coovadia insisted. We would appreciate it if the chamber remains informal, Johannesburg City Council's Ian Davidson endorsed this.

However, the SCA would not be opposed to the proposed central Rand administration seeking official recognition. Mr Lephunya said.

The civic also acknowledged there was a great need for a massive education campaign in Soweto to persuade people that they must pay for what they receive. But it reiterated this must follow the setting up of a new administration so that people could be convinced on the basis of real change.

The intractable issue at the heart of the debate is money — and where it should come from. Already 50 percent of Soweto's budget is paid from outside — most of this by central Government via the province and 8 percent from the RSC. Even with this there is a 30 percent shortfall on costs.

A recent World Bank report warned that the magnitude and the ad hoc nature of bridging finance transferred from central Government to black local authorities was unhealthy. The growth of the deficit financing has the potential of destabilising the macro economy and in particular creating inflationary pressures if the overdraft facilities lead to an increase in the monetary base of the country.

All parties to the Soweto Accord acknowledge that consumers of services can certainly pay more than they currently do. But civic representatives qualify this point by drawing attention to consistently high rates of unemployment in most townships.

Similarly, there is all-round acknowledgement that the Johannesburg metropolitan

area including its townships must be reintegrated as a single fiscal unit. That a joint tax base for the area is necessary so that all residents benefit from the contributions of trade and industry — not just the relatively affluent white suburbs.

But while municipalities — which have just imposed increased rates on their existing constituents — are wary of the political implications of as suming the burden of the townships. Their delegates were almost mute in the chamber this week as the demand for a single administration became an immediate challenge.

That there are constraints and costs attached to all available forms of financing has become apparent. But the Soweto crisis makes it startlingly plain that new forms of local government representation may wait indeed they may have to wait or be undone by central constitutional negotiations. But interim financing of local government and the related matter of administration howl for immediate attention.

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Star 16/8/91

(127)

The fiscal crisis in Soweto is no longer containable, and service cuts loom JO-ANNE COLLINGE reports on proposed courses of action

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SOWETO Sliding into dark

SPW 16/8/91

The fiscal crisis in Soweto is no longer containable, and service cuts loom JO-ANNE COLLINGE reports on proposed courses of action

A YEAR after the Greater Soweto Accord was signed and the rent boycott officially ended South Africa's largest township slid into the gloom of a city without electricity and the stench of one with curtailed water supplies and mountains of refuse.

Why?

The Transvaal Provincial Administration's chief negotiator Klaus van Zyl, gives the following reasons, because a large number of residents are not paying the flat-rate interim service tariff which the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) accepted because that tariff is so hopelessly inadequate that even with everyone paying, only 20 percent of council costs would be recouped, and because the agreement to review the interim rate has not been met.

The SPD — the negotiating arm of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) — argues that people will not resume paying for services that remain as inadequate and poorly admin-

tered as they were at the outset of the boycott.

They want progress on some of the demands they made. And this means in the first instance a complete overhaul of the administration of services so that the prospect of better standards is held out.

Hence the SPD demanded this week at a meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metro Politian Chamber that the three Soweto councils be dissolved immediately and be replaced by an interim administration for the central Rand.

The structural problem of unequal municipalities in town and township had to be addressed as a priority, argued civics spokesman Cas Coovadia. And the joint administration proposed as an interim solution implied not only a joint staff but also a joint budget, SCA

spokesman Pat Lephunya made plain.

The SPD argued that for the TPA to continue to provide R75 million to these councils monthly in bridging finance was a complete waste of money since it went largely to paying staff who do not have the resources to do their jobs.

What is implied in the SPD position is that an ability to deliver the goods would win for a new administration a limited form of legitimacy which could secure residents confidence and their payments during the phase of transition to non-racial representative local government.

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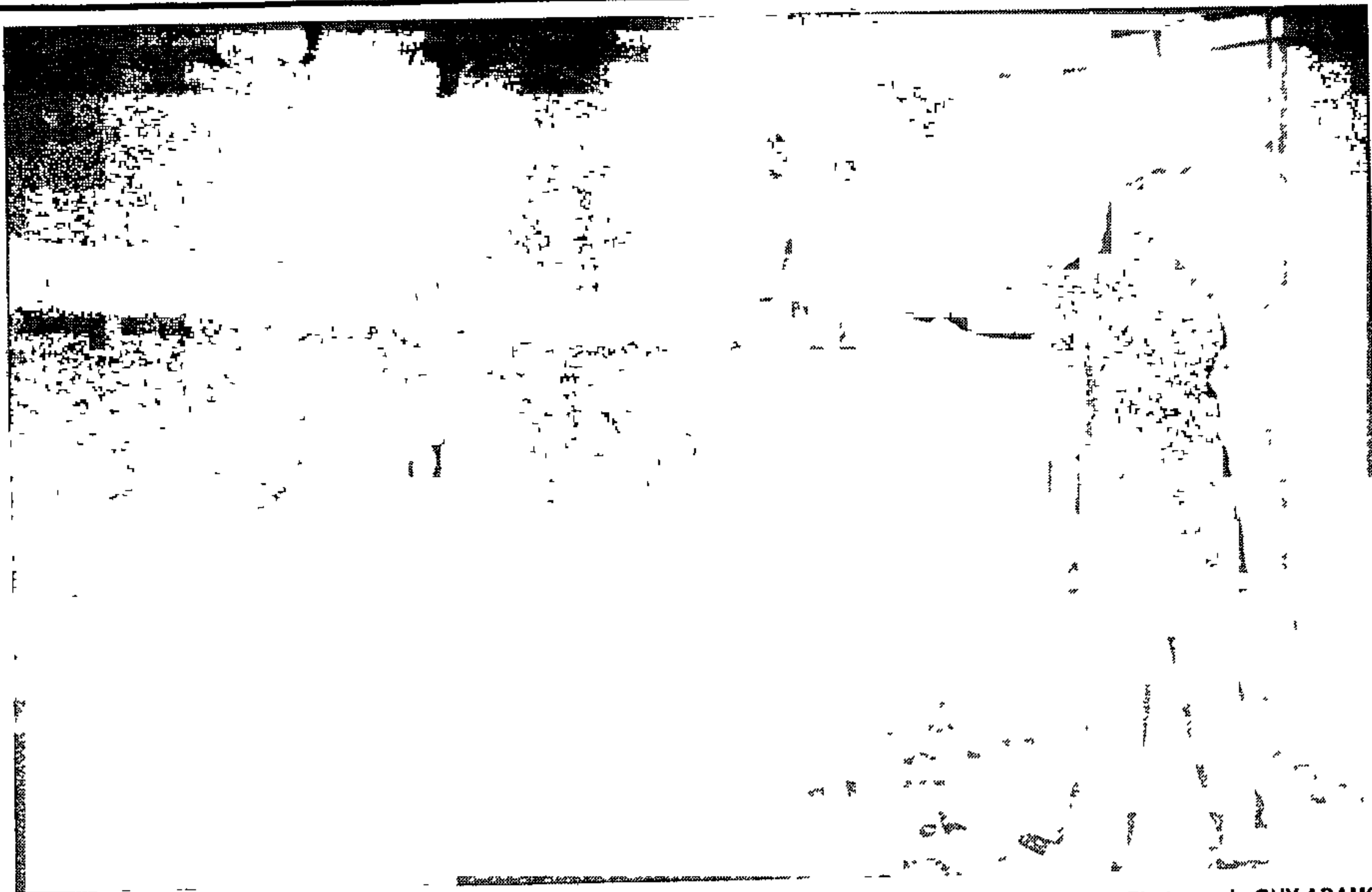
All parties to the Soweto Accord acknowledge that consumers of services can currently pay more than they currently do. But civic representatives qualify this point by drawing attention to consistently high rates of unemployment in most townships.

Similarly, there is all-round acknowledgement that the Johannesburg metropolitan

area including its townships must be re-integrated as a single fiscal unit that a joint tax base for the area is necessary so that all residents benefit from the contributions of trade and industry — not just the relatively affluent white suburbs.

But while municipalities — which have just imposed increased rates on their existing constituencies — are wary of the political implications of as suming the burden of the townships. Their delegates were almost mute in the chamber this week as the demand for a single administration became an immediate challenge.

That there are constraints and costs attached to all available forms of financing has become apparent. But the Soweto crisis makes it startlingly plain that new forms of local government representation may wait indeed they may have to wait or be undone by central constitutional negotiations. But interim financing of local government and the related matter of administration howl for immediate attention. □



For decades, men slept in these cold stone bunks. Now a hammer-blow ends a hated institution Photograph GUY ADAMS

DUST clouds billow out from tiny, metal framed doorways, followed by the deafening blows of hundred-pound jack-hammers striking at hard concrete, shattering the silence of a deserted compound.

A few more blows will mean their last day of work, so the tired, sweaty workmen race against the clock to demolish one last remaining bunk in the City Deep single sex hostel.

Unknown to the workmen, they are making history. Their months of labour have ended a key symbol of the oppressive conditions in which the Johannesburg city council housed its migrant workers

"These bunks were reinforced and wired into the walls for safety, making them both costly and very difficult to remove, but we keep in mind the comfort of our workers," says Ben Synman housing director of the Johannesburg City Council.

In just over one year, 912 built-in concrete bunks were knocked out of 38 dormitories of the council's 14 hostels on the Reef. The cost of the operation was R250 000, but meant more than a monetary loss

By removing the bunks, a third of the original sleeping area per dormitory was lost. The original 24 concrete bunks per

A last blow of the hammer makes history

w/maail 16/8 - 22/8/91
In just over a year, 912 of the hated concrete bunks in migrant hostels have been demolished, to be replaced by ordinary single beds. It's all part of a Johannesburg effort to upgrade the hostels, reports **BEATHUR BAKER**

dormitory were replaced by 10 single beds. "The rest of the men have gradually been incorporated into existing vacant dormitories or moved to other hostels of their choice," says Synman

Is the city council spearheading the improvement of hostels — the single source of accommodation for migrant workers — or is their campaign to improve them being done only to attract more migrants?

A visit to the three largest hostels for council workers, at Antea, City Deep and Selby, refuted many preconceived ideas about conditions in hostels

The tiered layers of compressed living spaces are joined by a maze of endless corridors. This is the familiar face of hostels eve-

rywhere. Yet, these turned out to be clean and even comfortable

The workers' neat — if cell-like — dormitories suggest the pride their occupants take in maintaining them. Starched white bedcovers embroidered in colourful, floral designs compete for attention.

The sparse contents of plastic bedside tables and improvised wall decorations above the beds create a tidy atmosphere, and reveal a little of each individual's personality in the carbon-copy rooms

This is all the result of close co-operation between hostel-dwellers and the city council

The council has taken up suggestions forwarded by house committees representing hostel residents from each of their 14 hostels on the Reef. It has, wherever possible, made budget provision for most requests for facilities in the hostels. This year the amount budgeted for hostels is R20 million

At the Antea hostel in Langlaagte, for example, the newest facility is a gymnasium, with mirrored walls, exercise equipment and weights "as requested several months ago by the residents"

"Soccer was found to be the most popular sport with residents, but because the average age in our hostels is 44 years, some men too old to play prefer activities like the brass band or choirs," says Synman

Soweto's essential services 'near collapse'

8/11/91
15/8/91
343 360
127

ESSENTIAL services in Greater Soweto could collapse within weeks, plunging the entire central Witwatersrand into major crisis, Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said at a chamber meeting last night.

And the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) called for the dissolution within three weeks of the councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepmeadow.

Reading a statement by the Greater Soweto principal parties, Slabbert said there was simply not enough money for even the

TANIA LEVY

most essential services of water, electricity, sewerage and refuse collection.

The parties are the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), the SPD, the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) and the city councils of Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville.

Slabbert said all parties agreed that present tariffs were too low and that collection rates had to be improved.

The councils and the TPA expected residents to make up at least part of the shortfall, while the SPD and SCA felt that most were too poor to do so and had little confidence in the councils and the standard of services they provided.

Sapa reports the problem arises from a R10m-a-month shortfall in Soweto's services payments.

Currently, Soweto residents are paying about 20% of the total cost of supplying services, the balance is made up in government subsidies. The shortfall is about 30%.

Copies 18/8/91
By ERIC NAKHLE (127)

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (Aco) and the Alexandra Land and Property Owners' Association (Alpoa) are again locking horns

Alpoa has accused Aco of fomenting a rent boycott

This follows a conflict between property owner and Alpoa executive member Sarah Molefe and her former tenants, whom she evicted after her house was torched on February 7

Her family home was razed after a tenant's shack caught fire

She claimed R20 000 damage and the council is rebuilding the house

Before that, tenants had twice defaulted on rent payments - in 1989 and in April last year

Molefe said the tenants had paid rent "without complaint" until they were "told by Aco" to withhold payment

Alpoa has accused Aco of calling for a boycott because "there are no property owners in this township"

The owners have accused the civic organisation of sowing division in the township

Molefe also took a shot at Alexandra Town Council, claiming it was permitting tenants to stay in her yard free

She says she no longer wants tenants

She told City Press "The council must deal with these tenants"

However, the council's director of Community Services, Albert Mmutlana, said the tenants were entitled to reoccupy their ground as their leases had not yet expired

He denied that the council was allocating land to tenants on privately-owned property

"We allocate land for



SHACKLAND . . . Scene of the dispute between the Alexandra Civic Organisation and the Land and Property owners' Association over a rent boycott.

lana, said the tenants were entitled to reoccupy their ground as their leases had not yet expired

He denied that the council was allocating land to tenants on privately-owned property

"We allocate land for long dispute with Aco, which persisted in accusing Alpoa of being "parasites"

"We are not parasites, we are providing a good service to the people who need a roof over their heads," he said

"We don't want slums We want more land to build proper houses for the people"

Aco spokesman Mzwanele Mayekiso denied that Aco was stoking up the boycott He said angry tenants were generating the move

"They are rejecting government-imposed property ownership"

Mayekiso said property owners had been used by the government as rent collectors since the 1986 rent boycott

He said "The government took advantage of the fact that all prominent community leaders were in jail at the time and imposed this system

This caused tension among the people, who resisted the sale of their property to selected property owners"

■ PIC TLADI KHUELE



DEN OF INIQUITY ... Vaal women march on Iscor's KwaMadala hostel to demand an end to the attacks on township residents. However, Iscor sees no problem. ■ Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

Hostel not a problem — Iscor

By SOPHIE TEMA

VAAL residents hold their breath when the name "KwaMadala" is mentioned

Residents in the Vaal Triangle and political organisations allege Iscor's KwaMadala Hostel is the stronghold of Inkatha which houses the organisation's warlords

It has also been said KwaMadala is accommodating criminals and is the base from where violent acts are planned and executed against ANC members and township residents

This week the interdenominational Women's Ministries of the Vaal Council of Churches handed a memorandum, which listed grievances about KwaMadala and its inmates, to Iscor personnel manager Hannes Viljoen

The memorandum said

KwaMadala was used as a springboard for terrorist attacks against residents and that on various occasions people, including young children, had been abducted and kept at KwaMadala against their will

It stated that residents were perturbed by the spate of violence in the area since July 22, 1990, especially in Boipatong

It demands an end to intimidation, abduction of people and violence, and calls on Iscor to stop harbouring "these enemies of peace"

It also asked Iscor whether it enjoyed seeing men and women killed and children orphaned

The memorandum said the violence had claimed more than 100 lives so far

"We and our kin live in constant fear, due to threats and intimidation

"The education of our

children has also been affected as a result of threats and attacks on students by KwaMadala residents at schools — like at the Lebohang Secondary School in Boipatong"

The memorandum reminded Iscor management that it had promised a delegation of ministers last year that if just one of the culprits was found to be residing at KwaMadala, then Iscor would order all the occupants out of the complex

This week I visited KwaMadala and spoke to leader Moses Mandla Mthembu

In a three-hour interview, which City Press will run next week, Mthembu told how Inkatha and the ANC became trapped in a spiral of violence dating back to 1986

Iscor's management

this week strongly denied the allegations made against KwaMadala

A statement said that following an investigation no evidence could be found to convince management that KwaMadala Hostel should be managed differently to that of Iscor's other hostel, KwaMasiza

Iscor evaded the issue of attacks on township residents, and instead said an investigation into the allegations was called off after "interested parties" told them they felt "the differences between the inhabitants of the two hostel should be resolved by themselves"

City Press had never asked Iscor about "differences between the inhabitants of the two hostels.

Iscor continued by saying that during two recent raids by the SAP, no evidence was found of illegal

occupants

Rating attention (124)

THREE points of interest this week

- Residents of the black townships in the PWV area are currently paying less than 10 percent of their monthly bill for services,

- The World Bank's Urban Sector Reconnaissance Mission reports that bridging finance to black local authorities has contributed substantially to central government deficits and now represents "a large leakage into current consumption", *Stines 18/8/91*

- Municipal rates in Johannesburg's northern suburbs were trebled

And the ANC still insists there is no redistribution of wealth.

Demolition squads head for hostels

By **MONWABISI**
NOMADOLO

THE demolition of the controversial KwaThema Hostel in Springs began this week following an agreement between the council and the local civic association

Part of the hostel has been vacated - marking a possible phasing out of single men's quarters

Township residents are unhappy because four blocks - regarded as Inkatha strongholds - are to remain standing

Residents interviewed in a spot survey agreed that the hostels should be completely demolished

Jerry "Staff" Shaba-ulala, 26, said inmates were "provocative" and should find alternative ac-

commodation
KwaThema town clerk Stephen Muller said the unoccupied part of the hostel attracted vagrants and had to go

It was decided to demolish the complex after eight people were killed by hostel dwellers three weeks ago

Police spokeswoman, Captain Ida van Zweek,

said the police had no record of attacks on residents by official inmates of the hostel

But City Press investigations revealed that the latest incident was sparked by an inmate living in Room 22, Block C

Last year more than 24 people died after a confrontation between residents and hostel inmates

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18/11/89



Residents urge Asro not to go it alone

(129)
Sowetan 14/8/91

By MONK NKOMO

A GROUP of Atteridgeville residents have appealed to the local civic association to unite with other locally-based community organisations and help restore the electricity supplies in the township

In a statement released at the weekend, the group also appealed to Asro officials to stop trying to "gain political mileage or to score political points by trying to play it alone in a matter that concerned all residents."

"We have established through newspaper reports that the TPA wants to meet those organisations, brief them and together help restore electricity", residents said

They complained that they could no longer afford the cost of running a household without electricity

"We are sick and tired now. Some houses have burnt down, parents and children sustained injuries through burning candles and a lot of women are sick as a result of inhaling paraffin while cooking every day", said the residents

Breakthrough for E Rand residents

Dowefan
19/8/91

124

IN a major breakthrough, the Benoni Town Council yesterday announced it would assume administrative functions whereby residents of Daveyton and Wattville would pay the same rates for essential services as Benoni residents.

Based on metered consumption of 466 kW units of consumption and 15 kilolitres of water, the account of a typical Daveyton resident for those services plus sewage and refuse removal should be about R97 a month.

"Benoni is to act as agent for these black local authorities in supplying electricity to their residents. This has been made possible by special arrangements with Eskom," a statement said.

The deal would come into force in Daveyton on September 1 and Wattville a month later.

It was also agreed that leased houses should be transferred to tenants, taking into account the legal, financial and social aspects.

"These agreements are seen as the first firm step towards achieving the stated objective of a joint administration for the supply of all services for the greater Benoni area," said the statement released by the Benoni Town Council; the Daveyton and Wattville Town Councils, the Daveyton Interim Committee, the Wattville Concerned Residents Committee and the Transvaal Provincial Administration - Sapa

SA PRESS
ASSOCIATION



Cap (25)

Two guilty of 'necklace' murder

Blow 21/8/91 SUSAN RUSSELL

TWO men who repeatedly kicked a black passerby before putting a tyre over him and setting it alight were found guilty of murder in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday.

Mr Justice Joffe, sitting with two assessors, found that Deon Frederik van Deventer, 25, and Evert Boonzaaier, 23, both of Newlands, had intended killing Johannes Masango when they assaulted him in Newlands on September 14 last year.

Van Deventer was also found guilty of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm for throwing a stone at Philemon Motimona who was with Masango at the time, but who then ran away

The judge rejected defence submissions that alcohol had lessened the blameworthiness of the pair. The pair had not been intoxicated to the extent that they were unable to act rationally, he said

Giving evidence in mitigation, Van Deventer said he was "not proud about what had happened. We didn't think, we were drunk." Asked how he felt about blacks, Van Deventer said he believed in apartheid. "But we would not have attacked them unnecessarily, they swore at us first." Boonzaaier told the court he had spent nights thinking about the dead man's family and whether they had been able to afford a funeral

Mr Justice Joffe will pass sentence on Friday

Deal signed to end rent boycott

Blow 21/8/91

127

AN AGREEMENT to end a seven-year rent and services boycott in townships on the Vaal Triangle was signed yesterday

The document was signed by, among others, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Vaal Civic Association (VCA) at a ceremony in Johannesburg

The agreement, regarded as a major breakthrough in the nationwide rent and services boycott, was negotiated over nine months and took eight drafts to complete

Meanwhile, TANIA LEVY reports that the East Rand Regional Services Council (RSC) is to provide R23,6m to prevent a collapse of essential water, refuse removal and sewerage services in East Rand townships

At its monthly meeting this week the RSC resolved to provide R13,3m for sewerage treatment, R6,3m for partial payment of costs involved in refuse removal and R4m for water supply. The funding would be provided over the next 11 months.

The RSC said the funding was aimed at avoiding health dangers and the total collapse of essential services in the townships of Thokoza, Katlehong, Vosloorus, Tembisa, Daveyton, Wattville, Kwa-Thema, Ratanda, Tsakane and Duduza

The RSC would not finance payment boycotts, but wanted to prop up non-viable black towns and prevent possible health hazards

RSC CE Gerrie Swart said yesterday

that black local authorities around the country could not generate enough income even if all their residents paid their services accounts in full

The TPA had requested RSCs to help it make up shortfalls to ensure continued services

The East Rand RSC had decided not to assist with electricity but to concentrate its financial assistance mainly on waste water treatment.

The RSC also decided to allocate R15m a year, for the next three years, to regional community projects such as clinics, creches, sports facilities and libraries.

Yesterday Vaal Civic Association publicity secretary Paul Sithole described the historic agreement with the TPA as "realistic"

TPA negotiator Nigel Mandy, said the document set the "framework for much better things in the future"

Mandy said that whether the agreement would function depended on residents resuming payments in terms of the protocol.

It sets out service and electricity charges, which for a typical household would be R30 for services, R17,50 for the electricity service charge plus the metered electricity consumption

Electricity would be reconnected if 70% of township residents paid their accounts. In order to facilitate this process, the Vaal townships have been split into smaller "zones" for collection purposes — Sapa.



Agreement to end boycott

JOHANNESBURG — An agreement to end a seven-year rent and services boycott in Vaal Triangle townships was signed yesterday by, among others, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Vaal Civic Association (VCA).

(27) CT 21/8/91
The document, which was signed at a ceremony here, was negotiated over a period of nine months — Sapa

TPA stalling talks - Asro

Sowetan 21/8/91

(127)

(24)

By MONK NKOMO

THE Atteridgeville Residents Organisation yesterday lashed out at the Transvaal Provincial Administration for deliberately stalling rent negotiations and claimed the authorities were planning to plunge the township in darkness until October.

Electricity supplies to the township were cut on July 22 after the Atteridgeville Council failed to pay nearly R6 million in arrear service charges

Asro's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, yesterday confirmed that residents were prepared to pay a flat rate of more than R50

"But the TPA does not want to listen to our offer. They refuse to talk to us," Ramatsui said.

Mr CJ Wolmarans, regional director of the TPA, refused to meet Asro officials last week and said he would only discuss the rent problem with Asro and other community-based organisations

"It is clear that Wolmarans does not want to listen to us. We are concerned about the electricity cuts because the situation is now getting out of hand. Wolmarans is deliberately creating obstacles

"We have also received unconfirmed reports that the authorities have planned to only restore electricity in October," said Ramatsui

He added that they expected to meet senior officials of the TPA this week to try and set up a meeting with Wolmarans as soon as possible

Wolmarans has accused Asro of having politicised the rent issue and said the TPA was eager to resolve the problem

An official of the Saulsville /Atteridgeville Interim Committee, Mr Victor Gillinge, yesterday said his organisation was prepared to meet Asro officials to formulate a strategy that could lead to the restoration of power supplies

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Vaal pact may end lengthy boycott

Sowetan 21/8/91

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AN agreement to end a seven-year rent and services boycott in Vaal-Triangle townships was signed yesterday by, among others, the TPA and the Vaal Civic Association.

The document, which was signed at a ceremony in Johannesburg, was negotiated over a period of nine months and took eight drafts to complete.

Despite the complications, which saw the signing delayed from Friday, VCA publicity secretary, Mr Paul Sithole, said the agreement was "realistic".

TPA negotiator, Mr Nigel Mandy, said the document set the "framework for much better things in the future".

Mandy said whether the agreement would function depended on residents resuming payments in terms of the protocol.

The agreement sets out service and electricity charges, which for a typical household would be

R30 for services, R17,50 for the electricity service charge plus the metered electricity consumption.

Electricity would be reconnected if 70 percent of the township residents paid their accounts.

In order to facilitate this process, the various Vaal township have been split into smaller "zones" for collection purposes.

The parties to the document also agreed in principle that housing stock in the townships would be transferred to the current lessees, and a working group was established to examine this.

The lawyers acting for the VCA, Mr Dan Rosen-garten and Ms Sue Albertyn, said the agreement also addressed the long-term problems of the Vaal area.

"The agreement will facilitate the movement towards non-racial local authorities," Albertyn said, adding "it was 'significant' the TPA had recognised the long term demands of the VCA." -Sapa

Woman burnt in Atteridgeville (127) electricity cuts

Sowetan 21/8/91
By MONK NKOMO

ANOTHER Atteridgeville resident joined the casualty list of the electricity blackout when a pot of boiling water tumbled from a brazier on Monday night, scalding her back.

Mrs Thuso Mabena of Motsepe Street and a subject adviser at the Department of Education and Training, said she was about to prepare dinner when she tripped and fell near the brazier about 7pm.

Scores of residents telephoned *Sowetan* yesterday appealing to the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation officials to solve the rent problems quickly to avoid more casualties resulting from the electricity cuts, in force since July 22.

Five people, including a three-year-old girl, were seriously injured when a generator exploded while they tried to pour petrol into it at house No 41 Makhaza Street, Saulsville, on July 26.

Mr Ellington Madumo and his wife Thamaris and their three month-old daughter narrowly escaped death on July 27 when a burning candle fell onto the floor while they were asleep and caused extensive damage to their garage/bedroom.

Asro's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, confirmed residents had agreed to pay more than the R50 flat rate. He accused the TPA of refusing to negotiate with Asro.

TPA's Regional Director, Mr CJ Wolmarans, last week refused to meet Asro officials and stressed he would only discuss the rent problems with the civic leaders and other local organisations.

SOWETAN BUILDERS

Building the Nation

Low-cost homes

Still a priority

1291
Sowetan 22/8/91.

WITH 86,6 percent of blacks seeking affordable shelter, many financial institutions are not playing fair, said Mepeco managing director Mr Jethro Mtshali.

He said financial institutions should reconsider their rules and start to concentrate more on the need for low-cost housing. Why, he asked, do

financial institutions only give loans above R40 000 when the marketplace is searching for homes in the R6 000 to R22 000 range?

Mtshali said a great source of unused money is the provident fund, which could help people get affordable houses

He made an urgent ap-

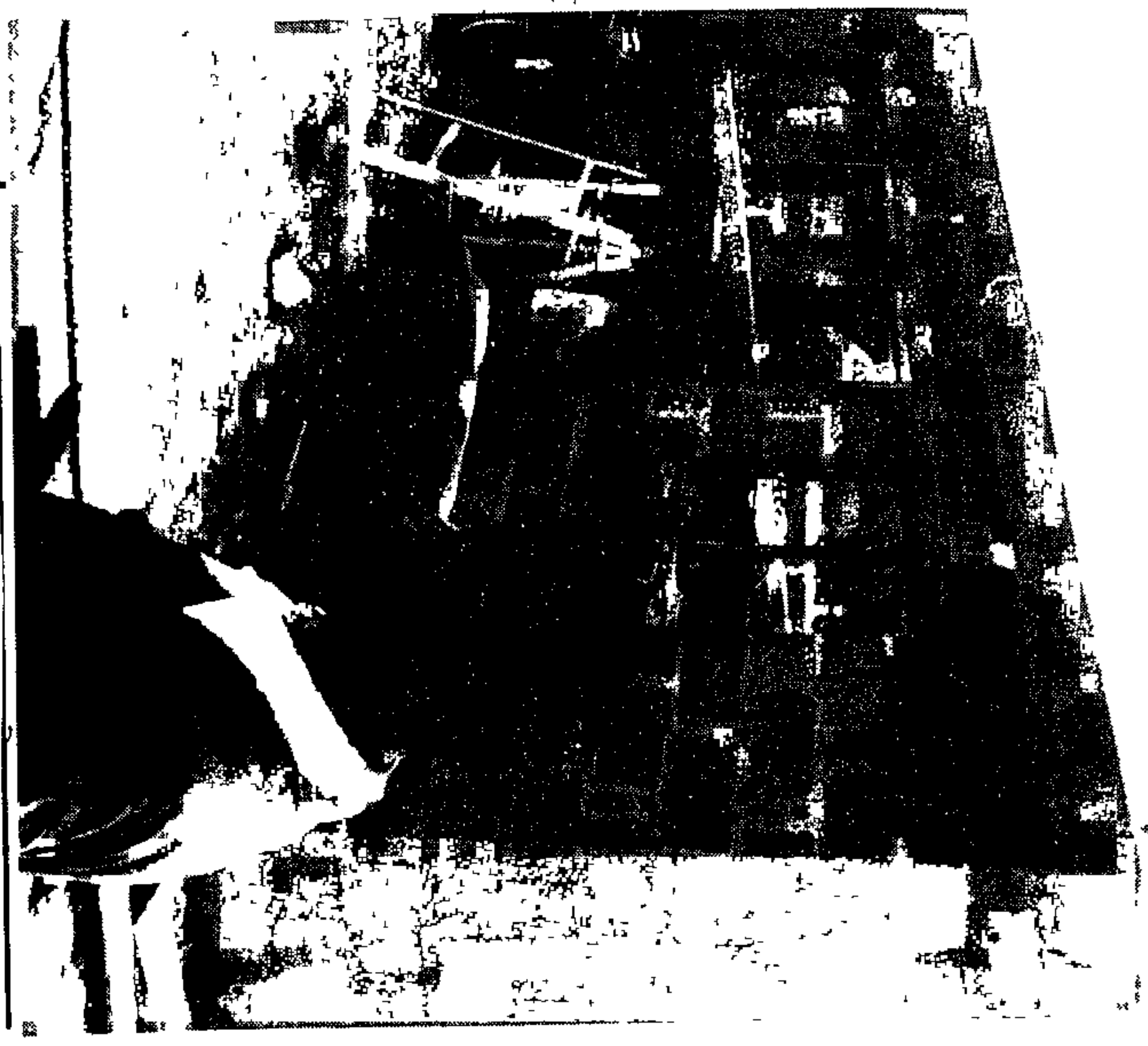
peal for the founding of one central builders' association to replace the existing small ones

"Black and white builders should get together. The white builders have the capital and the expertise while the black builders have the physical involvement in building. Together they can achieve much more."

Mtshali suggested train-

ing institutions should offer more courses for builders which would look at the practical and business side

He further suggested that civic associations be made aware of the plight of builders. He said builders are limited by territorial claims. A builder from Mamelodi is not allowed to build in Sebokeng, for example



Affordable homes in Windmill Park

Sowetan 22/8/91

127

A LEADING Johannesburg housing developer will today launch low-cost houses in Windmill Park, part of Conservative Party-controlled Boksburg

"A few White, Indian and Black families have already bought houses in the first phase of the township since its proclamation as a free settlement area in 1989," Mr Zion Elani of Minrav International said.

Elani said his company took over the develop-

By KENOSI
MODISANE

ment of Windmill Park from previous developers, who had earmarked the area for the building of houses in the R150 000 price range

"But, after persuading the Boksburg City Council, we have managed to bring down the price of dwellings in the area to as low as R64 000

"This we did through utilising the stands for

duet housing so that the cost of stands could be brought down

"Marketing will be directed in the middle to the upper income Black, Coloured and Indian families and also the beginner market for white families

"And the EP Building Society has actually already committed themselves to finance at least a third of all applicants"

Praising the Boksburg City Council for approving the development of

the township, Elani added "The council has acknowledged the fact that they have at last come to grips with the idea of a multiracial development within their boundaries

"They also welcomed the potential R50 million injection into the economy of Boksburg as well as the potential buying power from future residents"

Financial institutions should make funds available for smaller homes like this one.

End to boycott cheered

Sowetan 22/8/91
CALLERS to the Sowetan/Radio Metro Talkback Show yesterday applauded the end of the seven-year rent and electricity boycott in the Vaal Triangle

Civic associations in other boycotting townships were urged to learn from the agreement reached by the Vaal Civic Association and the Transvaal Provincial Administration that negotiations were the only key to solving problems

(127)
By KENOSI MODISANE

Speaking as guest on the show, Mr Paul Sithole, a VCA official who helped negotiate the Vaal agreement, said the non-interference of political parties helped ease relations between the parties involved

"These became a solely civic matter," he said

Justice of Klipspruit said the agreement should be fully implemented He

said it should not end up as just another paper in the bottom of the cupboard

Consultation with grassroots people should be maintained and personal differences should be avoided, he said

Cornelius of Kagiso said "Common sense has prevailed at last It was unfortunate that the matter dragged for so long and this has proved once more that negotiation is the best way of solving problems"

Joseph Ngobeni of Sebokeng said "I am a



little concerned about the issue of the arrears This has not completely solved the problem

"But I am all the same happy that some consensus has been reached"

Mxolisi of Eldorado Park said "This is most welcome It is in recognition of the people's legitimate demands

R23-m grant to pay township services

AN amount of R23,64 million has been made available by the East Rand Regional Services Council to 10 township councils to help them pay for water, waste water treatment and refuse removal.

But unless the township authorities themselves can provide at least 50 percent of the budgeted

Political Staff

costs for these services, payments from the RSC grant will be halved as from January.

In a statement announcing the funding, the RSC explained that the intention was "to overcome possible health dangers and to avoid the total col-

lapse of services"

The first payments will be backdated to July 1/2001

The councils to benefit are Tokoza, Katlehong, Vosloorus, Tembisa, Daveyton, Wattville, KwaThema, Ratanda, Tsakane and Duduza

For councils to raise 50 percent of costs upon

which receiving the full grant will depend, residents' payments will have to increase considerably

RSC chairman Mr Leon Ferreira stressed that funds would not be made available to pay for the supply of electricity to the 10 townships

Anti-VAT campaign launch

MORE than 17 black organisations will meet at the Johannesburg Hotel today to protest against Value Added Tax

Ms Lisa Seftel of Cosatu said the National Campaigns Committee had instructed Cosatu to launch a campaign of factory demonstrations, protest actions and notifying employers that workers will demand an immediate five percent increase if VAT was implemented

"Our demand for the suspension of VAT is non-

By IKE MOTSAPI

negotiable. We urge Barend du Plessis to reconsider

"If he does not he will actually be saying the Government wants VAT and 'damn the consequences'," she said.

Among organisations attending are the ANC, World Vision, National Black Consumer Council, Johannesburg Child Welfare and the Consumer Council

Civic ⁽¹²⁴⁾ tariffs no *Sowetan 22/8/91* panacea

THE impending tariff increase does not guarantee that Soweto residents will receive adequate services from the council, a spokesman for Soweto Civic Association said yesterday

He said the SCA did not view tariff increases in isolation of structural problems related to black local authorities

The Soweto Council owes Eskom R100 million for bulk electricity supplied. The council's current income of R1,5 million is not sufficient to pay the monthly R10 million instalment

Last Wednesday at a meeting of Metropolitan Chamber, the Transvaal Provincial Administration proposed that tariffs should be adjusted in line with the Soweto Accord signed last September

The Greater Soweto Councils have proposed an increase of R60

Takeover of Soweto services called for

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Soweto Civic Association (SCA) wants all essential services to be taken over within a matter of weeks by authorities outside the township — namely, the regional services council, the Rand Water Board and the municipalities of Johannesburg and Randburg

The proposal, endorsed by representatives of Soweto's constituent townships at an SCA general council meeting at the weekend, is seen by the SCA as a solution to the township's crisis of service delivery and payment

The demand that the Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepmeadow councils be stripped forthwith of their responsibilities for administering services was coupled with an SCA plan for levying new interim service tariffs.

A week ago, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the three Soweto councils joined the SCA in warning that the financial crisis in the township was such that essential services to 2 million people could be cut off within a month

Pay up

It was disclosed that the interim service tariffs negotiated a year ago between the SCA and the authorities were so low that at best they could realise 20 percent of the costs — and at present they were yielding only half of this

TPA chief negotiator Olaus van Zyl called both for a revision of the level of interim tariffs and for township residents to begin to pay up

SCA general-secretary Pat Lephunya responded yesterday, saying "We have always maintained that solutions to Soweto's problems do not lie within the boundaries of the Soweto

"In our opinion, what is needed is structural change .. (but) we con-

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Star 22/8/91

Soweto.

"In our opinion, what is needed is structural change . (but) we concede that this would take a long time and would not help the situation the TPA and the three councils currently find themselves in"

Mr Lephunya said it was therefore possible to isolate short-term structural changes. Features of this new arrangement should be

- The dismantling of Soweto's black local authorities, starting with the termination of their control over services
- The continuation of services of an "acceptable standard", effected by transferring these services to external authorities
- The achievement of high levels of payment for services, with exemptions granted only where particular need existed

Negotiated

Specific proposals for the transfer of services were

- That the Rand Water Board take over supply and administration of water as from October 1 at a fee to be negotiated between the SCA and the board
- That the recently concluded agreement in principle that the Central Witwatersrand RSC take over electricity administration be implemented almost immediately — on September 1 — and that the service fee be negotiated between the RSC and the SCA.
- That the municipalities of Johannesburg and Roodepoort take on refuse removal at a negotiated date and fee

With regard to tariff restructuring, Mr Lephunya said, the general council had a new system which was being canvassed

Firstly, a single flat-rate interim tariff should be abolished and replaced with three categories of payment based on income.

Secondly, services should be supplied to shantytowns and a shack levy introduced thereafter.

Thirdly, terms of arrears payments should be set only after an inquiry by a social worker.

Fourthly, neutral payment points should be established

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Suburbs dispute rates figures

BRENT VON MELVILLE

NORTHERN suburbs residents are disputing recent figures which show their Johannesburg neighbours pay the highest electricity tariffs, and say they pay almost 18% more

A Buccleuch resident said recent figures provided by the National Utility Services (NUS) were inaccurate.

The NUS figures show that Johannesburg pays an average 11,23c/kwh, the highest rate for electricity in SA

Buccleuch residents say because they are supplied directly by Eskom, they have to pay even more — 13c/kwh plus a basic monthly rate

They say they are paying far more for electricity than some of their neighbours in Sandton

Sandton Town Council management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said Sandton was in an unusual position because its area was 75% within the confines of Eskom, and it therefore provided service to only 25% of the community

Eskom pricing policy manager Andries Calitz said the electricity price depended on the cost of supplying a customer. Size and supply voltage played an important role.

Large customers paid 8c/kwh for electricity supplied in bulk. This was the price recently quoted from NUS

127
13/10/91

Cast steps in to settle 'feud'

Sowetan 23/8/91

(127)

THE Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal yesterday intervened in the "feud" between two factions of Actstop following Press reports of tension between the two.

Addressing a Press conference yesterday, Cast president Mr Sandi Mgidlane expressed his organisation's concern over a report which appeared in a weekly newspaper on August 16.

Mgidlane said the article speculated about abductions also claimed that Mr George

By SELLO MOTLHABAKWE

carried out by rival Actstop groups on each other. The article Sejaphala, so-called leader of a rival group, was abducted together with Mr Moses Moshoeshoe.

Mgidlane said the article also claimed that Sejaphala had said his abductors belonged to a rival and conservative wing of Actstop.

Sejaphala, who attended the conference, denied he told the *New Nation* reporter he and

Moshoeshoe had been abducted by their rivals

He said moves initiated by Cast to unite the two "factions" since he (Sejaphala), Cas Coovadia and others walked out of an Actstop annual general meeting in May to protest the meeting's agenda, were still on track

Mgidlane said it was hoped that Actstop would be in full swing within a week as reconciliation talks between the "factions" was progressing well

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Joe Latakomo looks at the township blackout and finds the problem is more urgent than national issues

It's time to restore power to the people

Dr 23/8/91

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FOR many years, residents of Soweto were engaged in a rent and service boycott. Millions of rands in arrears were chalked up, and experts like Dr Simon Brand found that the financial ills of the complex were "difficult, but not hopeless", and suggested that service charges needed to be de-politicised.

As things were then, and as they are now, the issue is still a political matter, which needs a political solution.

When the Soweto Accord was signed in September two years ago, it was hoped that the problem would be solved. But hardly a day after the accord was signed, African National Congress structures called for a new boycott — this time in protest against a curfew, and demanding that hostels be demolished and that police should "act impartially in unrest", "failing which we will resort to other forms of struggle."

Immediately, the cue was taken up. While many decided to pay up,

thousands of residents simply ignored the call to pay. They had been exposed, for years, to a culture of non-payment for services — so why pay good money for something you can get for free? Even an advertising campaign launched by the Government — with the punchline "Even bargains have to be paid for" — did not work.

This week, another agreement was signed: the Vaal Accord. This is meant to end the seven-year rent and service boycott in the area. It remains to be seen whether the Vaal residents will be able to get out of the culture of non-payment that grew over the years, and accept that services have to be paid for. The problem is that rent and service provision is still very much a political issue.

Soweto is on the brink of collapse. At least nine other black townships are affected by service cuts in the Transvaal only. In Pretoria, Atteridgeville was targeted by the Conservative Party Council

for action — in spite of the fact that the R6 million owed by Atteridgeville residents is small change compared to what other townships owe. The CP decision was a political statement to its constituencies that it will not tolerate blacks not paying for services for which whites are paying. So, the issue is further politicised.

The day darkness descended upon Atteridgeville, the reaction was instructive. It was the third time the township would be without electricity. The young generation of the township had not experienced life without this utility. So, the first time, it was a bit of a joke, and fortunately, short-lived. The second time round, it ceased being a joke, and people began to grapple with the reality of life without electricity.

For millions of blacks, electricity is something they have never had and can only marvel at from a distance. For those urban township residents whose electricity has been cut off, though, it is a

totally different experience

Just over the hill, they can see the glittering lights of the white suburbs around them. For many, electricity has become a necessity. But now fridges stand empty. Electric stoves stand unused. Televisions sets, deep freezers, electric irons have gone cold. In their place, paraffin stoves, gas stoves and irons, gas lights, for those who can afford them.

For the rest, it is back to the days of braziers and coal power. The air is thick with the smoke from those sources every afternoon and there is the ever-present danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. Some lucky people have invested in electricity generators. At least for them there is light and refrigeration.

But the real problem is not the alternatives. It is the sheer inconvenience. Having to wake up at four in the morning to make a fire to warm up water for the morning bath. Going into the shops daily to buy meat and other perishables

The cost of it all

Fill up the gas cylinders, for R15 each. That is R30 for two. At least twice a week, that makes it R60 a week. For gas alone, R240 a month. Add to this the coal, at R80 a month. Total cost R320. What about the paraffin and the candles? The cost is more around R400 a month.

Clearly, the issue is no longer whether people can afford to pay certain amounts for service charges.

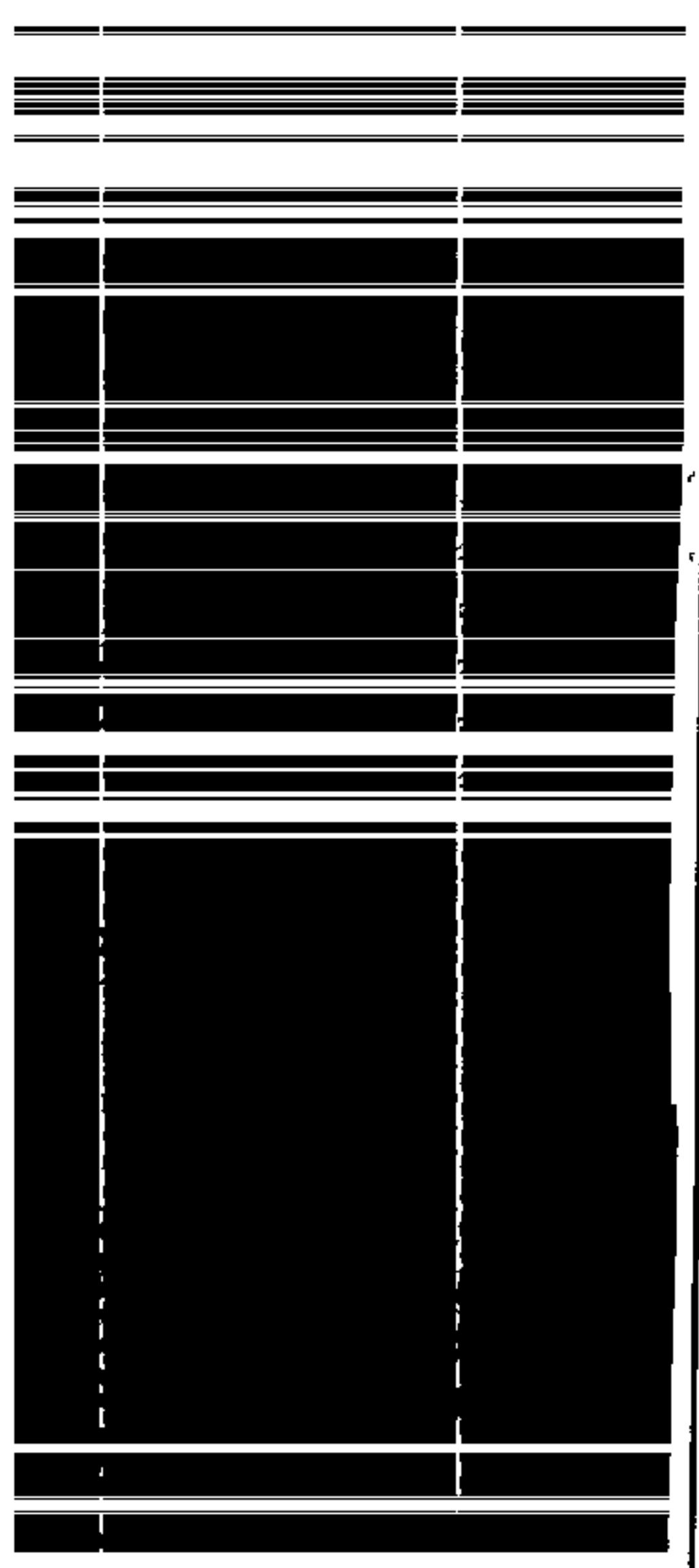
Businesses have closed down — and with them a livelihood for many. Firms simply could not continue operating having to invest large amounts of capital in generators, and running them on petrol or diesel, all of which cost a packet. To be able to recoup their expenses, they would need to increase prices — which results in consumer resistance. So they chose rather to close down.

Clearly, new ways will have to be found to finance the running of townships. Even if full rental and

service charges are paid by most residents, these will still not be enough to run the townships. These ways have failed, and they have failed because apartheid has made sure black townships do not have the financial infrastructure to service themselves. While there has been a lot of talk, there has been very little innovation.

Nor will the culture of violence that has set in in the townships encourage a move by income-generating enterprises into the townships. There has already been resistance from black business organisations to a white "invasion" of black townships because of the scrapping of certain apartheid laws.

Finally, however, the matter of local government will have to be dealt with more urgently than even the national political issues. For, in the final analysis, even the ANC must know by now that once a culture of resistance has set in, even they will find it difficult to destroy. □



Who reads the meters? Only the spiders

By RAY NXUMALO

W/May 23/8-29/8/91 then
"It takes a genius to figure out our electricity accounts," a Soweto resident complained this week.

A snap survey by *The Weekly Mail* in the township this week revealed some of the reasons for the huge backlog of unpaid bills.

Soweto residents interviewed in the survey are dismayed by the looming power cuts and insist that the problem is not of their own making.

The late arrival of accounts was cited as the main reason for the backlog in payments. Respondents said they were unable to pay their June and July electricity accounts because they have not yet received them. Soweto Electricity Advice Centre ombudsman Bernard Moleke said he received his February account in May. He has not received an account since

Respondents had a number of complaints about meter readers. It was pointed out that there is a noticeable absence of meter readers in Soweto. They were accused of spending most of their working hours on their own personal business. When meter readers did appear they never bothered to explain to residents how they count the units used. Consequently it was suspected that the figures on resident's accounts are guess-work.

One respondent, Soweto resident Bertha Mahlatsi, stated that she has not seen a meter reader check her electricity consumption for the past three months. She said the meter boxes were full of spider webs.

Many respondents said the meter boxes are in a pathetic state of disrepair and neglect.

Yet another problem was that many

people found it difficult to read, interpret and understand the electricity accounts. Moleke echoed the view that the statements are very confusing.

"It takes a genius to figure them out. Ordinary people who don't read between the lines are the hardest hit," he said.

Mahlatsi, who is unemployed, typifies the frustrated Soweto consumer. The power cable which supplies her house is faulty. She always has candles ready in anticipation of the ever looming cut.

Moleke suggested that Eskom should establish a centre from which it could sell electricity directly to the residents.

The same meter readers employed by the council could work for Eskom at its new centre where all readings could be processed. This would eliminate delays caused by an inefficient third party: it will be a direct transaction between buyer and seller.

VAT-weary consumers

Star
on Reef
24/8/91
face new

water shock

DEREK TOMMEY

THE cost of water in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area could jump by more than 20 percent when the new tariff comes into effect on October 1.

The only factors that could stop such a huge increase would be the resumption of payments for water by the non-paying local authorities, or a substantial subsidy from the Government.

Several factors, including the introduction of VAT, a Lesotho Highlands Water Scheme levy and losses arising from the non-payment by black authorities are imposing a heavy burden on the Rand Water Board (RWB).

Committed

This money will have to be recovered from consumers, say informed sources.

Already the RWB is committed to imposing a levy of about 6 percent on water bills from October to help finance the Highlands Water Scheme. On top of this, it will have to levy VAT. These alone are expected to increase the tariff by around 15 percent.

But the losses arising from the non-payment of bills will also have to be taken into account.

At July 29, 11 black local authorities owed the RWB nearly R16 mil-

● TO PAGE 2.



Water hike

● FROM PAGE 1.

lion, and this debt is increasing at a rate of nearly R3,4 million a month.

This situation is expected to worsen because a number of municipalities, including Brakpan, Alberton and Rustenburg, want to transfer to the RWB the responsibility of supplying water to black local authorities.

The move comes about because of difficulties experienced over payments for water supply.

Altogether, about 8 percent of the water being supplied by the RWB and about a third of the amount supplied to black local authorities, is not being paid for.

The RWB has a number of choices to improve its financial situation. One is to cut off

water to the defaulting authorities.

However, even this would mean that the water rate would have to be raised by another 5 percent or so to cover fixed costs already incurred. This would push the October increase to above 20 percent.

This lack of potable water could result in epidemics in the affected local authority, spreading through the whole PWV area and rendering inadequate essential medical services.

And on the political side, the cutting off of water could result in considerable unrest.

However, if the RWB were to continue supplying water to the non-paying areas, it would have to finance this by a further 5 percent increase in tariffs. This could bring the total increase in the water tariff in October to between 24 percent and 25 percent.

By SOPHIE TEMA

KWAMADALA hostel on the edge of Iscor's steelworks in Vanderbijl park can be clearly seen from Boipatong's black township, where fierce battles have been raging between residents and inmates over recent months.

The barrack-like, formerly disused hostel, has been targeted by residents as the stronghold of the Inkatha Freedom Party in the Vaal.

Residents repeatedly warn that anybody who is not an Inkatha supporter enters the hostel at his peril.

I had to put these claims to the test and this week found myself right inside Kwamadala hostel facing two staunch Inkatha leaders, Moses Mandla Mthembu, known by his clan name of "Mvelase", and Albert Mkhumane.

With me was photographer Mike Mzileni and Iscor manager Dries Steenkamp, who went with us to meet the two men.

As we arrived, faces rigid with suspicion turned to look at us. The two leaders looked stern but greeted us with respect.

We sat under a tree in the paved courtyard as the men told us how the ethnic-political conflict which has racked most of the Reef hostels, erupted. Most of us are migrant workers from Natal and were accommodated at KwaMasiza Hostel," said Mkhumane.

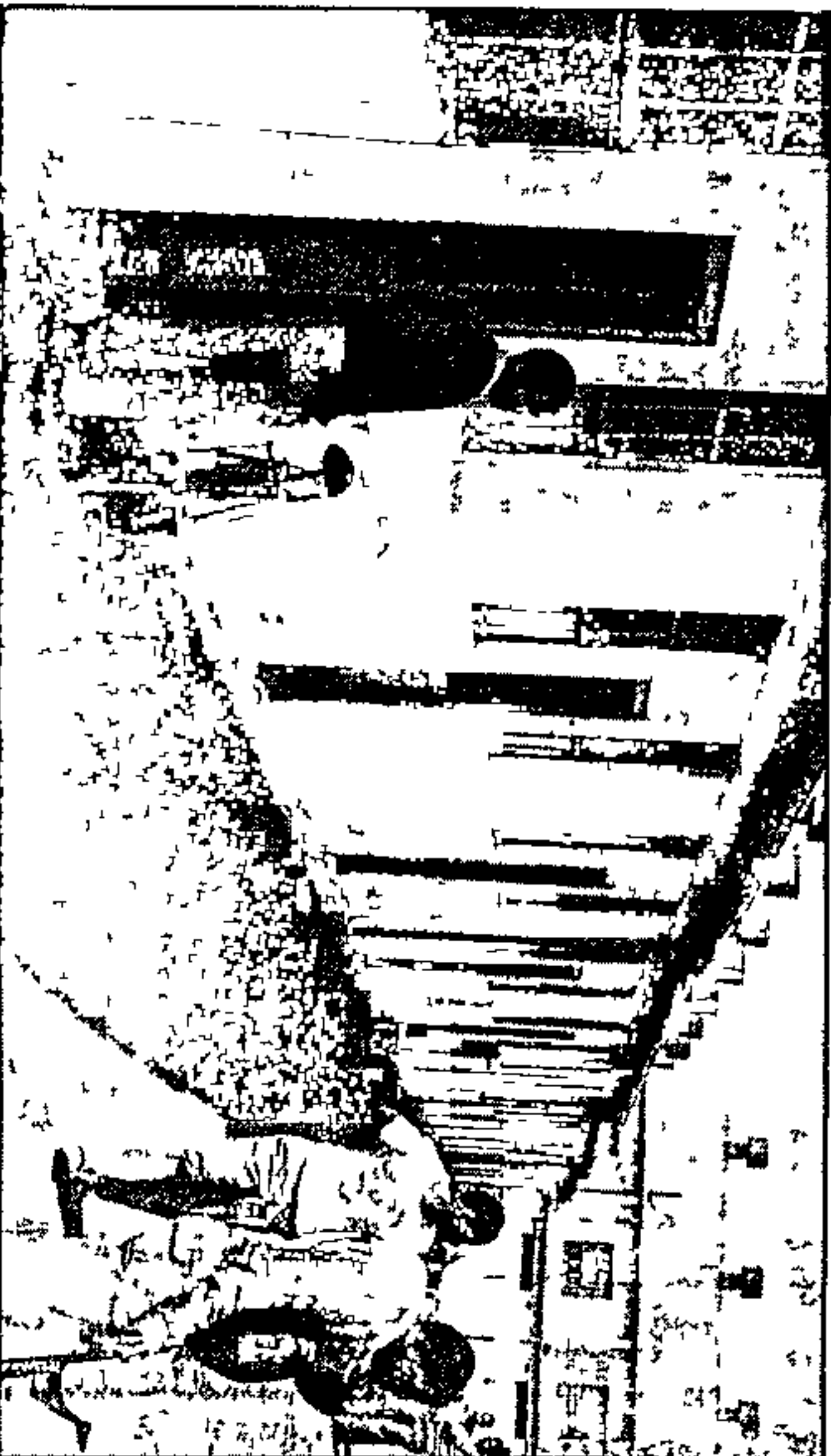
"Ethnic conflicts started in 1986 with the formation of the National Union of Metal Workers of South Africa (Numsa) which infiltrated the hostel workers.

Zulus were being discriminated against and dehumanised. In 1987 things got worse when

Wraps off Kwamadala

12/1

CPM 25/8/91



RESPIRE • On a quiet day, some of the residents of Kwamadala relax in the hostel yard

slogans such as away with Zulus, away with Gaisa, away with Zwelini" were shouted at their meetings.

"Zulus were forced into strike action and those who refused to participate were threatened with death. In October 1987 some of us resigned from Numsa and were labelled spies and sellouts.

"Xhosas insulted us and called us Buthelezzi's dogs. They also told us we were no longer wanted in the Vaal.

"In 1990 we decided to start a burial society of our own and called all

Zulus together. Later I was called to a discipline committee meeting by Numsa to explain what the meeting was all about.

"I was warned not to call any more meetings and if there were any in katha would have to move from Kwamasiza hostel.

"Following a wave of violence, in which some of our people lost their homes in Sebokeng, we arranged a rally to discuss the type of assistance we could offer them.

Said Mthembu "I was never a member of Numsa and when they

went on strike in 1987 I was not involved.

"Later I was called by a committee of Numsa where I was confronted by 72 shop stewards, including three whites, who wanted to know what I had taken. They warned me I would have to choose between joining them and leaving Kwa-Masiza hostel.

"I told them I would not leave as I was in charge of the people and despite their attitude towards me I joined them in the strike on the third day. This is when I heard our Chief Minister, Man-

gosuthu Buthelezi, and his followers being referred to as 'dogs'.

"I remained with the strikers until the last day and on our return to work most of us lost our jobs. Later I found myself another job. Two men were later sent to fetch me.

"I was told Numsa had information that I had brought weapons for Inkatha from Natal and that I was in possession of a huge cache, but they finally found the allegation was untrue.

From then on, Inkatha members were no longer allowed the use of

the residents' halls at Kwamasiza without permission from Numsa, so we decided to hold our meetings at the Sebokeng hostel hall.

"This led to the rally in Sebokeng where we were attacked with stones. After dispersing, about 350 of us were blocked from leaving the hostel by about 20 000 people, all heavily armed.

"Fierce fighting erupted between the 350 Zulus and the 20 000 people, which lasted for almost four hours.

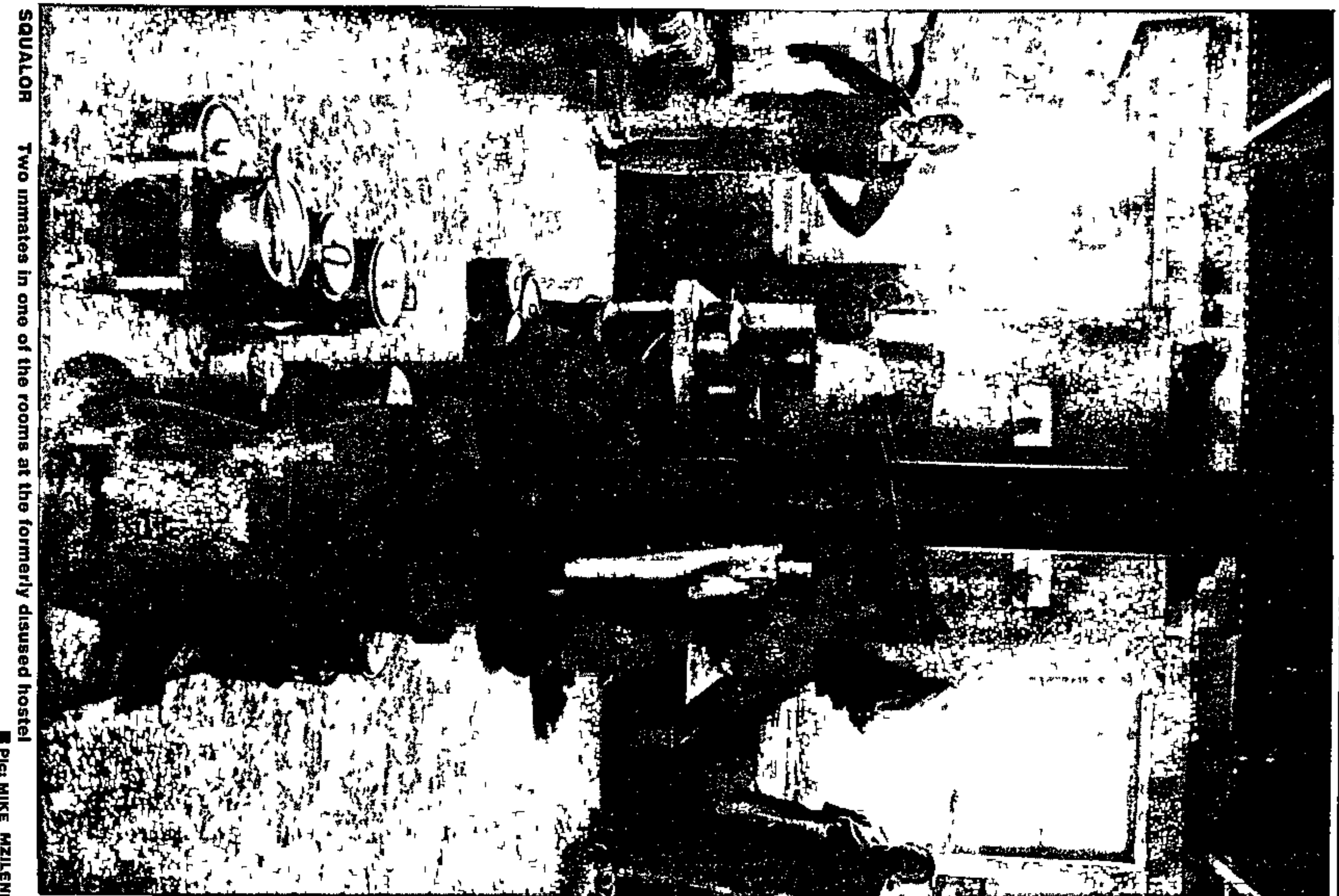
"That day we fled from the Kwamasiza hostel and never went back.

"We had nowhere to live and spent several months staying in the bush while negotiations for all for us to stay at Kwamadala were being made with Iscor management.

"When we got no response we moved over here broke in and took occupation.

Mthembu denied vehemently that Kwamadala was a den of criminals. "We keep a register and stringent security measures are taken to keep out people who are not employed at Iscor from coming to stay here."

This denial was also made by Iscor but City Press established that there are several people not employed by Iscor staying at Kwamadala.



SQUALOR Two inmates in one of the rooms at the formerly disused hostel

Picture: MIKE MZILENI

Black family flees white gang terror

A BLACK family were forced to move out of their luxury home in a white suburb four months after moving in because they were terrorised by a white teenage motorcycle gang.

The gang began tormenting the Nkabinde family soon after they moved into their double-storeyed house in Hutten Heights, Newcastle, in April

The teenagers harassed the Nkabindes by revving their motorbikes outside the house and stoning the windows and roof

The family decided to move three weeks ago after someone had spray-painted "Mandela Sux" on a concrete wall and painted over one of the windows

TEENAGE THUGS ATTACK LUXURY SUBURBAN HOME

By GEORGE MAHABEER

Mrs Jacqueline Nkabinde, 27, a nursing sister at the Madedeni hospital, and her insurance broker husband, Mac, 34, bought the house through an estate agent in March and moved in with their three-year-old son, Lungisa

Mrs Nkabinde said the house was in a state of neglect and her husband had repainted the interior and fitted new carpets

"It was filthy and we spent a lot of money to bring it up to the standard of the neighbouring homes. We have now lost that money because we cancelled the sale"

She said her neighbours did not seem to mind the family's presence

Crashed

"Our immediate neighbours were wonderful and made us feel very welcome

"When we told them we were leaving, they were very sad"

She said the gang started

terrorising the family three weeks after they moved in

"Mac and I were entertaining white friends one day when I heard a motorcycle pull up in front of the house Suddenly a stone crashed through a window in the lounge where we were sitting

"One of the guests and my husband followed the motorcyclist but lost him," she added

Gangs

That night, stones were thrown on to the roof and more windows were broken.

Ever since moving into the house, she said, gangs of teenage motorcyclists and white motorists had stopped outside their home for no apparent reason

"I did not pay much attention to them The motorcyclists used to rev their engines, but this did not disturb us"

Three weeks ago, another white visitor told the

Nkabindes that someone had painted a slogan on their outside wall

The next day, they found that a lounge window had been spray-painted

She said "I hope they are just hooligans and not members of the AWB or any other right-wing group

"I don't think any responsible parent would let their children do such things"

She said the family could not identify the teenagers, but had reported the incidents to the police

Sergeant Paul Korb of the Newcastle police said the Nkabindes' complaint was receiving attention

"We will search for and find the culprits," he said

"The police are here to protect people and property and no one has the right to behave like they did towards the Nkabindes"

Newcastle town clerk Dawie Schutte condemned the teenagers' behaviour.

Surprised

He said "We have no group areas or racial discrimination here We would do not like anybody to be harassed

"Newcastle is a peaceful town and I am surprised to hear of such an incident taking place"

The Nkabindes have now moved to a house in adjoining Pioneer Park where they believe they will be left in peace.



OUSTED .. Jacqueline and Lungisa outside the home they had to leave

Sllobela township out-side Carolina in the eastern Transvaal was in the process of being transformed from a Third to a Second, even a First World residential area — until October 16 last year

Before that fateful day, Silobela residents were lifted out of the Dark Ages by the introduction of electricity and water-borne sewerage — even though many houses had still to be converted from the old bucket-system of sewage disposal.

However, since October 16, when the electricity supply to the area's 650 households was cut, the place has slowly reverted to Third World status after almost a year without power — the longest time the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) has cut electricity to any township.

Expensive electrical appliances have become purposeless

Through lack of maintenance the sewerage system has broken down and an unpleasant stench is gradually enveloping the township.

Residents say the standard of living has nose-dived and the cost of living rocketed as a result of the power cut. The crime rate also soared after the township was plunged into darkness.

Electricity was cut off because the council owed Eskom R122 000, a debt which was created by the rent boycott. At some stage, water was also cut off and residents had to buy water from good Samaritans in town. The water supply has

since been restored.

Silobela residents felt they had been unfairly treated because, at the time the power was cut off, they were paying their electricity bills — even though a rent boycott had been going on for some time.

Some businesses had to close down, while others reduced their perishable stock drastically and stopped selling commodities such as meat and milk.

Pressure stoves, gas cylinders, generators, candles and car batteries replaced electrical appliances.

The Mlangenis' house is among the biggest and most

Star 26/8/91.

(127)

After almost a year without power, Silobela township has reverted to squalour. By JOVIAL RANTAO.

In the beautiful in their area. In the living room there is an expensive 67 cm television set, video recorder and music system, all of which have been rendered useless.

From time to time the Mlangenis are reminded of a modern lifestyle when their telephone rings.

Siphoesile Mlangeni told The Star her parents had worked hard so the family could have a better life. However, since the electricity was cut off, life had

blocks and petrol for the generator to keep her business going.

"Before the blackout," she said, "I used to spend between R80 and R100 on electricity and life was comfortable."

Mrs Madonsele's profit margin has also decreased. Before she used to sell up to 130 cases of beer over a weekend. Now she sell about 65 cases.

"People don't come here like they used to because the beers aren't as cold. There isn't powerful disco music. It's just not like it was before," she said. Her sentiments were echoed by Wilson Matyeka, the town-

ship's former mayor for 10 years, who now runs a trading store business.

"It's bad," Mr Matyeka said. "My sales dropped by about 65 percent. I had to stop selling ice cream, cold drinks, milk and other essentials because my refrigerators were immobilised by the cut-off."

The local clinic said their immunisation programme had been delayed because of the lack of electricity. A nursing sister at the clinic said medicines which had to be refrigerated after use had to be thrown away, resulting in a shortage of medicines for chil-

dren from outlying rural areas. Thembani Msibi, a local housewife and chairman of the Ezenzelem Primary School, expressed fears of an outbreak of an epidemic because of the unhealthy conditions under which pupils had to learn.

Baker Nkosi, chairman of the Silobela Civic Association, seems to be the only optimistic person in Silobela.

Mr Nkosi said electricity might be restored following an agreement reached by the civic association, the township's administrator and Eskom.

"We've reached an agreement through which Eskom will directly supply power to the township. Eskom has agreed and we expect work to instal pre-paid electricity meters to start soon. It's been a long but I think the end is near."

Hopefully, Silobela can start all over again. □

Pageview to be upgraded

CONDITIONS in Johannesburg's racially mixed area of Pageview would be improved and Indian residents would be recognised as legal tenants, Welfare, Housing and Works Minister Sam de Beer said at the weekend.

In a deal between government and the Save Pageview Association, residents would be able to buy their land and houses.

Land on which the two Islamic Mosques in the area was built would be donated to the Muslim community. Parking would be made available, De Beer said — Sapa

(27) (8) B/Day 26/8/91

Plan to take over empty Pta houses

By MONK NKOMO | (127)

ABOUT 150 Atteridgeville families are set to occupy empty houses in Lotus Gardens, a neighbouring Indian residential area, the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation said yesterday.

Speaking at a public meeting at the Super Stadium, Asro official Mr Harold Motshwane said the occupation, planned for next Sunday, followed repeated refusals by the House of Delegates to allow blacks to live there. *Sowetan 26/8/91*

Residents who attended yesterday's meeting also gave Asro the mandate to negotiate for the restoration of electricity and affordable tariffs.

Electricity supply in the township was cut on July 22.

Asro's publicity secretary, Mr John Ramatsui, blamed the TPA for refusing to negotiate with the organisation over the rent crisis.

"We have a new offer to discuss with the authorities but they do not want to talk to us," Ramatsui said.

Meanwhile, *Sowetan* and its sister newspaper the *Pretoria News* came under fire from Asro official Mr Jackie Masemola, who accused the newspapers of "dreaming and making up stories" about residents who complained about the organisation.

Several residents recently told the newspapers that Asro officials were delaying resolving the rent crisis and blamed the officials of politicising the issue.

Yesterday, Asro officials and certain residents accused the newspapers of making up the stories and demanded to know why the names of the complainants were not disclosed in the reports.

Summit to decide future of SADCC

star 26/8/91

249A

ARUSHA (Tanzania) — Leaders of 10 African states began arriving here yesterday for a summit to decide the future of their Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC), formed 11 years ago to reduce their economic dependence on white-ruled South Africa

The SADCC's future is being re-examined as sanctions against South Africa crumble

Today's summit will review economic and political co-operation within the SADCC and discuss future strategies. It is also expected to agree to consider admitting South Africa when democratisation there is complete, conference sources said

All the SADCC states — Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe — will be represented, mostly by presidents or prime ministers

Over the past week, Ministers

and officials in the SADCC have been reviewing the organisation's past performance

Tanzanian Prime Minister John Malecela described this as "pitiful", and said a more sincere approach was needed if the SADCC was to survive

Ministers agreed that no studies of new projects in the SADCC area should be undertaken until a backlog of projects had been reduced

Transport

The SADCC has drawn up plans for improving and integrating transport and port systems, and for developing trade within the 10-nation area independently of South Africa

The group's executive secretary, Simba Makoni of Zimbabwe, said only 38 percent of the \$8,6 billion (about R25 billion) needed to finance existing plans had been raised so far

But Mozambique's Gilbert Mabila, the SADCC's co-ordina-

tor for transport and communications, said traffic passing through the conference's countries had risen from 20 to 63 percent since 1980

While 80 percent of the region's traffic used to move through South African ports, this was down to 30 percent

The sources said the development of trade channels that were not dependent on South Africa would continue. "South Africa's entry will not mean the end of regional co-operation."

But support from outside donors for projects has fallen by at least 30 percent in two years. South African finance could help to maintain the pace of development, he said.

The discussion takes place against a background of shrinking growth rates and increasing debt burdens. Conference documents estimate the debt burden for the SADCC countries — with a combined population of 83 million — at \$25 billion (about R72 billion). — Sapa-Reuter.

Expansion plan upsets residents

By Shirley Woodgate and Brian Sokutu

star 26/8/91

12M

The expansion of Alexandra's East Bank with funds approved by the Independent Development Trust (IDT) has angered residents of Lombardy East, who claim that they were not consulted

The project, launched with a R2-billion Government fund for social upliftment, of which R1,5 billion has been allotted for housing, is said to be one of 108 housing projects for the poor throughout South Africa. They will consist of 99 800 sites

Wendy Marsh, secretary of the Lombardy East and Rembrandt Park Ratepayers' Association, said the first she knew of the expansion was when she read in the Sunday Star that

formal housing was planned on the borders of their suburb

"This is not what we have fought for over the last 14 years," she said. "We were promised that before Alex was extended towards Lombardy, London Road, running south of Alex to the N3, would be completed so that Alex residents had easy access to where they work."

"This would relieve already overcrowded Wordworth Road."

"We were also promised a multiracial golf course"

"Neither has happened and we were told that elite, not low-cost, homes would be built on our borders."

"Other issues are the threat of increased crime and dumping and greater pollution of the environment. The current smog-level which we suffer

from Alex will definitely be increased."

Supporting the argument for a golf course, Lionel Keenan, chairman of the Lombardy East Ratepayers' Association, also expressed support for the IDT project.

"I have no problems with this project and have always supported it."

"But I insist that other services like roads and recreational facilities be built"

"If houses are built first, I foresee chaos as this will be contrary to the principles of proper town planning."

"It was decided that London Road be extended on the freeway so that thousands of commercial vehicles going through the residential area area be accommodated," Mr Keenan said

Minrav to ^{stew} build 500 27/8/91 1251 houses

Israeli-owned Minrav International has announced a R30 to R40 million housing development in Windmill Park, south of Boksburg.

The project entails the building of 500 duet houses ranging from 50 sq m upwards. Sales off plan will begin at the end of August.

Two houses will be built next to one another on a 500 sq m stand.

A standard unit, with two bedrooms and fully fitted bathroom and kitchen, will be sold for R64 000. This includes all ancillary costs such as bonds and transfers.

Minrav has operated in South Africa since 1985 and has specialised in the middle and upper end of the black housing market.

Windmill Park represents a breakaway for Minrav as it is being marketed on the basis of affordability only.

The project is being marketed exclusively by Alda Boksburg.

Court rejects request for power switch

127

Sowetan
28/8/91

28/8/91

A PRETORIA Supreme Court judge yesterday dismissed an application by an Atteridgeville resident to have the electricity supply to his home restored.

The court could not make an order that was impossible to comply with, said Mr Justice MC de Klerk, when he dismissed the application with costs.

Mr Michael Rantho, of Manyorola Street, Atteridgeville near Pretoria, applied for an urgent court order declaring he was entitled to electricity and that the council had to fulfill its obligation as a local authority

Accounts paid

He said in an affidavit that power had been cut to the township on July 22 but township administrator Dr Ernie Jacobson said it would be reconnected before July 27 to all those who had paid the flat rate of R90 a month

SA Press Association

Rantho said he had paid all his accounts.

The acting town clerk of Atteridgeville, Mr DC Mouton, said the Pretoria City Council had refused to continue its bulk supply to the township unless the outstanding amount was paid.

He said only 33 percent of Atteridgeville residents had paid their accounts on a monthly basis between March and August this year, and by August 16 the Atteridgeville Council was R7,2 million in arrears for electricity.

Unless residents paid their accounts the council refused to supply bulk electricity to the township.

In his judgment, Justice De Klerk said Rantho was not entitled to demand that the Pretoria City Council supply power to him if the Atteridgeville Council had failed to pay its debts. - Sapa.

Sewage plan infuriates ratepayers

Sowetan 28/8/91: (124)

By SILLA GROBBELAAR

JOHANNESBURG'S southern areas may become the site of what could be the biggest sewage processing plant in the Southern Hemisphere and Africa - if the city council has its way

Assistant city engineer Mr Tony Pitman told a meeting of Eldorado Park residents last week that the council plans to extend the plant at Oliphantsteyl, at the intersection of the N1 and the R29 freeway to Potchefstroom

"Other plants are miniature compared to what is planned," he said

What worries residents is the plant would be close to Johannesburg's most densely populated area and could adversely affect the health of millions of people

The areas include Soweto, Eldorado Park, Naturena, Mondeor, Alan Manor, Winchester Hills, Robertsham, Kibler Park, Zakhariya Park and Lenasia

Sewage would be processed, instead of being dried in paddies as is the practice now at the three plants to the south of the city. Processing includes chemical treatment. Gases will be released into the air and will affect areas within a 10-15km radius depending on wind conditions

Dr Lauraine Lotter of the City Health Department said the odour could be controlled by deodorising it but that would put more chemicals into the atmosphere.

Pitman said there was a sewage processing plant at Meyerton but the council was not pumping sewage there because of the costs involved

Council was still assessing its environmental impact. The plan for the sewage plant was discovered by an Eldorado Park engineer, who read an advert in the Press calling for tenders

Residents of Eldorado Park are up in arms over the proposed plant

One resident who attended the meeting said they believed that it was obvious that the environmental studies were not fundamental to the council's plan as these studies should have been done first

He said that Pitman had, however, assured them that nothing had been finalised

But residents are sceptical

City council delegates at the meeting made the point that they were moving in a new direction where communities would be involved in schemes which affected their lives

But residents are wary because they were not notified of the proposed sewage processing plant by the council. Had it not been for the Eldorado Park engineer who spotted the tender notice, they are convinced they would still be in the dark

Mr Fred Swartz, secretary of the Nancefield Eldorado Estates Ratepayers Association, wrote to the city health and engineers departments

"They agreed to meet the ratepayers, who have judged the council's exercise as futile," he said

"The council has said it would be too expensive to pump the sludge to Meyerton but the money will simply have to be found. A sewage plant just cannot be sited in the heart of a residential area"

Swartz said Lotter admitted there would be a foul smell but it would not be a health hazard

"We are just expected to live with the odour," said Swartz

Former Johannesburg mayor Mr Willie Janse van Rensburg - who lives in Kibler Park - when approached for comment, said he knew nothing of the proposed plant and had not been informed about the project

Pitman could not be reached for comment

Civic spurns talks

Soweto

28/8/91

127

SOWETO civic leaders boycotted a meeting called this week to seek ways of addressing the township's financial crisis

By DON SEOKANE

civic leaders felt that the township's problems should be referred to the Metropolitan Chamber

The Greater Soweto Principal Parties' meeting was held on Monday night and was attended by representatives of the three Greater Soweto councils and officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration

"Our perspective differs from that of the councils. They want us to give them figures because to them it is just an issue of adjusting tariffs," the spokesman said.

The councils - Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville - owe Eskom about R100 million for electricity

In a statement, the TPA said the meeting deplored the absence of the SCA and the Soweto Peoples Delegation

Explaining the boycott, a spokesman for the Soweto Civic Association said

"The three councils intend to proceed without the SCA/SPD," the statement said.

...and the withdrawal of services rendered by private companies

A hospital spokesman said he could not comment at this stage — Staff Reporter

Electricity takeover in view

By Jo-Anne Collinge

(127)

The take-over of the supply of electricity to Soweto by a "joint administration" could be effected within weeks, according to Soweto Council spokesman Mojalefa Moseki.

He told The Star yesterday that negotiations between the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council and the three Soweto councils on transferring responsibility for supplying electricity, had reached an advanced stage.

The Soweto Council had completed its final draft contract and was submitting it to the

RSC for a response, he said

The removal of electricity administration from the hands of the Soweto councils is regarded in some quarters as critical to breaking the deadlock on payment for services

Soweto Electricity Advice Centre ombudsman Bernard Molete says the Soweto council has sent out only three electricity accounts this year

The talks between the RSC and the councils arise from a request by the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber for the RSC to take over the supply of electricity to Soweto

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(127)
**City planners
win the day
in Houghton**
Stein 2/18/91.
Municipal Reporter

Cluster housing and business developments for Lower Houghton were approved by the Johannesburg City Council last night

The Lower Houghton Density and Land-use policy review accepted by councillors was tabled only after intensive consultations with ratepayers

The area affected is part of Houghton Estate, north of Houghton Drive. Business will be permitted to the east of the M1 in a strip running north to south and along a small section of Louis Botha Avenue

Houghton councillor Carl Stein said the planning scheme was carefully thought through.

However, he and the Houghton Ratepayers' Association could not agree with council officials on the issue of cluster housing. "We reluctantly accept we have to let the experts win the day," he said

Star 29/8/91

Races share Nelspruit revenue

By Jo-Anne Collinge

(127)

When it comes to financing townships during the transition from apartheid, Nelspruit suggests options worth exploring

In Nelspruit all householders — irrespective of race and the areas they were confined to under the old Group Areas Act — benefit equally from the 55 percent property rate rebate off-set by the higher rates shouldered by the town's business sector, says town clerk Dirk van Rooyen.

In addition, the three racially distinct local authorities in the Nelspruit complex all get a share of the revenue generated by business and industry

This share is directly proportional to the number of residential sites developed in the three authorities.

Nelspruit certainly represents a significant departure from the prevailing model, where the benefits of business rates revenue are firmly restricted to the white suburbs.

But it does not represent a fully nonracial model because Nelspruit is not a typical SA town — it has no black township

The thousands of black people who work and spend their income in Nelspruit live across the kaNgwane border in kaNyamazane or in rural villages further afield

So the cross-racial sharing of municipal revenue is confined to about 20 000 white residents of Nelspruit "proper", 1 000 coloured residents of Nelsville and 1 000 Indian residents of Valencia Park

Would Nelspruit have

stuck to its equitable policy if it had to contend with the vastly different population pattern created by the inclusion of Nelspruit's black workers and consumers?

While conceding that it is easy to speculate, Mr van Rooyen ventures that "even if kaNyamazane had been included I'm sure we could have worked out something"

He adds that the view in some quarters is that the kaNgwane border should not be a barrier to sharing Nelspruit's revenue more widely

"In consultations with the ANC and the kaNgwane authorities we still have a situation where they feel that there should be some way of distributing Nelspruit's income to kaNyamazane because they also contribute to Nelspruit."

R3,5-m to
be spent

on Soweto

Star 29/8/91
Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The Central Witwaters-
rand Regional Services
Council is to provide
R3,5 million to the
Soweto Town Council
for the extension of its
contract development
programme

Roads, stormwater
reticulation and kerbing
will be built

No money will be
paid out to builders
until the work is com-
pleted and the services
are in use.

The CWRSC also
voted R1,4 million to en-
able the Diepmeadow
Town Council to provide
proper registers of all
properties in that area

Administrative costs
incurred by Randburg
and Sandton Town
Councils in providing
aid to the Alexandra
Town Council will be
financed by the CWRSC

IT WAS A WEEK OF CRISIS FOR THE TOWNSHIPS AS SERVICES HOVERED ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE ...

Could Soweto be left to either stink or swim?

w/ Mail 23/8 - 29/8/91

127

THIS thing is bigger than the heaps of rubbish that could start piling up in Soweto before too long. It has as much to do with votes as volts.

Throughout this week, Soweto has buzzed with nervous talk about rent hikes, electricity cuts and a collapse of services, following reports last week that the black local authorities charged with running the township have simply run out of money.

The members of the three Soweto councils are, on the face of it, the people in the hot seat. But the debate about the reasons for the crisis and the possible routes to resolution is raging way above their heads. In effect, the key players are local equivalents of the principal actors at national level.

On the one hand there is the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the conduit by which government has tried to channel funds into townships denied access to the tax base of the cities and towns where most of their residents work.

The TPA, through its chief negotiator Olaus van Zyl, insists that the crisis is partly the result of many residents not paying the flat rates agreed upon when the Greater Soweto Accord last year brought the townships' long rent boycott to an end. It has been compounded by the fact that this interim rate has not been reviewed as agreed.

The tariff in any case, Van Zyl says, falls far short of the costs of the service — the TPA contributes 40 percent,

residents about 20, and the Regional Services Council about nine. Eskom is currently carrying the remaining 30 percent, he says, which can't continue.

Civics representative Cas Coovadia insists that residents will be prepared to help meet the shortfall, but not without clear indications that other problems will be addressed. He says that since the signing of the accord, residents have seen no improvements in services. "People expected tangible benefits from the signing of the accord," Coovadia says. "These have not been forthcoming."

A deeper problem, he says, is the lack of legitimacy of the councils. The demand for the establishment of a new interim administration for the central Rand is a cornerstone of the civic movement's position.

The worst-case scenario is 3 000 Soweto Council employees laid off, electricity and services cut, a massive township left to stink or swim. That will probably not happen — the implications for investment, unrest and the future of a still-fragile national peace plan will ensure this.

But the alternatives are a long way from being hammered out — and that

For a few days this week, it seemed that Soweto would have its electricity and services shut off, plunging the township into darkness to swim in its own garbage. Then a last-minute agreement kept the lights burning. But the crisis continues, and it's a lot bigger than Soweto, reports

JOHN PERLMAN

means there is still a crisis. Fortunately, the flipside of crisis is opportunity. Whether matters can be turned in that direction remains to be seen — by Tuesday we may have some indication.

On Monday there will be a meeting of what are known as the Greater Soweto Principal Parties. The stature of key figures in that gathering — which includes Van Zyl, African National Congress secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa and Ian Davidson, chairman of the Johannesburg City

Council management committee — leaves no doubt as to its significance.

It should be said that this meeting is not just in response to the crisis. It is one of a number of processes set in motion by the establishment of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber in April. On Thursday, for instance, sub-committees set up to look into matters ranging from sewage to transport to land use to constitutional options met to ratify their future terms of reference. This process, involving more than 200 people, is already beginning to produce concrete plans for the city's future.

One insider believes the Soweto cash crisis could boost rather than burden the chamber. "This crisis is going to push the chamber forward. It is the only place where all the stakeholders can meet and take action," he says. "What could come out of all this is that we move rapidly towards establishing a new administration for the central Rand. The Interim Measures for Local Government Act empowers us to do just that, provided it's by negotiation."

There is some consensus between the principal parties. The need for effective collection of service payments? residents to pay tariffs that come closer

to meeting the cost of providing services is a central concern of the TPA. The Soweto Civic Association concedes this readily.

Similarly, the TPA does not reject out of hand the SCA's insistence that the problems of Soweto can only be solved within a framework of shared resources and administration for the larger metropolitan region as a whole. "We will actively support joint administrations," says Van Zyl.

There's some material to build a bridge then, but still a vast gulf to span.

The state, on the one hand, insists that residents start paying up, but stops short of committing itself to either the scrapping of old structures or the restructuring of the urban tax base to allow Soweto some share of what its residents have built up in Johannesburg. There is some commitment to this high up in the Johannesburg City Council, but imposing it on residents already irate at recent rate hikes may well prove to be another matter.

On the other hand is the SCA and its associates, and their insistence that political knots be untangled before they commit their constituents to coughing up. Their immediate concerns are clearly spelt out.

What the civics will not commit themselves to is a future role — will they ever be prepared to lay their political popularity on the line a little and lend their support to consistent and effective collection of service payments?

The delicate politics of clicking on a light switch

w/ Mail 23/8 - 29/8/91

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FERIAL HAFFAJEE

searches for a light at the end of the electricity tunnel

A NEW deal which restructures the supply of electricity is the only light at the end of the tunnel for the 22-million South Africans who do not have electricity, says Moses Mayekiso of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast).

The current crisis also highlights the fact that black South Africans pay 40 percent more for electricity than other South Africans.

Agreements like the one negotiated this week have been mediated before to avert electricity and other service cuts, but invariably they have ended in discord.

The TPA blames this on the failure of residents to pay even the flat rate mediated in various accords. They also allege that civic associations have failed to renegotiate the flat rate.

Residents in Soweto contacted by *The Weekly Mail* tell a different story. They complain about not receiving accounts; about accounts they do not trust



Power pylons are a major feature on the township landscape, but the question of who foots the bill remains. Picture GUY ADAMS

because meter readers have never been to their homes, that meters are often broken, that they cannot understand their accounts, and that accords are inefficiently applied.

Cast's Mayekiso says accords are only a band-aid solution and are often fraught with problems. He suggests

that a moratorium be placed on electricity debts while the policy is completely restructured — and that depoliticising electricity is central to restructuring.

Depoliticising electricity would involve removing control of its supply from discredited structures like the Black Local Authorities and getting

electricity directly from Eskom. Mayekiso stresses that civic associations and trade unions will campaign for electricity to be recognised as "a right, not a privilege."

But Mark Swilling, of the development organisation Planact, says electricity cannot be depoliticised and supplied directly by Eskom. Electricity prices would rocket, he says, because direct supply would amount to electricity being privatised.

Eskom is keen to change its image to that of a business, instead of a parastatal, and wants to sell electricity as a commodity, says Swilling. "But electricity is not a commodity. It is a public good and Eskom is not a business but a public utility."

Major players in the supply of electricity suggest that the solution lies in the restructuring of local government and the creation of a single tax base for white and black areas. According to Olaus van Zyl, MEC for the TPA, even the government is mooting the idea of "one city one tax base."

The creation of a single tax base will ease the burden on residents in black townships, who pay 40 percent more

for electricity than residents in white municipalities.

One of the main reasons for this is the absence of industry in the townships. Last year the Johannesburg Electricity Department bought 5,4-billion units of electricity — 85 percent more than the Soweto Electricity Department. Industry utilised 64 percent of this and contributed 70 percent of the JED's income for the year.

An intricate charge rate set by Eskom determines that the biggest consumers pay proportionately less for their electricity than domestic consumers. Savings are passed on to domestic consumers falling within the same local authority as the industry.

A four-year study by Planact shows that white local authorities have consistently shown a surplus from electricity, whereas black local authorities have shown deficits. Surpluses are used to pay for bulk supplies, repairs and maintenance, and the savings are passed on to residents.

Township residents pay for the deficits run up by the black local authorities. The Soweto Council, for example, owes Eskom R100-million.

PAC plans move into Jo'burg

Sowetan Reporter

THE metropolitan area of Johannesburg will get its first civic association after the PAC officially launches a branch in the region

Members of the PAC's Johannesburg central branch - which plans to have units in former whites-only suburbs including areas like Parktown and Yeoville - will take to the streets this Saturday to promote the movement.

One of the immediate tasks of the PAC in the new region will be to campaign, on behalf of the residents in the area, against the recent increase in municipal rates, PAC information secretary in the region, Mr Nelson Veerasamy, said.

He said the idea to establish a civic association was because blacks in the region had no representation in the Johannesburg City Council.

"There are an estimated 60 000 oppressed people in the city area and they are experiencing serious problems of a lack of community life, educational facilities, lack of sports and decent recreational facilities, lack of municipal by-laws to protect them against exploitation by landlords, lack of day-care centres for children through no representation in the city



BENNY ALEXANDER

Sowetan 29/8/91
council," Veerasamy said.

"The PAC intends to launch a city civic association to address these problems

"One of the first tasks of the association will be to campaign against the recent hike in municipal rates by the Johannesburg City Council. A possible mass campaign against the city council is not ruled out."

Mr Benny Alexander, the PAC's general secretary, said yesterday the launch of the branches and the envisaged civic association opened the door to all residents of Johannesburg.

He said if a person who traditionally supported the Democratic Party felt the civic association could improve living conditions, the association would take up the case.

Civic 12M



Tshidi quits amid row over finance

Chato (127)
Sowetan 29/8/91

THE general secretary of the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation, Mr Simon "Chippa" Tshidi, has resigned from his post.

Investigations by *Sowetan* revealed that Tshidi's surprise move followed allegations of a power struggle within the organisation and serious problems regarding the financial statements of the civic body.

Tshidi yesterday confirmed that he had resigned in the wake of differences between officials over the financial statement which was rejected at the annual general meeting in February this year because it apparently did not reflect a true record

Tshidi declined to confirm or deny claims that he quit his post because of a power struggle and the existing serious problems regarding the finances of Asro

"What I can say at the moment is that

By **MONK NKOMO**

I have resigned because of certain reasons which I cannot reveal at the moment. I hope that one day I will be given the opportunity to address the residents, failing which I will convene a press conference next week to put my case across," Tshidi said

A spokesman for the civic association yesterday confirmed Tshidi's resignation and said although he had not furnished reasons for the move, he suspected that it was because of "a power struggle between him and another executive member."

Problems

The spokesman denied that there were serious problems about certain amounts of money which could not be accounted for. Asked to submit a copy of their financial statement, the spokesman replied "The executive committee will first have to discuss that before the statement is made public."

SOWETAN

Building the Nation

DESIDER

Weekend talks to focus on housing

Sowetan 29/8/91

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THE Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) will hold a major conference on local government and housing at the weekend, it was announced this week.

At a Press conference in Johannesburg, Cast publicity secretary Sam Ntuli said the two-day conference - the association's first policy conference since its formation last year - will be addressed by various experts from the University of the Witwatersrand's Centre for Policy Studies, including Mr Steven Friedman and Professor Lawrence Schlemmer.

The conference, to be held at the Southern Sun Hotel at Jan Smuts Airport on Saturday and Sunday, will also be addressed by speakers from various extra-parliamentary organisations.

These will include representatives from the ANC, the Azanian People's Organisation, the Pan Africanist Congress, the South African Communist Party, the Congress

of South African Trade Unions and the National Council of Trade Unions.

The Workers' Organisation for Socialist Action has yet to confirm attendance, according to Ntuli.

Cast, he said, was "hostile" towards Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party because of its implication in violence in the townships and its secret funding by the Government.

Not invited

It was for this reason that the IFP had not been invited to the conference.

"We hope that they (the IFP) can correct their image so that we will be able to invite them in future," Ntuli said.

He told the Press conference papers on housing, local government, land and transport will be delivered by various experts at the conference - *Sowetan Correspondent*



Jammer ou maat, jy's laat ... a latecomer is refused entrance to the National Party meeting in Dewetsdorp. Pictures: John Hogg



On patrol ... policemen and dogs guarded the town hall, where the meeting was held.

Rightwingers locked out at NP meeting

Star 29/8/91
By Bronwyn Wilkinson

DEWETSDORP — About 150 people attended the National Party meeting behind locked doors in the town hall last night as a cordon of police held about 10 rightwingers at bay. The khaki-clad rightwingers circled the square in a bakkie

and then disappeared. Four men claiming to be NP supporters from Bloemfontein, who arrived late for the meeting, were not admitted because they were not known by any of the guards at the door. Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs, National Housing and Local Government Leon

Wessels told the gathering neither the Right nor the Left could deal with the country's problems as effectively as the NP. He said the respect in the country for President de Klerk far outstripped that held for the NP itself. "We will all have to work on this," he said

Linden to fight highways and business development

Staff Reporter Star 29/8/91 Swart.

Ratepayers in Linden, Johannesburg, vowed last night to fight multilane highways and commercial development in their north western suburb. At the inaugural meeting of the Linden Ratepayers' Association last night, about 200 residents elected a steering committee to fight business development and preserve the suburb's residential status. The eight-man committee is headed by resident Blackie

Residents were warned their suburb was under threat from large scale business development — including an office park in Darrenwood adjacent to Linden — and plans to turn Republic Road and Third Avenue into a six-lane highway. This would link with DF Malan Drive and split Linden in half. More than 2 000 children crossed these roads daily, the meeting was told. Vice-chairman of the committee, Bobby Heaney, accused

authorities of attempting to use the suburb to achieve commercial aims. He said commercialisation would result in residents becoming increasingly demoralised. "This is the warning to the authorities that residents are not interested in the upgrading of roads. "We will find ways to make Linden the safest suburb for our children. We've got something for them and that is they ain't seen nothing yet," Mr Heaney said.

Homes for blacks in CP town

Star 30/8/91
Northern Transvaal Bureau

The Palabora Mining Company is going ahead with plans to house black employees in a "white" suburb of the town, despite threats from right-wing extremists

General manager George Deysel told The Star yesterday that the company's first consideration was the welfare of its employees. It was simply implementing a scheme which did not allow for discrimination, he said. "Applications from our employees for housing are

created on merit. Naturally, we expect certain minimum living standards from all who make use of company houses," he added.

He said he expected that only a few black families would be settled in the Phalaborwa suburb.

Security arrangements would be made if employees were threatened.

In a white "referendum" conducted by the CP-controlled Phalaborwa Town Council last week, 1 280 voted against the mines move and 45 in favour.

The percentage poll was 19 percent.

The local leader of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging, Fritz Meyer, said he was quite happy with the poll.

The National Party and the chamber of commerce in the town said the matter had been blown out of proportion and made a highly emotional issue. They reiterated their opposition to the town council's actions.

The ANC said it was disappointed with the referendum and would go ahead with a consumer boycott.

SOWETTANN
Building the Nation

VAAL STOPPIEMENT

Vaal residents are to

meet over rent boycott

By **JOSHUA RABOROKO**

BLACK businessmen and other groups who formed part of an agreement to end the seven-year rent boycott in Vaal Triangle townships are to meet residents at the new Sharpeville Hall on Sunday.

The chairman of the Vaal Triangle African Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Mr George

Thabe, said yesterday that the agreement was an important milestone for residents and the business community.

The agreement, which was signed by, among others, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Vaal Civic Association, was negotiated over a period of nine

months and took eight drafts to complete

Thabe said that whether the agreement would function depended on residents resuming payments in terms of the protocol

Agreement

The agreement sets out service and electricity charges, which for a typical household would be R30 for services, R17,50

for the electricity service charge plus the metered electricity

Electricity would be reconnected if 70 percent of residents paid their accounts

In order to facilitate this process, the various Vaal townships have been split into smaller "zones" for collection

"This agreement probably the first to be signed by authorities - is

very important in that it will end the seven-year rent and service charges boycott in the Vaal Triangle townships

"The businessmen and women took part in the decision because we felt that we are part of the community that was suffering," Thabe said

The meeting will address many other issues related to payment of tariffs.

GEORGE THABE

Soweto thugs hamper work on trenches

Staff Reporter

Star 30/8/91

Thugs are thwarting efforts by an engineering firm to cordon off or cover trenches dug to replace old underground pipes in Naledi, Soweto.

Residents recently threatened protest action because of the danger the open trenches presented.

Jack Saunders, site manager for the consulting engineers for the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council, which is carrying out the project on behalf of the Soweto Council, promised to remedy the situation urgently.

Mr Saunders said yesterday that his company was doing all it could to cover the trenches or mark them, but the effort was being hampered by thugs and vandals who either robbed the contractors of their equipment and materials or removed safety tapes around the trenches.

Truck drivers had also been robbed while cleaning up after new pipes had been installed and expensive copper fittings were forcibly taken from workers last week.

"There is nothing the contractor can do. We just look the other way for fear of reprisals."

Soweto Council spokesman Mojalefa Moseki expressed concern at the possible danger to residents, especially on rainy days. He asked residents, in the light of problems experienced with similar projects in the past, to report open trenches to township managers to enable the council to monitor the situation.

It was my duty to talk, says doctor

By Susan Smuts

Star 30/8/91

A Brakpan doctor yesterday said he had a professional duty to tell a dentist and doctor that a patient and mutual friend was infected with the Aids virus.

Dr Matthys Kruger is being sued by Barry McGeary for allegedly breaching confidence by disclosing he was HIV infected.

Dr Kruger told the Rand Supreme Court he had been playing golf with dentist Dr Andre Vos and Dr Chris van Heerden.

They were discussing Aids and the risk to doctors. Dr Kruger mentioned he had a patient who had tested HIV positive, and said he was known to Dr Vos and Dr van Heerden.

Dr van Heerden asked if it was Mr McGeary, because he had treated him earlier for a groin fungus. Dr Kruger confirmed it was Mr McGeary.

He told Mr Justice D Levy he felt he had a duty to inform Dr Vos because Dr Vos did not take precautions with his patients. He knew this because he was Dr Vos's patient. He asked Dr Vos and Dr van Heerden to treat the information confidentially.

The Medical and Dental Council rules stipulated that people who might be placed at

risk by HIV-positive patients should be warned, he claimed.

Dr Kruger said he had received the results of Mr McGeary's tests on April 5 last year. He made a note of the results on Mr McGeary's patient file and kept the file in his office until he saw Mr McGeary on April 10. His receptionist, who allegedly told his former wife about the results before Mr McGeary had been informed, did not have access to the file.

Dr Kruger said he thought Mr McGeary suspected that the results might be positive because an insurance company told him that the vial of a previous blood test had been broken.

Mr McGeary cried when he heard the news, and Dr Kruger gave him a tranquilliser.

Mr McGeary's attorney, Mervyn Joseph, was appointed curator ad litem (a person to represent him in legal matters) because he was found incapable of looking after his own affairs, physically or intellectually.

Neurologist Dr Charles Kaplan, who examined Mr McGeary on Wednesday night, said in a report handed to the court that it was unlikely Mr McGeary would recover sufficiently to take part in court proceedings.

The case was postponed to September 11.



his capacity as an MP, but "at no time did Mr De Pontes act on my instructions, nor anyone else you mention

"My policy towards people who approach me in respect of armaments or military equipment has always been to refer them to the appropriate section of Armscor. I do not follow this up. I have no knowledge of what De Pontes allegedly told people, nor do I personally know the various people you mention."

A spokesman for the Foreign Minister says that Botha met Palazzolo once, in East London, at a reception after a public political meeting on April 29 1987. Palazzolo was not involved in any of the negotiations or discussions the Minister conducted in regard to the release of Albertini. Whether Palazzolo had a part in other discussions, the Minister does not know. The French envoy was not Stroiazzo-Mougin, who the Minister says he does not know, but Ferdinand Marcel René Wibaux. *Eddie Botha*

RATES CRISIS ~~127~~ (127)
Switching control 30/8/91
 FM

The Soweto civic associations want the Johannesburg and Roodepoort municipalities to take over the management of the huge township — presently running at a monthly deficit of R10m.

The civics, says spokesman Cas Coovadia, are prepared to agree to an interim increase in tariffs and to encourage those who are not paying to begin doing so — if the Transvaal Provincial Administration sets a time-frame to phase out the unpopular black local authorities.

Interestingly, the civics are negotiating the issue independently of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast). They have consistently been more inclined than Cast to negotiate a single municipal framework for Soweto and Johannesburg.

Services in most PWV townships are in danger of collapse because of unpaid bills. Nine townships are without electricity. The TPA is presently negotiating the payment of services with 70 of 82 black local authorities in the Transvaal. Boycotts of service charges are still being experienced in about 50 local authorities, according to Transvaal MEC Olaus van Zyl.

The three Soweto town councils of Dobsonville, Diepmeadow and Greater Soweto collectively owe Eskom R100m. In all, Eskom says, about 40 local authorities have defaulted in payments for electricity since September last year and now owe more than R200m.

Says Eskom's Bongani Khumalo, "Eskom is not empowered to write off accumulated debt. Any solution to the issue of non-payment will have to include some provision for the recovery of arrears."

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson tells the *FM* that the city council had not yet been approached by the civics with their proposal, and, therefore, could not comment. However, his Roodepoort counterpart Dave Treleven says the issue would be discussed this week by the management committee and representatives of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

Coovadia says Johannesburg and Roodepoort could take over the running of Soweto in terms of the new Interim Measures for Local Government Act. He says the civics want the black local authorities to be dissolved and their staff to fall under Johannesburg and Roodepoort.

Something similar has begun in Alexandra. Services to the township, in terms of a new agreement, now fall under the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council. Eskom will supply electricity direct to consumers in Alexandra. However, the Alexandra Town Council remains in existence.

Zebulun Tlhabane, deputy mayor of Diepmeadow Town Council, said the three Soweto councils would be discussing the services crisis this week. They are not keen on Johannesburg and Roodepoort taking over Soweto's services, but would prefer to follow Alexandra's lead and fall under the Wits RSC, according to Tlhabane.

Tlhabane blames the continued non-payment of electricity on the Soweto Civic Association. He dismisses residents' claims that bills often reach them months late with erroneous consumption figures, the council uses a private contractor to mail the bills. He claims civics officials have removed electricity bills from private mail boxes and destroyed them. The civics reject this allegation.

The civics claim 360 000 "registered but not necessarily paid up" members from Soweto's estimated 2,5m population. Coovadia says residents will not agree to final tariff increases until social workers have determined how much residents can afford to pay.

This is ridiculous, and rational ways of avoiding similar payment crises in future are being examined. Eskom has installed more than 40 000 "budget electricity controllers" — meters with prepaid cards — "ranging from informal houses to upmarket white suburbs." The meters are similar to those used for gas and electricity in Britain, but are only installed in new dwellings.

Eskom expects the use of these meters to account for 4% of domestic sales this year.

Uitenhage is an example of how this creative approach can work. Volkswagen, the major employer in the small eastern Cape town, was keen that kwaNobuhle, the main township from which it draws employees, should be electrified. The car company got involved in negotiations with Eskom and a utilities company called Kwanolec was formed with a 51% shareholding by Eskom and 49% from local employers. To avoid non-payment disputes, Kwanolec opted for the meter system.

The town they are prepared to kill and die for

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HAZEL FRIEDMAN

PHALABORWA — The AWB is prepared to go to any lengths to preserve Phalaborwa as a whites-only enclave. But the black communities who live in surrounding townships are equally determined to assert their right to live where they choose.

The latest controversy has erupted over the decision by three of the town's mining companies to allocate housing to black employees in formerly whites-only suburbs.

The CP-controlled Phalaborwa Town Council held a referendum to "assess" white opinion. It jubilantly concluded on the basis of the results that "an overwhelming majority" of whites did not want to share their town with blacks.

But of the town's white population of 6 800, only 19,5 percent responded to the referendum. Of that number, 1 328 voted "no" to integrated suburbs and only 45 voted "yes".

Bloodshed

In response, the general manager of Palabora Mining Company (PMC), J G Deyzel, has issued a statement condemning the referendum and reaffirming the company's decision to provide housing to its employees on a non-discriminatory basis.

The AWB has threatened bloodshed if the first black occupation — due next month — goes ahead.

AWB member Dries Kruger explains "Blacks are 100 years behind us, they don't belong here, and if they do not leave our town, we will find ways to make them."

When asked to elaborate on these "ways" he says "We cannot reveal our plans. But you will see in future."

Another AWB member and self-proclaimed ex-Reece, "Koosie", is more specific about the organisation's so-called defence tactics. "We've got camps, about 10 km from



BLACKS DON'T BELONG HERE AWB member Dries Kruger and his wife Lettie

here Koevoet, ex-Scouts as well as guys from 32 Battalion.

The threats from the AWB become more sinister when viewed in the context of the ongoing racial conflict in the northern Transvaal town.

Since 1986, for example, there have been reports of Ku Klux Klan-style lynchings by armed rightwingers. There have also been grenade attacks, allegedly by Renamo and members of the SADF, on Namakgale township. Seven people were killed in one of these attacks, which sources say was organised from a secret training camp near the Mozambican border.

Yet on the surface Phalaborwa seems like any other dusty country town. It hasn't got much going for it in the way of excitement, apart from a highly concentrated industrial sector, a shopping mall and two "international" hotels. Paradoxically, both hotels are situated next to the CP information office run by the leader of the Phalaborwa AWB, Wenkomando, Fritz Meyer.

But the sinister side of Phalaborwa can be seen in the streets, which are dominated by khaki-clad commandos and posters proclaiming in Afrikaans "Keep our town white".

Some faces harden in

anger at the mention of the imminent arrival of black mining employees. Others become frightened, but not at the thought of their prospective neighbours. They are terrified of being branded traitors to the cause of "eie volk, eie land".

Says a Phalaborwa resident who has lived in the town for the last 20 years "The AWB are conducting a Mafia-style reign of terror and no one has the guts to stand up to them".

She prefers to remain anonymous, for fear of victimisation. Considering the outcome of the referendum, in which four-fifths of the town refused to take part, she is not alone.

Lack

Mrs de Witt, who abstained from voting in the referendum, explains "Look, I just want to mind my own business. I'm all for human kindness but there are white families who need the houses more than the blacks. Let them (blacks) stay where they are, they are happy there."

She could not be more mistaken. Parts of Namakgale township lack even the most basic amenities. There is a chronic housing shortage and most of the newly built homes are without

electricity. This is because Namakgale falls under the jurisdiction of the Lebowa government, which is experiencing a cash shortage.

The Phalaborwa branch of the ANC, together with church groups, the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the Construction and Allied Workers Union and black businessmen, have planned three forms of mass action in response to the referendum.

Firstly, a consumer boycott will commence early in September. Secondly, the NUM has organised a defiance campaign in which workers — regardless of seniority — will apply for all the vacant houses in Phalaborwa. Thirdly, the NUM has approached Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) in Pretoria to question the legality of the referendum. In a letter addressed to Phalaborwa mayor Jan Grobbelaar, the LHR states "We are of the opinion that you are not empowered to exclude any race group from occupying premises in Phalaborwa." The mayor has yet to respond to the letter.

But the housing controversy is only the tip of the iceberg. For many years, the residents of Namakgale and surrounding townships have been dissatisfied with conditions at the mining companies. Foskor, one of the three mining companies embroiled in the housing controversy, refuses to officially recognise the NUM, despite the union's widespread support. Says ANC regional organiser Edward Mlondobozo "We suspect there are CP sympathisers in management."

Other worker grievances, as explained by Abel Nkosi, branch chairman of NUM, and Acksol Malatji, regional organiser, include PMC's grading system based on seniority for workers' housing allocations, as well as the ongoing backlog of houses for unskilled or semi-skilled employees.

While the Government adopts a laissez faire position towards the conflict, Phalaborwa festers in hatred and fear.